



**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
CABARRUS-MECKLENBURG
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**Farm Service Agency
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Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

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Farm Service Agency

Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency

Newsletter

Number 10

October 26, 2007

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 crop plantings 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.

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.

November 20, 2007

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

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM SIGN UP UNDERWAY

Eligible farmers who suffered quantity losses to their crops in recent years can enroll in the Crop Disaster Program 2005-2007 (CDP) **so long as the actual crop lost was planted or prevented from being planted before Feb. 28, 2007** at the Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency.

Subject to final rules for the program, CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered losses to the 2005-2007 crops from natural disasters and related conditions **so long as the actual crop lost was planted or prevented from being planted before Feb. 28, 2007.** Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to receive benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple crops as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

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. The payment rate is set at 42 percent of the established price. Assistance, together with any crop insurance or NAP payment received for the same crop and production not lost, must not exceed 95 percent of the total value of the crop absent the disaster.

The Farm Service Agency will not consider applications completed for a loss until a final rule has been issued for this program.

The U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007, signed into law on May 25, 2007, by President Bush, authorizes CDP.

United States
Department of
Agriculture



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Official Business

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency committee election is being conducted by mail. Eligible voters in LAA-1 and LAA-5 will receive a secret ballot in the mail with instructions on how to vote for the candidate of their choice around November 3, 2007. Ballots must be returned or postmarked no later than Monday, December 3, 2007. Ballots will be counted on Thursday, December 6, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency. The counting of the ballots is open to the public.

The candidate for the Local Administrative Area 1 election is as follows: C. Wayne Westmoreland

The candidate for the Local Administrative Area 5 is as follows: Kenneth Max Barrier.

LAA 1 is the area in Mecklenburg County west of I-85 and LAA 5 is the south central section of Cabarrus County.

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. Department of Agriculture.



REPORTING CROP LOSSES

If you had any failed crop acres, give serious thought to report them before destroying crop evidence. If Congress authorizes a crop disaster program in the future, proof of failed acreage may be required for your participation.

It's important to report failed acreage not brought to harvest to the county office staff prior to destruction. Ensuring that failed acres are documented could be the determining factor in whether you are eligible for future crop disaster program payments.

If you are experiencing low crop yields, you should keep good production records, but you don't need to report this acreage right now.

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), you must contact the FSA county office staff within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. Producers with crop insurance should contact their local agent when losses occur and before destroying the crop.

EMERGENCY LOANS FOR DROUGHT

Emergency loans are available for producers who suffer losses from the 2007 drought. Emergency loans carry a 3.75% interest rate and can be used to replace the income you would have gotten from your farm operation. Funds can be used for operating expenses, debt payments and essential family living expenses. The loan terms are from 1 to 7 years. To be eligible you must show a 30% loss in a single enterprise. The standard eligibility requirements for Farm Service Agency loans apply: demonstrate that you cannot get the necessary credit from conventional lenders, be credit worthy, be a full time family size farmer and not be delinquent on any Federal debts, among other requirements. The last day to apply for Cabarrus County producers is May 12, 2008 and for Mecklenburg County producers is June 12, 2008. Please call the office for an application or for further information.

Dates to Remember	
Continues	Continuous CRP
Nov. 3	County committee ballots mailed to voters
Nov. 12	Veterans Day Holiday
Nov. 22	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec. 3	Last day to return county committee election ballots
Dec. 6	Election Ballots Counted
Dec. 25	Christmas Day Holiday
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans