



“SCOOP”

ARKANSAS FARM SERVICE AGENCY - - STATE OFFICE

August 2010

CHANGES TO 2011 NAP APPLICATION CLOSING DATES ANNOUNCED

The Arkansas State Committee has reviewed NAP application closing dates and other data for forage, green beans, sweet corn, and strawberries to determine if our application closing dates and other data should be revised to be more in line with dates in surrounding states. Changes were also made to allow producers of vegetable crops more time to determine if a contract can be finalized with the contractor, and have a better idea of planting decisions. After review of surrounding state data, normal cultural practices, and reviewed growing conditions in Arkansas, the State Committee made some changes to the following NAP crops. Producers need to be aware of the changes to the 2011 NAP application closing dates for the following crops.

Changes to 2011 NAP Application Closing Dates	
Crop	Application Closing Date
All Mechanically Harvested and Grazed Forage EXCEPT Corn, Millet, Sorghum, Barley, Oats, Rye, and Wheat	March 15, 2011
Green Beans	March 15, 2011
Sweet Corn	March 15, 2011
Strawberries	September 30, 2010

PRODUCERS ARE REMINDED OF UPCOMING 2010 ACREAGE REPORTING DATES

2010 NAP Acreage Reporting Dates	
September 1, 2010	All Fall Planted Beans, Squash, Peas Potatoes, and Tomatoes
September 30, 2010	All Fall Planted Cabbage, Cucumbers
November 1, 2010	All Fall Planted Greens
September 30, 2010	Aquaculture, Christmas Trees, Ginseng, Ornamental Nursery, and Turf grass Sod

SIGN-UP DEADLINE ANNOUNCED
2008 SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS (SURE) PROGRAM!

Producers interested in applying for the 2008 SURE program must do so soon! *The deadline for file a 2008 SURE program payment applications is September 30, 2010.* There are no provisions for late-file applications. Applications not filed by September 30, 2010, regardless of the reasons why, will not receive a payment because of lack of funding. FSA is encouraging all those interested in applying to contact their applicable county office immediately to ensure the program deadline can be met. No other application period or signup will be held for 2008 SURE program payments.

**USDA GRANTS ASSISTANCE TO U.S. CATFISH PRODUCERS UNDER TRADE
ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS PROGRAM**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service announced that it has certified a petition for catfish under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Farmers Program. U.S. catfish producers nationwide will have 90 days to apply for training and benefits.

The TAA for Farmers Program provides technical training and cash benefits to eligible U.S. producers and fishermen of raw agricultural commodities whose crops or catch have been adversely affected by imports of like or directly competitive commodities.

After reviewing petitions submitted in April 2010 by the Catfish Farmers of America, FAS determined that increased imports of catfish during January-December 2009 contributed importantly to a greater than 15-percent decline in the value of production in 2009, compared to the average of the three preceding marketing years. This conforms to the eligibility requirements stipulated in Subtitle C of Title I of the Trade Act of 2002 (Pub. L.107-210).

Individual catfish producers, nationwide, interested in applying for technical training and cash benefits must complete and submit a written application to their local Farm Service Agency Service Center within 90 calendar days June 25, 2010 through September 23, 2010. Application (form FSA 229-1) is available on the FAS Web site at:

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/itp/taa/taforms.asp>. All TAA for Farmers *Federal Register* notices can be found on the FAS Web site at: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/info/fr/notices.asp>.

Program benefits include cash payments and free technical training designed to help producers develop and implement business adjustment plans. Producers that develop an approved initial business plan will receive up to \$4,000 as payment toward implementing the plan or developing a long-term business adjustment plan. Producers who subsequently develop approved long-term business adjustment plans are entitled to receive an additional cash payment of up to \$8,000 to be applied toward implementing the plan. A producer may not receive more than \$12,000 or benefit from any other TAA program during the 36-month period following certification of a group petition. Travel and subsistence expenses related to attending training sessions may also be reimbursable.

