



Pasture Recovery Program

The Pasture Recovery Program (PRP) is authorized under the provisions of section 806 of the 2001 Agricultural Appropriations Act (P. L. 106-387).

Purpose

The purpose of the PRP is to provide assistance to owners and operators of pastureland on which livestock is normally grazed that was damaged or destroyed by natural disaster during calendar year 2000. Owners and operators must reestablish the permanent vegetative forage crop on such pastureland to qualify for assistance under the PRP. Up to \$40 million will be available under the PRP.

Signup Period

Signup will be held March 26, 2001, through May 11, 2001. Requests received after May 11 will **not** be accepted for the PRP. Producers who start the reseeding practice before completing an application for PRP payment will **not** be approved for payment. If the total amount of funds requested exceeds the available PRP funding, a factor will be determined and uniformly applied to all requests for payment.

Eligibility Requirements

The PRP will be available only in counties that are approved for the Emergency Conservation Program for emergency measures for 2000 natural disaster damage.

Land must be established pasture on which livestock are normally grazed. Pasture from which hay or silage is normally harvested is ineligible for PRP. Federal or State operated lands and land operated by a political subdivision of a State are not eligible. No assistance is authorized for hayland or rangeland.

Producers must own or have control over the livestock that graze the affected land **and** have control of the land for the contract period of 3 years to be eligible for PRP. Producers who have gross annual income in excess of \$2.5 million are ineligible.

Producers must certify that the pastureland to be enrolled in PRP was so damaged or destroyed by natural disaster during calendar year 2000 that seeding is required to reestablish the forage crop.

In addition, the producer must comply with the noxious weed laws of the applicable State or local jurisdiction and control any weeds, insects, pests, and other undesirable species to ensure the establishment and maintenance of the approved forage crop.

Permitted Practices

Two conservation practices are authorized under the PRP: PRP1, Reseeding With Seedbed Preparation; and PRP2, Reseeding Without Seedbed Preparation. The seeding mixtures used in these practices are approved by the State Farm Service Agency (FSA) committee.

Contract Terms and Payment Limitations

PRP contracts are for a 3-year term. The maximum amount that a producer can earn under the PRP is \$2,500 per "person." In addition, this maximum amount may be further reduced if the total amount of PRP assistance requested exceeds available funding and a factor is applied.

Payment Rates and Terms

There are two payment rates applicable to PRP, one for each of the two authorized practices. These rates, which will be determined by the State FSA committee, will be based on 65 percent of the average cost to reseed the land. The rates may be applied statewide or by areas within the State. The maximum payment rate State FSA committees may establish is \$100 per acre.

Producers will be paid upon certification and verification of the

completion of the reseeding practice. All PRP payments should be made prior to September 30, 2001, except in fall seeded or summer fallow areas.

PRP payments will be subject to spot checks to ensure program integrity.

Technical responsibility for the PRP is assigned to FSA.

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