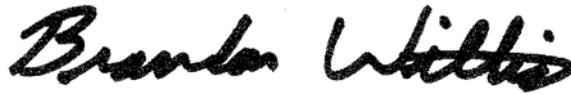


For: State and County Offices

Grouped Soil Productivity Factors for 2010 SRR's

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

SRR's are comprised of the following 2 components:

- average county cash rental rate for dryland cropland
- grouped soil productivity factor.

Notice CRP-663 provided policy for:

- determining the 2010 average county cash rental rate for dryland cropland using the 2009 NASS survey
- State and County Offices to:
 - review the average county cash rental rate
 - propose alternative estimates for average county cash rental rates for dryland cropland.

B Purpose

This notice provides the following:

- clarification concerning the source of NASS estimates for average county cash rental rate for dryland cropland
- policy for determining the grouping of soil mapping unit symbols within the SRR tables.

Disposal Date	Distribution
October 1, 2010	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices and NRCS State Offices

Notice CRP-665

2 Clarification Concerning the Source of NASS Estimates

A NASS Estimates

The NASS estimate of the nonirrigated cash rent for the individual county is the basis for determining CRP SRR's.

In instances where NASS could **not** produce a statistically reliable estimate for the county, NASS produced estimates based on consecutively larger geographic groupings. These groupings, consecutively ordered, include the following:

- combined adjoining counties within a NASS Agricultural Statistic District (ASD)
- ASD
- combined adjoining ASD within a State
- States.

The following table provides the use of a NASS combined county estimate for 2 bordering counties in Northeast ASD in Kansas.

State	County	ASD	County Nonirrigated Estimate	Combined County Nonirrigated Estimate
Kansas	Leavenworth	Northeast		44
Kansas	Wyandotte	Northeast		44
Kansas	Atchison	Northeast	67	
Kansas	Brown	Northeast	104	
Kansas	Doniphan	Northeast	113	
Kansas	Jackson	Northeast	49.5	
Kansas	Jefferson	Northeast	48	
Kansas	Marshall	Northeast	75	
Kansas	Nemaha	Northeast	83	
Kansas	Pottawatomie	Northeast	51	
Kansas	Riley	Northeast	48	

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2 Clarification Concerning the Source of NASS Estimates (Continued)

B FSA Use of NASS Estimates

The county cash rental rate will be based on the NASS estimate for the individual county.

In instances where NASS was **not** able to calculate a statistically reliable cash rental rate estimate for:

- an individual county, the county cash rental rate will be based on the NASS estimate for the other combined counties within ASD
- other combined counties within ASD, the county cash rental rate will be based on the NASS estimate for ASD
- ASD, the county cash rental rate will be based on the NASS estimate for the other combined ASD's within a State
- other combined ASD's, the county cash rental rate will be based on the NASS estimate for the State.

Note: For remaining instances, the National Office will work with the State Office to determine an appropriate cash rental rate for each county.

3 Grouped Soil Productivity Factors

A Methodology for Calculating SRR

2010 SRR's will be based on the following:

- average county cash rental rate for dryland cropland
- grouped soil productivity factor for each SRR group.

The SRR calculation is derived by multiplying the average county cash rental rate by the grouped soil productivity factor. The following table provides an example.

State	County	Average Rate	Map Unit Symbol	SRR Group	Grouped Soil Productivity Factor	SRR
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	ADC1	1	1.1	\$110
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	ADC2	1	1.1	\$110
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	ADC3	1	1.1	\$110
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	CR1	2	0.9	\$90
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	PVa	3	1.0	\$100
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	PVb	3	1.0	\$100
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	PVc	3	1.0	\$100

3 Grouped Soil Productivity Factors (Continued)

B Methodology for Calculating Grouped Soil Productivity Factors

The National Office has established a grouped soil productivity factor for each soil that is cropped or likely to be cropped. Grouped soil productivity factors were established based on 1 of 2 methods.

Method A: For soils that are currently in the Soils Data Management System (SDMS), the grouped soil productivity factor will remain the same as found in SDMS.

Example: Soil map unit ADC1 in Clinton County, Michigan, currently exists in SDMS. The average dryland cash rental rate in SDMS for Clinton County, Michigan, is \$100. Soil map unit ADC1 currently has a rental rate of \$110 in SDMS. Therefore, the grouped soil productivity factor is 1.1. The National Office's calculation of the grouped soil productivity factor for 2010 for soil map unit ADC1 will remain 1.1.

Method B: For soils that are **not** currently in SDMS, the National Office has calculated the proper factor for the soil map unit symbol based on a statistical model that uses the National Commodity Crop Productivity Index (NCCPI) developed by NRCS. Additional information about NCCPI may be found at http://www.ngdc.wvu.edu/soil_survey_atlas/subpage_3/agroecology_and_soil_productivity/national_commodity_crops_productivity_index_nccpi.

