

July 2013



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Merrimack-Belknap-Hillsborough County FSA Updates

July 2013

Merrimack-Belknap-Hillsborough County FSA Office

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Hours

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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County Committee Members:

Martha Crete, Chair
Eric Tenney, Vice-Chair
William Hall Jr., Member
Robert Potter Jr., Member
Jane Presby, Member

NH Acting Farm Loan

DCP Deadline

The sign-up period for DCP is coming to a close. Producers are encouraged to sign up for DCP before the Aug. 2, 2013 deadline. The 2013 DCP program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that producers who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013.

[Read more about DCP and ACRE](#) or contact the FSA county office for more information, or an appointment to enroll.

Extension of FSA Crop Certification Reporting Deadline

On July 11, 2013, USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Juan M. Garcia announced an extension of the FSA acreage reporting deadline. Farmers and landowners have an additional 18 calendar days to submit their annual report of acreage to their local FSA county office with the deadline extended from Monday, July 15, 2013, to Friday, Aug. 2, 2013. Only the FSA reporting deadline has been extended. The acreage reporting requirement for crop insurance has not changed and remains July 15.

Accurate acreage reports are necessary to determine and maintain eligibility for various programs, such as the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP); the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP); and the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistant Program (NAP). Acreage reports for FSA are considered timely this year when filed at the county office by the new applicable final crop reporting deadline of Aug. 2, 2013. Producers should contact their county FSA office if they are uncertain about reporting deadlines.

While FSA's acreage reporting deadline was extended to Aug 2, 2013, the

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Risk Management Agency's (RMA) deadline was not extended and remains July 15, 2013. Producers are responsible for reporting their acreage to FSA and RMA. Farmers are reminded to report any loss within 72 hours of discovery to their insurance company. Farmers must report prevented planting acreage to their insurance company, in writing, within 15 calendar days after the final planting date. Losses must be reported and an insurance adjuster must view and release the crop before the crop is destroyed. Farmers are also reminded to contact their insurance agent if they have any questions about coverage, prevented planting, or for reporting and processing a claim.

Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. Contact a local crop insurance agent for more information about the program. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers or on the RMA web site at www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/.

Producers also should visit their USDA Service Center to complete acreage reporting for FSA. For questions on this or any FSA program, producers should contact their FSA county office or seek information online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Filing for NAP Losses

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

Disaster Assistance

The Farm Service Agency would like to remind crop and livestock producers that have recently experienced severe damage from flooding, storms, or other extreme weather conditions that FSA programs are available to assist with recovery.

We encourage all who have suffered a disaster due to the recent severe weather conditions to read the fact sheets and visit their local FSA county office so they get a quick start in the recovery process.

Fact sheets for all of these programs can be found at the disaster assistance program page <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=landing>.

COC Nomination Deadline

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm

programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to ensure FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

The COC nomination period runs from June 17, 2013 through August 1, 2013. County Committee (COC) nominations for Merrimack-Belknap-Hillsborough counties are currently open for two Local Administrative Areas: LAA 2 and LAA 4.

The nomination form is available at USDA Service Centers and online.

- o For English: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa0669a_english_form.pdf
- o For Spanish: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa0669a_es_130405v01.pdf

For more information contact your local FSA office.

Boundaries of Local Administrative Areas (LAA's)

Local Administrative Areas (LAA's) are elective areas for FSA county committee purposes. The Local Administrative Areas for Merrimack-Belknap-Hillsborough counties are:

LAA 1: Alton, Barnstead, Center Harbor, Gilford, Gilmanton, Laconia, Meredith, New Hampton, Sanbornton

LAA 2: Andover, Boscawen, Bradford, Danbury, Dunbarton, Franklin, Henniker, Hill, Hopkinton, Newbury, New London, Salisbury, Sutton, Tilton, Warner, Webster, Wilmot

LAA 3: Allenstown, Belmont, Bow, Canterbury, Chichester, Concord, Epsom, Hooksett, Loudon, Northfield, Pembroke, Pittsfield

LAA 4: Antrim, Bennington, Deering, Frankestown, Greenfield, Goffstown, Hancock, Hillsborough, Manchester, Mont Vernon, New Boston, Weare, Windsor

LAA 5: Amherst, Bedford, Brookline, Greenville, Hollis, Hudson, Litchfield, Lyndeborough, Mason, Merrimack, Milford, Nashua, New Ipswich, Pelham, Peterborough, Sharon, Temple, Wilton.

Successor-In-Interest

Many FSA programs will allow payments to be made to heirs or successors when a program participant passes away. Additionally, contracts in programs such as CRP must be revised to reflect the successor(s) to a deceased participant's interest.

In the event of an FSA program participant's death, it is important that FSA be notified. Entities and joint operations that participate in FSA programs also need to notify FSA if a shareholder or member passes away. FSA benefits are reported to IRS and maintaining current, accurate records about participants is vital to ensuring that those payments are reported correctly.

Selected Interest Rates for June 2013:

Farm Operating Loans (including microloans) - Direct 1.25%

Farm Ownership Loans - Direct 3.25%

Emergency Loans - 2.25%

Farm Storage Facility Loans Loans (7 years) - 1.50%

Dates to Remember:

August 1 - COC nomination period closes

August 2 - DCP sign-up deadline

August 2 - FSA Acreage Reporting Deadline for corn, fresh market sweet corn, spring forage seeding, other crops (excluding apples, peaches, nectarines, fall seeded and perennial forage)

Nov. 4, 2013 - COC election ballots mailed to eligible voters

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).