



FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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Hours: M-F 8:00am - 4:30pm

Salem/Gloucester Staff

Al DiBella-County Executive Director

Deanne Bill- Program Technician

Tara Gruber- Program Technician

Sherri Paulding- Program Technician

JoAnne Olbrich- Program Technician

County Committee

Ken Porch, Chair

Wally Bradway, Vice Chair

John Cook, Member

Wally Eachus, Member

Jim Eller, Member

Carol Winchell, COC Advisor

Acresage Reporting

Please call now for your appointment! The deadline to report your 2008 crop acresage is **July 15, 2008**. Acresage reporting is required for the Non-insured Assistance Program, Marketing Assistance Loans, Loan Deficiency Payments, the DCP program and may be necessary for future crop disaster or market assistance programs which may arise. The minimum fee for late-filing an acresage report is \$46 per farm number, so don't delay!



Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

LCP compensates livestock producers for grazing losses and **LIP** for livestock losses occurring in 2005, 2006 or 2007 due to a natural disaster. Proof of loss required for livestock deaths. Sign up ends on **July 18, 2008**. Please call for more details.

Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP)

Have a Crop Loss? If you suspect serious crop damage, you must report it to our office and file a notice of loss **within 15 calendar days** after the disaster occurrence or the date the damage to the specific crop acresage is apparent. If your crop will not be taken to harvest or is hand-picked, you will need to have an appraisal done. Please, **do not destroy your field until a loss adjuster has given the field a final appraisal.**

Policyholders: If you have not provided your previous year(s) production figures, the final date to report production is **July 15, 2008**. If your records are not provided timely, your yield will be reduced. This will affect any future claim that you may have. It is very important that you provide your production records timely. Please don't delay.



Natural Resources Conservation Service

August 15, 2008 is now the deadline to sign up for the 2009 **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**. EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that offers financial and technical help to implement conservation practices on eligible agricultural land. EQIP is designed to help get conservation practices implemented that address existing resource concerns on farms in order to improve environmental quality both on and off the farm. The resource concerns addressed through EQIP include soil quality, soil erosion, water quality, water quantity, and air quality. Practices include irrigation diesel engine replacement, cover crop and conservation tillage. Call NRCS for more information.

FSA County Committee Elections

The Farm Service Agency's local committee elections will be held this fall for local administrative area (LAA) 2 and LAA 5. LAA 2 consists of Carney's Point, Oldmans, Logan, Woolwich, Greenwich, East Greenwich and West Deptford Townships. LAA 5 consists of Monroe, Franklin and Pittsgrove Townships. The farmer-elected committee is your voice in USDA's programs here in this area. Members of the committee work with area residents to maintain the local—

Dates to Remember!

July 4, 2008 - The office will be closed for Independence Day
July 15, 2008 — Final date to report all other crop acreages
July 15, 2008 — Final date to submit production records for NAP
15 days from planting — to report newly planted crops after July 15th
July 18, 2008 — LCP and LIP sign up ends
August 15, 2008 — Final date to apply for 2009 EQIP with NRCS



(FSA Elections continued) - focus of many USDA programs, inform people of what's available, and help other producers understand how the programs work. Committee members work to help shape national programs into working local programs.

The Farm Service Agency is now accepting nominating petitions until **August 1, 2008**. You may nominate yourself or someone you would like to represent you. Please call the office for a nomination form.

Farmers Against Hunger

Farmers Against Hunger is a unique hunger-relief organization dedicated to collecting and distributing fresh fruits and vegetables from New Jersey farms to local organizations with a meal or pantry program. Since 1996 Farmers Against Hunger has collected and distributed **over 15 million pounds** of food, all at no charge! Farm donors are located throughout much of New Jersey, from Warren County to Salem County. Farmers only need to make a phone call to the Program Coordinator or the driver, who will schedule a pick-up at the farmer's convenience. For more information about Farmers Against Hunger, call Judy Grignon at 609-462-9691.

Crop Disaster Program—Quality Losses

You may now apply for crop quality losses that occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007 due to damaging weather. You may apply for a quality loss even if you have already applied for a quantity loss under the Disaster Program. You do NOT have to qualify for a **Quantity** loss in order to be eligible for a **Quality** loss. Crops must have been covered by Federal Crop Insurance or NAP at the time of loss. Commodities must have suffered at least a 25% reduction in value due to Quality losses caused by natural disasters. Verifiable production records that document quality issues for reduction in value must be submitted (i.e. grain settlement sheet from Perdue). Please call for more information.

Sodbuster/Swampbuster Rules

Record high grain prices have had many agricultural producers scrambling for more cropland. A reminder to all producers enrolled in USDA programs is to make sure you are in compliance with all USDA "conservation provisions" on any new land you bring into production. Wetlands cannot be drained, filled or altered to make commodity crop production possible. These areas may be mapped as Prior Converted Croplands and you may be able to plant with no restrictions. Similarly, highly erodible lands must be farmed following a conservation plan. Steep slopes and erodible soils are fragile and may require conservation practices such as conservation tillage, contour farming or a conservation cropping system in order to control soil erosion. Check with NRCS to make sure such lands have a conservation plan that suits your needs. Along those same lines – any grassland currently under a CRP, CREP, WHIP or LIP agreement with NRCS, FSA or the NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife must remain in permanent grass cover until that agreement expires. Land broken out for annual tilled crops may constitute a violation with financial penalties. Contact the appropriate agency before any plowing of grasslands.

