

**For:** State and County Offices

**Providing RMA Data to Producers**

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



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

The 2014 Farm Bill provides landowners a one-time opportunity to update the farm's counter-cyclical (CC) yield for covered commodities. To update the covered commodities yield the covered commodity must have been planted in the years 2008 through 2012. The yield update is optional and is completed on a farm by farm, crop by crop basis. The update of yields is completed using certified yields of the covered commodities as completed on optional form CCC-859.

To assist producers with the yield certification process, FSA and RMA have combined data bases and created a yield report for the years 2008 through 2013. The Report of Yield Data can be used by each applicable producer to review and:

- update a farm and crop's CC yield
- analyze the ARC-IC (agricultural risk coverage – individual) program.

**B Purpose**

This notice provides policy for County Offices to distribute the Report of Yield Data to insured producers.

**Disposal Date**

October 1, 2015  
12-22-14

**Distribution**

State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

## Notice ARCPLC-17

### 2 Report of Yield Data

#### A Obtaining the Data Included on the Report of Yield Data

FSA and RMA have data mined actual yield data from the RMA data base for use by producers to certify yields for the years 2008 through 2012, as applicable, for the CC yield update process, and to provide producer yield data for the years of 2009 through 2013 to analyze the 2014 ARC-IC program.

Farm owners and/or operators who have purchased federal crop insurance and certified actual production may use yield data reported to RMA to assist in yield certification to FSA for the purpose of updating the farm's CC yield.

The Report of Yield Data will be available upon request by the insured producer. The request of the data must be submitted by the producer to their local County FSA Office. FSA will provide a copy of the report after the request is made.

#### B Reporting Yield Data

Each landowner or farm operator may report the farm's yield on optional form CCC-859 using production evidence available to the owner or operator for each of the years 2008 through 2012.

The certified yield for each year must represent the total harvested acreage and/or any appraised production divided by the planted acres of the covered commodity on the farm for each year the crop was planted during the years 2008 through 2012.

If the producer did not have a share of the crop planted, in any of the years 2008 through 2012, or could not obtain the yield data from the previous producer, then a zero yield for that crop year must be entered on CCC-859.

#### C Using the Report of Yield Data

Producers who have purchased federal crop insurance may use yield data reported to RMA by their crop insurance agent and Approved Insurance Provider (AIP) for determining the yield to certify on optional form CCC-859.

Producers may use the data on the Report of Yield Data to certify 2008 through 2012 yields on optional form CCC-859. The crop insurance yields on the Report of Yield Data summary are those used to establish the actual production history (APH) database for each subsequent crop year. The data is summarized by insured unit (that is basic, optional, enterprise or whole farm) and year. The FSA farm number is listed in the report if the FSA farm number was reported by AIP to RMA.

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### 2 Report of Yield Data (Continued)

#### C Using the Report of Yield Data (Continued)

**Note:** The yield data on the Report of Yield Data summary may differ from the producer's current APH yield as changes in operations; unit structure, etc. can lead to adjustments since originally reported. The yield update process is completed as the "farm" or "farms" are constituted for the 2014 crop year. As a reminder, the Report of Yield Data summary may **not** include all of the farms or may include additional farms for a particular year, 2008 through 2012, that the producer has in his/her 2014 farming operation. Producers should use the most accurate yields possible to certify the crops yields and may not want to use the yield data attached if they question the accuracy of the data.

The APH approved yield **cannot** be used to certify an individual year's yield. An APH approved yield, determined for crop insurance purposes, is an average of the actual yields over varying years and may include non-actual yields such as 60% yield substitutions. Therefore, only actual yields for an individual crop year may be used to update the farm's payment yield.

Producers may use the Report of Yield Data as follows:

- the yield data for each crop insurance unit can be used (matched up the applicable FSA farm) for each covered commodity for each year

**Note:** This may require splitting or combining unit, acreage and production to match the 2014 FSA FSN.

- the blended yield for the covered commodity and year can be used for all acres of the covered commodity on the FSA farm(s) for that year. The blended yield:
  - is attributed to all FSA farms that had those acres as listed in the 2014 FSA farm's acreage history.

**Note:** This is considered the de-commingling production policy according to 1-DCP, paragraph 520 and will be included in ARCPLC policy.

- **cannot** be used with acreage of the covered commodity that was **not** under the control producer in an applicable year, but is now part of the 2014 FSA FSN.

**Note:** In this instance, the producer may use the substitute yield for acreage of the crop for which yield records are not available. The producer may then combine the substitute yield and production with the actual yield and production to determine a new blended yield for the crop and farm. This is considered the partial plug provision as discussed in national training.

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### 3 Providing Report of Yield Data

#### A Information

The yield information letter in Exhibit 1 and Report of Yield Data shall be provided to insured producers upon request.

The example of the Report of Yield Data in Exhibit 2 includes production and yields for the 2008 through 2013 crop years. The 2008 through 2012 yields are used for yield certification. The 2009 through 2013 yields are being provided for analyzing the ARC-IC program.

#### B Copies of the Report of Yield Data

A copy of the Report of Yield Data will be made available through the State Office.

#### C Who May Receive the Yield Data Report

According to 2-INFO, subparagraphs 4 A, 4 C, and 21 C and 3-INFO, subparagraphs 16 A, 16 B, and 17 A, data provided to RMA by a producer may only be released by FSA to the producer who provided the documentation (the name on the policy). If the name on the policy is an entity, then the data may be released to the member who is the authorized representative. FSA-211's do not authorize release of RMA data to a representative.

### 4 Action

#### A County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- provide insured producers a copy of the letter and their Report of Yield Data upon request

**Note:** A copy of the report may be provided in person, by mail, e-mail, or fax.

- ensure the provisions of subparagraph 3 C are met.

