



Caledonia/Essex County Updates

May 2010

Farm Service Agency

481 Summer St., Ste 201
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

Phone (802) 748-2641
(802) 748-3885
(802) 748-8746
1-800-862-1121
Fax (802) 748-1621
www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Burt Patenaude, Chair
Robert Porter, Vice Chair
William Nelson, Member
Darcy Smart, Member
Heather Trudeau, Member

**COC meets 2nd Thursday
of each month at 10:30 am**

**County Executive
Director**

Patricia Passut, ext 104
patricia.passut@vt.usda.gov

Program Staff

Patty Matte, ext 100

Farm Loan Staff

(802) 334-6090 or
1-866-241-2190 (toll free)
Brian Kuper, FLM
Dorcas McAllister, FLO
Meghan Dubois, FLO

NRCS Staff

www.nrcs.usda.gov
Nick Comercl, ext 101
Jacob Clough, ext 117

NRCD Staff

Kerry O'Brien, ext 110
Tamara Stevens, ext 114
Brandon Carpenter, ext 106

Rural Development

www.rd.usda.gov
Steve Campbell, ext 102
Mark Koprowski, ext 120
Suzanne Smith, ext 112



Acreage Reporting

The annual requirement of reporting to the FSA office 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, marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Payments.

The certification form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. The producer certification deadline is **June 30 for small grains** and **July 15 for all other crops. We strongly encourage you to have your crop reporting completed before July 1** so our staff can complete the data entry and obtain all required signatures before the **deadline of July 15th**.

Planting Dates -- Please keep track of your planting dates as these are needed when you certify your crop acreage. Those dates are helpful to you in the event of a disaster program. Planting dates are required for farmers enrolled in NAP and crop insurance.

CRP & NAP Certification -- Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. And, crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

Prevented Planting -- Prevented planting is to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage -- Failed acreage *must* be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and **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.

NOTE: If your 2010 acreage report is pretty straight-forward, simply forage and the same fields as in 2009, give us a call and we may be able to complete your reports over the phone, saving you a trip to the office! There is no need to wait; give us a call now, we'll update your report and send it to you for signature.

NAP Loss Filing

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, *is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting* and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for **ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES**. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576 (notice of loss) in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

2009 Production Reports Due by July 15

REMINDER: Producers who had a Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy on their 2009 grass, are required to report their total hay/mixed forage production. This reported production will allow us to build your farm's actual production history (APH) yield.

If you are making a special trip to the office, it would be beneficial to call before coming in. This will allow us to have your paperwork ready and be sure that we are not in a meeting or already booked for the day. You can always make an appointment, but it is not required!

WHAT IS THIS MONTH?
May is . . . Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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DCP & ACRE Signup – Deadline June 1st

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) has begun and will **continue through June 1, 2010**. This deadline is mandatory for all participants. *USDA will not accept any late-filed applications.*



The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP.

USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated web site by clicking the "OnLine Services" link on the FSA Home Page at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

If you have picked up new land or dropped land you used last year, please notify us immediately to ensure no one misses signing a DCP contract by June 1st.

You mean me?

Yes, we mean you . . . If you receive any program benefits from FSA or NRCS you **must fill out forms CCC-297 and/or CCC-928 and submit them to the IRS**. This is part of the verification process of everyone's Average Adjusted Gross Income certification, contained on CCC-926 that is filed in this office. The CCC-927 and/or CCC-928 **must be submitted to the IRS no later than June 15, 2010**. So, what if you don't? *You could be paying back all of your applicable 2009 program benefits plus 2010 benefits may not find their way into your bank account!* The forms are available in our office; you can pick them up here, but don't return them to us . . . they must be sent to the IRS directly.

Dates to Remember

<u>May 31</u>	Memorial Day – Office Closed
<u>June 1</u>	Deadline to sign DCP/ACRE contracts
<u>June 9</u>	Office closed – we have a meeting
<u>June 15</u>	COC nomination opens
<u>June 30</u>	Acreage reporting deadline for small grains
<u>July 5</u>	Independence Day (observed) – Office closed
<u>July 15</u>	Acreage reporting deadline for all other crops
<u>Aug 2</u>	COC nomination deadline
<u>Ongoing</u>	Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) sign-up for new dairy operations