

For: State and County Offices

Shrimp and Lychees Approved for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) in Florida

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Under the TAA Program, both technical assistance and cash benefits are provided to eligible agricultural commodity producers if an increase in imports has contributed importantly to a decline in price, resulting in a drop in net farming or fishing income.

FAS has determined, based on a petition filed on behalf of:

- shrimp producers in the State of Florida, that increased imports of shrimp contributed importantly to a decline in prices from January 2003 through December 2003 when compared with the previous 5-year average
- lychee producers in the State of Florida, that increased imports of lychees contributed importantly to a decline in prices from May 2003 through July 2003 when compared with previous 5-year average.

Therefore, the shrimp and lychee producers represented by the approved petitions are eligible to receive TAA benefits. Rock shrimp are **not** represented by the Florida shrimp petition.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- information about FAS certification of the petition filed by shrimp and lychee producers
- instructions to begin sign-up for shrimp and lychee producers represented by the FAS-certified petition.

Disposal Date	Distribution
December 1, 2004	State Office; State Office relay to County Offices

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2 Producers Eligible for TAA

A Approved Shrimp Petition

A petition was filed on behalf of shrimp producers in Florida by the Southern Fisheries Association, Inc. of Tallahassee, Florida. FAS published the notice in the Federal Register on February 23, 2004, accepting that petition for review. On March 29, 2004, FAS announced certification of that petition, and based on that certification, producers of shrimp (excluding rock shrimp) in Florida are now eligible to apply for TAA benefits based on the quantity of shrimp marketed in Florida in calendar year 2003.

B Approved Lychee Petition

A petition was filed on behalf of lychee producers in Florida by the Tropical Fruit Growers of South Florida, Inc. of Homestead, Florida. FAS published the notice in the Federal Register on February 23, 2004, accepting that petition for review. On March 29, 2004, FAS announced certification of that petition, and based on that certification, producers of lychees in Florida are now eligible to apply for TAA benefits based on the quantity of lychees marketed in Florida in calendar year 2003.

C Notifying Approved Petitions

The approved and certified Florida petitions are implemented based on Departmental press releases issued on March 29, 2004. The 90-day application period begins the day after this certification is announced.

FAS will publish a notice in the Federal Register as soon as practical to summarize the petitions and the reasons for approving them for TAA eligibility.

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2 Producers Eligible for TAA (Continued)

D Sign-Up Period

Sign-up for TAA benefits by shrimp and lychee producers covered by these approved Florida petitions begins March 30, 2004, and will continue for 90 calendar days, ending on June 28, 2004.

TAA applicants must submit a completed FSA-229 by **COB June 28, 2004**, at the FSA County Office or USDA Service Center nearest their place of residence. This application deadline does **not** affect the application deadlines previously announced for shrimp applications in other States.

Note: Acceptable production evidence, such as receipts, ledgers, income statements, landing reports, etc., shall be submitted at the time of application, but **no later than June 28, 2004**. Such evidence must verify:

- shrimp production from January 2003 through December 2003
- lychee production from May 2003 through July 2003.

All other documentation required for application approval must be submitted by COB September 30, 2004.

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2 Producers Eligible for TAA (Continued)

E Sign-Up Period for All Petitions

TAA sign-up dates and preliminary rates are listed in the following table for petitions approved as of the date of this notice. The listed preliminary rates may change if TAA funds are pro-rated. This summary table does not change previously announced sign-up dates or rates. It is included to summarize TAA programs to date.

Commodity	State/Year	FAS Preliminary Petition Number	Application Software Petition Number	Preliminary Rate (\$ per pound)	Application Period (Includes last day)
Catfish	AL, AR, FL, GA, ID, IL, KS, KY, LA, MS, MO, NC, NV, OH, OK, SC, TX, UT 2002	P4-0002-0405	P200400050	\$0.003	November 18, 2003 through February 17, 2004
Lychee	Florida 2003	P4-0020-0000	1/	\$0.53	March 30, 2004 through June 28, 2004
Salmon	Alaska 2002	P3-0002-0402	P200400020	\$0.03	October 22, 2003 through January 20, 2004
	Washington 2002	P3-0004-0403	P200400030	\$0.07	October 22, 2003 through January 20, 2004
Shrimp	Alabama 2002	P4-0010-0408	P200400080	\$0.01	January 13, 2004 through April 12, 2004
	Arizona 2002 (head off weight basis)	P4-0014-0000	P200400090	\$0.10	March 24, 2004 through June 22, 2004
	Florida 2003	P4-0016-0000	1/	\$0.06	March 30, 2004 through June 28, 2004
	Georgia 2002 (head off weight basis)	P4-0003-0406	P200400060	\$0.13	November 10, 2003 through February 09, 2004
	North Carolina 2002	P4-0017-0000	1/	\$0.05	March 30, 2004 through June 28, 2004
	South Carolina 2002	P4-0001-0404	P200400040	\$0.11	November 10, 2003 through February 09, 2004
	Texas 2002	P4-0004-0407	P200400070	\$0.16	November 10, 2003 through February 09, 2004
Wild Blueberries	Maine 2002	P3-0001-0401	P200400010	\$0.028	October 22, 2003 through January 20, 2004

1/ To be determined.

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2 Producers Eligible for TAA (Continued)

F Eligible Producers

For purposes of this notice, an eligible applicant is a qualified fisherman or producer, as defined according to 1-PL, subparagraph 110 A, who shares in the risk of producing the approved crop and who is entitled to share in the shrimp or lychees marketed in Florida. Such producers, other than Native Americans, must have reported net farm or net fishing income to the Internal Revenue Service on the forms or schedules appropriate to their filing status.

G Eligible Production

The quantity eligible for payment must:

- have been marketed in Florida from January 2003 to December 2003 for shrimp
- have been marketed in Florida from May 2003 to July 2003 for lychees
- be verified by sales receipts or other marketing evidence from the processor.

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3 Action

A State and County Offices

State and County Offices shall:

- provide information to shrimp and lychee producers about TAA program requirements through:
 - over-the-counter discussion
 - newsletters
 - other methods of communication, as applicable
- begin accepting FSA-229's and acceptable production evidence for TAA applicants based on sales receipts or other evidence of marketing in Florida
- verify that applicants marketed the shrimp or lychees in Florida regardless of where the producer lives
- convert all Florida shrimp weights that are reported as a "heads-on" or whole-shrimp weight to a "heads-off" weight basis.

Note: The whole shrimp weight is multiplied times 0.629 to convert to a "heads-off" weight

B Contact

The petitioner:

- Southeastern Fisheries Association, Inc. may be contacted at 850-224-0612 for shrimp. The contact is Robert Jones
- Tropical Fruit Growers of South Florida, Inc. may be contacted at 305-401-1502 for lychees. The contact is Louise King.