

For: State and County Offices

Announcing New Eligible FSFL Commodities

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

State and County Offices have received inquiries from non-traditional producers about FSFL eligibility for numerous commodities.

USDA’s intent for adding new FSFL commodities is to provide an increased opportunity for access to non-traditional producers. The affordable low interest rates provided through the FSFL program allow producers to purchase and erect storage, drying and handling facilities that meet or exceed food safety standards. This results in a higher quality product for the consumer and enhanced consumer safety.

Since 2000, grains and many of the oilseeds eligible for CCC MAL’s have been eligible for FSFL. Section 1614 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act) provided authority to the Secretary to add other storable commodities to the list of crops eligible for FSFL. Previously, the Secretary added the following commodities:

- peanuts
- pulse crops
- hay
- honey
- renewable biomass
- cold storage facilities for fruits and vegetables
- other grains (triticale, speltz, and buckwheat).

Disposal Date	Distribution
March 1, 2016 8-17-15	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice FSFL-121

1 Overview (Continued)

B Purpose

This notice informs State and County Offices:

- about new additional FSFL eligible commodities
- that policies and procedures are forthcoming
- that a future notice will provide authorization to start accepting FSFL requests for the new additional FSFL eligible commodities.

2 Additional Commodities

A New Additional Commodities

The Secretary has recently determined there is a need for on-farm storage, drying and handling equipment for new additional commodities. Therefore, using authority provided in the 2008 Act, the following new storable commodities are added as eligible for FSFL:

- aquaculture (excluding systems that maintain live animals through uptake and discharge of water)
- floriculture
- hops
- milk
- rye
- meat and poultry (unprocessed)
- eggs
- cheese, butter and yogurt.

Authorizing new additional commodities for eligibility provides flexible FSFL terms to non-traditional producers to finance on-farm storage facilities and equipment needed to grow and expand their business.

B Contact

If there are any questions about this notice or specific situations that require additional assistance, please contact Toni Williams at:

- e-mail to toni.williams@wdc.usda.gov
- telephone at 202-720-2270.