UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency
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OK Notice CRP- 538

For: County Offices

Reminder of CRP Soils/SRR Data Maintenance Responsibilities

Approved by: State Executive Director

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1 Overview

A Background

The CRP software, to evaluate future general signup offers, will contain more automated evaluations run against a data base. Initial preparations are being made for a general CRP signup. One of these activities is to ensure the current soil symbols, used for CRP, match the current NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).

A review of CRP Soil Rental Rate (SRR) files in Kansas City has shown that many map unit symbols are probably incorrect or obsolete. The soil legend, of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG), contains the official symbols to be used for CRP soil rental rate posting for cropped soils. Many of NRCS's soil symbols include lower case letters that will be used for CRP SRR posting whenever applicable.

CEPD and KC updated System 36 SRR software and policy in October 2002 to allow for the loading of upper/lower case symbol patterns (see 1-CRP, subparagraph 224 D) and noted in subparagraph 223B that the NRCS soil map unit symbols should be used. (Prior to this only uppercase alphabetic characters were allowed in System 36 SRR files.) The Soil Rental Rate Table for all Oklahoma counties (excluding those with numeric soil symbols) shows all soil symbols to be in upper case only.

In other cases, recent changes in FOTG soil surveys by NRCS may have made some or all of the current soil map unit symbols used by FSA for soil rental rate posting obsolete.

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Disposal Date:	**Distribution:**
03-01-03	County Offices

1 Overview, Continued

B Purpose

This notice requires County Offices to update the soil symbols for the CRP Soil Rental Rate Table and revises the new completion date to **November 20, 2002**.

2 Update of County Soil Symbols for CRP SRR Table

A Reference Material and Update

A copy of the county's current "Soil/Payment Rate Table" and the county's NRCS Soil Map Legend were provided to the District Director for dissemination at their monthly information meetings. CEDs will observe the Soil/Payment Rate Table has all upper case letters for the soils, and the NRCS Soil Map Legend contains upper and lower case letters. CEDs shall utilize the NRCS Soil Map Legend to update the CRP Soil/Payment Rate Table according to 1-CRP, subparagraph 223 C and paragraph 224. The upper case soil symbols will need to be deleted, and the upper and lower case soil symbols added in the software processing.

Note: Counties with numeric soil symbols will not have changes to update, but may have additional soil symbols (alpha) to add. See subparagraph 2 B below.

B Added Soil Symbols

NRCS recently completed cross county analysis of soils and soil symbols. The analysis resulted in additional soil symbols for a county.

The CRP Soil/Payment Rate Table for each county was reviewed with the NRCS Soils Section. Additional soils were added to each county table (not in all cases) based on the cross county review. The added soil symbols were placed in the correct soil rental rate category. The added soils will need to be updated in the system according to 1-CRP, subparagraph 223 C and paragraph 224.

C Oklahoma County Soils/Payment Rate Table

Oklahoma County will utilize new soil symbols from the updated soils survey. The CED shall consult with NRCS and group applicable cropland soils in an appropriate rental rate category based on documented rent, productivity, yield, and land values and present to the COC.

Upon COC review, a recommendation shall be submitted to the State Committee, with justification indicating the dollar rental rate category and associated soil groupings. The COC recommendation shall be submitted to the State Committee by November 18, 2002. The STC will review and return approved soil rental rates for entry into the system.

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2 Update of County Soil Symbols for CRP SRR Table (continued)

D
Contiguous County Soils Table

Handbook 1-CRP, subparagraph 223 A, requires soil rental rates for the county to be entered in the system and posted in the County Office. The subparagraph states that County Offices shall not load or maintain soils or soil rental rates for land not physically located in the county even though the county may have administrative responsibility for land partially or fully located outside of the county. Counties with soil rental rate tables for soils located outside their county shall be removed.

E
Completion Date

The update of the Soil/Payment Rate Table, reflecting updated soils and properly constructed soil symbols (upper and lower case) shall be completed by **November 20, 2002**.

F
Obsolete Notice

OK Notice CRP-537 is obsolete.