General information about the TAA for Farmers Program can be found on the FAS Web site at www.fas.usda.gov/itp/taa or by contacting the TAA for Farmers Program staff in the Office of Trade Programs at telephone (202) 720-0638 or (202) 690-0633, or by e-mail at tradeadjustment@fas.usda.gov.

2009 FINAL COUNTER-CYCLICAL (CC) PAYMENT FOR WHEAT, BARLEY, AND OATS

Counter-cyclical payments vary depending on market prices, and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price (which takes into account the direct payment rate, market price and loan rate). This year, FSA will not be issuing 2009 final counter-cyclical payment to producers that were enrolled in the 2009 DCP Program. The final payment rate is zero because the effective prices for wheat, barley, and oats exceed their respective target prices. The effective price equals the direct payment rate, plus the higher of the national average loan rate or the national average farm price.

The following table provides the calculation for wheat, barley, and oats.

Item	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	Dollars Per Bushel		
Target Price	3.92	2.24	1.440
National Average Loan Rate	2.75	1.85	1.330
National Average Farm Price	4.87	2.61	2.020
Higher of Loan Rate or Farm Price	4.87	2.61	2.020
Direct Payment Rate	0.52	0.24	0.024
Effective Price	5.39	2.85	2.044
Final CC Payment Rate	0	0	0

ACRE DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR PRODUCTION CERTIFICATION

The deadline for farmers to certify yields for corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, barley and grain sorghum for the 2009 Average Crop Revenue Election program, or ACRE, has been extended. **Farms enrolled in ACRE are required to furnish production certification by September 1.** Producers should contact their local Farm Service Agency office for more information. Find local area FSA offices.

RISK PURCHASE REQUIREMENT DEADLINES APPROACH FOR 2011 DISASTER PROGRAMS

It may be hard to believe when producers are so busy with their 2010 crops that very soon they must plan and take action for their 2011 crops. That's right to be eligible for 2011 disaster assistance through the *Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program, TAP, Emergency Assistance for Livestock Program, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP) Program*, producers must purchase insurance coverage before the sales closing date for **ALL** crops which are at risk, and are of economic significance. If it is unknown before the sales closing date what crops will be significant or at risk, then it is recommended that insurance be obtained for all crops for which the possibility exists. The next 2011 sales closing date is

RISK PURCHASE REQUIREMENT DEADLINES APPROACH FOR 2011 DISASTER PROGRAMS continued:

September 1, 2010, for Aquaculture, Christmas Trees, Ginseng Root, Ornamental Nursery, and Turf grass Sod. Wheat and Oats sales closing date quickly follows on September 30, 2010.

The SURE, TAP, ELAP Programs are permanent disaster programs that became law in the 2002 Farm Bill. What this means to producers is that if a natural disaster occurs, and all eligibility criteria is met, producers will not have to wonder, hope, and wait for an AD Hoc Disaster Program.

SURE, TAP, and ELAP require producers to purchase multi-peril crop insurance at a minimum of the Catastrophic (CAT) Level with Federal Crop Insurance or with FSA through the Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Program. The insurance requirement is for all farms in all counties in all states. It is also important to know that **any and all crops can be insured**, if Federal Crop Insurance does not insure the crop then FSA insures the crop with the NAP program. The NAP program offers insurance coverage at a level equal to CAT with Federal Crop Insurance. Sales closing dates vary by crop.

FSA does not sell Federal Crop Insurance, therefore, producers will need to find an agent of their choice to obtain insurance and verify their sales closing dates. Before deciding on the level of insurance to purchase with Federal Crop Insurance, producers are encouraged to visit their local FSA to understand how SURE benefits are calculated. The purchase of buy-up coverage has the potential of yielding a larger SURE payment.

To be eligible for 2011 grazing losses under the *Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)*, producers are required to purchase NAP insurance for all grazing crops for which they are requesting benefits.

More details concerning the disaster programs can be obtained from your local FSA Office.

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