

For: State and County Offices

Y2K Payment Processing Problem

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs

1 Overview

A

Background

Over the past several years, a tremendous effort has been expended by FSA to ensure that software applications are Y2K compliant. Many of the payment processes have actually been Y2K compliant since October 1998. However, a problem has been detected in several payment processes that could cause a problem in the way payment history records are recorded. Affected applications are:

- 2000 PFC payment and overpayment processing
- 1996 through 1998 PFC payment and overpayment processing
- 1998 Crop Loss Disaster Assistance Program (CLDAP) payment and overpayment processing
- 1998 Market Loss Assistance (MLA) payment and overpayment processing
- 1995 ARP payment and overpayment processing.

This problem is especially critical to FY 2000 PFC payment processing since the majority of producers have elected to receive their PFC payment in January 2000.

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Purpose

This notice:

- advises County Offices that modifications are included in County Release No. 424 to rectify the potential payment history update problem

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Disposal Date	Distribution
June 1, 2000	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice PF-124

1 Overview (Continued)

B

Purpose (Continued)

- instructs County Offices to:
 - install County Release No. 424 immediately upon receipt
 - ensure that payments are not issued after January 1, 2000, if County Release No. 424 has not been installed
 - instructs State Offices to monitor the SCOAP Software Install Report to ensure that County Release No. 424 is installed timely.
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2 Software Modification

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Description of Y2K Problem

A problem has been detected in the way records could be written to the following payment history files after January 1, 2000:

- PFC for 2000, 1998, 1997, and 1996
- CLDAP for 1998 only
- MLA for 1998 only
- ARP for 1995 only.

Payment history files for these programs contain several fields that are used for internal processing and control with the accounting files. Data is written to these fields based partially on the system date. Currently, the software is not properly resetting the date for this purpose. The software modifications to rectify this condition have been completed and will be included in County Release No. 424.

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Importance of Correcting This Condition

Failure to install the software modifications described in subparagraph A will not prevent payments from being processed after January 1, 2000. However, if the condition is not corrected before payments are processed after January 1, 2000, erroneous data could be written to the affected payment history files, and subsequently to the accounting files.

Note: Payment processes will function in a normal manner, and the problem will be transparent to County Office users.

Once the condition exists, it cannot be easily detected and the process to correct the problem will require files to be transmitted to KCMO for manual update. This will unnecessarily require the dedication of a tremendous number of resources to manually correct the affected payment history files.

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Notice PF-124

2 Software Modification (Continued)

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Importance of Correcting This Condition (Continued)

Therefore, it is **imperative** that County Release No. 424 is installed:

- immediately upon receipt
 - before January 1, 2000.
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3 State and County Office Action

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County Office Action

County Offices shall install County Release No. 424 immediately upon receipt.

If, for any reason, County Offices cannot install County Release No. 424 before January 1, 2000, County Offices shall:

- ensure that payments and overpayments are not processed until the release is installed for any of the following programs:
 - PFC for 2000, 1998, 1997, and 1996 payments and overpayments
 - CLDAP for 1998 payments and overpayments
 - MLA for 1998 payments and overpayments
 - ARP for 1995 payments and overpayments
 - advise the State Office of the problem preventing the release from being installed.
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State Office Action

State Offices shall monitor the SCOAP Software Install Report to ensure that County Offices have loaded County Release No. 424 before January 1, 2000.

If County Offices have not installed County Release No. 424 by COB December 28, 1999, State Offices shall:

- immediately remind the County Office that payments and overpayments cannot be processed for any of the affected programs until the release is installed
 - determine why the release has not been installed
 - take whatever action is necessary to ensure that the release is installed as soon as possible.
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