



October, 2007



# 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**

Brent Barnes, Chairperson  
Libby Essick, Vice-Chairperson  
Dale Blackwelder, Member  
Daynese Loflin, Member  
Nancy D. Sink, Member  
Kenny Smoot, Advisor

### **Regular Committee**

**Meeting Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> 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

## Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) for Drought Sign Up November 1 – November 20

The lack of rainfall has caused producers in Davidson and Davie County to suffer from the effects of severe drought conditions. Farms experiencing severe drought conditions may be eligible for cost-share assistance under ECP. This disaster program provides cost-share assistance if drought conditions are so severe that water available for livestock or orchards and vineyards has been reduced below normal to the extent that neither can survive without additional water.

A producer qualifying for ECP assistance may receive cost shares not to exceed 75% of the cost of installing temporary measures and 50% of the cost of installing permanent measures.

Approved practices and measures include:

- Installing pipelines or other facilities for livestock water or existing irrigation systems for orchards and vineyards
- Constructing and deepening wells for livestock water
- Hauling water to eligible livestock.

Producers who have experienced severe drought conditions requiring outside assistance to provide supplemental emergency water may contact this office. Requests for assistance will be accepted at the Davidson-Davie FSA County Office from **November 1 through November 20, 2007.**

To be eligible for cost-shares assistance, practices cannot be started until a request has first been filed at the FSA County Office, an onsite inspection of the area has been made by a representative of the County Committee and the County Committee approves the practice.

If the drought created a situation that required you to take immediate steps to prevent losses, a waiver of the requirement to file an application and receive approval before starting a practice may be granted if you file your request by **November 15, 2007.** If you have already started hauling water to your livestock, dug a well, or installed a pipeline, and you want to request cost-share assistance on these practices, you must apply for assistance by **November 15, 2007.**

**NOTE** We have been authorized to accept request for ECP drought assistance, however no funds are currently available. An on-site visit will be performed after filing your request, however this does not imply that cost-share assistance will be approved if funds become available. Should funds later become available, your application will be reviewed to determine eligibility.

## Crop Disaster Program Signup Underway

Producers suffering losses due to a natural disaster on 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops planted before February 28, 2007 may be eligible for benefits under the Crop Disaster Program (CDP).

Producers who suffered crop losses in excess of 35% **AND** who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss may be eligible for CDP benefits.

A signup deadline has not been announced. Affected producers may apply for benefits at the Davidson-Davie FSA Office.

**UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE**



**Davidson-Davie County FSA  
301 East Center Street  
Lexington, NC 27292**  
Official Business

Return Service Requested

**Reminders:**

**2007 Commodity  
Loan Rates:**

Wheat: \$2.56 bu.  
Barley: \$1.65 bu.  
Oats: \$1.39 bu.  
Corn: \$2.19 bu.  
Grain Sorghum \$3.70 cwt  
Soybeans: \$5.07 bu.

**2007 COC Election  
Calendar:**

Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ballots mailed to eligible voters in LAA 1 and LAA 4.

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Last day to return voted ballots.

Jan. 1, 2008 – Newly elected committee members take office.



**Upcoming Holidays**

Nov. 12 – Veterans Day  
Nov. 22 - Thanksgiving  
Dec. 25 - Christmas

**Low Interest Disaster Loans Available**

On May 24, 2007, Davidson and Davie County were declared disaster areas by USDA due to abnormally low temperatures and freezing conditions that occurred from April 6 through April 9, 2007.

On September 12, 2007, Davidson and Davie County were again declared disaster areas as a result of the drought and high temperatures.

As a result of these two disaster declarations, producers in both counties are eligible for Farm Service Agency emergency loans.

Farmers may apply for emergency loans for physical and production losses. January 24, 2008 is the deadline for filing applications for losses from the April freeze. May 12, 2008 is the deadline for filing an application for losses from the drought and high temperatures.

Melissa Hodges, the Farm Loan Manager can be reached at 336-679-8821, extension 2.

**County Committee Elections**

County Committee election ballots will be mailed to eligible FSA voters in LAA 1 and 4 on November 2, 2007. Please vote for the person you want to represent your area on the County Committee. Voted ballots must be returned by December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ballots will be counted on December 6, 2007 and newly elected members will take office in January of 2008.

**Special Accommodations For The Disabled or Impaired** will be provided upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision or hearing impaired. If required, please contact this office. Persons with disabilities who wish to visit our office but are unable to do so, may make arrangements for an FSA employee to come to your vehicle, visit your home, or make whatever arrangements are necessary to accommodate you. Please call to make any special arrangements.

**FSA Outreach**

The Farm Service Agency is committed to informing all persons of the programs it administers. As part of our outreach plan, one of our staff is available to speak to groups upon request. Please contact this office at 336-248-2687, extension 2 to make arrangements.

The U.S. 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 a 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 USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to 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.