Massachusetts Farm Service Agency Annual Report:

FSA At Work Across Massachusetts - FY 2011

The USDA Farm Service Agency delivered over $4.7 million in federal program payments to Massachusetts farmers during FY 2011. Massachusetts agriculture benefits greatly from the tireless efforts of our dedicated employees and locally elected County Committees.

State Executive Director Richard Burke

Commodity Program & Price Support Payments and Loans: $1,106,089

Massachusetts producers benefited from commodity and price support program payments during FY 2011.

$320,299 - Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) Direct payments provide income support to producers of eligible commodities based on production history (acreage and yields) and do not depend on the current production choices. Counter-cyclical payments are made when the effective price for eligible commodities is less than the target price.

$1,474 - Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) provides compensation to dairy producers when domestic milk prices fall below a specified level.

$40,000 - Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFLP) - provides low interest financing for producers to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

$321,715 - Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) provides producers a revenue based payment as an alternative to commodity price based counter-cyclical payments.

$422,601 - Price Support - provides financial assistance to producers when the commodity prices are low. This includes price support loans, LDPs, TAAs, and market loss assistance payments.

Conservation: $331,213

FSA continues to make strides toward conserving and improving soil, water, and wildlife resources in Massachusetts. The Conservation Reserve Program is the USDA's single largest, most effective environmental program. Conservation investments for Massachusetts in FY 2011 include:

$234,380 - Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) provides emergency funding for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters, and to carry out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought.

$94,262 - Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary program designed to protect grasslands from conversion to cropland. Producer rental payments provide an incentive to maintain pastures for grazing.

$2,571 - Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) provides financial incentives, cost-share and rental payments to producers who convert highly erodible cropland or environmentally sensitive acreage to long-term vegetative cover.

Disaster Assistance: $3,281,047

From drought to flood, freeze to tornadoes and hurricanes - no production agriculture operation is immune to the effects of natural disasters. Massachusetts FSA was financially responsive to the state's producers.

$2,355,576 - Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides payments to producers when farm revenue losses are due to natural disasters.

$662,645 - Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) - FSA's NAP program provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occurs due to natural disasters.

$44,558 - Dairy Loss Assistance Program (DLAP) provided a one-time payment to assist dairy producers that suffered low milk prices and high production costs.

$9,761 - Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers for animal deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather that occurred from Jan. 1, 2008 to Oct. 1, 2011.

$200,504 - Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) provides financial relief to livestock producers.

$8,003 - Excess Moisture Damage - assists producers who suffered losses due to excessive moisture and related conditions.

Farm Loans: $11,455,000

FSA obligated $11,455,000 in direct and guaranteed operating loans, farm ownership loans, emergency loans, youth loans, socially disadvantaged loans, and loans to beginning farmers throughout Massachusetts.

$4,740,000 - Guaranteed Loans - FSA guarantees loans made by conventional agricultural lenders for up to 95 percent of any loss if the loan fails. In FY 2011, FSA in Massachusetts guaranteed 25 farm ownership and farm operating loans.

$6,715,000 - Direct Loans - FSA provides assistance to those unable to obtain guaranteed loans.
In FY 2011, FSA in Massachusetts funded 99 farm ownership, operating, emergency and conservation loans.

$1,851,000 - Socially Disadvantaged Loans - In FY 2011, 18 socially disadvantaged loans were made by FSA in Massachusetts.

$4,831,000 - Beginning Farmer Loans - In FY 2011, 53 beginning farmer loans were made in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts FSA Program Payments by County

Does not include farm loans, commodity loans, or adjustments from previous programs

Barnstable	$322,170.46
Berkshire	$187,406.98
Bristol	$540,233.34
Dukes	$2,886.12
Essex	$369,227.30
Franklin	$416,286.39
Hampden	$462,117.01
Hampshire	$455,566.49
Middlesex	$507,316.87
Norfolk	$26,109.80
Plymouth	$1,076,860.71
Suffolk	$7,290.56
Worcester	$347,431.54

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