



USDA



April 2008

Beaufort-Hyde News

Washington USDA Service Center

Beaufort-Hyde FSA
155 B Airport Road
Washington NC 27889
252-946-1076 (phone)
252-946-2501 (fax)

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

County Committee

Guire Cahoon
Jimmy Brinn Sr
Andrew Arnold
Don Hill
Ray Tooley
Edward Lee Clayton
Ida Faye Cutler

Staff

Mike Boyd
Theresa Bright
Bonnie Conner
Annette Jefferson
Maggie Marcenelle
Rene Perry
Brenda Phelps
Toni Woolard

Farm Loan Managers

Paula Nicholls
Sue Smithwick

County Executive Director

Jeanie Setser

District Director

James Davenport

Visit the FSA website at:

www.fsa.usda.gov

for the most current info
on the new farm bill and
all FSA programs.



Farm Reconstitutions & Farm Maintenance

Currently we are processing requests for farm divisions or combinations. If there are tracts in your combination farms that you no longer tend, please consider pulling them out of your farming operation with a reconstitution. Please note that program provisions require one farm number for all property with the same ownership. Likewise, if you have bought, sold, or inherited farm property, please visit the office soon to notify us of any changes in ownership. Completing these actions now will save time during crop certification.

Measurement Service

FSA continues to provide accurate measurement service of your fields and grain bins. The statewide rate is: a basic farm rate of \$30 plus \$16 for the first hour and \$8 for every 30 minutes after the first hour. This results in a minimum charge of \$46. This policy applies to bin measurement, pre-measurement, and acreage determinations for CRP enrollment. Please call Mike Boyd to request measurement service.

Acreage Reporting

What is THE most important document in the FSA Office? Your acreage report (also known as form FSA-578). A precise and timely-filed acreage report can prevent the loss of benefits in a variety of programs. Reports of small grains (wheat, barley & oats) are due by **Thursday, May 15**. All spring- and summer-seeded crops must be reported by **Monday, June 30**. You will also need to report the planting date for each field. For 2008, we will once again offer appointments and home certification packets.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting acres must be reported no later than 15 days after a crop's final planting date.

Copies of Farm Maps

Our new digital mapping system enables us to copy farm maps to a CD. This 24-hour access allows you to view your maps or print a copy at your leisure. You can also permit your insurance agent or crop advisor to use or copy your CD and print the maps he/she needs at any given time. To take advantage of this new service, **please bring a writable CD**, along with a list of your farm numbers, on your next office visit.

Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)

LCP provides benefits to Beaufort County livestock producers who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs due to the drought of 2007. Eligible livestock includes: beef and dairy cattle; buffalo; beefalo; equine; sheep; goats; swine; poultry; elk; reindeer; or deer. Eligible livestock producers **must have owned the livestock** on January 1, 2007, and must have maintained them for commercial use as part of a farming operation. Animals used for recreational purposes such as hunting, pleasure, pets, roping or for show are excluded. When applying, producers will need to show where livestock are kept and which pastures are used. No enrollment deadline has been announced; however, we encourage you to visit your FSA Office soon to apply.

Got Email?

If you would like to receive brief FSA updates and reminders via email, please share your email address with us. We will not release your address to anyone else.



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Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP provides a sort of insurance for specialty crops like vegetables, fruit, nursery crops, and aquaculture. Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. **Monday, June 30, 2008 is the deadline to provide your 2007 production evidence.** This information is extremely important if you suffer a crop loss and wish to file a claim.

Youth Loans

FSA makes operating loans of up to \$5,000 to individual rural youths age 10 to 20 to finance income-producing, ag-related projects. The project must be organized and operated with the assistance of an advisor such as a 4H or FFA leader. Loan funds may be used to buy seed, livestock, equipment or supplies; buy, repair or rent needed tools and equipment; and pay operating expenses for the project. Projects provide practical business experience and help young people begin building a credit history. The current loan rate is 3.25%. For more details, please contact Paula Nicholls, Farm Loan Manager.

Farm Stored Facility Loans (FSFL)

Low cost loans are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities. The seven year loans are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, or remodeling existing facilities. If you think you will add a new bin this year or if you need to install new wiring, new rings, or new dryers on any of your current bins, contact FSA **before** you begin construction or remodeling. The current loan rate for FSFLs is 3.0%.

Final Planting Dates

Planting timely is critical to the success of your farming operation. RMA has established final planting dates for all insurable crops; those dates are used for insurance and FSA program purposes. Check the RMA website at <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/dateinq/menu.cfm> for insurable crops. Established by the State FSA Office, final dates for NAP crops are listed on the county crop table. Here are a few of the final planting dates for area crops:

Oats = Nov 10	Wheat = Nov 30	Potatoes = Apr 15	Cotton & Corn = May 15
Tobacco = May 25	Peanuts = May 31	Grain Sorghum = Jun 15	Soybeans = Jun 25
Cucumbers = May 15/Aug 15	Squash = May 15/Aug 1	Cabbage = Apr 30/Sep 15	Green Beans = May 30/Aug 1

Outreach & Special Accommodations

FSA is committed to ensuring that all persons are aware of programs and benefits available to them. FSA programs are administered to ensure equal opportunity for participation and services for all persons to the fullest extent of the law. Representatives are available to present information to civic and community organizations and groups. Upon request, special accommodations will be made for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please contact Jeanie Setser, CED, at 252-946-1076.

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