



**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
CABARRUS-MECKLENBURG
COMMITTEE**

Wayne Westmoreland, Chairperson
Max Barrier, ViceChairperson
James W. Harris, Jr., Member
Fred Motley, Member
John A. Walker, Member
Victoria Price Porter, Advisor
Turner A. Morrison, CED
Mary A. Myers, Farm Loan Mgr

**Farm Service Agency
Telephone, Fax & Website:
Cabarrus County: 704-788-2107
Ext. 2
Mecklenburg County: 704-333-0023
FAX Number: 704-720-9221
Website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>
FSA Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's TARGET CENTER at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

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

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call Turner Morrison at 704-788-2107 ext. 2 or 704-333-0023.

Farm Service Agency

Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency

Newsletter

Number 5

August 21, 2006

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to eligible producers affected by natural disasters. This federally funded program covers noninsurable crop losses and planting prevented by disasters.

An eligible producer is a landowner, tenant, or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop. If you have questions regarding your eligibility, please contact the Farm Service Agency.

Eligible crops include commercial crops and other agricultural commodities produced for food (including livestock feed) or fiber for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is unavailable.

Also eligible for NAP coverage are controlled-environment crops (mushroom and floriculture), specialty crops (honey and maple syrup), and value loss crops (aqua-culture, Christmas trees, ginseng, ornamental nursery, and turfgrass sod).

Please contact a crop insurance agent if you have questions regarding whether a crop is insurable in your county. For questions regarding whether a crop is eligible for NAP coverage, please contact the Farm Service Agency.

To apply for coverage you must file Form CCC-471, Application for Coverage, and pay the applicable service fees. The application and service fees must be filed by the application closing date.

The service fee is equal to \$100 per crop per county, or \$300 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of \$900 per producer for all counties.

Some upcoming 2007 sales closing dates are:

September 1, 2006

- ❖ Sage
- ❖ Strawberries
- ❖ Value Loss (Ornamental Nursery, Aquaculture, Christmas Trees, Ginseng, Turf Grass Sod, Mushrooms, Floriculture, Strawberry Rootstock)

September 30, 2006

- ❖ Wheat (grazing/hay)
- ❖ Barley (grazing/hay)
- ❖ Oats (grazing/hay)
- ❖ Rye (grain, grazing/hay)

November 20, 2006

- ❖ Alfalfa, Apples, Blackberries, Blueberries, Caneberries, Grapes, Grazing (grass/mixed forage), Hay (mixed forage & grass), Honey, Lespedeza, Peaches, Pecans, Plums, Raspberries

DIRECT/COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM LATE FILED SIGNATURES

The last day to sign contracts for the 2006 Direct/Counter Cyclical Payment Program was June 1, 2006. Producers who were unable to file contracts by the deadline may late file. Farms will be assessed a late file fee of \$100. The last day to late file an application is **September 30, 2006.**

*****OFFICE CLOSING*****

Labor Day

Monday, September 4, 2006

Concord Service Center
Cabarrus-Mecklenburg FSA Office
P.O. Box 547
Concord, NC 28026-0547
Official Business



PRSRT STD
AUTO
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CONCORD, NC
PERMIT NO. 87

COMMITTEE ELECTION

The slate of nominees for the upcoming Farm Service Agency committee elections has been developed and announced by the Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency.

The candidate for the Local Administrative Area 2 election is as follows: David Houston

The candidates for the Local Administrative Area 4 is as follows: John P. Cline, Eddie Moose, and Louis Suther.

LAA 2 is the area in Mecklenburg County east of I-85 and LAA 4 is the northeast section of Cabarrus County.

The committee election is being conducted by mail until December 4, 2006. Eligible voters in LAA-2 and LAA-4 will receive a secret ballot in the mail with instructions on how to vote for the candidate of their choice around November 15, 2006.

Ballots must be returned or postmarked no later than Monday, December 4, 2006. Ballots will be counted on Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency. The counting of the ballots is open to the public.

The Farm Service Agency Committee administers farm programs at the local level and they are a direct link between the farm community and U. S.

COMMODITY LOANS AVAILABLE

Loans on agricultural commodities are available through the Farm Service Agency. To be eligible for a loan, crops must be produced on a farm by a producer who has filed a crop acreage report for 2006, meets conservation compliance and has filed a person determination application.

2006 Loan Rates:

Wheat	2.66 per Bushel
Oats	1.37 per Bushel
Barley	1.60 per Bushel
Corn	2.18 per Bushel
Grain Sorghum	3.66 per Cwt
Cotton	.5390 per Cwt.
Soybeans:	
Cabarrus	5.07 per Bushel
Mecklenburg	5.12 per Bushel

Loans are available on 2006 crops of wheat, barley and oats through March 31, 2007 and for 2006 crops of corn, grain sorghum, cotton and soybeans through May 31, 2007.

The interest rate for loans disbursed in August is 6.250%.

Loans provide immediate cash for farmers and allows them sufficient time to make important marketing decisions, or to hold the grain for feeding later. The program guarantees participating farmers a minimum price, but not necessarily a profit.

HABITAT BUFFERS FOR UPLAND BIRDS

The Farm Service Agency is still accepting applications for the Northern Bobwhite Quail Habitat Initiative under the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program. Under this program, participants apply conservation practice 33, Habitat Buffers for Upland Birds, around field edges of eligible cropland to provide food and cover for bobwhite quail.

FARM STORAGE LOANS AVAILABLE

Loans are available to producer of wheat, corn, soybeans and other commodities for the construction or upgrade of farm storage and handling facilities. Loans may be made only for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed handling equipment or the remodeling of existing facilities.

The maximum term of the loan is 7 years and all loans must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum principal amount of any farm storage facility loan is 85 percent of the net cost of the applicant's needed storage or handling equipment.

A minimum down payment representing the difference between the net cost of the storage facility and the amount of the loan shall be made by the loan applicant to the supplier or contractor before the loan is disbursed.