



“SCOOP”

ARKANSAS FARM SERVICE AGENCY - - STATE OFFICE

April 2010

2009 Partial (Advance) Counter-Cyclical Payments

Producers participating in the 2009 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program who have upland cotton (UPCN) and peanut bases and have requested an advance payment are currently being issued a partial 2009 Counter-Cyclical Payment(s).

The UPCN payment rate is 1.03 cents per pound, equal to 40 percent of the difference between the target price of 71.25 cents per pound and an effective price of 68.67 cents per pound. The effective price is equal to the projected average market price of 62 cents per pound plus the direct payment rate of 6.67 cents per pound.

The rate for peanuts is \$9.20 per ton, equal to 40 percent of the difference between the target price of \$495.00 per ton and an effective price \$472.00 per ton. The effective price is equal to the project average market price of \$436.00 per ton plus the different payment rate of \$36.00 per ton.

Producers are reminded that these payments are projected advance payments only, and the final rate will not be determined until after the end of the marketing year. Producers who accept these advance payments may be subject to refund.

All other 2009 base crops will not be issued the 40% advance because the market prices projections exceed levels that would trigger a counter-cyclical payment.

2008 Final Counter-Cyclical Payment for Rice

USDA has announced that FSA will not issue a 2008-crop counter-cyclical payment for long grain rice and short and medium grain rice because their average market prices exceed levels that would trigger a payment. The final market year average price published by USDA's National Agricultural Statistic Service of January 29, 2010 is \$14.90 per hundredweight for long grain rice and \$24.80 per hundredweight for short and medium grain rice. The direct payment rate of \$2.35 per hundredweight is the same for long, medium, and short grain rice. Thus, the respective effective prices for \$17.25 per hundredweight for long grain rice and \$27.15 per hundredweight for short and medium grain rice far exceed the target price of \$10.50 per hundredweight for both long grain rice and short and medium grain rice.

PREVENTED PLANTED PROVISIONS

Producers should report prevented planted acreage to their local FSA Office when the crop acreage is not planted due to disaster-related conditions. To be considered timely filed, prevented planted acres should be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date established by Federal Crop Insurance. Below are the final planting dates for Arkansas and the deadlines for filing prevented planted credit. *Please note that the dates for Corn and Grain Sorghum have changed from last year.* Unless noted the date is applicable to all counties in Arkansas:

Crop	Federal Crop Insurance Final Planting Date	Deadline to File Prevented Planted
Corn	April 25	May 10
Upland Cotton	May 20 Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, St Francis, White, and Woodruff Counties	June 4
Upland Cotton	May 25 Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Clark, Dallas, Desha, Drew, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lee, Lincoln, Little River, Lonoke, Miller, Monroe, Phillips, Prairie, and Pulaski Counties	June 9
Peanuts	May 25	June 9
Rice	May 31	June 15
Grain Sorghum	May 15	May 30
Soybeans	June 15	June 30
Wheat, Oats,	November 30	December 15

FAILED ACREAGE PROVISIONS

Producers should report failed crop acres to their local FSA Office when the crop failed due to disaster related conditions. To be timely filed, acreage reports for failed acreage shall be filed before the crop is destroyed. County Committee review and action is required to receive history credit in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

MEASUREMENT SERVICE

Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. Producers must file a request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit to have services completed on the farm. Measurement service guarantees compliance with a program, if the planting is limited to the measured area. Incorrect acreage self-certification can result in reduced program payments, penalty, or loss of eligibility.

ACREAGE REPORTS

A report of all planted acreage is required for many FSA programs. See the deadlines in the chart provided in this publication.

DCP AND ACRE REMINDERS SIGNUP DEADLINE IS JUNE 1, 2010

The 2009 DCP and ACRE enrollment deadline is approximately **60 days away**. FSA still has many many producers that need to enroll. A sense of urgency is now facing some FSA offices because they must process the DCP and ACRE enrollment while processing spring seeded certifications, as well as numerous other program activities. Producers are strongly encouraged to contact their local FSA immediately to schedule an appointment.

Producers planting fruit or vegetable crop or wild rice should talk to their respective FSA office before planting to determine how it will affect your program participation.

Filing of a DCP or ACRE contract is required yearly to earn payments. ACRE also requires an ACRE Election Form the first year ACRE is selected.

The way producer's market their crops have a direct impact on the way DCP or ACRE Programs can be earned. Verify this with your FSA Office before enrollment. For example: a cash rent tenant is the only person who can share in DCP or ACRE contract. IF a farm that is share rented, all of the persons sharing in the crop must share in the DCP or ACRE contract.

Producers must farm (have a risk or control) at least the number of acres for which a payment(s) is being requested. For example if base equals 100.0 acres, then a producer must have risk in land equal to at least 100.0 acres. Exceptions may be allowed when the base acres on the farm exceed the DCP cropland. This should be discussed in detail with your respective County Office. This is extremely important on farms that have more than one tenant involved.

SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PAYMENT PROGRAM (SURE)

FSA is still accepting 2008 crop loss applications into the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE Program). A deadline has not been set. FSA Offices in Arkansas have issued over \$1 million dollars in SURE benefits to date.

ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME VERIFICATION PROCESS

We are happy to announce that IRS has reported to FSA that they received over 225,000 CCC-927, and CCC-928 forms (verification of gross income) from producers. However, they also report approximately 6 percent cannot be processed. This is not good news for producers or FSA. Listed below are the common errors that should be avoided by producers when completing and mailing the forms to IRS:

- No name or no name and address:
- Incomplete or no Social Security (SSN) number or Employer Id number (EIN)
- Failure to select year 2009 and /or 2010
- Improper name and taxpayer ID number control

- Signature date or birth date used instead of date signed
 - Blank forms stapled together and mailed
 - Two taxpayers names and SSN on same line
 - Illegible penmanship
 - Taxpayer name and taxpayer ID number mismatch
 - Taxpayer ID number and form mismatch
 - Placing the required information on the back of the form instead of the writing on the front
 - No return address on envelope and the consent form has no address.
- More details can be found in the January 2010 edition of SCOOP.

PROGRAM DEADLINES

PROGRAM DEADLINES	DATE
Final date to inform FSA of crop losses	Before Crop Disposition
Last date to file prevented planting credit (See the May 2009 SCOOP for more information)	15 days after the final planting date
Final date to purchase Crop Insurance for Nursery Crops (field grown and container) for the 2011 crop year	May 1, 2010
Final Date to report wheat and oats planted acreage	May 15, 2010
Final date to file a 2010 ACRE Election Final date to have all signatures on an ACRE Election Final date to file a 2010 DCP and/or ACRE (yearly) enrollment Final date to have returned signatures for producers who have a share in a DCP and/or ACRE contract Final date to file a successor-in-interest DCP or ACRE contract if the change occurred by June 1, 2010	June 1, 2010
The date FSA uses to look at the structure of farming operations to calculate direct attributions	June 1, 2010
Final Date to Report 2010 Spring Seeded Crops	July 15, 2010
Last date to request a 2010 reconstitution on a DCP or ACRE farm	August 1, 2010
Final date to prioritize crop to receive ACRE Payments Final date to file a 2010 successor-in-interest DCP or ACRE contract if the change occurred after June 1, 2010 Final date to have returned signatures for producers who have a share in a DCP and/or ACRE contract that had a 2010 successor-in-interest contract filed after June 1, 2010	Sept. 30, 2010

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