



# JOHNSTON County News

## Johnston County USDA Service Center

**Johnston County FSA**  
2736 NC Hwy 210  
Smithfield, NC 27577-7497  
(919) 934-7156 Ext. 2  
FAX: (919) 934-5170

### Hours

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

### County Committee

Bobby Pope – Chairperson  
Tom Vinson – Vice-  
Chairperson  
George Massengill – Regular  
Member  
Kay Boyette – Advisor  
David Richardson – Advisor

### Staff

**County Executive Director:**  
Joseph C. Gregory

### Farm Loan Officer:

Charles Walls

### Program Technicians:

Beth Price  
Annette Matthews  
Nora Surles  
Lisa Peedin  
Evalena Best  
Gina Gardner  
Mandy Hughes

### 07 Loan Rates

Corn - \$2.25/Bushel  
Grain Sorghum - \$3.70/HW  
Soybeans - \$5.07/Bushel  
Cotton - 53.30 cents/Pound

**We continue to wait for passage of a new Farm Bill. We will get out any and all information about a new Farm Bill as soon as it becomes available.**

### HOLIDAY

Our office will be closed Friday July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 for the Independence Day Holiday.

## 2008 COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The election of responsible agricultural producers to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Committee is important to ALL farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because County Committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will offer. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

The 2008 County Committee Election will be for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2. LAA-2 consists of the following townships: Wilders, Wilson's Mills, Clayton, Cleveland, Pleasant Grove and Smithfield.

The Johnston County FSA Office will begin accepting nominations for candidates from LAA-2 on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The last day to file nomination forms is August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. Request nomination forms from the local USDA Service Center or obtain online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> under News & Events/County Committee Elections.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the committee. Additionally, a person must reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers, and beginning farmers and ranchers, may nominate candidates.

**FSA COUNTS ON YOU: NOMINATE AND VOTE!**

## GROWING SEASON INSPECTIONS

FSA is required to assist the Risk Management Agency (RMA) and insurance providers in monitoring crop conditions throughout the 2008 growing season. County FSA office staff will be performing growing season inspections on selected producers this year. FSA is required to refer to RMA all suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse of the Federal Crop Insurance Program. Anyone wishing to report such acts should contact their local FSA Office, RMA or the Office of Inspector General. The USDA hotline number is 1-800-424-9121.

## HOME CERTIFICATION PACKETS

**Home Certification Packets need to be in the office by June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008, so that all crops can be loaded in the computer by the June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 deadline.**

## LATE-FILE FEE

Again this year, **the minimum late file fee is \$46 per farm.** The cost is based on the time it takes to measure the late filed acreage and complete the paperwork. The rate is \$8 per half an hour. **ALL LATE FILE ACREAGE REPORTS WILL REQUIRE A FIELD VISIT. Please be aware of this provision and report your crops on or before the deadline of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008.**



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**FY 2008 NON-INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)**

The Johnston County Farm Service Agency would like to remind all eligible producers of the requirements for filing a Notice of Loss under NAP. A Notice of Loss application (CCC-576) must be; **Timely Filed** within 15 calendar days after the latter of the occurrence of prevented planting or the end of the planting period, **Properly Filed** – A Notice of Loss can only be accepted on CCC-576 forms, telephone notification is not acceptable, **For Each Disaster Event** – A Notice of Loss must be filed for each qualifying disaster event, **Each Crop and Type Verified** – Each crop and type affected must be properly documented. If producers elect not to harvest the crop, all eligible acres and crop units in which an application for payment is filed must be left intact until each unit is appraised and released by the Loss Adjuster. Producers are encouraged to provide production records for all NAP crops annually to improve their APH yields.

**DEADLINE FOR 2005-2007 LCP AND LIP SIGN-UP**

The deadline for enrolling in the 2005-2007 Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) has been announced. The deadline is **July 18, 2008**. The LCP and LIP provide aid to livestock producers who suffered eligible livestock feed losses between Jan. 1, 2007 and Dec. 31, 2007, because of a natural disaster. We encourage all eligible producers to enroll as soon as possible and before the July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008 deadline.

**CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM REMINDER**

New land or land with a CRP contract expiring on 9/30/2008 can be enrolled under our Continuous/CREP programs provided the land meets eligibility requirements.

**FOREIGN INVESTORS NOTIFICATION**

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA. Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of the reporting requirements.

The U.S. 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 program. (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 to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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Note: Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please contact Joseph C. Gregory, CED, at 919-934-7156 Ext 2.

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