Farm-Service-Agency-

New London County FSA Office October 2008



DCP PAYMENTS TO BE ISSUED IN OCTOBER

NONINSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM NAP

September 1st deadline for NAP has been extended to December 1st for producers to apply for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). The application and service fee must be filed by December 1, the application closing date for 2009 value loss crops including Christmas trees, aquaculture, sod grass and ornamental nursery.

The service fee is **\$250** per crop per county or **\$750** per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed \$1875 per producer with farming interest in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver of service fees. This fee is authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill and is effective as of May 22, 2008.

Eligible Crops

To be eligible for NAP assistance, crops must be noninsurable crops and agricultural commodities for which the catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance is not available.

Coverage Period for NAP

The coverage period for NAP may vary depending on whether the producer grows annual, perennial or valueloss crops.

How Much Loss NAP Covers

NAP covers the amount of loss greater than 50 percent of the expected production based on the approved yield and reported acreage.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Just a reminder: Be watching your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters starting on November 3, 2008. If, for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 1, 2008

FINAL PAYMENTS FOR 2008 DCP

Enrolled producers can expect their final direct payments to be deposited directly into personal bank accounts sometime during the first few weeks of October.

Producers who did not elect to receive an advance direct payment will receive their entire direct payment for the year in one lump sum after the end of the fiscal year.

The direct payment for a crop equals 85% of the farm's base acreage times (x) the farm's direct payment yield times (x) the direct payment rate.

If there are any unearned payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the final direct and Counter-Cyclical Program payments you are about to receive.

FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers loans for farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans, as of October 1, 2008, can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,094,000. Emergency loans are always direct loans for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are also available through FSA.

Is Your power of attorney valid in the office?

Producers and landowners that have previously executed a Power of Attorney (FSA 211) authorizing an attorney-in-fact to act on their behalf for "All current programs," "All current and all future programs," or specifically identified a program or programs, as applicable. Additionally, FSA-211's currently on file either extend "All actions" or specific actions to an attorney-in-fact as selected by the grantor.

FSA-211's currently on file, which the grantor has checked the box in Section A, item 1, "All current programs," *are not* valid for programs authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill including 2008 DCP.

FSA-211's currently on file, which the grantor has checked the box in Section A, item 2, "All current and all future programs," *are* valid for programs authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill



County Information

Address:

238 West Town Street Norwich, CT 06360 Phone Number: (860) 887-9941 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Staff:

Marsha B. Jettè, CED Pat Smith, PT Barbara Pagano, PT Claudia Fryer, TPT Ronald Clark, FLM

County Committee:

John Gadbois, Chairman Art Spielman III, V-Chm Ray Manning, Member Suzanne Sankow, Minority Advisor

FSA SIGNATURE POLICY

Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits. The following are FSA signature guidelines:

- A married woman shall sign her given name: Mrs. Mary Doe, not Mrs. John Doe
- For a minor, FSA requires the minor' signature and one from an eligible parent.
 - **Note**, by signing the applicable document, the parent is liable for actions of the minor and may be liable for refunds, liquidated damages, etc
- When signing on one's behalf the signature must agree with the name typed or printed on the form, or be a variation that does not cause the name and signature to be in disagreement. Example - John W. Smith is on the form. The signature may be John W. Smith or J.W. Smith or J. Smith. Or Mary J. Smith may be signed as Mrs. Mary Joe Smith, M.J. Smith, Mary Smith, etc
- FAXED signatures will be accepted for certain forms and other documents provided the acceptable program forms are approved for FAXED signatures. Producers are responsible for the successful transmission and receipt of FAXED information.
- Spouses shall not sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities
- All members of a general partnership must sign for the general partnership unless an individual is authorized to act on the behalf of the general partnership and bind all members
- Spouses may sign on behalf of each other's individual interest in a partnership, unless notification denying a spouse that authority is provided to the county office
- Acceptable signatures for general partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, estates, and trusts shall consist of an indicator "by" or "for" the individual's name, individual's name and capacity, or individual's name, capacity, and name of entity

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

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