



July, 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- Chair-
person
Dale Blackwelder, Member
Daynese Loflin, Member
Nancy D. Sink, Member
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



FSA Seeks Nominations for 2007 County Committee Elections

Attached you will find a nomination petition and instructions to nominate an eligible person to be a candidate for election to the Davidson-Davie FSA County Committee. August 1, 2007 is the final date to nominate a candidate.

Elections will be held in December for the following areas:

Davidson County: Communities of Welcome-Bethesda, Churchland, Currytown, Reedy Creek, Yadkin College, Reeds, Linwood, Cotton Grove and Tyro.

Davie County: Area north of Interstate 40

You are encourage to nominate yourself or another eligible FSA voter. Persons nominated will have their names placed on the ballot and elections will be held this fall with the person being elected serving a 3-year term on the Davidson-Davie FSA County Committee. Nominees must have an interest in a farm or farming operation and reside in the LAA that he/she is being nominated in

Producers Eligible For Low

Interest Disaster Loans

On May 24, 2007, Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns declared a Secretarial major disaster in the State of North Carolina due to abnormally low temperatures and freezing conditions that occurred from April 6 through April 9, 2007.

As a result of the declaration, producers in Davidson and Davie County were declared eligible for Federal disaster assistance, including Farm Service Agency emergency loans for eligible family farmers.

Farmers may apply for emergency loans for physical and production losses. January 24, 2008 is the deadline for filing an application. Melissa Hodges, the Farm Loan Manager, can be reached at 336-679-8821, extension 2.

DCP Signup Deadline

August 3rd

The deadline to enroll a farm in the 2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) is August 3, 2007. All producers sharing in the payment must enroll the farm each year by signing the DCP contract.

There is a \$100 late file fee per farm if enrolled between August 4 and September 30, 2007. Farms cannot be enrolled for 2007 after September 30th.

FSA Signature Requirements

Proper signatures on FSA contracts, applications and forms must be submitted before the document will be considered as filed. All entities, including revocable and irrevocable trusts, corporations, partnerships, estates, etc., must provide evidence of signature authority stipulating those individuals who are authorized to represent the entity. Examples of acceptable evidence include trust agreements, corporate charters and/or resolutions, partnership agreements and court orders of appointment.

Farm Storage Facility Loans

Low interest loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities.

The seven-year loans are available for the purchase of new storage facilities, new permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, or remodeling existing facilities.

Eligible facilities include conventional-type cribs or bins, remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85% of the net cost, up to \$100,000. The current interest rate is 4.625%.

The loan must be approved before the purchase or delivery of the storage facility or handling equipment.



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:

Aug. 1st – Last day to file nomination form at FSA Office.

Nov. 2nd – Ballots mailed to eligible voters in LAA 1 and LAA 4.

Dec. 3rd – Last day to return voted ballots.

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

Commodity Loans Available

Low interest, 9-month loans are available on the 2007 crop of wheat, barley, oats, corn, grain sorghum, and soybeans. This marketing tool is a good way to utilize working capital while you wait for local prices to rise, pay off higher interest notes with low interest money, or purchase next year's inputs at reduced prices.

Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP provides protection from natural disasters for crops that are not insurable through the federal crop insurance program. The cost is \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per county.

All crops have application closing dates, which are generally before the crop is planted. Some upcoming application closing dates for 2008 crops are:

- Strawberries – September 1, 2007
- Wheat, barley and oats with an intended use of other than grain – September 30, 2007
- Grapes – November 20, 2007
- Grass with an intended use of hay or grazing – November 20, 2007
- Alfalfa – November 20, 2007
- Apples & Peaches – November 20, 2007
- Blackberries & Blueberries – November 20, 2007

Producers of other crops that are not insurable through federal crop insurance who are interested in NAP should call for additional closing dates and additional information.

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 for 10 to 15 years. Applications are accepted at any time! Call for details!

Bank Account Changes

All FSA payments are required to be made by electronic deposit. In order to make payments timely, you need to notify this office if you close your account or if another financial institution purchases your current bank. Payments can be delayed for some time if we are not aware of changes to your account number and routing number.

Farm Operation or Ownership Changes

Please notify this office of any farm operation or ownership changes. Neither the county tax office nor the register of deeds notifies us of landownership changes. Maintaining current records with this office is essential in maintaining your eligibility to receive program payments.

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