



FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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

Salem/Gloucester Staff

Al DiBella-County Executive Director

Deanne Bill- Program Technician

Sherri Paulding- Program Technician

Ashley Fogg- Program Technician

County Committee

Wally Bradway, Chair

Jim Eller, Vice Chair

Anthony Fabrizio, Member

Roy Gaventa, Member

Mario Caltabiano, Member

Carol Winchell, COC Advisor

County Committee Meetings are generally held on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm. During December through March, Meetings are held at 1:30 pm.

Conservation Loan Program (CL)

Conservation Loans are **now available** to promote conservation on farms to conserve our natural resources. Many farmers who need and want to implement conservation measures on their land do not have the "up front" funds available to implement these practices. The goal of the CL program is to provide farmers access to credit to implement these practices. Unlike FSA's traditional loan programs that are targeted toward smaller and less financially established farmers, **eligibility requirements are expanded to permit the agency to provide assistance to some applicants who may be large and financially strong.**

CL funds can be used to implement a conservation practice approved by the Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS), such as to **reduce soil erosion, improving water quality and promoting sustainable and organic agricultural practices. This would include installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures (conversion to pivot or trickle systems); establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; transitioning to organic production; manure management, including manure digestion systems; adaptation of other emerging or existing conservation practices, techniques or technologies, such as no-till planting.** Interested applicants who do not already have NRCS-approved conservation plans should work with the local NRCS staff to develop a conservation plan, including all applicable conservation practices. New or existing conservation plans must be NRCS approved before FSA can provide financing.

Those interested may apply for direct CLs with loan limits up to **\$300,000**. In addition, guaranteed CLs up to \$1,112,000, may be available by applying with lenders working with FSA to obtain a guarantee. **The current interest rate is 4.375%.** Please call **now** if you are interested as there are funds available for this fiscal year until **September 30, 2010**.

For more information, call 856-205-1225 and ask for Bob Maxwell or Ellen Schmidt.

Marketing Assistance Loans

Marketing Assistance Loans are beneficial if you are storing grain, waiting for the price to rise but need operating money now. These loans are nine-month low interest loans that can be paid anytime before maturity. The current interest rate for September 2010 is 1.25%! Paperwork is minimal. You may now take loans out on commodities stored at Perdue, as they are an approved warehouse facility. Please call Deanne if you are interested. 2010 loan rates are as follows: Corn – 2.17 bu., Barley – 1.70 bu., Grain Sorghum – 3.76 cwt., Oats – 1.38 bu., Soybeans – 5.05 bu., Wheat – 1.88 bu.

Asparagus certified for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Benefits

Reminder—Asparagus growers whose crops have been adversely impacted by foreign competition, can apply for benefits under the TAA program until **September 23, 2010**. You must have sold asparagus in 2009 and 3 prior years and provide production records with prices. You must attend workshops (up to 16 hours) to develop a business plan and receive up to \$4,000 to implement the plan. You may receive up to an additional \$8,000 to develop and implement a long term business plan. Please call for more information.

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Dates to Remember

September 30, 2010—CL program FY2010 funding expires—see front page

September 30, 2010—NAP Sales closing date—see below

September 30, 2010—2008 SURE program application deadline

November 22, 2010—NAP Sales closing date—see below

December 31, 2010—NAP Sales closing date—see below

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

Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP)

Policyholders: Have a Crop Loss? 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.** Also, for those of you that sell at roadside stands or do not receive verifiable receipts, please remember to keep track of your production, whether on a calendar, ledgers, etc. Please call for more information.

2011 sales closing dates are coming up for the following: Clover, Grass (Hay), Mixed Forage and Rye—**September 30, 2010.** Apples, Apricots, Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Grapes, Honey, Nectarines, Onions, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Scallions and Shallots—**November 22, 2010.** Arugula, Asparagus, Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Collards, Escarole, Endive, Greens, Herbs, Horseradish, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce, Parsnip, Peas, Potatoes, Radishes, Rhubarb, Spinach and Turnips is **December 31, 2010.** (*Crops available only 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*) Remember, you must insure all crops of economic significance (over 5% of farm revenue) on the farm to be eligible to participate in the SURE disaster program for that year.

Farm Reconstitutions

In program terminology, farms are *constituted* to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is necessary. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by Aug. 1 for farms enrolled in the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

Estate Method — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

Designation of Landowner Method — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

DCP Cropland Method — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

Default Method — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

If DCP direct payments have already been issued on a particular farm, the reconstitution will be effective for the next year, unless the payments are refunded.