

For: State and County Offices

Acresage Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative (ACRSI) 2017 Fall Release

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

ACRSI is a joint effort between producers, FSA County Offices and RMA Approved Insurance Providers (AIP) to reduce redundant reporting by eliminating the need to report the same information multiple times. The 2017 ACRSI Fall Release implementation to all counties and states will allow producers to report their common crop acresage data for 17 eligible crops and have that data shared electronically with both FSA and RMA.

B Purpose

This notice informs State and County Offices that the 2017 ACRSI Fall Release was released nationwide on November 4, 2016, and provides information about the ACRSI reporting process, including:

- eligible crops and reporting process/channel
- exception list
- 2016 work list cleanup
- software changes and policy clarifications
- communications and media contact information.

2 ACRSI 2017 Fall Release

A Eligible Crops and Reporting Process/Channel

The following crops will be shared through ACRSI during the 2017 reporting period:

- alfalfa
- corn
- cotton
- CRP
- fallow
- grass
- oats
- peanuts
- rice
- rye
- sorghum
- soybeans
- wheat
- sunflowers
- barley
- canola/rapeseed.

Disposal Date	Distribution
August 1, 2017 11-15-16	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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2 ACRSI 2017 Fall Release (Continued)

A Eligible Crops and Reporting Process/Channel (Continued)

Producers doing business with both FSA and RMA will report their 2017 planted crops to either FSA or their crop insurance agent, and the data will be shared electronically with the other agency. Data will only be shared with the crop insurance agent if a crop insurance policy is in force for an approved ACRSI crop. Producers are still required to visit both agencies to validate the data, certify by signing the reports, and completing a map for FSA.

County Office employees will access ACRSI through the regular Crop Acreage Reporting System (CARS) process to enter data reported by producers in the FSA office.

B Exception List

FSA and RMA are working on aligning additional acreage reporting data element definitions and policy. Until that is accomplished, not all data collected for 2017 acreage reporting will be shared through ACRSI. Only ACRSI approved crops with the following reported data elements will be transmitted as part of the data sharing effort.

- Planting Period - 01
- Planting Pattern – Solid
- Reporting Unit – Acres
- Crop Status – Initial
- Supplemental Crop Status – Planted, Prevented, Volunteer or Failed
- Concurrent Planting – None.

In addition, crops with the intended use of “GS” will not be included.

Note: ACRSI approved crops with the above exceptions will not be shared with RMA.

C ACRSI 2016 ACRSI Work List Cleanup

States and counties may find 2016 ACRSI Work List farms that have not been processed. If ACRSI Work List farms remain and FSA already has a 2016 FSA-578 on file for the farm, County Offices should leave the farms on the work list unless the current FSA-578 must be revised. If the current FSA-578 must be revised, review and process or delete existing work list items before completing the 2016 acreage report.

If a 2016 ACRSI Work List exists for a farm and FSA does **not** have a 2016 FSA-578 on file, County Offices should access the 2016 ACRSI Work List farm and review and import only when the producer requests to file a report with FSA.

Note: Late-filed provisions apply according to 2-CP, paragraph 21 and Notice CM-719.

2 ACRSI 2017 Fall Release (Continued)

D Software Changes and Policy Clarifications

With the rising number of AIP's participating in ACRSI, the volume of ACRSI Work List items has increased. Transmission files previously submitted included numerous duplicate reports causing additional review work by County Offices. To reduce this burden, the system has been updated to:

- automatically remove duplicate files submitted by an AIP
- summarize shareholders when separate files are submitted by AIP's
- streamline data elements compared to determine "duplicate" entries:
 - State
 - County
 - Farm
 - Tract
 - Field
 - Subfield
 - Crop code
 - Crop type code
 - Intended use
 - Irrigation practice
 - Organic practice
 - Planted date
 - Reported acres
 - Shares (summarized).

Guidance on reporting subfields, map requirements, and handling under and over reported official field acreage, is forthcoming.

3 Communications and Media Contact Information

A Communications Toolkit

Information was provided by the Office of External Affairs (OEA) in the October 19, 2016, communication toolkit to assist crop insurance agents and County Office employees with understanding the ACRSI process and providing guidance to producers. The communications toolkit includes the joint FSA/RMA brochure and the FSA fact sheet that explains ACRSI and the producer participation responsibilities. In addition, the ACRSI frequently asked questions (FAQ's) provides answers to the most common ACRSI questions.

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3 Communications and Media Contact Information (Continued)

B Media Contacts

If the State or County Office is contacted by the media about the 2017 ACRSI fall release, refer them to either of the following:

- Isabel Benemelis
Public Affairs Branch
telephone: 202-720-7809
e-mail: isabel.benemelis@wdc.usda.gov
- Brenda Carlson
Public Affairs Branch
telephone: 979-680-5213
e-mail: brenda.carlson@tx.usda.gov.

4 State and County Office Action

A Communication

State Offices shall provide County Offices with the 2017 ACRSI fall release communication documents, which will include:

- fact sheet
- FAQ's
- joint FSA/RMA brochure.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- direct ACRSI related questions to the State Office
- share communications documents with producers and local crop insurance agents
- review ACRSI communications documents and 2-CP, Part 2.6 for ACRSI policy and procedures
- contact the State Office compliance specialists for questions about this notice.

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4 State and County Office Action (Continued)

C State Office Action

State Office shall:

- e-mail ACRSI related questions to **ACRSITeam@wdc.usda.gov**
- contact either of the following for questions about this notice:
 - Todd Anderson by either of the following:
 - e-mail to **todd.anderson@wdc.usda.gov**
 - telephone at 202-720-9106
 - Gwen Uecker by either of the following:
 - e-mail to **gwen.uecker@wdc.usda.gov**
 - telephone at 701-893-2209.