



Introducing the Farm Service Agency Training Guide



SART Training Media



Emergency Management of Large Animals

Training Guide

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SART Training Media are available for download from the Florida SART Web site
<www.flsart.org>.

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About Florida SART

- SART is a multi-agency coordination group.
- SART is made up of over 25 partner agencies (state, federal and non-governmental organizations).
- SART provides preparedness and response resources for Emergency Support Function 17 [(ESF 17) Animal and Agricultural Issues].
- SART statutory authority
 - State Emergency Management Act (Section 252.3569, Florida Statutes)

SART Mission

Empower Floridians through training and resource coordination to enhance all-hazard disaster planning and response for animal and agricultural issues.

SART Goals

- Support the county, regional and state emergency management efforts and incident management teams.
- Identify county resources available for animal and/or agricultural issues.
- Promote the cooperation and exchange of information of interested state, county and civic agencies.

Specific Learning Objectives

At the end of this training module, participants will be able to:

- List and describe the characteristics and organizational structure of the Farm Service Agency.
- Discuss the vision, mission and goals of the Farm Service Agency.
- Discuss the various types of programs administered solely, or jointly, by the Farm Service Agency.
- Identify key resources available for more information.

Resources

The following are sources of additional information about the subjects mentioned in this introduction.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
<http://www.usda.gov>

USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, National Center for Import and Export
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie>

United States Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency
www.fsa.usda.gov

Agricultural Marketing Service
www.ams.usda.gov

Food and Nutrition Service
www.fns.usda.gov/fns/

Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC)
<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/about-fsa/structure-and-organization/commodity-credit-corporation/index>

Foreign Agricultural Service
www.fas.usda.gov

Natural Resources Conservation Service
www.nrcs.usda.gov

Farm Service Agency Strategic Plan
<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/about-fsa/strategic-plan/index>

Resources, continued

Kansas City Commodity Office (KCCO) mailing address:
PO Box 419205,
Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6205

For more information on CCC-owned commodities contact:
Warehouse and Inventory Division
Farm Service Agency
1400 Independence Avenue,
SW Washington, DC 20250-0553

For more information on the Farm Service Agency and its programs, contact your local agency or the state office for Florida:
Florida State Farm Service Agency Office
PO Box 141030,
Gainesville, Florida 34614-1030
Phone: (352) 379-4500
Fax: (352) 379-4580

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)
<https://www.freshfromflorida.com/>

DOACS, Division of Plant Industry
<https://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Plant-Industry>

DOACS, Division of Animal Industry
<https://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Animal-Industry>

Florida State Agricultural Response Team
<http://www.flsart.com>

University of Florida, IFAS Extension Service
<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/>



Introducing the Farm Service Agency

Appendix A - Training Slides



SART Training Media



Introducing the Farm Service Agency

State Agricultural Response Team 2

Introducing the Farm Service Agency

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Acknowledgements

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- Tim Manning
- University of Florida, IFAS
- Rick Sapp, PhD
- University of Nebraska CropWatch News Service
- Betty Ford Alpine Gardens
- Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
- USDA National AgroForestry Center
- National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration
- David Ahnholz, Naples Daily News
- National Geographic Society



Learning Objectives

At the end of this training module, participants will be able to:

- List and describe the characteristics and organizational structure of the Farm Service Agency.
- Discuss the vision, mission and goals of the Farm Service Agency.
- Discuss the various types of programs administered solely, or jointly, by the Farm Service Agency.
- Identify key resources available for more information.



What is the Farm Service Agency?

- FSA is a federal agency that operates within the US Department of Agriculture.
- FSA headquarters is located in Washington, D.C.
 - Most of the agency's staff is located in offices throughout the US and American trust territories
- FSA's 15,000-plus employees are based in 2,400 local USDA Service Centers around the US and Puerto Rico
 - "Grass roots" approach to service allows staffers to work one-on-one with producers
- Program technicians, loan officers, administrative professionals and many others are employed to carry out FSA services

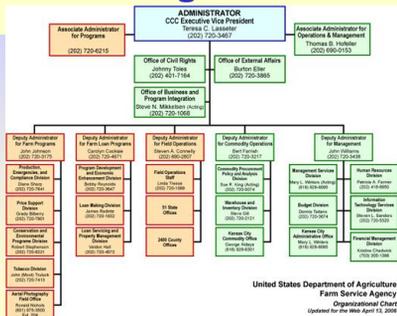


FSA's Mission

To ensure the well-being of American agriculture and the American public through efficient and equitable administration of agricultural commodity, farm loan, conservation, environmental, emergency assistance, and domestic and international food assistance programs.



