

January 2016



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Chatham County, NC FSA Updates

Chatham County FSA Office **Acreage Reporting Date**

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

Phone: 919-542-2244 ext. 2
Fax: 844-325-6879

County Executive Director:
Claudia A Austin

Senior Farm Loan Officer:
Bill Rhodes

Program Technicians:
Vonetta S French
Lori E Andrews

County Committee:
Clarence Durham - Chair
Billy Fitts - Vice Chair
John Glosson - Member
Barbara Pugh - Advisor

Next County Committee Meeting: January 12 at 9:00 am

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Chatham County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline. **The next crop reporting date is January 15, 2016 for Apples, Barley, Blueberries, Grapes, Oats, Peaches, Wheat and all fall seeded small grains**

The following exceptions apply:

- If the crop has not been planted by the above 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 above 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.
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Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision.

Please contact Bill Rhodes at 704-788-2107 ext. 2 or william.rhodes@nc.usda.gov for help preparing and processing the application forms.

General Reminders

Save Time – Make an Appointment with FSA

To insure maximum use of your time and to insure that you are afforded our full attention to your important business needs, please call our office ahead of your visit to set an appointment and to discuss any records or documentation that you may need to have with you when you arrive for your appointment. Our phone number is 919-542-2244 ext. 2.

Update Your Records

If you have any unreported changes of address or zip code or an incorrect name or business name on file they need to be reported to our office. Changes in your farm operation, like the addition of a farm by lease or purchase or dropping a farm from your operation, need to be reported to our office as well. Producers participating in FSA and NRCS programs are required to timely report changes in their farming operation to the County Committee in writing and update their CCC-902 Farm Operating Plan. Also if you have a change in banking information, those records need to be kept current. If we have erroneous banking information, and you are due a payment, that will delay your receipt of the payment.

Farm Reconstitutions

When changes in farm ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. This is especially true in cases of buying or selling land. We are not connected to the tax office or the Register of Deeds, so the only way we have to keep up with ownership changes is for the buyer or seller to keep us informed.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. 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).