

For: State and County Offices

**MFP Software Enhancements to Non-Specialty Acres**

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

The MFP software enhancement was released Friday, September 13, 2019, which included:

- updating the planting date for 2019 planted ginseng for specialty crops
- totaling and comparing the producer’s acres for 2018 and 2019 at the producer level instead of at the county level
- adding a new column to allow for eligible 2019 subsequent acres planted after prevented planted acres
- only retrieving the grain acres for multi intended use codes with GZ/GR small grain when there are multiple producers on the same field.

**B Purpose**

This notice provides State and County Offices with guidance on how to review and update affected applications.

<b>Disposal Date</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
April 1, 2020	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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### 1 Overview (Continued)

#### C Contact

State Program Specialists will direct questions to one of the following contacts according to this table.

Contact	Contact Information
Kelly Hereth-Dawson (Policy)	Contact Kelly Hereth-Dawson by either of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• e-mail to <b>kelly.hereth@usda.gov</b></li><li>• telephone at 202-720-0448.</li></ul>
Laura Schlote (Automation)	Contact Laura Schlote by either of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• e-mail to <b>laura.schlote@usda.gov</b></li><li>• telephone at 202-720-7785.</li></ul>
Brittany Ramsburg (Automation)	Contact Brittany Ramsburg, by either of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• e-mail to <b>brittany.ramsburg@usda.gov</b></li><li>• telephone to 202-260-9303.</li></ul>

### 2 Non-Specialty Screen Enhancements

#### A Overview

The Non-Specialty Screen has been enhanced to accommodate changes and to calculate the total eligible payment acres for a producer. The following items have been enhanced on the Non-Specialty Screen:

- totaling and comparing the producer's acres for 2018 and 2019 instead of at the county level
- adding a new column to allow for eligible 2019 subsequent acres planted after prevented planted acres
- allowing excepted acres for any county when the 2019 acres exceed the 2018 acres.

The 2019 MFP User Guide Version 3 has been updated with all the enhancements and procedure on the FSA Intranet page at <https://inside.fsa.usda.gov/program-areas/dafp/special-programs/mfp/index>.

**Reminder:** The Subsequent and Excepted Acres Worksheets are available to help users calculate the subsequent acres and excepted acres for a producer on the FSA Intranet page at <https://inside.fsa.usda.gov/program-areas/dafp/special-programs/mfp/index>.

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### 2 Non-Specialty Screen Enhancements (Continued)

#### B 2019 Subsequent Acres Planted After Prevented Planted Acres

Eligible subsequent acres are acres planted with crop statuses J, K, or M following prevented planted acres and must be manually entered in the software.

When the 2019 subsequent acres are entered **and** saved, the acres are added to the 2019 planted acres which then become 2019 eligible acres.

The following is an example of the Non-Specialty Screen with 2019 subsequent acres after prevented planted acres recorded.

		2018 PLANTED AND PREVENTED PLANTED ACRES	2019 PLANTED ACRES	2019 SUBSEQUENT ACRES PLANTED AFTER PREVENTED PLANTED ACRES	2019 ELIGIBLE ACRES	EXCEPTED ACRES	COC ADJUSTED ACRES	PAYMENT ACRES	RECORD HISTORY
Maryland	Montgomery	3,208.16	3,119.50	300.00	3,419.50			3,370.23	<a href="#">View History</a>
Maryland	Frederick	747.45	716.33		716.33			706.01	<a href="#">View History</a>
Maryland	Howard	579.03	465.10		465.10			458.40	<a href="#">View History</a>
<b>Totals</b>		<b>4,534.64</b>	<b>4,300.93</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>4,600.93</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>4,534.64</b>	

#### C Excepted Acres

Excepted acres can only be entered when the total 2019 eligible acres are greater than the 2018 planted and prevented planted acres and the producer has requested excepted acres.

Excepted acres are entered in the applicable county.

**Note:** Excepted acres are limited to the difference of the total 2018 and 2019 columns and not at the county level.

The following is an example of the Non-Specialty Screen where the “Excepted Acres” column is enabled because the 2018 planted acres and prevented acres is less than the 2019 eligible acres.

		2018 PLANTED AND PREVENTED PLANTED ACRES	2019 PLANTED ACRES	2019 SUBSEQUENT ACRES PLANTED AFTER PREVENTED PLANTED ACRES	2019 ELIGIBLE ACRES	EXCEPTED ACRES	COC ADJUSTED ACRES	PAYMENT ACRES	RECORD HISTORY
Maryland	Montgomery	3,208.16	3,119.50	300.00	3,419.50			3,370.23	<a href="#">View History</a>
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**2 Non-Specialty Screen Enhancements (Continued)**

**D Prorating Payment Acres When the Total 2018 Acres Are Less Than the Total 2019 Acres**

When the total 2018 planted acres and prevented planted acres are less than the total 2019 eligible acres, the eligible payment acres are prorated based on the percentage of 2019 eligible acres for each county.

The following is an example of how the payment acres are prorated.

