



Macon County FSA
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COC meetings are scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 16	Final date to pay buy-in fees for 2008 SURE
September 30	DCP enrollment ends for 2008
September 30	Buy wheat insurance for future 09 SURE eligibility

Farm Service Agency

Macon County News

August 2008

Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (aka The 2008 Farm Bill) was enacted into law May 22, 2008. The 2008 Act amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create an agricultural disaster relief trust fund to finance supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs for the life of the new Farm Bill in lieu of the *ad hoc* disaster programs of past years.

The major portion of this fund will finance Supplemental Revenue Assistance

(SURE) payments, which are designed to supplement the protection that producers can purchase from private crop insurance companies. Other disaster programs included are a Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Tree Assistance Program (TAP) and an Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (EALHF).

In order to be eligible for future payments under

these programs, producers must purchase insurance for all crops (commodity crops, forage—hay/pasture, fruits/vegetables) produced each year in their farming operation. Producers who have land in a county that has been declared a Secretarial disaster county or is contiguous to a disaster county may be eligible. Otherwise, a farm operation must have a 50 percent loss in crop income due to weather related conditions to be eligible.

What is the SURE Program?

SURE is a revenue guarantee program, very similar to crop revenue insurance without the increasing price guarantee feature. If a farm's actual crop revenue is less than the guarantee, the SURE payment makes up 60 percent of the difference. The actual crop

revenue includes not only the estimated value of the crop produced, but also any other USDA payments and crop insurance indemnity payments received. As a result, producers will no longer be double indemnified for the same losses. All guarantees and actual

revenues under SURE are calculated as the sum for all crops and all insurance units for an FSA farm unit, even if land in more than one county or state is involved. Payments are not made on losses for individual crops or insurance units as under past programs.

Pay Buy-in Fees by September 16th for 2008 SURE

To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer must insure ALL of his/her eligible crops with a minimum Catastrophic level of insurance coverage and purchase Non-insurable Assistance Program (NAP) cov-

erage for crops not covered by private insurance (DC soybeans, hay, pasture, rye, forage sorghum, vegetables, etc).

For 2008, producers who do not meet this require-

ment may have this provision waived if they pay "buy-in" fees per crop by Sept. 16th. The fee is \$100 per crop not to exceed \$300 per producer per county or \$900 total for each crop category.



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We're on the web!
www.fsa.usda.gov

Estimated Payment Calculator

Listed below are resources for your use in researching/calculating potential payments under SURE. Calculators are provided as a tool to help with calculations for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE), it is not the approved software to compute and provide actual payment information. Users will be able to calculate their estimated SURE Guarantee, estimated Expected Revenue, estimated Farm Revenue and estimated SURE payment.

NOTE: The calculator is designed to compute standard yield-based commodities and does not adjust for Prevented (PP), Unharvested (UH), or similar adjustments. Likewise, most revenue and value-loss policies will not contain yield and price information necessary for this calculator. Actual FSA payment software is in the developmental stage and will be released to County FSA Offices after formulation, testing and approval. You can use this calculator to obtain an approximate SURE payment based on the data that is entered. The result will only be as good as your estimates and entries.

It is to your benefit to utilize all resources possible before visiting the county office to assure you are making an informed decision.

September 16 is the final date to pay Buy-In fees.

Visit these websites for more resources:

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

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/feci>

<http://agriculture.com> for Successful Farming New Disaster Program articles
