

# Wisconsin State News

Wisconsin  
State FSA Office

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## From the Desk of Brad Pfaff, Wisconsin State Executive Director



After a long winter, an early spring was welcomed as it allowed Wisconsin farmers access to their fields. For the most part, our state's corn, soybean, and alfalfa crops look good. While it continues to remain dry in the northern

part of our state, the southern half of the state received some much needed moisture in mid-May.

Like you, we at FSA have been busy. With the completion of the ACRE/DCP sign-up on June 1st, our farm program staff continues to be busy with crop certification and other programs. In addition, USDA Secretary Vilsack indicated in March that a new Conservation Reserve Program general sign-up is expected yet this year.

The County Committee Election nomination period will begin June 15. The FSA County Offices across the state will host an "open house" on July 13, 2010 from 1-3 pm. I encourage producers to join staff to learn more about the County Committees and the role they play in delivering FSA programs in local communities.

Our farm loan program staff also continues to remain busy providing agriculture with important credit through these difficult times.

Thank you for your continued work in producing the food that feeds our nation and world.

## County Committee Elections

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Since the committee members are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), producer participation in these elections is important.

The committee members help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level and help in decision making that is necessary to administer the programs in their counties.

Counties are divided into local administrative areas (LAA). Each LAA selects one producer to serve a three-year term on the Farm Service Agency county committee.

Each year, an election is held in an LAA to replace the committee member whose three-year term is expiring. In counties with three LAAs, one seat is up for election and in combined counties, in some years, two seats may be up for election.

## Eligibility to Hold Office

To hold office, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria.

1. Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA.
2. Be eligible to vote in a county committee election.
3. Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate.

A person must not have been:

- Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee
- Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony
- Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services

For additional clarification about county committees and elections, contact your local county office staff or visit: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

## Nomination Period June 15 - August 2, 2010

Candidate nominations for the FSA county committee election will be accepted June 15 through August 2, 2010. Producers who are residents in the LAA holding the election

and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Also, organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates.



The nomination form, FSA-669A, is included in this newsletter and is also available at the county office or may be downloaded from <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> under News & Events/County Committee Elections.

To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. The completed nomination form must be postmarked or received in the county office by close of business on August 2, 2010.

### **Who Can Vote**

Producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. Because Wisconsin is a community property state, the spouse of an eligible voter also may vote. A person who is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote.

A representative may be designated to cast a vote on behalf of a legal entity, such as a corporation, estate, trust, or limited liability company. If more than one member of an entity is designated to act on its behalf, the entity must designate in writing which representative has authority to vote in the COC election.

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 part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.

### **Role of Advisors**

In addition to elected members, FSA county committees may also include advisors. Advisors are appointed to county commit-

tees in counties or multi-county jurisdictions that have significant numbers of minority or women producers and lack such members on FSA county committees.

Advisors play an important role by providing diverse viewpoints and by representing the interests of minorities and women in decisions made by the county committees. FSA state committees officially appoint advisors who are recommended by county committees or community based organizations.

### **Don't Miss Out on Voting**

Ballots will be mailed to voters by November 5, 2010, and must be postmarked or returned to the FSA county office by December 6, 2010.

If you do not receive a ballot, eligible voters may contact their local FSA county office.

### **Uniform Guidelines**

USDA issued uniform guidelines for county committee elections to ensure that FSA county committees fairly represent the agricultural producers of a county or multi-county jurisdiction.

The following are just some of the specifics of the guidelines that are now in effect:

- If no valid nominations are filed, the secretary of agriculture may nominate up to two individuals to be placed on the ballot
- County committees must annually review local administrative area boundaries to ensure the fair representation of minority and women producers in their county or multi-county jurisdictions
- FSA county offices shall actively locate and recruit eligible candidates identified as minority and women farmers and ranchers as potential nominees for the county committee elections through outreach and publicity

To read the guidelines in their entirety, visit the County Committee Elections web page.

FSA-669A  
(03-24-10)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Farm Service Agency

**NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION**

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)		<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE</b>	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
		5. COUNTY	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.		6. LAA	7. STATE
		8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).	

**9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE**

**VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:** The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

<b>ETHNICITY</b>	<b>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</b>	<b>GENDER</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM**

Complete the form as follows:

- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
  - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
  - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
  - C. Willing to serve if elected.
- ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
- ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)
- ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.