FSA Organization



FSA's County Committees

- One of the unique features of FSA is its **County Committee** system
 - Gives local producers a say in how programs are administered
 - Farmers and ranchers eligible for FSA programs nominate and elect 3 - 5 representatives to serve on local County Committees
 - Committees administer programs, provide policy guidance and determine who meets eligibility requirements for program benefits
 - There are provisions for appointing a minority advisor who reflects the concerns and views of socially disadvantaged producers



The FSA Vision



A customer-driven agency with a diverse and multi-talented work force, dedicated to achieving an economically and environmentally sound future for American agriculture.



Farm Program Goals



Provide an economic safety net through farm income support to eligible producers, cooperatives and associations to help improve the economic stability and viability of the agricultural sector, and to ensure the production of an adequate and reasonably priced supply of food and fiber.



Conservation and Environmental Goals

Assist agricultural producers and landowners in achieving a high level of stewardship of soil, water, air, and wildlife resources on America's farmland and ranches while protecting the human and natural environment.



Farm Loan Goals



FSA assists eligible individuals and families in becoming successful farmers and ranchers through farm loans



Commodity Operations Goals

Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of FSA's commodity acquisition, procurement, storage and distribution activities to support domestic and international food assistance programs, and administer the US Warehouse Act (USWA).



Management Initiatives to Accomplish FSA Goals

- Providing fair and equal treatment in employment and the delivery of programs.
- Enhancing the ability of small, limited resource and socially disadvantaged family farmers and ranchers to operate successfully.
- Maintaining a high level of customer satisfaction with delivery of program operations.



Management Initiatives to Accomplish FSA Goals

- Developing effective administrative management policies and procedures, and information technology processes for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS), taking into consideration the unique operating requirements of each agency.
- Achieving greater cost and operating efficiencies in the delivery of FFAS programs by implementing integrated administrative management systems and reinventing/reengineering FFAS business processes and systems.
- Ensuring producer compliance with program provisions.



Farm Service Agency Programs

- Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment program
- Marketing Assistance Loans
- Loan Deficiency Payments
- Conservation Reserve Program
 - Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- Disaster assistance
- Farm loans
- Commodity operations
 - Domestic and foreign food assistance



FSA Programs by Commodity

Grains, Oilseeds and Cotton

- Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program
- Hard White Wheat Incentive Payment Program
- Extra Long Staple Cotton Competitiveness Program
- Peanut Quota Holder Compensation Program
- Marketing Assistance Loan and Loan Deficiency Payment Programs
- Payments in Lieu of Loan Deficiency Payments for Grazed Acreage Program
- High Moisture Corn and Sorghum Recourse Loan Program
- Seed Cotton Recourse Loan Program



FSA Programs by Commodity

- Dairy
 - Dairy Price Support Program
 - Milk Income Loss Contract Program
 - Dairy Indemnity Payment Program
- Sugar
 - Sugar Allotment Program
 - Sugar Loan Program
- Tobacco
 - Tobacco Program (burley, flue-cured and other tobaccos)



The Commodity Credit Corporation

Many FSA programs are funded through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), a unique government-owned and operated corporation established in 1933 to stabilize, support and protect farm income and prices.



The Commodity Credit Corporation

- Managed by a Board of Directors
 - Chaired by the Secretary of Agriculture
 - Seven members, plus the Secretary of Agriculture
- \$30 billion borrowing authority with the US Treasury to finance its programs
- Programs are carried out through the personnel and facilities of the FSA
 - Some programs are jointly administered with other agencies



Commodity Operations

- FSA Commodity Operations division ensures:
 - A uniform regulatory system for storage of agricultural products
 - The timely provision of high-quality food products to domestic and international food assistance and development programs
 - Achievement of domestic farm program objectives
- FSA acquires and disposes of commodities pledged as collateral for marketing assistance loans, such as wheat, corn, soybeans, oilseeds and other commodities



Commodity Operations Domestic Food Assistance

- Donates commodities to federal, state, and private agencies for food programs throughout the US
- Programs include:
 - National School Lunch Program
 - Commodity Supplemental Food Program
 - Emergency Food Assistance Program
 - ... and programs that provide food for summer camps for kids, needy persons, and others
- Donation examples: Armed services and veteran's hospitals, correctional institutions, migratory waterfowl and/or domestic wildlife



