



**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

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**Wildfires 2022  
Emergency Support Function #11 (Agriculture & Natural Resources)  
Fire Response and Recovery Plan**

Goals

- Promptly detect and identify threats to New Mexico agriculture and food systems
- Identify and provide resources for agriculture and food protection.
- Assist in recovery of impacted systems to mitigate economic impacts to communities

Current Actions:

- Continue to assist in establishing temporary relocation sites for displaced livestock.
- Facilitate relocation of livestock.
- Secure feed/hay for livestock in temporary facilities. (Donated by the public/industry and/or purchased with donated funding ).
- Coordinate transportation for feed/hay to temporary relocation sites
- Assist in locating and returning estray livestock.
- Provide verification of deceased animals for insurance and emergency programs.
- Coordinate with NM livestock industry to fulfill needs.
- Maintain constant communication with federal (USDA) partners to facilitate program access.
- Participate in various outreach meeting being held in the impacted communities

Future Actions

- A public meeting will be held at Las Vegas City Hall from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM on June 9<sup>th</sup> to offer guidance and resources regarding agriculture and natural resources to the impacted communities.
  - Representatives from the following entities will be in attendance
    - New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA)
    - New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service (CES)
    - New Mexico Livestock Board (NMLB)
    - United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency (FSA)
    - United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
    - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
    - Senator Ben Ray Lujan's Office

- Coordinate available feed supplies for displaced and shelter in place animals.
  - Calf Canyon Requests should be directed to the New Mexico State Police Dispatch in Las Vegas (505) 425-6771.
  - All other requests should be directed to the Fire Resource Hotline 1-800-432-2080 or may submit a request using the fillable form located at <https://www.nmdhsem.org/2022-wildfires/>
  
- Assist with sheltering needs of livestock and animals.
  - All requests should be directed to the Fire Resource Hotline 1-800-432-2080 or may submit a request using the fillable form located at <https://www.nmdhsem.org/2022-wildfires/>
  
- (NMDA) Locate alternate forage and grazing sources for livestock displaced by fire and suppression activities:
  - <https://nmdeptag.nmsu.edu/marketing-and-development/hay-and-pasture-contacts.html>
  
- (NMLB) Locate, inspect, death loss evaluation of livestock.  
For livestock death as a result of the fire:
  - Document the deceased animals including photos.
  - Call local livestock inspector of the New Mexico Livestock Board. The phone number can be found at: <https://www.nmlbonline.com/inspectors>.
  - Request an inspection on the deceased animals.
  - Your inspector will document the deceased animals on a Form 1 inspection and give you a copy of that form. The inspector will photograph the deceased animals and attach to the form. This inspection is a legal document, providing you with proof of ownership of the livestock.
  - Present that form to your FSA agent, or insurance agent.
  
- (NMLB) Assist in resettlement of stray livestock.
  - Livestock owners who are missing livestock as a result of the wildfires in New Mexico – or who are unsure whether their animals are located where they are supposed to be – should contact either the New Mexico Livestock Board at 505-841-6161 or their county sheriff’s office. Livestock owners may also call their local New Mexico Livestock Board Inspector directly.
  
- (USDA) Agriculture Disaster Assistance Program outreach and sign up
  - USDA Service Center Locator – Find contact information you’re your local Service Center at the link below.
  - <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?service=page/CountyMap&state=NM&stateName=New%20Mexico&stateCode=35>

- For more information about USDA Disaster Programs, visit <https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/wildfire>
- (CES) Extension and Educational Programming
  - Cooperative Extension will be working to provide educational programming efforts to the communities affected from Wildfire. Through the local county agents, Extension will be able to work with our state specialist to deliver programs that have been identified below to start with, and additional programming added as community needs are assessed. Contact Tom Dean (575) 646-5819
  - Livestock and Natural Resource Programs: Producers will be faced with many management decisions that could have a huge impact on their total operations bottom line. Loss of forage/pastures combined with when they maybe able to return to grazing allotments will lead to decisions on selling cattle, leasing pasture or trying to retain some genetics of herd. This program will tie into FSA programs that producers can apply for to cover emergency cost due to wildfire and already occurring drought. (Shanna Ivey, RITF leads)
  - Soil Health & Watershed Management: Due to the fire intensity the watersheds will need attention to address runoff quality and quantity when NM finally discovers rain. From vegetation and tree planting to more immediate runoff infrastructure, collaboration with Forest Service and local municipalities will be needed for a coordinated recovery. (Rolston St. Hillarie, Sam Fernald, RITF leads)
  - Mental Health Needs – Extension Behavioral Health & Wellness Team and Here 2 Help NM program will work to deliver educational programming on managing stress. Research resources for community that have additional clinical needs. (Laura Bittner Lead)
  - Water Quality/Wells – Local communities that have been evacuated will be coming back home to areas affected by the fire and will have wells that have not been in use and may have quality issues when starting back up. Rosanna Sallenave lead
  - Social Economics – Historical use and community dynamics need to be studied to get a true sense of the impact to communities affected by the wildfires. Assessments could capture impacts on customs and culture of the area and relation to impacts on grazing and local acequias – Jay Lillywhite lead
  - Social Media to address Educational Needs – Barbara Chamberlin lead
  - Collaboration with multiple agencies on research needs to assist in recovery. Mora Research Station supplying seedlings for reforestation efforts.
  - Additional resources can be accessed at <https://aces.nmsu.edu/county/bernalillo/farmranch/wildfire-resources.html>
- (NMLB) Biosecurity Concerns
  - As animals are pushed into groups as a result of the fires, please be aware of the possibility of an increase in the spread of disease among both domestic and non-

domestic animals. As the animals congregate, it makes for an environment conducive for disease spread, especially when the increased levels of stress due to the fires, smoke, environmental change, and decreased feed and water are considered. Not only may there be an increase in disease spread between animals, but there may also be the possibility of an increase in zoonotic diseases. These are diseases such as rabies, plague, and tularemia that can spread from animals to people. If you observe any abnormal behavior in animals, please contact either the New Mexico Livestock Board (505-841-6161), New Mexico Game and Fish (505-476-8000) or the New Mexico Department of Health (505-827-0006).



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# Wildfire Aftermath: Beef Cattle Health Considerations

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 Updated June 10, 2020



**Russ Daly**

Professor, SDSU Extension Veterinarian, State Public Health Veterinarian

While fall and winter wildfires may not have the direct impact on cow-calf herds compared to those occurring while calves are young and actively nursing, health effects can be severe nonetheless. Smoke inhalation, burns and thermal injury, exertion, stress, and injuries suffered during escape can all cause longer-term effects on cattle that have survived wildfires or building fires.

## Health Considerations

Some of the body systems that can be affected include:

### **LUNGS**

Smoke inhalation can cause both immediate and long-term harmful effects to the respiratory system. Cattle that have facial or muzzle burns, or a crusty nose are more likely to have suffered smoke inhalation than other cattle.

The worst short-term effects usually happen during or shortly after the fire.

- **1-24 hours:** Pulmonary edema – fluid building up in the alveoli (air exchange areas deep in the lungs) due to the irritant effect of smoke. This results in cough and rapid, moist breathing.
- **Several hours to several days:** The small airways deep in the lungs swell up, making it harder for air to pass through to the alveoli, where oxygen exchange occurs. This results in heavy, labored breathing, as the animal tries to force air through these partially blocked airways, as well as wheezing, as the air whistles through the partially blocked airways.

Longer term possibilities include:

- **4-10 days later:** Increased potential of pneumonia due to damage to respiratory defense mechanisms.
- **4-6 weeks later:** healing of the airways is as complete as it will get. Until this time, cattle may be more prone to shortness of breath and acute respiratory collapse if they are exerted or stressed.
- **Longer term (months/years):** Some survivors may be intolerant of exercise or heat due to longer-term damage to small airways.

Consult a veterinarian for treatment advice. Preventative antibiotics to ward off pneumonia may be an option for some animals, but they also require lengthy slaughter withdrawal periods.

## FEET

Unless heat damage is immediately severe, cattle might not immediately show signs of feet problems. The most common result of severe heat damage is the sloughing of hooves 1-3 weeks after the fire. Commonly, these animals seem like they are doing fine on their feet until a sudden onset of lameness, accompanied by signs of infection around the coronary band. While this can be confused with infection or foot rot, it usually means that hooves are in the process of sloughing, and antibiotic treatment will not be fruitful. With few exceptions, these animals should be humanely euthanized. Ideally, animals that have come through the fire should be provided soft bedding if possible.

## TEATS

Cows with burned teats are candidates for culling. Inflammation due to burns may result in mastitis and non-productive quarters next calving. Producers should especially assess the health of the teat openings when making culling decisions.

## SKIN BURNS

Burn wounds in affected cattle should be examined by a veterinarian; severely burned animals are candidates for immediate euthanasia. Minor burns may be treated with topical (surface) treatments, along with systemic antibiotics to minimize wound infection. A source for burn wounds around the head and neck areas is the melting of plastic ear tags during conditions of high heat.

## BULLS

The extent of burn damage to sheaths and scrotums may not be evident for 4-6 weeks. As healing progresses, sheaths should be examined for excessive scarring that may block the opening. Breeding soundness exams should be prioritized prior to next breeding season for bulls retained in the herd.

In some locations, trichomoniasis may be an issue when herds co-mingled due to breached fences. Consult your veterinarian about the possible need for testing before next breeding season.

## EYES

Eyes irritated due to smoke and heat may show signs similar to pinkeye. Healing of these conditions will likely take longer than a typical pinkeye case, and in some cases, permanent blindness may result. Consult a veterinarian about possible antibiotic treatment of these animals, realizing that any treatment may also have a lengthy slaughter withdrawal.

While a great number of surviving cattle will not show any long-term effects of a wildfire, cattle producers should be aware of the potential of problems down the

road. Producers should always consult a local veterinarian to help them make treatment and culling decisions in the best interests of the animal and the operation.

