#### "Serving Gloucester and Salem Counties"



Service Center Newsletter

February 26, 2010





# FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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www.fsa.usda.gov/nj

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

# Salem/Gloucester Staff

Al DiBella-County Executive Director
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## **County Committee**

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

# Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

Sign up for 2008 SURE continues. SURE is the new program that replaces the old crop disaster programs. SURE is available to farms in Salem and Gloucester Counties that sustained qualifying crop losses during the **2008** crop year. To be eligible for SURE, you must have purchased insurance for every crop of economic significance on the farm or participated in the Buy-in waiver process. The SURE application must include all crops on the farm with insurance and that are of economic significance (5% or more of total farm revenue). Please call for an appointment or for more information.

# **Acreage Reporting**

It is now time to start reporting your planted 2010 acres. Please **call** to schedule an appointment to report any **wheat**, **barley**, **oats**, **rye or other small grain acreage** that you may have planted. **The deadline** is **June 1**, **2010**, **but why wait!** You may also report winter-over vegetable crops now, i.e. Spinach.

# Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP insurance provides coverage on crops where a Federal insurance policy is not available. NAP policy fees are \$250 per crop, \$750 max per County. Remember, you must purchase crop insurance on all crops of economic significance for 2010 to be eligible for the 2010 SURE disaster program, if applicable.

The 2010 sales closing date of March 15, 2010 is coming up for the following crops: 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 covered 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)

# Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL)

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible

commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are now required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin. The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans: Corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, oats, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain; For other than whole grain harvest—Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley; Hay; Renewable biomass; Fruits and vegetables - cold storage facilities. For more information about FSFL please give us a call or go to www.fsa.usda.gov.

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US Department of Agriculture Salem/Gloucester Service Center 51 Cheney Rd, Ste 2 Woodstown, NJ 08098

#### **Dates to Remember**

March 15, 2010—NAP Sales closing date—see previous page

March 31, 2010- Final loan availability date for 2009 Wheat, Barley and Oats

June 1, 2010 - Final loan availability date for 2009 Corn, Soybeans and Grain Sorghum

June 1, 2010—Final day to report small grain acreage

June 1, 2010—Deadline to sign up for DCP and ACRE

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

**IRS Forms**— If you receive yearly payments from us, you most likely received a mailing with forms to be sent to the IRS. Please mail these forms directly to the IRS so you remain eligible for 2009/2010 payments. Please give us a call with any questions.

# **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**

Sign-up continues for CREP! The following practices are included in CREP: Grass Waterways, Contour Grass Strips, Filter Strips and Riparian Buffers. Between Federal and State funding, most practices are fully installed at no cost to you with 100% cost share reimbursement! Rental payments are 100% to 150% greater than normal rates and most are over \$100 per acre! Also, a \$100 per acre sign-up incentive payment applies! (except for contour grass strips).

Under CREP, program participants enroll in contracts of 10 to 15 years. Participants remove cropland or marginal pastureland from agricultural production and convert the land to grass, trees or other vegetation. Under the riparian buffer and filter strip practice, you may apply for permanent fencing and/or a watering facility, if you need to fence animals from a stream or pond. Please call now for further details.

#### **Emergency Loans**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture designated Gloucester and Salem counties as primary natural disaster areas in the following Disaster Designations: #M1873 because of losses caused by the snowstorm that occurred from December 19, 2009 through December 20, 2009; applications will be received through October 5, 2010. #S2908 because of losses caused by the severe storms, with high winds, heavy rainfall, hail and associated plant diseases from April 15, 2009 and continuing; applications will be received through May 15, 2010. The U.S. Department of Agriculture designated Gloucester County as a contiguous natural disaster area in the following Disaster Designations: #M1867 because of losses caused by the severe storms and flooding associated with Tropical Depression Ida and a Nor'easter from November 11, 2009 through November 15, 2009; applications will be received through August 23, 2010.

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 x 2. Gloucester County growers - please call the Columbus Office at 609-267-1639 x 2.

# **Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)**

GRP's purpose is to assist owners and operators of private land in protecting grazing uses and the related grassland values such as grassland-dependent plants and animals, soil erosion control, and air or water quality protection. Applicants must have current crop and producer records on file; own or control the land; agree to maintain the land for the contract term and complete a grazing management plan or conservation plan. Applicants may choose between a rental contract of 10, 15 or 20 years, or a permanent easement. Rental contract holders receive an annual rental payment and 50% of the cost of any restoration. 2010 sign up ends on **April 30, 2010**. Please call NRCS at 856-769-1126 ext. 3 for more information.