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- <u>Upcoming Crop Acreage Reporting Date</u>
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- FSA Issues Fiscal Year 2015 Impacts Report

Chatham County, NC FSA Updates

Chatham County FSA Office

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

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

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: June 14 at 9:00 am

Upcoming Crop Acreage Reporting Date

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.

July 15 is the final crop reporting deadline for the following crops:

Corn, Soybeans, Grain Sorghum, Tobacco, and any other spring planted crops.

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

- 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 calendars 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.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

Emergency Loans Available

Chatham County was declared a primary natural disaster areas due to damages and losses caused by excessive rain and flooding that occurred from July 13, 2015, and continuing. With this disaster designation, producers with operations in any primary or contiguous county are eligible to apply for low interest emergency loans. Emergency loans help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding and other natural disasters or quarantine.

Producers have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. Chatham County was designated a natural disaster area on Feb. 3, 2016, making all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans from FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. The final date to apply will be October 3, 2016. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. Producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production or physical losses, to a maximum amount of \$500,000.

For more information about emergency loans, please contact SFLO Bill Rhodes at 704-788-2107 ext 2 or <u>william.rhodes@nc.usda.gov</u> or visit <u>www.fsa.usda.gov</u>.

FSA Issues Fiscal Year 2015 Impacts Report

2015 marks the 20th anniversary of USDA's Farm Service Agency, but FSA's roots date back nearly 80 years, to the days of the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl, when the rural economy was in crisis and America's farmers and ranchers needed assistance. At that time, Congress empowered USDA to provide a strong safety-net for farm families, helping them navigate the unpredictability of natural disasters and volatile market conditions. Today, technological advancements in equipment, crop and veterinary sciences, soil and water conservation, and pest and nutrient management, all have resulted in agriculture becoming stronger than we've ever known - - certainly far stronger than the days of our grandparents and great-grandparents. But the unpredictability of weather and markets remain. That means the FSA mission is as important as it's ever been to ensure the domestic agriculture sector continues to deliver an abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber supply for the American people.

The <u>FSA Impacts Report</u> shows selected highlights for fiscal year 2015. This report highlights the achievements of FSA and will ensure that the path forward continues to demonstrate our commitment to rural America.

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).