



## Important Dates calendar for FSA Programs

### Final Availability Dates for 2010 Crop Loans and LDP's:

31-Mar Wheat, Barley, Oats, Honey, Sesame, Canola  
31-May Cotton, Corn, Grain Sorghum, Soybeans, Sunflower Seeds

### NAP Insurance Sales Closing Dates:

1-Dec Honey  
31-Jan All annually planted crops, both spring and fall  
15-Aug Perennial crops, forage crops for hay and grazing, carrots, and all value loss crops

### Additional Program Deadlines:

Now Inquire and Sign-up CRP Continuous Practices such as Riparian Buffers  
Now Emergency Conservation approved applicants -- report completed practices to FSA  
1-Apr - 31-Aug CRP Nesting Season  
27-May Deadline for submission of BCAP project proposals  
31-May Deadline to report tobacco  
1-Jun Deadline to enroll into Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP)  
1-Jun The consent forms, CCC-927, "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-Individual," and/or CCC-928, "Consent To Disclosure of Tax Information-Legal Entity," should be **mailed directly to IRS** at the address given on the form. This is required for each year that participants receive payments.  
15-Jul Deadline to report Spring and Summer-seeded planted acreage  
1-Aug Signup Ends for The 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program  
1-Nov Deadline to initiate "Successor In Interest" transfers for Tobacco Transition Buy-out contracts with approved buyers as well as initiating contract transfers between immediate family members

**NOTE:** If the crop being reported has NAP coverage, the final date to timely report the acreage is 15 days PRIOR to the onset of harvest or grazing. It is important for producers to remember that crops with NAP coverage will usually have a NAP crop reporting date EARLIER than the regularly established reporting dates for crops without NAP coverage.

### Present Emergency Loan Application Deadlines in Georgia:

26-Jul Designation S3062 in 159 counties due to drought and excessive heat  
8-Aug Designation S3065 in 6 counties due to drought and excessive heat  
17-Aug Designation S3075 in 17 counties due to drought and excessive heat  
14-Sep Designation S3090 in 11 counties due to drought, extreme heat, and weather-related insect infestations  
26-Sep Designation S3095 in 5 counties due to drought  
01-Dec Designation M1965 in 4 counties due to severe storms, tornadoes and flooding  
05-Dec Designation S3115 in 5 counties due to drought

**NOTE:** All producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office for information specific to the Emergency Loan Program and to determine whether their counties are declared under a certain designation.



# Director's Message



## Earth Day 2011

While we recognize the importance of April 22 as Earth Day, we need to remember to protect and conserve our natural resources the other 364 days a year. Working for the USDA Farm Service Agency has given me a new appreciation for the men and women who do just that. I like to think back on the many advances we have made since that first Earth Day in 1970. Each year we learn better ways to protect the land, water and air we depend on to live. Since that first Earth Day,

Americans from every walk of life have joined forces to encourage better stewardship of our natural resources. But even before that first Earth Day, American farmers and ranchers worked the soil and lived the message of natural resource management.

America's farmers and ranchers depend on the earth's productivity to support their families and to provide the food, fiber and bio-fuels for the entire world.

Farmers and ranchers are the first and best stewards of the land. Like all of us they have learned better ways to grow crops and improved methods for raising livestock. In order to ensure an abundant food supply, sustainable fuel and fiber they know we must first conserve and protect our environment. They appreciate the fragile nature of natural resources and know it is important to safeguard the environment for the generations to come. FSA salutes the American farmer and rancher as our nation's premier conservation stewards.

## Notice to Hispanic or Women Farmers and Ranchers: Compensation for Claims of Discrimination

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. You may be eligible if:

1. you sought a farm loan or farm-loan servicing from USDA during that period; and
2. the loan was denied, provided late, approved for a lesser amount than requested, approved with restrictive conditions, or USDA failed to provide an appropriate loan service; and
3. you believe these actions occurred because you are Hispanic or female.

If you want to register your name to receive a claims package, you can call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or access the following website: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov).

In 2011, a Claims Administrator will begin mailing claims packages to those who have requested one through the Call Center or website. The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process. In order to participate, you must submit a claim to the Claims Administrator by the end of the claims period.

