

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

Cotton Data File Format Revised Effective for 2005 Crop

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Cotton gins and other entities provide bale information to County Offices in the formats provided in 7-CN, Exhibit 13. These formats have been revised. The new formats are effective, and must be used, for all files submitted for 2005-crop cotton. PSD has informed gins of the revised formats, but needs County Offices to inform other entities that may provide information using these formats.

B Purpose

This notice:

- provides a web site for accessing the revised cotton data file formats
- requests County Offices to inform any entities other than gins that using the new format is required for all files submitted for 2005-crop cotton transactions.

C Contact

State Offices shall direct questions about this notice to Gene Rosera by:

- telephone at 202-720-8481
- e-mail at gene_rosera@wdc.usda.gov.

<p>Disposal Date</p> <p>June 1, 2006</p>	<p>Distribution</p> <p>State Office; State Office relay to County Offices, CMA, LSA, Cotton Clerks</p>
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Notice CN-984

2 Explanation of Revised Cotton Data File Format

A Availability

The revised:

- data file formats are available at www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/psd/CPR.htm
- formats will also be included in a future amendment to 7-CN.

B Data File Format Changes

The data file formats were amended to:

- accommodate changes made by the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to its measurement of cotton uniformity

Note: The AMS format change to this classification data also is effective for any 2005-crop classification data.

- remove unused positions from the prior formats.

3 Action

A County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- inform cotton entities of these format changes

Note: PSD has already informed gins, by mail, of these changes.

- encourage and assist any gin that provides bale information by paper to use the electronic file formats so that bale rejections caused by transcription mistakes can be eliminated.