

December 2017



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

# BULLETIN

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## Sussex County FSA Updates

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### Sussex County FSA Office

21315 Berlin Road, Unit 1  
Georgetown, DE 19947

Phone: 302-856-3990  
Fax: 855-401-1964

**Program Technician:**  
**Jamie Argo**

William Bradford

Zane Collison

Lisa Ell

Harry Hudson

**County Committee:**

Clay Vincent

Matthew Smith

Mark Adkins

### CROP REPORTING DEADLINE APPROACHING - DECEMBER 15TH

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

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for all Delaware County Office's:

<b>December 15, 2017</b>	<b>Small Grains</b>
May 15, 2018	Peas & Potatoes
July 15, 2018	Corn, Soybeans, spring planted
Vegetable's and Cover 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

Janice Arney

**County Executive Director:**  
Caitlin Sheffer

**Farm Loan Specialist:**  
Colleen Reed

**Farm Loan Officer Trainee:**  
Carrie Hudson

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. 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. For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports, please contact our office.

### Important Dates

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices will be **closed on Monday, December 25, 2017** in observance of Christmas and **Monday, January 1, 2018** in observance of the New Year.

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## Marketing Assistance Available for 2017

The 2014 Farm Bill authorized 2014-2018 crop year Marketing Assistance Loans (MALs) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs).

MALs and LDPs provide financing and marketing assistance for corn as well as other commodities such as soybeans, wheat and barley. MALs provide producers interim financing after harvest to help them meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are typically at harvest-time lows.

To be eligible for an MAL or an LDP, producers must have a beneficial interest in the commodity, in addition to other requirements. A producer retains beneficial interest when control of and title to the commodity is maintained. For more information, producers should contact our office.

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## CRP Participants Must Maintain Approved Cover on Acreages Enrolled in CRP and Farm Programs

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants are responsible for ensuring adequate, approved vegetative and practice cover is maintained to control erosion throughout the life of the contract after the practice has been established. Participants must also control undesirable vegetation, weeds (including noxious weeds), insects and rodents that may pose a threat to existing cover or adversely impact other landowners in the area.

All CRP maintenance activities, such as mowing, burning, disking and spraying, must be conducted outside the primary nesting or brood rearing season for wildlife, which for Delaware is **April 15th through August 15th**. However, spot treatment of the acreage may be allowed during the primary nesting or brood rearing season if, left untreated, the weeds, insects or undesirable species would adversely impact the approved cover. In this instance, spot treatment is limited to the affected areas in the field and requires County Committee approval prior to beginning the spot treatment. The County Committee will consult with NRCS to determine if such activities are needed to maintain the approved cover.

Annual mowing of CRP for generic weed control, or for cosmetic purposes, is prohibited at all times.

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Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Caitlin Sheffer at 302-856-3990 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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