**Additional Resource:** [Texas wildfire resources](#)

## RELATED TOPICS

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[Forest, Trees, Beef Herd Health and Quality Assurance](#)

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JUN  
07



## Garden Hour Webinar



# Wildfire smoke and animals



As irritating as smoke can be to people, it can cause health problems for animals as well. Smoke from wildfires and other large blazes affects pets, horses, livestock and wildlife. If you can see or feel the effects of smoke yourself, you also should take precautions to keep your animals – both pets and livestock – safe.

Animals with cardiovascular or respiratory disease are especially at risk from smoke and should be closely watched during all periods of poor air quality. Look for the following signs of possible smoke or dust irritation in animals. **If any of your animals are experiencing any of these signs, please consult your veterinarian.**

- Coughing or gagging
- Difficulty breathing, including open mouth breathing and increased noise when breathing
- Eye irritation and excessive watering
- Inflammation of throat or mouth
- Nasal discharge
- Asthma-like symptoms
- Increased breathing rate
- Fatigue or weakness
- Disorientation or stumbling
- Reduced appetite and/or thirst

## Tips to protect pets

- Keep pets indoors as much as possible, and keep your windows shut.
- **Birds are particularly susceptible** and should not be allowed outside when smoke or particulate matter are present.
- Let dogs and cats outside only for brief bathroom breaks if air quality alerts are in effect.
- Avoid intense outdoor exercise during periods of poor air quality. Exercise pets when dust and smoke has settled.
- Have a [pet evacuation kit](#) ready, and include your animals in your disaster preparedness planning.

## Tips to protect livestock

- Limit exercise when smoke is visible. Especially don't require animals to perform activities that substantively increase airflow into and out of the lungs.
- Provide plenty of fresh water near feeding areas.
- Limit dust exposure by feeding low-dust or dust-free feeds and sprinkling or misting the livestock holding area.
- Plan to give livestock 4 to 6 weeks to recuperate after the air quality returns to normal. Attempting to handle, move, or transport livestock may delay healing and compromise your animals' performance.
- Have a [livestock evacuation plan](#) ready in advance. If you don't have enough trailers to quickly transport all of your animals, contact neighbors, local haulers, farmers, producers, or other transportation providers to establish a network of reliable resources that can provide transportation in the event you need to evacuate your animals.
- Good barn and field maintenance can reduce fire danger for horses and other livestock. Make sure barns and other structures are stable, promptly remove dead trees, clear away brush, and maintain a defensible space around structures.

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# Wildfires, Smoke and Livestock

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**Figure 1. Sheep with mild burns and sore feet from wildfire.**

Severe wildfires expose humans and animals to injuries both from burns and inhalation of unhealthy air containing smoke and particulates. These particulates can build up in the respiratory system, causing a number of health problems including burning eyes, runny noses and illnesses such as bronchitis. Smoke can also aggravate heart and lung diseases such as congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, emphysema and asthma.

Livestock that are burned by wildfires may experience shock, pain, and systemic complications. Because little information is available to livestock producers or even veterinarians on the effects of fire and smoke on livestock, the following suggestions are offered to serve as a general guide.

**What's In Smoke?** Smoke is made up of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, soot, hydrocarbons and other organic substances including nitrogen oxides and trace minerals. The composition of smoke depends on what was burned; different types of wood, vegetation, plastics, house materials, and other combustibles all produce different compounds when burned. Carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that is produced in the greatest quantity during the smoldering stages of the fire, can be fatal in high doses. In general, particulate matter is the major pollutant of concern in the smoke of wildfires. Particulate is a general term used for a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air. Particulates from smoke tend to be very small (less than one micron in diameter), which allows these to reach the deepest airways within the lung. Consequently, particulates in smoke are more of a health concern than coarser particles that typically make up road dust.

**How Does Smoke Affect Livestock?** The effects of smoke are similar for humans and livestock: irritation of the eyes and respiratory tract, aggravation of chronic lung diseases, and reduced lung function. High concentrations of particulates can cause persistent cough, increased nasal discharge, wheezing and increased physical effort in breathing. Particulates can also alter the immune system and reduce the ability of the lungs to remove foreign materials, such as pollen and bacteria, to which livestock are normally exposed.



**Figure 2. Initial burns cause swelling of the face and eyes.**

## Protecting and Treatment of Livestock from Smoke Particulates:

Limit exercise when smoke is visible. Don't force livestock to perform activities or increase exercise that increase the airflow in and out of the lungs. This can trigger bronchoconstriction (narrowing of the small airways in the lungs).



**Figure 3. Water supplied to livestock by local fire crews.**

Provide plenty of fresh water located near feeding areas. The consumption of easily accessible water keeps the airways moist and facilitates clearance of inhaled particulate matter. This allows the windpipe (trachea), large airways (bronchi), and small airways (bronchioles) to remove inhaled particulate material in smoke. Dry airways make particulate matter remain in the lung and air passages.

Limit dust exposure by feeding low or dust-free feeds and sprinkling or misting the livestock holding area. This reduces the particles in dust such as mold, fungi, pollens and bacteria that may have difficulty being cleared from the lungs.

If livestock is coughing or having difficulty breathing, contact a livestock veterinarian. A veterinarian can help determine the difference between a reactive airway from smoke and dust versus a bacterial infection and bronchitis or pneumonia. If livestock has experienced coughing over a long period of time, there is a greater risk of secondary problems such as bacterial pneumonia.

Give livestock ample time to recover from smoke-induced airway insult. Airway damage resulting from wildfire smoke takes 4 to 6 weeks to heal. Therefore, plan on giving livestock 4 to 6 weeks to recuperate after the air quality returns to normal. Attempting to handle, move, or transport livestock may aggravate the condition, delay the healing process, and compromise the performance of livestock for many weeks or months.



**Figure 4. Sheep with varying degrees of burns and smoke inhalation from wildfire.**

If your livestock continues to experience primary or secondary problems with smoke-induced respiratory injury, you should contact a livestock veterinarian.

Veterinarians can prescribe specific treatments such as intravenous fluids, bronchodilator drugs, systemic antibiotics, or other measures to facilitate hydration and health of the airway passages. Blood tests or other tests may be recommended to determine whether a secondary bacterial infection has arisen and is contributing to the current respiratory problem.

## How to Evaluate and Treat Livestock Burned by Wildfire? Initial assessment of a



**Figure 5. Burned legs of sheep with compromised hoof walls.**

burned animal is challenging because the depth/severity of the burn may be difficult to ascertain and the animal may not appear distressed or painful. The burned area may have destroyed the nerve endings and no pain behavior is observed despite severe tissue damage. Vital signs such as heart rate also may be deceptively low. For example, burned sheep from a fire in Zamora, CA in 2006 were walking normally, but their burned legs were without hoof walls which exposed the bone. The animals with burns that are more painful to touch may not be as severely compromised in the long-term. Daily reassessment of all burned animals is necessary.

## Triage for Livestock with Burns from Wildfires:

Severely burned animals that are in shock and have a great percentage of the body skin damaged are obvious candidates for euthanasia to prevent suffering.

Emergency euthanasia for livestock (depending on species) include captive bolt gun, gunshot by firearm (regulations and laws may apply), barbiturate overdose (licensed veterinarian), and in some extreme cases, exsanguination and electrocution. (Euthanasia guidelines see: <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/animalwelfare/>).

Burn shock is treated by a veterinarian with intravenous fluids, balanced electrolytes, or possibly plasma for valuable animals.

If there is history of smoke inhalation plus/minus cough and labored breathing, there is a tendency for pulmonary edema (fluid in the lungs). Livestock that have inhaled hot gases may have a cough with a frothy material discharging from the nose.

Topical treatment of silver sulfadiazine (1 lb. jar) is appropriate for burned areas of the eyes and skin. If none is available, Desitin® ointment provides some protection.

Approved medications for pain relief in livestock species may be obtained through a licensed veterinarian.



**Figure 6. Exudate in nostrils should be removed to assist with breathing.**



**Figure 7. Sheep with burns on their back; also check the condition of their feet.**

For deep burns with or without contamination, antibiotic treatment may be beneficial. Consult a livestock veterinarian for appropriate medications.

No initial debridement or trimming damaged skin of burn wounds is possible with large numbers of animals and lack of a sterile hospital setting. Keep the wounds as clean as possible with as minimal contact as possible.

Initial burn injuries will continue to progress and may worsen for 6 weeks following the initial injury. Debride (cut back) dead tissue, treat, and protect exposed areas during healing. Protect the wounds from fly strike with appropriate repellants.

Lack of appetite and inability to chew along with impaction or other disorders of the gastrointestinal tract can be seen when the head and face are burned. Soaking feed with water allows for easier eating.



**Figure 8. Fly strike in a wound of a sheep at 11-days post burn.**



**Figure 9. Leather-like skin 10-days post burn.**

Reassess, reassess, reassess on a daily basis. The severity of the burn and the compromise in the health of the animals will become apparent. It is difficult to judge burned animals initially, but the burned areas of skin become leather-like and slough in 5-14 days, while systemic signs may worsen. Animals which go "off" feed require careful examination for complications. Ability and desire to eat and drink are good indicators but can change up to 6 weeks following injuries caused by the burns and smoke inhalation of wildfires.

# USDA Disaster Assistance Programs At a Glance

Disaster Programs	Agency	Blizzard	Fire	Hurricane/ Typhoon	Excessive Moisture/ Flood	Excessive Winds/ Tornado	Drought	Hail	Volcanic Eruption/ Emissions	Freeze	Earthquake
<b>Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)</b> - provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops to protect against natural disasters that result in lower yields or crop losses, or prevents crop planting.	FSA	✳️ <sup>8</sup>	✳️ <sup>8</sup>	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️
<b>Tree Assistance Program (TAP)</b> - provides financial cost-share assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to re-plant or, where applicable, rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines lost by natural disasters. A qualifying mortality loss in excess of 15 percent (in excess of normal mortality) must be sustained to trigger assistance.	FSA	✳️ <sup>8</sup>	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️

<sup>8</sup> Yes, only as a related condition to an eligible disaster

Other natural disasters that may apply to some of these programs (not all perils are eligible loss conditions for all programs) include:

- Explosion;
- High water;
- Landslide;
- Mudslide;
- Severe snowstorm;
- Storm, including ice storms;
- Tidal wave;
- Wind-driven water;
- Insect infestation;
- Plant disease;
- Lightning; and
- Other natural phenomena.

