

For: County Offices

**Procedure for Adjusting Yield for Wheat Hay Harvested from Acreage  
Grazed Beyond an Optimum Date for Terminating Grazing**

Approved by: State Executive Director



**1 Overview**

**A  
Purpose**

Handbook 8-LP contains policy for loan/LDP provisions effective for all 1999 and subsequent year crops eligible for a marketing assistance loan. Current policy also allows nonrecourse marketing loans and LDP's for commodities harvested as other than grain.

It is anticipated that there will be wheat producers applying for LDP's on 2003 crop wheat hay. According to paragraph 536, 8-LP, the COC has a responsibility to determine a reasonable grain production yield for the acreage hayed, based on:

- crop appraisals for disaster affected acreage
- the applicable crop's comparable, actual production harvested as grain on the same farm
- the applicable crop's comparable, actual production on 3 similar farms.

Grazing of the acreage to be hayed beyond the optimum date for terminating grazing for wheat grain dramatically reduces the grain yield. Based on data collected by the Oklahoma State University, Agronomy Department, a grain yield loss of 1.25 bu./acre, per day will occur the first three weeks after the first hollow stem appears.

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Disposal Date	Distribution
February 1, 2004	County Offices

OK Notice LP(GR)-1681

1 Overview (Continued)

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A

**Background, cont.** The first hollow stem is defined as the growth stage when the hollow stem can first be identified above the root system and below the developing head. This occurs while the developing head is still below the soil surface.

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B

**Purpose** This notice provides adjustment procedure for the COC to use in establishing the yield for wheat hay that is harvested from acreage that was grazed beyond the optimum date for terminating grazing to produce a maximum grain crop.

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C

**Adjustment Procedure** The STC policy is that a downward adjustment of 1.0/bu./acre, per day shall be made in the yield established for wheat acreage that is hayed and was grazed beyond the date defined to produce a maximum grain crop.

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2 Action

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A

**COC Action** The County Committee shall:

- in consultation with the District Director and CED, determine a date when cattle would need to be removed from wheat acreage to produce a maximum grain crop (dates established by Risk Management for crop insurance purposes shall be used if already established for the county)
- document in COC minutes, the COC determined date that cattle should be removed
- on a case by case basis, make a downward adjustment in the yield according to STC policy.

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B

**County Office Action** If the COC determined date for crop year 2003 is different from the date established in 2002, the County Office shall send a memorandum to the STO-Price Support Section indicating the new date the COC has determined.

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