

For: State and County Offices

**Asparagus, Shrimp, and Catfish Certified for TAA for Farmers Benefits**

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

FAS has:

- reviewed commodity petitions submitted for benefits under the TAA for Farmers Program
- announced the certifications of 3 commodities.

For commodities certified for benefits, FSA will accept and process producer FSA-229-1's and disburse any approved payments.

**B Purpose**

This notice:

- announces that the FAS Administrator has certified 2009 asparagus, 2009 catfish, and 2008 shrimp for TAA benefits
- provides information needed to process FSA-229-1's under each separate petition.

**C Contact**

For questions or information about this notice, offices shall contact either of the following:

- for policy issues, Gene Rosera by either of the following:
  - e-mail at [gene.rosera@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:gene.rosera@wdc.usda.gov)
  - telephone at 202-720-8481

<b>Disposal Date</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
January 1, 2011	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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### 1 Overview (Continued)

#### C Contact (Continued)

- for software issues, Stacy Carroll by either of the following:
  - e-mail at [stacy.carroll@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:stacy.carroll@wdc.usda.gov)
  - telephone at 202-690-8037.

### 2 Commodities Certified for Benefits and Program Deadlines

#### A Petition Number, Crop Year, and Area Eligible

The commodities listed in the following table have been certified (approved) for benefits under the TAA for Farmers Program.

	<b>Catfish</b>	<b>Asparagus</b>	<b>Shrimp</b>
<b>Eligible States or National</b>	National	National	AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TX
<b>Petition Number</b>	2010001	2010003	2010005
<b>Producer Application Period</b>	June 25, 2010, to September 23, 2010	June 25, 2010, to September 23, 2010	June 25, 2010, to September 23, 2010
<b>Petition Filing Date</b>	May 3, 2010	May 3, 2010	May 3, 2010
<b>Crop Year for PL and AGI Eligibility Check</b>	2009	2009	2008
<b>Petition Certification Date</b>	June 25, 2010	June 25, 2010	June 25, 2010
<b>Deadline for Submitting Business Plans for Payment</b>	June 25, 2013	June 25, 2013	June 25, 2013
<b>Deadline for Excel File to Center for Farm Financial Management (CFFM)</b>	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2010
<b>Petition Marketing Year</b>	January to December 2009	January to December 2009	January to December 2008

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### 2 Commodities Certified for Benefits and Program Deadlines (Continued)

#### B Dates Applicable to TAA Program Administration

A **petition filing date** is the date on which the FAS Administrator accepted the petition for consideration. Some producers may qualify if USDA's county price for their commodity on the petition filing date is less than USDA's average county price for the 3 immediately prior marketing years.

The **petition certification date** is the date on which the FAS Administrator announced (by FR notice or press release) the approval of the commodity petition. Producers must complete approved business plans within 36 months from this certification date to be eligible for business-plan payments under this petition.

FSA County Offices shall enforce the **application period** deadline. Applicants must submit FSA-229-1 with needed documentation to their local FSA Service Center no later than the last day of the application period indicated for each petition. FSA-229-1's submitted late shall be accepted, entered into the Excel file or application software, but referred to FAS for disapproval because of lateness. The application deadline is enforced so that training can be provided within the statutory deadline (90 calendar days following the application period).

The **Excel file deadline** for FSA State Offices is the fifth workday after the end of the producer's application period under any petition. State Office TAA specialists are asked to submit the Excel file of applicants to CFFM not later than this date to enable CFFM to organize training. This file submission will **not** be needed for FSA-229-1's directly entered into the web-based application software when it is available.

### 3 State and County Office Action

#### A Outreach Activities

See 1-SP, paragraph 28 for program outreach activities. State Office TAA specialists shall:

- advise applicable County Offices to use normal outreach activities to notify prospective applicants about the 90-calendar-day application period
- become familiar with producer eligibility and documentation requirements and using the TAA Excel file and encryption procedures
- enforce the application period deadline.

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### 3 State and County Office Action (Continued)

#### B Program Provisions and Application Processing

FSA employees can familiarize themselves with TAA policy and application processing by referring to the following:

- 1-SP
- training slides titled “2009 TAA Training” posted at <http://fsaintranet.sc.egov.usda.gov/fsatraining/>
- TAA Fact Sheet titled, “Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Farmers”, available at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/newsReleases?area=newsroom&subject=landing&topic=pfs&newstype=prfactsheet>
- the Excel file for recording applications until the application software is in production and is available under “Hot Links” at the PSD web site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport>
- general TAA information at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/itp/taa/taa.asp>.

County Offices shall enter late-filed applications into the Excel file and refer them to FAS for disapproval according to 1-SP, paragraph 76.

State Office TAA for Farmers specialists shall submit the Excel file of applicants no later than September 27, 2010, according to 1-SP, paragraph 77.