

**Date:** October 30, 2013  
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## **Extension Granted for Providing Supporting Documentation for the 2013 RTCP Program**

HONOLULU, HAWAII - The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) recently announced an extension of the timeframe for producers to submit documentation for the 2013 Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (RTCP). The new deadline is November 22, 2013.

Producers who filed a timely RTCP application with FSA have been granted an extension to provide supporting documentation of their actual transportation costs. Farmers and ranchers who purchased or transported eligible items including but not limited to seed, fertilizer, chemical, boxes, fencing material, tractors, tillers, irrigation equipment, hogs and cattle have until November 22, 2013 to bring into the FSA office their receipts and supporting documentation of actual transportation costs for the period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013.

The Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program is intended to offset a portion of the high costs of transporting agricultural inputs and commodities over long distances. The 2008 Farm Bill provided authorization for the program which benefits producers in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Other applicable areas include Alaska, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In 2012, the program paid out a total of \$1.9 million, with 335 producers in Hawaii and the Pacific Basin receiving a total of \$793,495.

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