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February 2017



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## Chatham County, NC FSA Updates

### Chatham County FSA Office **Producers Urged to Consider Risk Protection Coverage before Crop Sales Deadlines**

1192 US 64W  
Business  
Suite 212  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
Phone: 919-542-2244 ext. 2  
Fax: 844-325-6879  
**County Executive Director:**  
Claudia A Austin

**Farm Loan Manager:**  
Mike Brown

**Program Technicians:**  
Vonetta S French  
Lori E Andrews

**County Committee:**  
Clarence Durham,  
Chair  
Billy Fitts, Vice-Chair  
Johnny Glosson,  
Member  
Barbara Pugh,  
Advisor

**Next County Committee Meeting:** March 14  
9:00 am

The Farm Service Agency encourages producers to examine available USDA crop risk protection options, including federal crop insurance and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage, before the spring crop sales deadline of February 28.

Federal crop insurance covers crop losses from natural adversities such as drought, hail and excessive moisture. NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available, such as perennial grass forage and grazing crops, fruits, and vegetables.

USDA has partnered with Michigan State University and the University of Illinois to create an online tool at [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap) that allows producers to determine whether their crops are eligible for federal crop insurance or NAP and to explore the best level of protection for their operation. NAP basic coverage is available at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production, with higher levels of coverage, up to 65 percent of their expected production at 100 percent of the average market price available, including coverage for organics and crops marketed directly to consumers. Crops intended for grazing are not eligible for additional NAP coverage.

Federal crop insurance coverage is sold and delivered solely through private insurance agents. Agent lists are available at all USDA Service Centers or at USDA's online Agent Locator: <http://prodwebnlb.rma.usda.gov/apps/AgentLocator/#>. Producers can use the USDA Cost Estimator, <https://ewebapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/costestimator/Default.aspx>, to predict insurance premium costs.

For more information on NAP, service fees, premiums and sales deadlines, contact the Chatham County FSA office at 919-542-2244 ext. 2 or visit the web at [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap).

**Office****Closing:** February

20

President's Day

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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.

For more information please call Farm Loan Manager, Mike Brown, at 910-592-4791, [michael.s.brown@nc.usda.gov](mailto:michael.s.brown@nc.usda.gov).

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## Reminder

The Chatham County FSA Office is settling into our new space. Our mailing and physical address is now:

1192 US 64W Business  
Suite 212  
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Our phone number will remain the same, 919-542-2244 ext. 2.

**Unfortunately our phones are still not working in the new building yet and we cannot print out any forms or information.** The best way to contact the county office is to visit the office or email any of us at:

[claudia.a.austin@nc.usda.gov](mailto:claudia.a.austin@nc.usda.gov)

[vonetta.french@nc.usda.gov](mailto:vonetta.french@nc.usda.gov)

[lori.andrews@nc.usda.gov](mailto:lori.andrews@nc.usda.gov)

We appreciate your patience through this transition.

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Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in a meeting should contact Claudia A Austin, 919-54-2244 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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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).