UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250 **Notice ARCPLC-24**

For: State and County Offices

Certification of Yields for Agriculture Risk Coverage-Individual (ARC-IC) on CCC-863

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Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs

1 Overview

A Background

ARC-IC requires yield certification reporting components and requires participating producers to annually certify yields for each planted covered commodity.

B Purpose

This notice provides guidance to State and County Offices on:

- accepting yield certifications for ARC-IC on CCC-863
- completing CCC-863 (Exhibit 1).

2 Certification of Yield for Establishing the Benchmark Farm Yield

A Definition of Benchmark Farm Yield

Benchmark farm yield means, for years the covered commodity was planted, 5 years of actual average farm yields with a 70 percent of the county T-yield being substituted for in each year in the benchmark where the actual yield is less than 70 percent of the county T-yield. For years the covered commodity was not planted, the benchmark farm yield for the covered commodity will be assigned 100 percent of the county average yield for the applicable year.

Disposal Date	Distribution
November 1, 2015	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice ARCPLC-24

2 Certification of Yield for Establishing the Benchmark Farm Yield (Continued)

B ARC-IC Substitute Yields

To establish a benchmark farm yield for a covered commodity planted in the current year, a report of certified yield is required for the immediately preceding 5 crop years.

Because of situations where producers did **not** have control of the farm for the preceding 5 years when the covered commodity was planted, or the specific covered commodity was **not** planted on the farm in 1 or more of the preceding 5 crop years, substitute yields are **required** to be used in the benchmark database.

The following substitute yields are used for the ARC-IC benchmark for each covered commodity planted in the current year.

IF the crop was	THEN
planted in the benchmark year	the larger of the certified yield or 70 percent of
	T-yield is substituted.
not planted in the benchmark year	100 percent of the ARC-CO yield for each applicable
	year is substituted.

The ARC-IC substitute yields are found at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/arcplc_program/index. To access the:

- 70 percent of T-yield substitute yields, select the report titled, "70% of FSA T-Yields"
- 100 percent of the ACR-CO yield substitute yields, select the report titled, "County Yields for the ARC-CO Program".

C Reporting Requirement

Benchmark yields **must** be certified by July 15 of the subsequent crop year.

Note: For the 2014 crop year, the deadline to certify to farm benchmark yields will be later than July 15, 2015, and will be announced in a separate notice or amendment.

All 5 years of the benchmark **must** be certified for the first year the covered commodity is planted. For the second and subsequent years, **only** the actual year yield is required to be certified.

When certifying to the benchmark year yields:

• enter the actual yield if the crop was planted and there is evidence to support the yield

Note: RMA yield data is considered production evidence for FSA program purposes.

Notice ARCPLC-24

2 Certification of Yield for Establishing the Benchmark Farm Yield (Continued)

C Reporting Requirement (Continued)

- enter "0" (zero) yield if the crop was planted and evidence is **not** available (missing or not determinable) to support a certified yield greater than zero
- leave the year and yield blank if the crop was **not** planted in that year.

3 Certification of Actual Yield for the Annually Planted Crops and Action

A Definition of Actual Yield

<u>Actual yield</u>, for the current year yield for ARC-IC, means the yield calculated by dividing the farm's total production of the covered commodity by the total planted acres on the ARC-IC farm.

B Reporting Requirement

Actual farm yields for each planted covered commodity **must** be reported by July 15 of the subsequent crop year.

Note: For the 2014 crop year, the deadline to certify to farm yields will be established after July 15, 2015. FSA will announce the deadline in a separate notice or amendment.

The current year and each subsequent year the covered commodity is planted, the crop yield **must** be certified.

When certifying to the actual year yields:

• enter the actual yield if the crop was planted and there is evidence to support the yield

Notes: Records should be available to support yield certifications.

RMA yield data is considered production evidence for FSA program purposes.

- enter "0" (zero) yield if the crop was planted and evidence is **not** available (missing or not determinable) to support a certified yield greater than zero
- leave the year and yield blank if the crop was not planted in that year.

C State and County Office Action

State and County Office employees must follow this notice when collecting certified yields for ARC-IC.

Producer's Certification of Yield on CCC-863

A Certification of Yield on CCC-863

The certification of benchmark and actual yields in the current year, or using the ARC-IC substitute yields for each covered commodity and each crop year, shall be documented by completing CCC-863 for each ARC-IC farm.

Note: Producers are certifying to yields and are **not** required to submit production evidence when filing CCC-863. However, evidence to support certified yields may be required at a later date according to 1-ARCPLC, Part 3.

B Completing CCC-863

Complete CCC-863 according to the following.

Item	Instructions
1	Enter program years for which CCC-863 is being used.
	Example: For 2014, enter "2009-2014".
2A	Enter FSA County Office name and address (optional).
2B and 2C	Enter FSA County Office phone and/or FAX number (optional).
3 and 4	Enter State and county code.
5	Enter FSN.
6	Complete this section to report yields at the farm level only in the years the
	covered commodity was planted in the benchmark years and enter a yield for the current year.
6 A	Enter covered commodity name that was planted in the current year on the farm.
6 B	Enter either of the following, as applicable:
	certified yield for each year of the benchmark, for each of the covered commodities planted in the current year
	Note: If the covered commodity was not planted for the particular year, leave blank .
	actual yield for the actual year (current year) yield of the covered commodity planted.
	Note: In the second and subsequent years, only the actual year yield of the covered commodity must be certified.
6 C	Enter certified yield's "Record Type". Enter "1" for RMA data, "2" for production sold/commercial storage, "3" for on-farm storage, "4" for livestock feed records, "5" for FSA loan record, "6" for FSA NAP record, or "7" for other.
	Note: If "7" is entered, enter the other record type in the "Remarks" section.

Producer's Certification of Yield on CCC-863 (Continued)

B Completing CCC-863 (Continued)

Item	Instructions
7	Enter remarks, if applicable.
8	Enter producer's name and address.
9A	Signature of producer completing the certification. Producer shall also be responsible for providing the evidence on request.
9B	If individual signing in item 9A is signing in a representative capacity for the participant, a title and/or relationship shall be entered. If the individual in item 9A is the signatory, then no entry is required.
9C	Enter date the producer or person signing in a representative capacity completes the certification.
10A	COC or representative signs after COC or representative reviews certified yields.
10B	Enter date COC or representative signed CCC-863.

Producer's Certification of Yield on CCC-863 (Continued)

C Example of CCC-863

The following is an example of CCC-863.

CCC-863 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE					1.	Program `	Years:						
06-18-15) Commodity Credit Corporation					2A. County FSA Office Name and Address (Including Zip Code)								
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AGRICULTURE RISK COVERAGE – INDIVIDUAL (ARC-IC) YIELD CERTIFICATION			UAL 2B						inty FSA Office FAX Number luding Area Code)				
							3. State Code 4. County Code			5. Farm Number			
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Producer's Certification of Yield on CCC-863 (Continued)

C Example of CCC-863 (Continued)

CCC-863 (06-18-15)

The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a – as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is 7 CFR Part 1412, the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 et seq.), and the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79). The Information will be used to determine eligibility to participate in and receive benefits under the Agricultura Risk Coverage Program and Price Loss Coverage Program. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for USDA/FSA-2, Farm Records File (Automated). Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility to participate in and receive benefits under the Agriculture Risk Coverage Program and Price Loss Coverage Program.

This information collection is exempted from the Paperwork Reduction Act as specified in the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79, Title I, Subtitle F, Administration).

The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.

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If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.