

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Notice CRP-783

For: State and County Offices

SRR's for 2015

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

SRR's for dryland cropland provide the basis for maximum payment rate calculations used to determine annual rental payments for CRP cropland offers and contracts. SRR's must be established and maintained to reflect prevailing dryland cropland cash rental rates for all cropped soil map units.

SRR's:

- must be set at market levels to ensure that program operations do not distort local rental markets, program costs are minimized, and program goals and objectives are achieved
- must make CRP competitive with other programs and economically viable for producers
- are loaded in the Soils Data Management System (SDMS) for direct Tool for Environmental Resource Results Assessment, Conservation Online System, and Conservation Contract Maintenance System use.

SRR's are calculated by the National Office and consist of 2 components:

- county average prevailing cash rental rate for dryland cropland
- soil productivity factors grouped within each county or soil survey area.

Disposal Date	Distribution
October 1, 2015	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices and NRCS State Offices

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1 Overview (Continued)

B Purpose

This notice:

- announces alternative county average cash rental rates that may be selected to:
 - maintain the existing rate
 - adopt the NASS 2014 plus 10 percent rate
- provides policy for STC's and COC's to update county average rental rates.

2 Updated SRR's

A Calculating SRR's

FY 2015 SRR's will be based on:

- average county rental rate for dryland cropland
- grouped soil productivity factor.

The SRR calculation is derived by multiplying the average county rental rate by the grouped soil productivity factor. The following table provides an example of the SRR calculation.

State	County	County Average Rate	Map Unit Symbol	Prod. Group	Prod. Factor	Updated SRR
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	ADC1	1	1.1	\$110
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	ADC2	1	1.1	\$110
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	ADC3	1	1.1	\$110
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	CR1	2	0.9	\$90
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	PVa	3	1.0	\$100
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	PVb	3	1.0	\$100
Michigan	Clinton	\$100	PVc	3	1.0	\$100

2 Updated SRR's (Continued)

B Average County Rental Rate for Dryland Cropland

State and County Offices can:

- maintain the existing rate
- adopt the NASS 2014 plus 10 percent rate.

The National Office will post modified rates for review by COB March 4, 2015, on CEPD's SharePoint site at <https://fsa.sc.egov.usda.gov/states/cepd/crp/default.aspx>. Each State Office will download its spreadsheet that includes columns for:

- the current existing county average posted rates
- the NASS 2014 plus 10 percent rate
- a blank space for the selected county average cash rental rate.

To propose an alternative rate for consideration, visit CEPD's SharePoint site. Instructions and requirements for submitting a proposed alternative average county rental rate will be found at the SharePoint site. Submissions must be received by COB March 31, 2015.

C Posting SRR's

The National Office will post the updated SRR's in SDMS by COB April 23, 2015. The county average SRR's will be published on the SharePoint site.

3 Policy for State and County Office County Average Rental Rate Updates

A Requirements for Selecting an Average County Rental Rate

STC's, COC's, or State and County Offices may select either of the following:

- maintain the existing rate
- adopt the NASS 2014 plus 10 percent rate.

If a State Office takes no action, the County Office will receive the NASS 2014 plus 10 percent rate.

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3 Policy for State and County Office County Average Rental Rate Updates (Continued)

B Start Date for Alternative Estimates

The National Office plans to update all soils information, including SRR's, in SDMS on April 23, 2015.

C Submitting Information

COC, or designee, must submit any requests for consideration to update their county average rental rate to STC including the credible analysis data. STC must review each request to ensure completeness and accuracy. STC's must submit a completed spreadsheet of all county average rental rates including any proposed alternative rates to DAFP through CEPD by March 31, 2015. Where an alternative county rate is proposed, supporting documentation, including credible analysis data, must accompany the submission for consideration.

If no action is taken by STC for a county average rate, then the NASS 2014 plus 10 percent rate will be assigned. Submissions must be e-mailed to Jean Agapoff at jean.agapoff@ca.usda.gov, and DAFP will review and consider each request on a case-by-case basis.

4 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices shall:

- follow the provisions of this notice
- ensure that County Offices follow the provisions of this notice.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- follow the provisions of this notice
- until updated SRR's are posted in SDMS, notify CRP applicants who submit **cropland** offers that SRR's are under review and may be updated in the future for their county, and that the updates may result in rate increases or decreases
- print and post the updated SRR's in the County Office using the Posting Report option available in SDMS.