

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Notice ARCPLC-6

For: State and County Offices

Maintaining Base Acres

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (The 2014 Farm Bill) was enacted on February 7, 2014. The 2014 Farm Bill provides that base acres for covered commodities and generic (upland cotton) base acres for a farm shall be used to:

- compute price loss coverage (PLC) payments
- compute agriculture risk coverage – county (ARC-CO) payments
- compute agriculture risk coverage – individual (ARC-IC) payments.

The 2014 Farm Bill:

- requires the retention of covered commodity and upland cotton base (generic base) and counter-cyclical (CC) payment yields that were on the farm as of September 30, 2013
- prohibits the same land from being enrolled in ARCPLC, CRP, and WRP
- specified that the total acres under ARCPLC, CRP, CRP easement, CRP practice lifespan requirements, and cropland enrolled in any federal conservation program for which payments are made in exchange for not producing an agricultural commodity, shall not exceed the total DCP cropland acres on the farm
- authorizes reinstatement of base acres for covered commodity and generic base acres on the farm, for enrollment into ARCPLC when the base had previously been reduced because of enrollment in CRP and the contract has expired or has been voluntarily terminated.

Note: Farms with CRP contracts that required a reduction in base acres when CRP-1 was approved may restore the covered commodity and any generic base acres on a farm if the CRP-1 expired, was voluntarily terminated, or early released after September 30, 2013.

Disposal Date	Distribution
December 1, 2014	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice ARCPLC-6

1 Overview (Continued)

B Purpose

This notice provides guidance to State and County Offices on actions to take to maintain base acres after September 30, 2013.

2 Action

A County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- continue to maintain base acres of covered commodities, including generic (upland cotton) base acres and yields on farms and tracts
 - restore base acres of covered commodities, including generic (upland cotton) base acres and yields that were reduced because of participation in CRP when CRP:
 - expired
 - was voluntarily terminated
 - was early released
 - ensure that a participant who elects to voluntarily terminate a CRP contract does not receive payments on both CRP and ARCPLC acres on the same land for the same FY
 - reduce base acres when the total of the following exceeds DCP cropland acreage excluding double-cropping history on the farm:
 - all base acres of covered commodities, including generic (upland cotton) base acres
 - any cropland enrolled in CRP, EWP, GRP, WBP, or WRP
 - any cropland acreage enrolled in any Federal conservation program (except for WBP, WRP and EWP Flood Plain Easements) for which payments are made in exchange for not producing an agricultural commodity, unless the agreement or easement allows for haying and/or grazing on the land under normal conditions
- Note:** Enrollment in State conservation programs has no impact on PLC, ARC-CO, or ARC-IC programs.
- ensure that CCC-505's obtained before receipt of this notice are acceptable
 - reduce base acres using CCC-505, according to Exhibit 1.

CCC-505 Example and Instructions

A Example of CCC-505

The following is an example of CCC-505 (dated 06-26-14).

<p>This form is available electronically.</p> <p>CCC-505 (06-26-14)</p> <p>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Commodity Credit Corporation</p> <p>VOLUNTARY PERMANENT BASE ACRE REDUCTION</p>						1. STATE AND COUNTY CODE	2. FARM NO.	3. PROGRAM YEAR
<p>NOTE: 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 Agriculture Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79). The information will be used to process a request for a permanent reduction of the base acres established for identified crops. The information collected on the 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 an inability to process a request for a permanent reduction of the base acres established for identified crops.</p> <p>This information collection is exempted from the Paperwork Reduction Act, as it is required for administration of the Agriculture Act of 2012 (Pub. L. 113-79), Title 1, Subtitle F – Administration.</p> <p>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.</p>						<p>4. REASON FOR REDUCTION OF BASE ACRES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> CRP Enrollment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>		
<p>PART A - REQUEST</p> <p>The undersigned requests a permanent reduction of the base acres established for the following crop(s) for the farm identified in Item 2 above.</p>								
5. TRACT NO.	6. COMMODITY	7. YIELD	8. BASE ACRES ON TRACT BEFORE REDUCTION	9. BASE ACRES ON TRACT TO BE REDUCED	10. BASE ACRES ON TRACT AFTER REDUCTION (Column 7 MINUS Column 9)			
			-	=				
			-	=				
			-	=				
			-	=				
11. Total Base Acres to be Reduced (Total of Column 9)								
12. Total Base Acres on Farm Before Reduction			13. Total Base Acres on Farm After Reduction (Item 12 minus Item 11)					
14A. Requestor's Signature (By)			14B. Title/Relationship (of the individual signing in the Representative Capacity)			14C. Date (MM-DD-YYYY)		
15A. Owner's Signature (By)			15B. Title/Relationship (of the individual signing in the Representative Capacity)			15C. Date (MM-DD-YYYY)		
16A. Owner's Signature (By)			16B. Title/Relationship (of the individual signing in the Representative Capacity)			16C. Date (MM-DD-YYYY)		
17. REMARKS (If the base acres are being reduced because of cropland enrollment into CRP, enter the CRP-1 number and the effective date of CRP-1).								
<p>PART B- APPROVAL (COUNTY OFFICE USE ONLY)</p>								
18. REDUCTION IS:						19. COUNTY FSA OFFICE NAME AND ADDRESS (Including Zip Code)		
<p>APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVED <input type="checkbox"/></p>								
20. COC'S SIGNATURE			DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)			TELEPHONE NUMBER (Area Code):		
<p>The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) Persons with disabilities, who wish to file a program complaint, write to the address below or if you require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) please contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities and wish to file either an EEO or program complaint, please contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish).</p> <p>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.</p>								

CCC-505 Example and Instructions (Continued)

B Instructions for Completing CCC-505

Owners may request a voluntary permanent reduction of base acres (including generic base acres) by completing CCC-505 according to this table.

