



September 2011

## 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 Dolbow- 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. Please call ahead to confirm meeting time/date.

## Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP)

**Policyholders: Do you 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.

**2012 sales closing dates** are coming up for the following: **Clover, Grass (Hay), Mixed Forage and Rye—September 30, 2011. Apples, Apricots, Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Grapes, Honey, Nectarines, Onions, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Scallions and Shallots—November 21, 2011. 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—January 2, 2012.** (*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, if available.

## Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Although FEMA does not cover farm fields or crops, they provide many other types of assistance. If you sustained losses during the recent storms, FEMA requests that you call **1-800-621-3362 (FEMA)** or go online at [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov) to register. You can also go in person to either of their disaster recovery centers. In **Gloucester County** at 1200 N. Delsea Drive in Clayton (at the extension office building) or in **Salem County** at 51 Cheney Rd, Woodstown (which is here at the Ware Building).

## 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 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. 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. After the stored commodity has been marketed, the facility may, with prior approval, be used to temporarily store equipment and other agricultural items until the next harvest season. For more information about FSFL please give us a call or go to [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

The current interest rates are 1.875% for a 7 year loan (under \$100K); 2.5% for a 10 year loan (\$100K to \$250K); 2.875% for a 12 year loan (\$250K to \$500K). Rates change monthly.



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**Dates to Remember**

**September 30, 2011**—NAP Sales closing date—see 1st page

**October 10, 2011**—The office will be closed for Columbus Day

**November 21, 2011**—NAP Sales closing date—see 1st page

**January 2, 2012**—NAP Sales closing date-see 1st page

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

**Please return forms...**

Some payments have been held up due to missing forms that require signatures. Please return any forms that we have sent for signatures to prevent payment delays. Please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you!

**A Note From U.S. Agriculture Secretary, Tom Vilsack**

“Some recent news stories have focused on suspicions and rumors about the Obama administration’s work on agriculture. The truth is that the President, EPA Administrator Jackson and I are listening to farmers, ranchers and producers so we can be the best possible partner for successful operations. These efforts are helping farmers enjoy some of the best incomes they have seen in decades. Sadly, rumors and misconceptions have become the norm, not the exception, especially when it comes to regulations and how they might affect our nation’s producers.

First, it was that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was considering treating spilled milk like an oil spill. Not true. And in terms of water regulations, EPA has made it clear that recent rules do not seek to regulate land that occasionally ponds during heavy rains. Regulation of farm dust is another frequently repeated myth, based on a congressionally-mandated review that the EPA has conducted every 5 years for decades. We all know you can’t farm without dust. And EPA has no plans to propose stricter standards. And the Department of Transportation announced just last week that it has no intention of proposing any new regulations or rules on the transport of agricultural products, farm machinery, or farm supplies to or from a farm. Perhaps more importantly, the Obama Administration has worked to be the most accessible and collaborative in history. The President and I are listening to farmers, ranchers and other producers and actively collaborating across the federal government to help everyone understand the facts of American agriculture. I maintain a regular dialogue with Lisa Jackson at EPA and we even visited farms in Iowa together. The collaborative partnership we enjoy is reflected in our policies: pursuing common-sense standards that will give farmers a seat at the table and let them make the decisions they feel are best for their own operations. One result of this sort of collaboration is that in 2009 and 2010, the federal government issued fewer new rules than it did in 2007 and 2008.

EPA and USDA understand that if we are going to solve the major environmental challenges of our time – combating climate change, reducing soil erosion, and ensuring an ample supply of clean water and healthy food for our families – farmers must help lead the way. “

**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 2011 is 1.125%! Paperwork is minimal. You may now take loans out on commodities stored at Perdue, as they are an approved warehouse facility. Please call if you are interested. 2011 loan rates are as follows: Corn – 2.16 bu., Barley – 1.68 bu., Grain Sorghum – 3.76 cwt., Oats – 1.38 bu., Soybeans – 5.05 bu., Wheat – 2.27 bu.