



September 2009

Rhode Island Farm Service Agency

Rhode Island County FSA

60 Quaker Lane Suite 49
Warwick, RI 02886

Hours

Monday-Friday
8:00 am-4:30 pm

Phone

401-828-3120 Option 1
Or 1-800-551-5144
Farm Loan: Option 2
Fax: 401-821-0780

COC Members

The next COC meeting will be held on October 7, 2009

County Committee

Ruth James-Chairperson
Vincent Confreda-Vice-Chair
Victor Hoogendoorn-Member
George Goulart-Member
James Steere-Member

County Office Staff

Melissa Turrisi, CED
Anne Belleville, PT
Devon Marsden, PT
Leila Naylor, PT

Farm Loan Staff

Roxanne Boisse, FLM
Sandy Ford, FLA
Katie Ryan, FLOT



FSFL (Farm Storage Facility Loans)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL) provides low-interest financing for producers to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The FSA is authorized to implement the program through USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

The maximum principle amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. Loan terms of 7, 10, or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA County Office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

Eligible FSFL Commodities

- Feed grains harvested as whole grain or other whole grain such as corn.
- Fruits and Vegetables (including nuts)- cold storage facilities
- Hay and Renewable biomass

For more information please visit your FSA county office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

NAP (Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program)

USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occurs due to natural disasters.

NAP Application Deadlines for 2010 Crops

November 20, 2009-Asparagus, Blueberries, Peaches, Raspberries, Strawberries.

December 1, 2009 -Specialty crops; (honey, maple sap).

March 15, 2010-Annual crops

Eligible Producers can apply for coverage of noninsurable crops using form CCC-471, "Application for coverage," and pay the applicable service fees at their local FSA office.

The service fee is **\$250** per crop per county or **\$750** per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed a total of **\$1875** per producer with farming interest in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver of service fees.

How much loss NAP covers

NAP covers the amount of loss greater than 50 percent of the expected production based on the approved yield and reported acreage.

More Information

Further information on NAP is available at your local FSA office or on FSA's Web site at: www.fsa.usda.gov



County Committee Elections

The nominees in this year's LAA 1 **Providence County** to serve as a committee member are:



Robin Meek resides in Harmony, RI where she has raised mostly Black and White Lincoln sheep as well as Highland Cattle for 11 years. Robin is currently the president of the RI Sheep Co-op and participates in the Rhody Warm Wool Collection.

Doreen Pezza resides in Johnston, RI where she and her family has operated Pezza Farm for 37 years. Pezza Farm has been a family run business since 1947.

Clayton Wright resides in North Smithfield, RI he was raised on Wrights Dairy farm and continues to work on the farm. Wrights Dairy Farm has been a family run business since 1896.

The next step in the election process is the mailing of the ballots, which will begin on November 6, 2009. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency County Office by the close of business on December 7, 2009. If mailed ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 7, 2009.

Committee members are a crucial component of the day to day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will offer. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

The newly-elected members and alternates take office January 1, 2010. The county committee meets the first Wednesday of each month.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272(voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD)

Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)

Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) provides financial assistance to producers or entities that deliver eligible biomass material to designated biomass conversion facilities for use as heat, power, biobased products or biofuels. Initial assistance will be for the Collection, Harvest, Storage and Transportation (CHST) costs associated with the delivery of eligible materials.

For more information please visit your FSA county office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

Thank You!

On behalf of the Rhode Island County office, I would like to thank each of you for your cooperation during this crop reporting season. Our goal is to provide excellent customer service while administering FSA programs as efficiently as possible, which means assessing your operations and reviewing any applicable programs we have to offer that might assist you in your farming operation.

We greatly appreciate the relationships between FSA staff and the Agricultural community and look forward to working with you now and in the future.

Again, Thank you from all of us here at the Rhode Island FSA County office.

Melissa Turrisi - CED

Anne Belleville - PT

Devon Marsden - PT

Leila Naylor - PT

Mailed from Zip Code 02893

Permit #2

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

USDA - Farm Service Agency
Rhode Island County Office
60 Quaker Lane, Suite 49
Warwick, RI 02886