Some man-made conditions qualify for disaster assistance, as follows:

Disaster Programs	Agency	Pesticide Contamination	Nuclear Radiation/ Fallout	Toxic Substances Other Than Pesticides	Chemical Residue Other Than Pesticides
<b>Dairy Indemnity Payment Program (DIPP)</b> - provides compensation to dairy producers when a public regulatory agency directs them to remove their raw milk from the commercial market because it has been contaminated by pesticides, nuclear radiation or fallout, or toxic substances and chemical residues other than pesticides.	FSA	✔️	✔️	✔️	✔️

FSA = Farm Service Agency | NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service | RMA = Risk Management Agency



## More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply.

For more information about USDA disaster programs, visit [farmers.gov/recover](https://farmers.gov/recover) or contact your local USDA Service Center.

To find your local USDA Service Center, visit [farmers.gov/service-locator](https://farmers.gov/service-locator).

To locate an approved insurance provider, visit the Agent Locator on [rma.usda.gov](https://rma.usda.gov).

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USDA Disaster Assistance Programs at a Glance

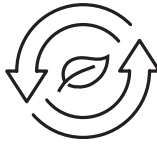


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

# DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

## FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION

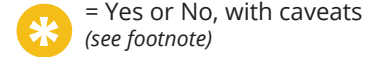
FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA) | NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) | RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY (RMA)



# DISASTER ASSISTANCE

## USDA Disaster Assistance Programs At a Glance

### Icon Key



Disaster Programs	Agency	Blizzard	Fire	Hurricane/Typhoon	Excessive Moisture/Flood	Excessive Winds/Tornado	Drought	Hail	Volcanic Eruption/Emissions	Freeze	Earth-quake
<b>Crop Insurance</b> – provides indemnity payments to growers who purchased crop insurance for production and quality losses related to drought and other weather hazards, including losses from an inability to plant caused by an insured cause of loss.	RMA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Haying and Grazing</b> – provides for emergency haying and grazing on certain CRP practices in a county designated as D2 or higher on the U.S. Drought Monitor, or in a county where there is at least a 40 percent loss in forage production.	FSA	* <sup>1</sup>	* <sup>1</sup>	* <sup>1</sup>	* <sup>1</sup>	* <sup>1</sup>	✓	* <sup>1</sup>	* <sup>1</sup>	* <sup>1</sup>	* <sup>1</sup>
<b>Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)</b> – provides assistance to eligible owners of livestock, and producers of honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease (including cattle tick fever), adverse weather, or other conditions not covered by LFP and LIP.	FSA	✓	* <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	✓	* <sup>3</sup>	* <sup>4</sup>	✓	* <sup>1</sup>	✓
<b>Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)</b> – provides funding and technical assistance for farmers and ranchers to restore farmland damaged by natural disasters and for emergency water conservation measures in severe droughts.	FSA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
<b>Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)</b> – provides funding to restore privately owned forests damaged by natural disasters. Assistance helps landowners carry out emergency measures to restore forest health on land damaged by floods, hurricanes or other natural disasters.	FSA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
<b>Farm Loans</b> – provides Emergency and Operating loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to natural disasters or livestock quarantine and can pay for farm operating and family living expenses.	FSA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

<sup>1</sup> Yes, but only if determined eligible by FSA.

<sup>2</sup> Yes, except on federally managed land.

<sup>3</sup> No, except for water and feed transportation.

<sup>4</sup> Yes, but only for grazing losses.

FSA = Farm Service Agency  
 NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 RMA = Risk Management Agency

Disaster Programs	Agency	Blizzard	Fire	Hurricane/Typhoon	Excessive Moisture/Flood	Excessive Winds/Tornado	Drought	Hail	Volcanic Eruption/Emissions	Freeze	Earth-quake
<b>Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)</b> – provides agricultural producers with financial resources and one-on-one help to plan and implement improvements on the land including financial assistance to repair and prevent the excessive soil erosion caused or impacted by natural disasters. These practices include activities like stream bank restoration, grassed waterways and buffers. NRCS-funded conservation practices protect your land from erosion, support disaster recovery and repair and can help mitigate loss from future natural disasters.  Assistance may also be available for emergency animal mortality disposal from natural disasters and other causes.	NRCS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Emergency Watershed Program (EWP-Recovery)</b> – offers vital recovery options for local communities to help people reduce hazards to life and property caused by floodwaters, droughts, wildfires, earthquakes, windstorms, and other natural disasters.  Project funds address erosion related watershed impairments by supporting activities such as removing debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges; reshaping and protecting eroded banks; correcting damaged drainage facilities; repairing levees and structures; and reseeding damaged areas.  EWP Floodplain Easements – provide an alternative to Recovery efforts described above. NRCS has the authority to purchase floodplain easements (FPE) as an alternative measure to traditional Recovery where sites meet EWP-FPE eligibility criteria and it is determined that acquiring an easement in lieu of Recovery is the more economical and prudent approach to reducing the threat to life or property.	NRCS		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
<b>Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)</b> – provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on land that is native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or that is planted specifically for grazing.	FSA	✗	* <sup>5</sup>	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
<b>Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)</b> – provides benefits to livestock owners and some contract growers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality that are the direct result of an eligible adverse weather event. In addition, LIP covers attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the Federal Government or protected by Federal Law. Also, LIP provides assistance to livestock owners that must sell livestock at a reduced price because of an injury from an eligible loss condition.	FSA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	* <sup>6</sup>	✓	✓	* <sup>7</sup>	✓

<sup>5</sup> Yes, but only on federally managed lands impacted by the fire for which the producer is prohibited from grazing the normally permitted livestock by the Federal agency

<sup>6</sup> No, except when associated with anthrax

<sup>7</sup> Yes, but only if deaths result from freeze incidental to a winter storm or extreme cold as determined by FSA.

FSA = Farm Service Agency  
 NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 RMA = Risk Management Agency





## DISASTER ASSISTANCE

### ELAP - Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program

#### Overview

The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the 2018 Farm Bill) authorized the use of Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds for the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP). ELAP provides financial assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, certain adverse weather events or loss conditions, including blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary. ELAP assistance is provided for losses not covered by other disaster assistance programs authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill, such as losses not covered by the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) and the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

The 2018 Farm Bill amended certain provisions related to ELAP effective with the 2019 program year. Those amendments included:

- removing ELAP from the combined ELAP and LFP maximum per person and legal entity payment limitation for the 2019 and subsequent program years;
- providing reimbursement of 90 percent of the cost of losses for socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning, or veteran farmer or rancher;
- in addition to covering the cost related to gathering livestock to treat for cattle tick fever, ELAP will now cover the cost related to gathering livestock to inspect for cattle tick fever;
- no longer covering livestock death losses due to diseases that are caused or transmitted by a vector and are not controlled by vaccination or an acceptable management practice. The 2018 Farm Bill authorizes these diseases under LIP.

ELAP is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

#### What Is Eligible?

##### Eligible Losses

ELAP provides assistance for livestock feed and grazing losses that are not due to drought or wildfires on federally managed lands; losses resulting from the cost of transporting water to livestock due to an eligible drought; losses resulting from the additional cost associated with gathering livestock for treatment and/or inspection related to cattle tick fever, honeybee feed, colony and hive losses; and farm-raised fish feed and death losses.



#### Eligibility Requirements and Payment Calculations

For additional information regarding eligibility requirements and payment calculations for a specific type of livestock, honeybee and/or farm-raised fish loss, see the ELAP - Farm-Raised Fish Assistance, ELAP - Honeybee Assistance or ELAP - Livestock Assistance fact sheet at [fsa.usda.gov/ELAP](https://fsa.usda.gov/ELAP).

#### Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, Beginning, or Veteran Farmers or Ranchers

An eligible livestock, honeybee or farm-raised fish producer who certifies they are socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning, or a veteran farmer or rancher will receive 90 percent of the payment rate for the losses under ELAP.

## Payment Limitations

The 2018 Farm Bill removed ELAP from a combined \$125,000 payment limitation under ELAP and LFP. Therefore, effective for 2019 and subsequent program years, payment limitation does not apply to ELAP benefits. The average adjusted gross income (AGI) limitation relating to limits on payments for persons or legal entities, excluding joint ventures and general partnerships, with certain levels of AGI apply. Specifically, a person or legal entity with an AGI (as defined in 7 CFR Part 1400) that exceeds \$900,000 is not eligible to receive ELAP payments.

Direct attribution provisions also apply to ELAP. Under direct attribution, any payment to a legal entity will also be considered for payment limitation purposes to be a payment to persons or legal entities with an interest in the legal entity or in a sub-entity. To learn more, visit the Payment Eligibility and Payment Limitations fact sheet at [fsa.usda.gov/payment-limitations](https://fsa.usda.gov/payment-limitations).

