

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program
10-LD

Amendment 8

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



Amendment Transmittal

A

Reasons for
Amendment

Subparagraph 44 A has been amended to include LMAAP program codes for Year 2 and Year 3 feeder and slaughter lamb payments.

Subparagraph 50 D has been amended to provide an exception for submitting AD-1026.

Subparagraph 50 E has been added to provide provisions for HELC/WC requirements during program Year 4.

Subparagraph 80 B has been amended to clarify slaughter plant responsibilities.

Subparagraph 86 A has been amended to note that ewe lambs that producers received payments on in Year 3 are ineligible for payments in Year 4.

Subparagraph 86 D has been added to include a definition for "offspring lambing cycle".

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44 Assignments and Joint Payments

A

LMAAP Program Codes

The following 3 program codes are established for disbursing the Year 1 LMAAP payments:

- “00LMAAPR” for rams purchased and maintained for 1 breeding season
- “00LMAAPS” for heads of sheep enrolled in a sheep improvement program
- “00LMAAPF” for cost of the facility improvement.

* * *

A producer may qualify to receive all 3 types of payments in Year 1. In addition, he or she may receive multiple “00LMAAPR” and “00LMAAPF” payments in Year 1.

*--The following 4 program codes have been established for disbursing Year 2 and Year 3 LMAAP payments for feeder and slaughter lambs:

- “02LMAAPFL”
 - “02LMAAPSL”
 - “03LMAAPFL”
 - “03LMAAPSL”.--*
-

B

Completing CCC-36 or CCC-37

County Offices shall ensure that CCC-36 or CCC-37 is filed properly by the producer and assignee according to 63-FI, paragraphs 33 and 34 or Exhibit 8 or 9, as applicable.

The producer shall enter “00LMAAPR”, “00LMAAPS”, or “00LMAAPF” as the program code on:

- CCC-36, item 10 J
- CCC-37, item 6 J.

Note: Separate CCC-36’s or CCC-37’s must be filed. The assigned amount must be stated on CCC-36.

C

County Office Release No. 434

County Office Release No. 434 includes software modifications that will allow for the establishment of Year 1 LMAAP payments in the Assignment and Joint Payment System.

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44 Assignments and Joint Payments (Continued)

D

Establishing Separate Records

County Offices shall establish **separate** assignment or joint payment records for each of the following program codes:

- “00LMAAPR”
- “00LMAAPS”
- “00LMAAPF”.

Assignment and Joint Payment software **only** accepts the establishment of 1 program code per record in the “other” field on Screen AZK10020.

***--E**

Feeder and Slaughter Lamb Program Codes

The following 2 program codes have been established for disbursing the Year 4 feeder and slaughter lamb payments:

- “03LMAAPFL” 5233 for qualifying feeder lambs marketed
 - “03LMAAPSL” 5234 for qualifying slaughter lambs marketed.
-

F

Ewe Lamb Program Codes

The following 2 program codes have been established for disbursing Year 3 and Year 4 ewe lamb incentive payments:

- “02LMAAPEWE” 5235 for qualifying ewe lambs purchased or retained in Year 3
 - “03LMAAPEWE” 5235 for qualifying ewe lambs purchased or retained in Year 4.--*
-

45-49 (Reserved)

Part 4 Accepting, Preparing, and Filing Applications

50 What to File

A

Year 1 Application

Eligible producers on sheep and lamb operations shall complete FSA-382 to apply for LMAAP benefits during program Year 1.

Note: A sheep and lamb operation may file as many applications as needed to apply for a ram payment and a facility improvement payment until benefits are maximized or until the Year 1 application deadline is met, whichever comes first.

B

Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4 Application

Eligible producers on sheep and lamb operations shall complete FSA-383 to apply for LMAAP benefits during program Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4.

Note: Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4 can involve multiple marketing periods, during which applicants will file new applications per marketing period.

C

Direct Deposit

The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 requires any recipient of Federal payments who becomes eligible for that payment after July 25, 1996, to receive the payment by electronic funds transfer.

All producers receiving benefits under LMAAP must file SF-1199A according to 1-FI, Part 3.

D

Forms Not Applicable

The following forms are **not** required for LMAAP:

- *--AD-1026, except during Year 4 according to subparagraph E
- CCC-502-A.

Note: Highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation rules did not apply during program Year 1, 2, or 3.--*

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50 What to File (Continued)

*--E

HELWC/WC Provisions

Beginning with Year 4, eligible producers on sheep and lamb operations must comply with highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation provisions according to 7 CFR Part 12. Sheep and lamb producers applying for LMAAP benefits during Year 4 must certify to HELC/WC compliance on AD-1026 before payments are made. Refer to 6-CP for guidance.--*

51 Where to Apply

A

Requesting LMAAP

Eligible sheep and lamb operations may request LMAAP benefits from the County Office where the sheep and lamb operation is physically located by obtaining FSA-382's and FSA-383's as follows:

- in person
- by mail
- by telephone
- by FAX.

