

§ 1439.501 Applicability.

This subpart sets forth the terms and conditions applicable to the 2000 Flood Compensation Program (FCP). Benefits will be provided to eligible producers in the United States but only in counties approved under the 1998 FCP (provided for in regulations of this part contained in the 7 CFR, parts 1200 to 1599, edition revised as of January 1, 2000), where long-term flooding occurred, and that were subsequently approved by the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs as eligible counties.

§ 1439.502 Administration.

This subpart shall be administered as set forth in § 1439.2, except as provided for in this subpart.

§ 1439.503 Definitions.

Except as otherwise indicated, terms in this part shall have the same meanings as those defined in 7 CFR 1439.3 and 718.2. To the extent that the definitions in this section differ from the definitions in 7 CFR 1439.3 and 718.2, the definitions in this section apply rather than the definitions in 7 CFR 1439.3 and 718.2

Application means the Form CCC-454, Flood Compensation Program Application. The CCC-454 is available at county FSA offices.

Covered land means:

(1) Land that:

(i) Was unusable for agricultural production during 2000 crop year as the result of flooding;

(ii) Was used for agricultural production during at least 1 of the 1992 through 1999 crop years;

(iii) Is a contiguous parcel of land of at least 1 acre;

(iv) Is located in a county in which producers were eligible for assistance under the 1998 Flood Compensation Program;

(v) Was not planted during FY 2000; and

(vi) Meets all other conditions of eligibility.

(2) The term "covered land" excludes any land with respect to which a producer is insured, enrolled, or assisted during the 2000 crop year under:

(i) A policy or plan of insurance authorized under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*);

(ii) The noninsured crop assistance program operated under section 196 of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7333);

(iii) Any crop disaster program established for the 2000 crop year;

(iv) The conservation reserve program established under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831 *et seq.*);

(v) The wetlands reserve program established under subchapter C of chapter 1 of subtitle D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3837 *et seq.*);

(vi) Any emergency watershed protection program or Federal easement program that prohibits crop production or grazing; or

(vii) Any other Federal or State water storage program, as determined by the Secretary.

FCP means the Flood Compensation Program provided for in this part.

FY 2000 means the period from October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000.

NASS means The National Agricultural Statistics Service.

§ 1439.504 Application process.

(a) Producers must submit a completed application prior to the close of business on December 15, 2000, or other such later date as established and announced by the Deputy Administrator. The application and any supporting documentation shall be submitted to the FSA county office with administrative authority over a producer's eligible flooded land or to the FSA county office that maintains the farm records for the producer.

(b) Producers shall certify as to the accuracy of all the information contained in the application, and provide any other information to CCC that the FSA county office or FSA Committee deems necessary to determine the producer's eligibility.

§ 1439.505 County committee determinations of general applicability.

(a) FSA county committees shall determine whether that county was determined eligible under the 1998 FCP, and whether the land has been unusable from October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000 due to continuing flooding. In making this determination, the FSA county committee shall use what

it considers to be the best information available including but not limited to: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; Natural Resources Conservation Service; aerial photography; rainfall data; and general knowledge of losses due to flooding.

(b) With respect to each eligible county, the FSA county committee for that county shall establish a separate payment rate for crop-land and pasture-land. These rates shall be reviewed by the FSA state committee and shall be equal to the average rental rate for the years 1996 through 2000 for all such land of each type in the county. Where these rates cannot be set in the manner provided for in paragraph (c) of this section, the FSA state committee may take into account rates established for the Conservation Reserve Program operated under 7 CFR part 1410 and ensure, subject to paragraph (c) of this section, that the rates are comparable. The Deputy Administrator shall review and may adjust the rates for reasonableness and consistency.

(c) Except as provided by the Deputy Administrator, rental rates shall be equal to the applicable county average for the kind of land involved using established NASS data in all locations where NASS has established rental rates on a county-by-county basis for 2000.

§ 1439.506 Eligible land and loss criteria.

(a) The flooded land for which a producer requests benefits must be within the physical boundary of an eligible county. Producers in unapproved counties contiguous to an eligible county will not receive benefits under this subpart.

(b) To be eligible for benefits under this subpart, a producer in an eligible county must have land in a county which is eligible for payment. Such land, to be eligible for payment must meet all of the following criteria:

(1) The land is cropland or pasture land used for the production of feed for livestock (haying, grazing, or feed grain production) or other agricultural use in one or more years during the period beginning October 1, 1991, through September 30, 1999;

(2) The land is inaccessible or unable to be used for crop production, grazing, or haying because of flooding or excess moisture during all of the period beginning October 1, 1999, through September 30, 2000 unless some other period is established as the 2000-crop year for the commodity by the Deputy Administrator;

(3) The land was not used for planting during October 1, 1999, through September 30, 2000;

(4) The land has been owned, leased or under a binding cash lease by the producer continuously since October 1, 1999;

(5) The land is a contiguous parcel of land with an area equal to one acre or more;

(6) The land was not, except as determined by the Deputy Administrator, the subject of, nor will be the subject of, any other federal payment for activities or lack of activity during the period October 1, 1999, through September 30, 2000, whether or not disaster-related, with the exception of the production flexibility contract (PFC) program payments received under 7 CFR part 1412. This prohibition includes but is not limited to other payments under this part, or payments under the Conservation Reserve Program (7 CFR part 1410), the Wetlands Reserve Program (7 CFR part 1467), any Emergency Watershed Protection Program, or Federal Easement Program.

(c) On Form CCC-454 producers shall be required to certify by tract on each farm the number of flooded cropland and non-cropland acres for the farm in 2000 and the number of flooded cropland and non-cropland acres in 1992. To establish the acreage eligible for payment, flooded land certified for 1992 for each type shall be subtracted from the flooded land certified for 2000 for the applicable type. The difference will be the acreages of cropland and non-cropland subject to flooding and eligible for FCP payment, except that the difference may be adjusted as needed to ensure, to the extent practicable, an accurate estimate of the net increased flooding on the farm after October 1, 1993.

(d) All determinations as to the amount of land eligible for enrollment and compensation under this subpart