



United States Department of Agriculture



Urban Producers, Public Invited to Attend April Meeting of Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

Farmers.gov sent this bulletin at 03/28/2024 01:48 PM EDT

[View as a webpage / Share](#)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Alabama USDA Newsletter - March 28, 2024

Farm Service Agency | Natural Resources Conservation Service | Risk Management Agency

In This Issue:

- [Urban Producers, Public Invited to Attend April Meeting of Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production](#)
- [USDA Accepting Applications for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production](#)
- [Farmers.gov Local Dashboard Now Available for Producers in Alabama](#)
- [Dairy Producers Can Enroll for 2024 Dairy Margin Coverage Beginning Feb. 28](#)

Urban Producers, Public Invited to Attend April Meeting of Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

USDA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Federal Advisory Committee
for Urban Agriculture and
Innovative Production

Ways to Get Involved

- Attend Public Meetings
- Sign-up for Email Updates
- Email Public Comments to
UrbanAgricultureFederalAdvisory
Committee@usda.gov
- Learn More at
usda.gov/urban

We're inviting urban producers, innovative producers, and other stakeholders to virtually attend a public meeting of the Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production on April 10 from 2-4 p.m. Eastern.

Meeting details can be viewed in the [Federal Register Notice](#). Written comments can be submitted via UrbanAgricultureFederalAdvisoryCommittee@usda.gov by April 24 at 11:59 p.m. The Committee will deliberate and vote on proposed recommendations and address public comments during the meeting. USDA will share the agenda between 24 to 48 hours prior to the meeting on the [Committee's webpage](#).

The Committee is managed by the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production and was established through the 2018 Farm Bill and is part of a broad USDA investment in urban agriculture.

[Learn more or register.](#)

USDA Accepting Applications for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

USDA

USDA.GOV/URBAN

URBAN AND INNOVATIVE PRODUCTION GRANTS

Apply by April 9, 2024

USDA is accepting applications for grants to support urban agriculture and innovative production. The competitive grants will support the development of urban agriculture and innovative production projects through two categories, Planning Projects and Implementation Projects.

[Learn more.](#)

Farmers.gov Local Dashboard Now Available for Producers in Alabama

Access local data to assist with your farming operation including weather forecasts and up-to-date commodity pricing

Farmers in ALABAMA can now access county specific farming data and USDA resources all in one place via the new farmers.gov local dashboard. Your new farmers.gov local dashboard includes farming data and USDA resources including USDA news, commodity pricing, weather forecasts, historical climate data, past storm events, USDA service center locator and additional state resources for ALABAMA and your county. The dashboard transforms complex data sets into easy-to-read charts and graphs to help you quickly find information that matters to you. [Find Your Local ALABAMA Dashboard](#)

Dairy Producers Can Enroll for 2024 Dairy Margin Coverage Beginning Feb. 28



Starting next Wednesday, dairy producers will be able to enroll for 2024 Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC), an important safety net program offered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that provides producers with price support to help offset milk and feed price differences. This year's DMC signup begins Feb. 28, 2024, and ends April 29, 2024. For those who sign up for 2024 DMC coverage, payments may begin as soon as March 4, 2024, for any payments that triggered in January 2024.

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) has revised the regulations for DMC to allow eligible dairy operations to make a one-time adjustment to established production history. This adjustment will be accomplished by combining previously established supplemental production history with DMC production history for those dairy operations that participated in Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage during a prior coverage year. DMC has also been authorized through calendar year 2024. Congress passed a 2018 Farm Bill extension requiring these regulatory changes to the program.

DMC is a voluntary risk management program that offers protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all-milk price and the average feed price (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer. In 2023, Dairy Margin Coverage payments triggered in 11 months including two months, June and July, where

the margin fell below the catastrophic level of \$4.00 per hundredweight, a first for Dairy Margin Coverage or its predecessor Margin Protection Program.

2024 DMC Coverage and Premium Fees

FSA has revised DMC regulations to extend coverage for calendar year 2024, which is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2024, and to provide an adjustment to the production history for dairy operations with less than 5 million pounds of production. In previous years, smaller dairy operations could establish a supplemental production history and receive Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage. For 2024, dairy producers can establish one adjusted base production history through DMC for each participating dairy operation to better reflect the operation's current production.

For 2024 DMC enrollment, dairy operations that established supplemental production history through Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage for coverage years 2021 through 2023, will combine the supplemental production history with established production history for one adjusted base production history.

For dairy operations enrolled in 2023 DMC under a multi-year lock-in contract, lock-in eligibility will be extended until Dec. 31, 2024. In addition, dairy operations enrolled in multi-year lock-in contracts are eligible for the discounted DMC premium rate during the 2024 coverage year. To confirm 2024 DMC lock-in coverage or opt out in favor of an annual contract for 2024, dairy operations having lock-in contracts must enroll during the 2024 DMC enrollment period.

DMC offers different levels of coverage, even an option that is free to producers, minus a \$100 administrative fee. The administrative fee is waived for dairy producers who are considered limited resource, beginning, socially disadvantaged or a military veteran. To determine the appropriate level of DMC coverage for a specific dairy operation, producers can use the [online dairy decision tool](#).

DMC Payments

DMC payments are calculated using updated feed and premium hay costs, making the program more reflective of actual dairy producer expenses. These updated feed calculations use 100% premium alfalfa hay.

More Information

USDA also offers other risk management tools for dairy producers, including the [Dairy Revenue Protection \(DRP\)](#) plan that protects against a decline in milk revenue (yield and price) and the [Livestock Gross Margin \(LGM\)](#) plan, which provides protection against the loss of the market value of milk minus the feed costs. Both DRP and LGM livestock insurance policies are offered through the Risk Management Agency. Producers should contact their local [crop insurance agent](#) for more information.

For more information on DMC, visit the [DMC webpage](#) or contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

USDA Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ONLINE LOAN APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE!

Access it on farmers.gov/loans or when you complete the Loan Assistance Tool using the QR code.

Alabama USDA

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

4121 Carmichael Road, Ste 600

Montgomery, AL 36106

Phone: (334) 279-3500

Fax: (855) 747-0599

FSA State Director

Clifton Warren, Jr

FSA State Committee

Donald Means, Chairperson

Marvin Datcher

Gary Terry

William Townsend Kyser III

Danny Ellison

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

3381 Skyway Dr.

Auburn, AL 36830

Phone: (334) 887-4500

Fax: (855)292-1671

NRCS State Conservationist

Ben Malone

Risk Management

106 S. Patterson Street, Suite 250

Valdosta, GA 31601-5673

Phone: 229-242-7235

Fax: (229) 242-3566

RMA Regional Director

Davina Lee

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

CONTACT US:

[Farm Service Agency](#)

[Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)

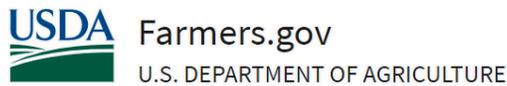
[Risk Management Agency](#)

[Service Center Locator](#)



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Help](#)



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

Subscribe to updates from Farmers.gov

Email Address e.g. name@example.com

Share Bulletin



Powered by



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Cookie Statement](#) | [Help](#)