## How it Works

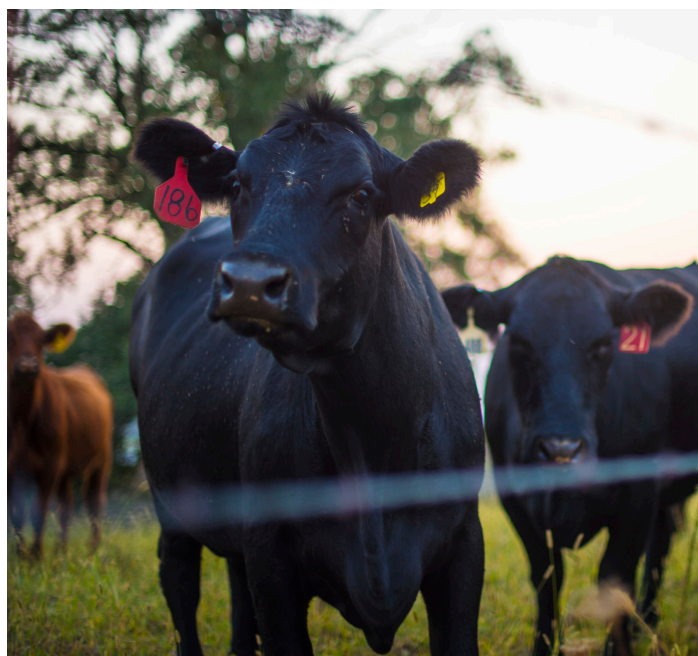
### Applying for Assistance

Producers can apply to receive ELAP assistance at local FSA service centers. The ELAP application period ends Dec. 31 of each calendar year.

In addition to submitting an application for payment, producers who suffered losses must submit a notice of loss to the local FSA service center that maintains the farm records for their business.

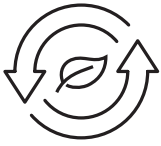
The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and application for payment for losses.

Date of Loss	Final Date to File Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application for Payment
Within the program year Jan. 1 – Dec. 31	For honeybee losses, 15 days after loss is apparent.  For Livestock and farm-raised fish losses, 30 days after loss is apparent	Jan 30 after the program year in which the loss occurred.



## More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply. For more information about ELAP, visit [fsa.usda.gov/ELAP](https://fsa.usda.gov/ELAP) or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit [farmers.gov](https://farmers.gov).



# DISASTER ASSISTANCE

## Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)

### Overview

The Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP), administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides payments to eligible owners of nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) land in order to carry out emergency measures to restore land damaged by a natural disaster.

### How to Apply

EFRP enrollment is administered by FSA state and county committees and county offices. Producers should inquire with their local FSA county office regarding EFRP enrollment periods and eligibility.

### How it Works

FSA county committees determine land eligibility using on-site damage inspections that assess the type and extent of damage. To be eligible for EFRP, NIPF land must:

- Have existing tree cover (or had tree cover immediately before the natural disaster occurred and is suitable for growing trees); and
- Be owned by any nonindustrial private individual, group, association, corporation, or other private legal entity.

### Cost-Share Payments

Cost-share payments are:

- Up to 75 percent of the cost to implement approved restoration practices; and
- Limited to \$500,000 per person or legal entity per disaster.

### Eligible Forest Restoration Practices

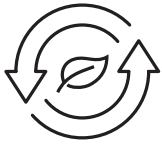
To restore NIPF, EFRP participants may implement emergency forest restoration practices, such as:

- Debris removal, such as down or damaged trees, in order to establish a new stand or provide for natural regeneration;
- Site preparation, planting materials, and labor to replant forest stand;
- Restoration of forestland roads, fire lanes, fuel breaks, or erosion control structures;
- Fencing, tree shelters, and tree tubes to protect trees from wildlife damage; and
- Wildlife enhancement to provide cover openings and wildlife habitat.



### For More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply. For more information about FSA disaster programs, visit <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov> or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.



# DISASTER ASSISTANCE

## Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

### Overview

The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP), administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides emergency funding and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland and conservation structures damaged by natural disasters and implement emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought.

### Program Administration

ECP is administered by FSA state and county committees and county offices. Producers should contact their local FSA county office regarding ECP enrollment periods and eligibility.

### Land Eligibility

FSA county committees determine land eligibility based on on-site inspections of damaged land and the type and extent of damage. Eligible land includes land used for:

- Commercial farming, ranching and orchard operations;
- Growing nursery stock and Christmas tree plantations;
- Grazing for commercial livestock production; and
- Conservation structures such as, waterways, terraces, diversions and windbreaks.
- Conservation problems existing before the applicable disaster event are ineligible for ECP assistance.

### Cost-Share Payments

Cost-share payments are:

- Up to 75 percent of the cost to implement approved restoration practices;
- Up to 90 percent of the cost to implement approved restoration practices for producers who certify as limited resource, socially-disadvantaged or beginning farmers/ranchers;
- Limited to \$500,000 per person or legal entity per disaster; and
- Available as an advance payment of up to 25 percent of expected cost-share, for only the replacement or restoration of fencing.

### Eligible Farmland Restoration Practices

To rehabilitate farmland, ECP participants may implement emergency conservation practices, such as:

- Removing debris from farmland (cleanup of wind- or water-deposited debris, such as woody material, sand, rock and trash on cropland or pastureland);



- Grading, shaping or leveling land (filling gullies, releveling irrigated farmland and incorporating sand and silt);
- Restoring fences (livestock cross fences, boundary fences, cattle gates, or wildlife exclusion fence on agricultural land);
- Restoring conservation structures (waterways, terraces, diversion ditches and permanently installed ditching system); and
- Providing emergency water during periods of severe drought (grazing and confined livestock and existing irrigation systems for orchards and vineyards).

### What to do if a Disaster Occurs

- Producer or USDA Documents damage with dated photographs, videos and third-party verification.
- Producer reports to a local Service Center as soon as possible to request assistance (immediate restoration applies only to emergency situations such as putting up fencing to confine livestock).
- The county FSA office will provide guidance on the approval process and next steps.

### For More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply. For more information about FSA disaster programs, visit <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov> or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.



## Farm Service Agency

# Emergency Loan Program

**FACT SHEET**  
August 2019

### Overview

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides emergency loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters, or quarantine.

### Loan Uses

Emergency loan funds may be used to:

- Restore or replace essential property;
- Pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year;
- Pay essential family living expenses;
- Reorganize the farming operation; and
- Refinance certain debts.

### Who Is Eligible?

Emergency loans may be made to farmers and ranchers who:

- Own or operate land located in a county declared by the President or designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as a primary disaster area or quarantine area. All counties contiguous to the declared, designated, or quarantined primary counties also are eligible for emergency loans. A disaster designation by the FSA Administrator authorizes emergency loan assistance for physical losses only in the designated and contiguous counties;
- Are established family farm operators and have sufficient farming or ranching experience;
- Are citizens or permanent residents of the United States;
- Have suffered at least a 30 percent loss in crop production or a physical loss to livestock, livestock

- products, real estate, or chattel property;
- Have an acceptable credit history;
- Are unable to receive credit from commercial sources;
- Can provide collateral to secure the loan; and
- Have repayment ability.

### Loan Requirements

FSA loan requirements are different from those of other lenders. Some of the more significant differences are the following:

- Borrowers must keep acceptable farm records;
- Borrowers must operate in accordance with a farm plan they develop and agree to with local FSA staff; and
- Borrowers may be required to participate in a financial management training program and obtain crop insurance.





## EMERGENCY LOAN PROGRAM - AUGUST 2019

### Collateral Is Required

All emergency loans must be fully collateralized. The specific type of collateral may vary depending on the loan purpose, repayment ability, and the individual circumstances of the applicant. If applicants cannot provide adequate collateral, their repayment ability may be considered as collateral to secure the loan. A first lien is required on property or products acquired, produced, or refinanced with loan funds.

### Loan Limit

Producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production or physical losses to a maximum amount of \$500,000.

### Loan Terms

Loans for crop, livestock, and non-real estate losses are normally repaid within one to seven years, depending on the loan purpose, repayment ability, and collateral available as loan security. In special circumstances, terms of up to 20 years may be authorized. Loans for physical losses to real estate are normally repaid within 30 years. In certain circumstances, repayment may be made over a maximum of 40 years.

### Current Interest Rate

To find the current emergency loan interest rate, visit [fsa.usda.gov/farmloans](https://fsa.usda.gov/farmloans).

### Application Deadline

Applications for emergency loans must be received within eight months of the county's disaster or quarantine designation date.

### More Information

For more information, visit [fsa.usda.gov/farmloans](https://fsa.usda.gov/farmloans) or [farmers.gov](https://farmers.gov). Find your local USDA Service Center at [farmers.gov/service-locator](https://farmers.gov/service-locator).





# DISASTER ASSISTANCE

## LFP - Livestock Forage Disaster Program

### Overview

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides payments to:

- Eligible livestock owners and contract growers who have covered livestock and
- Who are also producers of grazed forage crop acreage (native and improved pasture land with permanent vegetative cover
- Or certain crops planted specifically for grazing) that have suffered a loss of grazed forage due to a qualifying drought during the normal grazing period for the county.

LFP also provides payments to:

- Eligible livestock owners or contract growers that have covered livestock and
- Who are also producers of grazed forage crop acreage on rangeland managed by a federal agency if, the eligible livestock producer is prohibited by the federal agency from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland due to a qualifying fire.

The qualifying drought and qualifying grazing losses, and/or notification of prohibition to graze Federal land due to fire, must have occurred in the grazing period and crop year.

LFP is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

### Eligible Counties for Drought

An eligible livestock owner or contract grower who, as a grazed forage crop producer, owns or leases grazing land or pastureland physically located in a county rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having a:

- D2 (severe drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least eight consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period is eligible to receive assistance in an amount equal to one monthly payment;
- D3 (extreme drought) intensity in any area of the county at any time during the normal grazing period is eligible to receive assistance in an amount equal to three monthly payments;
- D3 (extreme drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least four weeks during the normal grazing period or is rated a D4 (exceptional drought) intensity at any time during the normal grazing period is eligible to receive assistance in an amount equal to four monthly payments; or
- D4 (exceptional drought) in a county for four weeks (not necessarily four consecutive weeks) during the normal grazing period is eligible to receive assistance in an amount equal to five monthly payments.



A map of eligible counties for LFP drought can be found at [fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/livestock-forage/index](https://fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/livestock-forage/index).

