

November 2018



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

NEWSLETTER

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New Jersey State FSA Newsletter

New Jersey Farm Service Agency

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Please contact your [local FSA Office](#) for questions specific to your operation or county

New Jersey Delegation Attends USDA Leadership Summit



From left to right: NJ-NRCS State Conservationist Carrie Lindig, RMA's Alexander Reseno, NJ-NRCS ASTC for Management and Strategy Maria Collazo, NJ-FSA State Executive Director Barry Calogero and NJ-FSA Executive Officer Henri Ann Olsen.

New Jersey FSA State Executive Director, Barry Calogero and Executive Officer, Henri Ann Olsen attended the 2018 Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) Leadership Summit last week in Norman Oklahoma to discuss the realignment under the FPAC mission area and One USDA.

Important Dates:

- **Nov. 15, 2018**
Reporting deadline for fall-planted small grains & forage for 2019 crop year.
- **Nov. 20, 2018**
NAP coverage deadline for all fruit trees, caneberries, grapes, blueberries
- **Nov. 22, 2018** FSA Office Closed for Thanks Giving

The summit gave leadership from around the country the chance to meet face-to-face, make connections, leverage collective expertise and knowledge to promote the move forward as one team.

Joining the FSA team, FPAC partners from New Jersey NRCS State Conservationist, Carrie Lindig and Assistant State Conservationist for Management and Strategy Maria Collazo.



The Undersecretary of Agriculture Bill Northey (center) posed for this selfie with Maria Collazo and Barry Calogero this week in Norman, OK..

2019 Acreage Reporting Dates

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit their local FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for New Jersey:

- Nov. 15, 2018 - fall-planted small grains, fall-planted forage for 2019 crop year.
- Jan 2, 2019 - honey (honeybee colonies)
- Jan 15, 2019 - apples, blueberries, cranberries, peaches, grapes, & strawberries
- May 31, 2019 - nursery for 2020 crop year
- Jun 15, 2019 - spring forage seeding
- July 15, 2019 - soybeans, corn and other spring-planted feed grains, perennial forage, CRP, & most other crops
- Aug 15, 2019 - processing beans

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 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

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 Assistance for Livestock, Honeybee, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)

Please Note: Deadline change from Nov. 1 to Dec. 3

The Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) provides emergency assistance to eligible livestock, honeybee, and farm-raised fish producers who have losses due to disease, adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, not covered by other agricultural disaster assistance programs.

Eligible livestock losses include grazing losses not covered under the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), loss of purchased feed and/or mechanically harvested feed due to an eligible adverse weather event, additional cost of transporting water because of an eligible drought and additional cost associated with gathering livestock to treat for cattle tick fever.

Eligible honeybee losses include loss of purchased feed due to an eligible adverse weather event, cost of additional feed purchased above normal quantities due to an eligible adverse weather condition, colony losses in excess of normal mortality due to an eligible weather event or loss condition, including CCD, and hive losses due to eligible adverse weather.

Eligible farm-raised fish losses include death losses in excess of normal mortality and/or loss of purchased feed due to an eligible adverse weather event.

Producers who suffer eligible livestock, honeybee, or farm-raised fish losses from Oct. 1, 2017 to Sept. 30, 2018 must file:

- A notice of loss the earlier of 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent or by **Dec. 3, 2018**
- An application for payment by **Dec. 3, 2018**

The following ELAP Fact Sheets (by topic) are available online:

- [ELAP for Farm-Raised Fish Fact Sheet](#)
- [ELAP for Livestock Fact Sheet](#)
- [ELAP for Honeybees Fact Sheet](#)

To view these and other FSA program fact sheets, visit the FSA fact sheet web page at www.fsa.usda.gov/factsheets.

One-Day Business Training Course Offered for New Jersey Urban Farmers December 14

Important farm management lessons to help farmers in urbanized areas succeed and be profitable

The Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics (DARFE) will present a full one-day workshop, “**Farming in New Jersey’s Cities and the Urban Fringe**,” in New Brunswick, NJ, on December 14.

The highly regarded and recognized John Ikerd, Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Economics, University of Missouri, a small farms advocate, will deliver a keynote presentation on the role of urban agriculture in a changing food production system.

The workshop is designed to educate urban farmers on risk management strategies and provide tools for successful business management. Participants will gain essentials from presentations by ag industry leaders to become better risk-takers and risk managers by focusing on issues that are relevant to urban farmers, such as soil quality, time management, food safety and leasing land. Farmers will learn how to more effectively sustain their farm business by developing production and marketing plans and using social media to sell their goods and services.

This one-day workshop is perfect for busy farmers who can’t devote a lot of time to leave the farm but want to brush up on their business management skills,” says RCE farm management specialist Robin Brumfield.

Presentations will include “Why Having a Business Plan is Important for Success” “Finding and Expanding Your Markets,” “Water Conservation and Urban Agriculture,” and more. A panel discussion with Q&As featuring NJ farmers and networking opportunities are also a part of the event.

