

USDA Reminds Producers of Spring/Fall Application Deadlines for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

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SPRINGFIELD, Illinois, 2023– U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Illinois Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director Scott Halpin reminds producers of approaching application deadlines for purchasing risk coverage for some crops through the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). NAP provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops impacted by natural disasters that result in lower yields, crop losses, or prevented crop planting.

"Given the variability of weather in Illinois, we want to remind producers of the availability of NAP as a potential risk management tool," said Halpin. "A recent policy change simplifies the application process for producers who are certified with FSA as underserved producers. These producers will have all NAP-related service fees for basic coverage waived."

NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available, including forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass and more.

Upcoming application deadlines for NAP coverage in Illinois for the 2023 production season include:

Сгор	Application Closing Date
Summer and Spring Planted Crops	March 15, 2024
Tree Fruit Crops: Apples, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums	November 20, 2023
Asparagus	November 20, 2023

Barley	September 30, 2023
Blueberries	November 20, 2023
Caneberries: Blackberries, Raspberries, Boysenberries	November 20, 2023
Canola	August 31, 2023
Cherries	November 20, 2023
Controlled Environment Crops: • Mushrooms • Floriculture	September 1, 2023
Forage (mechanically harvested and/or grazed) • Alfalfa • Clover • Other perennials • Mixed Forage • Grass (including small grain forage)	September 30, 2023
Grapes	November 20, 2023
Fall seeded small grains	September 30, 2023
Honey	December 1, 2023
Hops	November 20, 2023

Maple Sap	December 1, 2023
Oats	March 15, 2024
Ornamental Nursery	May 1, 2023
Potatoes	March 15, 2024
Rhubarb	November 20, 2023
Rye	September 30, 2023
Strawberries	November 20, 2023
Value Loss Crops:	September 1, 2023
Christmas trees	
Aquaculture	
Ginseng root	
 Turfgrass sod 	

NAP basic coverage is available at 55% of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50% of expected production. Buy-up coverage is available in some cases. NAP offers higher levels of coverage, ranging from 50% to 65% of expected production in 5% increments, at 100% of the average market price. Producers of organic crops and crops marketed directly to consumers also may exercise the "buy-up" option to obtain NAP coverage of 100% of the average market price at coverage levels ranging between 50% and 65% of expected production. Buy-up coverage is not available for crops intended for grazing.

For all coverage levels, the NAP service fee is the lesser of \$325 per crop or \$825 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of \$1,950 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Premiums apply for buy-up coverage.

Underserved Producers

If a producer has a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, Beginning and Veteran Farmer or Rancher Certification (form CCC-860) on file with FSA, it may serve as an application for basic coverage for all eligible crops beginning with crop year 2022. These producers will have all NAP-related service fees for basic coverage waived. These producers may also receive a 50% premium reduction if higher levels of coverage are elected on form CCC-471, prior to the application closing date for each crop.

To learn more about NAP visit <u>fsa.usda.gov/nap</u> or contact your local USDA Service Center.

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