



FSA County Committee Election

Nominate and vote for farmers of your choice

You and Your Committee

The election of responsible agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will offer. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

Committees make decisions on:

- commodity price support loans and payments;
- establishment of allotments and yields;
- conservation programs;
- incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for some commodities; and
- other farm disaster assistance.

FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws. Committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

Important Dates

July 15, 2004

Request nomination forms from the local FSA office and begin nominations.

September 3, 2004

Last day to file nomination forms.

November 8, 2004

Ballots mailed to eligible voters.

December 6, 2004

Last day to return voted ballots.

January 1, 2005

Elected committee members and alternates take office.

Who Can Vote

Farm owners, operators, tenants, and sharecroppers of legal voting age can vote if they are eligible to participate in any FSA program. Check with your local FSA office for voting requirements and eligibility.

Nominations

A nomination form signed by the nominee is needed to nominate a candidate. The form includes a statement that the candidate agrees to serve if elected.

The nomination form (FSA -669A) is available at local FSA offices and online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainservlet>

Nomination forms for the 2004 election must be postmarked or received by close of business in the local FSA office by September 3, 2004.

Those eligible to participate in a local FSA program may be nominated for the committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. In addition, organizations representing socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates.

Don't Miss Out on Voting

Ballots will be mailed to voters by November 8 and must be returned to the FSA county office or post-marked by December 6.

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