



FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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Hours: M-F 8:00am - 4:30pm

Salem/Gloucester Staff

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Sherri Paulding- Program Technician

County Committee

Wally Bradway, Chair
Wally Eachus, Vice Chair
Jim Eller, Member
Anthony Fabrizio, Member
Roy Gaventa, Member
Carol Winchell, COC Advisor

Acres Reporting

Reminder—Please call now to schedule an appointment to report any **wheat, barley, oats, rye or other small grain acreage** that you may have planted. **The deadline is May 31, 2009, but why wait!** You may also report winter-over vegetable crops now, i.e. Spinach. Don't delay! Spring is right around the corner!



Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) Sign-up is underway

Contracts are currently being mailed for the 2009 growing season. You can sign up now until **June 1, 2009**. The June 1, 2009 deadline is mandatory for all participants. We are not able to accept any late-filed applications this year. Please sign and return as soon as possible, but before **June 1, 2009!** You may also come in to sign your contracts anytime before the deadline. You may request a 22% advance payment now, providing you can show control of the farm for the 2009 crop year. Final payments will be issued in October.

With the new farm bill, we are now prohibited from making payments on farms with 10 or fewer acres of crop base. (crop base acres are not actual acres, but a history of crops reported to our office between 1998 and 2001 or prior). If you have a farm(s) in this category, you may combine your farm with 10 base acres or less with another farm that has base acres to increase the amount of base to over 10 acres. If you do not own the farm, you will need to get the owner's signature on our reconstitution form in order to do this. Remember, if you choose to combine farms for this purpose, it may affect your crop insurance policy if you insure your crop(s) by individual farm numbers. Please call for more info.

Remember, producers who are eligible for DCP will also be eligible to enroll in the upcoming Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. The enrollment period for ACRE is scheduled to begin in the Spring. You may first enroll in DCP this year, receive

advance direct payments and then later modify your enrollment to include ACRE, or you may wait and elect to enroll in DCP or ACRE at the same time in the Spring. You can enroll in ACRE or DCP, but not both on the same farm.

The ACRE program will protect against crop revenue shortfall resulting from price and/or production declines. ACRE payments are similar to DCP counter cyclical payments, but ACRE uses the national average price of the last 2 crop years. Some requirements of ACRE include a 20% reduction of your direct payments; you must report production separately by Farm number; you need to provide 5 years of production history prior to the year of ACRE enrollment by Farm number; once enrolled in ACRE on a farm, you cannot switch back to DCP through 2012. You may stay with DCP on your farms, and then choose to enroll into ACRE in a future year through 2012. Stay tuned for more information.

Farm Storage Facility Loans

Reminder: Low-cost, seven-year loans are available to farmers to help build or upgrade commodity storage and handling facilities. The loans will provide on-farm storage for wheat, soybeans, corn, grain sorghum, oats, barley, and some other grains. Loans may also be approved for new components of used structures, including site preparation, foundation material and off-farm paid labor, off-farm paid labor to erect the used bin and new doors, new roof panels, and new rings needing replacement. Please call for more details! The February interest rate is 1.875%!!

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Dates to Remember!

March 16, 2009—NAP Sales Closing date— see below

March 31, 2009—Final loan availability date for Wheat, Barley and Oats

May 31, 2009—Final loan availability date for Corn, Soybeans and Grain Sorghum

May 31, 2009—Final date to report small grain acreage (Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye)

June 1, 2009—DCP sign up ends

July 15, 2009—Final date to report all other crop acreages

July 15, 2009—Final date to submit production records for NAP

Continues—Continuous CRP, CREP, SAFE, Farm Storage Facility Loans



Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP)

New policy rates for 2009—\$250 per crop, \$750 max per County. Remember, you must purchase crop insurance on all crops of economic significance for 2009 to be eligible for the 2009 SURE disaster program.

It's not too late to get NAP coverage on the following for 2009!: The following crops

have a sales closing date of March 16, 2009!: Fresh Beans, Brussel Sprouts, Cantaloupe, Celery, Corn, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Honeydews, Oats, Okra, Peppers, Pumpkins, Grain Sorghum, Sorghum Forage, Squash, Soybeans, Sweet Corn (processing), Sweet Corn (Fresh Market), Sweet Potatoes, Sunflowers, Tomatillos, Tomatoes, Watermelons and Yams. (*Crops available through Federal Crop Insurance are underlined. You need to contact a private crop insurance agent to purchase. We have a list of agents available at this office*). A NAP Basic Provisions document with general information for producers is now available for 2009. Please visit the office for a copy or the web at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Policyholders: If you have not provided your previous year(s) production figures, the final date to report production is **July 15, 2009**. Your 2008 production records may be summarized and certified without supplying records or receipts, if provided by the deadline. If your records are not provided timely, your yield will be reduced. This will affect any future claim that you may have. It is very important that you provide your production records timely. Please don't delay. Also, if you suspect serious crop damage, you must report it to our office and file a notice of loss **within 15 calendar days** after the disaster occurrence or the date the damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent. If your crop will not be taken to harvest or is hand picked, you will need to have an appraisal done. Please, **do not destroy your field until a loss adjuster has given the field a final appraisal.**

You must also report your 2009 crop acreage, and maintain conservation compliance requirements. The payment limitation for NAP is \$100,000.



Emergency Loans

The U.S. Department of Agriculture designated Gloucester and Salem counties as primary natural disaster areas because of losses caused by the combined effects of high winds, excessive rain, flash floods and hail that occurred from May 12 through Aug. 10, 2008; and also because of losses caused by drought and high temperatures that occurred during the period June 10, 2008, and continuing. Salem and Gloucester Counties were designated natural disaster areas Sept. 17, 2008. This makes all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have until **May 18, 2009** to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. Salem County growers - please call the Vineland Office at 856-205-1225. Gloucester County growers – please call the Columbus Office at 609-267-1639.