

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Acreage and Compliance Determinations 2-CP (Revision 16)	Amendment 31
---------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



Amendment Transmittal

A Reasons for Amendment

Subparagraph 23 D has been added to provide new policy for recording plant count in CARS.

Subparagraph 34 C has been amended to update CARS acreage reporting policy.

Subparagraph 74 F has been amended to update instructions for accepting the new concurrent status of stacked in CARS.

Subparagraph 74 G has been amended to update the meaning of the “U” status code.

Page Control Chart		
TC	Text	Exhibit
1, 2	2-5, 2-6 2-37, 2-38 2-117, 2-118 2-118.5, 2-118.6	

Table of Contents

Page No.

Part 1 General Information

1	Overview.....	1-1
2	Source of Authority and Related Handbooks	1-2
3	Access to Information.....	1-2
4	Responsibilities.....	1-5
5	Submitting Documents and Requests to the Washington, DC National Office ..	1-8
6-20	(Reserved)	

Part 2 Acreage Report Procedures

Section 1 Responsibilities, Guidelines, and Reporting Dates

21	FSA-578 Purpose.....	2-1
22	Required Acreage Reports	2-2
23	Submitting Acreage Reports, Tree Crop Acreage, and Plant Count.....	2-5
24	Reporting Dates	2-6
25	Processing Acreage Reports	2-12
26	Crop Data on Hard Copy Maps	2-16
27	Late-File Report of Acreage	2-16.6
28	Partial and Revised Reports	2-22
29	FSA-578 Corrections	2-26
30	Determining Planted Acreage of Certain Commodities	2-27
31	WRP Acreage.....	2-29
32	Cover Crop Guidelines	2-31
33	Reporting Organic Crops	2-35
34	Hoop Houses or High Tunnels.....	2-38
35	Continuous Perennial Forage.....	2-39
36	(Withdrawn--Amend. 10)	2-43
37	Prevented Planting Acreage.....	2-43
38	Failed Acreage	2-57
39	Volunteer Acreage	2-60
40	Double-Cropping	2-61
41	Under and Over Reported Official Acreage	2-65
42	Hemp Acreage Reporting	2-66
43-56	(Reserved)	

Table of Contents (Continued)

Page No.

Part 2 **Acreage Report Procedures (Continued)**

Section 2 Creating Crop Default Records

57	Establishing Crop Characteristics	2-81
58	Responsibilities of Requesting Additional Crops, Types, and/or Intended Uses	2-82
59	CVS Reports	2-84
60-73	(Reserved)	

Section 3 Entering Basic Field Data

74	Crop Status Codes	2-115
75	Variety and Type Selection	2-118
76	Intended Use Codes	2-118.6
77	Land Use Codes	2-122
78	Entering “M”, “O”, and “S” Codes	2-123
79	Entering Dates	2-127
80	Irrigation Practice Codes	2-131
81	Recording Shares	2-132
82	Recording Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578	2-133
82.5	Recording Failed Acreage on FSA-578	2-142
83	Data Loading FSA-578 Following a Reconstitution	2-143
84	Multi-Intended Use Crop	2-145
85-99	(Reserved)	

--23 Submitting Acreage Reports, Tree Crop Acreage, and Plant Count--**A Processing Acreage Reports Submitted**

Program enrollment or application is not a requirement for acreage reporting. Persons or legal entities who may not be program participants or persons seeking benefits at the time the person or legal entity wants to submit the acreage report * * * must be permitted to file FSA-578, to report their crop acreage. The reason a person or legal entity wants to submit an acreage report is irrelevant to FSA's processing of the report.

B BWEP

BWEP, which is administered by APHIS, has used cotton acreage reports that were provided by producers to local FSA offices since the first trial program in 1978.

Consistent with subparagraph A and to continue providing this service, County Offices that are in States designated for participation in BWEP will continue to process all acreage reports filed by producers.

C Tree Crop Acreage Certification

When the tree crop acreage is being reported, the tree crop information must include the following:

- acreage
- variety or type.

Tree crops will have a supplemental screen that requires the following additional information:

- number of trees
- row width (feet)
- tree spacing (feet)
- age of trees.

***--D Plant Count**

The number of plants can now be reported for any crop that has a reporting unit of acres except for orchards.

Notes: The development and addition of this supplemental field to the acreage report was done with a focus on urban and innovative producers. It will allow a producer to report number of plants so the size and scope of the crop production can be better identified on FSA-578.

