

For: State and County Offices

FSA-578's

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

There have been questions about reporting volunteer acreage as well as concerns on how acreage calculations are summarized and printed on farm FSA-578's versus FSA-578 producer prints.

Additionally, with the implementation of programs authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, questions continue to be received on how to accurately report prevented planted and failed acreage on FSA-578 and the appropriate action to take when CCC-576 is approved or disapproved.

B Purpose

This notice:

- notifies State and County Office of changes made to FSA-578 software since installing County Release No. 681
- clarifies policy for reporting 2009 prevented planted and failed acreage
- provides policy for reporting 2010 prevented planted and failed acreage
- informs State and County Offices that beginning with the 2010 crop year, policy will be removed that makes acreage ineligible for prevented planted credit when a previous or subsequent crop is planted that does not meet the double-cropping provisions according to 2-CP.

Disposal Date April 1, 2010	Distribution State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices
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2 FSA-578 Changes

A Removing PII

To ensure the protection of PII and other sensitive information, FSA-578 was modified to remove the 4-digit TIN as identifiers. The 4-digit TIN is replaced by producer's name as identified in SCIMS and the applicable shares associated with the crop acreage being reported.

B Reporting Volunteer Acreage

A supplemental status code of "V" has been added to FSA-578 for reporting acreage that has a crop that was not planted, but is a volunteer crop. Status code "V" shall be used in the second character field to identify acreage reported as a volunteer crop. There is no planting date required for crops reported as a volunteer crop.

C Disapproved Acreage Field

Beginning with 2010 crop acreage reporting, a disapproved field will be added to FSA-578 software to identify acreage that is disapproved by allowing "D" to be loaded when prevented planted acreage is disapproved. If "D" is loaded in the disapproved field, the system will allow the succeeding crop to be entered with an initial status "I". See subparagraph 5 B for more information for recording 2010 disapproved prevented planted acreage and subparagraph 8 B for recording disapproved failed acreage.

Note: Disapproved acres are not credited toward the total cropland acres being certified.

D Printing Acreage Calculations and Summarization

Beginning with 2010 crop acreage reporting, acreage calculations for FSA-578 producer print will be summarized and displayed on the hardcopy print at the farm level by crop, type, practice, and intended use to mirror the summarized calculations on FSA-578 farm summary.

3 Prevented Planted Acreage

A Reporting Prevented Planted Acreage

Producers requesting prevented planting acreage credit must report the crop acreage on FSA-578 and complete CCC-576, Part B within 15 calendar days after the crops final planting date.

Note: The 2009 deadline for reporting prevented planted acreage was extended to August 14, 2009.

Late-filed provisions may apply according to 2-CP, subparagraph 24 G. Late-filed fees shall be assessed for acreage determinations and field visits.

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3 Prevented Planted Acreage (Continued)

B Accepting Prevented Planted Acreage Claims

COC shall accept and make a determination of eligibility on a case-by-case basis as CCC-576's are filed according to 2-CP, subparagraph 24 M. Once CCC-576 is submitted, it **cannot** be withdrawn.

Note: Action shall be taken on CCC-576 **before** 2009 SURE or ACRE payments are processed.

C Notifying Producer of Adverse Determination for Prevented Planted Acreage Credit

County Offices shall notify, in writing, each producer with an interest in the specific acreage or crop if COC made an adverse determination by:

- disapproving the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576, Part B
- approving less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576, Part B.

Notification letters shall include the determination along with a detailed explanation supporting the determination and right of reconsideration, appeal, or mediation according to 1-APP.

D Removal of Policy That Makes Acreage Ineligible for Prevented Planted Credit When a Previous or Subsequent Crop Not Meeting Double-Cropping Provisions is Planted

Beginning with 2010, acreage will no longer be considered ineligible for prevented planted credit when a previous or subsequent crop is planted that does not meet double-cropping provisions. However, it is important that subsequent crops are reported accurately. This change will help to provide consistency for reporting prevented planted and failed acreage.

Note: For 2009 and 2010, if COC disapproved CCC-576 based on the crop being ineligible because of the previous or subsequent plant rule, COC will revise their determination and approve the prevented planted request as long as all other requirements are met.

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4 Recording 2009 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578

A Recording 2009 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 When Entire Acreage is Approved

Use the following table to record prevented planted acreage on FSA-578 when the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is approved.

