

NEWSLETTER

COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

JUNE 2008

County Farm Service Agency County Committee

County Committee

Randy Riggs
Robert Davenport Jr.
David Andrews Jr.
Alexander Toodle

**Committee meets on the 2nd
Wednesday each month at 9:00 am**

Office Staff

Lewis M Humphrey, CED
April S Young "PT"
Judy B Green "PT"

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00 am -5:00 pm
Wednesday 8:00am-12:30 pm

Telephone (252) 448-2341

Fax (252) 448-1933

USDA Website:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

OUTREACH - The Farm Service Agency is committed to informing all persons of the programs that it administers. As part of the Outreach Plan for the County FSA Office, the County Executive Director will be available to speak to groups upon request.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call Lewis M Humphrey at (252) 448-2341.

POLICY

"The United States department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national original, 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. 202250-9410, or Call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORMS

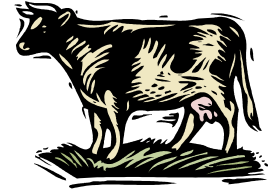
From June 15 through Aug. 1, producers and landowners can nominate eligible peers (or self-nominate) as candidates for election to the Jones County FSA County Committee. This is an important time for the community because County Committee members make decisions that have significant effects on you and the area's agricultural sector as a whole. Any person may nominate an individual to serve on the COC, however, in addition to agreeing to serve if elected; the nominee must live in Local Administrative Area. LAA 3 consists of White Oaks and Pollocksville townships. It is currently being represented by Randy Riggs who will be ineligible to represent because of the three term rule. Voting takes place in the fall. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office January 1, 2009. Please use the FSA 669A(attached) to submit your nomination before August 1, 2008. Nomination forms must be signed by the nominee. We encourage you to get involved!

Farm Reconstitutions

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. A reconstitution is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by **August 1 st, 2008.**

BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM

Producers will continue to report their cotton acreage as in the past to the FSA Office. However, NCSA&CS will be sending a billing invoice directly to the producer. Payments will not be accepted at the Jones County FSA Office. The assessment for the 2008Boll Weevil Eradication Program has decreased this year to \$2.10 per acre.



LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM DEADLINE

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) has announced that livestock producers have until **July 18, 2008**, to enroll in the 2005 - 2007 Livestock Compensation Program (LCP). Signup began on Sept. 10, 2007, for the two programs that provide aid to livestock producers who suffered eligible livestock feed losses between Jan. 1, 2007-Dec. 30, 2007 because of a natural disaster. For more information please contact the Jones County FSA office for program sign-up details

2008 Compliance

Compliance and spot checks will once again be utilized during the 2008 crop year. Instead of locally selecting farms, contracts, deficiency loans, etc. for spot check and review, a nationwide selection of producers is used to achieve a statistical sampling of participating producers. Spot check selections are to be conducted based on a producer's participation in Conservation Reserve Program, Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, and Loan Deficiency Program, etc. State and County Offices shall view and print their producer spot check lists as posted on the designated web site. If an entity is selected from the national database that is no longer farming or participating in the 2008 crop year, a notation shall be made on the spot check list. For more information about the new spot check selection procedure, feel free to contact the Jones County Farm Service Agency office for additional clarification.

Crop Reporting

The County Farm Service Agency reminds all farmers that **June 30, 2008** deadline is for reporting tobacco, peanuts, corn, cotton, sorghum, soybeans, fruits, vegetables and all other cropland. All Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) crops that are planted or growing after May 15, 2008 should also be reported.

Planting dates are required for all annual planted crops. This information must be the same information furnished to federal crop for crop insurance reporting.

It is important to start reporting crops as early as possible in order to prevent long lines. The following are options for giving crop reports:

1. Producers make an appointment and visit the office, identify crops with assistance from office staff, and waits to sign the computer generated report. This method is used most often.
2. Producers make an appointment and visit the office to complete maps with assistance from our staff. The operator leaves while the crop report is loaded in the computer, then returns to sign the report. The report must be signed before the applicable deadline.
3. Producers complete maps and tract sheets at home then bring them to the FSA Office for data loading. The following information will be needed: (A) Tobacco acreage and sled row pattern, (B) Shares for each crop, (C) Cropland balanced by field, (D) All fields reported, (E) Planting dates. Producers will be notified when to come by and sign the reports. All computer generated reports must be signed before the applicable crop reporting deadline.
4. Producers visit the office without appointment.

This method is not encouraged because lines may get long.

The annual crop certification process is the basis for all program benefits. Federal crop insurance is based on the information found on the FSA-578, Report of Acreage. It is important that all information be reported timely due to the recent increase in late filed fees.

Banking Changes?

If you have changed banks and not notified FSA, your payment could be delayed. Payments are electronically transferred into your bank account, if we are not aware of changes to your account and routing numbers, there could be problems. In order to make timely payments, you need to notify the office if you close your account or if another financial institution purchases your bank. It is important that any changes in producer's account such as type account, bank mergers, routing number or account numbers, be provided to the county office promptly to avoid possible payment delay.

Preventing Fraud, Waste

The Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency are partners in preventing fraud, waste and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program. The County FSA has and will continue to assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. USDA has a hotline to report suspected cases of Crop Insurance Fraud the number is 1-800-424-9121. Producers can report suspected cases to the county office staff, RMA or the Office of the Inspector General.

Dates to Remember

June 20	Payment Processing Disable
June 30	Final Date to report Spring Planted Crops
June 30	NAP producers should submit 2007 production records for no later than June 30, 2008 .
July 4	All FSA Offices Closed