

For: State and County Offices

**Payment Factors for General Tree Assistance Program (TAP),
Forest Land TAP, and Pecan TAP**

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Program



1 Overview

A Background

Pub. L. 108-324 authorized funding to provide assistance to owners of eligible trees, bushes, or vines who incurred losses between December 1, 2003, and December 31, 2004. The following is a breakdown of the approved funding for each program:

- \$8.5 million for eligible pecan producers for losses because of hurricane related losses during the 2004 hurricane season in a presidentially declared disaster area
- \$15 million for eligible timber owners for losses as a result of a natural disaster
- unlimited funds for eligible orchardists that planted trees, bushes or vines for commercial purposes, but lost trees, bushes or vines as a result of a natural disaster.

B Purpose

This notice provides the payment factor and instructions to issue payments under TAP based on data uploaded.

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

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2 TAP Payments

A TAP Factor for Pecan TAP and General TAP

Since the total amount of funds requested for Pecan TAP does not exceed the appropriated funds, eligible payment amounts will **not** be factored.

For General TAP, eligible payment amounts will **not** be factored.

The payment factor for Pecan TAP and General TAP is 1.00.

B Processing TAP Payments for Pecan TAP and General TAP

County Offices are authorized to start making TAP payments for Pecan TAP and General TAP after receiving this notice, according to 1-TAP, paragraph 66.

3 Processing Timber Applications

A Background

Sign-up for TAP Timber ended on May 31, 2005. The calculated maximum eligible amount exceeded the \$15 million allocation. Before a factor can be determined, applications shall be reviewed to ensure that the following items have been completed:

- stand information has been entered
- all practices have been added
- field visits have been completed
- acres/trees approved has been entered
- acres/trees approved does **not** exceed the total loss.

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3 Processing Timber Applications (Continued)

B County Office Action

County Offices shall process timber applications according to the following table:

Step	Action
1	Enter stand information.
2	Enter practice information, this includes the producer's request. Valid practices are listed in 1-TAP, subparagraph 7 A. Note: Timber applications could have between 1 and 3 practices. Example: An application could have practice 8 for regeneration or an application could have practice 1 site prep, practice 2 planting cost (labor), and practice 7 cost of the seedling. In many cases, the cost of planting is already included in the cost of the seedling; therefore, the application would have practice 1 and practice 7.
3	Submit the data and print CCC-435.
4	Print CCC-434 for producer signature.
5	Complete CCC 435 based on the field visit.
6	Enter total acres/trees approved. This figure will calculate a maximum eligible amount. Note: The maximum eligible amount is needed for determining a factor.

Note: TAP pays only for the total trees lost. For example, a new seeding of timber may require 00 trees per acre. Through normal procedures, by the time the stand matures, there may be 100 trees per acre in the stand. If there is 100% loss, FSA will only pay for the 100 trees per acre lost.

C Deadline for Correcting Timber TAP

Applications for completing or correcting Timber TAP must be submitted by July 29, 2005.