

For: State and County Offices

**Handling FY 1998 and FY 1999 Market Loss Assistance (MLA) Payments
That Cannot Be Issued Through the Regular Payment Process**

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

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Background

The statutes authorizing FY 2000 and FY 2001 MLA payments specified that payments must be issued by September 30 of the applicable fiscal year. However, the legislation authorizing FY 1998 and FY 1999 MLA payments did not specify an ending payment date. As a result, the regular payment software is still enabled for FY 1998 and FY 1999 MLA payment processing.

Some situations have arisen where the 1998 and/or 1999 MLA payments cannot be issued through the regular payment software for various reasons, including:

- the farm was deleted from the system
- producer was not added to the farm or the contract and County Offices no longer have access to farm maintenance for the applicable program year
- subsidiary files were not updated properly and County Offices no longer have access to the subsidiary files for the applicable program year.

Since an authorized payment process has not been developed for FY 1998 and 1999 MLA payments, the National Office is currently working on a process to allow County Offices to issue these outstanding MLA payments.

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Purpose

This notice instructs State and County Offices to submit documentation to the National Office for any situation where an FY 1998 or 1999 MLA payment was earned by the producer, but the system was not updated so the payment can be issued through the MLA regular payment process.

Disposal Date	Distribution
June 1, 2002	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice PF-174

2 State and County Office Action

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County Office Action

For any FY 1998 and/or 1999 MLA payment that cannot be issued through the regular payment process, County Offices shall submit the documentation outlined in 2-PF, paragraph 198 to the State Office by COB, **December 21, 2001**.

Exception: Since the payments are not being processed through an MLA authorized payment process, CCC-479B's should not be submitted.

Note: Failure to submit **all** the required documentation will result in the request being denied or unnecessarily delayed once the payment process is developed.

B

State Office Action

State Offices shall:

- review the documentation submitted by County Offices to ensure that:
 - the payment should be issued
 - the payment cannot be issued through the MLA regular payment process
 - all documentation requirements are met.
 - forward the documentation to PECD, CPB by COB **January 4, 2001**, using either of the following methods:
 - FAX to 202-720-0051
 - overnight mail to: USDA, FSA, PECD, CPB
Attn: Sandy Bryant
Room 3643, South Building
1400 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20250.
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