### Eligible Livestock

Eligible livestock are grazing animals that satisfy the majority of net energy requirement of nutrition via grazing of forage grasses or legumes and include such species as alpacas, beef cattle, buffalo/bison, beefalo, dairy cattle, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, reindeer or sheep.

Within those species animals that are eligible include those that are or would have been grazing the eligible grazing land or pastureland:

- During the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land or pastureland for the county; or
- When the federal agency prohibited the livestock owner or contract grower from having livestock graze the normally permitted livestock on the managed rangeland due to fire.

**Eligible Livestock must:**

- Have been owned, leased, purchased, entered into a contract to purchase, or held by a contract grower during the 60 days prior to the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire condition;
- Have been sold or otherwise disposed of due to a qualifying drought condition during the current production year or one or both of the two production years immediately preceding the current production year;
- Have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation on the beginning date of the eligible drought or fire condition;
- Not have been produced and maintained for reasons other than commercial use as part of a farming operation (such excluded uses include, but are not limited to, wild free-roaming animals or animals used for recreational purposes such as pleasure, hunting, pets, roping or for show); and
- Not have been livestock that were or would have been in a feedlot on the beginning date of the qualifying drought or fire as part of the normal business operation of the livestock owner or contract grower.

**Eligible Producers**

To be eligible for LFP, persons or legal entities must be a U.S. citizen, resident alien, partnership of U.S. citizens, a legal entity organized under State law, or an Indian tribe or tribal organization defined in the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act that:

- Own, cash or share lease, or be a contract grower of covered livestock during the 60 calendar days before the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire;
- Provide pastureland or grazing land for covered livestock, including cash-rented pastureland or grazing land as of the date of the qualifying drought or fire that is either:
  - Physically located in a county affected by a qualifying drought during the normal grazing period for the county; or
  - Rangeland managed by a federal agency for which the otherwise eligible livestock producer is prohibited by the federal agency from grazing the normally permitted livestock because of a qualifying fire.
- Certify that they have suffered a grazing loss because of a qualifying drought or fire; and
- Timely file an acreage report for all grazing land for which a grazing loss is being claimed.

**Payments**

FSA will calculate LFP payments for an eligible livestock producer for grazing losses because of a qualifying drought equal to payment factors of one, three, four or five times the LFP monthly payment rate. The LFP monthly payment rate for drought is equal to 60 percent of the lesser of either the monthly feed cost:

- For all covered livestock owned or leased by the eligible livestock producer; or
- Calculated by using the normal carrying capacity of the eligible grazing land of the eligible livestock producer.

Total LFP payments to an eligible livestock owner or contract grower in a calendar year for grazing losses will not exceed five monthly payments for the same kind, type, and weight range of livestock.

In the case of an eligible livestock owner or contract grower who sold or otherwise disposed of livestock because of drought conditions in one or both of the two previous production years immediately preceding the current production year, the payment rate will equal 80 percent of the monthly payment rate.

FSA will calculate LFP payments for eligible livestock owners or contract growers for losses suffered because of a qualifying fire on federally managed rangeland for which the producer is prohibited from grazing the normally permitted livestock. The payment begins on the first day the permitted livestock are prohibited from grazing the eligible rangeland and ending on the earlier of the last day of the federal lease of the eligible livestock producer or the day that would make the period a 180 calendar-day period. The payment rate is 50 percent of the monthly feed cost for the number of days the owner or contract grower is prohibited from having livestock graze the managed rangeland because of a qualifying fire, not to exceed 180 calendar days.





### Payments Limitation

The Agriculture Improvement Act (2018 Farm Bill) established a maximum annual per person and legal entity payment limitation for LFP (without regard to any other program) of \$125,000.

Therefore, for 2019 and subsequent program years, no person or legal entity, excluding a joint venture or general partnership, may receive, directly or indirectly, more than \$125,000 total in payments under LFP. The average adjusted gross income (AGI) limitation relating to limits on payments for persons or legal entities, excluding joint ventures and general partnerships, with certain levels of AGI will apply. Specifically, a person or legal entity with an AGI (as defined in 7 CFR Part 1400) that exceeds \$900,000 will not be eligible to receive LFP payments.

Direct attribution provisions apply to LFP. Under direct attribution, any payment to a legal entity will also be considered for payment limitation purposes to be a payment to persons or legal entities with an interest in the legal entity or in a sub-entity. To learn more, visit the Payment Eligibility and Payment Limitations fact sheet at [fsa.usda.gov/payment-limitations](https://fsa.usda.gov/payment-limitations).

### Enrollment

Eligible livestock producers who are also producers of grazed forage crop acreage must provide a completed application for payment and required supporting documentation to their FSA office within 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the grazing loss occurred.

Contract growers must include a copy of the grower contract and any other supporting documents required for determining contract grower eligibility.

Supporting documents must show evidence of loss and that grazing land or pastureland is owned or leased. If a loss of grazing was due to a fire that the eligible livestock producer was prohibited by the federal agency from having livestock graze the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland due to a fire.

FSA will use data provided by the applicant to determine eligibility for program benefits. Providing the data is voluntary; however, without all required data, program benefits will not be approved or provided.

### For More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other eligibility requirements or restrictions may apply. To find more information about FSA disaster assistance programs, visit [farmers.gov](https://farmers.gov) or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit [farmers.gov/service-center-locator](https://farmers.gov/service-center-locator).

LIVESTOCK PAYMENT RATES							
KIND	TYPE	WEIGHT RANGE	PAYMENT RATE PER HEAD				
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Beef	Adult	Bulls, Cows	\$28.07	\$29.34	\$31.89	\$31.18	\$47.29
	Non-Adult	500 pounds or more	\$21.05	\$22.01	\$23.92	\$23.38	\$35.47
		Less than 500 pounds		\$14.67	\$15.94	\$15.59	\$23.64
Dairy	Adult	Bulls, Cows	\$72.98	\$76.29	\$82.91	\$81.07	\$122.95
	Non-Adult	500 pounds or more	\$21.05	\$22.01	\$23.92	\$23.38	\$35.47
		Less than 500 pounds		\$14.67	\$15.94	\$15.59	\$23.64
Beefalo	Adult	Bulls, Cows	\$28.07	\$29.34	\$31.89	\$31.18	\$47.29
	Non-Adult	500 pounds or more	\$21.05	\$22.01	\$23.92	\$23.38	\$35.47
		Less than 500 pounds		\$14.67	\$15.94	\$15.59	\$23.64
Buffalo/ Bison	Adult	Bulls, Cows	\$28.07	\$29.34	\$31.89	\$31.18	\$47.29
	Non-Adult	500 pounds or more	\$21.05	\$22.01	\$23.92	\$23.38	\$35.47
		Less than 500 pounds		\$14.67	\$15.94	\$15.59	\$23.64
Sheep	All		\$7.02	\$7.34	\$7.97	\$7.79	\$11.82
Goats	All		\$7.02	\$7.34	\$7.97	\$7.79	\$11.82
Deer	All		\$7.02	\$7.34	\$7.97	\$7.79	\$11.82
Equine	All		\$20.77	\$21.71	\$23.60	\$23.07	\$34.99
Elk	All			\$15.85	\$17.22	\$16.84	\$25.54
		Less than 400 pounds	\$6.18				
		400 to 799 pounds	\$11.51				
		800 pounds or more	\$15.16				
Reindeer	All		\$6.18	\$6.46	\$7.02	\$6.87	\$10.42
Alpacas	All		\$23.12	\$24.17	\$26.27	\$25.68	\$38.95
Emus	All		\$14.37	\$15.02	\$16.32	\$15.96	\$24.20
Llamas	All		\$10.25	\$10.71	\$11.64	\$11.38	\$17.26

*NOTE: A grazing animal is defined as those species of livestock that, from a nutritional and physiological perspective, satisfy more than 50 percent of their net energy requirement through the consumption of growing forage grasses and legumes, regardless whether or not they are grazing or are present on grazing land or pastureland. Unweaned livestock are not considered a grazing animal and are ineligible for LFP.*

*The LFP monthly payment rate for losses because of a qualifying drought is calculated at 60 percent of the smaller of the monthly feed cost payment rate per head in the table above or the monthly feed cost based on the normal carrying capacity of the eligible grazing or pastureland acres.*



# DISASTER ASSISTANCE

## Livestock Indemnity Program

### Overview

The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the 2018 Farm Bill) authorized the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) to provide benefits to eligible livestock owners or contract growers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by eligible loss conditions, including eligible adverse weather, eligible disease and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law, including wolves and avian predators. In addition, LIP provides assistance to eligible livestock owners that must sell livestock at a reduced price because of an injury from an eligible loss condition.

LIP is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA). The occurrence of an eligible loss condition in and by itself - does not determine eligibility for eligible livestock losses. The livestock owner or contract grower must provide evidence acceptable to FSA that the eligible cause of loss not only occurred but directly caused loss or death.

LIP payments for owners are based on national payment rates that are 75 percent of the market value of the applicable livestock as determined by the USDA's Secretary of Agriculture. Rates for contract growers of poultry or swine will not exceed the rates for owners but are based on 75 percent of national average input costs for the applicable livestock.

The 2018 Farm Bill amended certain provisions related to LIP effective in 2019. Those amendments included:

- livestock death losses due to extreme cold are considered eligible losses without regard to vaccination protocol, or lack of vaccination; and
- providing for compensation for livestock death losses due to diseases that are caused or transmitted by a vector and are not controlled by vaccination or an acceptable management practice. These diseases were previously covered under ELAP.

### Eligible Livestock Owners

#### To be eligible for LIP:

- A livestock owner must have legally owned the livestock on the day the livestock died and/or were injured by an eligible loss condition



- An owner's livestock must have either:
  - died in excess of normal mortality as a direct result of an eligible loss condition,
  - or been injured as a direct result of an eligible loss condition and were sold at a reduced price.

#### Eligible livestock must:

- Have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation on the day they died; and
- Not have been produced or maintained for reasons other than commercial use as part of a farming operation. Excluded livestock includes wild free-roaming animals, pets or animals used for recreational purposes, such as hunting, roping or for show.

