



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Alabama USDA Newsletter - February 2023

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Leadership Message

From the Farm Service Agency State Executive Director

The Alabama Farm Service Agency celebrates Alabama's FSA Administrator Awards recipients. Javier Arenas, FLM Dekalb County received a national award in Continuing Education Working Group. Zac Burns, CED Marshall County received a Presidential Volunteer Service Award-Silver with 286 volunteer hours. Additionally, the FSA Administrator award for Payment Limitation Review Team was presented to Team Members comprised of Drew Roney, CED Coffee & Covington County, Heather Cobb, Farm Program Specialist STO, Anna Holland, CED Dale County, Sarita Bryant, CED Henry County, Leigh Davis, PT Coffee County, Beth Stough, PT Geneva County, and James Pride, CED Limestone County. Congratulations to these Alabama recipients.



The Alabama 2023 Strategic Outreach Plan is set. Our county offices will be reaching out to our partner organizations to meet national and state goals. Partners working together improve resource and information access which adds to the success of Alabama producers. Alabama A&M University along with other partners will be hosting a Conservation Reserve Program on March 25, 2023 from 9am to 5pm, [registration](#) is free.

Producers are reminded to request a receipt for service each time you visit a county office. Receipt For Service gives an accurate account of what was or was not received or completed during your visit.

Please note, there are several programs that have deadlines fast approaching: **NAP enrollment deadline is February 28 and ARC/PLC elections and enrollment deadline is March 15. ERP2 and PARP are now open.**

As always, you are encouraged to subscribe to your local FSA county office newsletter via

USDA Encourages You to Consider NAP Risk Protection Coverage Before Crop Sales Deadlines

The Farm Service Agency encourages you to examine available USDA crop risk protection options, including federal crop insurance and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage, before the applicable crop sales deadline.



Federal crop insurance covers crop losses from natural adversities such as drought, hail and excessive moisture. NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available. You can determine if crops are eligible for federal crop insurance or NAP by [visiting the RMA website](#).

NAP offers higher levels of coverage, from 50 to 65 percent of expected production in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price. Producers of organics and crops marketed directly to consumers also may exercise the “buy-up” option to obtain NAP coverage of 100 percent of the average market price at the coverage levels of between 50 and 65 percent of expected production. Buy-up levels of NAP coverage are available if the producer can show at least one year of previously successfully growing the crop for which coverage is being requested. NAP basic coverage is available at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production.

For all coverage levels, the NAP service fee is the lesser of \$325 per crop or \$825 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of \$1,950 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties.

Beginning, underserved, veterans and limited resource farmers are now eligible for free catastrophic level coverage.

Deadlines for coverage vary by state and crop. contact your County USDA Service Center or visit fsa.usda.gov.

Federal crop insurance coverage is sold and delivered solely through private insurance agents. Agent lists are available at all USDA Service Centers or at [USDA's online Agent Locator](#). You can use the [USDA Cost Estimator](#) to predict insurance premium costs.

USDA Reminds Alabama Producers to File Crop Acreage Reports

Agricultural producers in Alabama who have not yet completed their [crop acreage reports](#) after planting should make an appointment with their U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) service center before the applicable deadline.

An acreage report documents a crop grown on a farm or



ranch and its intended uses. Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planted acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits.

How to File a Report

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable in Alabama:

July 15, 2023 Spring planted crops

Acreage reporting dates vary by crop and by county. Contact your local FSA office for a list of acreage reporting deadlines by crop.

To file a crop acreage report, producers need to provide:

- Crop and crop type or variety.
- Intended use of the crop.
- Number of acres of the crop.
- Map with approximate boundaries for the crop.
- Planting date(s).
- Planting pattern, when applicable.
- Producer shares.
- Irrigation practice(s).
- Acreage prevented from planting, when applicable.
- Other information as required.

Acreage Reporting Details

The following exceptions apply to acreage reporting dates:

- If the crop has not been planted by the acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.
- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.
- If crops are covered by the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, acreage reports should be submitted by the applicable state, county, or crop-specific reporting deadline or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

Producers should also report crop acreage they intended to plant, but due to natural disaster, were unable to because of a natural disaster.

Prevented planting acreage must be reported on form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date as established by FSA and USDA's Risk Management Agency.

FSA offers continuous certification for perennial forage. This means after perennial forage is reported once and the producer elects continuous certification, the certification remains in effect until a change is made. Check with FSA at the local USDA Service Center for more information on continuous certification.

New Option to View, Print and Label Maps on Farmers.gov

Producers with an eAuth account linked to their USDA customer record can now access their FSA farm records, maps and common land units by logging into farmers.gov. A new feature will allow producers to export field boundaries as shapefiles and import and view other shapefiles, such as precision agriculture boundaries. This will allow producers to view, print and label their own maps for acreage reporting purposes.

Producers who have authority to act on behalf of another customer as a grantee via form FSA-211 Power of Attorney, Business Partner Signature Authority, along with other signature types, or as a member of a business can now access information in the farmers.gov portal.

Producers can learn how to use the farmers.gov Farm Records Mapping functionality with this [fact sheet](#) and these [video tutorials](#).

More Information

Producers can make an appointment to report acres by contacting their local USDA Service Center.

CRP Workshop Flyer

[Free Registration](#)

Registration is Open!

Workshop for Increasing the Participation of Underserved Landowners in Conservation Reserve Program (Alabama)

Date: March 25 (9 AM to 5 PM CDT)

Federation of Southern Cooperatives
575 Federation Road Gainesville, AL 35464

The first 40 landowners registered for each workshop will receive a \$25 gift card. You must be present at the workshop to receive the gift card. Only one gift card is available/household/event.

Free Registration: <https://bit.ly/CRPWorkshopAL>
Registration deadline: March 22

Contact
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Workshop Support



Organizers





Alabama USDA

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RMA Regional Director

Davina Lee

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CONTACT US:

[Farm Service Agency](#)

[Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)

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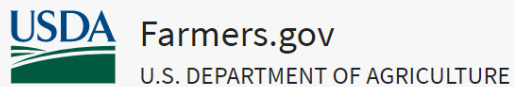
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