IF the producer has reported prevented planted acreage and COC...	THEN...
approves entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	accept acreage reported on FSA-578. Determined acres will not be entered.

Example.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage
3	Wheat	IP	60	

B Recording 2009 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 When Entire Acreage is Approved But Determined Ineligible Because of Planting a Previous or Subsequent Crop Not Meeting Double-Cropping Provisions

Use the following table to record prevented planted acreage on FSA-578 when the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is approved, but is determined ineligible because a previous or subsequent crop was planted that did not meet double-cropping provisions.

IF the producer has reported...	THEN...
prevented planted acreage, COC approves entire acreage claimed on CCC-576, and determines the acreage ineligible because of planting a crop not meeting double-cropping provisions	determined acreage shall be loaded as zero for the ineligible acreage and the applicable status code shall be loaded for the second crop acreage being reported. Note: For the summary of determined acres to be calculated correctly, all acres of the crop reported must be loaded as determined, including both prevented and planted acres.

Example.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported	Determined Acreage
3	Wheat	IP	60	0
3	Soybean	J	60	

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4 Recording 2009 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 (Continued)

C Recording 2009 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 When Less Than the Entire Acreage is Approved/Disapproved

Use the following table to record prevented planted acreage on FSA-578 when less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is approved/disapproved.

IF the producer has reported prevented planted acreage and COC...	THEN...
approves less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remove the reported line entry from FSA 578; determined acres shall not be entered • load the approved prevented planted acreage from CCC-576 as a subfield on FSA-578 • load the acreage disapproved as fallow with initial status “I” as a subfield on FSA-578, if no other crop is planted; producer is not required to recertify. <p>Notes: This will allow the cropland comparison flag to set correctly.</p> <p>If another crop is reported planted on the disapproved acreage, the crop shall be loaded as a subfield and applicable status code shall be applied.</p>

Example 1.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage
3	Wheat	IP	60	
3A	Wheat	IP	50	
3B	Fallow	I	10	
Note: The shaded portion indicates the initial removed prevented planted field.				

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4 Recording 2009 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 (Continued)

D Recording 2009 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 When Entire Acreage is Disapproved

Use the following table to record prevented planted acreage on FSA-578 when the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is disapproved.

IF the producer has reported prevented planted acreage and COC...	THEN...
disapproves the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	<p>remove the reported line entry from FSA-578. Determined acres shall not be entered.</p> <p>Notes: If another crop is reported planted behind the disapproved prevented acreage, the crop shall be loaded as the initial crop on the acreage.</p> <p>If another crop is not reported behind the disapproved prevented planted acreage, the acreage shall be reported as fallow to allow the cropland comparison flag to set correctly. Producer is not required to recertify.</p>

Example.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage
3	Wheat	IP	60	
3	Soybean	I	60	
Note: Shaded portion indicates the removal of the disapproved prevented planted acreage.				

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5 Recording 2010 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578

A Recording 2010 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 When Entire Acreage is Approved

Use the following table to record prevented planted acreage on FSA-578 when the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is approved.

IF the producer has reported prevented planted acreage and COC...	THEN...
approves entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	accept acreage reported on FSA-578. Determined acres will not be entered.

Example.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IP	60		

Beginning with 2010, a disapproved field will be added to FSA-578 software to identify acreage that is disapproved by allowing “**D**” to be loaded when prevented planted acreage is disapproved. If “**D**” is loaded in the disapproved field, the system will allow the status code associated with the disapproved acreage to be reloaded for the succeeding crop. This will apply to the initial status code “**T**” and status codes “**D**”, “**E**”, “**F**”, “**G**”, “**H**”, “**O**” applicable to crops meeting the double-cropping definition **only**.

Note: Determined acreage for a prevented planted crop shall only be entered in FSA-578 software if the crop acreage has been determined through the spot check process or measurement service.

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5 Recording 2010 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 (Continued)

B Recording 2010 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 When Entire Acreage is Disapproved

Use the following table to record prevented planted acreage on FSA-578 when the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is disapproved.

IF the producer has reported prevented planted acreage and COC...	THEN...
disapproves the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	load “D” in the disapproved acreage field on FSA-578. Determined acres shall not be loaded. Note: Disapproved acreage will not be counted toward setting the cropland comparison flag; therefore, if a producer does not plant a crop behind the disapproved prevented planted acreage, the acreage shall be loaded as fallow to allow the cropland comparison flag to set. Producer is not required to recertify; however, if another crop is reported planted, the crop shall be loaded with initial status “I”.

