



May 2007

FSA Updates

Chittenden/Washington County USDA Service Center

Chittenden/Washington County FSA

802-865-7895 x4
800-910-2035 x4
802-865-7947 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/VT

Hours

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

County Committee

John Rowley, Jr., LAA-1
Claude Lapiere, LAA-2
Deborah Conant, LAA-3
Kendall Maynard, LAA-4
Michelle Gardner, LAA-5

Upcoming County Committee Meeting Dates

May 23, 2007
June 20, 2007

Program Staff

Lawrence Parker x12
Eileen Powers x16
Pearl Wells x10

Loan Staff

Bradford Parker x16

Natural Resources Conservation District

Caroline Alves x23
Tate Jeffrey x19
Michel Lapointe x18
Danny Peet x22
Norman Smith x17

Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District

Jessica Andreoletti x14

Reporting Crop Acreage

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.

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.

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Producers are required to file reports by June 30th for small grains and July 15th for all other crops.

For the convenience of our Washington County producers, *Eileen will be taking crop reports in the Berlin USDA office.* The dates are May 22, June 5 and June 19. An appointment time is required to take advantage of this opportunity, so please call as soon as possible to schedule!

Multiple Dates Particularly for NAP Prevented Planting:

Prevented planting **needs** to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage:

Reports of failed acreage must be filed 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.

2007 COC Election Information

One of FSA's responsibilities is to conduct County Committee elections in an open manner that ensures accountability. County FSA Offices will provide local organizations representing socially disadvantaged groups with detailed information about the COC election process. FSA is reaching out to agricultural communities to get equitable representation on their county committees.

Groups representing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, will be actively solicited for COC election candidates, and encouraged to fill out a nomination form (**FSA-669A**). Underrepresented farmers and ranchers are encouraged to step up and participate in their county's COC election process. Producers will notice posters and announcements displayed in businesses, churches, and other public places. COC election fact sheets can be found online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA> under the News & Events tab on the FSA homepage.

Measurement Service

Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. *Producers must file a request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit* to have services completed on the farm. Measurement service guarantees compliance with a program, if the planting is limited to the measured area. Incorrect acreage self-certification can result in reduced program payments, penalty, or loss of eligibility.



**PRESORTED STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 Mailed from Zip Code 05495
 PERMIT #40**

Selected Interest Rates for July 2006	
90-Day Treasury Bill	5.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	5.0%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.25%
Limited Resource	5.0%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.0%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	4.625%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	5.875%

Dates to Remember	
May 22nd	Acreage Reports - Berlin
May 28th	Memorial Day – Office Closed
June 5 th	Acreage Reports - Berlin
June 14 th	Flag Day – Office Open
June 19 th	Acreage Reports - Berlin
July 4 th	Independence Day – Office Closed

Visit our Web site: <http://www.fsa.usda/VT>

Washington County Farmers!

Please call as soon as possible to make an ap-
 pointment to file you acreage report at the BERLIN
 Office. We will be there beginning at 9:00am on
May 22nd, June 5th and June 19th!

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