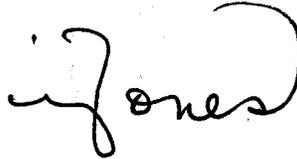


For: Cotton State and County Offices, Cotton CMA's, and LSA's

Updating Files in Automated Price Support System (APSS) and the Cotton PC Software for Processing Crop Year 2007 Cotton Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's)

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

The 2007 crop year for cotton loans and LDP's began July 1, 2007. In preparation for the loan/LDP season, County Offices **must** update or reset certain files in APSS and cotton PC software **before** processing current crop year cotton loans and LDP's.

B Purpose

This notice:

- informs State and County Offices, CMA's, and LSA's that:
 - warehouse rates are posted to the Cotton Online Processing System (COPS)
 - COPS profiles should be reviewed and updated at the beginning of each crop year
- provides State and County Offices with instructions for updating files in APSS and cotton PC software for the 2007 crop year loan/LDP season.

C Contact

State Offices shall direct questions about this notice to Julie Floriani by:

- e-mail to **julie.floriani@usda.gov**
- telephone at 202-720-8374.

Disposal Date January 1, 2008	Distribution State Offices; State Offices relay to Cotton County Offices, Cotton CMA's, and LSA's
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2 Warehouse Rates Posted to COPS

A Accessing Warehouse Offer Shipping Rates

Approved warehouses and their tariff rates are available in COPS. Rates for 2007 are posted as they become effective.

Note: Rates for warehouses located in Texas are generally announced around July 1. Rates for other warehouses are generally announced around September 1.

CMA’s, LSA’s, and County Offices can view warehouse rates according to the following table.

Step	Action	Result
1	Sign into COPS.	
2	Select “Warehouse Home” under the Home Pages tab.	The Warehouse Services Home Page will be displayed.
3	Select “CSA and Tariff Rates” under the Online Lists tab.	CSA and Tariff Rate Criteria Screen will be displayed.
4	Select crop year from the drop down box. Select warehouse by entering the appropriate criteria. Click on “ Generate Report ”.	Rates for the selected warehouse will be displayed. Use the back button to return to the criteria screen and select another warehouse.

Following is an example of the modified report that will be displayed when users access the CSA and Tariff – Receiving and Storage Rates Screen in COPS.

The screenshot displays the 'Cotton Online Processing System' interface. At the top, it shows the title 'CSA and Tariff - Receiving and Storage Rates' and the date 'Tuesday, November 7, 2006 08:37:48 CST'. Below this is a yellow banner with the COPS logo and the text 'United States Department of Agriculture Cotton Online Processing System'. The main content area shows a report for 'Crop Year: 2006 Warehouse Code: 11111' sorted by warehouse code. A table lists the following data:

Warehouse Code	Warehouse Name	City and State	County Name and Code	Master Warehouse Code	CSA Eff. Date	CSA Loan Receiving	CSA Loan Storage	CSA Loan Comp	Tariff Eff. Date	Tariff Receiving	Tariff Storage	Storage Credit Cap
111111	Cotton Warehouse		XXXXX		09-01-2006	1.6000	2.9355	8.0000	09-01-2006	1.6000	3.2500	2.6600

Report Statistics:
Number of States: 1
Warehouses: 1

3 Updating County-Maintained Table Files in APSS

A Updating Warehouse Information

A name and address record **must** be present in the “Other Name and Address” file for each cotton warehouse code entered in the loanmaking or LDP-making process. This record is entered on Screen MAC01201 and contains the warehouse:

- name and address
- warehouse code
- facility location.

Important: The storing warehouse location is the State and county where the warehouse is **physically** located. This is important because APSS will look for a loan rate for the State and county code that is associated with this warehouse code.

County Offices shall create a name and address record for warehouses that are **not** currently in the “Other Name and Address” file according to 1-CM, Part 32.

B Updating Warehouse Offer Shipping Rates

7-CN, paragraph 65 requires “Offer Shipping” rates to be updated yearly **before** cotton loans are processed. Storage credit is limited to the smaller of the:

- tariff storage rate for the crop year
- applicable storage cap, according to warehouse location
- 2005 tariff rate.

County Offices shall update **tariff storage rates** in the Offer Shipping Rates table according to 7-CN, paragraph 65 for the following crop years:

- 2007
- 2005 only if the warehouse had an approved rate for 2005 crop year.

It is **not** necessary to update the 2006 rate because the 2006 rate is not considered in determining the 2007 storage credit.

Storage rates are recorded as either daily or monthly rates. Enter the **tariff storage rate** in the applicable data field. Do **not** enter the storage credit cap.

Important: County Offices shall use the State and county code for the **physical** location of the warehouse on Screen PAA79000. This **must** match the State and county code that was entered in the Other Name and Address record on Screen MAC01201.