Item	Instruction	
1	Enter the State and county code where the farm is administratively located.	
2	Enter farm number where base acres shall be reduced.	
3	IF CCC-505 is...	THEN enter program year...
	being prepared as a prerequisite for participation in CRP or GRP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> for CRP, equal to the effective date of CRP-1 <p>Note: The program year on CCC-505 shall equal date FY CRP-1 becomes effective.</p> <p>Example: Producer completed and signed CCC-505 during CRP signup 26. If the CRP offer is accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRP-1 will be effective October 1, 2008 base acre reduction is effective October 1, 2008 CCC-505 program year is 2009. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for land enrolled in GRP under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rental agreement, equal to date CCC-920 is approved by COC easement, equal to date GRP easement is filed.
	completed for reasons other than CRP or GRP participation	equal to the FY CCC-505 is approved by COC.
4	Enter the reason base acres are being reduced. If “other”, specify reason.	
5	Enter the tract numbers where base acres shall be reduced.	
6	For the tract numbers in item 5, enter commodity for which base acres shall be reduced.	
7	Enter the tract level payment yield for the commodity entered in item 6.	
	Important: The tract level yield may be different than the farm level yield for the commodity.	
8	For the tract numbers in item 5, enter the total base acres for the commodity in item 6 before reduction.	
9	Enter the total base acres for the commodity in item 6 to be reduced on tract numbers in item 5.	
10	For the tract numbers in item 5, enter the total base acres for the commodity in item 6 after the reduction.	

CCC-505 Example and Instructions (Continued)

B Instructions for Completing CCC-505 (Continued)

Item	Instruction
11	Enter the total number of base acres to be reduced for the farm number entered in item 2 (total of column 9).
12	Enter the total number of base acres on the farm number in item 2 before reduction.
13	Enter the total number of base acres on the farm number in item 2 after reduction (item 12 minus item 11).
14A	Requestor, if other than owner, shall sign.
14B	If: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the producer/applicant signing is not signing in the representative capacity, leave blank anyone other than the producer/applicant is signing in a representative capacity, enter the title or relationship to the producer/applicant.
14C	Enter date signed.
15A and 16A	Owner or representative shall sign. Only the affected owner shall sign CCC-505.
15B and 16B	If: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the owner signing is not signing in the representative capacity, leave blank anyone other than the owner is signing in a representative capacity, enter the title or relationship to the owner.
15C and 16C	Enter date signed.
17	Enter remarks. If base acres are being reduced because of enrollment into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRP, enter CRP-1 number and CRP-1 effective date GRP, enter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCC-920 number and beginning date of contract period for land enrolled under rental agreement System 36 application number and date easement is filed for land enrolled under an easement. <p>Important: File copy of CCC-505 in the CTAP/ARC/PLC Program folder and CRP or GRP folder, as applicable.</p>
18	COC shall indicate if CCC-505 is approved or disapproved.
19	Enter County Office name, address, and telephone number.
20	COC, or representative, will sign and date.

CCC-505 Example and Instructions (Continued)

C Processing CCC-505

Process CCC-505's according to this table.

Step	Action
1	Ensure that all base acres (including generic base acres) and reductions are listed.
2	Ensure that all affected owner signatures are present and properly executed.
3	<p>If all applicable affected owners do not sign CCC-505, within 30 calendar days, COC will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> act on the request if a reduction is required to comply with CTAP/ARC/PLC disapprove, sign, and date, if a reduction is not required to comply with CTAP, ARC, or PLC. <p>If all applicable signatures are obtained, COC or designee may approve CCC-505; however, approval is not necessary.</p>
4	<p>Reduce the base acres (including generic base acres) that exceed cropland in farm maintenance according to 10-CM.</p> <p>Note: Ensure that CCC-505 is properly executed before making these reductions or processing the CTAP/ARC/PLC.</p>
5	Date stamp and retain CCC-505.
6	<p>Corrections: CCC-505 corrections are permitted, if acreage data on the farm is found to have changed during MIDAS or farm record updates. In cases where additional base acreage is required to be reduced due to rounding or other corrections, the additional base reduction due to CRP acreage can be added to the existing CCC-505 for the farm or tract.</p>

Notes: CCC-505 (dated 02-21-12) was required effective February 24, 2012. Before this date, CCC-505 (dated 02-05-09) was acceptable.

CCC-505 (dated 01-22-13) was required effective February 5, 2013. Before this date, CCC-505 (dated 02-21-12) was acceptable.

CCC-505 (dated 01-22-13) and subsequent CCC-505's are acceptable.