



USDA



Farm Service Agency

Cleveland County News JUNE 2010



SHELBY USDA Service Center

**Cleveland County
FSA Office**

Ph. 704-471-0235 EXT 2
FAX: 704-471-1230

www.fsa.usda.gov

OFFICE HOURS

**Cleveland County
FSA Office**

844 Wallace Grove Dr

8:00 AM- 4:30 PM,

Monday through Friday.

704-471-0235

County Committee

Max Hamrick

Harry Sain

Wayne Yarbro

Advisor

Helen Philbeck

County Executive

Director

Keith A Lail

District Director

Len McBride

Farm Loan Manager

Beverly Clark

Program Technicians

Cindy Jenkins

Rosa Greene

Kim Jones

Holiday Schedule

FSA Office Closed

July 5 Independence Day

Sept 6 Labor Day

Oct 11 Columbus Day

Nov 11 Veteran's Day

CROP CERTIFICATION

June 30, 2010 is the deadline for certification of cotton, corn, soybeans, CRP and all NAP crops. Crops planted after June 30, 2010 may be certified within 15 days of planting to avoid late fees. All farms enrolled in DCP (Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program) are required to report **all** cropland on these farms which means 100% of the land available must be certified.

NAP – NON-INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

If a loss is incurred, FSA must be notified and a notice of loss application filed within **15** calendar days of occurrence and an adjuster will be contacted for a farm visit.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

USDA can provide low interest loans for producers to build or upgrade farm storage facilities. Loans are eligible for grain crops, hay crops and cold storage facilities for fruits and vegetables. All purchases must be new equipment and can be used only for storage of commodities. Loans are available for 85% of total cost and available for 7, 10 or 12 years, depending on the amount of the loan. No work or purchases can be made before loan approval. Applications must be completed and application fees paid prior to loan approval.

TRANSITION INCENTIVES PROGRAM (TIP)

USDA has authorized \$25 million for the voluntary transition of land enrolled under an expiring CRP contract from a retiring owner to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers to return the land to production for grazing or crop production. Retired owners will receive 2 years of annual rental payments. Owners must enroll within 1 year before the contract expiration date. A beginning farm is a person who has not been a farm operator or owner for more than 10 years. A non-revocable long-term lease of at least 5 years must be signed by owner and operator.

ELECTIONS

LAA 1, consisting of Boiling Springs, Earl, Lattimore, Patterson Springs and Mooresboro, will be involved in the 2010 election. A nomination form is attached with a return deadline of August 2, 2010 for eligible voters in this LAA. Eligible voters list available in the office.



Official Business

FARM LOANS AVAILABLE THROUGH FSA

Beverly Clark, Farm Loan Officer, is available by calling **704-872-5061** to discuss the availability of guaranteed or beginning farmer loans, loan assistance and youth loans for ages 10 through 20.

FUNDS FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS

The NC FSA announces the availability of funds targeted for Socially Disadvantaged (SDA) individuals who want to purchase or operate a family-size farm in the fiscal year 2010. Please contact **Beverly Clark**, Farm Loan Officer, at **704-872-5061** to discuss eligibility requirements.

PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY

USDA payments/benefits are subject to producer eligibility and limitation provisions as defined by law.

It is the producer's responsibility to report any changes as annual reviews will be conducted.

NOTICES and REMINDERS

- ❖ ***Notify of changes affecting direct deposit sign-ups for payments, such as changes in banks, checking or savings accounts, closed accounts, etc.***
- ❖ Notify of changes in farming any additional land or releasing rented land. Reconstitution deadline August 1.
- ❖ ***Notify of changes in addresses or changes in ownership of farms especially CRP acreages.***
- ❖ *Highly erodible land conservation (HELC) compliance is still required to earn program benefits.*
- ❖ ***Notify of changes in farming operations affecting "Person, Foreign or Actively Engaged" Status for Payment Limitation purposes. Current determinations are effective until changes occur and FSA is notified.***
- ❖ *Internet website :<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nc> for the NC FSA site*
- ❖ **Foreign Persons are reminded to report purchases/sales of any U.S. agricultural land to FSA within 90 days. Foreign Investors are required to file an FSA-153, Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act Report or penalties could result**
- ❖ Power of Attorney forms are available to designate another person to conduct your business at FSA. Contact FSA.
- ❖ ***Any person convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA benefits or payment.***
- ❖ Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision or hearing impairment by contacting the FSA office directly or by phone.
- ❖ ***The scheduled meeting day for the Cleveland County COC is the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2:00PM, unless scheduling conflicts arise.***

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