**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 2, 2010.**

**NOTE:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**

2010 Wisconsin County Committee Elections Will be Held in the Following Townships

DISTRICT	COUNTY	LAA	TOWNSHIPS															
1	Barron	1	Stanley	Summer	Maple Grove	Prairie Lake	Chetek	Dallas	Sioux Creek	Doyre								
1	Ashland	2	All of Ashland County															
1	Iron	5	All of Iron County															
1	Chippewa	1	Sampson	Bloomer	Birch Creek	Cleveland	Holcombe	Estrella	Arthur	Ruby	Colburn							
1	Pierce	3	Diamond Bluff	Harland	Isabelle	Maiden Rock	Trenton	Union	Boone Lake	McKinley	Eureka	Milltown						
1	Polk	1	West Sweden	Clam Falls	Lorain	Sterling	Ladysmith	Big Falls	Atlanta	Dewey	Milltown	Georgetown	Johnstown					
1	Rusk/Sawyer	2	Wilson	Murray	Hubbard	Hubbard	Wilkinson	Draper	Winter	Meteor	Weinger	Meadow Brook						
1	Rusk/Sawyer	4	Spider Lake	Round Lake	Spider Lake	Hunter	Oildba	Troy	Warren									
1	Saint Croix	1	Hudson	Kinnickinnic	St. Joseph	Somers	Troy	Warren										
1	Washington/Burnett	3	Bertraw	Blaine	Dewey	Jackson	Rusk	Sand Lake	Scott	Webb Lake								
1	Washington/Burnett	5	Bass Lake	Brooklyn	Cassey	Chicago	Crystal	Evergreen	Frog Creek	Gull Lake	Mnong	Spooner	Springbrook	Simn				
1	Eau Claire	3	Ludington	Wilson	Bridge Creek	Fairchild	Other Creek											
2	Brown	1	Brittfield	Sturtevo	Howard	Hobart	Ashwaubenon	Lawrence	De Pere	City of Green Bay								
2	Clark	1	Thorp	Wittnee	Hixon	Weldon	Reeseburg	Longwood	Butler	Mead	Warner	Hendren	Eaton					
2	Langlade	2	Polar	Polar	Norwood	Langlade	Evergreen	Wolf River										
2	Lincoln/Langlade	4	Parrish	Summit	Wilas	Echo	Upham	Pack	Ainsworth									
2	Marathon	2	Hull	Frankfort	Wien	Cassel	Bridon	Eau Pierre	Cleveland	Emmet	Spencer	McWilliam	Day	Green Valley	Bergen			
2	Marrquette	1	Niagra	Pembine	Beescher	Amberg	Wausau/Lake	Middle Inlet	Goodman	Dunbar	Atholstone	Silver Cliff						
2	Oconto	3	Morgan	Abrams	Persaukee	Chase	Little Suamico											
2	Forest	2	All of Forest County															
2	Outagamie	2	Black Creek	Bovina	Cicero	Deer Creek	Liberty	Maine	Maple Creek									
2	Menominee	4	Menominee															
2	Menominee	5	Menominee															
2	Taylor	3	Browning	Chasica	Deer Creek	Goodrich	Greenwood	Rib Lake	Westboro									
3	Adams/Marquette	4	Jackson	Dell Prairie	New Haven	Marquette	Oxford	Packwaukee	Douglas	Moundville	Buffalo							
3	Callumet	1	Brillon	Harrison	Woodkille	Forestville	Clay	Banks										
3	Door	3	Brusseis	Union	Gardner	Forestville	Empire	Oakfield	Byron									
3	Fond du Lac	2	Friendship	Kingcheedah	Lamartine	Fond du Lac	Empire	Oakfield	Byron									
3	Green Lake	3	Manchesier	Kingston	Marquette													
3	Kewaunee	3	Lincoln	Red River	Luxemburg	Maerrie	Newton	Schleswig										
3	Waukegan	3	Centerville	Edison	Liberty	Dewey	Hull	Sharon										