Example 1: When another crop is **not** planted behind disapproved prevented planted acreage.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IP	60		D
3	Fallow	I	60		

Example 2: When another crop is planted behind disapproved prevented planted acreage.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IP	60		D
3	Soybean	I	60		

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5 Recording 2010 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 (Continued)

C Recording 2010 Prevented Planted Acreage on FSA-578 When Less Than the Entire Acreage is Approved/Disapproved

Use the following table to record prevented planted acreage on FSA-578 when less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is approved/disapproved. County Offices shall delineate on the map, the approved and disapproved portion of fields.

IF the producer has reported prevented planted acreage and COC...	THEN...
approves less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remove the reported line entry of field 3 prevented planted acreage from FSA-578 • load the approved prevented planted acreage from the CCC-576 as a subfield on FSA-578 • load the disapproved acreage as a subfield and enter “D” in the disapproved field on FSA-578, <p>Notes: To determine the disapproved acreage, subtract the approved prevented planted acreage from the acreage claimed on CCC-576.</p> <p>If a producer does not plant a crop behind the disapproved prevented planted acreage, the acreage shall be reported/loaded as fallow to allow the cropland comparison flag to set. Producer is not required to recertify.</p>

Example 1: When another crop is **not** planted behind disapproved acreage.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IP	60		
3A	Wheat	IP	50		
3B	Wheat	IP	10		D
3B	Fallow	I	10		

Note: Shaded portion indicates the removal of field 3 line entry.

Example 2: When another crop is planted behind disapproved acreage.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IP	60		
3A	Wheat	IP	50		
3B	Wheat	IP	10		D
3B	Soybean	I	10		

Note: Shaded portion indicates the removal of field 3 line entry.

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6 Failed Acreage

A Reporting Failed Acreage

To be approved as failed acreage, the acreage must have been:

- reported as failed acreage on the earlier of the final acreage reporting date or before the disposition of the crop
- planted under normal conditions, but failed because of a natural disaster and **not** a management decision.

Note: Exceptions may apply according to 2-CP, subparagraph 24.5 C.

Applicable late-filed fees shall be assessed for FSA-578's filed after the final reporting deadline.

B Accepting Failed Acreage Claims

COC shall accept and make a determination of eligibility on each request for failed acreage credit filed by a producer. If COC is not satisfied with the supporting documentation provided, the request shall be denied.

C Failed Acreage Requests/Determinations

Failed acreage determinations shall be made on a case-by-case basis as CCC-576's are filed. Once CCC-576 has been submitted, it **cannot** be withdrawn. Action shall be taken on CCC-576's **before** 2009 SURE or ACRE payments are processed.

D Notification of Adverse Determinations for Failed Acreage Credit

Notify, in writing, each producer with an interest in the specific acreage or crop when COC makes an adverse determination by:

- disapproving the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576, Part B
- approving less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576, Part B.

Notification letter shall include the determination along with a detailed explanation supporting the determination and a right of reconsideration, appeal, or mediation according to 1-APP.

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7 Recording 2009 Failed Acreage on FSA-578

A Recording 2009 Failed Acreage on FSA-578 When Entire Acreage is Approved

Use the following table to record failed acreage on FSA-578 when the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is approved.

IF the producer has reported failed acreage and COC...	THEN...
approves entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	accept acreage reported on FSA-578. Determined acres will not be entered. Note: If the initial crop fails and the producer replants the same crop on the same land that is not an approved double-cropping combination (for example, winter wheat versus spring wheat), the crop shall only be reported once. The crop shall be considered a replacement crop, not a subsequent or double-crop. County Offices may notate on FSA-578 that the crop was replanted.

Example.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage
3	Wheat	IF	60	

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7 Recording 2009 Failed Acreage on FSA-578 (Continued)

B Recording 2009 Failed Acreage on FSA-578 When Less Than the Entire Acreage is Approved/Disapproved

Use the following table to record failed acreage on FSA-578 when less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is approved/disapproved.

IF the producer has reported failed acreage and COC...	THEN...
approves less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	load approved acreage from CCC-576 as determined on FSA-578. Note: For the summary of determined acres to be calculated correctly, all acres of the crop reported must be loaded as determined, including both prevented and planted acres.

