



Boone County

601 Business Loop 70W, Suite 213E
Columbia, Missouri 65203
August 27, 2008

2008 Supplemental Disaster Program Sign-Up Deadline—September 16, 2008

What is the SURE program?

The 2008 Farm Bill created a permanent disaster program to replace the “ad hoc” disaster programs of past years. The name of this new program is Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments or “SURE” for short. This is a revenue based program that uses a formula to compare the expected revenue to actual revenue for the entire farming operation.

What does it take to qualify for a payment?

In order to be eligible for a payment under SURE, you are **required** to purchase insurance on all crops produced each year in your farming operation. Producers in counties that have received a Secretarial Disaster Designation or that are contiguous to a county with this designation are eligible for a payment if the calculated expected revenue is less than the estimated revenue. Otherwise, it will take a 50% loss in production due to weather related conditions to be eligible.

How does it differ from previous disaster programs?

Previous “ad hoc” disaster programs made payments based on individual crop losses or insurance units. The SURE program looks at the entire farming operation. This includes any crop, in all counties and states, of which you share in the production. To be eligible you will need to have insurance on all crops in all counties and states as well. If, for 2008, you do not have insurance on all crops including; row crops, hay, pasture, fruits and vegetables, double crop beans, etc., you can pay a “buy-in” fee for these crops at your local FSA office to be eligible. If you are not at risk for a particular crop you will not be required to pay the “buy-in” fees.

What are “buy-in” fees for SURE?

For 2008, since the farm bill was signed after the deadline to purchase insurance for most crops, you are allowed to pay a “buy-in” fee on any crops that were not insured to maintain eligibility for SURE. You are not actually purchasing insurance for these crops but the fee keeps you eligible for SURE assistance. The fee is \$100 per crop not to exceed \$300 per producer per county or \$900 per producer in all counties. There is a separate limit for crops that are eligible for Non-insurable Assistance Program (NAP) coverage and those eligible for the Catastrophic (CAT) level of insurance.

What do I need to do now?

To maintain eligibility for SURE, you need to review your operation and verify that you have insurance on all crops that you have an interest in. This not only applies to traditional row crops but includes hay, pasture, fruit and vegetables,

double crop beans, etc. **For any crops that you do not have insurance coverage on 2008, you will need to visit your local FSA office no later than Tuesday, September 16th, 2008 and pay the required “buy-in” fee to be eligible for the SURE program for 2008.**

What do I need to do for future year’s SURE eligibility?

For crop year 2009, insure all crops that you have an interest in with crop insurance for traditional crops or NAP for non-insurable crops. The sales closing date to obtain or modify your crop insurance coverage for **2009 Wheat is September 30, 2008**. Check with your local FSA office for the sales closing date for your specific non-insured crop.

How are payments calculated?

For qualifying producers, if the Total Crop Revenue is less than the SURE Guarantee, the SURE payment makes up 60% of the difference.

The SURE Guarantee is approximately 115 % of your crop insurance guarantee for insured crops and 120% of your NAP Guarantee for crops covered by NAP. Producers without insurance that pay the “buy-in” fee will have a guarantee similar to producers with CAT or NAP level coverage.

The Total Crop Revenue is the sum obtained by adding the following;

- The estimated actual value of each crop produced on a farm by multiplying the: actual crop acreage harvested X estimated actual yield X national average market price for the marketing year for each crop (*a 12 month average price that is set by the Secretary at the end of the marketing year*)
- plus 15 percent of any direct payments issued + the total amount of all counter-cyclical or average crop revenue payments + the total amount of all marketing loan proceeds (including certificate gains) + the total amount of all crop insurance or NAP indemnities + the value of any other natural disaster assistance payments for the same loss.

Adding these calculations would give you the Total Crop Revenue for the SURE **ESTIMATED** Payment Calculation.

United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
Boone County
601 Bus Loop 70W Suite 213E
Columbia, MO 65203

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If you think your crop production could be less than normal this year, you need to check with the FSA office about the SURE program.

Boone County FSA Staff Directory

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County Executive Director

Cindy Driskill

Program Technician

Jeana Dillon

Program Technician

Mary Jo Sullivan

Program Technician

Office Hours

Monday—Friday

8:00a.m.—4:30p.m.

573-875-5540, ext 2

Boone County SURE Workshops

The county office will host “workshops” designed to help you understand the SURE program better. The programs will be held at the Boone County FSA Office September 9th, 10th, and 11th. If you plan to attend the meeting we ask that you RSVP to the office at 573-875-5540 or e-mail kim.viers@mo.usda.gov.

What Do You Need To Bring to The Workshop?

- Knowledge of all crops that your farming operation has a risk in.
 - Row Crops, Hay, Pasture, Double Crop Soybeans, etc...
- Crop Insurance Coverage—type of policy, APH, price guarantee for 2008 crops
- An *estimate* of your 2008 expected crop yields
- Actual planted crop acres for 2008 (if you RSVP the office will provide them for you)

Presentations will start at 1:30p.m. and 3:30p.m. daily on September 9th, 10th, and 11th. Please call ahead so the office can prepare materials for you!

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ESTIMATE Your Own SURE Payment

Additional information and payment calculators are available at the Boone County FSA office. Below are couple websites that you could use to assess your own farm situation. One is an FSA spreadsheet, the other is through Iowa State University Extension.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo>

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/aqdm/crops/xls/a1-44surecalculator.xls>