

For: State and County Offices

**Lychees Marketed in Florida Re-Certified for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)**

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

FAS has re-certified the Florida lychee petition for marketing year 2004. Producers represented by this petition are eligible to apply for TAA benefits.

**B Purpose**

This notice provides:

- information about the Florida petition certified by FAS
- instructions to provide benefits to eligible Florida lychee producers.

**2 Provisions of Florida Lychee Petition**

**A Original Petition Certification for 2003**

A petition for TAA benefits was originally filed for Florida lychee producers by the Tropical Fruit Growers of South Florida, Inc., of Homestead, Florida. The petition originally requested benefits for lychees for the 2003 marketing year. FAS announced the re-certification of this petition, effective for the 2004 marketing year, on April 12, 2005.

**B Preliminary Payment Rate for Florida Lychees**

The preliminary payment rate applicable to the 2004 marketing year petition for Florida lychees is \$0.554 per pound.

Disposal Date	Distribution
November 1, 2005	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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### 2 Provisions of Florida Lychee Petition (Continued)

#### C Application Period and Documentation Requirements

Producers covered by the Florida petition may apply for benefits by submitting a completed FSA-229 starting April 12, 2005, through July 11, 2005, at their closest FSA County Office or USDA Service Center. FSA-229's received late cannot be approved for cash benefits.

Acceptable production evidence must be submitted at the time of application, but no later than July 11, 2005. All other required application documentation must be submitted by **COB September 30, 2005**. This includes the following:

- documentation that the applicant's net farm income was lower in 2004 than in 2002
- documentation of having met the CRSEES training requirement.

County Offices are reminded to encourage applicants to submit all documentation as early as possible. This allows for payments under TAA petitions to be processed sooner and reduces ineligibility because of incomplete documentation.

#### D Eligible Producers

An eligible applicant, for purposes of this petition, is a lychee producer:

- as defined according to 1-PL, subparagraph 110 A, who commercially marketed lychees in Florida
- who directly or indirectly, as determined by the Secretary, shared in the risk of producing lychees.

#### E Years for Net Income Comparison

Applicants must provide documentation that their net income from farming was less in 2004 than it was in 2002.

**Note:** See Notice SP-35, paragraph D for determining the tax year most closely associated with the petition marketing year.

#### F Eligible Production

The quantity of lychees eligible for payment must:

- have been produced in Florida from May 2004 through July 2004
- be verified by sales receipts or other credible production evidence from the buyer.

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### 2 Provisions of Florida Lychee Petition (Continued)

#### G CSREES Training Period

Applicants under the lychee petition must obtain the technical assistance from CSREES no later than September 30, 2005, to be eligible for cash benefits.

Applicants must provide documentation of the training from CSREES to the County Office by September 30, 2005.

### 3 Action

#### A State and County Office Action

State and County Offices shall:

- inform potential applicants about enrollment and eligibility requirements by mailing FSA-230 (see 1-SP, paragraph 30) to producers thought to be eligible and, as considered appropriate, through:
  - over-the-counter discussion
  - newsletters and articles in local newspapers
  - other methods of communication
- accept FSA-229's.

#### B Software Reminders

Inquiries about TAA application and payment software may be directed to Joseph Doleski, Price Support Division, 202-720-8401.

Application software at Item 6 B, that asks, "Is the applicant a ship Captain/Skipper?," must be allowed to default to "No" for TAA applications under all petitions. This allows Item 7 A to default to "No".

**Note:** These questions will be removed from application software because there is no FSA-229-A.