Commodity Operations Foreign Food Assistance

- Foreign food assistance is administered jointly with the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Food and Nutrition Service and other institutions
- FSA purchases and delivers agricultural commodities to people in Mongolia, Iraq, and many other foreign countries under federal food aid programs
- Voluntary agencies like the World Food Program and the Agency for International Development assist with the distribution of the food



Commodity Operations

- FSA Commodity Operations:
 - Market and manage CCC inventories such as cotton, grain, oilseeds, nonfat dry milk, and rice, regularly analyzing the location, condition and quantity of these stocks
 - Administer the contracting for storage under the Uniform Grain and Rice Storage Agreement, the Cotton Storage Agreement and the Processed Commodity Storage Agreement
 - Administer the U.S. Warehouse Act



Commodity Operations

- Through Commodity Operations, CCC can store purchased food in more than 10,000 approved commercial warehouses across the nation
 - Commodity inventories are not simply kept in storage
 - FSA employees work to return stored commodities to private trade channels
- The Kansas City Commodity Office (KCCO) is responsible for these tasks



Commodity Operations

- At the KCCO, FSA merchandisers regularly sell and swap CCC inventories, using commercial telecommunications trading networks
- Commodity Operations employs more than 300 people
 - About 50 in the Washington, D.C., headquarters
 - Approximately 55 additional field warehouse examiners across the US



Additional Programs

- Bio-energy Program
- Storage
 - On-Farm Storage Facility Loans
 - Sugar Storage Facility Loans
- Foreign Investment Ownership Disclosure
 - Agriculture Foreign Investment Disclosure Program
- Commodity Warehousing
 - Commodity Warehouse Oversight Program
- Food Assistance/Exports
 - Trade Adjustment for Farmers (with Foreign Agricultural Service)
 - Market Access Program (MAP)
 - Export Enhancement Program (EEP)
 - Dairy Export Incentive Program



Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program

- The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 replaced production flexibility contract payments (created under the 1996 act) with direct payments and added new counter-cyclical payments for 2002-07 crops
 - Both payments are based on historical acreage bases and payment yields, not current production
- Direct payments are issued regardless of market prices
- Payment rates are set in the 2002 Act
 - For each commodity, the direct payment equals the direct payment rate *times* 85 percent of the farm's base acreage *times* the farm's direct payment yield



Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program

- Counter-cyclical payments are made when a commodity's effective price is below the target price
 - The effective price is the direct payment rate plus the higher of: (1) the national average market price received by producers during the marketing year or (2) the national loan rate for the commodity
 - Target prices are set in the 2002 act
- The DCP program is available on-line
 - Submit contracts, assign crop shares and choose payment options, among other functions



Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program

Producers of the following commodities are eligible for direct and counter-cyclical payments:

Wheat	Upland cotton
Corn	Rice
Barley	Soybeans
Grain sorghum	Other oilseeds
Oats	Peanuts



Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments

- Non-recourse marketing assistance loans help an eligible producer pay bills when they come due without having to sell the harvested crop at a time of year when prices tend to be lowest
 - When market conditions may be more favorable, a producer may sell the crop and repay the loan with the proceeds of the sale
- Non-recourse marketing assistance loans give producers the option of delivering to CCC the quantity of a commodity pledged as collateral for a loan as full payment for that loan at loan maturity



Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments

- In lieu of securing a non-recourse marketing assistance loan from CCC, a producer may be eligible for an LDP
- This payment equals the amount by which the applicable loan rate where the commodity is stored exceeds the alternative loan repayment rate for the respective commodity
 - The LDP equals the LDP rate times the quantity of the commodity for which the LDP is requested
- Market loan repayment and LDP provisions are intended to prevent delivery of loan collateral to CCC
- The LDP program is available online
 - Submit an application and set up payment options, among other functions



Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments

On behalf of the CCC, FSA administers non-recourse marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments (LDPs) for:

- wheat
- corn
- grain sorghum
- barley
- oats
- soybeans
- rice
- honey
- other oilseeds
(including sunflowers, canola, safflower, flaxseed, rapeseed, mustard seed, crambe, and sesame).



