

# Farm Service Agency

*New London County FSA Office*

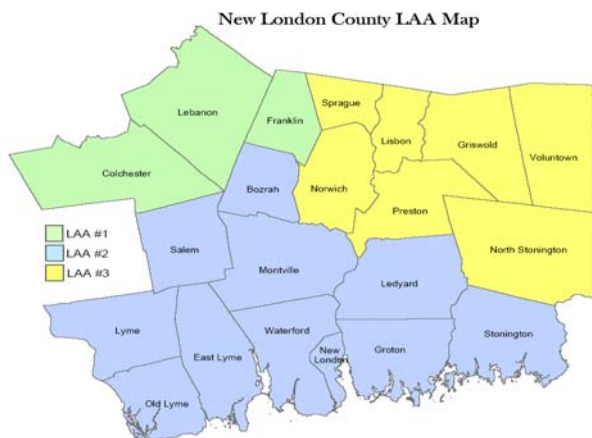
*June 2008*

**CROP ACREAGE REPORTING  
DEADLINE - JULY 15TH**

***Time to Nominate for the LAA #2 COC Slate!***

## 2008 COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION "FSA COUNTS ON YOU"

Since COC elections happen only once a year, here is an election refresher. For election purposes, counties are divided into **Local Administrative Areas**, or **LAA's**. Each LAA selects one producer to serve a 3-year term on the Farm Service Agency County Committee. Nominations for candidates to run for the Farm Service Agency County Committee election representing producers in LAA #2 will be accepted through **August 1, 2008**. Producers who are residents in this LAA, and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee.



Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Also, organization representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates. To be valid the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. The nomination form, FSA-669A, is available at the county office or may be downloaded

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=newsroom&subject=landing&topic=cce>.

***The completed nomination form must be returned to the county office by the close of business on August 1, 2008 or postmarked by Aug. 1, 2008.***

## "NEW" FARM BILL STATUS WHERE ARE WE?

We apologize that we can not give Farm Bill specifics on many programs at this time given producers are getting ready or have already started planting. With Congress not getting a Farm Bill passed until late May, we now have to start writing and getting new and revised program regulations out for public comment in the Federal Register. Once the comment period closes, final program regs can be approved and implemented. We have requested fast track for getting to the regulation review process.

We encourage you to comment on regulations if you feel part of the new Farm Bill legislation needs to have something specifically addressed in implementation. The Federal Register comes out daily and can be viewed at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/advanced.html>.

We will be continually updating you as final programs are implemented. We hope to have revised, as well as new programs, starting to come on line through out the summer and fall.

## HAVE YOU FINISHED THIS YEAR'S CROP PLANTING? REPORT DUE JULY 15<sup>TH</sup> !

The annual requirement of reporting to the FSA office can be referred to as crop reporting, acreage reporting or crop certification. Please remember that failure to file an accurate acreage report for **all crops and land uses** (including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs. Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

***Planting dates must also be reported at the time of certification.***

## DISASTER SIGNUP CONTINUES FOR LOSSES INCURRED (2005-2007)

Eligible farmers and ranchers who suffered livestock losses, feed losses, or crop loss damage before December 31, 2007, can still apply to receive disaster assistance. FSA continues to accept applications and make payments for quantity losses under the Crop Disaster Program (CDP), for losses that occurred before the end of the 2007 calendar year. No ending date has yet been announced for CDP.

## WILL A POA HELP YOU TO COMPLETE YOUR FSA BUSINESS?

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a Power of Attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office for more information.

### County Information

<b>Address:</b> 238 West Town Street Norwich, CT 06360	<b>Phone Number:</b> (860) 887-9941 <b>Office Hours:</b> Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
<b>Staff:</b> Marsha B. Jettè, CED Pat Smith, PT Barbara Pagano, PT Ronald Clark, FLM	<b>County Committee:</b> John Gadbois, Chairman Art Spielman III, V-Chm Ray Manning, Member Suzanne Sankow, <b>Minority Advisor</b>

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## WHEN IS A FARM RECONSTITUTION NECESSARY?

In program terminology, farms are **constituted** to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place a farm **reconstitution** is necessary. The reconstitution – or recon – is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. The following are different methods used when doing a farm recon. Remember to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Estate Method:** The division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate.

**Designation of Landowner Method:** May be used when (1) part of the farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer or seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

**DCP Cropland Method:** The division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract related to the DCP cropland on the parent tract.

**Default Method:** The division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.



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