

For: State and County Offices

Determining Counties Eligible for Disaster Assistance

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Title IX of the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007, authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to provide emergency financial assistance to producers on farms that incurred 2005, 2006, and 2007 losses.

Several programs announced under this authority, Livestock Compensation Program (LCP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Dairy Disaster Assistance Program (DDAP), and Catfish Grant Program (CGP) require the county to have been declared by the President or designated by the Secretary as a natural disaster county or included under an Administrator's Physical Loss Notification. Eligibility for these programs will be directly associated to the loss conditions as identified in the declaration or designation.

Because of the number of declarations and designations received for 2005, 2006, and 2007, it is extremely important that the information used in triggering these programs is accurate.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- a definition of natural disaster county for the purpose of implementing LCP, LIP, DDAP, and CGP
- State Offices with the website for verifying eligible natural disaster counties
- instructions for reviewing and notifying the National Office of possible discrepancies.

Disposal Date	Distribution
August 1, 2008	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice DAP-260

2 Natural Disaster County

A Definition

A natural disaster county is a county (including contiguous counties) that was declared by the President or designated by the Secretary **between** January 1, 2005, and February 28, 2007. Natural disaster declaration county also includes those Administrator's Physical Loss Notifications approved as long as the notice is directly associated to a declaration made by the President during the specified time period.

3 State Office Action

A Validation

State Offices shall visit the FSA Intranet at <http://intranet.fsa.usda.gov/fsa> to find lists of primary and contiguous counties having a Presidential disaster declaration, Secretarial disaster designation between January 1, 2005, and February 28, 2007, or eligible Administrator's Physical Loss Notification.

Note: States will click on "CY2007 Disaster Legislation - County Lists" under the "In the Spotlight" portion of the web site.

The lists provided are by applicable crop year. When compiling the lists, the designation was associated to only 1 crop year. In the event that a disaster event impacted more than 1 crop year of loss, the State Office must indicate if additional crop years were impacted.

B Reporting Discrepancies

State Offices shall email any discrepancies in the list to Helen.Smith@wdc.usda.gov. In the e-mail include the designation number MXXX, SXXX, or NXXX, along with the error, such as inclusion of an additional crop year, incorrect crop year, missing county, incorrect county, incorrect cause of loss or beginning and ending date, etc. All errors must be identified and reported by **COB Wednesday, July 25**.

Important: It is imperative that States take the time to review these lists thoroughly because this information will be released to the public and also referenced in the regulation. Software will use these tables to validate eligible counties, disaster events, and disaster timeframes.