

§ 760.102

7 CFR Ch. VII (1-1-08 Edition)

§ 760.102 Applicability.

(a) This part establishes the terms and conditions under which the following programs will be administered with respect to producers affected by 2005 hurricanes in eligible counties:

- (1) Hurricane Indemnity Program (HIP);
- (2) Feed Indemnity Program (FIP);
- (3) Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP);
- (4) Tree Indemnity Program (TIP); and
- (5) Aquaculture grants to States.

(b) The amount that may be expended for payments under subparts B through G of this part shall not exceed the amount of Section 32 funds made available by the Secretary for the administration of these programs.

(c) To be eligible for payments under these programs, producers must comply with all applicable provisions under subparts B through G of this part and, in the case of State grants, by the State.

§ 760.103 Administration of HIP, FIP, LIP, and TIP.

(a) These programs are administered under the general supervision of the Administrator, FSA.

(b) FSA representatives do not have authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of the regulations of subparts B through F of this part.

(c) The State FSA committee shall take any action required by the regulations of subparts B through F of this part that the county FSA committee has not taken. The State committee shall also:

(1) Correct, or require a county committee to correct, any action taken by such county committee that is not in accordance with the regulations of subparts B through F of this part; or

(2) Require a county committee to withhold taking any action that is not in accordance with subparts B through F of this part.

(d) No provision or delegation to a State or county FSA committee shall preclude the Administrator, FSA, Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs, FSA or a designee or other such person, from determining any question arising under the program or from reversing or modifying any determina-

tion made by a State or county FSA committee.

§ 760.104 Definitions.

The following definitions in this section apply to the programs in subparts B through G of this part. The terms defined in part 718 of this chapter and parts 1400 and 1437 of this title shall also be applicable, except where they conflict with the definitions set forth in this section.

Application means the '2005 Hurricane Disaster Programs Application' form issued by FSA.

Application period means the date established by the Deputy Administrator for producers to apply for program benefits.

Bush means a thick densely branched woody shrub grown for the production of an annual crop for commercial market for human consumption.

Commercial use means used in the operation of a business activity engaged in as a means of livelihood for profit by the eligible producer.

Crop insurance means an insurance policy reinsured by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation under the provisions of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended.

Farming operation means a business enterprise engaged in the production of agricultural products.

Fruit tree means a woody perennial plant having a single main trunk, commonly exceeding 10 feet in height and usually devoid of branches below, but bearing a head of branches and foliage or crown of leaves at the summit that is grown for the production of an annual crop, including nuts, for commercial market for human consumption.

Owner means one who had legal ownership of the trees, bushes, vines, or livestock for which benefits are being requested under subparts B through F, on the day such plant or livestock perished or suffered losses due to an eligible hurricane as set forth § 760.101.

Stand means a contiguous acreage of the same crop of trees, bushes, or vines, and excludes container-grown crops.

Tier means the geographic bands of damage generally correlating to the severity of damage caused by the maximum sustained winds of the applicable hurricanes.

Vine means a plant from which an annual fruit crop is produced for commercial market for human consumption, such as grape, kiwi, or passion fruit, that has a flexible stem supported by climbing, twining, or creeping along a surface.

§ 760.105 Application for payment.

(a) A producer who applies for any program under subparts B through F shall file an application and any required supporting documentation in the county FSA office serving the county where the eligible loss occurred; or in the case of FIP, where the eligible livestock were physically located on the applicable date.

(b) The application must be filed during the application period announced by FSA.

(c) Payments may be made for eligible losses suffered by an eligible producer who is now deceased or is a dissolved entity if a representative who currently has authority to enter into a contract for the producer signs the application for payment. Proof of authority to sign for the deceased producer or dissolved entity must be provided. If a producer is now a dissolved general partnership or joint venture, all members of the general partnership or joint venture at the time of dissolution or their duly authorized representatives must sign the application for payment.

(d) Data furnished by the applicant will be used to determine eligibility for program benefits. Furnishing the data is voluntary; however, without all required data program benefits will not be approved or provided.

(e) A minor child shall be eligible to apply for program benefits so long as all eligibility requirements are met and one of the following conditions exist:

(1) The right of majority has been conferred upon the minor by court proceedings or statute;

(2) A guardian has been appointed to manage the minor's property, and the applicable program documents are executed by the guardian; or

(3) A bond is furnished under which a surety guarantees any loss incurred for which the minor would be liable had the minor been an adult.

§ 760.106 Limitations on payments and other benefits.

(a) Separate payment limitations apply to HIP, FIP, LIP, and TIP. No 'person' as determined under part 1400 of this title shall receive more than \$80,000 under each of these programs.

(b) An individual or entity whose adjusted gross income is in excess of \$2.5 million, as determined under part 1400 of this title, shall not be eligible to receive benefits under this part for HIP, FIP, LIP, and TIP; except that the individual or entity may be considered to meet the adjusted gross income requirement if not less than 75 percent of the individual's or entity's average adjusted gross income for the three tax years immediately preceding the applicable crop year is derived from farming or ranching operations.

(c) As a condition to receive benefits under subparts B through F, a producer must have been in compliance with the provisions of parts 12 and 718 of this title for the 2005 crop year and must not otherwise be barred from receiving benefits under any law.

(d) An individual or entity determined to be a foreign person under part 1400 of this title shall not be eligible to receive benefits under subparts B through F of this part.

§ 760.107 Appeals.

The appeal regulations set forth at parts 11 and 780 of this title apply to determinations made pursuant to subparts B through F of this part.

§ 760.108 Offsets, assignments, and debt settlement.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, any payment or portion thereof to any producer shall be made without regard to questions of title under State law and without regard to any claim or lien against the commodity, or proceeds thereof, in favor of the owner or any other creditor except agencies of the U.S. Government. The regulations governing offsets and withholdings found at part 792 of this chapter apply to payments