



Farm Service Agency

RHODE ISLAND COUNTY FSA NEWSLETTER

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2006

Change in the 2006 LDP Policy

A subsidy payment on your grain, wool and mohair may be available so you can apply for an LDP payment for 2006. An LDP is paid when the market price falls below the loan rate.

Producer's delivering a commodity to entities such as a dairy, feedlot, pit, wool pool, or a feed mill, will lose beneficial interest in the grain or wool on the date the commodity is delivered, regardless of any other action or agreement between such an entity and the producer.

If you would like to receive an LDP, it is extremely important that you have form CCC-633 EZ Page 1 on file before losing interest. By signing this page, you indicate your intention to receive LDP benefits and you maintain your eligibility in the program.

If you lose beneficial interest in the grain or wool before your signed CCC-633 EZ is on file with this office, you will lose your eligibility to participate in this program.

Beneficial Interest provisions

The Farm Service Agency national office staff has clarified its policy on open storage by rescinding part of a notice issued in July. Producers who deliver to a Commodity Credit Corporation-approved, federally- or state-licensed warehouse and the commodity is placed in open storage must be able to receive from the warehouse a negotiable warehouse receipt or other form of acceptable production evidence, if requested.

For details on the policy, contact the county office staff. National FSA notices are available on the agency's Web site (<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>) by clicking on "Notices" under "Resources" in the left column.



Be Counted! On the 2007 Census of Agriculture

The 2002 Census of Agriculture counted 2.2 million farms and ranches in the United States. That was down 15% from the 2.6 million farms and ranches counted in 1974. What changes are in store for the future of agriculture in our county? It is important that all operators are again counted in the 2007 Census of Agriculture to show their contribution to the entire U.S. agricultural industry.

Every farm and ranch in the nation can expect to receive a mailed Census questionnaire in December 2007. To get an accurate count for 2007, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service must receive a completed report for every farm and ranch in the U.S. The Census is the only source of uniform agricultural data for every county in the U.S. and provides a complete statistical picture of U.S. farms and ranches every five years.

How can YOU benefit from responding to the Census of Agriculture? Here are some possibilities:

- Producers can negotiate for more competitive market prices because they have the same facts as buyers.
- Farm organizations use the data to evaluate and propose policies and programs that help the agricultural producer.
- Farm service providers can anticipate needs and be more responsive to producers.
- Colleges and universities use census data in research programs aimed at increasing agricultural production and profitability.
- State departments of agriculture use census data to better serve farmers and ranchers during drought and emergency outbreaks of diseases or infestations of pests.
- Rural electric companies use census data to forecast future energy needs for the agricultural producer and the communities they live in.

- USDA uses census data to help evaluate participation of farmers and ranchers in its programs and services.
- Elected representatives use the data to develop farm policies and programs to protect and promote U.S. agriculture.
- Public and private analysts make extensive use of census data in projecting and evaluating results of agricultural programs and events.

The information you provide on the Census is kept confidential by law, Title 7, U.S. Code, and will not be disclosed to any other government or private entity.

For more information about the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) or the Census of Agriculture, including complete results of the 2002 census, visit our website at www.nass.usda.gov

Security Guidelines

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has released a booklet entitled "Pre-Harvest Security Guidelines and Checklist 2006" to help agricultural producers enhance security at the farm level. The booklet contains practical measures help to protect against natural disasters, as well as the unintentional or intentional introduction of plant or animal diseases. To get a copy, stop by the county office. More information is available at <http://www.usda.gov/homelandsecurity>.



County Information

Address: 60 Quaker Lane, Suite 49 Warwick, RI 02886	Phone Numbers: (401) 828-3120 (401) 822-0780 Fax
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm	Call Us Toll Free 1-800-551-5144 Farm Loan Direct (401) 822-8880
Staff: Melissa Turrisi Anne Belleville Devon Edmiston Melanie Benda Roxanne Boisse Joe Marcoccia Sandy Ford	Positions: CED Program Tech. Program Tech. Program Tech. FLM FLO Program Tech



NAP Coverage

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available and is produced for food or fiber.

The application deadline date for the 2007 NAP crops is soon approaching. Up coming deadlines include:

- **Sept 1 - Value Loss Crops (sod, Christmas trees, nursery crops aquaculture)**

Producers who already have coverage on 2006 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2007, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date. A new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops.

Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee.

Producers with 2006 NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.

[File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent.](#)

Important DATE!

TODAY- Sign-up 2006 DCP

TODAY- File Acreage Report

TODAY- Sign CCC-633 EZ

TODAY- File Notice of Loss

August 16-20 - Washington County Fair

September 4- Labor Day CLOSED

September 6- COC Meeting

September 30 -Final deadline to Sign-up DCP contracts

November 3- Election ballots mailed

December 4- Last day to return ballots

Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Other NAP application deadlines:

November 20 – Forage Crops

November 30 – Asparagus, Blueberries, Apples, Peaches, Raspberries, Strawberries

December 1 – Specialty crops (honey, maple sap)



FSA Kids Activity

The FSA Kids website has the AgVenture and Hay Now games for your kids to play and learn about agriculture at the same time. There are also cooking pages, coloring pages, fun food facts, puzzles, fun links, and more!

www.fsa.usda.gov/fsakids



Election Update

The period to nominate candidates for the upcoming county committee election is closed. Nominations were due in the county office on Tuesday, Aug. 1. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters by Nov. 3. Voted ballots must be returned to the county office by Dec. 4.

If no valid nominations have been filed, the secretary of agriculture may nominate up to two individuals to be placed on the ballot.

County committee elections give farmers and ranchers an important opportunity to ensure that their FSA county committees represent them.

Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help make decisions necessary to administer federal farm programs offered in their communities. County committees make decisions on agricultural issues such as commodity price support loans and payments, conservation programs, disaster payments and employing county executive directors.

If you participate or cooperate in programs administered by FSA and live in the local administrative area conducting an election, you may be nominated for candidacy for a committee. You can obtain a complete list of eligibility requirements by visiting the county office or online at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/facts/html/cocelig06.htm>.

For detailed information about FSA county committees visit the county office or go online at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/Default.asp>.

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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