The Conservation Reserve Program

- Nation's largest private lands conservation program
- Protects fragile farmland by encouraging farmers to stop growing crops on highly erodible and environmentally sensitive lands
- Payments for voluntarily keeping land idle for ten- to fifteen-year periods



The Conservation Reserve Program

- Producers submit bids for CRP contracts and these are ranked according to an Environmental Benefits Index
 - Bids are accepted according to their ranking
- Farmers plant selected lands in grass or trees and receive annual rental payments for the term of a multi-year contract
- Nationwide, up to 39.2 million acres may be enrolled in CRP at any one time



The Conservation Reserve Program

- Producers enroll lands in the CRP through a continuous sign-up: unlike a specified sign-up, this is not subject to a bidding process
- Sign-up provides management flexibility
 - Farmers and ranchers can implement certain high-priority conservation practices on eligible land such as riparian buffers, filter strips, and shelterbelts
- Offers are automatically accepted
- The 39.2 million-acre cap on CRP enrollment includes continuous sign-up



The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

- Combines the CRP with the efforts of states and other entities to encourage farmers and ranchers to install specific conservation practices that meet environmental objectives



Other Conservation Programs

- Tree Assistance Program (when funded)
- Emergency Conservation Program

- In cooperation with NRCS
 - Environmental Quality Incentives Program
 - Grassland Reserve Program
 - Wetlands Reserve



Disaster Assistance

- FSA provides disaster assistance to help farmers and ranchers recover losses from drought, flood, freeze, tornadoes and other calamities
 - Emergency Conservation Program
 - Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program
 - Emergency Loan assistance
- Other programs offered when funded
 - Crop Disaster Program
 - Livestock Assistance Program



Disaster Assistance

- Emergency Conservation Program
 - Emergency funding for farmers and ranchers to:
 - Rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters
 - Carry out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought
- Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program
 - Federally funded program provides assistance to eligible producers affected by natural disasters
 - Covers:
 - Non-insurable crop losses
 - Planting prevented by disasters



Disaster Assistance

- Emergency Loan Assistance: Low-interest loans to help cover production and physical losses in counties declared disaster areas by the president or designated by the Secretary of Agriculture or FSA Administrator
- Emergency haying and grazing of certain CRP acreage may be made available in areas suffering from weather-related natural disaster



Disaster Assistance

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 and
- reorganize the farming operation and refinance certain debts.



New USDA Farm Service Agency Disaster Information



Hurricanes: The Good News

Four new USDA Programs

- \$250 million is available for 261 designated counties due to 2005 hurricanes in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas
- Livestock Indemnity
- Feed Indemnity
- Hurricane Indemnity
- Tree Indemnity



The USDA/FSA Livestock Indemnity Program

- Payments to eligible livestock owners and contract growers whose livestock died as a result of the hurricanes
 - Owners: 75% of fair market value
 - Contract Growers: 75% of average sustained income loss



The USDA/FSA Feed Indemnity Program

- Payments to eligible livestock owners and cash lessees who suffered feed losses or increased costs as a result of the hurricanes
- Eligible for beefalo, beef cattle, buffalo, dairy cattle, deer, goats, horses and sheep
- Not eligible: livestock for other than commercial use as part of a farming operation and some non-adult animals



The USDA/FSA Feed Indemnity Program



Unicorn



Jackalope



Yeti



The USDA/FSA Feed Indemnity Program

Program payment rates

- Adult beef cattle, buffalo and beefalo (cows and bulls) \$6.80
- Adult dairy cattle (cows and bulls) \$17.69
- Non-adult beef, dairy, buffalo, beefalo (500 lbs or more) — \$5.10
- Deer (all) — \$1.70
- Goats (all) — \$1.70
- Horses (all) — \$5.04
- Sheep (all) — \$1.70



