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| **Louisiana USDA-FSA Updates - September 2023** |
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Our state's agriculture economy has always been integral to our identity and has contributed significantly to the nation's food production. Louisiana offers a unique environment of agricultural success, from the lush farmland of the Mississippi Delta to the picturesque bayous and marshes. Despite our farmers' challenges, we want to assure you that we're in this with you. To aid in your efforts, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is offering disaster assistance and low-interest loan programs to assist you in your recovery efforts following the drought. Available programs and loans include:   * **Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)** - provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters including qualifying drought (includes native grass for grazing). * **Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)** – provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land. * **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)** - offers payments to eligible producers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather. Drought is not an eligible adverse weather event, except when associated with anthrax, a condition that occurs because of drought and directly results in the death of eligible livestock. * **Tree Assistance Program (TAP)** – provides assistance to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers for qualifying tree, shrub and vine losses due to natural disasters including excessive wind and qualifying drought. * **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)** - provides emergency relief for losses due to feed or water shortages, disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, which are not adequately addressed by other disaster programs. * **Emergency Loan Program** – available to producers with agriculture operations located in a county under a primary or contiguous Secretarial Disaster designation. These low interest loans help producers recover from production and physical losses. * **Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)** - provides emergency funding for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate land severely damaged by natural disasters and to implement emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought.   To establish or retain FSA program eligibility, you must report prevented planting and failed acres (crops and grasses). Prevented planting acreage must be reported on form FSA-576, Notice of Loss, no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date as established by FSA and Risk Management Agency (RMA).  For more information on these programs, contact your local USDA Service Center or visit [fsa.usda.gov/disaster](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9..2W5gn7Fw3p4EuesfevJlHTkxgTRazxkp55CRZQ90yQI/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l).   |  | | --- | |  |  Upcoming Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Opportunities Agriculture brings so much value to our communities, including food production, open space, and economic prosperity. This is true no matter where an agricultural operation is located – whether rural or urban. USDA is committed to working with farms of all sizes and in all locations, including those in urban areas.  Our commitment includes opening new offices and providing staff expertise in urban communities to increase access to services designed to meet the unique operational needs of urban producers. Last month, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack [announced a series of investments](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9..lpVL7_AGQ_SUt57NpziI1JI0SQnRugyRMOa1aCkEsUk/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l) in urban agriculture and food and market access, including $40 million for initiatives supporting urban and suburban producers. As part of that announcement, we are proud to highlight several new services and opportunities that our urban agricultural customers can look forward to and access in 2023 and beyond. Visiting a New Urban Service Center USDA works with agricultural producers through a network of more than 2,300 Service Centers nationwide. These Service Centers are where producers can meet face-to-face with Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) employees to discuss their vision, goals, and ways USDA can help.  