

**For:** State Offices and Service Centers

**Establishing the Haying and Grazing Year and Primary Nesting and Broodrearing Season**

**Approved by:** Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



---

**1 Overview**

**A Background**

Beginning with signup 26, CRP participants may perform managed haying and grazing of CRP acreage.

Several questions have resulted concerning determining haying and grazing timeframes and when to assess payment reductions.

**B Purpose**

This notice provides policy:

- concerning adjusting the primary nesting and broodrearing season
- for determining the haying and grazing year for assessing payment reductions.

This notice removes the June 1 emergency grazing start date and the July 1 emergency haying start date in 2-CRP, subparagraph 307 G.

---

<b>Disposal Date</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
January 1, 2004	State Offices; State Offices relay to Service Centers and NRCS State Offices

## Notice CRP-439

### 2 Primary Nesting and Broodrearing Season and Frost Date

#### A Adjusting Beginning and Ending Dates of Primary Nesting and Broodrearing Season

STC's:

- shall review the primary nesting and broodrearing season with the State Technical Committee to determine whether the beginning and ending dates are appropriate
- are delegated authority to adjust the beginning and ending dates for the primary nesting and broodrearing season, only after consultation with and agreement by the State Technical Committee.

**Notes:** The primary nesting and broodrearing season beginning and ending dates are not required to be uniform within the State but must conform to county boundaries.

STC's should consult with neighboring STC's to ensure consistency.

#### B Reporting Dates

States shall report to CEPD, electronically by **September 1, 2003**, the:

**Note:** Guidance will be issued to State Offices concerning electronic reporting.

- applicable beginning and ending dates for the primary nesting and broodrearing season

**Note:** Only 1 primary nesting and broodrearing season, applicable to all species, may be set.

- the first frost date.

### 3 Haying and Grazing Year

#### A Established Year

October 1 begins a new year for new requests for managed and emergency haying and grazing provisions. Haying and grazing ends 30 days before the first frost.

**Note:** Participants haying or grazing before October 1 shall **not** be assessed an additional payment reduction for haying or grazing before the first frost for that same acreage after October 1.

We understand that certain regions of the country have climatic conditions that may allow haying or grazing to continue after the first frost date. STC's shall work with State Technical Committees to identify those areas and submit the ending dates to CEPD for review and approval.

For purposes of determining the year the managed or emergency haying and grazing is conducted, COC's shall use the fiscal year that the activity begins.

**Example:** The first frost date is November 1. Producer A grazes 40 acres under managed grazing provisions beginning on July 20, 2003. The producer must discontinue grazing by October 1, 2003. The next allowable year that the producer could graze the 40 acres under managed grazing provisions is 2006.

#### B Assessing Payment Reductions

Haying or grazing payment reductions for managed and emergency haying and grazing provisions shall be assessed based on the haying and grazing year the activity begins. A 25 percent payment reduction applies to both managed and emergency haying and grazing provisions.