3	Portage	1	Eau Claire	Carson	Linwood	Dewey	Hull	Sharon										
3	Shenobogyan	1	Russell	Rhine	Greenbush	Mitchell	Scott											
3	Washington/Ozaukee	3	Hartford	Emm	Park	Richfield	Germantown											
3	Washington/Ozaukee	5	Port Washington	Cedarburg	Grafton	Madison	Germantown											
3	Waupaca	3	Matteson	Larabee	Bear Creek	Lebanon	Mulvica	Caledonia	Weyauwega	Fremont								
3	Marquette	5	Springfield	Lawrence	Crystal Lake	Nashkoro	Westfield	Harris	Shields	Macan	Montello							
3	Winneshago	2	Foygan	Winnecoma	Rushford	Omro	Nepesquin											
3	Wood	1	Lincoln	Cameron	Marshfield	Rock	Richfield	Cary	Wood									
4	Columbia	1	Newport	Lewiston	Caledonia	Dickora	West Point	Lodi	Atkinson									
4	Dane	1	North Mazomanie	Forbury	Dane	Vernia	Windsor	South Mazomanie	Black Earth	Berry	Springfield	Westport	Vermont	Cross Plains	Middleton			
4	Dodge	3	Clyman	Elba	Emmet	Lebanon	Lowell	Portland	Shields									
4	Green	2	Brooklyn	Albany	Sylvester	Dacotah	Spring Grove											
4	Jefferson	2	Katolan	Farrington	Corcord	Jefferson	Benton	New Diggings										
4	Lafayette	1	Belmont	Kendall	Seymour	Elk Grove												
4	Lafayette	2	Raymond	Caledonia	Yorkville	Mount Pleasant												
4	Racine/Kenosha/Kilw	3	Wheatland	Brighton	Randall	Salem												
4	Rock	2	All of Milwaukee County															
4	Rock	2	Fulton	Harmony	Janesville	Johnstown	Urina	Milton										
4	Sauk	3	Bear Creek	Franklin	Honey Creek	Sumpter	Prarie du Sac	Troy	Spring Green									
4	Waikworth	3	Darien	Delehan	Richmond	Sharon	Sugar Creek											
4	Waukesha	1	Brookfield	Muskego	New Berlin	Vernon	Waukesha											
5	Buffalo	1	Nelson	Maxville	Canton	Monrovi	Naples											
5	Crawford	2	Eastman	Seneca	Harey	Scott	Lucas	Memomnie	Red Cedar	Elk Mound								
5	Dunn	2	Stanton	Sherman	Tamler	Colfax	Lucas	Memomnie	Red Cedar	Elk Mound								
5	Grant	1	Woodman	Millville	Mount Hope	Little Grant	Beatown	Waterloo	Potosi	Cassville	Glen Haven	Bloomington	Wyalusing	Patch Grove	South Lancaster			
5	Iowa	3	Linden	Mifflin	Mineral Point	Moscow	Waldwick											
5	Jackson	3	Adams	Alton	Curran	Horton	Springfield											
5	Jureau	2	Worlewoc	Summit	Seven Mile Creek	Lindna												
5	Lacrosse	2	Farmingdon	Holland	Onalaska	Jefferson	Sheldon	Willington	Glendale	Wells								
5	Monroe	2	Rudbaville	Willton	Clinton	Jefferson	Sheldon	Willington	Glendale	Wells								
5	Pepin	1	Stockholm	Pepin	Sec 26-35 Frankfort	Marshall	Dayton											
5	Richland	1	Forest	Bloom	Sylvan	Marshall	Dayton											
5	Richland	2	Hennetla	Waukegan	Rockdodge	Willow	Richland											
5	Richland	3	Alan	Richwood	Eagle	Orion	Burana Vista	Ithaca										
5	Tempeleau	2	Arcaida	Burnside	Caledonia	Dodge	Tempeleau											
5	Vernon	3	Clinton	Forest	Greenwood	Hillsboro	Kickapoo	Liberty	Stark	Union	Webster	Whitestown						

