

## **Upcoming Workshops Review SURE Program Success, Prepare Farmers for 2011**

The success of the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) program for 2008 crops demonstrates why farmers need to consider SURE when making plans for 2011. Upcoming workshops are a must for those producers planting wheat and barley this fall.

Delaware Farm Service Agency (FSA) will be explaining SURE and the Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) will provide crop insurance updates at two workshops being held September 16, 2010, at these times and locations:

**8:00 AM**  
**Paradee Center**  
**69 Transportation Circle**  
**Dover, DE 19901**

**6:30 PM**  
**Carvel Research and Education Center**  
**16684 County Seat Highway**  
**Georgetown, DE 19947**

Don Clifton, Delaware FSA State Executive Director outlined the purpose of the workshops. "We are working with the DDA Risk Management Education program to inform producers how they can optimize their SURE guarantee. DDA specialists will present crop insurance changes for 2011 and FSA will explain how crop insurance and SURE work together."

"The timing is very important because producers have to make decisions on wheat and barley crop insurance by September 30," Clifton explained. "I hope farmers will take a little time away from the harvest to get ready for 2011."

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) has paid nearly \$3 million in (SURE) benefits to Delaware farmers for crop losses incurred during the 2008 crop season. This represents a supplement of about twenty percent (20%) to total 2008 Delaware crop insurance loss payments of over \$14.9 million.

SURE provides benefits for 2008 through 2011 crop year farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. It is the 2008 Farm Bill's successor to prior ad hoc crop disaster programs.

"The FSA program staff around the country has worked very hard to deliver the SURE program," said Clifton. "While there are few payments for 2008 still to be processed, I thank our hard working FSA folks in Delaware for a job well done. SURE has worked as designed, and the credit goes to them."

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) enhanced regular SURE benefits by over \$1 million to bring the total to \$3 million. "The Recovery Act continues to work for rural America through a number of means, including SURE for 2008 crop losses," said Clifton.

In addition to the workshop presentations, SURE eligibility and other program details are available by contacting a local FSA office or online. Farms located within a county which has received a qualifying natural disaster declaration (USDA Secretarial Declarations only) or a contiguous county, or any on which the actual production is less than 50% of the normal production may be eligible.

“County weather and crop conditions determine several of the triggers for SURE,” Clifton explained, “but the level of a producer’s SURE guarantee, from which potential benefits are calculated, is dependent upon that producer’s risk management strategy.”

For producers to be eligible for SURE, they must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for all crops through either the Federal Crop Insurance Act or FSA’s Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). There are limited exceptions to this rule. SURE does not require coverage for forage crops intended for grazing. Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of “Socially Disadvantaged”, “Limited Resource”, or “Beginning Farmer or Rancher” do not have to meet this requirement.

The SURE guarantee is determined by totaling the calculated guarantee for each crop. For insured crops, the guarantee is based on the level of coverage the producer has elected. Higher levels of coverage will result in higher crop guarantees. For NAP crops, the guarantee is based on a formula that includes the yield, acreage, and price factors.

The farm’s SURE guarantee cannot exceed 90% of the expected revenue for the farm. “Looking forward to 2011, ninety percent of expected revenue as a SURE guarantee is pretty good,” said Clifton.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Maryann Reed at 302-678-4250, or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339, or [maryann.reed@de.usda.gov](mailto:maryann.reed@de.usda.gov) by September 14, 2010.