

South Carolina FSA at Work

Fiscal Year 2005 Program Accomplishments

The Farm Service Agency delivered more than \$207.4 million to South Carolina's farmers and ranchers in Fiscal Year 2005 (October 2004 through September 2005) in the form of farm program payments, farm loans and disaster assistance. Up from more than \$101,412,052 delivered in FY 2004. *(This figure does not include farm loans).*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) strives to stabilize farm income, help farmers conserve land and water resources, provide credit to new or disadvantaged farmers, and help farmers resume their operations following a disaster. Formed in 1994, following the reorganization of the United States Department of Agriculture, FSA incorporates programs from the former Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) and Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). The FSA maintains a strong relationship with America's farmers and ranchers that dates back to the 1930's.

In South Carolina, 37 FSA County Offices—primarily located in USDA Service Centers—service the state's 46 counties. The South Carolina FSA State Office is located in the city of Columbia. FSA offers a variety of services to agricultural producers. This brochure offers a summary of most of the monetary assistance provided to South Carolina agricultural producers through farm program payments, farm loans and disaster assistance during Fiscal Year 2005 (October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2005).

Price Support: \$148.8 million

South Carolina producers received approximately \$148.8 in price support farm programs during Fiscal Year 2005. Price Support farm programs help improve and promote the economic stability of agricultural communities and ensure equitable delivery of program benefits and services.

\$60,202,776 - Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) replaced production flexibility contract (PFC) payments with direct payments, and added new counter-cyclical payments for the 2002-2007 crops. Counter-cyclical payments are made when the effective price for eligible commodities is less than the target price.

\$7,110 - Lamb Meat Assistance Program

LMAAP assisted producers who suffered financial losses due to a depressed market.

\$52,581- Milk Income Loss Contract

MILC financially compensates dairy producers when domestic milk prices fall below a specified level. The program is authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill and has no set funding level.

\$17,785,595 - Loan Deficiency Payments

LDPs were made to producers who agreed to forgo the loan in return for a payment on the eligible commodity. LDP provisions allow compensation when market prices are low as long as the producer maintains beneficial interest in the commodity.

\$37,374,180 - Commodity Loans

Commodity Loans were made available to eligible producers who use stored crops as collateral. The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) makes loans for eligible commodities: corn, wheat, sugar, grain sorghum, barley, oats, soybeans, and minor oilseeds. Loans are issued as "non-recourse" or "recourse" depending on the quality and/or moisture content of the commodity.

Disaster Assistance: \$23.6 million

From drought to flood, tornadoes to hurricanes, natural disasters can severely hurt even the best run agricultural operation. South Carolina was again affected by hurricanes again this year. Farm Service Agency employees issued approximately \$23,672,649 in disaster assistance program payments to South Carolina producers during FY2005.

\$21,226,156 - Crop Disaster Program

The Crop Disaster Program helped compensate producers who suffered crop losses due to adverse weather and other natural disasters in FY2005.

\$1,270,387 - Emergency Conservation Program

ECP provides emergency funding for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by wind erosion, floods, or other natural disasters, and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought.

\$1,176,106 - Noninsured Assistance Program

NAP provided a measure of protection against losses caused by natural disaster for producers of crops for which crop insurance is not available.

Conservation: \$8.7 million

(continued on reverse)

The Conservation Reserve Program is the USDA's single largest environmental improvement program as well as one of its most effective programs to assist farmers in preserving valuable wildlife habitat. In FY2005 FSA provided \$8,730,075 toward conservation programs in South Carolina (includes ECP funding listed above under Disaster Assistance).

\$7,097,911 - Conservation Reserve Program
(Includes CRP incentives & annual rental payments). The CRP is a voluntary program providing financial incentives to farmers who convert highly erodible cropland or environmentally sensitive acreage to long-term vegetative cover.

\$1,270,387 - Emergency Conservation Program
(These payments are also included above under disaster assistance). The ECP provides emergency funding for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by wind erosion, floods, or other natural disasters, and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought.

\$361,777 - Wetlands Reserve Program
WRP is a voluntary program that offers landowners financial incentives to enhance wetlands in exchange for retiring marginal agricultural land.

Farm Loans: \$69.5 million

ABBEVILLE	107,537
AIKEN	2,529,848
ALLENDALE	2,310,254
ANDERSON	678,628
BAMBERG	3,285,299
BARNWELL	3,797,040
BEAUFORT	183,219
BERKELEY	626,454
CALHOUN	7,078,273
CHARLESTON	354,386
CHEROKEE	284,219
CHESTER	434,788
CHESTERFIELD	1,164,595
CLARENDON	6,215,262
COLLETON	1,672,000
DARLINGTON	6,992,169
DILLON	4,234,185
DORCHESTER	2,488,823
EDGEFIELD	775,533
FAIRFIELD	9,250
FLORENCE	4,858,105
GEORGETOWN	759,424
GREENVILLE	590,191

GREENWOOD	48,482
HAMPTON	4,685,761
HORRY	5,994,838
JASPER	211,041
KERSHAW	538,364
LANCASTER	116,110
LAURENS	208,238
LEE	8,748,914
LEXINGTON	1,227,858
MARION	1,749,936
MARLBORO	5,562,406
MCCORMICK	14,342
NEWBERRY	732,601
OCONEE	114,337
ORANGEBURG	11,313,938
PICKENS	240,255
RICHLAND	973,067
SALUDA	1,261,097
SPARTANBURG	786,548
SUMTER	5,938,855
UNION	25,120
WILLIAMSBURG	8,741,393
YORK	881,800

FSA obligated approximately \$69,505,000 in Farm Loan Programs this Fiscal Year. From direct and guaranteed farm operating loans, farm ownership loans and emergency loans to South Carolina's eligible producers who operate family-size farms and ranches, FSA processed 403 loans for South Carolina producers who were temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit elsewhere.

\$52,736,000 - Guaranteed Loan Program
Under the Guaranteed Loan Program FSA guarantees loans made by conventional agricultural lenders for up to 95 percent of any loss. All loans must meet certain qualifying criteria to be eligible for guarantees.

\$16,069,000 - Direct Loan Program
For those unable to obtain a guaranteed loan, FSA offers the Direct Loan Program. These loans are made and serviced by FSA Farm Loan Program staff located in FSA Service Centers.

Emergency Loans -- \$700,000

Commodity Credit Corporation Payments by County
FSA distributed over \$111,544,786 in Commodity Credit Corporation payments to producers through Farm Service Agency programs and commodity loans during the 2005 Fiscal Year. Below is a county-by-county snapshot of CCC payment distributed by FSA. (Please note: does not include Farm Loan Programs.)

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