



U.S. Department of
Agriculture

Franklin County FSA
101 S. Bickett Blvd., Suite A
Louisburg, N.C. 27549

Phone: (919) 496-3121 Ext2
Fax: (919) 496-0324
www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Wednesdays
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

County Committee

John R. Davis, Chairperson
Raymond Dement, Vice-Chair
Carvel C. Cheves, Member
Pam Ransdell, Advisor
Larry Hedgepeth, Advisor

County Executive Director

Jane J. Williams

Program Technicians

Sheila F. Allen
Ava S. Galebach
Hattie D. Jordan

Farm Loan Officer

Jesse Alford
Liz Clement, FLP- PT
Melissa Seaman, FLOT

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Crop Report Deadline
- DCP/CC Deadline Extended
- Conservation Reserve Program
- Payment Eligibility and Limitation
- Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP)
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Program
- Power of Attorney and Spousal Signatures
- Commodity Loans
- Emergency Loans
- Committee Election

Farm Service Agency

FRANKLIN COUNTY

NEWSLETTER #2

June 7, 2007

2007 CROP ACREAGE CERTIFICATION

The final date for accepting 2007 crop acreage reports is July 2, 2007. This includes crops such as **Corn, Cotton, Grain Sorghum, Soybeans, Tobacco, CRP** as well as **all remaining cropland**. The USDA requires that **all** cropland acreage on a farm be reported timely in order to maintain eligibility for program benefits such as: Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments, Loan Deficiency Payments, Commodity Loans, Crop Disaster Payments and Conservation Reserve Program Payments. All crops must have a **planting date and crop shares** and both must be reported **exactly** the same at both your local FSA Office and your local Crop Insurance Agent's Office. If producers are still planting crops after the final reporting date, they have 15 days after completing planting to certify that acreage. **Producers are encouraged to make an appointment to help reduce their waiting time. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT TO THE LAST DAY!!!!!!**

DIRECT AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROGRAM (DCP) DEADLINE EXTENDED

Teresa Lasseter, USDA Farm Service Agency Administrator, announced the extension of the sign-up deadline for the 2007 DCP from June 1, 2007 to **August 3, 2007**. Producers failing to sign-up by **August 3, 2007**, will pay a late-file fee of \$100 per farm. The final date for late-filed enrollment in DCP for the 2007 contract period is September 30, 2007, even though it falls on Sunday. **We remind all Owners and Operators that it is their responsibility to carefully review the DCP contract shares to ensure the shares accurately reflect their interest in the DCP base acres.** Every producer/owner must have control of enough acreage (reflected on the FSA-578 Crop Report) to support their share claimed on the DCP Contract.

DCP/CC CASH RENT CERTIFICATION STATEMENT – FORM CCC-510

County Office developed forms can no longer be used to collect information from producers for the DCP program unless it is approved by the National Office DCP Program Manager. Form CCC-510, "Direct and Counter-Cyclical (DCP) Cash Rent Certification Statement", now replaces our old cash rent statement. This form must be **completed by the producer**, and lists the number of acres leased, the commencing and expiration dates and the terms of the lease agreement.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

According to the President's FY 2008 Budget, no general CRP signups are scheduled for 2007 or 2008. All other signup activity, such as the Conservation Reserve Program Continuous Signup, is scheduled to continue without interruption. You can enroll cropland borders as habitat buffers for upland birds and bobwhite quail (conservation practice 33), which allows for \$100 an acre sign-up bonus. Producers enrolled in CRP plant long term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion and enhance wildlife habitat. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost share assistance. There is also an incentive payment based on costs and cost-share of establishing the habitat.

2007 PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

As a result of the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 review, the National Farm Service Agency Office elected to reset the eligibility determination/certifications for **all producers nationwide to "Not-Filed"**. All producers are currently ineligible for program payments until new eligibility forms are completed and signed by the producer. Under the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act, "Persons" are limited to the following: \$40,000 per person, per year for Direct Program Payments; 65,000 per person, per year on Counter-Cyclical Program Payments; \$50,000 per person for Annual CRP Program Payments; \$75,000 per person, per year on Commodity Market Loans or LDP's; \$100,000 per person, per year on Non-Insured Crop Disaster Program Payments (NAP) and \$80,000 per person for Crop Disaster Program (CDP).

LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS (LDP)

Producers who wish to indicate their intentions to request LDP benefits on an eligible LDP commodity are reminded to submit form CCC-633EZ, Page 1, agreeing to prescribed terms and conditions. Page 1 of the CCC-633EZ must be completed by the producer and submitted to FSA before losing beneficial interest in the applicable commodity. Producers will submit page 2, 3 or 4 at the time a request for benefit is filed.

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

If a crop is damaged, the producer must report a Notice of Loss **within 15 days** of the event of damage even though the intent is to carry the crop to harvest. At no time, should the producer destroy a damaged crop without a crop adjuster's inspection. If the crop fails within the planting period, the producer must replant if conditions are practical to do so. The producer's decision to replant or not to replant may affect his eligibility for assistance.

COMMODITY LOAN RATES

The following loan rates have been announced for nine month commodity loans for Franklin County:

Wheat: \$2.60/bu., Barley: \$1.65/bu., Oats: \$1.39/bu., Corn: \$2.25/bu., Grain Sorghum: \$3.70/bu. and Soybeans: \$5.07/bu.

AUTHORITY TO MAKE EMERGENCY LOANS – S 2518

On May 2007, Secretary Johanns declared a Secretarial Major Disaster in the State of North Carolina due to abnormal low temperatures and freezing conditions that occurred from April 6 through April 9, 2007. As a result 47 counties were declared eligible for Federal disaster assistance. There were 46 additional North Carolina counties named as contiguous counties where **eligible family farmers may qualify for Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency (EM) loans. Franklin County** is one of the 46 counties.

Emergency loans may be made to farmers and ranchers who: 1) Own or operate land located in a county declared by the President as a disaster area or designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as a disaster area; 2) Are established family farm operators; 3) Are citizens or permanent residents of the United States; 3) Have suffered at least a 30 percent loss in crop production or a physical loss to livestock, livestock products, real estate, or chattel property; 4) Have acceptable credit history; 5) Are unable to receive credit from commercial sources; 6) Can provide collateral to secure the loan; and 7) Have repayment ability. Producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production losses. The annual interest rate for emergency loans is 3.75 percent. Applications will be accepted at the Farm Service Agency Office now through January 24, 2008.

2007 COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

Enclosed with this Newsletter is some very important information about this year's County Committee Election which will be held in Cedar Rock, Cypress Creek, Goldmine and Dunn Townships. Also, you will find a nomination form with instructions on how to complete and deadlines for returning.

CHANGES IN BANKING INFORMATION

Most FSA payments are made electronically by direct deposit therefore, it is critical to keep the county office informed if you make changes that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments. Failure to notify the office of any changes to your banking information will result in a rejection of deposit, thus delaying your receipt of the payment.

POWER OF ATTORNEY AND SPOUSAL SIGNATURES

A husband and wife can sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest unless written notification denying a spouse the authority has been provided. A power of attorney must be on file for the spouse to sign CRP easements or claim settlements, such as promissory notes.

NEWSLETTERS

Due to funding restrictions, we are limited to one more newsletter for the remainder of this fiscal year, therefore, we will be limited to the amount of information that we can provide via a newsletter. If at anytime you have questions regarding program information, please feel free to contact this office at (919) 496-3121 Ext. 2 or you may visit our website at www.fsa.usda.gov. From the website, you can access information regarding all of the USDA FSA programs.

REMINDERS:

Prevented Planting: Prevented planting needs be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage: Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

Acreage Report Deadline: Monday July 2, 2007 is the final day to file acreage reports and land uses without paying a LATE FEE ! ! ! ! This is a requirement in order to receive program payments.
