August 1, 2014 - Present

EXAMINE your paperwork to make sure it's in order.

FSA encourages producers to begin reviewing information on their agricultural operation, gathering up their necessary documents, and reading about ARC/PLC basics, in preparation for exploring your options under ARC/PLC.

Agricultural producers have plenty of time to prepare and learn about options with ARC/PLC before making a decision. This website is designed to help.

What is ARC/PLC?

The 2014 Farm Bill authorized a new safety net approach for farm commodities, known as the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs. These programs combine provisions from previous programs delivered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), which were the counter-cyclical portion of the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program, and the Average Crop Revenue Election Program) with revenue insurance delivered by the Risk Management Agency.

- **Access the ARC/PLC fact sheet**
- **Access the ARC/PLC Frequently Asked Questions**

What is PLC?

Payments are issued when the effective price of a covered commodity is less than the respective reference price for that commodity established in the statute for 2014-2018 crops. The effective price equals the higher of the market year average price or the national average loan rate. The PLC payment is equal to 85 percent of the base acres of the covered commodity times the difference between the reference price and the effective price times the PLC payment yield for the covered commodity**. Click here for projected effective prices and PLC payment rates, based on current USDA market year average price projections**. **(PDF**, 84 KB Mar 12, 2015| **XLS**, 35 KB Mar 12, 2015)

What is County ARC (ARC-CO)?

Payments are issued when the actual county crop revenue of a covered commodity is less than the ARC-CO guarantee for the covered commodity. The ARC-CO guarantee equals 86

percent of the previous five-year market year average price, excluding the years with the highest and lowest price (the ARC guarantee price), times the five-year average county yield, excluding the years with the highest and lowest yield (the ARC county guarantee yield). The payment is equal to 85 percent of the base acres of the covered commodity times the difference between the county guarantee and the actual county crop revenue for the covered commodity. **Click here to see USDA's current projections of benchmark prices (used in calculating the county guarantee) and 2014-crop projected "actual" prices (used in calculating actual county revenue) (PDF**, 90 KB Mar 12, 2015 | **XLS**, 45 KB Mar 12, 2015)
Payments may not exceed 10 percent of the ARC guarantee price times the ARC county guarantee yield.

What is Individual ARC (ARC-IC)?

Payments are issued when actual ARC-IC revenue, summed across all covered commodities on the farm, is less than the associated ARC-IC guarantee. The farm for ARC-IC purposes is the sum of the producer's interest in all ARC-IC farms in the state. The farm's ARC individual guarantee equals 86 percent of the farm's individual benchmark guarantee, defined as the five-year average of a producer's annual benchmark revenue for each commodity, excluding the high and low annual revenues. The resulting revenues are averaged across all crops on the farm, based on plantings, to obtain the revenue guarantee. Actual revenue is computed similarly. The ARC-IC payment equals: 65 percent of the sum of the base acres of all covered commodities on the farm, times the difference between the individual guarantee revenue and the actual individual crop revenue across all covered commodities planted on the farm. Payments may not exceed 10 percent of the individual benchmark revenue**. Click here to see USDA's current projected prices (used in calculating the ARC-IC guarantee) and 2014-crop projected "actual" prices (used in calculating actual ARC-IC revenue). (PDF**, 80 KB Mar 12, 2015| **XLS**, 46 KB Mar 12, 2015)

You received an Important Letter from USDA Farm Service Agency

Owners with base acres received a letter from FSA providing a summary of their current base acres, yields and 2009-2012 planting history. The written updates are an important part of preparing agricultural producers for the new safety net programs established by the 2014 Farm Bill. Verifying the accuracy of data on a farm's acreage history is an important step for producers enrolling in the upcoming Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) program and the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program.

For an example of the letter please see page 11 of this FSA Notice

If the information contained in this letter is correct, you do not need to do anything. If you have questions or concerns about the information in this letter, or if you did not receive this letter, please contact your local FSA office and schedule a time to discuss with your local FSA field staff. To find your local FSA office, please click here.

Why This Letter Matters

This letter provides you with information that FSA has on file regarding your operation. Based on this information, owners of farms have a one-time opportunity to: (1) maintain the farm's 2013 base acres of covered commodities through 2018; or (2) reallocate base acres among those covered commodities planted on the farm at any time during the 2009 - 2012 crop years (excluding upland cotton bases). *Owners and operators will have this opportunity to reallocate base or update yields from Sept. 29, 2014 until February 27, 2015.*

Other Important Documents

If the following documents are not already on file at your local FSA office, please ensure that you have the following documents completed or updated:

Documents to Bring to, or Complete at, the FSA Office (if not already filed)		
Name	**Description**	**Link**
FSA-211, Power of Attorney (optional)	If an individual or entity wants to authorize someone else to act on their behalf to make program decisions and/or sign FSA program documents, the FSA-211 must be completed and signed to grant such authority.	http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/FSA211-211-A.PDF
AD-1026, Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification	The AD-1026 is a certification of compliance with HELC and WC compliance provisions. The AD-1026 is a continuous certification and, once filed, remains in effect until a change or violation occurs.	http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/AD1026.PDF
CCC-902-I or CCC-902-E (as applicable), Farm Operating Plan	The CCC-902 is required to be on file and is used to collect information for the actively engaged in farming determination required for ARC and PLC participants.	For individuals: http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/CCC902-I.PDF For entities: http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/CCC902-E.PDF
CCC-901, Members Information	The CCC-901 is used to collect membership information for an entity. It needed for payment limitation and average AGI limitation purposes.	http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/CCC901.PDF
CCC-941, AGI Certification	The CCC-941 is used for the producer to certify compliance with the $900,000 average AGI limitation and provide authorization for USDA to verify the certification with IRS.	http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/CCC941.PDF
Copies of cash leases for farms	Required to document cash lease arrangements, if applicable	