We’re excited to announce that FSA and NRCS collaborated to open 17 new [Urban Service Centers](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3VyYmFuLXNlcnZpY2UtY2VudGVycz91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.RZy7jt9Hm39MFdIK7v52m_skg6mxVB63zZzLR49I6rU/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l), which will offer personalized assistance with farm loans, conservation, disaster assistance, and risk management programs to producers in and near urban areas and communities. These new Urban Service Centers are located in: Albuquerque, NM; Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; Cleveland, OH; Dallas, TX; Detroit, MI; Grand Rapids, MI; Los Angeles, CA; Oakland, CA; Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN; New Orleans, LA; New York, NY; Philadelphia, PA; Phoenix, AZ; Portland, OR; Richmond, VA; and St. Louis, MO.  If you farm in one of these locations, we encourage you to reach out to [your local Urban Service Center staff](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3VyYmFuLXNlcnZpY2UtY2VudGVycy9sb2NhdGlvbnM_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDkwOC44MjI3MTEzMSJ9.redX8WsQdR4WYf8FpHH2Fs86pbX7yYkgJXj22OJiAlw/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l). If not, you can find the Service Center nearest you on our [Service Center Locator](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3dvcmtpbmctd2l0aC11cy9zZXJ2aWNlLWNlbnRlci1sb2NhdG9yP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.tdVmjTJAcuH2-53vfqxneG2edhmwS7Y8GRKtWZZmCGM/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l).  If you’re new to working with us, don’t worry, we have a [checklist on how to prepare for your visit and what to expect](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3VyYmFuLXNlcnZpY2UtY2VudGVycz91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.UslZDw45M6SwUObrbUcYPBr4Xm0YxlMl-RyzUep4Mmk/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l). ****Serving on an Urban County Committee**** Serving on an urban county committee is an important opportunity for urban producers to affect USDA priorities and funding. Urban county committee members make decisions that impact local urban growers, and share information with USDA staff to provide urban producers better and more efficient access to USDA programs and services. Urban county committee members serve as spokespeople on USDA’s available resources and encourage and promote urban, indoor, innovative and other emerging agricultural production practices.  This year, USDA is adding 10 new urban county committees to the [17 that currently exist nationwide](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9uZXdzLXJvb20vY291bnR5LWNvbW1pdHRlZS1lbGVjdGlvbnMvaW5kZXg_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDkwOC44MjI3MTEzMSJ9.WJoe9xky5bVBGciOSBCCLwKsBSENOjUlWz1I77s1QK4/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l). The cities with new urban county committees will be Boston, MA; Columbia, SC; Denver, CO; Houston, TX; Jackson, MS; Kansas City, MO; Las Vegas, NV; Little Rock, AR; Memphis, TN; and Pittsburgh, PA.  To learn more about county committees, including urban county committees, visit the [county committees webpage](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9uZXdzLXJvb20vY291bnR5LWNvbW1pdHRlZS1lbGVjdGlvbnMvaW5kZXg_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5Izp-OnRleHQ9VGhlJTIwdXJiYW4lMjBjb3VudHklMjBjb21taXR0ZWVzJTIwd2lsbCUyMHdvcmslMjB0byUyMGVuY291cmFnZSxhbmQlMjBlbmNvdXJhZ2UlMjBjb21tdW5pdHklMjBjb21wb3N0JTJDJTIwYW5kJTIwZm9vZCUyMHdhc3RlJTIwcmVkdWN0aW9uLiIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.OsCrum0HWarBwAkKI0cHMXdQ4tZEIp8_6i85tV2y30c/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l). ****Taking Advantage of Training and Professional Development Opportunities**** To make sure that the Urban Service Centers and urban county committees will be as effective as they can be, USDA is partnering with local and national organizations to train USDA staff about how best to serve urban producers. These organizations will also provide outreach, training, and technical assistance for producers and interested community members in urban areas. More information about professional development opportunities from our partners will be coming shortly.  