The use of this supplemental field is available to any producer, regardless of whether the producer is urban or traditional or the size of the operation.--*

24 Reporting Dates

A Overview

The final date by which a timely filed acreage report can be submitted to FSA is the ARD. The ARD is the latest date by which a person or legal entity can submit timely-filed acreage reports.

This paragraph provides policy on where to find ARD's by State, exceptions to ARD's, appointment scheduling, and using the registers.

B ARD's

To be eligible for FSA benefits according to subparagraph 16 A, crops must be reported by the ARD in Exhibit 6.

FSA-578, whether timely filed for all crops is shown or not, is considered certified on the date the producer signs the report.

The following provides guidance on reporting crop acreage not specified in Exhibit 10.

* * *

- If a measurement service was requested by the ARD for a crop, but not performed by the ARD, then the acreage report for the measured crop must be filed within 5 workdays of the producer being notified of completion of the measurement service.
- If the crop is apiculture, use the crop code for "honey" with the applicable apiculture acreage reporting date as listed in Exhibit 6.

33 Reporting Organic Crops (Continued)**D Transitional Acreage**

For a transitional (converting conventional acreage to certified organic acreage) organic acreage report, except as noted in subparagraph B, the producer must provide an organic plan and written documentation from a certifying agent indicating an organic plan is in effect.

The organic plan must:

- identify the acreage that is in transition for organic certification
- list crops grown on the acreage during the 36 month transitioning period
- include all other acreage, including conventional acreage, in the farming operation
- provide a map showing the specific location of each field of transitional, including the buffer zone acreage.

***--Note:** If an approved plan is not in effect by the ARD, the producer must provide in writing, that the producer has requested a written certification or an approved plan from the certifying agent by the ARD.--*

34 Hoop Houses or High Tunnels**A Introduction**

There has been a growing interest in the production and reporting of crops in High Tunnels. NRCS currently offers cost-share assistance for the building of what is referred to as High Tunnel or Hoop Houses. To be eligible for cost-share the structure must be built on cropland acreage.

B Definition of Hoop or High Tunnel

A Hoop House or High Tunnel is a structure which is considered a controlled environment. The purpose is for crop and plant production to be grown outside of recognized planting dates or zones for the State. Producers use this practice to expand their marketing outside normal planting dates for their region. Crops grown within these structures may be eligible for program benefits; however, any crop or plant loss will not be recognized outside the normal planting period recognized by the State.

High Tunnels where plants are being grown in pots or above ground are not considered cropland.

C Reporting High Tunnels on FSA-578

--CARS currently allows for acreage reporting to .000001 acres which is approximately a 2.5 inch by 2.5 inch area. Reporting of individual plants can now be recorded in CARS.--

74 Crop Status Codes (Continued)

D Using Crop Status Code “X” (Continued)

- the farm operator certifies that no harvested production of the crop has been or will be received
- by the final reporting date, the farm operator reports the acreage to be excluded and identifies the acreage on a photocopy.

Note: In CRM/Product Master, the “Experimental” status is captured independently of the crop status codes. This will enable producers to report crops that are experimental, along with any other applicable crop status.

E Using Crop Status Code “F”, “P”, or “V”

Use crop status code:

- “F” in the second character field when the crop meets the definition of failed according to paragraph 38
- “P” in the second character field when the crop meets the definition of prevented planted according to paragraph 37
- “V” in the second character field when the crop is volunteer.

Note: In CRM/Product Master, the “Volunteer” status is captured independently of the failed and prevented planting status codes. This will enable producers to report crops that are volunteered and failed.

***--F Crop Status Code “M”**

The crop status code “M” in the third character is populated according to subparagraph 162.5 F for any of the following methods that are considered concurrent:

- interplanted
- alternate
- stacked
- multi-use (used to identify small gains that have multiple intended uses).

Notes: If any of these options are selected in CARS according to subparagraph 162.5 F, the status code of “M” will be populated in the third character.

Paragraph 84 provides policy for reporting small grains that have multiple uses and are reported using the “U” status code.

See Exhibit 2 for definitions of interplanted, alternate, multi-use, and stacked.--*

74 Crop Status Codes (Continued)

G Using Crop Status Code “U”

The “U” status code signifies that the crop may have multiple intended uses and replaces the intended use of Grain/Grazing (GS) for:

- barley
- wheat
- oats
- rye
- triticale.

