



November 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)

2012 sales closing dates are coming up for the following: **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 3, 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.

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

Salem and Gloucester Counties were recently approved for ECP implementation due to the heavy wind, rain and flooding received in August. The objective of ECP is to provide cost share assistance to agricultural producers who have suffered severe damage to their farmland because of a natural disaster. Cost share of up to 75% may be received for eligible practices to restore damaged farmland. The following may be eligible: removing debris from farmland; grading, shaping, or re-leveling severely damaged farmland; restoring permanent fences; restoring conservation structures and other similar installations. To be eligible, practices must not be started until an application has been filed and an onsite inspection of damage made. Eligibility for cost-share assistance is based on a minimum of \$1,000 of eligible damage. All requests for ECP cost share are subject to the availability of funds. Sign up will end on **December 16, 2011**. Please call for an appointment or for more information.

Direct and Counter-Cyclical/Average Crop Revenue Program (DCP)/(ACRE)

The beginning enrollment date for 2012 DCP and ACRE will begin on **January 23, 2012** and will end on **June 1, 2012**. There are no advance payments available for 2012. Please call for more information.

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; and Honey. 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.

The current interest rates are 1.5% for a 7 year loan (under \$100K); 2.0% for a 10 year loan (\$100K to \$250K); 2.125% for a 12 year loan (\$250K to \$500K). Rates change monthly.

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Dates to Remember

November 24, 2011—The office will be closed for Thanksgiving Day
December 5, 2011—Last day to submit County Committee Election ballots
December 26, 2011—The office will be closed for Christmas Day
January 2, 2012—The office will be closed for New Year's Day
January 3, 2012—NAP Sales closing date-see 1st page
Continues—Continuous CRP, CREP, SAFE, Farm Storage Facility Loans



Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

- Sign up for 2010 SURE has begun. SURE is available to farms that sustained qualifying crop losses during the **2010 crop year** (not this past growing season). To be eligible for SURE, you must

have purchased insurance for every crop of economic significance on the farm and all these crops must be included on the SURE application (good and bad). SURE is a total farm revenue disaster program. Past NAP and RMA insurance payments are considered farm revenue. Please call for an appointment or for more information.

Acreage Reporting

You can now start reporting your planted and prevented 2012 acres. You may now report any **wheat, barley, oats, rye** or any other small grain that you may have planted for 2012 harvest. The small grain deadline is May 31, 2012, but why wait! You may also report winter-over vegetable crops now, i.e. Spinach. Please **call ahead** for an appointment so we can prepare your aerial maps in advance. Thank you!

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 November 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.

Notice to all Foreign Investors

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreigners who have purchased or sold U.S. agricultural lands to report any acquisition, lease, disposition, holding and land use changes to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture within 90 days of the transaction. Failure to do so may result in a fine up to 25% of the property's fair market price. Contact this FSA office for details.

Signature Limitation

A husband or wife can sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the County Office. A husband or wife cannot sign a power of attorney form on behalf of the other, and they must have a power of attorney on file in order to sign personally for CRP easements or claim settlements, such as promissory notes. Faxed signatures from all producers shall be accepted for most forms and other documents.

Reasonable Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If you require special accommodations, please telephone this office so arrangements can be made. County Committee Meetings are normally on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm. During December through March, meetings are a 1:30 pm.