Currently, USDA offers live and on-demand webinars on topics that are of interest to urban producers, including the [People’s Garden webinar series](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnVzZGEuZ292L3Blb3BsZXMtZ2FyZGVuL3dlYmluYXJzP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.H31jKZJznlKBu9q3hiUXEun3aPlyM9XPQOW-dYY50G0/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l), [farm record tutorials](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnlvdXR1YmUuY29tL3BsYXlsaXN0P2xpc3Q9UEwwT3k1OGJTWmdRRlFlMXBXc2lQcF9CamZtRFktNzJnNSZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.GBmIkSi9lh8LzZmFMRwUIjmBXJG5J-Iv-zQYIiPVb1k/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l), and [tax assistance](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3dvcmtpbmctd2l0aC11cy90YXhlcz91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.VR1vUVQuKjw_PanRM--PG72yYp75gbVbz9XX8FKcOqg/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l) videos. ****Learning More about Future Funding and Other Opportunities**** USDA’s Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production publishes a monthly newsletter with resources for urban and innovative producers, including lists of grant and technical assistance programs that are accepting applications. To receive the newsletter, [subscribe to USDA emails on farmers.gov](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vcHVibGljLmdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5LmNvbS9hY2NvdW50cy9VU0RBRkFSTUVSUy9zdWJzY3JpYmVyL25ldz90b3BpY19pZD1VU0RBRkFSTUVSU18zNTcyIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDkwOC44MjI3MTEzMSJ9.I6H7_f2In-vKJMNjZHgMIoS2_b3oWubDdrD26kixUZA/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l) by selecting “Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production” from the list of topics.  The zip code or size of a community should not determine whether families can purchase healthy, locally grown food. Through programs like these, USDA is investing in America’s urban and suburban communities and strengthening local food systems. We look forward to building on this great work with future expansions to support our urban customer base.   |  | | --- | |  |  USDA Updates Livestock Disaster Payment Rate to Assist Producers Hard-Hit by Heat and Humidity  |  | | --- | | FSA is updating the  [Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9Bc3NldHMvVVNEQS1GU0EtUHVibGljL3VzZGFmaWxlcy9GYWN0U2hlZXRzLzIwMjIvZnNhX2xpcF9saXZlc3RvY2tpbWRlbW5pdHlwcm9ncmFtX2ZhY3RzaGVldF8yMDIyLnBkZj91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.9CTUhpavMZ3rprVsqzvfzWq4e1RdRy7c35OD5b2DYMM/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l) payment rate to support livestock producers in the Midwest who have lost cattle to the extreme heat and humidity experienced this summer. To help indemnify ranchers to reflect a trend towards higher cattle weights in feedlots, the 2023 LIP payment rate for beef calves over 800 pounds will increase from $1244 per head to $1618, an increase of $374.  LIP provides benefits to livestock owners and some contract growers for livestock deaths exceeding normal mortality from eligible adverse weather events, certain predation losses and reduced sales prices due to injury from an eligible loss. Indemnity payments are made at a rate of 75% of the prior year’s average fair market value of the livestock.  The updated LIP payment rate is effective immediately and will be applied retroactively starting Jan.1, 2023, for all eligible causes of loss including excessive heat, tornado, winter storms, and other qualifying adverse weather. Producers who have already received LIP payments for 2023 losses will receive an additional payment, if applicable, commensurate with this updated rate. For details on eligibility and payment rates, review the [LIP fact sheet](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9Bc3NldHMvVVNEQS1GU0EtUHVibGljL3VzZGFmaWxlcy9GYWN0U2hlZXRzLzIwMjIvZnNhX2xpcF9saXZlc3RvY2tpbWRlbW5pdHlwcm9ncmFtX2ZhY3RzaGVldF8yMDIyLnBkZj91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.Aw8hullPIodzOVr8h9sb_nTD0aSfuPjZBmQjaNqkKlo/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l).  FSA recognizes that an annual update of LIP payment rates does not account for the volatile nature of livestock markets and is further exploring flexibilities to establish more current payment rates.  **More Information**  On [farmers.gov](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHA6Ly93d3cuZmFybWVycy5nb3YvP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.55G1IXlBHP2T3_eRb6xKvqIU9ZGiIUib1AI0S9L9sYc/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l), the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3Byb3RlY3Rpb24tcmVjb3ZlcnkvZGlzYXN0ZXItdG9vbD91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.HF31N_zCq3txO1srGgx-xDSNK7j-gkkhbToX9UhSUJ4/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l), [Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3NpdGVzL2RlZmF1bHQvZmlsZXMvMjAyMS0wOS9mc2EtZGlzYXN0ZXJhc3Npc3RhbmNlLWF0LWEtZ2xhbmNlLXNlcHQuLTIwMjEucGRmP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.4sieNSHUjdEePe-pJ0-uS8dKRaOEfQXxVMrqwAMOdLA/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l), and [Loan Assistance Tool](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vbGF0LmZwYWMudXNkYS5nb3YvP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.DyuciM_mnBJYW-vYRdyb-4BofPs9mDPTRxY_q36HWI0/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l)can help producers and landowners determine program or loan options. For assistance with a crop insurance claim, producers and landowners should contact their [crop insurance agent](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnJtYS51c2RhLmdvdi9lbi9JbmZvcm1hdGlvbi1Ub29scy9BZ2VudC1Mb2NhdG9yP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ._6bLW-OEjlzW7POKmOdDgmwvhhn9hfWujalTkoKQldM/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l). For FSA and NRCS programs, they should contact their [local USDA Service Center](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3dvcmtpbmctd2l0aC11cy9zZXJ2aWNlLWNlbnRlci1sb2NhdG9yP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.csZPNsqtV6AnyCxg0LJ5oQQvCfPm9KaqAaTydla9QfI/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l). |  |  | | --- | |  |  USDA To Provide Additional Financial Assistance to Qualifying Guaranteed Farm Loan Borrowers Facing Financial Risk  |  | | --- | | The USDA announced it will begin providing additional, automatic financial assistance for qualifying guaranteed Farm Loan Programs (FLP) borrowers who are facing financial risk. The announcement is part of the $3.1 billion to help certain distressed farm loan borrowers that was provided through Section 22006 of the Inflation Reduction Act.  Since the Inflation Reduction Act was signed into law by President Biden in August 2022, USDA has provided approximately $1.15 billion in assistance to more than 20,000 distressed borrowers as a part of an ongoing effort to keep borrowers farming, remove obstacles that currently prevent many borrowers from returning to their land, and improve the way that USDA approaches borrowing and loan servicing in the long-term. The financial assistance announced today will provide qualifying distressed guaranteed loan borrowers with financial assistance similar to what was already provided to distressed direct loan borrowers. Based on current analysis, the financial assistance announced today will assist an estimated approximately 3,500 eligible borrowers, subject to change as payments are finalized.    An FLP guaranteed loan borrower is distressed if they qualify under one of the options below. FLP guaranteed borrowers who qualify under multiple options will receive a payment based on the option that provides the greatest payment amount:  Payment of any outstanding delinquency on all qualifying FLP guaranteed loans as of Oct. 18, 2022. This includes any guaranteed loan borrowers who did not receive an automatic payment in 2022 on that loan because they were not yet 60 days delinquent as of Sept. 30, 2022, as well as guaranteed borrowers that became delinquent on a qualifying FLP guaranteed loan between September 30, 2022, and Oct.18, 2022.  Payment on a qualifying FLP guaranteed loan for which a guaranteed loan borrower received a loan restructure, which modified the guaranteed loan maturity date, between March 1, 2020, and Aug. 11, 2023. The payment amount will be the lesser of the post-restructure annual installment or the amount required to pay the loan in full. The guaranteed loan must not have been paid in full prior to Aug. 11, 2023.  Payments on certain deferred amounts on qualifying FLP guaranteed loans, not to exceed $100,000, for guaranteed borrowers who received a deferral or another type of payment extension, for at least 45 days, between March 1, 2020, and Sept. 30, 2022, from their guaranteed lender on that qualifying guaranteed loan in response to COVID-19, disasters, or other revenue shortfalls. The Inflation Reduction Act payment amount will be the lesser of the most recent deferral or extension amount on the qualifying FLP guaranteed loan, or the amount required to pay that loan in full. The guaranteed loan must not have been paid in full prior to Aug. 11, 2023.  This assistance is only available for FLP guaranteed loan borrowers who did not or will not receive an initial payment on the same FLP guaranteed loan under Inflation Reduction Act assistance announced in October 2022.   