

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Farm Service Agency  
Washington, DC 20250

<b>Farmer Bridge Assistance Program 1-FBA</b>	<b>Amendment 2</b>
---	--------------------

**Approved by:** Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**Amendment Transmittal**

**A Reason for Amendment**

Subparagraph 98 F has been added to include discrepancy in acreage during a spot check.

<b>Page Control Chart</b>		
<b>TC</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
	6-5 through 6-7 6-8 (add)	



**98 Spot Checks (Continued)****B Spot Check Documentation (Continued)**

Examples of supporting documentation that may be used to support CCC-555 include the following:

- precision planting, spraying, or harvesting geospatial data or maps
- drone photos with location and notable physical boundaries
- other aerial or ground imagery with the ability to determine date, acres, and crop
- seed receipts showing the amount, variety, and date purchased
- receipts for cleaning, treating, etc., seed planted on the farm
- a written contract or documentation of an oral contract to produce a specific crop
- evidence accepted and approved by RMA or another USDA agency
- receipts showing number and units sold if the sale can be positively identified as sale of the crop for the farm for the year represented
- documentation of payment for custom harvesting indicating acreage, location, and crop year
- records showing the crop was fed to livestock.

**Note:** CMIS data is not acceptable documentation for a spot check and is not authorized.

**C Producer Notification of Selection for Spot Check**

The County Office will send a notification letter to applicants selected for a spot check within 30 days of application submission (Exhibit 28). A Microsoft Word version of this letter is available as a template on [SharePoint](#).

Selected producers may not apply for the FBA program and notification of spot-checked is not required. Selected producers meeting this criteria must be recorded as not participating at the conclusion of the application signup.

**98 Spot Checks (Continued)****D Failure to Provide acceptable Documentation for Spot Check**

Failure to timely provide acceptable documentation within 30 calendar days will result in COC determining the participant ineligible for program benefits and the producer will be required to refund all payments issued under FBA. COC must:

- thoroughly document the decision in the COC minutes
- notify the participant in writing of the ineligibility determination (Exhibit 29)
- afford appeal rights according to 1-APP.

**Note:** A Microsoft Word version of this letter is available as a template on the FBA [SharePoint](#).

**E Conducting the FBA Spot Checks**

The County Office will complete the FBA National Spot Check Checklist (Exhibit 30) for each applicant selected. A PDF version is available on the FBA [SharePoint](#).

The County Office will provide the results of the FBA Spot Check Checklists and all documentation to COC within 30 calendar days of applicant providing documentation.

**\*--F Discrepancy in Acreage**

The following provides guidance when there is a discrepancy in acreage by commodity between the:

- acreage as certified on CCC-555
- actual measurement or documentation as determined from the measurement service or documentation provided by the applicant.--\*

98 Spot Checks (Continued)

\*--F Discrepancy in Acreage (Continued)

IF determined acreage is...	THEN COC...
equal to or greater than the certified acreage	has no action required.
less than but within 5 percent of the certified acreage	<b>Note:</b> Do not enter the determined acreage in the "COC Adjustment" fields. No additional payment will be issued.
more than 5 percent of the certified acreage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>must:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine the producer <b>did not</b> comply with FBA provisions</li> <li>• adjust the acreage downward to the acreage determined from the measurement service or documentation provided by the applicant in the "COC Adjustment" field.</li> <li>• will also consider whether there is fraud or abuse according to subparagraph I.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

G COC Action on Spot Checks--\*

COC will:

- review all spot check findings, facts, and documentation
- issue an administrative determination of eligibility
- afford appeal rights according to 1-APP.

If a spot check finding results in a required adjustment, COC will enter the adjustment on CCC-555, item 13.

**Note:** Make only downward adjustments resulting from a spot check.

Once administrative determination is made, the County Office will:

- notify the producer of the results of the spot check (Exhibit 31 or Exhibit 32)
- load spot check results into recording system by announced deadline.

**Note:** A Microsoft Word version of these letters are available as a template on the FBA [SharePoint](#).

**98 Spot Checks (Continued)**

**\*--H Quality Reviews on Spot Checks--\***

Once all spot check results have been loaded into the recording system, a quality review will be completed by an SED designee. The quality review samples will be provided by the National Office and must be completed and entered into the recording system by the announced deadline.

**\*--I Discovery of Fraud or Abuse--\***

COC will follow 1-CM for applications suspected of fraud or abuse with intent to defeat the purpose of FBA.