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June 2015



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- [Reporting Planted, Prevented Planted, and Failed Acreage](#)
  - [Agricultural Producers Still Have Time to Apply for Farm Loans](#)
  - [USDA Opens Enrollment Period for ARC/PLC Safety-Net Programs](#)
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## Chatham County, NC FSA Updates

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### Chatham County FSA Office

65 E Chatham St  
Physical  
P O Box 249 Mailing  
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Phone: 919-542-2244 ext. 2  
Fax: 844-325-6789

#### County Executive

##### Director:

Claudia A Austin

#### Senior Farm Loan

##### Officer:

Bill Rhodes

#### Program Technicians:

Vonetta S French

Lori E Andrews

#### County Committee:

Clarence L Durham, Chair

Billy Fitts, Vice-Chair

John S Glosson, Member

### Reporting Planted, Prevented Planted, and Failed Acreage

Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers to report planted, prevented planted, and failed acres in order to establish or retain FSA program eligibility. All producers are encouraged to visit the Chatham County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by July 15 on spring planted crops. These crops include: Corn, Soybeans, Grain Sorghum, Tobacco, CRP and all other crops and/or land uses. The following exceptions apply to acreage reporting dates:

- If the crop has not been planted by the applicable acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.
- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the applicable acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.
- If a perennial forage crop is reported with the intended use of "cover only," "green manure," "left standing," or "seed," then the acreage must be reported by July 15th.

Producers must also report crop acreage they intended to plant, but due to natural disaster, were prevented from planting. Prevented planting acreage must be reported on form FSA-576, Notice of Loss, no later than 15 calendar

Barbara C Pugh, Advisor

**Next County Committee Meeting:** September 8, 9:00 am

days after the final planting date as established by FSA and Risk Management Agency (RMA). If a producer is unable to report the prevented planting acreage within the 15 calendar days following the final planting date, a late-filed report can be submitted. Late-filed reports will only be accepted if FSA conducts a farm visit to assess the eligible disaster condition that prevented the crop from being planted. A measurement service fee will be charged. Additionally, producers with failed acres should also use form FSA-576, Notice of Loss, to report failed acres. Failed acres are planted acres but failed due to adverse weather.

For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), producers must file a Notice of Loss within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. Producers must timely file a Notice of Loss for failed acres on all crops including grasses.

Please contact the Chatham County FSA Office at 919-542-2244 ext. 2 to schedule an appointment to file a Crop Acreage Report, Notice of Loss or for questions regarding crop certification.

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## Agricultural Producers Still Have Time to Apply for Farm Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that farmers and ranchers still have time to apply for loans available through the FSA direct farm loan program. Applications must be approved by Sept. 30, 2015, to take advantage of the Fiscal Year 2015 funding available. Eligible farmers and ranchers may apply for farm ownership loans, farm operating loans, microloans, and youth loans. New farmers and ranchers, military veterans, and underserved farmers and ranchers are encouraged to apply. Each year Congress targets 80 percent of available loan funds to beginning and targeted underserved farmers and ranchers. Targeted underserved groups include American Indians or Alaskan Natives, Asians, Blacks or African Americans, Native Hawaiians, or other Pacific Islanders, Hispanics and women. For more information about farm loan, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans), or contact Bill Rhodes, Senior Farm Loan Officer at 704-788-2107, ext. 115 or [bill.rhodes@nc.usda.gov](mailto:bill.rhodes@nc.usda.gov).

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## USDA Opens Enrollment Period for ARC/PLC Safety-Net Programs

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that eligible producers may now formally enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for 2014 and 2015. The enrollment period begins June 17, 2015, and will end Sept. 30, 2015. The new programs, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, trigger financial protections for agricultural producers when market forces cause substantial drops in crop prices or revenues. More than 1.76 million farmers have elected ARC or PLC. Previously, 1.7 million producers had enrolled to receive direct payments (the program replaced with ARC and PLC by the 2014 Farm Bill). This means more farms have elected ARC or PLC than previously enrolled under previously administered programs. Nationwide, 96 percent of soybean farms, 91 percent of corn farms, and 66 percent of wheat farms elected ARC. 99 percent of long grain rice farms, 99 percent of peanut farms, and 94 percent of medium grain rice farms elected PLC. For data about other crops and state-by-state program election results go to [www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc). Covered commodities under ARC and PLC include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium grain rice (which includes short grain and sweet rice), safflower

commodity. Producers are reminded that even though the enrollment period runs through September 30, the crop reporting date ends July 15 and all ARC/PLC farms must have a timely crop report.

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

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