Note: FSA-382 and FSA-383 may also be downloaded by the producer from the Internet at <http://www.fsa.gov/dafp/psd/>.

B

Submitting FSA-382 and FSA-383

Sheep and lamb operations may submit FSA-382's and FSA-383's for benefits **only** as follows:

- in person
- by mail.

Note: FSA-382's and FSA-383's that are FAXed to the County Office will **not** be accepted.

C

Multi-County Operation

A multi-county sheep and lamb operation should make application for LMAAP benefits in the county where the headquarters is located.

*--Section 2 Slaughter Lamb Guidelines

80 Taking Lambs to Slaughter

**A
Producer
Responsibilities**

When taking slaughter lambs to slaughter, the producer must:

- certify ownership of slaughter lambs for at least 30 calendar days
- ensure that owner identification is maintained from the time the animals leave the ranch or farm, through the following:
 - transportation
 - delivery
 - slaughter
 - grading
 - certification of carcasses
- check with the slaughter facility to see if there are regularly scheduled graders
- contact Martin O'Connor at 202-720-7046 to set up a schedule to have lambs evaluated if the slaughter facility **does not** have regularly scheduled graders or if slaughter facility is uncooperative
- coordinate with the slaughter facility or buyer for the following:
 - receiving
 - transferring identification, number or head/lot, to maintain ownership records
 - tracing and identifying animals and carcasses throughout the slaughter and grading process
 - assuring that data from the AMS representative is transmitted to FSA
- reimburse the packing facility for any additional costs related to the program
- provide buyer/slaughter facility with FSA-383
- provide a self-addressed-stamped envelope for the return of FSA-383 from the grader
- ensure that FSA-383 is:
 - properly completed
 - submitted for payment to the local FSA Office.--*

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80 Taking Lambs to Slaughter (Continued)

**B
Slaughter Plant
Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of the slaughter plant to:

- cooperate with the producer/feeder and the AMS representative in collecting carcass data for direct payment to the feeders participating in LMAAP
- coordinate transferring FSA-383 to the USDA AMS representative
- *--return the certified completed FSA-383 by mail in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided by each producer.--*

Note: Slaughter facilities that harvest less than 50 head of market lambs per week are eligible to certify the slaughter lamb requirements according to subparagraph 31 B, provided they meet AMS guidelines according to paragraph 82.

**C
AMS
Representative
Responsibilities**

The AMS agent or their assigned representative will be responsible for:

- determining carcass compliance with established criteria according to subparagraph 31 B and FSA regulation 7 CFR 784.8
- providing the number of qualifying carcasses on FSA-383 for each participating operation
- working with the slaughter plant in accurately recording data for each requesting operation
- assisting producers in the proper completion and submission of FSA-383.

Note: FSA does not need to verify any of the carcass criteria, as this will all be done by AMS personnel.

**D
Maintaining
Owner ID of
Animals**

Owner identification can be maintained from the time the animals leave the ranch from or farm through, the slaughter point by the:

- lot identification
 - number of head at slaughter point.
-

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Section 3 Ewe Lamb Guidelines

86 Self-Certifying Ewe Lambs

A**Ineligible Ewe Lambs**

All ewe lambs that were born before February 1, 2000, are ineligible for the ewe lamb incentive payment. During Year 3 only, ewe lambs that meet all other eligibility requirements according to subparagraph 33 A, may be older than 18 months at the time of application. The waiver of the ewe lamb age requirement is based on the age of the ewe lambs from the beginning of Year 3 (August 1, 2001).

During Year 4, ewe lambs must not be older than 18 months at the time of certification and application for benefits.

***--Note:** Ewe lambs that producers received payments on in Year 3 are ineligible for payments in Year 4.--*

B**Offspring Exception**

Sheep and lamb operations that purchased or retained ewe lamb for breeding purposes and that have produced an offspring before the availability of the ewe lamb incentive payment are eligible for payment if all of the following apply:

- ewe lambs did not produce an offspring before August 1, 2001
- ewe lambs were not determined ineligible according to subparagraph A
- they meet all other eligibility requirements according to paragraph 33.

This exception will apply only to Year 3 ewe lamb incentive payments. During Year 4, all eligibility requirements must be met at the time of certification and application for benefits.