The USDA/FSA Hurricane Indemnity Program

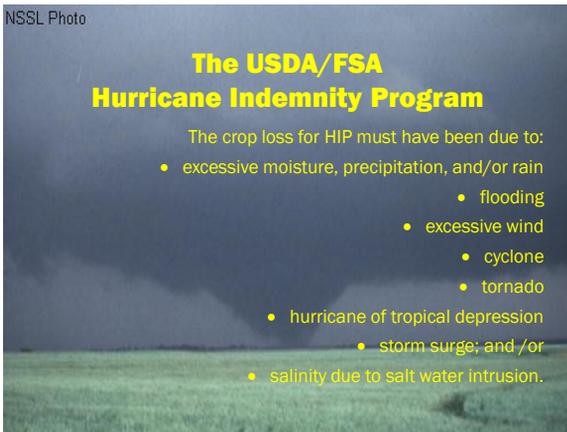
- The Hurricane Indemnity Program (HIP) provides payments to eligible producers who experienced crop losses and received either a:
 1. A 2005 or 2006 USDA Risk Management Agency Federal Crop Insurance Corporation crop insurance indemnity payment for insured crops; or
 2. A 2005 or 2006 FSA Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) payment.
- HIP benefits equal 30% of the crop insurance indemnity or 30% of the NAP payment and cannot exceed 95 percent of the value of the expected crop returns had there not been a disaster.



NSSL Photo

The USDA/FSA Hurricane Indemnity Program

- The crop loss for HIP must have been due to:
- excessive moisture, precipitation, and/or rain
 - flooding
 - excessive wind
 - cyclone
 - tornado
 - hurricane or tropical depression
 - storm surge; and /or
 - salinity due to salt water intrusion.



The USDA/FSA Tree Indemnity Program

- TIP provides payments to eligible owners of commercially grown fruit trees, nut trees, bushes and vines that produce an annual crop and were lost or damaged as a result of 2005 hurricanes. Loss or damage must have occurred in one of 261 counties designated as primary presidential or secretarial disaster because of 2005 hurricanes, and it does not include contiguous counties (undesignated counties that touch the primary county).



The USDA/FSA Tree Indemnity Program

To be considered eligible, applicants must:

- bear financial responsibility for the fruit trees, bushes, and/or vines;
- have suffered a crop loss or damage directly resulting from an eligible hurricane in an eligible county during the eligible time period; and
- have incurred costs of at least \$90 per acre for replanting, rehabilitation, cleanup, or debris removal (excluding crop production).

Payments for TIP will be based on the crop's proximity to the hurricanes using established tiers that reflect the severity of damage from least to most severe.

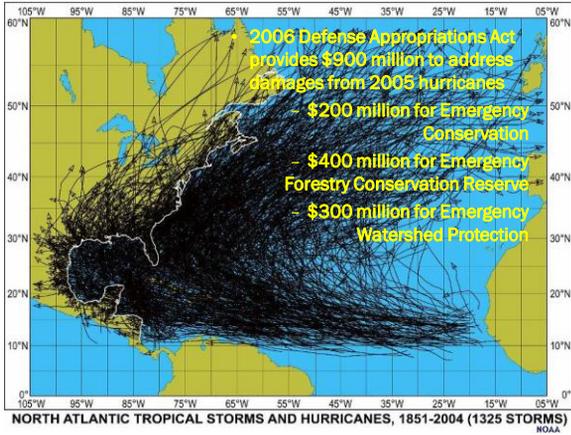
Timber, nursery inventory and container-grown fruit tree losses are not eligible for TIP assistance.



The USDA/FSA Aquaculture Grants

- \$25 million block grants to states - \$3.6 million in Florida
- Distribution determined by state governors
- To be an eligible producer:
 - Raise species in a controlled environment as part of a farming operation
 - has a risk in the production of the aquaculture species
 - suffered an aquaculture loss as a direct result of an eligible hurricane in an eligible county during and applicable time period
 - has not received aid under other disaster programs for the same aquaculture loss





Florida-Specific 2004 Programs

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Disaster Assistance 2004 Hurricane Season

Florida Citrus Disaster Program

Reimbursement on a per acre basis with four tiers of payment

- Tier 1: 75% or more crop loss and associated tree damage
- Tier 2: 50% or greater crop loss and associated tree damage
- Tier 3: 35 - 49% crop loss and associated tree damage
- Tier 4: 15% or greater tree damage, \$0 for production loss

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Disaster Assistance 2004 Hurricane Season

- **Florida Vegetable, Fruit and Tropical Fruit Disaster Program** - Eligible acres have minimum 50% loss in production or plant population with five categories of payment



State Agricultural Response Team

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Disaster Assistance 2004 Hurricane Season

