

December 2011/January 2012 Farm and Home Tips

Greene County Partnership

Agribusiness Committee

Next meeting: **January 18, 2012**, 9 a.m.

at the NRCS office on College Street

www.greenecountypartnership.com/agribusiness.aspx



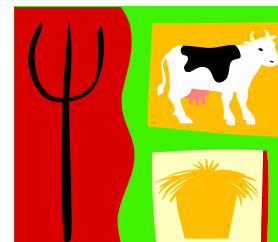
Tobacco/Annual Crops

- Provide security for tobacco that is prepared for market.
- Plan for float beds now and order plants.
- Plan for marketing strategies before planting crops.
- Must have conservation plans current if participating in any government programs.
- Report tobacco production to crop insurance agent as soon as tobacco is sold to insure quick process of claim.
- Purchase of tobacco contracts has begun for the remaining three payments.
- Apply lime and fertilizer based on soil test results to minimize input costs.
- Before beginning 2012 tobacco crops, secure contracts.
- Deadline to apply for crop insurance for 2012 spring planted crops and tobacco is March 15.
Contact your crop agent for more information.
- Must have all crops insured to participate in any FSA disaster programs.



Livestock

- Group and feed cattle by stage of production.
- Apply lice control, and finish fall herd health.
- Provide adequate feed and water for animals.
- Breed cows in December/January for fall cows.
- Make culling decisions wisely on productions.
- Check marketing options to maximize profit before selling cows.



Pasture/Forage Crops

- Check on availability for FSA insurance on forage crops.
- Purchase and compare prices of hay and buy by the ton.
- Check for foreign substances such as mold on hay before feeding.
- **Plan weed (buttercup, henbit, chickweed, thistle and deadnettle) control in mid-November to December and mid-to-late March.**

Government

- EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program), CRP (Conservation Reserve Program), WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program) & WRP (Wetlands Reserve Program) cost share assistance is available. Call the FSA & NRCS offices for more information.
- Check with FSA for insuring crops not insurable by FCIC.
- Sign-up for the 2010 Sure Program continues at the FSA office through June 1, 2012.
- Greene County FSA office needs producers' email addresses.
- FSA will make 2012 TTPP Program payments to all eligible burley tobacco producers and quota holders who still have valid contracts in January.
- Prepare annual financial and tax records.
- Prepare for 2012 production financing if needed.
- Contact the offices of FSA and NRCS for information on staying in compliance to receive any benefits before plowing.

DATES:

January 18 – Greene County Partnership Agribusiness meeting, 9 a.m. at the NRCS office.

January 20-22 – Kingsport Farm Expo 2012, Meadowview Convention Center.

January 26–28 – Tennessee Agritourism Cultivating Farm Revenue Conference at the Pickwick Landing State Park Inn & Conference Center. Registration forms are available at www.picktnproducts.org.
For additional information, call 865-974-0280, email at Conferences@utk.edu.

January 26-28 – Tennessee Horticultural Expo, Nashville Airport Marriott. Call UT Conferences at 865-974-0280 for more information.

February 3 – Annual Greene County Livestock Association Banquet & Auction, 4-H Center, 6:30 p.m.

March 15 – Deadline to apply for crop insurance for 2012 spring planted crops and tobacco.

Contact your crop agent for more information.

