

United States Department of Agriculture
Wilson County Farm Service Agency Newsletter

County Committee Members

Bradley Nichols – Chairperson
Marion Pridgen, Jr. – Vice Chairperson
David Blalock – Member
Augusta Jones – Advisor

Address

1806 Goldsboro St. SW
Wilson, NC 27893
Phone: (252) 237-5147 Ext.2
Fax: (252) 237-5387

Newsletter #3



County Executive Director

John David McBryde II

Farm Loan Officer

Charles M. Walls, Jr.

Program Technicians

Vickie Hinnant

Suzie Flood

Elaine Morris

Danny Tharrington

Denise Atkinson

April Newsletter

**2005-2007 CROP DISASTER PROGRAM (CDP) &
2007 LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM (LCP)**

The United States Troop Readiness, Veteran's Care, Katrina Recovery and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007 (**2007 ACT**) authorized disaster assistance for both Producers and Ranchers. Enrollment of eligible producers for **CDP began on October 15th, 2007 with no deadline date announced.** The CDP application coverage period was recently extended from **February 28, 2007 to December 31, 2007.** Disaster programs that are available for Wilson County Producers under CDP are: the Crop Disaster Program (**CDP**) and the Livestock Compensation Program (**LCP**). CDP provides the following benefits to eligible Producers who suffered losses either to quantity or quality or both to **2005, 2006, or 2007 crops damaged from natural disasters.** Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. The payment limitation for 2005-2007 CDP benefits is \$80,000 per "person". 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 CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses **in excess of 35 percent** to be eligible for CDP. To be eligible for **FY 2007 LCP benefits** the Livestock must be: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, swine or deer that; have been physically located in an eligible county on the beginning date of the applicable disaster period; have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation on the beginning date of the disaster period; and not have been produced and maintained for reasons other than commercial use as part of a farming operation. Such excluded uses include, but are not limited to, wild free roaming animals or animals used for recreational purposes such as pleasure, hunting, pets, roping or for show.

NORTH CAROLINA DISASTER DECLARATION

The United States Department of Agriculture Secretary declared a natural disaster in the State of North Carolina based on damages and losses caused by drought and high temperatures that occurred from January 1, 2007 and continuing. As a result of this natural disaster, 85 North Carolina counties were declared eligible for Federal disaster assistance, including Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency (EM) loans for eligible family farmers. **Wilson County is one of the 85 counties eligible for Federal assistance. Emergency Loan applications for physical and production losses caused from this disaster are being accepted now through May 12th, 2008.** For more information contact Mr. Charles Walls, Jr., Farm Loan Officer with the Wilson County Farm Service Agency at 252-237-5147, ext.2

FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

The Wilson County Farm Service Agency can make Direct and Guaranteed loans to **Beginning Farmers and members of Socially Disadvantaged Groups** to purchase farmland and finance agricultural production. The Farm Loan Programs are designed to assist family farmers that are temporarily unable to obtain commercial credit from private lending institutions for various reasons such as; insufficient net worth, suffered financial setbacks from natural disasters or having limited resources in which to establish and maintain a profitable farming operation. Farm Loan Programs available include: **Direct and Guaranteed Farm Ownership or Operating Loans, Emergency Loans, Rural Youth Loans and Beginning Farmer Loans.** In addition all current farm loan borrowers have the ability to check the status of their accounts any time, day or night, using the new toll free telephone number **1-888-518-4983.** The number can be utilized in **English or Spanish.** The system is user-friendly, but the customer may need to contact their Local Farm Service Agency County Office if action is necessary on their account. For more information contact **Charles M. Walls, Jr., Farm Loan Officer at 252-237-5147, ext 2.**

DIRECT AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROGRAM (DCP)

USDA recently announced that Producers with **Corn, Grain Sorghum or Soybean** base acres that are currently enrolled in USDA's Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program **will not receive partial 2007-crop year Counter-Cyclical payments** according to the February World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates Report that determined the effective prices exceed their respective target prices. In February, USDA announced that Producers with **Cotton and Peanut** base acres that are currently enrolled in USDA's Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program **will receive a partial 2007-crop year Counter-Cyclical payment**. USDA will make the final calculations for potential final FY 2007 Counter-Cyclical payments for all crops after the end of the marketing year.

2008 CROP ACREAGE CERTIFICATION REPORTS

The Wilson County Farm Service Agency Office is currently accepting FY 2008 Certified Crop Acreage Reports from Farm Operators and Producers. All small grain crops (**Barley, Oats, Rye and Wheat**) should be reported to your local FSA Office by **May 15th, 2008**. All other crops (**Corn, Cotton, CRP, Grain Sorghum, Peanuts, Soybeans and Tobacco**) as well as **all remaining cropland** must be certified by **June 30th, 2008**. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) requires that all cropland acreage on a farm **must be reported timely** in order to maintain eligibility for program benefits such as: Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments, Loan Deficiency Payments, Commodity Loans and Crop Disaster Payments. All crops must have a **planting date and crop shares** and both **must be reported exactly the same at both your local FSA Office and at your local Crop Insurance Agent's Office**. Any differences may affect crop insurance indemnity payments.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) AND CREP SIGNUP

There are no general signups scheduled for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in 2008; however, environmentally sensitive acreage qualifying for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) or Continuous CRP will still be eligible for enrollment through **April 18, 2008**. The following are types of CRP programs available, **CP-3A-Hardwood Tree Planting, CP-21-Filter Stripes, CP-33-Upland Bird Habitat Buffers and CP-36-Long Leaf Pine Initiative**. These targeted programs will remain funded, and continue to provide a heightened environmental benefit on select areas.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS (FSFL's)

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including wheat, soybeans and corn. The seven-year Farm Storage Facility Loans are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, or remodeling existing facilities. Eligible facilities include new conventional-type cribs or bins and new and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures. **All Farm Storage Facility Loans are secured by a promissory note and security agreement**. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85 percent of the net cost of the storage or handling equipment, up to \$100,000 for each borrower. A minimum down payment is also required. For details, contact the Wilson County Farm Service Agency Office.

REMINDERS

- **2008 Farm Reconstitutions**-The Wilson County Farm Service Agency County Committee has established an effective deadline of **April 15th, 2008** for requesting a Farm Reconstitution for **FY 2008**.
- **Non-Insured Crop Disaster Program (NAP)**-Producers are reminded of the requirements for filing a Notice of Loss application (**CCC-576**): **Timely Filed, Properly Filed, For Each Disaster Event, Each Crop and Type Verified**. Also Producers are encouraged to **provide production records for all NAP crops annually to improve their APH yields**.
- **Office Hours**: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.
- **Monthly Committee Meeting**: The Wilson County Farm Service Agency County Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month at 8:30 am.

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