Example: Soil map unit DEF1 in Clinton County, Michigan, is a new soil map unit and is **not** in SDMS. The National Office has determined that this soil is cropped or likely to be cropped. The National Office has calculated a grouped soil productivity factor of 0.8 based on the NCCPI value.

Note: The National Office will retain the number of groupings established by COC.

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4 Policy and Procedure for State Office Review of Grouped Soil Productivity Factors

A Policy

If grouped soil productivity factors for every soil in the county were established based on Method A, STC's are **not** required or permitted to revise the grouped soil productivity factors.

If the grouped soil productivity factor for at least 1 soil map unit symbol in the county was determined according the Method B describe in subparagraph 3 B, STC's **must** do either of the following:

- leave the National Office grouped soil productivity factor unchanged
- revise the National Office grouped soil productivity factors for any or all soil map units.

Revised grouped soil productivity factors **must** be revised by STC's by **July 9, 2010**. There will be no opportunity to revise grouped soil productivity factors after **July 9, 2010**.

B State Office Procedure for Reviewing, Updating, and Approving Grouped Soil Productivity Factors

The National Office has created a SharePoint site at <https://fsa.sc.egov.usda.gov/states/cepd/default.aspx> for State Offices to facilitate the review and revision of grouped soil productivity factors. The SharePoint site will include the following:

- 1 Excel workbook for the State
- a spreadsheet within the workbook for each county where 1 or more of the soils in the county required a National Office calculation based on the statistical model.

IF for each county...	THEN...	AND the State Excel Workbook will...
the grouped soil productivity factor for at least 1 soil map unit symbol in the county was estimated according to Method B described in subparagraph 3 B	<p>STC must do either of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • leave the grouped soil productivity factors for 1 or all soil map units unchanged • revise the grouped soil productivity factors for any or all soil map units 	contain a spreadsheet with each soil in the county. Follow instructions in Exhibit 1 for accessing the SharePoint site and revising grouped soil productivity factors.
the grouped soil productivity factors for every soil in the county were established based on Method A	STC's are not required or permitted to revise the grouped soil productivity factors	not contain a spreadsheet for the county.

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4 Policy and Procedure for State Office Review of Grouped Soil Productivity Factors (Continued)

C National Office Final Review of Grouped Soil Productivity Factors

The National Office will perform a final review and make adjustments, as necessary, to any grouped soil productivity factors approved by STC to ensure that the following conditions are satisfied.

- The average grouped soil productivity factor, weighted by the map unit acres of each soil map unit that is cropped or likely to be cropped, equals 1. This process ensures that the average SRR across all the appropriate soils in the county is equal to the average county rental rate for dryland cropland. All National Office adjustments to the approved grouped soil productivity factors will be final.

Notes: The map unit acres for each soil map unit are contained in the SSURGO 2 database. In instances where the map unit acres are **not** calculated, the map unit acres will set to zero.

The National Office will **not** accept alternative estimates for the map unit acres.

- The grouped soil productivity factor does **not** exceed a national maximum. The national maximum will be determined during the National Office review.

5 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices and STC's shall:

- follow the provisions of this notice
- revise grouped soil productivity factors by **July 9, 2010**, according to the instructions in subparagraphs 4 A and B.

B County Office Action

No action is required.

State Office Instructions for Accessing and Revising Grouped Soil Productivity Factors

State Offices can access and revise grouped soil productivity factors by following these steps.

Step	Action
1	Go to the CEPD Data Entry SharePoint site at https://fsa.sc.egov.usda.gov/states/cepd/default.aspx .
2	Select “Soils Rental Rate - State Office Review and Revise”.
3	<p>Click the relevant State Excel workbook. When prompted for how to open, CLICK “Edit”.</p> <p>Each Excel workbook contains 1 spreadsheet for each county where edits are permitted, according to subparagraph 4 B. Included in the spreadsheet are the following fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “State” • “County” • “SSAID” - soil survey area • “Cnty_Avg_Rate” - average dryland cropland cash rental rate for the county • “Mapunit” - soil map unit • “Mapunit_acre” - map unit acres • “Group” - group number for the soil grouping • “GSPF” - grouped soil productivity factor • “Source” - source of the estimate of the grouped soil productivity factor <p>Note: The values in the column will be “SDMS” or “NatOffice”. A value of “SDMS” signifies that this soil previously was assigned a grouped soil productivity factor by COC or STC. A value of “NatOffice” signifies that the National Office used a statistical model to create the grouped soil productivity factor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “SRR10” - proposed SRR for 2010. <p>Note: This value equals the “Cnty_Avg_Rate” field multiplied by the “GSPF” field.</p>
4	<p>Download the spreadsheet and edit as necessary.</p> <p>Note: The State Office may edit the value in the “Group” and “GSPF” fields. Any edits to any other fields on this spreadsheet will be ignored.</p>
5	When edits to all counties are complete, send the spreadsheet by e-mail to Shawn Bucholtz at shawn.bucholtz@wdc.usda.gov .