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(d) All amounts paid by CCC to any such producer, applicable to the crop year in which a violation of this part occurs, must be refunded to CCC together with interest and other amounts as determined appropriate to the circumstances by CCC.

(e) All persons with a financial interest in the operation receiving benefits under this part shall be jointly and severally liable for any refund, including related charges, which is determined to be due CCC for any reason under this part.

(f) In the event that any request for assistance or payments under this part was established as result of erroneous information or a miscalculation, the assistance or payment shall be recalculated and any excess refunded with applicable interest.

(g) The liability of any person for any penalty under this part or for any refund to CCC or related charge arising in connection therewith shall be in addition to any other liability of such person under any civil or criminal fraud statute or any other provision of law including, but not limited to: 18 U.S.C. 286, 287, 371, 641, 651, 1001 and 1014; 15 U.S.C. 714m; and 31 U. S. C. 3729.

(h) The appeal regulations at parts 11 and 780 of this title apply to decisions made according to this part.

(i) Any payment or portion thereof to any person shall be made without regard to questions of title under State law and without regard to any claim or lien against the crop, or proceeds thereof.

(j) For the purposes of 28 U.S.C. 3201(e), the Secretary hereby waives the restriction on receipt of funds or benefits under this program but only as to beneficiaries who as a condition of such waiver agree to apply the benefits to reduce the amount of the judgement lien.

(k) The provisions of parts 1400, 1403 and 1404 of this chapter apply to NAP.

(l) In the case of death, incompetence or disappearance of any person who is eligible to receive payments under this part, such payments will be disbursed in accordance with part 707 of this title.

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Subpart B—Determining Yield Coverage Using Actual Production History

§ 1437.101 Actual production history.

Actual production history will be used, except as otherwise indicated in this part, as the basis for providing noninsured crop disaster assistance.

§ 1437.102 Yield determinations.

(a) Payments based on yields shall be made on “approved yields”, which shall be calculated based on the producer’s APH for that period up to ten years for which, of the first time such a yield is calculated, there are consecutive years, beginning with the most recent completed year, of actual production history for the producer. If there are not four such consecutive years of history (excluding years when the crop was out of rotation), then such first “approved yield” shall be constructed by creating a four year history as provided for in this part. After the first such approved yield is constructed, years will be added to that history in the manner provided for in this section, dropping, as needed, previous years from the history to the extent that the current history would be a history or base of ten years. For the first approved yield, as needed to construct a four-year history, history will be supplied using T-yields, as set out in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) The county expected yield:

(1) Is the “T-yield” for the crop, and is the Olympic average (disregarding the high and low yields) of yields in the county the 5 consecutive crop years immediately preceding the previous crop year. (Example: For the 2001 crop year, the base period would be 1995 through 1999).

(2) Will be the same as the FCIC transitional yield if crop insurance is available for the crop, (but not necessarily for the cause of loss if excluded by policy provisions), in the administrative county.

(3) Will be calculated so as to be comparable to the FCIC transitional yield most reasonable to the area if crop insurance was available for the crop (but not necessarily for the cause of loss) in contiguous counties, but not in the immediate county.

(c) Available historical information will be used to establish the county expected yields. Historical information is available from sources including, but is not limited to, National Agricultural Statistics Service data, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service records, Federal Crop Insurance Data, credible non-government studies, yields in similar areas, and reported actual yield data. Such yields will be based on the acreage intended for harvest.

(d) County expected yields may be adjusted for:

(1) Yield variations due to different farming practices in the administrative county such as: irrigated, nonirrigated, and organic practices; and

(2) Cultural practices, including the age of the planting when such practices are different from those used on acreage to establish the yield.

(e) A T-yield will be used in the actual production history database when less than four consecutive crop years of actual, assigned, or zero yields, as applicable, are available. For those producers who have land physically located in multiple counties and administered out of one county office, the T-yield for all land for the producer will be based on the administrative county's expected yield for that crop. Where a four-year base must be constructed for the producer's first approved yield because the producer does not have at least four consecutive years of actual history starting with the most recent year, then:

(1) If an approved yield had not previously been calculated for the crop and there are no production records available for the most recent crop year, or if there is no formula provided for the producer under paragraphs (e)(2) through (4) of this section, then the approved yield for the current crop year will be calculated on the simple average of 65 percent of the applicable T-yield for each of the four years of the constructed base;

(2) If certified acceptable production records are available for only the most recent crop year and there are no zero (credited) or assigned yields in the producer's history, the approved yield for the current crop year will be calculated on the simple average of the one actual

yield plus 80 percent of the applicable T-Yield for the missing crop years.