EXAMPLE									
2019 Acres < 2018 Acres									
Physical State	Physical County	2018 Planted and Prevented Planted Acres	Initial 2019 Planted Acres	2019 Subsequent Acres Planted after Prevented Planted Acres	2019 Eligible Acres	Excepted Acres	% of 2019 Acres	COC Adjusted Acres	Payment Acres
State A	County A	100.00	150.00		150.00		46.15%		138.46
State A	County B	100.00	100.00		100.00		30.77%		92.31
State A	County C	100.00	75.00		75.00		23.08%		69.23
<b>Totals</b>		<b>300.00</b>	<b>325.00</b>	-	<b>325.00</b>	-	<b>100.00%</b>	-	<b>300.00</b>

In this example 300 acres are the total eligible payment acres. The 300 acres will be distributed among the 3 counties based on the percentage of actual 2019 eligible acres in each county.

First, determine the percentage of 2019 acres for each county by dividing the total eligible acres by the total 2019 eligible acres.

$$150 \div 325 = .4615$$

$$100 \div 325 = .3077$$

$$75 \div 325 = .2308$$

Second, multiply the percentage result by the total eligible payment acres to determine the payment acres by county.

$$300 \times .4615 = 138.46 \text{ acres}$$

$$300 \times .3077 = 92.31 \text{ acres}$$

$$300 \times .2308 = 69.23 \text{ acres}$$

$$\text{Total Payment Acres} = 300 \text{ acres.}$$

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### 3 Mass Refresh of Non-Specialty and Specialty Acres

#### A Overview

The policy changes made to the 2019 MFP since the program was deployed will require many applications already submitted to be updated to reflect those changes. To avoid counties having to access each application and manually update, a mass refresh of non-specialty and specialty acres will be conducted. The mass refresh is scheduled to begin Friday, September 27, 2019, and may take several days to complete.

To assist counties with identifying which applications have been updated and need further review, the Details Screen will display the following information:

- Mass Refresh Status
- Last Mass Refresh Date
- Review Required (Acres Changed) checkbox
- Review Required (Excepted Acres Changed) checkbox
- Review Required (CC Acres Changed).

**Note:** CC means cover crop.

The National Office will provide a report of applications needing further review.

The following is an example of the Details Screen with the results of the mass refresh.

The screenshot shows a web application interface with a 'Details' tab selected. The interface includes a navigation bar with tabs for 'Livestock', 'Non-Specialty', 'Specialty', 'COC Determination', and 'History & Attachments'. The main content area is divided into sections. A 'Related Interaction' section is highlighted with a red box, showing the following information:

- Related Interaction: 0382848
- Mass Refresh Status: Complete
- Last Mass Refresh: 9/13/2019 12:13 PM
- Review Required (Acres Changed):
- Review Required (Excepted Acres Cleared):
- Review Required (CC Acres Cleared):

Below this section, there is a 'Recording County Office (For COC Use Only)' section with a dropdown menu for 'Recording County Name' and a 'Recording State' field.

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### 3 Mass Refresh of Non-Specialty and Specialty Acres (Continued)

#### B Reviewed Required (Acres Changed)

The checkbox will be checked if the application's acreage has changed and resulted in an increase or decrease in payment acres.

If the acreage has:

- increased, the county will need to notify the producer that a new CCC-913 must be filed in order to receive a payment on the additional acres
- decreased, the county will provide the producer with a letter notifying them that their payment will be adjusted accordingly and that an overpayment may exist.

**Note:** An example of this letter will be provided in a forthcoming 1-MFP amendment. Counties will not take any further action until the amendment is issued.

The mass refresh updated the producer's eligible acres and the software will pay the additional acres during the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of payments regardless if a revised application has been filed. To avoid an improper payment being issued, counties should make every effort to get a new signed application no later than October 31, 2019.

#### C Reviewed Required (Excepted Acres Changed)

Excepted acres will be removed when the producer's:

- total 2019 eligible acres are now less than the 2018 planted and prevented planted
- total 2019 eligible acres still greater than the 2018 planted and prevented but the acres entered exceed the maximum allowed.

**Note:** Using the History link on the Non-Specialty Screen, the user can view the original excepted acres that were entered.

#### D Reviewed Required (CC Acres Changed)

Cover crop acres will be removed when the producer's:

- total 2019 eligible acres are now greater than the total 2018 planted and prevented planted acres
- total 2019 eligible acres are still less than the total 2018 planted and prevented planted acres but the acres exceed the maximum allowed.

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### 4 Action

#### A State Offices

State Offices will:

- provide the County Offices with the report for review required actions
- assist County Offices with procedure provided in this notice
- contact the 2019 MFP team with questions according to subparagraph 1 C.

#### B County Offices

County Offices will:

- review affected applications
- after review of the application, CLICK “Save” on the applicable tab which will remove the checkboxes indicating the application has been reviewed
- contact affected producers requiring a new CCC-913 for additional payment acres
- contact State Office specialist with questions.