If you are currently represented by counsel regarding allegations of discrimination against USDA or in a lawsuit claiming discrimination by USDA, you should contact your counsel regarding this claims process.

USDA cannot provide legal advice to you. You are not required to hire an attorney to file a claim, but you may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider in your community for additional guidance.

## Georgia State FSA Newsletter

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**For information, please first contact your  
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The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) is the main source for information contained in this educational newsletter. Eligibility and participation for all FSA programs is determined in accordance with FSA rules and regulations. Contact your local FSA Service Center to determine program eligibility.

The Georgia Farm Service Agency State Newsletter is published by the Georgia FSA State Office. Contact your local USDA Service Center - Farm Service Agency listed in the phone book, weekdays 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. to obtain a free subscription, make address corrections, or be removed from the mailing list.

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Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in any meeting/event/function should contact Kula C. Moore, 706-546-2269.

## A Farmer's Daughter

Lanier County's Mrs. Ivynease Roberts-Riley was the second child of ten born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Roberts in 1942. Born and raised on a small family farm, Ivynease graduated from Lanier County High School as the Salutatorian in May 1961.

This is Mrs. Ivynease's story:

"I began my connection with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) during the summer of 1966. My father, Joseph Roberts, was approached by Mr. Roy Lankford, who at that time was the County Executive Director (CED) of the ASCS Office, in the old Courthouse in Lanier County. Mr. Lankford asked my Daddy if I would be interested in going to the State Office in Athens, Georgia, to be trained as an Administrative Office Clerk. Daddy came home and asked me and I said, 'Yes.'

"At the time, I was working as a Nurse's Aide. On September 12, 1966, I began classes with other ladies that had also been chosen from Georgia's farming areas and counties. Classes were held Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm; I learned a lot about farmland! I learned how to planimeter the farmland on the maps. I was at the State Office from September 12 until December 23, 1966. I then boarded the same Greyhound bus and started back home to Lanier County.

"In January 1967, the first Monday of the New Year, I was employed at USDA's ASCS Office. I stayed there until the first day of February then I was sent off to a place called Thomson, Georgia, under CED Mr. Gordon Arrington. I had my own little office. After working for a little over a month, something happened that changed my life -- someone returned home that I had not seen in two years. I wanted to go home and be with him. We were engaged to be married in June 1967. He wasn't prepared at that time to come to Thomson so I told my boss that I was going to have to go home. Mr. Arrington told me that I could send my resume back to my home office and see if they would accept me. I never heard anything, so that answered my question. I resigned, returned back home, and was called back to my practical nurse job at Louis Smith Memorial Hospital in Lakeland. I stayed with the hospital and nursing home until my first baby was born.

"After our daughter was born, JC, my husband, wanted to know if I would stay home to help in a business that he had planned to start. I said, 'Yes.' Riley's Church Pew Company came into existence in 1974 and is still in operation today under our second child, a son.

"In 2000, I ran for the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) County Committee for Lanier County. I was elected as an alternate. Then in 2001, upon a recommendation by Mrs. Collis Mae McQueen, former Advisor and now deceased, I was asked to become a Minority Advisor on the FSA Committee. I accepted it after thinking over it for a while. I thought this can't be real... I wanted to work there in 1967!

"I never in my years thought that I would be considered to be connected with this Agency again... the way it seems, I've made a complete circle: beginning in 1966, coming back in 2000, and leaving in 2011 at age 68."



*The 2004 Lanier FSA County Committee (Left to right) Ivynease Riley, Paul Folsom, David Royal, Harry Leo James, and Naomi Ganas.*

Mrs. Ivynease Roberts-Riley has served as an advisor to the Lanier County (now Lowndes-Echols-Lanier-Clinch County Service Center) Committee for nine years, from March 1, 2002, through February 28, 2011. Mrs. Riley has been a valuable asset to the County Committee, and we appreciate her dedication and service to the Farm Service Agency. A small reception was held in Mrs. Ivynease's honor on February 9, 2011, in the Lowndes County Service Center. She was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by Chad Scruggs, District Director (DD); Terrie Wolford, CED; and Jerome Tucker, State Committee (STC) Member.



