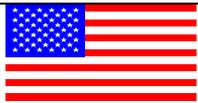




JUNE 2007

# Cleveland County News



**SHELBY**  
**USDA Service**  
**Center**  
**Cleveland County**  
**FSA Office**  
 Ph. 704-471-0235 EXT 2  
 FAX: 704-471-1230

www.fsa.usda.gov

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Cleveland County FSA**  
**Office hours at**  
**844 Wallace Grove Dr**  
**are 8:00 AM- 4:30 PM,**  
 Monday through Friday.  
 704-471-0235

**County Committee**

Max Hamrick  
 Harry Sain  
 Ted Stroup

**Advisor**

Helen Philbeck

**County Executive**

**Director**

Keith A Lail

**District Director**

Len McBride

**Farm Loan Manager**

Ed Hall

**Program Technicians**

Rosa Greene  
 Kathy Conner  
 Cindy Jenkins  
 Kim Jones

**Holiday Schedule**  
**FSA Office Closed**

July 4  
 Independence Day  
 September 3  
 Labor Day

**CERTIFICATION**

**July 2, 2007 - Deadline to certify corn, cotton and soybeans**

Or within 15 days of planting

**Fruits and Vegetables – certify within 15 days of planting**

Date planted required

All cropland must be certified on each farm whether planted to a crop or other purposes.

**NAP – NON-INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

NAP provides financial assistance for non-insurable crops when losses occur due to natural disasters. To remain eligible, the following crop acreage information must be reported annually and early in the risk period: name of crop, type and variety, location and acreages, share of the crop, producer interest, type of growing practice, date crop is planted and intended use. Also production information of harvested quantity, disposition of crop and verifiable or reliable crop production records is required annually. If crop is affected by a natural disaster, FSA must be notified and a notice of loss application filed within 15 calendar days of occurrence, final planting date, date damage is apparent or the normal harvest date. Growing season inspections will be conducted for all producers. Producers should contact the FSA office within 15 days of final harvest so a final inspection can be made. For 2008 coverage, producers must file an application with FSA and pay a non-refundable fee of \$100 per crop, \$300 maximum per county.

**Application closing dates:**

- **September 1, 2007 – Strawberries**
- **September 30, 2007 – Rye, Oats/Hay**

**DCP (DIRECT AND COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM)**

DCP contracts for 2007 may be completed now before the extended deadline of **August 3, 2007**.

**LDP – LOAN DEFECIENCY PAYMENTS AND LOANS**

LDP Rates **CHANGE DAILY** and LDP's may become available for crops. Producers are reminded that they must have title and control of a commodity in order to receive an LDP. Form CCC-633EZ should be on file.

**FARM RECORDS/BANK CHANGES**

Producers are reminded to notify the office of **any changes** in their farming operations. If additional land is leased or purchased, forms are required which may include **deed copies or wills with death certificates** to record the new owner and also to list the correct operator or producer. Also **changes in addresses** should be noted timely so mailings can continue without disruption. If any **changes in your banking situation** occur, such as **change in account numbers, banks, closed accounts**, etc, please be sure to **notify** the office.

**PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY**

USDA payments/benefits are subject to producer eligibility and limitation provisions as defined by law. It is the producer's responsibility to report any changes as annual reviews will be conducted.

## **NOTICES and REMINDERS**

❖ *Internet web sites of possible interest:*

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/psd/ldp/default.htm>      *LDP rates*  
<http://www.sc/egov.usda.gov>      *(and the eForms icon) Forms*  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nc>      *NC FSA site*

- ❖ **CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) – Should NOT be bush-hogged until after September 15<sup>th</sup> . Producers are reminded that CRP maintenance must be performed or penalties and possible termination could result.**
- ❖ Notify of changes affecting direct deposit sign-ups for payments, such as changes in banks, checking or savings accounts, estate accounts, closed accounts, etc.
- ❖ **Notify of changes in addresses or changes in ownership of farms especially CRP acreages or farming any additional land or releasing rented land.**
- ❖ Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Continuous Sign-up involving land alongside bodies of water is an ongoing program at this time.
- ❖ **Highly erodible land conservation (HELC) compliance is still required to earn program benefits. NRCS answers questions regarding this.**
- ❖ Notify of changes in farming operations affecting “Person, Foreign or Actively Engaged” Status for Payment Limitation purposes. Current determinations are effective until changes occur and FSA is notified.
  - Foreign Persons are reminded to report purchases/sales of any U.S. agricultural land to FSA within 90 days.
  - Foreign Investors are required to file an FSA-153, Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act Report or penalties could result
- ❖ **The new farm bill now requires ALL cropland on each farm be certified whether planted to a crop or used for other purposes. Planting Dates are now required.**
- ❖ Power of Attorney forms are available to designate another person to conduct your business at FSA. Contact FSA. Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other unless written notification is provided denying this authority. However, producer’s records shall not be provided to a spouse by the county office unless written authority is obtained.
- ❖ **Any person convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA benefits or payment.**
- ❖ Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision or hearing impairment by contacting the FSA office directly or by phone.
- ❖ **The scheduled meeting day for the Cleveland County COC is the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2:00 PM, unless scheduling conflicts arise.**

### **FARM LOANS AVAILABLE THROUGH FSA**

Ed Hall, Farm Loan Officer, is available by calling 704-872-5061 to discuss the availability of guaranteed loans, loan assistance, youth loans for ages 10 through 20 and the financing of agricultural enterprises for beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups.

Cleveland County has been declared a Secretarial Disaster Area due to low temperatures and freezing conditions from April 6 through April 9, 2007. Producers affected by these conditions should call Ed Hall at 704-872-5061 for applications and additional information.