

For: AL, FL, LA, MS, NC, and TX State and County Offices

Loading Notice of Loss for 2005 Section 32 Hurricane Disaster Program

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Ophelia, Rita, and Wilma significantly impacted the gulf coast region and North Carolina in 2005. Because of the severity and widespread devastation, the Secretary is using the authority under Section 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of August 24, 1935, to implement 4 disaster programs to assist in re-establishing farmers' purchasing power in these areas.

The special disaster programs are available to producers in counties within Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Texas that received a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration as a primary county because of Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Ophelia, Rita, and Wilma.

This notice focuses on preparing for 1 of the disaster assistance programs, the Hurricane Indemnity Program (HIP). Forthcoming directives will provide the policy, procedure, and the list of approved Presidential- and Secretarial-designated primary counties for all of the disaster assistance programs.

HIP provides assistance to eligible producers who received either a FCIC crop insurance indemnity payment or a crop loss payment under NAP, for losses that are attributable to Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Ophelia, Rita, and Wilma.

B Purpose

This notice notifies County Offices in the affected States of the requirement to load all 2005 and 2006 approved notices of loss into the System 36 for losses related to the hurricanes. County Offices in the affected areas must complete the loading of the approved notices of loss by April 21, 2006, to ensure that data is available for the HIP application process. A NAP producer's eligibility for HIP will be determined based on the information on the notice of loss data that has been loaded in the System 36.

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| Disposal Date | Distribution |
| October 1, 2006 | Above State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices |

Notice NAP-87

2 Impact on HIP Eligibility

A HIP Eligibility Impact

Because HIP is based on 30 percent of NAP payments, producers are not required to file any documents to support eligibility. Eligibility will be determined solely on NAP payments made based on NAP notices of loss timely filed for 2005 and 2006 losses because of hurricanes.

It is imperative that all 2005 and 2006 notices of loss are loaded into the automated system to ensure inclusion into a 1-time process that will read the notice of loss file to build eligible production loss files. Only those producers who have eligible 2005 and 2006 notices of loss loaded by April 21, 2006, will be eligible for HIP benefits on the NAP production losses.

There will be no exceptions.

Note: Loss files will be processed 1 time. However, NAP payment files will be processed every time the HIP application is accessed.

3 Action

A County Office Action

County Offices that administer land located in a Presidential- and Secretarial-designated primary county for Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Ophelia, Rita, and Wilma shall:

- ensure that all 2005 and 2006 notices of loss are timely reviewed by COC
- load all approved 2005 and 2006 notices of loss according to 1-NAP (Rev. 1) by April 21, 2006

Note: While producers will be required to file the HIP application in the county where the affected commodity was physically located, the notice of loss must be loaded in the administrative county.

- send a statement of certification to SED by April 24, 2006, that all notices of loss have been loaded.

B State Office Action

State Offices that have counties within the Presidential and Secretarial designations shall ensure that all notices of loss are:

- timely reviewed by COC
- loaded by April 21, 2006.

SED shall send a statement of certification to DAFP by April 26, 2006, that all notices of loss have been loaded.