*Pictured above with FSA 2011 Lowndes County Committee, left to right -- Jerome Tucker, State Committee Member; Terrie Wolford, County Executive Director; Ronald Cook, County Committee; Arletha Sermons, County Committee, Chad Scruggs, District Director; Ivynease Riley; Bobby Exum, County Committee; Nannie Beth Sims-Lawson, County Committee; Felton Coggins, County Committee; and Derek James, County Committee.*

### Table of Contents

State Executive Director	page 2
FSA Information	page 3
Farm Programs	page 4
Farm Programs	page 5
Farm Loan Programs	page 6
County Committee Elections	page 7



# Farm Programs

*Price Support/Conservation/Compliance/GIS ~ Clark Weaver, Chief*

## **Certain Counties Eligible for Grazing Assistance in Livestock Forage Program (LFP)**

In spite of the increased rainfall in most areas of Georgia, fifteen counties in extreme southeast Georgia have been determined eligible for Livestock Forage Program (LFP) grazing benefits on **Improved and Native (unimproved) Grass lands** that have been reported to Farm Service Agency (FSA) with the intended use of grazing. At the present time, the ONLY 15 counties eligible for LFP on IMPROVED or NATIVE (unimproved) Grazing lands reported to FSA (with the intended use of grazing) are: Atkinson, Bacon, Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Echols, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Pierce, Ware, and Wayne.

A county's eligibility is based **solely** on the drought level as shown on the U.S. Drought Monitor for Georgia. A county must be rated at least at the D-2 level for eight consecutive weeks or the D-3 level or greater for at least one week during the applicable grazing period to be eligible to implement LFP. There are no other means by which a county can qualify for LFP but by the Drought Monitor rating as shown for Georgia.

When a county is determined to be eligible for LFP, there are several other conditions that individual producers must meet in order to be determined eligible for assistance in LFP.

The most important eligibility requirement is that producers must have obtained Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the particular small grain reported for grazing or meet one of the three exemptions to the Risk Management Purchase Requirements (RMPR). However, if the producer qualifies as either a Limited Resource or Socially Disadvantaged producer, or Beginning Farmer, they are not required to meet the RMPR.

As stated in the previous newsletter, the following counties are also eligible for LFP benefits on small grain for grazing: Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Calhoun, Camden, Charlton, Chatham, Chattahoochee, Clay, Clinch, Coffee, Early, Echols, Effingham, Evans, Glynn, Harris, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Lanier, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Montgomery, Muscogee, Pierce, Quitman, Randolph, Stewart, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Troup, Ware, Wayne, and Wheeler. In order for a producer to be eligible for LFP benefits on small grain, the producer must have reported small grain with an intended use of grazing and not been over or inter-seeded into another permanent grass or forage type crop in order to be eligible for LFP.

Interested producers should check with their local FSA offices for information on updated county eligibility, as well as other individual producer requirements.

## **How Important Is It to File Accurate and Timely Acreage Reports?**

First of all, it is extremely important that producers that participate in FSA programs be aware their program benefits are directly tied to the filing of accurate and timely reports of acres for their crops.

In many cases, some programs require that **all** crop acreages on a farm must be to be reported in order to be eligible for program benefits. Examples of some of the programs requiring a total report of crop acreage are Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP), Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE), Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP), Marketing Assistance Loans (MALs), and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs). For other programs, only certain crop acreages need to be reported; examples of some of these programs are Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), and Livestock Forage Program (LFP).

**NOTE - The above referenced programs are only some examples, and are not to be taken as an all inclusive list of the programs requiring accurate and timely acreage reports.**

In stressing timeliness when making an acreage report, it is important for producers to know that if a crop is not reported by the established state reporting date, or the required NAP reporting date (if applicable), a late-filing fee will be assessed before the crop can be considered timely reported. In addition, there **must** be physical evidence of the crop still remaining in the field at the time the late-filed request is submitted.

The statewide acreage reporting deadlines are as follows:

May 31 – Tobacco

July 15 – All other spring and summer-seeded crops and land uses including CRP.

**NOTE: Most crops insured under NAP have acreage reporting dates earlier than the State established date. Producers with crops insured under NAP should contact their local FSA office to see what the "Final NAP" reporting dates are for specific crops.**

Again, please remember accurate and timely acreage reporting helps insure you retain your program eligibility.

