

For: FSA Offices

Spot Check Policies for Small Chickpea Marketing Assistance Loans and LDP's

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

The Farm Security Rural Investment Act of 2002 (the Act) provides 2002 through 2007 crop year marketing assistance loans and LDP's to eligible producers who produce and harvest pulse crops. Pulse crops include dry peas, lentils, and small chickpeas. Small chickpea marketing assistance loan and LDP eligibility is based on size. Small chickpeas are defined as chickpeas that drop below or through a 20/64 screen.

Production evidence is required for producers who report Kabuli chickpeas on FSA-578 and request a marketing assistance loan or LDP.

B Purpose

This notice informs State and County Offices of spot check policies applicable to 2003 and subsequent crop years small chickpea marketing assistance loans and LDP's selected for spot check.

Disposal Date	Distribution
December 1, 2003	All FSA Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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2 Mandatory Spot Checks of Chickpeas Marketing Assistance Loans and LDP's

A Spot Check Policies for Kabuli Chickpeas

Producers who request a loan or LDP must file FSA-578 by the applicable final reporting date. The acreage report will include the chickpea variety.

- Desi chickpea variety when harvested passes below or through a 20/64 sieve.
- Kabuli variety, depending on the growing conditions and the specific variety type, may or may **not** pass through a 20/64 sieve.

For all Kabuli farm-stored loans and LDP requests, County Offices shall flag the applicable loan or LDP as a required spotcheck. Acceptable production evidence, according to 8-LP and subparagraph D, is required for all loans and LDP's selected for spot check.

Note: Producers who provide acceptable production evidence at the time of the loan or LDP request will **not** be subject to spotcheck.

If the variety was not included on the applicable loan or LDP request, then County Offices shall review FSA-578 to verify the variety. For all future loan or LDP requests, producers must enter the chickpea variety on the applicable form.

B Measured Chickpea Loans or LDP's

When measured chickpea loans or LDP's are requested, County Offices shall:

- measure the bin and obtain a sample by using a deep bin probe
- submit the sample to a licensed laboratory for testing
- request the grade determination and the percentage of sound chickpeas that pass through a 20/64 sieve
- determine the eligible quantity based on the percentage provided by the licensed laboratory.

Example: Measured quantity is 800 cwt. County Office sends sample to licensed laboratory. Test results indicate "Sound chickpeas through a 20/64 sieve is 5%". Eligible quantity for loan or LDP is 40 cwt (5 percent of 800 cwt. = 40 cwt.).

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C Flagging Kabuli Chickpea Loans and LDP's as Required Spotchecks

To flag loans or LDP's entered in APSS as required spotcheck, County Offices shall for:

- loans, on Screen PLB10005, ENTER "Y" to the question, "Is this loan or LDP a required spotcheck?"
- LDP's, reference 12-PS, paragraph 1505.

D Acceptable Production Evidence

In addition to the production evidence requirements included in 8-LP, subparagraph 535 D, producers who request chickpea loans and LDP's must include the percentage of sound chickpeas that pass through a 20/64 sieve. This information is necessary to verify commodity eligibility. It is the producer's responsibility to ensure that the production evidence submitted meet the specific requirements.

For chickpea LDP's that are selected for spotcheck and the chickpeas:

- were sold before the date of this notice, review the production evidence available; if the percentage of sound chickpeas that pass through a 20/64 sieve is not provided, take no action
- are still in storage (on the farm or in a warehouse), inform producers of the necessary production evidence requirements according to this notice. Handbook 8-LP will be amended to include additional production evidence requirements for small chickpeas.