The following types of livestock may be eligible for LIP:

CATTLE	POULTRY	SWINE	OTHER
Adult Beef Bulls	Non-Adult Dairy Cattle	Suckling/Nursery Pigs (less than 50 pounds)	Alpacas
Adult Beef Cows	Chickens, Broilers, Pullets (regular size) (4.26 to 6.25 pounds)	Swine, Lightweight Barrows, Gilts (50 to 150 pounds)	Deer
Adult Buffalo/Bison Bulls	Chickens, Chicks Chickens, Layers	Swine, Sows, Boars, Barrows, Gilts (151 to 450 pounds)	Elk
Adult Beefalo Bulls	Chickens, Pullets/Cornish Hens (small size) (Less than 4.26 pounds)	Swine, Sows, Boars, Barrows, Gilts (151 to 450 pounds)	Emus
Adult Beefalo Cows	Roasters (6.26 to 7.75 pounds)	Swine, Sows, Boars (over 450 pounds)	Equine
Adult Buffalo/Bison Cows	Super Roasters/Parts (7.76 pounds or more)		Goats, Bucks Goats, Nannies
Adult Dairy Bulls	Ducks, Ducklings		Goats, Slaughter Goats/Kids
Adult Dairy Cows Non-Adult Beef Cattle	Ducks, Ducks		Llamas
Non-Adult Buffalo/Bison	Geese, Goslings		Ostriches
Non-Adult Beefalo	Geese, Goose		Reindeer
	Turkeys, Poults		Caribou
	Turkeys, Toms, Fryers, Roasters		Sheep, Rams
			Sheep, Ewes
			Sheep, Lambs

### Eligible Livestock Contract Growers (Poultry and Swine)

Poultry and swine are the only kinds of livestock for which contract growers can be eligible under LIP.

To be eligible for LIP, in addition to meeting all other eligibility requirements for loss, a poultry or swine contract grower must have had the following:

- Possession and control of the eligible livestock; and
- A written agreement with the eligible livestock owner setting the specific terms, conditions and obligations of the parties involved regarding the production of livestock.

Contract growers are not eligible for losses under LIP for injured livestock that were sold at a reduced price due to an eligible loss condition.

### Eligible Loss Conditions

An eligible loss condition includes any of the following that occur in the calendar year for which benefits are requested:

- Eligible adverse weather event;
- Eligible disease; and
- Eligible attack.

Eligible adverse weather event means extreme or abnormal damaging weather that is not expected to occur during the loss period for which it occurred, which directly results in eligible livestock losses. An eligible adverse weather event must occur in the calendar year for which benefits are requested. Eligible adverse weather events include, but are not limited to, as determined by the FSA Deputy Administrator of Farm Programs or designee, earthquake; hail; lightning; tornado; tropical storm; typhoon; vog, if directly related to a volcanic eruption; winter storm, if the winter storm lasts for three consecutive days and is accompanied by high winds, freezing rain or sleet, heavy snowfall and extremely cold temperatures; hurricanes; floods; blizzards; wildfires; extreme heat; extreme cold; and straight-line winds. Drought is not an eligible adverse weather event except when associated with anthrax, a condition that occurs because of drought and results in the death of eligible livestock.

Eligible disease means a disease that is exacerbated by an eligible adverse weather event that directly results in eligible livestock losses, including, but not limited to, anthrax, cyanobacteria, (beginning in 2015 calendar year) and larkspur poisoning (beginning in 2015 calendar year). In addition, eligible disease means a disease that is caused and/or transmitted by vectors and vaccination or acceptable management practices are not available, whether or not they were or were not implemented, that directly result in death of eligible livestock in excess of normal mortality, including but not limited to Blue Tongue, EHD and CVV.

Eligible attack means an attack by animals reintroduced into the wild by the Federal Government or protected by Federal law, including wolves and avian predators, that directly results in either injured livestock sold at a reduced price or death of eligible livestock, in excess of normal mortality.

## Payments

### Livestock Death Losses

LIP payments for livestock death losses, adjusted for normal mortality, are calculated by multiplying the national payment rate for the applicable livestock category by the number of eligible livestock in that category times the producer's share. Current year national payment rates are found at the end of this fact sheet.

The LIP national payment rate for eligible livestock owners is based on 75 percent of the average fair market value of the livestock, as provided in Table 1.

The LIP national payment rate for eligible livestock contract growers is based on 75 percent of the average income loss sustained by the contract grower with respect to the dead livestock, as provided in Table 2.

A contract grower's LIP payment will be reduced by the amount of monetary compensation received from the owner for the loss of income suffered from the death of livestock under contract.

### Injured Livestock

For eligible livestock owners, LIP payments for injured livestock that are sold at a reduced price due to an eligible adverse weather event or eligible attack are calculated by multiplying the national payment rate for the applicable livestock category minus the amount that the livestock owner received for the eligible livestock in that category times the livestock owner's share. If injured eligible livestock are sold for more than the national payment rate for the applicable livestock category, there is no payment.

### Payment Limitations and Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)

For the 2017 and subsequent program years, there is no per person or legal entity program year payment limitation.

In evaluating average adjusted gross income, an individual or entity is ineligible for payment under LIP if the average AGI of the individual or entity exceeds \$900,000.

Direct attribution provisions apply to LIP. Under direct attribution, AGI provisions apply to the person or legal entity applying for payment as well as to those persons or legal entities with an interest in the legal entity or in a sub-entity.

For more information on payment limitations, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/limits](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/limits).

## Applying for LIP

Owners or contract growers may apply to receive LIP benefits at local FSA offices.

Owners or contract growers who suffer livestock losses due to an eligible cause of loss must submit a notice of loss and an application for payment to the local FSA office that serves the physical location county where the livestock losses occurred. All of the owner's or contract grower's interest in inventory of eligible livestock in that county for the calendar year must be accounted for and summarized when determining eligibility.

An owner or contract grower must file a notice of loss within 30 calendar days of when the loss of livestock is first apparent as well as file an application for payment within 60 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the eligible loss condition occurred.

For 2021 LIP losses, livestock owners and contract growers may apply for 2021 LIP benefits in the physical location county where the loss occurred.

The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and application for payment:

DATE OF LIVESTOCK DEATH AND/OR INJURY	FINAL DATE TO FILE NOTICE OF LOSS	FINAL DATE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT
Calendar year 2019 and all subsequent years	by 30 calendar days of when the loss is first apparent to the participant.	60 days after the calendar year in which the eligible loss condition occurred

Applications from eligible livestock owners for losses due to livestock injured due to an eligible loss condition will be processed and acted on as specified in this fact sheet.

Contract growers of poultry or swine must submit a copy of the grower contract and any other supporting documents required for determining eligibility. Similar to requirements for owners, supporting documents must show evidence of loss, current physical location of livestock in inventory and location of the livestock at the time of death.



### Livestock Loss Documentation

Livestock owners and contract growers must record all pertinent information (including the number and kind) of all livestock and those adversely impacted by an eligible loss condition resulting in either death losses or injury and sales of injured livestock at reduced price.

Owners who sold injured livestock for a reduced price because the livestock were injured due to an eligible adverse weather event or eligible attack, must provide verifiable evidence of the reduced sale of the livestock. The injured livestock must be sold to an independent third party (such as sale barn, slaughter facility, or rendering facility).

Documents that may provide verifiable evidence of livestock sold at a reduced price include but are not limited to:

- sales receipts from a livestock auction, sale barn or
- other similar livestock sale facilities
- rendering facility receipts
- processing plant receipts

The documentation for injured livestock sales must have the price for which the animal was sold as well as information on livestock kind, type, and weight sold.

FSA will use information furnished by the applicant to determine eligibility. Furnishing the required information is voluntary; however, without all required information, program benefits will not be approved or provided.

### For More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other eligibility requirements or restrictions may apply. To find more information about FSA disaster assistance programs, visit [farmers.gov](https://www.farmers.gov) or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit [farmers.gov/service-center-locator](https://www.farmers.gov/service-center-locator).

**TABLE 1: LIP PAYMENT RATES FOR ELIGIBLE LIVESTOCK OWNERS  
(rates have been reduced by the required 75%)**

KIND	TYPE	WEIGHT RANGE	2021 PAYMENT RATE PER HEAD
<b>Alpacas</b>			\$283.33
<b>Beef</b>	Adult	Bull	\$1,195.31
		Cow	\$919.47
	Non-Adult	Less than 250 pounds	\$163.15
		250 to 399 pounds	\$441.56
		400 to 799 pounds	\$609.53
800 pounds or more	\$1,015.88		
<b>Beefalo</b>	Adult	Bull	\$1,453.19
		Cow	\$1,159.95
	Non-Adult	Less than 250 pounds	\$234.56
		250 to 399 pounds	\$586.99
		400 to 799 pounds	\$861.94
		800 pounds or more	\$1,280.62
Cow	\$1,560.75		
<b>Buffalo/Bison</b>	Adult	Bull	\$1,882.98
		Cow	\$1,560.75
	Non-Adult	Less than 250 pounds	\$353.58
		250 to 399 pounds	\$586.99
		400 to 799 pounds	\$1,282.63
		800 pounds or more	\$1,721.86
800 pounds or more	\$1,767.63		
<b>Caribou</b>	All		\$382.60
<b>Chickens</b>	Broilers/ Pullets (Regular Size)	4.26 to 6.25 pounds	\$2.12
	Chicks		\$0.19
	Layers		\$4.00
	Pullets/ Cornish Hens (Small size)	Less than 4.26 pounds	\$1.43
	Roasters	6.26 to 7.75 pounds	\$2.70
	Super Roasters/Parts	7.76 pounds or more	\$3.55
<b>Dairy</b>	Adult	Bull	\$1,042.76
		Cow	\$975.00
	Non-Adult	Less than 250 pounds	\$43.24
		250 to 399 pounds	\$243.75
		400 to 799 pounds	\$487.50
800 pounds or more	\$739.59		

