



August – September 2011

## Warren-Sussex-Morris County FSA Office

101 Bilby Road, BLDG 1H  
Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Phone: (908) 852-2576  
Fax: (908) 852-4666

### Hours

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

### Website

[www.fsa.usda.gov/nj](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nj)

### County Office Staff

Lindsay Caragher, CED  
Virginia Brophy, SFLO  
John Snearowski, PT  
Diandra Brunstetter, PT  
Debbie Crisman, PT  
Megan Everswick, FLOT

### County Committee

Scott Ashley  
Robert DeBlock  
Carl Sigler  
James Smith  
Holly Sytsema

### The County Committee meets the last Monday of the month at 9:30AM.

As meeting dates and times are  
subject to change, please call  
ahead if you plan on attending.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- Aug 1 - COC Nomination  
Period Ends
- Sept 1 - NAP Closing Date:  
Grass Sod, Fin Fish,  
Christmas Trees, Nursery &  
Flowers
- Sept 5 - Office Closed, Labor  
Day
- Sept 30 - NAP Closing Date:  
Barley, Clover, Grass Hays,  
Mixed Forages, Rye, Wheat

## County Committee Elections

The nomination period for the 2011 County Committee Election closed August 1. Ballots will be mailed to eligible votes beginning November 4, 2011. Stay tuned for more election news.

## Producers Must Report AGI to IRS

Producers are reminded they must submit an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) verification consent form (CCC-927 or CCC-928) to the IRS as soon as possible in order to maintain eligibility for 2009 and 2010 program benefits. The consent form authorizes IRS to verify whether a payment recipient's AGI meets the eligibility requirements for FSA programs. Producers who fail to file these forms before Sept. 2011 will receive a notice from the National Office stating that the producer is ineligible for 2009 and/or 2010 payments. IRS requires written consent from all individuals or legal entities before verification of the average AGI can be provided to USDA. Individuals must submit form CCC-927 and legal entities must submit form CCC-928. ***Without these forms on file with IRS, eligible producers will not receive USDA program payments.***



## Compliance Spot Checks

Compliance spot checks will be conducted on 2011 crops. Instead of locally selecting farms, contracts, deficiency loans, etc. for review, a nationwide selection of producers is employed. Spot check selections are to be conducted based on a producer's participation in Conservation Reserve Program, Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, Loan Deficiency Program, etc.

## Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL)

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are now required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin. The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Honey
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables - cold storage facilities

For more information about FSFL please call the office.

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PRESORTED STANDARD  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 Farm Service Agency  
 PERMIT G-96

Selected Interest Rates for August 2011	
Farm Operating – Direct	2.125%
Farm Ownership & Conservation Loans	4.625%
Limited Resource – Farm Operating	5.00 %
Limited Resource – Farm Ownership	5.00 %
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50 %
Emergency	3.75 %
Marketing Assistance Loans	1.250%
Farm Storage Facility	
7-year loan term	2.25 %
10-year loan term	3.00 %
12-year loan term	3.625 %

### Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans is being established. If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. For additional information on this and other settlement issues contact:

- **Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers Claims Adjudication Process**, please visit: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov) or call 1-888-508-4429;
- **African American Farmers Settlement Agreement (Pigford II)**, please visit: [www.blackfarmercase.com](http://www.blackfarmercase.com) or call 1-866-950-5547 or 1-866-472-7826;
- **Native Americans Farmers Settlement Agreement (Keepseagle v Vilsack)**, please visit: [www.IndianFarmClass.com](http://www.IndianFarmClass.com) or call 1-888-233-5506.

All media calls can be forwarded to the  
 USDA, Office of Communication at (202)720-4623.

The U.S. Dept of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of 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, political beliefs, genetic information, 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, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.