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NEWS

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USDA ANNOUNCES BIOENERGY PROGRAM SIGNUP RESULTS

WASHINGTON, February 1, 2001- The Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation's Acting Executive Vice President, James R. Little, today announced final results for the fiscal year 2001 Bioenergy Program signup. Under the program, CCC will make payments to bioenergy companies to offset part of their cost of buying commodities to expand production.

A total of 54 agreements representing 79 plants in 19 States were accepted by CCC for participation in the program. The aggregate increase in production under these agreements, which were submitted by 42 ethanol and 12 biodiesel producers, is projected to be 246.2 million gallons of ethanol and 36.5 million gallons of biodiesel during the 10 months (December 2000 through September 2001) payments will cover. Eligible commodities included in the signup were barley, corn, sorghum, and wheat for ethanol and soybeans for biodiesel. Payments under the program are expected to be within the \$150 million budgeted for the fiscal year; therefore, FY 2001's payment factor is 100 percent. The following table gives a breakdown by State of approved agreement holders:

State	Fuel	Number of Plants	Increased Thousand Gallons Eligible for Payment
Florida	Biodiesel	1	5,200
Idaho	Ethanol	2	1,000
Illinois	Biodiesel	2	4,053
	Ethanol	6	49,465
Indiana	Biodiesel	1	4,000
	Ethanol	2	4,320
Iowa	Biodiesel	2	8,400
	Ethanol	5	14,916
Kansas	Ethanol	8	6,329
Kentucky	Biodiesel	1	1,400
Louisiana	Ethanol	1	15
Minnesota	Biodiesel	1	10,000
	Ethanol	13	58,481
Missouri	Ethanol	2	19,194
Nebraska	Biodiesel	1	200
	Ethanol	11	32,546
Nevada	Biodiesel	1	1,400
New Mexico	Ethanol	3	1,622
North Carolina	Biodiesel	1	1,400

North Dakota	Ethanol	4	20,544
South Dakota	Ethanol	3	9,332
Tennessee	Biodiesel	1	400
	Ethanol	2	21,750
Utah	Ethanol	1	1,000
Wisconsin	Ethanol	4	5,665

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