## Report Crop Acreage by July 15th

The Wisconsin Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers to submit their annual acreage report to their local FSA county office by July 15, 2010, to meet FSA program eligibility requirements.

Producers must file their reports accurately and timely for all crops and land uses, including prevented and failed acreage, to ensure they receive the maximum FSA program benefits possible.

Accurate acreage reports are necessary to determine and maintain eligibility for various programs, such as the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) and newer programs authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill. Programs include the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE), Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), Tree Assistance Program (TAP), and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm Raised Fish Program (ELAP).

Acreage reports are considered timely filed when completed by the applicable final crop reporting deadline of July 15, 2010. Prevented acreage must be reported within 15 calendar days after the final planting date. Failed acreage must be reported before the disposition of the crop. NAP crops that are harvested prior to July 15 must report by the earlier of July 15, 2010 or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing. Producers should contact their county FSA office if they are uncertain about reporting deadlines.

Late-filed provisions may be available to producers who are unable to meet the reporting deadline as required. Reports filed after the established deadline must meet certain requirements to be accepted and may be charged late fees.

Producers should visit their county FSA office to complete acreage reporting. For questions on this or any FSA program, including specific crop reporting deadlines and planting dates, producers should contact their county FSA office. More informa-

tion on FSA programs is at: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

## Report Prevented, Failed Acreage and NAP Crop Losses

With spring planting underway across Wisconsin, FSA reminds producers to timely report any prevented or failed acreage to their local office.

Prevented planting acreage, or acreage that could not be planted because of wet field conditions or other natural disaster, should be reported to FSA within 15 days of the final planting date of the crop. This includes crops covered by crop insurance or the Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) and crops without insurance coverage. Producers should contact their local FSA office or crop insurance agent to verify final planting dates for all crops since they vary among counties and crop types.

Failed acreage not covered by crop insurance should be reported to FSA before plowing up the failed crop and replanting. Producers with crop insurance may report failed acreage by the July 15 crop reporting deadline by providing crop insurance documentation such as a loss claim to their local FSA office.

For crop losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP), producers must contact their local FSA office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent to file a Notice of Loss. Producers with crop insurance should contact their local agent when losses occur and before destroying the crop.

To report prevented or failed acreage, producers must complete Form CCC-576, Notice of Loss for interested crops. Reporting prevented or failed acreage to FSA will ensure compliance with current farm programs, and possible eligibility for future disaster programs.

If a producer misses the reporting deadline for prevented planting, they may still report prevented planting acreage as long as the disaster condition may be verified by a field visit.



Producers may contact their local county FSA office if they have any questions about prevented and failed reporting or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

### **FSA Asks for Help to Keep Records Updated**

FSA county offices stress the importance of keeping your local office informed of any changes to farming operations. Changes to the farming operation, such as adding or removing land, changing members within the operation, or members passing away can affect payment limit determinations. If you are unsure if a change will affect any FSA programs the operation participates in, please contact your local county office for more information and clarification.



### **CRP Primary Nesting Season Reminder**

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants are reminded that all CRP maintenance and management activities must be completed outside of the primary nesting season listed in your conservation plan. If you have a maintenance issue that needs attention prior to the end of the nesting season, you must contact your county FSA office for permission BEFORE doing any spot spraying or spot mowing of your CRP.

### **TIP Program Offers Transition Incentives to Help Retiring and Beginning Farmers**

FSA recently announced that as of May 17, 2010, farmers may begin signing up for the Transition Incentives Program (TIP). TIP is a new program under the Conservation Title of the 2008 Farm Bill to encourage retired or retiring owners or operators to transition their land to beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers.

To be eligible, TIP requires that the retired or retiring farmer or rancher:

- Have land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) that is in the last year of the contract. Exceptions apply for CRP Contracts that expired in 2008 or 2009.
- Agree to allow the beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher to make conservation and land improvements.
- Agree to sell, or have a contract to sell,

or agree to long-term lease (a minimum of five years) the land under CRP contract to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher by October 1 of the year the CRP contract expires.

If all program requirements are met, TIP provides annual rental payments to the retiring farmer for up to two additional years after the date of the expiration of the CRP contract, provided the transition is not to a family member. To learn more about the program, producers interested in applying and participating in TIP should contact their local USDA Service Center or FSA County Office.

### **Commodity Credit Corporation Loan Reminder**

Producers are reminded that any grain under the Commodity Credit Corporation loan cannot be removed or disposed of without prior county office staff authorization or repayment. County offices may issue marketing authorizations based on telephone or in person requests when a producer is ready to move grain. However, if grain is moved without proper authorization, significant monetary and administrative penalties, such as repaying the loan at principal plus interest, liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans and loan deficiency payments, may be applied.

Contact your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office with questions regarding the CCC loans and before moving or disposing of any grain under the CCC loan.

