

FARM SERVICE AGENCY STOKES COUNTY NEWS

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NOMINATIONS BEGIN SOON

From June 15 through August 1, farmers and ranchers can nominate eligible peers as candidates for election to the Stokes County Farm Service Agency county committee.

This is an important time for the community because county committee members make decisions that have significant effects on you and the area's agricultural sector as a whole.

For example, committee members make decisions on applications for federal farm program and disaster payments. Committee members play a vital role by helping local farmers and ranchers weather tough financial times and natural disasters.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet basic eligibility requirements. Contact the county office staff or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections> for details about candidate eligibility.

NOMINATION FORM IS ATTACHED OR CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE COUNTY OFFICE OR ONLINE AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

Remember, the nomination period runs June 15 through August 1. Voting takes place in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 2.

December 3 is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office January 1, 2008.

Make a Difference: Nominate and Vote!

ACREAGE REPORTING

The timely filing of an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a number of programs, including Direct and County-cyclical Payment Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, as well as marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments.

To be timely, you must file an FSA-578 by June 30.

To be considered timely, acreage reports for:

- prevented planted acreage must be filed no later than 15 calendar days after the final reporting date for the applicable crop.
- failed acreage must be filed before the disposition of the crop.

We will accept crop certifications from farm operators, farm owners, persons authorized by power of attorney and tenants and sharecroppers, for which they have a share.

We will also accept from all producers, crop acreage reports for any purpose.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- June 30 Final certification date for all crops except small grains (May 15)
- July 4 Independence Day Holiday. FSA offices closed.
- August 1 Deadline to submit COC nomination forms.
- August 1 Final date to timely sign up for 2006 DCP Program.
- August 1 Final date to request farm reconstitution for current fiscal year.

**United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
Stokes County FSA Committee
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