



USDA

Farm Service Agency



December 2007

DISASTER SIGNUP

Hoke County USDA Service Center

Hoke County FSA
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Raeford, N. C. 28376
910-875-8111
Extension 2
910-875-2892 (fax)

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wed. 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 pm

County Committee

JOHN G. BALFOUR JR.
EARL HENDRIX
EDGAR M. BAKER
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County Executive Director

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Staff

JOY NORTON
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Disaster applications are now being accepted for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) for crop years 2005, 2006, 2007 (for crops planted by 2/28/07). The program began October 15, 2007 and as of this date no deadline has been announced.

CED provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses from natural disasters and related conditions that occurred in 2005, 2006, and for 2007 if the crop was planted before 2/28/07, or in the case of prevented plantings would have been planted before 2/28/07.

Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006, or 2007 must choose only one year to receive benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple crops as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible. The payment rate will be 42% of the established price. Assistance, together with any crop insurance or NAP payment received for the same crop and including the value of the crop production not lost, must not exceed 95% of the total value of the crop absent the disaster.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. The maximum benefit producers may receive is \$80,000.

This declaration also includes authority for approval of low interest Emergency Loans for qualified producers.

If you feel you may qualify for these programs please visit or contact our office for more information.

CONTINUOUS CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) SIGNUP

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USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced a CRP Longleaf Pine Initiative Program designed to reforest cropland up to 250,000 acres of longleaf pine forests in nine southern states in October of 2006. Signup-up for this program began of December 1, 2006 and runs continuously until the 250,000 acres goal is met, of December 31, 2007, whichever comes first. The total acreage allotted for North Carolina is 32,250 acres. FSA also offers other types of continuous CRP Programs, please call or visit our office for more information.

FSA Farm Loans Available For Beginning Farmers or Rancher

Beginning farmers or ranchers may obtain a "regular" farm ownership loan through funds set aside especially for them by the Farm Service Agency. These loans finance up to the \$200,000 loan limit, and the term of the loan can be up to 40 years.

The regular farm ownership loan funds may also be used in joint financing where FSA lends up to 50 percent of the amount financed and another lender provides 50 percent or more. FSA may charge an interest rate of not less than 4 percent with terms up to 40 years.



Official Business

Youth Loan Projects

FSA offers loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Live in the open country or in a town of less than 10,000 people
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.
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Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms. FSA staff can help you with questions you may have about a particular program.

FARM RECORD CHANGES

If you have bought, sold or are renting different land, make sure you report changes to your local FSA county office as soon as possible so farm records can be updated. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or land contract. A land survey or plat is always helpful. All landowners must furnish their tax ID numbers. Remember, failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and fines if you are participating in farm programs.

REMINDERS:

- **TTPP Program:** Report any banking changes ASAP so your Tobacco payments will not be delayed in January 2008.
- **Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)** deadline of **December 31, 2007** approaching for the following crops: Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery, Chives, Cilantro, Greens, Kale, Lettuce, Onions, Potatoes, Rutabagas, Spinach, and Turnips
- **February 28, 2008** is the deadline to purchase federal crop insurance for spring planted crops. Contact your insurance agent.
- We will be closed December 24 & 25, 2007 in observance of Christmas, and January 1, 2008 in observance of New Years. We wish all happy and safe holidays. Merry Christmas!
- For more information about FSA and its programs visit the FSA web site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

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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.

Note: Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please contact Henry H. Thomason, CED at 910-484-2138, Ext. 2.