

Volume 7, Issue 2
September 2010

Farm Service Agency
100 Northfield Dr., 4th fl
Windsor, CT 06095-4730



FSA Farm News

860-688-7725 ext.2
Fax: 860-688-0083
Hours 8:00am to 4:30pm

2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) Signup Deadline September 30, 2010

County Committee:

Edward Kasheta Jr., Chairman
Lauren Kaplan, Vice Chairman
Diane Karabin, Member
Leslie Stearns, Member

County Office Staff:

Ross E. Eddy, CED
Doris G. Ostrowski, PT
Christine Rothe, PT
www.fsa.usda.gov

Office Closings:

October 11 - Columbus Day

Farm Loan Programs

Tolland County Contact:

Ron Clark, Farm Loan Manager
1-860-887-9941 ext. 105

Hartford County Contact:

Ellen Losee, Farm Loan Manager
or Karen Tomlinson, Farm Loan Officer
1-860-626-8852

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster that incurred in the crop years 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. However, crop insurance or NAP coverage is no longer required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage.

Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

1) at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due

to an eligible disaster condition

2) crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm

3) producers in counties declared disaster counties by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties, or those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are eligible to receive SURE payments for crop losses or crop quality losses. Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss.

County Committee Elections

The 2010 FSA County Committee election process has begun. Ballots will be mailed out to eligible voters and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 6, 2010. This year one seat is up for election and the following candidates have been nominated for election and it will be held in the following local Administrative Area (LAA):

Tolland County LAA 4 is comprised of the following towns: Bolton, Ellington, Enfield, Somers, Stafford, Willington, and Tolland. This year's candidates are:

- Peter Charter, Ellington**
- Anita Mihaliak, Willington**
- Mark Polek, Enfield**

CONSERVATION NEWS

USDA-NRCS.

Don't forget there are available staff to help answer questions and assist with programs related to setting up or improving a range of projects including grazing system, managing manure, working on water runoff or erosion problems, and wildlife habitat. Some of the newest projects include forest or tree lot inventory and assessments and seasonal high tunnels for extended growing seasons. You may call: Jim 860-688-7725 ext 118; Sally ext 117 or Garrett ext. 115 for more information.



2009 SURE Equitable Relief

Farm Loan Programs

The option to request Risk Management Purchase Requirement (RMPR) Equitable Relief Provisions for 2009 SURE will be ending very soon so apply today. Producers who are applying for equitable relief need to show that they have a legitimate reason for not participating in a NAP or RMA 2009 crop policy and must submit relief fees of \$250 per crop if approved. The County committee will review relief requests and make recommendations to the State committee for a final decision.

If you haven't bought in to 2009 SURE please consider requesting the opportunity to participate for any crop of economic significance. To determine economic significance it should be any crop not covered by NAP or RMA insurance and "is any crop that contributed, or is expected to contribute, 5 percent or more of the total expected value of all crops grown by the contribute, 5 percent or more of the total expected value of all crops grown by

the producer". The Relief provision offers no insurance benefit; it will only allow the producer eligibility for 2009 SURE. If you do not elect to purchase RMPR Equitable Relief on crops which are economically significant you will not be able to participate in 2009 SURE.

NAP APPLICATION DEADLINES

November 20, 2010

All Grass, Mixed Forage & Alfalfa, Fruit Trees, Perennial Crops—Such as Asparagus, Blueberries, Strawberries

December 1, 2010

Honey, Maple Sap

March 15, 2011

Spring Barley, Oats & Wheat, Annual Crops—such as Beans, Cucumbers, Lettuce, Peppers, Squash, Tomatoes

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner.

FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

The United States 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 programs. (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 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.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
Hartford/Tolland Area FSA Committee
100 Northfield Dr., 4th floor
Windsor, CT 06095-4730