



“SCOOP”

ARKANSAS FARM SERVICE AGENCY - - STATE OFFICE

January 2008

2007 Advance Counter-Cyclical Payments

Due to high market prices, USDA announced there will be no partial advance of 2007 Counter-Cyclical payments for Wheat, Oats, and Barley. USDA used the November World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates Report, which was released on November 9, 2007, to project the rates, and determine that the effective prices exceed their respective target prices.

USDA will announce advance payment rates, if applicable, for:

- Upland Cotton, Rice, and Peanuts on or after February 1, 2008
- Corn, Grain Sorghum, and Soybeans on or after March 1, 2008.

By Statute, the Counter-Cyclical Payments are only issued in two cycles for 2007, one 40% advance payment, and then a final payment. In previous years two advance payments, and a final payment were allowed.

The projected 2007 Counter-Cyclical final payment dates are:

- Wheat and Oats on or after July 2008
- Upland Cotton, Rice, and Peanuts on or after September 2008
- Corn, Sorghum, and Soybeans on or after October 2008

Note: It is unknown if final Rice payments will be delayed to February 2009, as in previous years.

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2007 Wheat NASS Seasonal Average Price Unavailable for the 2007 Crop Disaster Program (CDP)

As a rule, the NASS Seasonal Average Price is used to calculate the 95% Cap limit for the 2005, 2006, and 2007 CDP Program. However, the 2007 NASS Seasonal Average Price is not available for the 2007 winter wheat crop. Therefore, the 95 percent CAP for the 2007 Winter Wheat applications will temporarily be calculated by using the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE). The WASDE price is a range estimate of \$5.90 to \$6.30 per bushel. However, FSA has determined to use the average of those 2 prices of \$6.10 per bushel. The NASS Seasonal Average Price is projected to be released in July 2008.

2005, 2006, 2007 Crop Disaster Assistance (CDP) Payments Authorized

Just in time for the holidays, authorization was received allowing FSA to issue 2005, 2006, 2007 Crop Disaster Assistance (CDP) payments to eligible applicants. On December 19, 2007, Federal Regulations governing the program were put on display, which authorized the release of payments. Producers are reminded that county offices are still accepting applications for quantity losses, and expect to begin signup for quality losses in early spring of 2008. Continue to watch FSA newsletters and releases for timely dates and issues.

Federal Crop Insurance Program Integrity

The Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 requires the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) to work together to improve program compliance and integrity of the Federal Crop Insurance Program.

- FSA will be assisting RMA and insurance providers in monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season
- FSA will refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste, and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program to RMA
- Producers may report suspected cases of fraud, waste, and abuse to their local FSA County Office, RMA, or the Office of Inspector General (OIG)
- FSA will assist RMA with auditing claims.

Deadlines	
<p>Application Closing Dates for 2008 NAP crops: Greens – Fresh and Processed, All Varieties, Spring and Fall Plantings Broccoli Cabbage – Spring and Fall Plantings Carrots Onions Pecans – Native and Improved Varieties Potatoes – Spring and Fall Plantings</p>	<p>January 2, 2008</p>
<p>Application Closing Dates for 2008 NAP crops: Beans – All Varieties, Spring and Fall Plantings Cantaloupes Corn for Grain Sweet Corn Cotton Cucumbers – Spring and Fall Plantings Eggplant Grain Sorghum Lettuce Okra Peanuts Peas, Fresh and Processed, All Varieties Spring and Fall Plantings Peppers Pumpkins Rice Soybeans Squash Strawberries Sugarcane Sunflowers Sweet Potatoes Watermelons Turnips (Roots) – Spring and Fall Plantings</p>	<p>February 28, 2008</p>
<p>The crop year applicable to mohair, unshorn pelts, and wool is the calendar year beginning January 1, and ending December 31. The final availability date to request a mohair or wool loan or LDP is January 31 of the year following the year in which the applicable commodity is sheared. The final availability date to request an LDP for unshorn pelts is January 31 of the year following the year in which the unshorn lamb is slaughtered.</p>	<p>January 31, 2008</p>

