



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farmers
Home
Administration

FmHA AN No. 1566 (1945)
Washington
D.C.
20250

March 19, 1987

SUBJECT: Reporting Potential Natural Disasters

TO: ALL State Directors, FmHA

Purpose/Intended Outcome: The purpose of this AN is to set forth the responsibilities of County Supervisors and State Directors to report potential natural disasters to appropriate officials; maintain close liaison with the State Governor's office insuring that all requests to the Secretary for natural disaster designations are made within 3 months after the ending date of the potential disaster as required in FmHA Instruction 1945-A, Section 1945.20(b) and provide guidance on the documentation needed to promptly expedite Secretarial designation requests.

Comparison with previous AN: This AN replaces AN No. 1314(1945) issued December 24, 1985, which expired on December 31, 1986. The policy as clarified in that AN remains the same.

Implementation Responsibilities:

FmHA Instruction 1945-A, Section 1945.19 prescribes the reporting responsibilities of each County Supervisor and each State Director.

It is the responsibility of each County Supervisor to immediately report to his/her State Director the occurrence of any natural phenomenon which has adversely affected an agricultural operation(s) with severe physical property losses in the County Office area.

It is each State Director's responsibility to monitor all reported potential natural disasters, and to maintain close liaison with the State Governor's office regarding all FmHA programs, particularly the EM loan program and the processes by which counties are designated as natural disaster areas.

Your cooperation in seeing that close liaison is established with each of the Governor's offices for the State(s) under your jurisdiction, and that good rapport is maintained with those offices, will contribute significantly to a smoother running EM loan program and better public relations.

EXPIRATION DATE: March 31, 1988

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:
Preceding FmHA Instruction
1945-A



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As soon as county crop yield data is available to determine whether a requested county is eligible for EM physical and production loss loan assistance, the State Director must submit his/her written recommendations, and completed Damage Assessment Reports (DARs) to the Administrator, Attn: Emergency Division. In addition, the State Director will also submit to the National Office a list of all Agricultural Commodities produced in the State, giving the average yearly prices for each commodity for the three years immediately preceding the disaster year; the county average yields for each commodity for the five years immediately preceding the disaster year; and any additional supportive information. Yields and price data will be used to establish the normal years dollar value. Yields and prices used to establish the value of normal year production will be obtained by the State Director from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Prices used to establish value of disaster year production will be the same as used to establish normal year values; however, yields used to establish the disaster year's production will be obtained from Damage Assessment Reports (DARs).

Furthermore, even if a Governor does not make a request to the Secretary, it is the responsibility of each State Director, in accordance with FmHA Instruction 1945-A, Section 1945.19(c)(5), to notify the National Office and report to the Administrator the extent of losses. When it is believed that severe physical losses only have been sustained by one or more farmers, the Administrator will be requested to make physical loss loans available. Although section 1945.19(c)(1) requires that the report must be made to the Administrator within three months after the disaster occurs, County Supervisors are encouraged to make the report as soon as an accurate assessment of losses can be made.

Vance L. Clark
VANCE L. CLARK
Administrator