Graze-Out Payments

OVERVIEW

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides for Graze-Out payments to eligible producers who:

- Elect to use their acreage planted to barley, oats, triticale or wheat for livestock grazing;
- Agree to forgo harvesting the commodity during the applicable crop year.

Triticale is grain that, before the removal of dockage, consists of 50 percent or more of triticale (X Triticosecale Wittmack) and not more than 10 percent of other grains for which standards have been established under the U.S. Grain Standards Act.

The requested Graze-Out acreage is not eligible for:

- Any marketing assistance loans or loan deficiency payments (LDP) for the crop;
- A crop insurance indemnity for the same field and tract grazed; and
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for the crop.

Graze-Out payments are subject to the same basic eligibility requirements as LDPs, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Payment limitation;
- Person determination;
- Beneficial interest;
- Share in commodity on form FSA-578;
- Adjusted gross income provisions;
- Conservation compliance; and
- Grazed acres must be considered cropland and reported on form FSA-578 with the intended or actual use of “Grazing.”

APPLICATION PERIOD FOR GRAZE-OUT

The application period for Graze-Out:

- Begins on the first day of normal mechanical harvest as determined by the county committee (COC); and
- Ends on March 31 of the calendar year following the year the crop is normally harvested.

COCs are responsible for determining the normal beginning harvest date in the county for barley, oats, triticale or wheat. This will be the earlier of the normal harvest date for grain or the normal harvest date when harvested as other than grain.

REQUESTING GRAZE-OUT PAYMENTS

Producers must request Graze-Out payments on form CCC-633 GRAZING by farm serial number by March 31 of the calendar year following the year the crop is normally harvested.

If multiple producers share in the acreage:

- All signatures must be obtained in order for the request to be considered complete; and
- The shares of those signing must be for 100 percent of the grazed acreage.

Eligible producers can submit form CCC-633 GRAZING to the FSA administrative county office for the farm using any of the following methods:

- In person;
- Mail;
- Telephone;
- FAX; or
- Through eForms.
GRAZE-OUT PAYMENT RATE

The Graze-Out payment rate is the LDP rate in effect for the farm on the date that the producer submits a complete program application (form CCC-633 GRAZING) in the FSA administrative county office for the farm. For triticale, the Graze-Out rate is equal to the LDP rate in effect for the predominant class of wheat in the county where the farm is located as of the date the application is filed.

GRAZE-OUT YIELD

For Graze-Out, the yields are determined as follows:

- Payment yield is yield in effect for calculating the Price Loss Coverage payment yield with respect to the commodity on the farm;
- For a farm for which Agriculture Risk Coverage is elected, the Price Loss Coverage payment yield irrespective of such election; and
- If no payment yield is established, an appropriate yield as determined by COC.

The Graze-Out payment is calculated by multiplying the actual grazed acreage requested for grazing times the applicable yield times the payment rate.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

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