Distressed guaranteed borrowers qualifying for this assistance will receive a United States Department of the Treasury check that is jointly payable to the borrower and the lender. These borrowers will also receive a letter from FSA informing them of Inflation Reduction Act assistance they will receive as well as instructions to make an appointment with their lender to process the payment and apply it to their qualifying guaranteed loan accounts. Guaranteed lenders will receive an email in the coming days informing them of this assistance and any next steps. Lenders will also receive letters informing them which borrowers will receive assistance and the amount of assistance they will receive.    Any distressed guaranteed borrowers who qualify for these forms of assistance and are currently in bankruptcy will be addressed using the same case-by-case review process announced in October 2022 for complex cases.    FSA will also provide relief to qualifying FLP guaranteed loan borrowers determined to be distressed borrowers based on liability for remaining federal debt subject to debt collection and garnishment after the liquidation of their guaranteed loan account as of July 31, 2023. This will allow some borrowers to potentially return to farming. Guaranteed borrowers who qualify for this assistance will have their federal debt paid automatically by FSA and will receive a letter informing them of the payment made on their federal debt.    All letters to qualifying guaranteed loan borrowers will contain instructions for opting out of assistance if a borrower chooses to do so.  **Important Tax Information**   Similar to other USDA Inflation Reduction Act assistance, payments provided to borrowers and payments to be applied to FSA farm loan accounts will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Borrowers receiving this assistance will receive a 1099 form from FSA. Please note that payments over $600 are subject to Federal and State Income Taxes and will be reflected on your annual 1099 form. Borrowers are encouraged to consult a tax professional with all tax-related questions regarding any Inflation Reduction Act assistance received. USDA also has tax-related resources at farmers.gov/taxes.  **Individual Requests for Farmers Seeking Assistance**  In addition to the automatic payments announced today for distressed guaranteed loan borrowers, FSA continues to accept and review individual distressed borrower assistance requests from direct loan borrowers who missed a recent installment or are unable to make their next scheduled installment on a qualifying direct FLP loan. All FSA direct borrowers should have received a [letter](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3NpdGVzL2RlZmF1bHQvZmlsZXMvZG9jdW1lbnRzL2Zhcm1lcnNnb3YtbGV0dGVyLXRvLWZpbmFuY2lhbGx5LWRpc3RyZXNzZWQtYm9ycm93ZXJzLnBkZj91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.ePqqj8mc2uRa1pFDiK6nF1KCJIBZZ9kRDpeWy1TfBKM/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l) detailing the eligibility criteria and process for seeking this type of assistance, which is available even before they become delinquent. As the letter details, borrowers who are within two months of their next installment may seek a cash flow analysis from FSA using a recent balance sheet and operating plan to determine their eligibility.  FSA direct borrowers also received a [letter](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3NpdGVzL2RlZmF1bHQvZmlsZXMvZG9jdW1lbnRzL2Zhcm1lcnNnb3YtbGV0dGVyLWV4dHJhb3JkaW5hcnktbWVhc3VyZXMucGRmP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.9YKyXfAEcBWgBPaEIBKDX8zdYqrlNBjQb6o0flsXnRU/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l) detailing an opportunity to receive assistance if they took certain extraordinary measures to avoid delinquency on their qualifying direct FLP loans, such as taking on or refinancing more debt, selling property, or cashing out retirement or college savings accounts.  Borrowers can submit requests for extraordinary measures or cash flow-based assistance in person at their local FSA office or by sending in a direct request using the farmers.gov 22006 assistance request portals at farmers.gov/loans/inflation-reduction-investments/assistance. All requests for assistance must be received by Dec. 31, 2023. |  |  | | --- | |  |  Avoid Scams Related to USDA Financial Assistance for Farmers Facing Discrimination  |  | | --- | | The Inflation Reduction Act provides $2.2 billion in financial assistance for farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who experienced discrimination in USDA’s farm lending programs prior to January 1, 2021.  