

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Notice CP-718

For: State and County Offices

Acreage Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative (ACRSI) Spring Expansion Implementation

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

ACRSI is a joint effort between producers, FSA County Offices and RMA Approved Insurance Providers (AIP) to reduce redundant reporting by eliminating the need to report the same information multiple times. The 2016 ACRSI Spring Expansion implementation to all counties and states will allow producers to report their common crop acreage data for 13 eligible crops and have that data shared electronically with both FSA and RMA.

B Purpose

This notice informs State and County Offices that the 2016 ACRSI Spring Expansion has been released Nationwide and provides information about the ACRSI reporting process including:

- eligible crops and reporting process/channel
- exception list
- fall data cleanup
- changes since national training
- media contact information.

2 ACRSI 2016 Spring Expansion

A Eligible Crops and Reporting Process/Channel

The following crops will be shared through ACRSI during the spring 2016 reporting period:

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------|-----------|------------|
| • alfalfa | • corn | • cotton | • CRP |
| • fallow | • grass | • oats | • peanuts |
| • rice | • rye | • sorghum | • soybeans |
| • wheat. | | | |

Disposal Date

February 1, 2017

5-13-16

Distribution

State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

2 ACRSI 2016 Spring Expansion (Continued)

A Eligible Crops and Reporting Process/Channel (Continued)

Producers who do business with both FSA and RMA will report their 2016 spring planted crops to either FSA or their crop insurance agent, and the data will be shared electronically in near real time with the other Agency. Data will only be shared with the crop insurance agent if a crop insurance policy is in force for an approved ACRSI crop. Producers will still be required to visit both Agencies to validate and certify by signing the reports and will also have to complete a map for FSA.

County Office employees will access ACRSI through the regular Crop Acreage Reporting System (CARS) process to enter data reported by producers in the FSA office.

B Exception List

Not all data collected for 2016 acreage reporting will be shared using ACRSI. FSA and RMA are working on aligning additional acreage reporting data element definitions and policy. Data that is currently not aligned will not be shared as part of the Spring Expansion. Only crops with the following reported data elements will be transmitted as part of the data sharing effort.

- Planting Period - 01
- Planting Pattern – Solid
- Reporting Unit – Acres
- Crop Status – Initial
- Supplemental Crop Status – Planted, Prevented or Failed
- Concurrent Planting – None.

In addition, crops with the intended use of “GS” and corn and grain sorghum with an intended use of “SD” will not be transmitted.

Note: ACRSI approved crops not meeting the above exceptions will not be shared with RMA.

C Fall Data Cleanup

States and counties that participated in the Fall ACRSI pilot may find ACRSI Work List farms that were not processed before the Fall pilot closeout. If ACRSI Work List farms remain from the Fall pilot and FSA already has a 2016 FSA-578 on file for the farm, County Offices should delete the farms from the work list. Fall pilot ACRSI Work List farms will have a submission date before May 1, 2016.

If a Fall pilot ACRSI Work List farm has a submission date before May 1, 2016, and FSA does **not** have a 2016 FSA-578 on file, County Offices should access the ACRSI Work List farm and review and import, if appropriate.

2 ACRSI 2016 Spring Expansion (Continued)

D Changes Since National Training

During national compliance training, instructions were provided about the ACRSI “Opt In” option for producers, which would allow them to elect to share data using ACRSI in real time. Since training, a decision has been made to remove the ACRSI “Opt In” functionality. This means that all producers reporting ACRSI approved crops will be participating in Spring Expansion and data will be shared with the RMA Clearing House. Data will only be shared with participating AIP’s and their crop insurance agents when a crop insurance policy is in force for the producer and crop being reported.

In addition, with the increased number of AIP’s participating in ACRSI, the volume of ACRSI Work List items will increase. Automatic import of validated AIP data was intended to help reduce this workload, however, concerns were raised by State Offices about automatic import of ACRSI data overwriting existing CARS data. This concern will be addressed by changing the automatic import functionality to only import new data. No existing CARS data will be overwritten. Data not automatically imported will appear in the ACRSI Work List and require further validation by County Offices. This change will be incorporated in a future software release.

E Media Contact Information

If the State Office or County Office is contacted by the media about the ACRSI Spring Expansion, refer them to either of the following:

- Todd Atkinson, Director
Office of External Affairs
Telephone: 202-720-9933
Email: todd.atkinson@wdc.usda.gov
- Kent Politsch, Chief
Public Affairs Branch
Telephone: 202-720-7163
Email: kent.politsch@wdc.usda.gov

3 State and County Office Action

A Communication

When available, State Offices shall provide County Offices with forthcoming ACRSI communication documents, which will include:

- facts sheets
- FAQ's
- talking points
- posters
- brochures.

B State Office Action

State Office shall:

- access the ACRSI Spring Expansion SharePoint site at **<https://sharepoint.fsa.usda.net/ACRSI/ACRSI%20Spring%20Expansion/SitePages/Home.aspx>** to obtain training materials and communications documents
- e-mail your ACRSI related questions to **ACRSITeam@wdc.usda.gov** and they will be posted with answers to the ACRSI Spring Expansion Question Tracker spreadsheet before the regularly scheduled call.

C County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- access the ACRSI Spring Expansion SharePoint site at **<https://sharepoint.fsa.usda.net/ACRSI/ACRSI%20Spring%20Expansion/SitePages/Home.aspx>** to view training materials and communications documents and review the Question Tracker
- direct ACRSI related questions to the State Office for inclusion in the ACRSI Spring Expansion Question Tracker
- review ACRSI communications documents and 2-CP to familiarize themselves with the 2016 Spring Expansion to better assist producers with questions when reporting through ACRSI display brochures and posters.