

For: State and County Offices

**Handling Signup 26 Offers and Producers
Affected by Incorrect Soils Length Slope (LS) Values**

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

A small percentage, less than 1 percent, of the soils records distributed to County Offices with the AGSS CD's contained incorrect length slope (LS) values. LS is a factor used in NRCS's RUSLE Sheet and Rill Water Erosion Equation. The incorrect LS values originally provided were developed by inadvertently truncating the correct NRCS values, that is, numbers of 10 or greater were not copied correctly into the AGSS soils files. For example, LS correct score 13.65 was copied as 3.65.

AGSS and GIS calculations using the incorrect (lower) LS values produce incorrect erodibility index (EI) values, land eligibility determinations, and EBI factor N2 and N3 scores. Because of the nature of the error, it should primarily impact counties with long and severe slopes.

An Excel spreadsheet list of affected soil types was provided to State CRP specialists on May 19, 2003, with a request that County Offices discontinue processing new offers with these soils types until they download and import corrected files. This notice provides provisions and additional instructions for handling previously existing incorrect offers and producers who may have declined to submit offers because of incorrect LS soils data.

Disposal Date

August 1, 2003

Distribution

State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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1 Overview (Continued)

B Purpose

This notice provides instructions for:

- identifying the counties and soils records impacted because of incorrect LS values
- discontinuing the processing of new offers covered by soils with incorrect data until the corrected LS soils records are downloaded and imported
- handling existing offers already developed using incorrect soils LS values
- handling producers who inquired during signup and then declined to submit offers because of incorrect LS values.

2 Identifying Incorrect Soils and Impacted Counties, and Handling Offers and Producers

A Identifying Incorrect Soils Records and Impacted Counties

The impacted counties and soils records are listed on the Excel spreadsheet posted at CEPD's Intranet site: <http://dc.ffasintranet.usda.gov/DAFP/cepdsto.htm>. Access the spreadsheet from this page by clicking on bullet 6, "Signup 26 Information" and then on the link in bullet 8, "Excel Spreadsheet."

All soils records listed on this spreadsheet were originally distributed with the AGSS software with incorrect LS values.

Note: This spreadsheet file, that also contains the correct LS values, is to be used only to identify the affected soils and counties. It is **not** provided to be used to update the PC files directly. Use the website downloading/importing process in subparagraph B to update county files.

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2 Identifying Incorrect Soils and Impacted Counties, and Handling Offers and Producers (Continued)

B Discontinuing New Offer Processing Until Corrected Soils Records Are Downloaded

County Offices, with soils listed on the Excel spreadsheet identified according to subparagraph A, shall immediately discontinue processing new offers with these soil types using the CRP GIS Tool and the AGSS software until the soils records with corrected LS values are downloaded and imported into all PC's in the county on which AGSS and/or GIS is installed.

Soils records maintained at the Soils Database Management System website, <http://fsatpws2.fsa.usda.gov/SoilDbMgmt/applicationAgent/SoilMainServlet>, have been edited with the correct LS values by KC-ITSDO.

Note: County Offices may print the Soils Detail report from this website to review corrected LS data by soil type.

These County Offices shall download and import a corrected set of soils records for all counties for which farms are administered, into all PC's used to process offers with the CRP GIS Tool and/or the AGSS software from the Soils Database Management System website according to CRP-434, subparagraph 4 B.

Note: The download and import process overlays (replaces) the entire soils table for the county or counties downloaded on each PC.

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2 Identifying Incorrect Soils and Impacted Counties, and Handling Offers and Producers (Continued)

C Handling Existing Offers Created With Incorrect LS Values

County Offices shall do the following.

Step	Action
1	Identify those complete or partial offers which contain 1 or more incorrect soils records by using the spreadsheet of soils with incorrect LS values and the list of printed CRP-2 offers, including attached AGSS screen prints.
2	<p>Notify producers who submitted offers affected by incorrect LS values, as identified in step 1, that the following may have been calculated incorrectly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • land eligibility because of water EI • EBI ranking factors N2 and N3 • Maximum Payment Rates (may be incorrect if the relative mix of soils/acreages changes because of EI > = 8 Land Eligibility changes). <p>Note: These producers may be notified by telephone call.</p>
3	<p>Complete the following by the announced final transmission deadline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the producer revisit the County Office with the original CRP-2/CRP-1 forms. • Reprocess any corrected CRP-2/CRP-1's for all offers originally developed using incorrect soils records in GIS and AGSS software. See the notes following this table. • Print corrected CRP-2/CRP-1 offer forms. • Notify producers of the changes in the CRP-2/CRP-1 forms. • Allow producers to make a modified offer according to procedure. Changes may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • total acreage • N1A cover mix • rental rate per acre offered • cost-share acceptance, etc. • Have producers sign and date new offer according to procedure. • After reprocessing new CRP-2/CRP-1 forms, mark out the pages of original incorrect forms with a large "X", label the pages INCORRECT SOILS, and attach to the new forms. • Retain file copies and provide copies of the new forms to the producers.

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2 Identifying Incorrect Soils and Impacted Counties, and Handling Offers and Producers (Continued)

C Handling Existing Offers Created With Incorrect LS Values (Continued)

Notes: In some cases, because more land will be eligible with corrected LS soils data, the total acreage for an offer may be substantially larger than originally loaded in GIS and/or AGSS. Related adjustments in soils acreages and practice acreages will be needed when this occurs.

For GIS counties, modify offers in GIS by reprocessing new scenarios, that may include acreages different than originally submitted. New $EI \geq 8$ values will automatically calculate correctly after the corrected soils data has been downloaded and imported. The GIS Tool uses only the primary, secondary, and tertiary soils to determine rent and eligibility information.

When minor changes are needed, modify existing offers in AGSS using the "MODIFY" option. Redetermine and change total acres offered and soils types/soils acreages, if applicable. Click through all AGSS screens (using "NEXT") when using MODIFY in AGSS to complete reprocessing. Correct soils LS values will be reapplied automatically. When modifying offers, also change the date "Date Signed and Submitted" on the last screen to reflect the date when the offer was reprocessed, and press "DONE" button on corner of the last screen to complete reprocessing in AGSS.

When major changes are needed, County Offices should Delete and Re-enter new offers using AGSS instead of Modify to adjust soils data with corrected LS values.

Very Important: All offers with incorrect soils LS records must be either modified or deleted/re-entered to ensure EBI factors are calculated correctly.

D Handling Producers Who Inquired During Signup Who Declined to Submit Because of Incorrect LS Values

Identify using GIS layouts, partial/ineligible AGSS records, and any other available information those producers with incorrect soils who inquired about CRP during signup who were notified they did not have land eligible under the $EI \geq 8$ Land Eligibility criteria.

Notify these producers that new corrected soils data has been developed and deployed which increases the likelihood of positive land eligibility determinations, and that they have the opportunity to submit new offers if done so during the signup period.

New offers for producers with these soils who inquired about CRP but did not submit offers must be accepted, processed, and transmitted to Kansas City by the final transmission deadline.

Note: These producers may be notified by telephone call.

3 County Office Action

A Action

All County Offices shall follow the provisions of this notice to identify whether they are impacted by the incorrect soils LS values data.

Impacted counties shall follow the provisions of this notice to download corrected soils data, correct/modify existing offers, and allow applicable producers who previously declined to submit offers the opportunity to submit by signup deadlines.