

For: Cotton CMA's and LSA's

Automated Cotton Reporting System (ACRS) Modifications

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Cotton CMA's and LSA's use ACRS for cotton loans, loan redemptions, and LDP applications. Occasionally, CMA/LSA calculations for these transactions are different from CCC's calculations using ACRS. These differences (errors), cause out-of-balance situations and impede updates to CCC's CORE accounting process and price support records.

B Purpose

This notice advises CMA's and LSA's that the ACRS process is being revised as follows:

- for all crop-year transactions on June 19, 2009
- to provide that CCC-calculated values will be used for requested transactions
- to provide a test feature to validate against CCC calculations.

C Contact

For questions or information about this notice, contact Laura Schlote by either of the following:

- e-mail to laura.schlote@wdc.usda.gov
- telephone at 202-720-7785.

Disposal Date	Distribution
August 1, 2009	Cotton CMA's and LSA's

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2 Software Modifications and Benefits

A Planned Calculation Revisions

Calculation	Current Process	Revised Process
Loan or LDP disbursement, Loan redemption, Trust, Ineligible, or Unqualified.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CMA's/LSA's submit transactions including bales and loan or LDP value calculations. CCC remits the requested amounts based on the values calculated by the CMA/LSA. 2. During CCC's nightly process, CCC calculates its own version of the loan or LDP valuations. If there are differences, the transaction goes into an error file that is made available to the CMA/LSA. 3. During period of unresolved value differences, CCC does not update the CORE accounting process or price support records. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CMA's/LSA's submit transactions without the monetary calculations. Loan or LDP values will be authorized using CCC's calculations of values. 2. CCC will notify CMA/LSA of CCC's calculations. Transactions that do not pass the upfront edits will not be calculated and will be returned in the current upfront error file. 3. CCC is able to provide initial entries at the bale level to the CORE accounting process based on CCC's calculations. 4. CCC will implement a dispute process for CMA's/LSA's to challenge CCC's calculations.
Test feature to validate CCC calculations.	Not available.	Process will be established to allow CMA's/LSA's to perform minimal validation edits and return CCC calculations.
Lost Beneficial Interest (LBI) date to COTYTRAN	Not available.	The transaction file layout will have LBI added.
Daily Error Report	ACRS provides a 1-time daily error report.	ACRS will delete the error report from the nightly process.

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2 Software Modifications and Benefits (Continued)

B Benefits

The following benefits will be realized by CCC with the ACRS software modifications:

- allow CCC to authorize/disburse payments for loans and LDP's based on CCC's calculated values
- provide CMA's/LSA's knowledge of how ACRS calculates specific transaction values
- eliminate errors by CMA's/LSA's (removes file transfer protocol (FTP) retrieval of the nightly batch error reports)
- balance CORE and price support accounting with CMA/LSA transactions
- revise ACRS correction process for non-monetary fields.

C Forthcoming Changes for CMA's and LSA's

The following changes are expected within the CMA/LSA software by June 19, 2009:

- add LBI date to the transaction file layout (CCC will provide a revised layout on or before April 15, 2009)
- create new FTP process to execute the test feature using the following dataset: MFO900.CMSPPDT.AC.CMA06804.IZBLTEST(+1)
- accept the upfront acknowledgment file containing CCC calculations (CCC will provide a revised layout on or before April 15, 2009)
- remove the FTP process to retrieve the nightly ACRS error report
- implement the new dispute process (CCC will provide a revised layout and more detailed instructions on or before April 15, 2009)
- modify the existing transaction correction process to only correct nonmonetary fields.