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Perquimans County Office
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Office Hours
Mon - Fri
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

County Executive Director
Julie M. Jones

Chowan Staff
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Perquimans Staff
Abby Stallings
Rita Stallings

Farm Loan Staff
Kent Sawyer
Farm Loan Manager
Michelle Hurdle-Winslow
Farm Loan Officer
Mary Ann Norman
Farm Loan PT
Clint Rideout
Farm Loan Officer
Trainee

For more information about FSA programs, please visit the FSA website at:
www.fsa.usda.gov

Important Dates

December 24-25, 2007
Christmas Eve &
Christmas Day
FSA Offices Closed

January 1, 2008
New Year's Day
FSA Offices Closed

Merry Christmas



December 12, 2007

Perquimans – Chowan FSA Newsletter

Farm Loan Programs

Emergency Loans are available for producers who suffered losses from the 2007 drought. Emergency loans carry a 3.75% interest rate and can be used to replace the income you would have gotten from your farm operation. Funds can be used for operating expenses, debt payments and essential family living expenses. The loan terms are from 1 to 7 years. To be eligible you must show a 30% loss in a single enterprise. The standard eligibility requirements for FSA loans apply: demonstrate that you cannot get the necessary credit from conventional lenders, be credit worthy, be a full time family size farmer and not be delinquent on any Federal debts, among other requirements. May 12, 2008 is the last day to apply.

Youth Loans

FSA makes loans to individual rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, Future Farmers of America, and similar organizations. These loans are available to youth ages 10 - 20 years old. Loans may be used to finance nearly any kind of income producing project. Some common projects include livestock and crop production, lawn and garden services, repair shops and roadside stands.

Each project must be part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization adviser, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000

For further information about farm loans, please contact a member of the Farm Loan Staff in Perquimans County.

CDP PROGRAM SIGNUP

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) signup is underway. The program provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006 or 2007 crops.

Losses from natural disasters may qualify for financial assistance if the crop was planted before Feb.28, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose **only one year** to apply for benefits. Participants may apply for loss benefits on multiple commodities the same crop year. 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.

Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. For more information or **to schedule an appointment**, contact your local FSA office.

Maintaining CRP

CRP cover maintenance is the participant's responsibility and must be done according to the conservation plan. All CRP maintenance activities, such as mowing, burning and spraying, must be conducted outside the primary nesting season for wildlife. Spot treatment of the acreage may be allowed during the primary nesting season if certain criteria are met. The ending date for the primary nesting season in North Carolina is September 15.

Important NAP Requirement

NAP producers are required to report production for all covered crops. Production must be reported annually for each covered crop regardless of whether or not a loss was sustained. Production evidence should be summarized and organized in a manner that can be easily reviewed by FSA staff. Production for 2007 NAP crops will be accepted through June 30, 2008.

NAP APPLICATION CLOSING DATES

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to eligible producers affected by natural disasters. NAP covers non-insurable crop losses and planting prevented by disasters. To apply for coverage you must file an **application for coverage, and pay the applicable service fees by the application closing date.** There are no provisions for accepting late applications and fees. Application closing dates are shown below:

Crop	Closing Date	Crop	Closing Date	Crop	Closing Date	Crop	Closing Date
Alfalfa	11/20/2007	Chinese Bitter Melon	2/28/2008	Millet for Seed	2/28/2008	Sorghum	2/28/2008
Apples	11/20/2007	Chives	1/1/2008	Oats	9/30/2007	Soybeans	2/28/2008
Artichoke	2/28/2008	Cilantro	1/1/2008	Okra	2/28/2008	Spinach	1/1/2008
Asparagus	2/28/2008	Cucumbers	2/28/2008	Onions	1/1/2008	Sprite Melon	2/28/2008
Barley	9/30/2007	Eggplant	2/28/2008	Peaches	11/20/2007	Squash	2/28/2008
Basil	2/28/2008	Grapes	11/20/2007	Peanuts	2/28/2008	Strawberries	9/1/2007
Beans	2/28/2008	Grazing	11/20/2007	Peas	2/28/2008	Sunflowers	2/28/2008
Beets	1/1/2008	Greens	1/1/2008	Pecans	11/20/2007	Sweet Corn	2/28/2008
Blackberries	11/20/2007	Hay	11/20/2007	Peppers	2/28/2008	Sweet Potatoes	2/28/2008
Blueberries	11/20/2007	Honey	11/20/2007	Plums	11/20/2007	Tomatillos	2/28/2008
Broccoli	1/1/2008	Honeydew	2/28/2008	Popcorn	2/28/2008	Tomatoes	2/28/2008
Brussell Sprouts	2/28/2008	Jerusalem Artichoke	2/28/2008	Potatoes	1/1/2008	Turnips	1/1/2008
Cabbage	1/1/2008	Kale	1/1/2008	Pumpkins	2/28/2008	Watermelons	2/28/2008
Caneberries	11/20/2007	Kenaf	2/28/2008	Radishes	2/28/2008	Wheat	9/30/2007
Cantaloupes	2/28/2008	Korean Golden Melon	2/28/2008	Raspberries	11/20/2007	Value Loss *	9/1/2007
Carrots	1/1/2008	Lespedeza	11/20/2007	Rutabaga	1/1/2008		
Cauliflower	1/1/2008	Lettuce	1/1/2008	Rye	9/30/2007		
Celery	1/1/2008	Millet	2/28/2008	Sage	9/1/2007		

*Value Loss Crops include Ornamental Nursery, Aquaculture, Christmas Trees, Ginseng, Turf Grass Sod, Mushrooms, Floriculture and Strawberry Rootstock.

Outreach and Special Accommodations

Perquimans & Chowan County FSA Offices are committed to ensuring that all persons are aware of programs and benefits available to them. FSA programs are administered to ensure equal opportunity for participation and services for all persons to the fullest extent of the law. Representatives are available to present information to community and civic groups and organizations. Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment.

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 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, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
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