# Farm Programs

*Production Adjustment/Emergency Conservation/Common Provisions ~ Brett Martin, Chief*

## Farm Loan Information Chart *(Continued from page 6)*

Program	Maximum Loan Amount	Rates and Terms	Use of Proceeds
Direct Operating (OL)	\$300,000	- From 1 to 7 years - Rates based on Agency borrowing cost - Temporary limited resource interest rate is available for those unable to repay at regular rate	- Purchase livestock, poultry, equipment, feed, seed, farm chemicals and supplies - Soil and water conservation - Refinancing indebtedness with certain limitations
Direct Emergency	100% actual or physical losses  \$500,000 maximum program indebtedness	- From 1 to 7 years for non-real estate purposes - Up to 40 years for physical losses on real estate - Interest rate: 3.75%	- Restore or replace essential property - Pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year - Pay essential family living expenses - Reorganize the farming operation - Refinancing indebtedness with certain limitations
Guaranteed Operating	\$1,119,000 (Amount adjusted annually for inflation)	- From 1 to 7 years - Rates not to exceed the rate charged to lenders' average agricultural loan customers - Interest rate reduction of 4% available for those unable to repay at regular rates (with certain limitations)	Same as Direct OL except loan may be used to refinance debts
Guaranteed Farm Ownership	\$1,119,000 (Amount adjusted annually for inflation)	- Up to 40 years - Rates not to exceed the rate charged to lenders' average agricultural loan customers	Same as Direct FO except loan may be used to refinance debts
Direct Conservation Loan	\$300,000	- Rate: same as FO rate - Term: Chattel-7 years and Real Estate-20 years, unless applicant requests a lesser term	- Implement any conservation practice in an NRCS approved conservation plan
Guaranteed Conservation Loan	\$1,119,000	- Rates: determined by lender - Term: not to exceed 20 years, or shorter term, based on life of security	- Same as Direct conservation loan, except loan may be used to refinance debts as related to implementing an NRCS approved conservation plan

## FSA County Committee Election *(Continued from page 7)*

### Don't Miss Out on Voting

Ballots will be mailed to voters by Nov. 4, 2011, and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by Dec. 5, 2011. Eligible voters must contact their local FSA county office before the final date if they did not receive a ballot.

### Uniform Guidelines

USDA issued uniform guidelines for county committee elections to help ensure that FSA county committees fairly represent the agricultural producers of a county or multi-county jurisdiction, especially minority and women producers. Minority persons are African-Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Hispanics, Asians, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders. The guidelines govern the FSA county committee election process and are designed to increase participation by minorities and women.

The following are just some of the specifics of the guidelines that are now in effect:

- If no valid nominations are filed, the secretary of agriculture may nominate up to two individuals to be placed on the ballot.
- County committees must annually review local administrative area boundaries to ensure the fair representation of minority and women producers in their county or multi-county jurisdictions.
- FSA county offices shall actively locate and recruit eligible candidates identified as minority and women farmers and ranchers as potential nominees for the county committee elections through outreach and publicity, including the development of partnerships with community based organizations.

For additional information and to read the guidelines in their entirety, visit the County Committee Elections page at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>. In addition to minority and women producers, USDA strongly encourages beginning farmers to actively seek a position on a county committee.

# Farm Loan Programs

## David Laster, Chief

### Loans for Socially Disadvantaged Persons

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and guarantees loans to eligible socially disadvantaged applicants (SDA) to buy and operate family-size farms and ranches. Each fiscal year, the Agency targets a portion of its direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operating loan (OL) funds to SDA farmers. Non-reserved funds can also be used by SDA persons.

An SDA group is a group whose members have been subject to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. These groups consist of American Indians or Alaskan Natives, Asians, Blacks or African-Americans, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, and women.

The Agency:

- Helps remove barriers that prevent full participation of SDA farmers in FSA's farm loan programs; and
- Provides information and assistance to SDA farmers to help them develop sound farm management practices, analyze problems, and plan the best use of available resources essential for success.

