



September, 2006

FARM NEWS FROM FSA

Lexington USDA Service Center

Davidson-Davie County FSA

301 E Center Street
Lexington, NC 27292
336-248-2687 ext. 2 (phone)
336-248-2644(fax)

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

County Committee

Charles Lax, Chairperson
Brent Barnes, Member
Dale Blackwelder, Member
Mike Long, Member
Nancy D. Sink, Member
Libby Essick, Advisor
Kenny Smoot, Advisor

Regular Committee Meeting Date: 1st Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

Staff

Lanny Collett, CED
Chris Carter, PT
Robin Hudson, PT
Lora Owen, PT
Melissa Hodges, Farm Loan Manager



Lynn Saintsing & Ed Greene, Jr. Resign As COC Members

Because of their association with Federal Crop Insurance, Lynn Saintsing and Ed Green, Jr. have resigned as members of the Davidson-Davie FSA County Committee.

Replacing Lynn Saintsing to complete his 3 year term will be Mike Long of Midway. Replacing Ed Greene, Jr. will be Nancy D. Sink of Yadkin College. Both Mr. Long and Mrs. Sink were elected as 1st alternates during the last county committee election.

Committee Elections To Be Held In November For 2 Davidson LAA's

Eligible FSA voters in LAA 2 (communities of Abbotts Creek, Arcadia, Fairview, Hampton, Hasty, Midway-Gumtree, Wallburg) and LAA 3 (communities of Denton-Healing Springs, Fairgrove-Pilot, Hedricks Grove-Silver Hill, Holly Grove-Liberty, Jackson Hill-Alleghany) will receive ballots in the mail on or about November 3rd. Eligible voters are asked to vote for the person of their choice to serve a 3-year term on the Davidson-Davie FSA County Committee

In LAA-2, Robert Delapp, Libby Essick and Allen Hedgecock were nominated and their names will appear on the LAA-2 ballot.

In LAA-3, Daynese Loflin and Kenny Smoot were nominated and their names will appear on the LAA-3 ballot.

Eligible voters are asked to vote for one of the above persons, or to write in a person's name for election on the County Committee. Voted ballots must be returned by December 4, 2006. Ballots will be counted at 3:00 p.m. on December 7, 2006 in the Davidson-Davie FSA Office and newly elected members will take

office in January. FSA administers a number of programs such as loans, farm programs, commodity operations, conservation incentives and others to help keep our nation's farmers and ranchers on their land, and to help those who wish to begin farming for their livelihoods. Local FSA committees determine producer eligibility, help keep farmers informed of FSA programs, keep the State FSA Committee informed of crop conditions and recommending needed changes in farm programs.



Reporting Crop Losses

Farmers who suffered crop losses due to adverse weather conditions should take the following steps:

- Crops not harvested – Report the loss by completing CCC-576, Notice of Loss, prior to the crop's destruction.
- Crops carried to harvest – Keep good production records, but you don't need to report this acreage right now.

Ensuring that failed acreage is documented could be the determining factor in whether you are eligible for any future crop disaster program benefits.

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) Sign-up Begins October 1st

Producers who own or operate farms with DCP crop bases may sign DCP contracts for 2007 beginning October 1st. The deadline to enroll the farm is June 1, 2007.

Direct Deposit Info

Most FSA payments are made by direct deposit. If your banking information changes, please let us know immediately to avoid a lengthy delay in receiving your payment.



Reminders:

County Committee elections: November 3rd through December 4th. **VOTE!**

Beginning date to enroll farm in Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program for 2007: October 1, 2006

TTPP signup deadline For 2007 is November 1, 2006.

Commodity loans available.

The FSA Office will be closed Monday, October 9th in observance of Columbus Day.

Tobacco Buy-out Sign-up Deadline For 2007

Quota holders and producers not currently enrolled in the Tobacco Transition Payment Program (TTPP) have until November 1, 2006 to sign-up in order to receive a 2007 TTPP payment.

Also, tobacco quota holders and producers that are enrolled have until November 1, 2006 to sell their remaining eight annual payments to a successor in order to receive a lump-sum payment.

Commodity Loans Available

As harvest season approaches, producers may want to consider obtaining a commodity loan. By placing a commodity under loan, a producer can obtain needed financing while the crop is stored on the farm or in a CCC-approved warehouse. Loan rates are \$2.18 per bushel for corn and \$5.07 per bushel for soybeans. The current interest rate is 6.125%.

Loan repayment options include:

- Repay the loan, principal plus interest
- Repay the loan at the market repayment rate
- Deliver the quantity to a designated warehouse

Are You Farming New Land Or Clearing Up Land?

Producers who plant an annually planted crop on highly erodible land must obtain an approved conservation plan through the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) before the crop is planted. Failure to obtain an approved conservation plan could result in the loss of USDA benefits.

If you will be planting a crop on land that previously has not had a highly erodible determination, your first step is to contact this office so the field can be identified. NRCS will then determine if the field is highly erodible. If it is considered highly erodible, you must obtain an approved conservation plan before the crop is planted

If you will be conducting land leveling, filling, dredging, land clearing stump removal or creating new drainage, you need to contact FSA **BEFORE** you do the work. You could put your USDA program benefits in jeopardy if there are any wetlands in the area.

Continuous CRP Signup

Interested in establishing borders along creeks or establishing quail habitat around field borders? You may be eligible to receive cost-share assistance and annual rental payments. Call for details!

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