- **Florida Vegetable, Fruit and Tropical Fruit Disaster Program**
- Requires certification of 50% loss plasti-culture, tropical fruit and vegetables.
 - Plasti-culture: production practice for fruits or vegetables where the soil has been bedded, fumigated, fertilized, irrigated with drip tape or another installed irrigation system and covered with plastic mulch.
 - Tropical fruit includes carambola, longan, lychee and mango crops.
 - Vegetables cover all other vegetables produced in a way other than in plasti-culture.
- There are five farming practice categories for payments:
 - Practice 1: Plasti-culture with plants, 50% or more of plastic
 - Practice 2: Plasti-culture without plants with 50% or more of plastic OR plasti-culture with plants with 50% or more loss in plant production with no replants
 - Practice 3: Double-drop plasti-culture without plants with 50% loss of plastic OR new plasti-culture with 50% loss of plants and replants
 - Practice 4: 50% loss in plant population for conventional row-cropped practices
 - Practice 5: Tropical fruit with 50% or greater production loss in Lee County or Citrus Bands I and II



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Disaster Assistance 2004 Hurricane Season

- **The Florida Nursery Crop Disaster Program**

Pays producers whose eligible acreage has a minimum of \$250 per acre in expenses to restore the area.

For those covered by insurance or the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), payment is 25% of the actual dollar value of inventory lost and a flat rate of \$250 per eligible acre for clean-up.



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FSA Direct & Guaranteed Loans

- FSA has direct and guaranteed loan programs to help farmers and ranchers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit
 - Direct loans are made straight from FSA
 - Guaranteed loans provide conventional agricultural lenders with up to a 95 percent guarantee of the principal loan amount



Farm Loans

- Each year, loan funds are set aside for beginning farmers and ranchers and for minority or socially disadvantaged producers
- FSA also offers loans to young people through its Youth Loan program
 - Applicants must be between 10 and 20 years old
 - Must have a supervisor overseeing the farm project
- Each loan program has eligibility requirements that applicants must meet to receive an FSA loan



Other Loan Programs

- Emergency Loans
- Direct Farm Ownership Loans
- Guaranteed Farm Ownership Loans
- Direct Operating Loans
- Boll Weevil Eradication Loans
- Indian Tribal Land Acquisitions



The infamous boll weevil



Additional sources of information and support

- US Department of Agriculture (www.usda.gov)
- Farm Service Agency home page (www.fsa.usda.gov)
- Agricultural Marketing Service (www.ams.usda.gov)
- Food & Nutrition Service (www.fns.usda.gov/fns/default.htm)
- Commodity Credit Corp. (www.fsa.usda.gov/ccc/default.htm)
- Foreign Agricultural Service (www.fas.usda.gov)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (www.nrcs.usda.gov)
- The FSA Strategic Plan is available in its entirety at the following web address (www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/stratplans/fsastrat.pdf)



Additional sources of information and support

- Kansas City Commodity Office (KCCO)
PO Box 419205, Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6205
- For more information on CCC-owned commodities contact Warehouse and Inventory Division, Farm Service Agency
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0553
- For more information on the Farm Service Agency and its programs, contact your local agency or the state office for Florida:
Florida State Farm Service Agency Office
PO Box 141030, Gainesville, Florida 34614-1030
Phone: (352) 379-4500/Fax: (352) 379-4580



Working Together To Protect Florida's Agriculture & Way of Life



Now, Test Your Knowledge and Awareness (1 of 5)

- 1. (Select the best answer) The Farm Service Agency is part of which federal agency?
 - a. Department of the Interior
 - b. US Postal Service
 - c. Agricultural Conservation and Stabilization Service
 - d. Department of Agriculture
- 2. (Fill in the blank) Local Farm Service Agency programs are administered with the assistance of a locally elected _____.
- 3. (True or False) _____ In the FSA's Direct and Counter Cyclical Payments program, counter-cyclical payments are made to eligible farmers when a commodity's effective price is below the target price.



Now, Test Your Knowledge and Awareness (2 of 5)

- 4. Which statement below best mirrors the vision of FSA?
 - a. It is dedicated to maximizing farm profits.
 - b. It is dedicated to achieving an economically and environmentally sound future for American agriculture.
 - c. It is mandated by the US Congress to ensure that loans are available to troubled agricultural sectors at home and abroad.
 - d. Recognizing the inherent incompatibility of environmental and agricultural objectives, it seeks to promote farm diversification in an era of rapid climate change.



