

New CFAP2 Details Good News for Producers

Friday, October 2, 2020

By Shawn Wade

Details about the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2, also known as CFAP2, are slowly making themselves known and the latest information is good news for producers. USDA's initial announcement of eligible crops and payment rates have already been highlighted and sign-up for the program began almost immediately on September 21 and has been set to remain open through December 11.

When it comes to understanding the CFAP2 program and how it was setup it is important to note that first and foremost CFAP2 was setup to offset a portion of the market price declines that have been exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic and are impacting the 2020 crop.

As a result, payments will be based on the previously reported payment rates and calculated using a weighted average of a producers 2020 approved crop insurance APH yield. The weighted average yield will incorporate all of a producers' reported crop acreage and weighted across all practices. The resulting yield will then be multiplied by the eligible 2020 planted or failed acres of each participating crop on the farm.

For many producers on the High Plains of Texas, and elsewhere, the 2020 production season has been a tough road to travel and many acres were destroyed early and subsequently planted to a second crop, including acres that may have been subsequently failed due to unfavorable weather conditions during the season.

As producers are initiating the sign-up process, it has become clear that for CFAP2 all of the acres a producer planted to an eligible crop will be eligible for a payment regardless of whether or not the acres were the initial crop planted or a subsequent crop planted after the first.

The main thing to know about subsequent crop acres is that in order for them to also be eligible for CFAP2 payments they must be reported to the USDA FSA and appear on the producers certified acreage report.

Growers that have already filed their acreage certification reports and included both the initial and subsequent crops in their reporting should have nothing else to do except submit their CFAP2 application and begin the process.

Growers who reported and filed their acreage reports on the initial crop but **did not** report their subsequent crop plantings will need to go to their FSA office to update and amend their acreage certification report to reflect the second crop acres they planted. Revising the acreage certification report information will require payment of a \$47 late filing fee.

It is important that a producer revise their acreage reports and pay the late fee to ensure that their 2020 ARC/PLC payments are not inadvertently impacted. Failure to revise the initial acreage report could result in loss of eligibility for 2020 ARC/PLC payments if done incorrectly.

For more information about how to revise and update a 2020 Crop Acreage report producers are encouraged to contact their

local USDA Farm Service Agency office to determine what steps they need to complete to make second crop acreage eligible for CFAP2 payments and also maintain full eligibility for the 2020 ARC/PLC program.

Save The Date! PCG Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 14 • Bayer Museum of Agriculture, Lubbock, Texas

The Outlook For the 2020 Crop

Friday, October 2, 2020

By Whitney Curry

With rainfall totals scattered over the past few months in the High Plains area, cotton crop yields are projected to be scattered as well.

According to the National Weather Service, Lubbock received 1.04 inches of rain in the month of September, while Midland received 0.83 inches and Amarillo only received 0.45 inches for the month of September. This illustrates the generally dry conditions that have plagued producers throughout the growing season. Precipitation totals vary widely from location to location, even within just a few miles. For example, according to the West Texas Mesonet from January to August of 2020, Plains, Texas has received 5.08 inches of rain, while other parts of Yoakum County have only received 0.05 inches of rainfall since March 3.

Due to these abnormal rainfall totals, cotton crops around the area, including irrigated acres are expected to have reduced yields when harvest rolls around in just a couple of weeks.

REMINDER: Cotton Board 2021 Calendar Photo Contest

Thursday, September 17, 2020

From The Cotton Board

It is time to show off some beautiful cotton and your photography skills in The Cotton Board's 2021 Calendar Photo Contest. One winning photo will be selected and featured in The Cotton Board's 2021 Industry Calendar.

"We are looking for creative, captivating images of cotton in any stage of production to include in the calendar. The cotton should be the focal point of submitted entries and we ask that there be no people in the images submitted," says Stacey Gorman, Director of Communications for The Cotton Board. "I am looking forward to submissions from across the Cotton Belt, as I know each region has its own unique and beautiful cotton landscapes," she said. Photos should be taken in a horizontal orientation and be at least 300 dpi.

To be eligible to win, contestants must first "like" [The Cotton Board Facebook page](https://www.cottonboard.org) and then email their high-res jpeg photo to sgorman@cottonboard.org. Up to three entries per contestant will be considered. The contest ends on **Thursday October 8, 2020 at noon, CST**. Cotton Board staff will vote to determine the winning photo.

For more information:

<https://www.cottonboard.org/news/press-releases/cotton-board-2021-calendar-photo-contest/>

U.S. Trust Protocol Grower Webinars

October 6 – 8, 2020 • October 13 – 15, 2020

<https://trustuscotton.org/enrollment-webinar-live-sessions/>