***--Note:** The status code of “U” will populate in the third character of the crop status based on the “Y” selection in the multi-intended use field according to software in paragraph 162.5 and policy in paragraph 84.--*

For hemp, the “U” status code was added to address a common combination when reporting the use of Grain, Seed and Fiber starting in 2020.

The applicable intended use combinations for hemp are:

- Grain (GR) / Fiber (FB)
- Fiber (FB) / Seed (SD).

***--Note:** By selecting “Y” in the multi-intended use field according to subparagraph 162.5 F the third character status code of “U” will be populated.--*

75 Variety and Type Selection

A Selecting Crop Variety and Type

Select the proper crop variety and type from Exhibit 10 based on producer input for crop year 2003 and subsequent years.

Warning: Selection of the correct variety and type code for crops is crucial to identify type for correct program benefit. If the specific type or variety is **not** listed, use the New Product Request in CRM to request additional crops and/or types according to paragraph 57.

75 Variety and Type Selection (Continued)

B Selecting Soybean Variety and Types

Selection of the correct variety and type code for soybeans is crucial to protect loan eligibility and identify type for correct potential NAP benefit rates.

Refer to the following:

- 2-LP Grains and Oilseeds for loan eligibility
- 1-NAP (Rev. 1) for NAP eligibility.

C Selecting Algae Variety and Types

Seaweeds are a large algae (macroalgae) that grow in a salt water or marine environment. Seaweeds are plants, although they lack true stems, roots, and leaves. However, they possess a blade that is leaflike, a stipe that is stem-like, and a holdfast that resembles a root.

Seaweeds are divided into 3 groups according to their color and habitat.

Crop Code	Crop Name	Crop Type Name	Description
3001	Algae	Red Algae	Red algae (division <i>Rhodophyta</i>) are aquatic organisms that exist in both freshwater and marine habitats, although mostly marine. Examples: Dulse (<i>Palmaria mollis</i>) Irish Moss (<i>Chondrus crispus</i>) Laver 'Wild Atlantic Nori' (<i>Porphyra umbilicalus</i>) Graceful Red Weed, (<i>Gracilaria tikahiae</i>) Red Ogo (<i>Gracilaria pacifica</i>)
		Brown Algae	Brown algae (division <i>Ochrophyta</i> , class <i>Phaeophyceae</i>) are unicellular golden or brown-pigmented algae. Examples: Alaria, Winged Kelp, Wakame (<i>Alaria esculenta</i>) Oarweed, Kombu, Tangle, Strapweed (<i>Laminaria digitate</i>) Sugar Kelp (<i>Sacharina latissimi</i>) Bladderwrack (<i>Fucus vesiculosus</i>) Rockweed, Knotted Wrack, Asco (<i>Ascophyllum nodosum</i>) Ribbon Kelp (<i>Alaria marginata</i>) Bull Kelp (<i>Nereocystis leutkeana</i>) Giant Kelp (<i>Macrosystis pyrifera</i>)
		Green Algae	Green algae (division <i>Chlorophyta</i>) contains species that occur in terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments. Example: Sea lettuce (<i>Ulva lactuca</i>)

75 Variety and Type Selection (Continued)

C Selecting Algae Variety and Types (Continued)

For more information see:

- https://seaweedhub.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/State-of-the-States-Rev_APC_7-16-20.pptx.pdf
- <http://www.seaweedcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/MSC-Field-Guide-Aug-2014-FINAL-reformatted-new-url.pdf>
- <http://www.seaweedsofalaska.com/default.asp>.

76 Intended Use Codes

A Determining Proper Codes

Intended use codes can affect program eligibility for various programs, including, but not limited to NAP, marketing assistance loans, CRP, ARC, PLC, etc.

Follow subparagraph B for CRP.

Note: The intended use code “CO” (Cover Only) must only be used to report cover crops according to paragraph 32. Intended use code “GM” (green manure) and “LS” (left standing) should no longer be used to report cover crops.

Follow Exhibits 10 and 11 to determine proper status and intended use codes for a current year’s crop.

Warning: Selection of the correct variety and type code for crops is crucial to identify intended use for correct program benefits. If the specific intended use is **not** listed, use the New Product Request in CRM to request additional crops intended uses according to paragraph 57.

Actual use is not captured in CARS. If an actual use is reported by the producer, the actual use shall be notated on the hardcopy FSA-578 and initialed by the producer.