



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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USDA URGES FARMERS TO PARTICIPATE IN FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

JACKSON, MS, (July 19, 2010) – Mississippi Farm Service Agency State Executive Director Michael R. Sullivan urges the state's farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers to submit a nomination in FSA's county committee elections by August 2nd, the deadline for submitting nomination forms.

"FSA county committees provide producers with the opportunity to help implement federal farm programs in their communities," said Sullivan. "It is vital that all farmers and ranchers, especially women and minorities, participate in the elections process to ensure the opinions expressed in committee meetings reflect an area's agricultural sector."

FSA county committees help administer federal farm programs at the local level. Committee members make decisions on conservation programs; commodity price support loans and payments; disaster assistance payments; and other agricultural issues.

County committees consist of three to five elected members who serve three-year terms. Committees may also have one or more female or minority advisors to further represent the local interests of women and minority farmers and ranchers.

For more information about FSA county committee elections, contact the local USDA Service Center visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/Default.asp>.