### **Farm Storage Facility Loan**

Wisconsin producers interested in utilizing the Farm Service Agency's Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) Program for commodity crops, including hay, biomass crops, and fruits and vegetables, need to contact their local county office at this time. Ample time is needed for application review and approval, as producers cannot begin the construction process until approval for the loan is received.

FSFL provides 7 to 12 year loans at a low interest rate with a maximum loan amount of \$500,000 per structure. Funding is limited, so producers interested in building

storage this year or learning more about the qualifications and requirements need to contact their local county office as soon as possible.

### **Sign-up for the Tree Assistance Program Begins**

Orchardists and nursery tree growers can now apply for benefits under the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) at their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices for losses suffered during calendar years 2008 and 2009, and for losses suffered during January 1, 2010 to May 7, 2010.



This program helps orchardists and nursery tree growers replant after natural disasters.

TAP provides help to orchardists and nursery tree growers who produce trees, bushes and vines for commercial purposes, to replant or rehabilitate trees, bushes and vines damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. Eligible trees, bushes and vines are those from which an annual crop is produced for commercial purposes. Nursery trees include ornamental, fruit, nut and Christmas trees produced for commercial sale. Trees used for pulp or timber are ineligible.

To be eligible for TAP, producers must have suffered more than a 15 percent death loss due to the natural disaster after adjustment for normal mortality. TAP is a cost-reimbursement program, with payments covering up to 70 percent of replant costs and 50 percent of pruning, removal and other salvaging costs for replacing or salvaging damaged trees, bushes and vines, or preparing land to plant new trees, bushes and vines.

Producers can receive assistance for a cumulative total of up to 500 acres of trees, bushes or vines for the life of the program. Producers must also have purchased a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program. For 2008 crops, producers must obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through the buy-in provision.

The final date to submit a TAP application and the supporting documentation is July 6,

2010 for losses in calendar years of 2008, 2009, and from January 1, 2010 to May 7, 2010. If the date of loss is after May 7, 2010 and before October 1, 2011, the TAP application and supporting documentation must be filed within 90 calendar days from the disaster event or the date when the loss is apparent.

For more information on the new TAP program, please contact your county FSA office or the website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

### **Report 2009 ACRE Crop Production by July 15, 2010**

Producers that participated in the 2009 Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program are required to report 2009 actual production and establish a benchmark farm yield by July 15, 2010.

Producers on a farm currently enrolled in ACRE must certify production and complete production report form FSA-658 to remain eligible for any ACRE contract payments and for the actual yield to be used to determine future benchmark farm yields.

A benchmark farm yield is the Olympic average of the average yield per planted acre for the farm for the five most recent crop years. For 2009, the benchmark farm yield is comprised of data from crop years 2004 through 2008. Because of situations where producers did not have control of farms for the preceding five years or a specific covered commodity may not have been planted on the farm in one or more of the preceding five crop years, "plug yields" were established by commodity and county. Producers may use the ACRE plug yield to establish the benchmark farm yield or may report production evidence. If a producer does not certify their 2009 crop production, the actual yield used to determine future benchmark farm yields will be zero and the 2009 ACRE contract would be terminated and ineligible for 2009 ACRE payments.

To schedule an appointment to report 2009 ACRE crop production, producers must contact their local county office before July 15, 2010.

Wisconsin State FSA Office  
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Madison, WI 53717



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<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
July 1	NRCS: EQIP Great Lakes Restoration Initiative sign-up deadline
July 5	Offices will be closed for Independence Day
July 13	COC Election Open House 1-3 pm at local FSA County Offices
July 15	-Deadline for NAP producers to certify 2009 crop production -Deadline to report 2009 crop acreages on spring seeded crops, forages, small grains, winter wheat & some perennial crops -Deadline to report production evidence for ACRE and PTPP 2009 crop acreage
August 2	Deadline for submitting COC nominations
September 1	NAP application closing date for 2010 value loss crops, including ginseng, sod, Christmas trees, aquaculture, mushrooms and floriculture
September 6	Offices will be closed for Labor Day
September 30	NAP application closing date for 2010 forage crops, including pasture land forages, mint, winter wheat, barley and rye
October 11	Offices will be closed for Columbus Day
Continuous	-Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) continuous sign-up -CREP sign-up -SAFE sign-up -Farm Storage Facility Loans -MILC sign-up

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program 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 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 & TDD). To file a complaint of Discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.