This workshop was made possible through the generous support of Farm Credit East.
To register, Early registration until November 14 -\$45 Registration Nov. 14 – Dec. 5 - \$50
CHECKS ONLY made payable to: Rutgers University

Include: Name, Address, Phone, & Email

Send to:

Danelle Miley,
Cook Office Building
Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics
Rutgers University
55 Dudley Rd. Rm 122
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8520

For additional questions or for reasonable accommodation please contact Robin Brumfield:
brumfiel@NJAES.Rutgers.edu

USDA Market Facilitation Program (MFP)

USDA launched the trade mitigation package aimed at assisting farmers suffering from damage due to unjustified trade retaliation by foreign nations. Producers of certain commodities can now sign up for the Market Facilitation Program (MFP).

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will administer MFP to provide payments to corn (fresh and processed), cotton, dairy, hog, sorghum, soybean (fresh and processed), wheat, shelled almond, and fresh sweet cherry producers. An announcement about further payments will be made in the coming months, if warranted.

The sign-up period for MFP runs through Jan. 15, 2019, with information and instructions provided at www.farmers.gov/mfp. MFP provides payments to producers of eligible commodities who have been significantly impacted by actions of foreign governments resulting in the loss of traditional exports. Eligible producers should apply after harvest is complete, as payments will only be issued once production is reported.

A payment will be issued on 50 percent of the producer's total production, multiplied by the MFP rate for a specific commodity. A second payment period, if warranted, will be determined by the USDA.

For a list of initial MFP payments rates, view the [MFP Fact Sheet](#).

MFP payments are capped per person or legal entity as follows:

- A combined \$125,000 for eligible crop commodities
- A combined \$125,000 for dairy production and hogs
- A combined \$125,000 for fresh sweet cherries and almonds

Applicants must also have an average adjusted gross income for tax years 2014, 2015, and 2016 of less than \$900,000. Applicants must also comply with the provisions of the Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation regulations.

Expanded Hog Timeline

USDA has expanded the timeline for producers with whom the Aug. 1, 2018, date does not accurately represent the number of head of live hogs they own. Producers may now choose any date between July 15 to Aug. 15, 2018, that correctly reflects their actual operation.

MFP applications are available online at www.farmers.gov/mfp. Applications can be completed at a local FSA office or submitted electronically either by scanning, emailing, or faxing. To locate or contact your local FSA office, visit www.farmers.gov.

FSA Makes Emergency Loans Available to NJ Farmers

New Jersey State Executive Director of the Farm Service Agency, Barry Calogero, would like to notify everyone of the recent Secretarial Disaster Designations that were approved for the State of New Jersey, and other contiguous states, by The United States Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue. The Designations are as follows:

- Designation #S4424 is due to excessive rainfall and cool spring temperatures impacting the states of New Jersey and Delaware.
 - Incident Period of May 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018.
 - Primary Counties in New Jersey: Atlantic and Cumberland.
 - Contiguous Counties in New Jersey: Salem, Gloucester, Camden, Burlington, Ocean and Cape May.
 - Contiguous States and Counties: State of Delaware – Kent County.

- Designation #S4425 is due to heat and drought impacting New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania.
 - Incident Period of June 24, 2018 through July 21, 2018.
 - Primary Counties in New Jersey: Salem and Gloucester.
 - Contiguous Counties in New Jersey: Atlantic, Cumberland and Camden.
 - Contiguous States and Counties: State of Delaware – Kent and New Castle Counties; State of Pennsylvania – Delaware and Philadelphia Counties.

Both Designations allow for the availability of FSA Emergency Loan Assistance to all eligible New Jersey farmers in the above mentioned counties, to recover from disaster related production losses due to these 2018 crop year incidents. Emergency Loan Assistance for production losses require a 30-percent loss in a single farming enterprise, and applicants may receive a loan for up to 100 percent of production losses. Loan purposes include receiving financing for operating related expenses, covering production costs for the disaster year, and refinancing certain farm related debts incurred from the disaster. The maximum indebtedness under the Emergency Loan program is \$500,000. Applications for Emergency Loan Assistance will be accepted at any of our three FSA loan offices in Vineland, Columbus and Hackettstown, until close of business July 1, 2019.

If you have any further questions, please contact the New Jersey State Office or any of our offices for additional information.

Emergency Loan Fact Sheet available [here](#).

Additional Disaster Declarations can be found on our New Jersey Website at www.fsa.usda.gov/nj

USDA Farm Service Agency Offers Text Alerts to Producers

Subscribers Can Receive Important Program Reminders and Updates

Farmers and ranchers can now receive notifications from their county office through text messages on their cell phone.

Whether producers are in the field, on a tractor or even on horseback, this service enables FSA customers and stakeholders to receive notifications while on the go. Producers will receive text messages regarding important program deadlines, reporting requirements, outreach events and updates.

Producers can text **NJYOURCOUNTYNAME** (i.e. njmercer) to **FSANOW (372-669)** to subscribe to text message alerts from their County. Standard text messaging rates apply. Contact your wireless

carrier for details associated with your particular data plan. Participants may unsubscribe at any time.

Please contact your local FSA office if you have questions regarding FSA's email news service or the new text message option.

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).