

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Farm Service Agency  
Washington, DC 20250

**Notice SURE-37**

**For:** State and County Offices

**Announcing 2012 SURE**

**Approved by:** Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246), as amended, authorizes the SURE Program ending with losses occurring because of weather events through September 30, 2011. SURE is available to eligible producers on farms:

- in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred at least a 10 percent crop production or quality loss, or both, for at least 1 crop of economic significance, **except** grazed crops
- on which the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the farm's normal production.

**B Purpose**

This notice:

- identifies State and County Office action to prepare for 2012 SURE Program signup
- reiterates that **all** SURE eligibility provisions, including the risk management purchase requirement (RMPR), apply to the producer and crops of economic significance.

**C Program Signup Dates**

Signup for the SURE Program for 2012 crop losses is scheduled to begin in May. A forthcoming notice will announce the signup dates.

**D SURE Payments**

An information bulletin will be issued when 2012 payment software is available. See 1-SURE for instructions on entering payments and 1-CM for instructions on common payment reports.

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

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## 2 Qualifying Loss for SURE Farm Eligibility

### A SURE Qualifying Loss

The 2008 Farm Bill and regulations (7 CFR Part 760, Subpart G) specify that, to receive SURE payments, an eligible producer on a SURE farm **must** have a qualifying loss. A qualifying loss is defined as a loss of 10 percent or more on at least 1 crop of economic significance because of disaster on a farm that is either:

- located in a disaster county
- if not located in any disaster county or county contiguous to such a county, but has an overall loss greater than or equal to 50 percent of normal production on the farm (expected revenue for all crops on the farm) because of disaster.

**Notes:** SURE farms include all crop acreage in all counties that a producer planted or intended to plant for harvest for normal commercial sale or farm livestock feeding.

A crop of economic significance is a crop that contributes at least 5 percent of the expected revenue for a producer's SURE farm.

A disaster county is a county for which a Secretarial disaster designation has been issued, or a county contiguous to a county with a Secretarial disaster designation. The disaster designation **must** be effective for the crop year for which SURE payments are being applied.

### B Additional Qualifying Loss Requirements for 2012 SURE

At the time of filing the 2012 FSA-682, the producer will be **required** to identify and certify the crop or crops of economic significance on the SURE farm that suffered the 10 percent loss because of disaster occurring through September 30, 2011.

**Note:** Crops are **not** required to be harvested by September 30, 2011, to maintain eligibility for SURE. Rather, the applicant must identify the crop or crops that suffered a loss because of disaster occurring through September 30, 2011.

COC shall ensure that the economically significant 2012 crop or crops certified as having the 10 percent qualifying loss because of a disaster occurring through September 30, 2011, meet all the following criteria, as applicable:

- for insured crops, the insurance policy defines the coverage period as beginning before October 1, 2011
- for NAP crops, the coverage period begins **before** October 1, 2011
- the final planting date, according to RMA and FSA for NAP crops **only**, occurred **before** October 1, 2011.

## **2 Qualifying Loss for SURE Farm Eligibility (Continued)**

### **B Additional Qualifying Loss Requirements for 2012 SURE (Continued)**

FSA **must** be satisfied that the claimed loss of at least 1 nonexcepted crop on the SURE farm was because of disaster occurring through September 30, 2011, to determine that a qualifying loss has triggered.

### **C Researching 2012 Crops Coverage Periods and Final Planting Dates**

State Offices shall assist County Offices in researching coverage periods and final planting dates for 2012 crops using available data sources including:

- NCT's
- RMA web sites.

**Notes:** The date coverage actually began for a specific producer will be used for COC determinations on qualifying losses.

Producers shall be encouraged to file 2012 FSA-682 and County Offices shall **not** use eligibility criteria to discourage producers from filing.

## **3 Action**

### **A State Office Action**

State Offices shall:

- follow subparagraph 2 C to assist County Offices in researching crop coverage periods and final planting dates
- establish 2012 SURE crop data according to 1-SURE, Part 3
- load STC-approved data into the 2012 NCT according to 1-NAP, Part 10, Section 1.5.

### **B County Office Action**

County Offices shall follow subparagraph 2 C to research crop coverage periods and final planting dates in conjunction with the State Office.