Now, Test Your Knowledge and Awareness (3 of 5)

- 5. (Circle one) Which of the below is NOT one of the FSA's Four Goals?
 - a. provide an economic safety net through farm income support
 - b. achieve a high level of stewardship of soil, water, air and wildlife resources while protecting the human and natural environment
 - c. assist eligible individuals and families in becoming successful farmers and ranchers through farm loans
 - d. improve the effectiveness and efficiency of commodity acquisition, procurement, storage and distribution activities to support domestic and international food assistance programs
 - e. all of the above are stated goals of the FSA



Now, Test Your Knowledge and Awareness (4 of 5)

6. (True or False) ____ The Conservation Reserve program protects fragile farmland by encouraging farmers to stop growing crops on highly erodable and environmentally sensitive lands.
7. (Fill in the blank) Following a hurricane, Florida vegetable, fruit and tropical fruit producers may be eligible for special assistance if they have sustained ____% loss in production of plant population.
8. (True or False) Under United Nations auspices, the FSA has a major relief effort underway at this time in the nation of North Korea.
9. (True or False) Beefalo is a semi-mythical creature that the US Congress has specifically excluded from all USDA-FSA programs.



Now, Test Your Knowledge and Awareness (5 of 5)

10. With a central office located in this central US city, _____, the FSA is responsible for the procurement, transportation and disposition of food commodities to fulfill USDA program commitments.
 11. (True or False) Under FSA guidelines, it is a farmer or rancher's responsibility to arrange private lines of credit. The FSA has no authority to make direct and guaranteed loans to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.
 12. (Circle one) The following is *NOT* one of the new USDA-FSA hurricane-related programs:
a. Livestock b. Feed c. Hurricane d. Tree e. Aquaculture
f. Defense g. All are user-eligible programs
- Bonus Question. If I wanted to be involved in any of the FSA programs, my first contact would be _____.



Test Answer Key

1. (d) Department of Agriculture
 2. County Committee
 3. True
 4. (b) It is dedicated to achieving an economically and environmentally sound future for American agriculture.
 5. (e) All of the above are stated goals of the FSA.
 6. True
 7. 50
 8. False
 9. False
 10. Kansas City, Missouri
 11. False
 12. (g) All are user-eligible programs
- Bonus: County Committee. Also acceptable County Extension Office.



Glossary (1 of 3)

- **Aquaculture:** The controlled cultivation and harvest of aquatic plants or animals as a crop (eg, edible marine algae, clams, oysters, and salmon).
- **Beefalo:** A hardy breed of cattle resulting from crossing domestic cattle with the American buffalo (bison); yields leaner beef than conventional breeds.
- **Burley tobacco:** An air-cured cigarette tobacco with production centered in Kentucky. Burley and flue-cured tobacco (tobacco cured by heat) account for more than 90 percent of total United States production.
- **Collateral:** Assets pledged by a borrower to secure a loan or other credit, and subject to seizure in the event of default.
- **Commodity:** A physical substance, such as food, grains and metals, which is interchangeable with another product of the same type, and which investors buy or sell, usually through futures contracts. The price of the commodity is subject to supply and demand.
- **Conservation:** The management of resources such as water, air or wildlife so as to preserve their viability, to eliminate waste or maximize the efficiency of their use.



Glossary (2 of 3)

- **County committee:** Eligible participants in FSA programs nominate and elect 3-5 peer representatives to serve on county committees. (A minority advisor may be appointed to reflect the concerns/views of socially disadvantaged producers.) Committees give local producers a voice in how FSA programs operate in their communities. Committees administer programs, provide policy guidance and determine who is eligible for program benefits.
- **Crambe:** An annual plant of the genus Crambe in the mustard family with large, cabbage-like leaves, cultivated for their seeds, which yield a useful oil.
- **Indemnity:** An expressed or implied contract to compensate an individual for loss or damage; for example, an insurance policy.
- **Longan:** An evergreen tree of southeastern Asia to Australia that is grown primarily for its sweet edible fruit.
- **Plasti-culture:** Any production practice for fruits or vegetables where the soil has been bedded, fumigated, fertilized, irrigated with drip tape or another installed irrigation system and covered with plastic mulch
- **Riparian:** Of or relating to the banks of a river or stream.



Glossary (3 of 3)

- **SART:** The Florida State Agricultural Response Team. A multi-agency coordinating group consisting of governmental and private entities dedicated to all-hazard disaster preparedness, planning, response and recovery for the animal and agriculture sectors in Florida.



Introducing the Farm Service Agency

- That concludes our presentation on “Introducing the Farm Service Agency.” Thank you for attending and for participating!