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USDA



Farm Service Agency

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Columbia USDA Service Center

Tyrrell-Dare County FSA

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Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

County Committee

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IN THIS ISSUE:

CROP CERTIFICATION
CROP DISASTER PROGRAM
CREP EXPANSION
COC ELECTION
RECONSTITUTION REQUESTS
NAP
REPORT CHANGES
NC AG COST-SHARE PROGRAM

2008 CROP CERTIFICATION

The crop reporting deadline for corn, soybeans, potatoes, CRP and other spring and summer planted crops is June 30, 2008. Please be reminded that plant dates are required when reporting. Crops planted after June 30, 2008 must be reported within 15 days of the planting date to be considered timely filed. Producers are reminded to report any failed or prevented crop acreage to our office. Failed acres should be reported to our office within 15 days of the disaster event and prior to disposition of the crop. Prevented planted acres should be reported to our office within 15 days of the final planting date. **Timely filed crop reports can prevent a loss of benefits from FSA programs.** Producers may contact our office to schedule a certification appointment or visit our office to complete your 2008 crop certification.

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM (CDP)

Signup for the **2005/2006/2007 CDP** began on October 15, 2007. **Producers who suffered quantity losses of 35% or more on crop(s) planted in 2005, 2006, or 2007 may be eligible for CDP benefits.** Producers who incurred a qualifying loss in any of these crop years must choose one year to apply for benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple crops as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers who purchased Catastrophic (CAT) insurance coverage may also be eligible for CDP benefits even though an indemnity was not paid by your crop insurance company.

CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)

The Farm Service Agency in cooperation with the State of North Carolina is pleased to announce the expansion of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The expansion of CREP will add additional river basins to the existing CREP area which will further protect critical river areas. CREP looks to enroll 85, 000 acres of riparian and 15,000 acres of non-riparian wetlands within the following river basins: Neuse, Tar-Pamlico, Chowan, Lumber, White Oak, Yadkin-PeeDee, Cape Fear (Jordan Lake), Roanoke, and Pasquotank. **Signup for the expanded CREP program began on May 1st, 2008.** For further information on the CREP program please contact your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) or Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office. Information on CREP may also be found at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/nccrep.pdf

2008 COC ELECTION INFORMATION

The Tyrrell-Dare County FSA office is preparing for the 2008 County Committee (COC) election. One of FSA's responsibilities is to conduct COC elections in an open manner that ensures accountability. FSA will provide local organizations representing socially disadvantaged groups with detailed information about the COC election process. The agency is reaching out to agricultural communities to get equitable representation on their county committees. Underrepresented farmers and ranchers are encouraged to participate in their county's COC election process. Local Administrative Area III representing the Sound Side and Gum Neck communities of Tyrrell County will be soliciting for nominations (**FSA-669A**) for a qualified individual to represent their respective area on the local FSA County Committee. Nominations will be accepted from June 15, 2008 through August 1, 2008.

2008 RECONSTITUTION REQUESTS

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 is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Producers and landowners that need a farm or tract to be reconstituted and be effective for 2008 should make their request by August 1, 2008. Please contact your local FSA office to make these reconstitutions requests.

NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

The Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) provides insurance coverage similar to Catastrophic Insurance Coverage (CAT Coverage) for fruit and vegetable crops that are ineligible for crop insurance. This program can provide financial assistance to fruit and vegetable producers that suffer production losses as a result of an eligible natural disaster. FSA encourages anyone producing fruits and vegetables commercially to participate in the NAP program. Further, **producers currently participating in the NAP program are reminded that production losses must be reported to our office within 15 days of the disaster event causing the loss to be eligible for a NAP payment.**

NAP producers are also reminded to submit production records annually in order to sustain an accurate Actual Production History (APH) for each crop insured under NAP.

REPORT CHANGES TO FSA

FSA would like to remind individuals and/or entities that buy or sell cropland in Tyrrell County to report these changes to our office. If you have recently bought or sold cropland in Tyrrell County, it is important that FSA be made aware of this change in order to keep our ownership records current. **Producers should also report any changes in your farming operation to the county office.** Farm operation changes, land operation changes, and financial account changes need to be reported as soon as possible. Timely notification of any and all changes will help ensure that our records remain current and producers remain eligible for FSA program benefits.

NC AGRICULTURE COST-SHARE PROGRAM

The Tyrrell County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be taking applications for various conservation practices in July and August for the 2009 fund year. These practices include land smoothing, cover crops, water control structures, and other conservation measures. If you feel that you have a problem area that one of these measures would address please contact the office in Columbia by a visit or calling us at 796-3701 ext. 3. All applications will be ranked according to the Districts ranking priorities. These programs can be very beneficial to your conservation needs.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

Special accommodations will be made available upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call Cecelia Edge at 252-796-3701 ext. 2. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, 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, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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