



NEWS RELEASE

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FARMERS MAY SIGN UP FOR QUALITY LOSS CROP DISASTER PROGRAM

USDA Farm Service Agency Program Begins June 23, 2008

(Jackson, Mississippi) – June 23, 2008 – USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director Mickey L. Black announced that eligible farmers who suffered quality losses to their crops in recent years can enroll in the Crop Disaster Program 2005-2007 (CDP) at local FSA service centers starting June 23, 2008.

"We have been conducting sign up since last fall for quantity losses for the 2005-2007 crops, and now we are ready to conduct sign up for quality losses," said Black.

The CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered losses to their 2005-2007 crops from natural disasters and related conditions. Producers who incurred qualifying quantity or quality losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 may receive benefits for only one of these years. However, producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple crops as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quality losses of at least 25 percent to be eligible for CDP Quality Loss. The payment rate is set at 65 percent of the amount of the affected crop multiplied by 42 percent of the per-unit average market value in the year in which the loss occurred.

Producers may receive assistance for both quantity and quality losses. However, the total quantity and quality assistance, together with any crop insurance or NAP payment received for the same crop and the value of the crop production not lost, must not exceed 95 percent of the total value of the crop absent the disaster.

For further details about CDP Quality loss, see the fact sheet at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/cdpqlty08.pdf. For more information about CDP and other disaster programs implemented by FSA, visit: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

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