USDA has become aware of some lawyers and groups spreading misleading information about this process, pressuring people to sign retainer agreements, and asking people to fill out forms with private and sensitive information.  Application forms for this program **are available** and the **application filing period has started**. USDA has published a list of trusted community organizations located across the country that will provide **FREE** help completing applications.  Please beware of organizations seeking to file your application for a fee. Filing an application for the program will be **FREE**. You **will not** need a lawyer to file an application for this program. If you feel the need for legal advice, seek the assistance of a trusted, licensed attorney.  Beware of solicitations by mail, email, or phone calls from individuals claiming to be connected to USDA. **USDA will not solicit you for information.**  The most up-to-date information on this program will be posted at [www.farmers.gov/22007](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHA6Ly93d3cuZmFybWVycy5nb3YvMjIwMDc_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDkwOC44MjI3MTEzMSJ9.wzukZhPVtA7vdGePoFAqfuACC37XHt1hm8HH8tMrPl0/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l), a USDA website. Please check there for any concerns or reach out to your local FSA office. To find your local office, visit [farmers.gov/service-locator](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3dvcmtpbmctd2l0aC11cy9zZXJ2aWNlLWNlbnRlci1sb2NhdG9yP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.cUEkKR9HldINNp3d47WxbkOh5bxMONBCJrYmWI9kh7g/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l).  If you believe there is an organization conducting a scam related to this process, please contact the USDA Office of the Inspector General (OIG) or any other appropriate authorities. The USDA OIG hotline can be accessed online at [https://usdaoig.oversight.gov/hotline](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vdXNkYW9pZy5vdmVyc2lnaHQuZ292L2hvdGxpbmU_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDkwOC44MjI3MTEzMSJ9.FOWb3Kf2l8oyQy059gHTVCb3hRbRKTMdmX1dS6g6zDQ/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l) and by phone at (800) 424-9121. |  |  | | --- | |  |  USDA Announces New Grapevine Insurance Program to Protect Against Natural Hazards If you’ve suffered livestock feed or grazing losses due to recent wildfires, you could be eligible for assistance through the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP).  ELAP covers physically damaged or destroyed livestock feed that was purchased, or mechanically harvested forage or feedstuffs intended for use as feed for **your** eligible livestock. In order to be considered eligible, harvested forage must be baled. Forage that is only cut, raked or windrowed is not eligible. You must submit a notice of loss to their local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent.  ELAP also covers up to 180 lost grazing days in instances when you’ve been forced to remove livestock from a grazing pasture due to wildfire.  You should maintain records and receipts documenting that livestock were removed from the grazing pasture due to wildfire, costs of transporting livestock feed to eligible livestock, receipts for equipment rental fees for hay lifts, feed purchase receipts and the number of gallons of water transported to livestock due to water shortages.  For beekeepers, ELAP covers beehive losses (the physical structure) in instances where the hive has been destroyed by a natural disaster including wildfire. For honeybee losses, you must notify FSA within 15 calendar days of when a loss occurs or from when the loss is apparent.  For more information regarding ELAP, contact your local Parish USDA Service Center or visit [fsa.usda.gov/disaster](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHA6Ly93d3cuZnNhLnVzZGEuZ292L2Rpc2FzdGVyP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.rW6M0wC0WcsybYXMk06Kk0A29HeK_qsKNzcjG6Eg6_4/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l).   |  | | --- | |  |  USDA Microloans Help Farmers Purchase Farmland and Improve Property  |  | | --- | | Farmers can use USDA farm ownership microloans to buy and improve property. These microloans are especially helpful to beginning or underserved farmers, U.S. veterans looking for a career in farming, and those who have small and mid-sized farming operations. Microloans have helped farmers and ranchers with operating costs, such as feed, fertilizer, tools, fencing, equipment, and living expenses since 2013.  