



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE  
**FARM SERVICE AGENCY  
CABARRUS-MECKLENBURG  
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**FSA Office Hours**  
**Monday – Friday**  
**8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

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**Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency**

**Newsletter**

Number 6

May 21, 2010

**REPORTING SPRING CROP  
ACREAGES**

**FINAL DAY – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30**

The annual requirement of reporting to the Farm Service Agency can be referred to as crop reporting, acreage reporting, or crop certification. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs.

All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, the ACRE program, marketing assistance loans, and Loan Deficiency Payments.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. And, crop acreage for Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP), SURE, and LFP must also be reported.

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Producers are required to file reports by **Wednesday, June 30** for all crops.

Crops not planted by June 30 should be reported within 15 days of the last day you plant the crop.

**NONINSURED ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM (NAP)**

**NAP producers are reminded to provide 2009 production data to the county office before reporting their spring crops. This information will be used to update the actual production history for the crops for which NAP coverage has been purchased.**

**DCP/ACRE SIGNUP ENDS JUNE 1**

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) will continue through **Tuesday, June 1, 2010**. Producers are urged to visit the Farm Service Agency to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

DCP Program payments are computed using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

The (ACRE) is a program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill. Through ACRE, the Farm Service Agency offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-Cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price.

ACRE payments are made when both state- and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20% reduction in direct payments and a 30% reduction in loan rates.

Contact the Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency by **Tuesday, June 1, 2010** to signup.

**HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**

**MEMORIAL DAY  
MONDAY, MAY 31**

**INDEPENDENCE DAY  
JULY 5**

## ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME

USDA has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Internal Revenue Service to establish an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to the Farm Service Agency.

The agreement ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service by **June 15** to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from the Farm Service Agency and NRCS offices.

If you received a payment in 2009 or expect to receive a payment in 2010 you must submit the form by June 15.

## PREVENTED PLANTED

Prevented planting needs to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date. Final planting dates are: for cotton, May 15; for corn, May 20; for grain sorghum, June 15; and for soybeans, June 30.

## FAILED ACREAGE

Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

## 2010 COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Two informational meetings will be held in the Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency to explain the committee nomination and election process on June 1, 2010 at 11:00 am and on July 1, 2010 at 2:00 pm.

## **FARM SERVICE AGENCY Counts on You: Nominate and Vote!**

### 2010 SMALL GRAIN LOANS\LDP's AVAILABLE

Loans or Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's) on 2010 wheat, barley, or oats crops are available through the Farm Service Agency. To be eligible for a loan or LDP, the 2010 crops must have been produced on a farm by a producer who has filed a crop acreage report for 2010 and the farming operation must be in conservation compliance. The final date to request a 2010 wheat, barley, or oat crop loan or LDP is **March 31, 2011**.

### 2010 Loan Rates:

|        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| Wheat  | \$1.84 per Bushel |
| Oats   | \$1.37 per Bushel |
| Barley | \$1.75 per Bushel |

Loans provide immediate cash for farmers and allows them sufficient time to make important marketing decisions, or to hold the grain for feeding later. The program guarantees participating farmers a minimum price, but not necessarily a profit.

An LDP is a DIRECT cash payment to the producer. It is not a loan. LDP's are in effect when the posted county price is below the county loan rate for the crop. The rate is computed on a daily basis. Producers are reminded that the CCC-633 EZ, Page 1 **MUST** be filed before losing beneficial interest in the applicable crop and must be on file on or before the day CCC-633 EZ, Page 2, Page 3, or Page 4 is submitted. **The producer is responsible for making sure that an LDP application is on file prior to losing beneficial interest in the commodity.** Crops harvested as grain, silage, hay or other uses may be eligible for an LDP.

## FARM SERVICE AGENCY LOANS AVAILABLE

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from the Farm Service Agency, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available. Ask your lender about an Farm Service Agency loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner.

Farm Service Agency employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it. To find out more about the Farm Service Agency loan programs, contact Mary Myers, Farm Loan Manager.

### SURE PROGRAM

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that incurred in the crop years 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. However, crop insurance or NAP coverage is no longer required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage. Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.