

For: FSA Offices, CMA's, LSA's, and Peanut DMA's

Ewe Lamb Replacement and Retention Program (ELRRP)

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

On January 27, 2004, the Secretary of Agriculture announced that USDA will provide the U.S. lamb industry with \$18 million in payments to sheep and lamb producers to encourage the replacement and retention of ewe lamb breeding stock.

B Purpose

This notice provides general information to State and County Offices of the new Ewe Lamb Replacement and Retention Program (ELRRP).

2 General Information

A Ewe Lamb Replacement and Retention Program

To enhance the competitiveness of the domestic lamb and sheep industry and to re-establish producer's purchasing power, ELRRP will be made available to eligible producers. Producers will be paid \$18 per head for ewe lambs purchased or retained during August 1, 2003, through July 31, 2004. Producers must also retain the qualifying ewe lambs in the herd for at least 1 complete offspring lambing cycle.

Note: The \$18 payment rate is subject to the availability of program funds.

Disposal Date	Distribution
September 1, 2004	All FSA Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices; and CMA's

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2 General Information (Continued)

B Maintaining Records

It is imperative that producers maintain adequate records, such as, but not limited to:

- sales receipts as proof of purchase and retention
- farm management records kept through normal production practices
- veterinarian certifications as proof of ewe lamb characteristics
- scrapie program forms as proof of compliance with 9 CFR Part 79.

The documentation provided must disclose the following:

- date of lamb purchase
- date of lamb birth
- date of lamb death, if applicable
- lamb identification and control information
- number of ewe lambs purchased
- identification with APHIS-approved scrapie program.

C County Office Action

County Offices shall notify producers of the contents of this notice and emphasize the importance of maintaining adequate records according to subparagraph B.

D Contact

Additional information about ELRRP will be included in future LD notices. For more information on ELRRP or the contents of this notice, contact Kimberly Graham at 202-720-9154 or Toni Williams at 202-720-2270.