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3 Updating County-Maintained Table Files in APSS (Continued)

C Updating 2007 Loan Rates

County Offices shall update loan rates for 2007 crop year according to 12-PS, paragraph 1433. Applicable county loan rates are in 7-CN, Exhibit 15.

A loan rate **must** be entered in APSS for each county where a storing warehouse is located. The State and county code for the storing warehouse location is entered on Screen PAA78000.

Example: ABC Warehouse is located in County A. If County B processes loans stored at ABC Warehouse, a loan rate **must** be entered for County A, using County A's State and county code on Screen PAA78000.

D Updating Cotton Gin Codes

The gin code table shall be updated, as necessary, to add, change, or delete cotton gin codes **before** processing cotton loans and LDP's in APSS. County Offices shall follow 7-CN, paragraph 81 to update the Ginner Code Table.

4 Updating the Cotton PC Software for 2007 Crop Year

A Updating the Office Profile

When 2 files containing the **same** file sequence number are loaded into the cotton PC software, the 1st file is overlaid with the 2nd file and data from the 1st file is lost. To prevent overlaying prior year files with current year files, the file sequence numbers **must** begin with the last digit of the current crop year.

County Offices shall follow 7-CN, paragraph 323 to reset the file sequence number in the Office Profile. The sequence numbers shall begin with the last digit of the crop year.

Example: The sequence number for 2007 shall be reset to 70001.

If the cotton PC software is installed on more than 1 PC in the County Office, each PC **must** have a different file sequence number range.

Note: County Offices shall advise entities who prepare pre-processed bale data files that their file sequence number must be reset each year according to 7-CN, Exhibit 13, subparagraph 1 B.

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4 Updating the Cotton PC Software for 2007 Crop Year (Continued)

B Updating Warehouse Profile

County Offices shall follow 7-CN, subparagraph 324 B to:

- create a warehouse profile for new warehouses
- update the current year differential for each warehouse profile.

The differential is calculated by subtracting the National Average Loan Rate of 52.00 from the loan rate for the county where the warehouse is **physically located**. For warehouse code "99999", use the location differential for the administrative county.

Examples: If the county loan rate is 52.55, the differential is \$0.55
($52.55 - 52.00 = 0.55$).

If the county loan rate is 50.45, the differential is negative \$1.55
($50.45 - 52.00 = -1.55$).

Note: Enter the location differential using 4 decimal places. If the location differential is:

- 00.55, ENTER **.0055**
- negative 01.55, ENTER **-.0155**.

C Transmission Profiles

County Offices shall **not** update the:

- AMS transmission profile
- EWR transmission profile
- APSS transmission profile.

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4 Updating the Cotton PC Software for 2004 Crop Year (Continued)

D Removing Data Files for Prior Crop Years

At the beginning of each crop year, County Offices shall remove previous crop year data files for:

- loans that have been redeemed
- loan and LDP's that do not contain COPS errors.

This allows cotton PC software to:

- run more efficiently
- only display current files, making it easier to work with and select files for processing.

County Offices shall follow instructions in 7-CN, paragraph:

- 352 to back up the previous year data files **before** deleting
- 354 to delete selected previous year data files.

Data files shall **not** be removed for:

- EWR bales that contain COPS errors so that the files are available for correction
- outstanding loans because these files are needed to release EWR's to a new or previous holder upon repayment.

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5 Using the COPS Web Site for Crop Year 2007

A Accessing COPS

County Offices, CMA's, and LSA's shall access COPS **before** the beginning of 2007 loan and LDP activity to:

- update the User Profile to include the correct e-mail address
- become familiar with recent modifications.

The COPS Home Page contains the following links:

- "User Guide" that provides detailed, step-by-step instructions for using the COPS web site
- "Experiencing Problems" that provides a list of potential problems a user may experience along with suggested solutions or links to documents that contain information to solve the problems
- "News Bulletins" that provides information related to changes in COPS availability and enhancements that appear as news bulletins.

B COPS Passwords

COPS passwords expire **after** 30 calendar days, and can be reset by the user at the COPS sign-on screen. If not reset, the COPS password will be:

- revoked after 36 calendar days
- suspended after 90 calendar days
- put on the delete list after 120 calendar days
- deleted after 180 calendar days.

If users have not accessed COPS recently, it may be necessary to update the password. Section 1.3 of the User Guide provides instructions for updating a password.

A "pop-up" screen will appear on COPS if a user tries to change a password that does not conform to the new rules. The screen will identify the specific error, such as "does not include a numeric character."

A new button labeled "Password Rules" has been added to the Secure System Password Reset Screen. Users can press the button to obtain details of the new password requirements.

Three attempts to change the password will be allowed before the password is suspended. If problems are encountered while resetting a password, contact FSA Security Office at 816-926-6537.