

June 2010

# Beaufort-Hyde FSA News

## USDA

### Beaufort-Hyde FSA

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Washington NC 27889

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www.fsa.usda.gov

### Office Hours

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

### County Committee

Don Hill, Chairperson  
Andrew Arnold, Vice-Chair  
Tony Carawan  
Ida Faye Cutler  
Ray Tooley  
Edward Lee Clayton

The Committee meets at 9am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. Meetings are open to the public.

### Staff

Mike Boyd  
Theresa Bright  
Annette Jefferson  
Maggie Marcenelle  
Erin Massie  
Rene' Perry  
Toni Woolard

### Farm Loan Managers

Paula Nicholls  
Sue Smithwick

### County Executive Director

Jeanie Setser

### District Director

James Davenport

Special accommodations will be made, upon request to the CED, for individuals with disabilities and vision or hearing impairment.



## Acreage Reports

The annual, timely and accurate reporting of all crop acreages and land uses, including failed acreage, is critical to protecting your benefits in a variety of FSA programs. Your crop report must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. **All spring-seeded crops must be reported by Wednesday, June 30.** Late-filed fees will apply to reports filed after the June 30 deadline.

Reports of prevented planting should be filed no later than 15 calendar days after the crop's final planting date.

Failed acreage must be reported on form FSA-576 before disposition of the crop. Producers must be able to establish that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted because of natural disaster conditions.

## 2010 DCP & ACRE Programs

**Enrollment for the 2010 DCP & ACRE Programs will end June 1, 2010.** There are no late-filed provisions. If all signatures are provided on a DCP contract, you may request an advance direct payment of 22%. The advance DCP payment will be issued in the month of your choice. For ACRE, direct payments are reduced by 20%; commodity loan rates are reduced by 30%; and counter cyclical payments are eliminated. To ask questions or to enroll in DCP/ACRE, please see Rene' Perry.

## Tobacco Buyout Payments (TTPP)

With annual payments each January, TTPP is the 10-year program that runs 2005-2014. If you currently have a TTPP contract, please make your family aware of its existence. Often, payments are sent to the wrong place if families don't notify FSA in the event of a death. The executor or administrator of the estate can handle this by providing a will, letter of testamentary, death certificate, new bank account info and names, addresses, and identification numbers of the new contract holders. For more details, please talk to Toni Woolard.

## 2010 County Committee Elections

The election of agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, with large or small operations. Two seats on the Beaufort-Hyde FSA Committee are open this year. LAA 2 (Long Acre, Washington, Pinetown) is currently represented by Andrew Arnold. Mr. Arnold grows corn, wheat, tobacco and soybeans and is eligible for re-election. In Hyde County, Ray Tooley of Scranton serves the farmers in LAA 5 (Fairfield, Ponzer, Scranton, Sladesville, Grassy Ridge). Also eligible for re-election, Mr. Tooley produces cotton, corn, wheat and soybeans.

A direct link between our local agricultural community and the USDA, committee members are a significant component of FSA operations. They help administer FSA programs in Beaufort and Hyde Counties. Members work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers by providing input on commodity loans; incentive, indemnity & disaster payments for some commodities; payment eligibility; and emergency & conservation programs. Operating within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws, members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria: participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA; be eligible to vote in a county committee election; and reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate. The intent is to have the county committee reflect the makeup of the county's producers and to represent all constituents.

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A, agreeing to serve if elected. This form is available at USDA Service Centers and online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA> under Newsroom & County Committee Elections. A copy is also included in this newsletter. Nomination forms for the 2010 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 2, 2010. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate.

Dates to Remember	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program Signup
June 1, 2010	DCP Enrollment Deadline
June 30, 2010	Report ALL Crop Acreages
June 30, 2010	Submit 2009 NAP Production
July 5, 2010	Office Closed – Independence Day
Aug 2, 2010	Request Reconstitutions for 2010
Aug 2, 2010	COC Nomination Forms Due
Selected Interest Rates – May 2010	
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.875%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.00%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (7-yr term)	3.250%
Commodity Loans	1.5 %

## Final Planting Dates

Planting timely is crucial to the success of your farming operation. Planting dates are used for insurance and FSA program purposes. Here are final planting dates for selected area crops:

Oats = *Nov 10*      Wheat = *Nov 30*  
 Potatoes = *Apr 15*      Cotton & Corn = *May 15*  
 Tobacco = *May 25*      Peanuts = *May 31*  
 Soybeans = *Jun 30*      Grain Sorghum = *Jun 15*  
 Cucumbers = *May 15/Aug 15*  
 Squash = *May 15/Aug 1*  
 Cabbage = *Apr 30/Sep 15*  
 Green Beans = *May 30/Aug 1*

## 2011 NAP Coverage Deadline

September 1, 2010 is the deadline to purchase 2011 NAP coverage (insurance) for aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng, turf grass sod, floriculture, strawberry rootstock & mushrooms. Please submit 2009 NAP production by June 30, 2010. For details, speak with Toni Woolard.

## RECONSTITUTIONS

FSA rules call for farms to be grouped, or "constituted", with all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes occur in farm ownership or operation, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. To be effective for 2010, recons must be requested by August 2, 2010 for farms enrolled in specific programs.

## SODBUSTER REGULATIONS

Before you clear, plow or otherwise prepare areas not presently under crop production for planting, be sure to file an AD-1026. Program benefits may be lost if highly erodible or wet lands are used without proper conservation plans.

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."

## Transition Incentives Program (TIP)

Sign-up began on May 17 for this brand new program which involves landowners with expiring CRP contracts. TIP is designed to encourage retired or retiring landowners to transition their land to a beginning or socially-disadvantaged farmer, either by sale or long-term lease. The landowner with an expiring CRP contract can receive up to 2 additional annual CRP rental payments, provided the land is transitioned to a socially-disadvantaged or beginning farmer who is a non-family member. If you have questions, please ask for Theresa Bright.

## Beginning & Limited Resource Loans

Under certain loan programs, FSA can assist beginning farmers and/or members of socially-disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. FSA defines beginning farmer as a person who: has operated a farm for 10 years or less; will materially & substantially participate in the farm operation; agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training & financial management program sponsored by FSA; & does not own a farm in excess of 30% of the county's average size farms. For more info, call Paula Nicholls.

## Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)

USDA and IRS have established an electronic info exchange program for verifying compliance with AGI provisions for farm programs. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be transferred.

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must **submit form CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) to IRS by June 15** to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices or <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainservlet>.

## COLD STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

The Farm Storage Facility Loan Program has been amended to allow producers to build cold storage facilities to store fresh fruits and vegetables. To be eligible, cold storage facilities must have a useful life of 15 years and include: new structures suitable for cold storage; new walk-in prefabricated permanently installed coolers; new permanently affixed cooling, circulating and monitoring equipment; electrical equipment integral to proper operation of a cold storage facility; or an addition or modification to an existing storage facility. Portable, used or pre-owned structures and equipment are not eligible for loan. The maximum loan amount is \$500,000 per loan, with a 15% required down payment. Applications must be approved before construction begins. Loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the loan amount.

## Your Farm Records

We urge you to keep your farm records up to date. When addresses, bank accounts, or farm owners or operators change, please notify us immediately. We depend on you to make us aware of land sales/transfers, deaths etc. This helps keep your newsletters & payments flowing properly. Thanks!