Microloans can also help with farmland and building purchases and soil and water conservation improvements. FSA designed the expanded program to simplify the application process, expand eligibility requirements and expedite smaller real estate loans to help farmers strengthen their operations. Microloans provide up to $50,000 to qualified producers and can be issued to the applicant directly from the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).  To learn more about the FSA microloan program, contact your local Parish USDA Service Center or visit [fsa.usda.gov/microloans](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHA6Ly93d3cuZnNhLnVzZGEuZ292L21pY3JvbG9hbnM_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDkwOC44MjI3MTEzMSJ9.nhb2Gg3ABtadT-DH1D2V1Hr0g1wtL8FCYebytUEo1RE/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l). |  |  | | --- | |  |  Micro Farm The [Micro Farm program](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vcm1hLnVzZGEuZ292L0ZhY3QtU2hlZXRzL05hdGlvbmFsLUZhY3QtU2hlZXRzL01pY3JvLUZhcm0tUHJvZ3JhbT91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.yyVnafqkw8GwKqARllxCogiurIIBHdmNASln9e8xLpo/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l), offered through WFRP, provides a risk management safety net for all eligible commodities on a farm under one insurance policy, but on a smaller scale. Now, producers with farm operations up to $350,000 in approved revenue (formerly $100,000) can get coverage. RMA introduced the new Micro Farm program in 2021 to better serve direct market and small-scale producers. While the program is well received and feedback has been largely positive, industry partners and small, diversified producers have informed RMA that the current limit is too low to meet the needs of many interested producers. In response, the FCIC approved the increase in size for eligible farm operations.  The updates to WFRP and Micro Farm take effect in crop year 2023.  Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at the [RMA Agent Locator](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vcm1hLnVzZGEuZ292L0luZm9ybWF0aW9uLVRvb2xzL0FnZW50LUxvY2F0b3ItUGFnZT91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.NKMQXwLAeIlSV7a9qQphm922XR-XKRokSU85nFsedB0/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l). Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at [rma.usda.gov](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vcm1hLnVzZGEuZ292Lz91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTA4LjgyMjcxMTMxIn0.86eFOgqucNZXyg3iC7uIwFsbWPkWMbCG_lEYkp6BpII/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l).   |  | | --- | |  |  Important Dates 2023 Sep. 08    Rice Production Program**(**RPP) – Deadline to submit Eligibility Documents  Sep.12     Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase 2 - Deadline to submit Eligibility                  Documents  Sep.12     Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP)- Deadline to submit                 Eligibility Documents  Sep. 29    Deadline Extended to Request Information from USDA  Sep. 30    Sales Closing Date for NAP Grazing  Sep. 30    Deadline to Certify 2024 Crawfish Acreage  Oct. 09     Offices Closed in Observance of Columbus Day  Oct. 31     Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP)  Nov. 06    County Committee election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters  Nov. 10    USDA Service Centers will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day  Nov. 23    USDA Service Centers will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving Day  Dec. 04    Last day to return County Committee ballots to your local USDA Service                  Center  Dec. 25    USDA Service Centers will be closed in observance of Christmas Day  Jan. 31, 24   Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program  FSA now offers SMS texting; receive text message alerts on your cell phone regarding important deadlines, reporting requirements and updates. Call your local Service Center to schedule an appointment. You can find contact information at [farmers.gov/service-locator](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZhcm1lcnMuZ292L3dvcmtpbmctd2l0aC11cy9zZXJ2aWNlLWNlbnRlci1sb2NhdG9yP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.bKLMClv0jk_olL5Slf3TB2KlTEjNraIdyn_raJKw2iU/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l).   |  | | --- | |  |  Current Interest Rates for September  * [Commodity Loans](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9wcm9ncmFtcy1hbmQtc2VydmljZXMvcHJpY2Utc3VwcG9ydC9jb21tb2RpdHktbG9hbnMvaW5kZXg_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDkwOC44MjI3MTEzMSJ9.9VVsKnm2xOhW9WiZIcp4ixtuoKBpXFfsqToefHVaJ6w/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l)(less than one year disbursed): 6.375% * [Farm Storage Facility Loans](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9wcm9ncmFtcy1hbmQtc2VydmljZXMvcHJpY2Utc3VwcG9ydC9mYWNpbGl0eS1sb2Fucy9mYXJtLXN0b3JhZ2UvaW5kZXg_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDkwOC44MjI3MTEzMSJ9.wLzd3WjwXbK-E8NL998a4J4s2sce8M6nQGTivdBT5qo/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l):   + o Three-year loan terms: 4.500%   + o Five-year loan terms:  4.250%   + o Seven-year loan terms:  4.125%   + o Ten-year loan terms: 4.125%   + o Twelve-year loan terms: 4.125% * [Sugar Storage Facility Loans](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9wcm9ncmFtcy1hbmQtc2VydmljZXMvcHJpY2Utc3VwcG9ydC9mYWNpbGl0eS1sb2Fucy9zdWdhci1zdG9yYWdlL2luZGV4P3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.iAB0eJqewTHDLy8x_HKn6yRMZcDINzMy6EscDGxwHMM/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l)(15 years): 4.000% * [Farm Operating Loans](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9wcm9ncmFtcy1hbmQtc2VydmljZXMvZmFybS1sb2FuLXByb2dyYW1zL2Zhcm0tb3BlcmF0aW5nLWxvYW5zL2luZGV4P3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.YfP-IeV06tjRZ0EiUu67X13pCYeZ11ETkKOFU0j4j9Y/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l) (Direct): 5.125 % * [Farm Ownership Loans](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9wcm9ncmFtcy1hbmQtc2VydmljZXMvZmFybS1sb2FuLXByb2dyYW1zL2Zhcm0tb3duZXJzaGlwLWxvYW5zL2luZGV4P3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.JGebKogGVqY0FB1428pjGyO5Nlh7JN0cnrB_L1iob7I/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l)(Direct): 5.000% * [Farm Ownership Loans](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9wcm9ncmFtcy1hbmQtc2VydmljZXMvZmFybS1sb2FuLXByb2dyYW1zL2Zhcm0tb3duZXJzaGlwLWxvYW5zL2luZGV4P3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.E41t7rM0ejFPTiVhHxSSdWU2YkQ8K3vzx7DCAs9XK58/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l)(Direct, Joint Financing): 3.000% * [Farm Ownership Loans](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9wcm9ncmFtcy1hbmQtc2VydmljZXMvZmFybS1sb2FuLXByb2dyYW1zL2Zhcm0tb3duZXJzaGlwLWxvYW5zL2luZGV4P3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.ip1X5mtVI0oe-BdxJRLzj-SCxl8oog8oLfIy6zLfxMU/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l)(Down Payment): 1.500% * [Emergency Loan](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMzksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZzYS51c2RhLmdvdi9wcm9ncmFtcy1hbmQtc2VydmljZXMvZmFybS1sb2FuLXByb2dyYW1zL2VtZXJnZW5jeS1mYXJtLWxvYW5zL2luZGV4P3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ.um0Uw_t5JF-Es0mkYvAY0KKAAFd53dmqZ37KLtNrkwU/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l)(Amount of Actual Loss): 3.750%   FSA also offers guaranteed loans through commercial lenders at rates set by those lenders.  To access an interactive online, step-by-step guide through the farm loan process, visit the [Loan Assistance Tool](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxNDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vbGF0LmZwYWMudXNkYS5nb3YvP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA5MDguODIyNzExMzEifQ._Nr5qZR_7f3_Ql0E4dWY6oVq3Kk1bzqNr6l8gnes_2Y/s/1837074945/br/225506210113-l) on farmers.gov. |
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| Louisiana FSA State Office 3737 Government Street Alexandria, LA 70508  Phone: 318-473-7721 Fax: 1-844-325-6942   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Ronald C. Guidry, Jr. State Executive Director [Ronald.Guidry@usda.gov](mailto:Ronald.Guidry@usda.gov) | Christine Normand Administrative Officer [christine.normand@usda.gov](mailto:christine.normand@usda.gov) | | Terrick Boley Farm Loan Program Chief [terrick.boley@usda.gov](mailto:terrick.boley@usda.gov) | DeWanna Pitman Farm Program Chief [dewanna.pitman@usda.gov](mailto:dewanna.pitman@usda.gov) | | **LOUISIANA STATE FSA COMMITTEE**  Julie Baker-Richard-Chairperson Brian Guidry-Member Monica Hernandez-Member Kristy Jones-Member Willis Nelson-Member | The STC is scheduled to meet the second Tuesday of each month at the LA State Office, 3737 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302 unless the meeting is conducted virtually.  Anyone wishing to attend should verify the meeting will take place as scheduled, by calling 318/473-7721. | |  |  | |