Direct farm ownership loans (FO) and farm operating loans (OL) are made by FSA to eligible farmers. Guaranteed FO and OL loans are made by lending institutions subject to Federal or State supervision (banks, savings and loans, and units of the Farm Credit System) and guaranteed by FSA. Typically, FSA guarantees 90 percent of any loss the lender might incur if the loan fails. FO funds may be used to purchase or enlarge a farm or ranch, purchase easements or rights of way needed in the farm's operation, erect or improve buildings, implement soil and water conservation measures, and pay closing costs. Guaranteed FO funds may also be used to refinance debt.

OL funds may be used to purchase livestock, poultry, farm equipment, feed, seed, fuel, fertilizer, chemicals, insurance, and other operating expenses. The funds also may be used for borrower training costs, closing costs, and to reorganize and refinance debt.

Repayment terms for direct operating loans depend on the collateral securing the loan and usually run from 1 to 7 years. Repayment terms for direct farm ownership loans vary but never exceed 40 years.

Interest rates are set periodically according to the Government's cost of borrowing. Guaranteed loan terms are set by the lender. Interest rates for guaranteed loans are established by the lender.

For additional information interested persons should contact their local FSA office.

### Farm Loan Information Chart

The following chart summarizes FSA farm loan information. Additional details are available at local FSA offices or on FSA's Website: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

Program	Maximum Loan Amount	Rates and Terms	Use of Proceeds
Direct Farm Ownership (FO)	\$300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Up to 40 years</li><li>- Rates based on Agency borrowing costs</li><li>- Temporary limited resource interest rates are available for those unable to repay at regular rates</li><li>- Interest rate 5% if 50 % of loan amount provided by other lender</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Purchase farm</li><li>- Construct buildings or other improvements</li><li>- Soil and water conservation</li><li>- Pay Closing Costs</li></ul>
Downpayment Program	<p>The least of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 45% of the purchase price,</li><li>- 45% of the appraised value,</li><li>- \$225,000</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Term: 20 years</li><li>- Interest rate: Direct FO rate less 4% with a floor of 1.5%</li><li>- Down payment: 5%</li></ul>	Purchase farm

(Continued on page 5)

# County Committee Elections

## FSA County Committee Election

### Overview

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

County committees provide local input on:

- Commodity price support loans and payments
- Conservation programs
- Incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities
- Emergency programs
- Payment eligibility

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

### Election Period

**June 15, 2011** – The nomination period begins. Request nomination forms from the local USDA Service Center or obtain online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>

**Aug. 1, 2011** – Last day to file nomination forms at the local USDA Service Center

**Nov. 4, 2011** – Ballots mailed to eligible voters

**Dec. 5, 2011** – Last day to return voted ballots to the USDA Service Center

**Jan. 1, 2012** – Newly elected county committee members take office

### Nominations

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. The form is included with this newsletter, but is also available at USDA Service Centers and online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

Nomination forms for the 2011 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2011.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer's farm records.

### Who Can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote. More information about voting eligibility requirements can be found in the FSA fact sheet titled "FSA County Committee Election - Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a County Committee Member." Producers may contact their local USDA Service Center for more information.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## LAA's Holding a 2011 Election

County	LAA	County	LAA	County	LAA
Appling	2	Grady	2	Randolph	5
Atkinson	2	Hall	1	Screven	1
Atkinson	4	Hall	4	Seminole	1
Bacon	2	Hart	2	Sumter	2
Baker	2	Henry	2	Tattnall	5
Ben Hill/Irwin	1	Jackson	1	Telfair	2
Berrien	1	Jackson	4	Telfair	5
Bleckley	4	Jeff Davis	1	Terrell	3
Brooks	2	Jefferson	4	Thomas	1
Bulloch	1	Jenkins	3	Tift	3
Burke	1	Lamar	1	Toombs	2
Calhoun	1	Laurens	5	Turner	1
Candler	1	Lee	3	Union	4
Carroll	1	Lowndes	5	Walker	4
Carroll	4	McDuffie	5	Walker	5
Coffee	3	Macon	3	Walton	2
Colquitt	2	Marion	2	Washington	1
Cook	2	Marion	4	Washington	5
Crisp	2	Miller	3	Wayne	4
Decatur	3	Mitchell	1	Wayne	5
Dodge	2	Montgomery	1	Webster	2
Dooly	2	Morgan	4	Wilcox	3
Early	1	Morgan	5	Wilkes	1
Effingham	2	Oconee	5	Wilkes	4
Elbert	3	Peach	5	Worth	1
Emanuel	1	Pierce	2		
Floyd	1	Pierce	3		
Gordon	2	Putnam	2		

Producers are reminded when they have an address change due to 911 upgrades or relocation, to please contact your local FSA office to update your address.