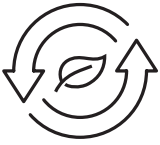
**TABLE 1: LIP PAYMENT RATES FOR ELIGIBLE LIVESTOCK OWNERS  
(rates have been reduced by the required 75%)**

KIND	TYPE	WEIGHT RANGE	2021 PAYMENT RATE PER HEAD
<b>Deer</b>	All		\$382.60
<b>Ducks</b>	Ducklings		\$0.68
	Ducks		\$4.24
<b>Elk</b>			\$531.09
<b>Emus</b>			\$152.61
<b>Equine</b>			\$648.61
<b>Geese</b>	Goose		\$24.91
	Gosling		\$5.23
<b>Goats</b>	Bucks		\$229.35
	Nannies		\$148.52
	Slaughter Goats/Kids		\$100.63
<b>Llamas</b>			\$229.02
<b>Ostriches</b>			\$648.00
<b>Reindeer</b>			\$382.60
<b>Sheep</b>	Ewes		\$144.80
	Lambs		\$169.39
	Rams		\$399.14
<b>Swine</b>	Suckling Nursery Pigs	Less than 50 pounds	\$28.57
	Lightweight Barrows, Gilts	50 to 150 pounds	\$52.22
	Sows, Boars, Barrows, Gilts	151 to 450 pounds	\$75.86
	Boars, Sows	450 pounds or more	\$112.32
<b>Turkeys</b>	Poults		\$3.71
	Toms, Fryers, Roasters		\$18.00



**TABLE 2: LIP PAYMENT RATES FOR ELIGIBLE LIVESTOCK CONTRACT GROWERS  
(rates have been reduced by the required 75%)**

KIND	TYPE	WEIGHT RANGE	2021 PAYMENT RATE PER HEAD
<b>Chickens</b>	Broilers, Pullets (regular size)	4.26 to 6.25 pounds	\$0.23
	Chicks		\$0.16
	Layers		\$0.24
	Pullets, Cornish Hens (small size)	Less than 4.26 pounds	\$0.16
	Roasters	6.26 to 7.75 pounds	\$0.30
	Super Roasters/Parts	7.76 pounds or more	\$0.39
<b>Ducks</b>	Ducks		\$0.47
	Ducklings		\$0.47
<b>Geese</b>			\$2.74
<b>Swine</b>	Suckling Nursery Pigs	Less than 50 pounds	\$3.25
	Lightweight Barrows, Gilts	50 to 150 pounds	\$7.84
	Sows, Boars, Barrows, Gilts	151 to 450 pounds	\$11.39
	Boars, Sows	451 pounds or more	\$46.16
<b>Turkeys</b>	Poults		\$0.41
	Toms, Fryers, Roasters		\$1.98



# DISASTER ASSISTANCE

## Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program

### Overview

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops to protect against natural disasters that result in lower yields or crop losses, or prevents crop planting.

### Who Is Eligible?

#### Eligible Producers

An eligible producer is a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop and is entitled to an ownership share of that crop. An individual's or entity's average adjusted gross income (AGI) cannot exceed \$900,000 to be eligible for NAP payments. Also, NAP payments received, directly or indirectly, will be attributed to the applicable individual or entity and limited to \$125,000 per crop year, per individual or entity for crops with basic (catastrophic) coverage. Any NAP payments received directly or indirectly for crops with additional (buy-up) coverage, will be attributed to the applicable individual or entity and limited to \$300,000 per crop year, per individual or entity. (To learn more, visit [fsa.usda.gov/limits](https://fsa.usda.gov/limits).)

#### Eligible Crops

Eligible crops must be commercially produced agricultural commodities for which crop insurance is not available and be any of the following:

- Crops grown for food;
- Crops planted and grown for livestock consumption, such as grain and forage crops, including native forage; Crops grown for fiber, such as cotton and flax (except trees);
- Crops grown in a controlled environment, such as mushrooms and floriculture;
- Specialty crops, such as honey and maple sap;
- Sea oats and sea grass;
- Sweet sorghum and biomass sorghum;
- Industrial crops, including crops used in manufacturing or grown as a feedstock for renewable biofuel, renewable electricity or biobased products;
- Value loss crops, such as aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng, ornamental nursery and turf-grass sod; and
- Seed crops where the propagation stock is produced for sale as seed stock for other eligible NAP crop production.



Producers should contact a crop insurance agent for questions regarding insurability of a crop in their county. For further information on whether a crop is eligible for NAP coverage, producers should contact the FSA county office where their farm records are maintained.

### What Is Eligible?

#### Eligible Causes of Loss

Eligible causes of loss include the following natural disasters:

- Damaging weather, such as drought, freeze, hail, excessive moisture, excessive wind or hurricanes;
- Adverse natural occurrences, such as earthquake or flood; and
- Conditions related to damaging weather or adverse natural occurrences, such as excessive heat, plant disease, volcanic smog (VOG) or insect infestation.

The damaging weather or adverse natural occurrence must occur during the coverage period, before or during harvest, and must directly affect the eligible crop.

## How It Works

### Coverage Levels

NAP provides basic coverage equivalent to the catastrophic level risk protection plan of insurance coverage, which is based on the amount of loss that exceeds 50 percent of expected production at 55 percent of the average market price for the crop. The 2018 Farm Bill re-authorizes higher levels of coverage ranging from 50 to 65 percent of production, in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price. Additional (buy-up) coverage must be elected by a producer by the application closing date. Producers who elect additional coverage must pay a premium in addition to the service fee. Crops intended for grazing are not eligible for additional coverage.

### Applying for Coverage

Eligible producers must apply for coverage using form CCC-471, "Application for Coverage," and pay the applicable service fee at the FSA office where their farm records are maintained. The application and service fee must be filed by the application closing date. Application closing dates vary by crop and are established by the FSA State Committee. Contact your local FSA office to verify application closing dates. Producers who apply for NAP coverage acknowledge that they have received the NAP Basic Provisions, available at FSA county offices and at [fsa.usda.gov/nap](https://fsa.usda.gov/nap).

### Service Fees and Premiums

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

Producers who elect higher levels of coverage must also pay a premium equal to:

- The producer's share of the crop; times
- The number of eligible acres devoted to the crop; times
- The approved yield per acre; times
- The coverage level; times
- The average market price; times
- A 5.25 percent premium fee.

For value loss crops, premiums will be calculated using the maximum dollar value selected by the producer on form CCC-471, "Application for Coverage."

The maximum premium for a person or legal entity that is a NAP covered producer is \$15,750 (the maximum payment limitation times a 5.25 percent premium fee) for an application for basic coverage only. If the NAP covered producer is a joint operation, the maximum



premium is based on the number of multiple persons or legal entities comprising the joint operation. Beginning, limited resource, socially disadvantaged and qualifying veterans farmers or ranchers are eligible for a waiver of the service fee and a 50 percent premium reduction when they file form CCC-860, "Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, Veteran, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher Certification." To be eligible for a service fee waiver or premium reduction, the NAP covered producer must qualify as one of the following:

**Beginning farmer or rancher** – a person or legal entity who:

- Has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years; and
- Materially and substantially participates in the operation.

For legal entities to be considered a beginning farmer, all members must be related by blood or marriage and must be beginning farmers.

**Limited resource farmer or rancher** – a person or legal entity that:

- Earns no more than \$177,300 (for FY2019) in each of the two calendar years that precede the complete taxable year before the program year, to be adjusted upwards in later years for inflation; and
- Has a total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of four, or less than 50 percent of county median household income for both of the previous two years.

Limited resource producer status may be determined using the USDA Limited Resource Farmer and Rancher Online Self Determination Tool located at <https://lrftool.sc.gov.usda.gov/DeterminationTool.aspx?fyYear=2019>. The automated system calculates and displays adjusted gross farm sales per year and the higher of the national poverty level or county median household income.

For legal entities requesting to be considered Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher, the sum of gross sales and household income must be considered for all members.

**Socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher** – a farmer or a rancher who is a member of a group whose members have been subject to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. Groups include:

- American Indians or Alaskan Natives;
- Asians or Asian Americans;
- Blacks or African Americans;
- Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders;
- Hispanics; and
- Women.

For legal entities to be considered socially disadvantaged, the majority interest must be held by socially disadvantaged individuals.

**Veteran farmer or rancher** – a farmer or rancher who has served in the Armed Forces (as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101) and who:

- has operated a farm or ranch for less than 10 years, or
- first obtained status as a veteran during the most recent 10-year period.

### Coverage Period

The coverage period for NAP varies depending on the crop. The coverage period for an annual crop begins the later of:

- The date after the application for coverage is filed and the applicable service fees have been paid; or
- The date the crop is planted (cannot exceed the final planting date).

The coverage period for an annual crop ends the earlier of the:

- Date the crop harvest is completed;
- Normal harvest date for the crop;
- Date the crop is abandoned; or
- Date the entire crop acreage is destroyed.

The coverage period for a perennial crop, other than a crop intended for forage, begins no later than 30 calendar days after the application closing date and ends the earlier of:

- 10 months from the application closing date;
- The date the crop harvest is completed;
- The normal harvest date for the crop;

- The date the crop is abandoned; or
- The date the entire crop acreage is destroyed.

Contact a local FSA office for information on the coverage periods for perennial forage crops, controlled-environment crops, specialty crops and value loss crops.

### Information Required to Remain Eligible for NAP

To be eligible for NAP assistance, the following crop acreage information must be reported:

- Name of the crop (lettuce, clover, etc.);
- Type and variety (head lettuce, red clover, etc.);
- Location and acreage of the crop (field, sub-field, etc.);
- Share of the crop and the names of other producers with an interest in the crop; Type of practice used to grow the crop (irrigated or non-irrigated);
- Date the crop was planted in each field; and
- Intended use of the commodity (fresh, processed, etc.).