(3) If certified acceptable production records are available for only the two most recent crop years and there are no zero (credited) or assigned yields in the APH database, the approved yield for the current crop year will be calculated on the simple average of the two actual yields plus 90 percent of the applicable T-yield for the missing years.

(4) If certified acceptable production records are available for only the three most recent crop years and there are no zero (credited) or assigned yields in the APH database, the approved yield will be calculated on the simple average of the three actual yields plus 100 percent of the applicable T-Yield for the missing year.

(f) CCC will reduce unadjusted T-yields placed in the actual production history database when, as determined by CCC, an unadjusted T-yield does not accurately reflect the productive capability of specific crop acreage.

(g) An actual yield includes the total amount of harvested and appraised production on a per acre, or other basis, as applicable.

(h) Once an approved yield has been calculated for any year, then thereafter an assigned yield will be used to update or extend the producer's actual production history (or base) database when producers fail to certify a report of production after the approved yield was calculated and the following standards shall apply:

(1) The assigned one-year yield will be equal to 75 percent of the approved yield calculated for the most recent crop year for which producers do not certify a report of production.

(2) Producers may have only one assigned yield in the actual production history database.

(3) Producers may replace an assigned yield with an actual yield by providing a certification of production and production records for the applicable crop year in accordance with § 1437.7.

(4) If the acreage of a crop in the administrative county in which the unit is located for the crop year increases by more than 100 percent over any year in the preceding seven crop years, or

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significantly from the previous crop years, as determined by CCC, producers may not receive an assigned yield and will receive a zero credited yield, unless producers provide:

(i) Detailed documentation of production costs, acres planted, and yield for the crop year for which the producer is requesting assistance, or

(ii) If CCC determines those records are inadequate, proof that the eligible crop, had it been harvested, could have been marketed at a reasonable price.

(5) Notwithstanding paragraph (h)(4) of this section an assigned yield may be used if:

(i) The planted acreage for the crop has been inspected by a third party acceptable to CCC, or

(ii) The FSA county executive director, with the concurrence of the FSA state executive director, makes a recommendation for an exemption from the requirements and such recommendation is approved by CCC.

(6) A zero credited yield will be used to the extent provided for in paragraph (i) of this section.

(i) A zero credited yield will be placed in the actual production history database for each crop year, following the crop year containing an assigned yield, for which producers do not certify a report of production. A zero credited yield may be replaced with an actual yield by providing a certification of production and production records for the applicable crop year in accordance with §1437.7.

(j) An approved yield is calculated as the simple average of a minimum of four, not to exceed a maximum of 10 consecutive crop year yields for the crops, or as determined by CCC and as provided in this section.

(1) If, for one or more actual production history crop years used to establish the approved yield, the actual or appraised yield is less than 65 percent of the current crop year T-yield due to losses incurred in a disaster year, as determined by CCC, producers may request CCC replace the applicable yield with a yield equal to 65 percent of the current crop year T-yield.

(2) If approved yields were calculated for any of the 1995 through 2000 crop years, and subsequently in that period production was not certified, producers

may request CCC replace the missing yields for such years with yields equal to the higher of 65 percent of the current crop year T-yield or the missing crop years actual yield.

(3) If producers add land in the farming operation and do not have available production records for the added land CCC will calculate an approved yield for the new unit by utilizing the actual production history yields for the existing unit. In the event the crop suffers a loss greater than 50 percent of the initial approved yield for the crop year and unit acreage has increased by more than 75 percent of the historical average acreage, CCC may adjust the approved yield, as determined by CCC.

(k) If a producer is a new producer, the approved yield may be based on unadjusted T-Yields or a combination of actual yields and unadjusted T-Yields. A new producer is a person who has not been actively engaged in farming for a share of the production of the eligible crop in the administrative county for more than two APH crop years. Formation or dissolution of an entity which includes individuals with more than two APH crop years of production history during the base period does not qualify the new entity as a new producer for APH determination purposes.

(l) If producers qualify as a new producer and have produced the crop for 1 or 2 crop years, producers must provide to CCC at the administrative FSA office serving the area in which the crop is located, a certification and records of production for those crop years.

(m) Further adjustments may be made as necessary to accomplish the purposes of this program.

§1437.103 Determining payments for low yield.

(a) Except to the extent that the loss calculation provisions of other subparts apply, and subject to limitations set out elsewhere in this part and in this title and to the availability of funds, payments under this part shall be made on eligible crops with eligible losses by:

(1) Multiplying the total eligible acreage planted to the eligible crop by