Note: This exception does not apply to ewe lambs that already produced an offspring before the lamb was purchased by the sheep and lamb operation.

A sheep and lamb operation may check “Yes” to the question in FSA-383, item 36 and still be eligible for an ewe lamb incentive payment, **only** while the offspring exception is in effect and according to this subparagraph.

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86 Self-Certifying Ewe Lambs (Continued)

C**Ewe Lamb Death
Loss**

Ewe lambs that die before completing the eligibility requirements of subparagraph 33 A, must refund the payments for those lambs when the total deaths exceed 10 percent per program year.

Example: During Year 3, producer A purchased and/or retained 500 ewe lambs on various dates. A total of 100 lambs died before the end of Year 3, which exceeds 50 lambs or 10 percent in this example. The producer must refund a total of \$900 for the lambs that were in excess of 10 percent during that program year.

Documentation must be maintained of any death loss of qualifying ewe lambs.

--D*Definition of
Offspring
Lambing Cycle**

Offspring lambing cycle is the period of time from birth to weaning of the offspring produced by the qualifying ewe lamb.

Note: The offspring lambing cycle may vary.--*

87 Compliance With Scrapie Requirements

A**Scrapie
Regulation**

Eligible sheep and lamb operations must at the time of certification and application, be in compliance with all requirements relating to scrapie disease, as described in 9 CFR Part 79.

Federal regulations at 9 CFR Part 79 can be located on the USDA website at www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahps/scrapie/9cfr_79.pdf.

B**Definition of
Scrapie**

Scrapie is a degenerative and eventually fatal disease affecting the central nervous system of sheep and goats.

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87 Compliance With Scrapie Requirements (Continued)

C**Approved
Scrapie
Programs**

According to 9 CFR Part 79, sheep and lamb operations that will move lambs interstate must have the ewe lambs identified with either of the following scrapie programs:

- Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program
- Scrapie Eradication Program.

Tagging and premise identification requirements will only apply to those ewe lambs that are moved interstate, and other State identification requirements may apply.

D**Scrapie
Compliance
Exception**

Scrapie identification tagging requirements for interstate shipments for the Scrapie Eradication Program become mandatory at the following intervals:

- September 20, 2001, all exposed and affected ewe lambs must be identified
- November 19, 2001, breeding ewes of any age must be identified before they change ownership and enter into interstate commerce
- February 19, 2002, owners of commercial whitefaced sheep must be in compliance with 9 CFR Part 79.

Eligible sheep and lamb operations that meet all other eligibility requirements, according to paragraph 33, do not have to be in compliance with 9 CFR Part 79 between August 1, 2001, and before the applicable compliance interval listed in this subparagraph.

E**Scrapie Program
Information**

Refer producers requesting additional information on scrapie program requirements to their local APHIS Veterinary Services Area Office by calling 1-866-USDA-TAG (873-2824).

Current information on scrapie is also available at the following websites:

- www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/scrapie.htm
 - www.animalagriculture.org/scrapie.
-

88, 89 (Reserved)

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook

Eligible Sheep and Lamb Operation

An eligible sheep and lamb operation is any person or group of persons:

- who as a single unit raise sheep and lamb
 - whose production facilities are located in the United States.
-

Ewe Lambs

Ewe lambs are female lambs that:

- are no more than 18 months of age
 - have not produced an offspring.
-

Feeder Lambs

Feeder lambs are either ewes or wethers that are:

- under 1 year of age
 - intended to be further fed a grain concentrate diet to reach an acceptable slaughter market weight when sold for slaughter.
-

Muscling Confirmation Score of Average Choice

Muscling confirmation score of average choice is a grade assigned according to official USDA standards and procedures that a lamb carcass would receive for being moderately thick muscled throughout the carcass and tending to be moderately wide and thick in relation to its length. The lamb carcass:

- legs tend to be moderately wide and thick
 - shoulders tend to be moderately thick and full.
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Definition of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)

***--Offspring Lambing Cycle** Offspring lambing cycle is the period of time from birth to weaning of the offspring produced by the qualifying ewe lamb.

Note: The offspring lambing cycle may vary.--*

Scrapie Scrapie is a degenerative and eventually fatal disease affecting the central nervous system of sheep and goats.

Slaughter Lambs Slaughter lambs are lambs that are sold for immediate slaughter.

USDA Choice, USDA Prime, and USDA Yield Grade 2 USDA Choice, USDA Prime, and USDA Yield Grade 2 are all the classifications designated for carcasses classified as lamb, under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 1087; 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627), Official United States Standards for Grades of Lamb, Yearling, Mutton, and Mutton Carcasses, promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture, as amended and related authority in the annual appropriations acts for USDA.
