



USDA



Farm Service Agency

Granville County FSA

May, 2008

Granville County FSA
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**COUNTY EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

Email address:

Office Hours:
8:00am to 4:30pm M T TF
8:00am to 12:30pm W

County Committee
Wyatt Al Fuller,
Chairperson
Eugene Blackwell, Vice
Chairperson
Charles L. Currin Regular
Member
Willie Sherman Richards,
Advisor
Deborah Brogden,
Advisor

Staff
Nancy Newby, Acting CED
Jackie Jeffers
Shelley Noblin
Melba Hobgood
Chuck Norwood

Farm Loan Manager
Melissa Seaman

Reminders

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.

2008 Cropland Certification

Reports must be filed for all cropland, whether idle or planted, on any farm from which USDA benefits are being received. The reporting deadlines are as follows:

May 15 – Wheat, Barley, and Oats

June 30 – Corn, Tobacco, Soybeans, CRP, Hay, Pasture and all other land uses.

Tobacco Buyout Changes

November 1st, 2008 is the deadline to correct or transfer TTPP contracts to be effective for the 2009 payment.

Banking Changes????

If you have changed banks and not notified FSA, your payment could be delayed. In order to make timely payments, you need to notify our office if you close your account, change account or routing information, or if there is a bank merger.

FARM OPERATION CHANGES

Owners and operators are reminded to update their farm records in a timely manner. This will allow the Farm Service Agency to better serve the producers by keeping them informed of all farm programs administered by this office. Please notify this office of any changes in your **farming operations or addresses** as soon as they occur.

Disaster Program Expanded to Cover 2007 Crops

Eligible farmers who suffered crop losses that occurred before Dec. 31, 2007, can now apply to receive disaster payments. The Disaster Program provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses, due to weather, to 2005, 2006 or 2007 crops. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in more than one year will receive payments for the most beneficial year. Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for Crop Disaster Program benefits. Producers must have suffered losses in excess of 35% to be eligible.

Livestock Compensation Program Extended

Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive compensation for feed losses that occurred between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2007, due to natural disaster. Benefits can only be received on one of these years.

Conservation Compliance

All participants in USDA programs are required to have a conservation system in place on all the highly erodible land (HEL) that they operate. Please contact the FSA office if unsure.



NAP UPDATE

NAP participants are reminded to notify this office of any crop loss within 15 days of the grower's first observation of a loss. Once reported the FSA Office will arrange for a field inspection within 5 days of your loss notification. Producers are also encouraged to turn in production for this year crop as soon as possible in order to update actual productions history (APH).

The fee is \$100 per crop not to exceed \$300 per administrative county. The coverage rolls over from one year to the next as long as you pay the fee by the subsequent year's closing date.

FAILED ACREAGE ALERT

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

FSA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE LOAN PROGRAMS

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and guarantees loans and provides credit counseling and supervision to farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit. These may mean beginning farmers who can't qualify for conventional loans because of insufficient net worth, or established farmers who have suffered financial setbacks as a result of natural disasters. These loans are tailored to a producer's needs and may be used to buy farmland and finance agricultural productions.

2008 MEASUREMENT SERVICE RATE

Rates will remain \$30 flat fee, plus \$16 for the first hour, then \$8 for every 30 minutes thereafter. Please note there is a different rate for performing measurement service with no farm visit. That rate is \$15 basic farm rate, plus \$8 per 30 minutes. The minimum charge for measurement service with no farm visit is \$30.

USDA Loan /Grant Energy Program

Loan guarantees and grants are available to agricultural producers and rural small business to purchase and install renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements, through USDA-Rural Development.

Eligible applicants may seek loan guarantees to cover up to 50% of a project's cost, not to exceed \$10 million. Grants are available for up to 25% of a project's cost, not to exceed \$250,000 for energy efficiency improvements and \$500,000 for renewable energy systems.

Applicants must be completed and submitted to USDA-Rural Development, 853 South Beckford Dr., Henderson, NC 27536; no later than 4:30 pm on June 16, 2008.

Information and assistance is available by contacting Chuck Sadler at (252)438-3134, Ext. 4.