Example.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage
3	Wheat	IF	60	50

C Recording 2009 Failed Acreage on FSA-578 When Entire Acreage is Disapproved

Use the following table to record failed acreage on FSA-578 when the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is disapproved.

IF the producer has reported failed acreage and COC...	THEN...
disapproves the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	determined acreage shall be loaded as zero.

Example.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage
3	Wheat	IF	60	0

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8 Recording 2010 Failed Acreage on FSA-578

A Recording 2010 Failed Acreage on FSA-578 When Entire Acreage is Approved

Use the following table to record failed acreage on FSA-578 when the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is approved.

IF the producer has reported failed acreage and COC...	THEN...
approves entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	accept acreage reported on FSA-578. Determined acres will not be entered.

Example.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IF	60		

Beginning with the 2010 crop year, a disapproved field will be added to FSA-578 software to identify acreage that is disapproved by allowing “**D**” to be loaded when failed acreage is disapproved. If “**D**” is loaded in the disapproved field, the system will allow the succeeding crop to be entered with an initial status “**I**”.

Note: Determined acreage for a failed crop shall only be entered in the System 36 acreage reporting software if the crop acreage has been determined through the spot check process or measurement service.

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8 Recording 2010 Failed Acreage on FSA-578 (Continued)

B Recording 2010 Failed Acreage on FSA-578 When Entire Acreage Claimed is Disapproved

Use the following table to record failed acreage on FSA-578 when the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is disapproved.

IF the producer has reported failed acreage and COC...	THEN...
disapproves the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	<p>load "D" in the disapproved acreage field on FSA-578. Determined acres shall not be entered.</p> <p>Notes: If the initial crop fails and the producer replants the same crop on the same land that is not an approved double-cropping combination (for example, winter wheat versus spring wheat), the crop shall only be reported once. The crop shall be considered a replacement crop, not a subsequent or double-crop. County Offices may notate on FSA-578 that the crop was replanted.</p> <p>Disapproved acreage will not be counted toward setting the cropland comparison flag; therefore, if a producer does not plant a crop behind the disapproved failed acreage, the acreage shall be reported/loaded as fallow to allow the cropland comparison flag to set. Producer is not required to recertify. If a crop is planted following the disapproved failed acreage, the crop shall be loaded with initial status "I".</p>

Example.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IF	60		D
3	Fallow	I	60		

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8 Recording 2010 Failed Acreage on FSA-578 (Continued)

C Recording 2010 Failed Acreage on FSA-578 When Less Than the Entire Acreage is Approved/Disapproved

Use the following table to record failed acreage on FSA-578 when less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576 is approved/disapproved.

IF the producer has reported failed acreage and COC...	THEN...	
approves less than the entire acreage claimed on CCC-576	Step	Action
	1	remove the reported line entry from FSA-578.
	2	load the approved failed acreage from the CCC 576 as a subfield on FSA-578.
	3	load the disapproved acreage as a subfield and enter "D" in the disapproved field on the FSA-578.
	Note: If a producer does not plant a crop behind the disapproved failed acreage, the acreage shall be loaded as fallow to allow the cropland comparison flag to set. Producer is not required to recertify.	

Example 1: When another crop is **not** planted behind disapproved acreage.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IF	60		
3A	Wheat	IF	50		
3B	Wheat	IF	10		D
3B	Fallow	I	10		

Note: Shaded portion indicates the removal of field 3 line entry.

Example 2: When another crop is planted behind disapproved acreage.

Field	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IF	60		
3A	Wheat	IF	50		
3B	Wheat	IF	10		D
3B	Soybean	I	10		

Note: Shaded portion indicates the removal of field 3 line entry.

Example 3: When the same crop is planted behind disapproved acreage.

Field #	Crop	Status Code	Reported Acreage	Determined Acreage	Disapproved Acreage
3	Wheat	IF	60		
3A	Wheat	IF	50		
3B	Wheat	I	10		

Note: Shaded portion indicates the removal of field 3 line entry.

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9 State and County Office Action

A State Office Action

State Offices shall ensure that County Office employees are immediately informed of the contents of this notice.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- follow procedure in the notice for 2009 and 2010 crop acreage reporting
- notify all producers of acreage reporting requirements by any means of communication according to 2-CP, paragraph 16
- fully document determinations in COC minutes.