#### B State Office Action

State Offices shall ensure that:

- County Offices are aware of the availability of the Report of Yield Data
- copies of the report are provided to the insured producers upon request according to subparagraph 3 C.

**Letter to the Producer Requesting Their Own Report of Yield Data****A Sample Letter**

Following is an optional sample letter to be used when providing the Report of Yield Data to a producer.

Dear Producer:

The 2014 Farm Bill provides landowners a one-time opportunity to update a farm's payment yield (counter-cyclical or CC yield) for covered commodities planted on the farm in the years 2008 – 2012. The yield may be updated to 90 percent of the simple average of the production from the planted acres in those years.

The landowner or farm operator may certify the farm's yield on FSA form CCC-859 using production evidence available to the owner or operator for each of the years 2008 - 2012. The certified yield for each year must represent the total harvested acreage and/or any appraised production divided by the planted acres of the covered commodity on the farm for each year the crop was planted during the years 2008 - 2012. If you did not have a share of the crop planted, in any of the years 2008 – 2012, nor could you obtain the yield data from the previous producer, you should enter a zero yield for that crop year.

Farm owners and/or operators who have purchased Federal crop insurance may use the yield data reported to the Risk Management Agency (RMA) via their crop insurance agent and Approved Insurance Provider (AIP) for determining the yield to certify on the CCC-859. You are encouraged to use crop insurance yield data when possible. To assist you in calculating an updated covered commodity yield, FSA has summarized the crop insurance data for the years of 2008 – 2012. Enclosed with this letter is a summary of your average yield per covered commodity as reported by your AIP for those years.

The crop insurance yields on the summary are those used to establish your actual production history (APH) database for each subsequent crop year. The data is summarized by insured unit (i.e. Basic, Optional, Enterprise, or Whole Farm) and year. The FSA farm number is listed if reported by your AIP. Please note that the yield on this summary may differ from your current APH yield as changes in operations, unit structure, etc. can lead to adjustments since originally reported. You should use the most accurate yields possible to certify the crops yields and may not want to use the yield data attached. An APH approved yield, determined for crop insurance purposes, is an average of your actual yields over varying years and may include non-actual yields such as 60% yield substitutions. Therefore, an APH approved yield cannot be used to update an individual year's yield. Only actual yields for an individual crop year may be used to update your farm's payment yield.

The attached yield reports also include production and yields for the 2013 crop year and are only being provided to assist you in analyzing the ARC-IC program.

**Report of Yield Data**

**A Example of Report of Yield Data With FSN Not Complete**

Following is an example of the Report of Yield Data. In this example, RMA was unable to furnish an FSA FSN as that number was **not** reported to AIP. The producer would be required to determine which FSA FSN was applicable to RMA units 10001 and 10006.

**Producer, Any – XXX-XX-1122 - Production History**

CANOLA							
2010	<b>Producer Average Yield: 1304</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001		00010001	119.00	155,176.00	1,304.00
2011	<b>Producer Average Yield: 1343</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001		00010001	97.00	130,174.00	1,342.00
	99	001		00010006	2.00	2,800.00	1,400.00

Report of Yield Data

**B Example of Report of Yield Data With Some FSN's Complete**

Following is an example of the Report of Yield Data. In this example of soybeans and wheat, RMA was able to furnish an FSA FSN as that number was reported to AIP, except in 2010 for both crops and 2011 for wheat. The producer may use the "Farm" column to determine the yield to certify for the applicable farm, year, and crop.

**Producer, Any – XXX-XX-1133 - Production History**

SOYBEANS							
<b>2008</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 12</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001	7878000	00100	197.00	6,501.00	33.00
	99	001	2736000	00103	540.00	3,240.00	6.00
	99	001	4879000	00102	60.40	664.40	11.00
	99	001	4879000	00104	36.00	324.00	9.00
	99	001	4879000	00105	118.00	708.00	6.00
<b>2009</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 23</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001	4879000	00102	252.20	5,800.60	23.00
<b>2010</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 30</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001		00010000	200.50	6,015.00	30.00
	99	001		00010002	45.00	1,350.00	30.00
<b>2012</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 39</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001	7878	00010000	274.20	11,790.60	43.00
	99	001	2736	00010001	108.00	3,348.00	31.00
	99	001	2736	00010003	29.00	1,102.00	38.00
	99	001	4879	00010002	45.00	1,575.00	35.00
<b>2013</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 28</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001	2736	00010003	148.00	4,292.00	29.00
	99	001	4879	00010002	98.00	2,646.00	27.00

Report of Yield Data (Continued)

B Example of Report of Yield Data With Some FSN's Complete (Continued)

WHEAT							
<b>2009</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 54</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001	7878000	00100	302.10	18,428.10	61.00
	99	001	2736000	00108	170.00	6,800.00	40.00
99	001	4879000	00102	86.00	4,730.00	55.00	
<b>2010</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 50</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001		00010000	137.00	7,946.00	58.00
	99	001		00010001	4.00	192.00	48.00
99	001		00010002	190.20	8,368.80	44.00	
<b>2011</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 41</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001		00010001	69.00	2,622.00	38.00
	99	001		00010002	140.00	6,300.00	45.00
99	001		00010006	29.00	928.00	32.00	
<b>2012</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 39</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001	2736	00010008	105.00	3,675.00	35.00
	99	001	4879	00010001	2.00	80.00	40.00
99	001	4879	00010002	140.90	5,917.80	42.00	
<b>2013</b>	<b>Producer Average Yield: 52</b>						
	State	County	Farm	Unit	Acres	Production	Yield
	99	001	2736	00010008	104.00	5,824.00	56.00
99	001	4879	00010002	133.00	6,517.00	49.00	