



SEPTEMBER 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

**844 Wallace Grove Dr
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

Cindy Jenkins
Rosa Greene
Kathy Conner
Kim Jones

Holiday Schedule

FSA Office Closed

Oct 8
Columbus Day
November 12
Veteran's Day
November 22
Thanksgiving Day

CRP – EMERGENCY HAYING AND GRAZING

Cleveland County has been approved for Emergency haying and grazing on CRP land. Producers who mow the hay or graze and persons listed on the CRP contracts must **both** sign agreements in the FSA office before mowing or grazing begins. **Haying** must be done between **September 16, 2007 and November 14, 2007**. **Grazing** must be done between **September 16, 2007 and December 14, 2007**. All hay and cows must be removed from the land by December 14, 2007. Haying is limited to **50%** or less in each field and grazing is limited to **75%** or less in each field. There will be a **10% reduction** in annual payment for the actual acres hayed or grazed. Haying and grazing cannot be done on the same acreage.

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 2007 coverage, producers must file an application with FSA and pay a non-refundable fee of \$100 per crop, \$300 maximum per county (payment by check is desired).

Application closing dates:

- **September 30, 2007 – Rye, Oats/Hay**
- **November 20, 2007 – Blackberries, blueberries, alfalfa, raspberries**
- **January 1, 2008 – Beets, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, greens, kale, irish potatoes, carrots, onions, rutabagas, spinach, lettuce and turnips**
- **February 28, 2008 – Beans (all varieties), basil, brussel sprouts, cantaloupes, cilantro, cucumbers, dill, eggplant, honeydew, millet, mint, okra, peas (all varieties), peppers, sweet corn, popcorn, pumpkins, radishes, rosemary, sage, sunflowers, sweet potatoes, sorghum (hay or molasses), squash (all varieties), tarragon, watermelons and tomatoes (all varieties).**

ELECTIONS

Elections will be held in December for LAA1 (Boiling Springs, Earl, Lattimore, Patterson Springs and Mooresboro). Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters in November 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.

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.



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

- ❖ **Notify of changes affecting direct deposit sign-ups for payments, such as changes in banks, checking or savings accounts, closed accounts, etc. Note: checks are preferred for payment of any fees in county office.**
- ❖ Notify of changes in farming any additional land or releasing rented land.
- ❖ **Notify of changes in addresses or changes in ownership of farms especially CRP acreages.**
- ❖ 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.**
- ❖ **Internet web sites of possible interest:**
 - <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/psd/ldp/default.htm> for LDP rates
 - <http://www.sc/egov.usda.gov> and the eForms icon for Forms
 - <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nc> for the NC FSA site
- ❖ **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
- ❖ Power of Attorney forms are available to designate another person to conduct your business at FSA. Contact FSA.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) – Should NOT be bush-hogged until after September 15. Producers are reminded that CRP maintenance must be performed or penalties and possible termination could result.**
- ❖ The scheduled meeting day for the Cleveland County COC is the 3rd Wednesday of each month at **2:00PM**, unless scheduling conflicts arise.

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