Producers must report crop acreage shortly after planting (early in the risk period) to ensure reporting deadlines are not missed and coverage is not lost. In addition, producers with NAP coverage must provide the following production information:

- The quantity of all harvested production of the crop in which the producer held an interest during the crop year;
- The disposition of the harvested crop, such as whether it is marketable, unmarketable, salvaged or used differently than intended; and
- Verifiable or reliable crop production records (when required by FSA).

When those records are required, producers must provide them in a manner that can be easily understood by the FSA county committee. Producers should contact the FSA office where their farm records are maintained for questions regarding acceptable production records.

Failure to report acreage and production information for NAP-covered crops may result in reduced or zero NAP assistance. Be aware that acreage reporting and final planting dates vary by crop and by region.

Producers should contact the FSA office where their farm records are maintained for questions regarding local acreage reporting and final planting dates.

For aquaculture, floriculture and ornamental nursery operations, producers must maintain records according to industry standards, including daily crop inventories. Unique reporting requirements apply to beekeepers and producers of Christmas trees, turf-grass sod, maple sap, mushrooms, ginseng and commercial seed or forage crops. Producers should contact the FSA office where their farm records are maintained regarding these requirements.

### Reported Acreage and Production

FSA uses acreage reports to record the location and number of acres covered by the application. Acreage and the production reports are used to calculate the approved yield (expected production for a crop year). The approved yield is an average of a producer's actual production history (APH) for a minimum of 4 to a maximum of 10 crop years (5 years for apples and peaches). To calculate APH, FSA divides a producer's total production by the producer's crop acreage. A producer's approved yield may be calculated using substantially reduced yield data if the producer does not report production for a crop with NAP coverage, or reports fewer than 4 years of crop production.

### Providing Notice of Loss and Applying for Payment

When a crop or planting is affected by a natural disaster, producers with NAP coverage must notify the FSA office where their farm records are maintained and complete Part B (the Notice of Loss portion) of form CCC-576, "Notice of Loss and Application for Payment." This must be completed within 15 calendar days of the earlier of:

- A natural disaster occurrence;
- The final planting date if planting is prevented by a natural disaster;
- The date that damage to the crop or loss of production becomes apparent; or
- The normal harvest date.

Producers of hand-harvested crops and certain perishable crops must notify FSA within 72 hours of when a loss becomes apparent. The crops subject to this requirement will be listed in the NAP Basic Provisions.

To receive NAP benefits, producers must complete form CCC-576, "Notice of Loss and Application for Payment," Parts D, E, F and G, as applicable, within 60 days of the last day of coverage for the crop year for any NAP covered crop in the unit. The CCC-576 requires acceptable appraisal information.

Producers must provide evidence of production and note whether the crop was marketable, unmarketable, salvaged or used differently than intended.

### Defining a NAP Unit

The NAP unit includes all the eligible crop acreage in the county where the producer has a unique crop interest. A unique crop interest is either:

- 100 percent interest; or
- A shared interest with another producer.

### Information FSA Uses to Calculate Payment

The NAP payment is calculated by unit using:

- Crop acreage;
- Approved yield;
- Net production;
- Coverage level elected by the producer;
- An average market price for the commodity established by the FSA state committee; and
- A payment factor reflecting the decreased cost incurred in the production cycle for a crop that is not harvested or prevented from being planted.

For value loss crops with additional coverage, payments will be calculated using the lesser of the field market value of the crop before the disaster or the maximum dollar value for which the producer requested coverage at the time of application.

### For More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other eligibility requirements or restrictions may apply. To find more information about FSA disaster assistance programs, visit [farmers.gov](https://www.farmers.gov) or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit [farmers.gov/service-center-locator](https://www.farmers.gov/service-center-locator).

## **USDA EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM**

Through the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) can help communities address watershed impairments that pose imminent threats to lives and property. If your land has suffered damage due to flood, fire, drought, windstorm, or other natural occurrence, please contact your local authorities and/or your local NRCS office to find out if you qualify for the EWP program.

### **The Facts – The Emergency Watershed Protection Program**

Congress established the EWP program and provides funding for it. Please know that eligibility for the program does not depend upon the declaration of a national emergency.

All projects undertaken through EWP, with the exception of the purchase of floodplain easements, must have a project sponsor. Sponsors must be a legal subdivision of the State, such as a city, county, general improvement district, or conservation district, or an Indian Tribe or Tribal organization as defined in Section 4 of the Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. Sponsors are responsible for:

- Providing land rights to do repair work;
- Securing necessary permits;
- Furnishing the local cost share;
- Accomplishing the installation of work; and
- Performing any necessary operation and maintenance.

Through EWP, the NRCS may pay up to 75 percent of the construction costs of emergency measures. Ninety percent may be paid for projects within limited-resource areas as identified by U.S. Census data. The remaining costs must come from local sources and can be made in cash or in-kind services.

All EWP projects must reduce threats to lives and property; be economically, environmentally, and socially defensible; be designed and implemented according to sound technical standards; and conserve natural resources.

### **Type of Work Authorized**

As mentioned above, the EWP program addresses watershed impairments, which include, but are not limited to:

- Debris-clogged stream channels;
- Undermined and unstable streambanks;
- Jeopardized water control structures and public infrastructures;
- Wind-borne debris removal; and
- Damaged upland sites stripped of protective vegetation by fire or drought.

Floodplain easements for restoring, protecting, maintaining, and enhancing the functions and values of floodplains, including associated wetlands and riparian areas, are available through EWP. These easements also help conserve fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, flood water retention, and ground water recharge, as well as safeguard lives and property from floods, drought, and erosion. EWP work is not limited to any one set of measures.

NRCS completes a Damage Survey Report that provides a case-by-case investigation of the work necessary to repair or protect a site. NRCS will only provide funding for work that is necessary to reduce applicable threats.

Sponsors that want to increase the level of protection in a particular project are responsible for paying 100 percent of the costs of the desired upgrade and additional work.

Additional information about Federal assistance programs, safety tips, and updates about USDA's hurricane relief efforts are posted on the Web at [www.usda.gov/disaster](http://www.usda.gov/disaster). Click on the hurricane relief link. Information about the U.S. Government's hurricane response efforts is available at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).



# DISASTER ASSISTANCE

## Tree Assistance Program

### Overview

The Tree Assistance Program (TAP) provides financial assistance to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines lost by natural disasters. TAP is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

### What Is Eligible?

#### Eligible Tree Types

Eligible trees, bushes, and vines are those from which an annual crop is produced for commercial purposes. Nursery trees include ornamental, fruit, nut and Christmas trees produced for commercial sale. Trees used for pulp or timber are not eligible for TAP assistance.

#### Eligible Losses

To be considered an eligible loss:

- A requisite death loss must first be sustained; a stand of eligible trees, bushes, or vines must have suffered more than a 15 percent mortality loss (after normal mortality) due to a natural disaster;
- Mortality loss on a stand of eligible trees, bushes, or vines is based on:
  - Each eligible disaster event, except for losses due to plant disease; and
  - For plant disease, the time period as determined by the FSA for which the stand is infected.
- The loss must not have been preventable through reasonable and available measures;
- The loss must be visible and obvious to the FSA representative; if the loss is no longer visible, FSA may accept other loss evidence and determine whether that other evidence substantiates that an eligible loss due to natural disaster occurred; and
- FSA may require information from a qualified expert to determine extent of loss in the case of plant disease or insect infestation.

#### Eligible Orchardists and Nursery Tree Growers

To qualify for TAP, eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers must:

- Have suffered a qualifying tree, bush or vine loss in excess of 15 percent mortality for the stand (adjusted for normal mortality) due to an eligible natural disaster;
- Have owned the eligible trees, bushes and vines when the natural disaster occurred, but eligible growers are not required to own the land on which owned eligible trees, bushes and vines are planted; and
- Replace eligible trees, bushes and vines within 12 months from the date the TAP application is approved.



### How it Works

#### Acres Limitation

The cumulative total quantity of acres planted to trees, bushes, or vines for which an eligible orchardist or nursery tree grower can receive TAP payments cannot exceed 1,000 acres annually.

#### Payment Limitation and Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)

For losses that occurred on or after January 1, 2017, there is no payment limitation for TAP.

In applying the limitation on average adjusted gross income (AGI), a person or legal entity is ineligible for payment under TAP if the AGI of the person or legal entity for the relevant tax years exceeds \$900,000. Direct attribution applies to TAP and is used for AGI purposes as well. Under direct attribution, any payment to a legal entity will be considered (for payment limitation purposes) to be a payment to persons or legal entities with an interest in the legal entity or in a sub-entity.



### Payment Calculator

For tree, bush, or vine replacement, replanting and/or rehabilitation, the payment calculation is the lesser of the following:

- 65 percent of the actual cost of replanting, in excess of 15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality), and, where applicable, 50 percent of the actual cost of rehabilitation, in excess of 15 percent damage or mortality (adjusted for normal tree damage and normal mortality); or
- The maximum eligible amount established for the practice by FSA.

The 2018 Farm Bill increased the reimbursement amount for applicants who meet the definition of a beginning or veteran farmer or rancher. The payment calculation is the lesser of the following:

- 75 percent of the actual cost of replanting, in excess of 15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality), and, where applicable, 75 percent of the actual cost of rehabilitation, in excess of 15 percent damage or mortality (adjusted for normal tree damage and mortality); or
- The maximum eligible amount established for the practice by FSA.

### Applications

The following table provides the final dates to submit a TAP application and supporting documentation:

Date of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application and Supporting Documentation
January 1, 2019, and subsequent years	Later of 60 calendar days after (date of publication in FR) or within 90 calendar days of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the disaster event; or</li> <li>• the date when the loss is apparent to the producer.</li> </ul>

### More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply. For more information about ELAP, visit [disaster.fsa.usda.gov](https://disaster.fsa.usda.gov) or contact your local FSA office.

To find your local FSA office, visit [farmers.gov](https://farmers.gov).