used for food or in the production of food, and buffalo and beefalo when such buffalo and beefalo are maintained on the same basis and in the same manner as beef cattle maintained for commercial slaughter.

Livestock producer means one who possesses a beneficial interest in eligible livestock as defined in this subpart, has a financial risk in the eligible livestock, and is a citizen of, or legal resident alien in, the United States. A farm cooperative, private domestic corporation, partnership, or joint operation in which a majority interest is held by members, stockholders, or partners who are citizens of, or legal resident aliens in, the United States, if such cooperative, corporation, partnership, or joint operation owns or jointly owns eligible livestock or poultry, will be considered livestock producers. Any Native American tribe (as defined in section 4(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act and Education Assistance Act); any Native American organization or entity chartered under the Indian Reorganization Act or chartered under the Indian Reorganization Act; any tribal organization under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act; and any economic enterprise under the Indian Financing Act of 1974 will be considered livestock producers so long as they meet the terms of the definition.

§1439.204 Sign-up period.

A request for benefits under this subpart must be submitted to the CCC at the Farm Service Agency county FSA office serving the county where the livestock loss occurred. All applications and supporting documentation must be filed in the county FSA office prior to the close of business on:

- (a) November 1, 1999, or such other date as established by CCC for 1999 LIP, Phase I, or
- (b) February 18, 2000, or such other date as established by CCC for 1999 LIP, Phase II.

$\S 1439.205$ Proof of loss.

(a) Livestock producers must, in accordance with instructions issued by the Deputy Administrator, provide adequate proof that the:

- (1) Loss of eligible livestock occurred in an eligible county in the area of Presidential designation or Secretarial declaration:
- (2) That the death of the eligible livestock was reasonably related to the recognized natural disaster; and
- (3) The death of the livestock occurred:
- (i) Between May 2, 1998, and May 21, 1999 inclusive for 1999 LIP, or
- (ii) For 1999 LIP, Phase II, due to a disaster that was the subject of a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration, that was requested between May 22, 1999, and December 31, 1999, inclusive, and was subsequently approved.
- (b) The livestock producer shall provide any available supporting documents that will assist the county committee, or is requested by the county committee, in verifying the loss and quantity of eligible livestock that perished in the natural disaster. Examples of supporting documentation include, but are not limited to: purchase records, veterinarian receipts, bank loan papers, rendering truck certificates, Federal Emergency Management Agency and National Guard records, auction barn receipts, and any other documents available to confirm the presence of the livestock and subsequent losses. Certifications by third parties or the producer and other such documentation as the county committee determines to be necessary in order to verify the information provided by the producer must also be submitted. Third-party verifications may be accepted only if the producer certifies in writing that there is no other documentation available. Third-party verification must be signed by the party that is verifying the information. Failure to provide documentation that is satisfactory to the county committee will result in the disapproval of the application by the county committee.
- (c) Livestock producers shall certify the accuracy of the information provided. All information provided is subject to verification and spot checks by the CCC. A failure to provide information requested by the county committee or by agency officials is cause for denial of any application filed under this part.