## ***Utilize New Online Payment Process for Subscribing to the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Market Bulletin***

Payments for new subscriptions for Georgia Department of Agriculture's "Farmers and Consumers Market Bulletin" now can be made online at [www.thegamarketbulletin.com](http://www.thegamarketbulletin.com). Market Bulletin subscriptions are \$10/year (26 issues) for Georgia delivery and \$20/year for Out-of-State delivery.

Please note there is a \$1 convenience fee added for online subscriptions.

Following are some instructions to assist you in completing your online subscription payment:

- Once the online subscription webpage is displayed, first indicate if your address is In State or Out of State. Once the selection is made, you will then need to provide address information in three sections. (Subscribers are encouraged to provide an email address for future correspondence). Please make certain the sections for Applicant Address, Location of Business and Mailing Address are completed. (Applicant Address is your contact address. Location of Business address is if you also have a business; otherwise enter the same information as for Applicant Address. Mailing Address is where you wish your Market Bulletin to be mailed). ***Please note that there is a convenient drop down box to copy addresses from the prior sections.*** Click "Submit" to continue.
- When the next webpage displays, the Total Fees will be listed and you will be asked to provide a Credit Card Number (Visa or MasterCard ONLY), the credit card expiration date, the billing address and city of the credit card holder, and the billing zip code for the credit card holder. Please note there is a \$1 convenience fee added for online subscriptions. Click "Submit" to continue.
- If the bank is able to process your credit card with no problem, you will receive the message "Thank you for your order." If an email address was provided, a receipt will be sent via email to you.

If you experience difficulty using the online application and need assistance, please send an email message to [mb-issues@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:mb-issues@agr.georgia.gov).



**FSA-669A**

(03-31-11)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Farm Service Agency

**NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION**

This form allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate. If additional forms are needed, this one may be copied or may be obtained at the County FSA Office or obtained electronically at <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov>. Each form submitted must be:

- A. Limited to one nominee.
  - B. Signed and dated by the nominee in Item 3. Nominee must sign if willing to have his/her name placed on the ballot and agrees to serve if elected.
- Note:** Name shown on ballot will appear exactly the same as in Agency records.
- C. Delivered to the County FSA Office or postmarked no later than August 1, 2011.
  - D. Signed and dated as a write-in candidate if elected as a member and willing to serve on the COC.

The County FSA Committee is responsible for reviewing each form to determine the eligibility of nominees. A person who is nominated on this form and is found ineligible will be so notified and have an opportunity to file a challenge.

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County FSA committee member if the producer resides in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) in which the election is to be held and is eligible to vote.

This is a non-salary public service position. A small stipend is provided to offset expenses.

Federal regulations may prohibit County FSA Committee members from holding certain positions in some farm, commodity, and political organizations if such positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties. The positions include functional offices such as president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer; and positions on boards or executive committees. Conflict of interest restrictions also apply to employees, operators, managers, and majority owners of tobacco warehouses. Questions concerning eligibility should be directed to the County FSA Office.

A candidate has the option to request that all voted ballots for an individual county committee election be returned to the respective State Office in lieu of being returned to the county office. This request must be in writing and submitted to the local County Executive Director prior to the announced end of the nomination period.

The duties of County FSA Committee members include:

- A. Administering farm program activities conducted by the County FSA Office.
- B. Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of the FSA programs.
- C. Keeping the State FSA Committee informed of LAA conditions.
- D. Monitoring changes in farm programs.
- E. Participating in county meetings as necessary.
- F. Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee

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FSA-669A  
(03-31-11)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Farm Service Agency

## NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)		<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE</b>	
		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		5. COUNTY	
		6. LAA	7. STATE
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.		8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).	

## 9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

**VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:** The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

<b>ETHNICITY</b>	<b>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</b>	<b>GENDER</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

**ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:

- A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
- B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
- C. Willing to serve if elected.

**ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.**ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.**ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.**ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)**ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2011.**

**NOTE:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**