



FACT SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs

Background

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act, 2008 Farm Bill, created five programs that provide disaster assistance to farmers and ranchers, which are: The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program, the Livestock Indemnity Program, the Livestock Forage Disaster Program, the Tree Assistance Program, and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program.

Sign up for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) began July 13, 2009. On Sept. 14, 2009, the Farm Service Agency will begin sign up for the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP). Below is an overview of the three livestock disaster programs as well as frequently asked questions regarding each program.

2008 Farm Bill Livestock Disaster Programs

<p>ELAP (Emergency Livestock Assistance Program) (Titles XII & XV)</p>	<p>The 2008 Farm Bill authorizes \$50 million annually from the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund to provide emergency relief to producers of livestock (including horses), honey bees, and farm-raised fish.</p>	<p>Final Rule</p> <p>Regulation effective on Sept. 9, 2009. Signup begins on Sept. 14, 2009. Payments issued after Jan. 1, 2010.</p>
<p>LFP (Livestock Forage Disaster Program) (Titles XII & XV)</p>	<p>The 2008 Farm Bill authorizes the Secretary to use such sums as necessary from the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund to provide compensation to eligible livestock producers for grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought conditions, as described in the legislation, or fire on federally-managed lands.</p>	<p>Final Rule</p> <p>Regulation effective on Sept. 9, 2009. Signup begins on Sept. 14, 2009. Payments begin on Sept. 14, 2009.</p>
<p>LIP (Livestock Indemnity Program) (Titles XII & XV)</p>	<p>LIP payments to eligible livestock producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality rates due to adverse weather during the calendar year. LIP payments will be issued based on 75 percent of the fair market value of the livestock on the day before the date of death.</p>	<p>Final Rule</p> <p>Federal Register publication in July 2009. Signup began July 13. 2008 sign up ends Sept. 14, 2009. Payments are being issued. 2009 sign up ends Jan. 30, 2010 for 2009 losses.</p>

THE LIVESTOCK FORAGE DISASTER PROGRAM (LFP)

Purpose: LFP provides assistance to eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses due to drought, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, or fire.

How LFP works: Payments for drought are based on the severity of the drought experienced in the producer's county. In order to qualify for assistance, producers must be located in a county that is experiencing a severe, extreme, or exceptional drought, as determined by the U.S. Drought Monitor. The U.S. Drought Monitor uses drought categories (D1, D2, D3, and D4) as a measure of the severity of a drought.

How payments are determined: LFP payments are equivalent to 60 percent of the cost of feeding an animal for one month. Depending upon the severity of the drought, payments will be made for either one month, two months, or three months.

1 month payment = D2 Category (severe drought) for 8 weeks during the grazing season.

2 monthly payments = D3 Category (extreme drought) at any time during the grazing season.

3 monthly payments = D3 Category (extreme drought) for 4 weeks during the grazing season or D4 Category (exceptional drought) at any time during the grazing season.

Producer Requirements: Producers must have purchased crop insurance for the grazing land that is eligible for LFP payments or filed the required paper work and paid the applicable Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) fees for the grazing land incurring losses. The Secretary may provide a waiver for socially disadvantaged, limited resource, and beginning farmers or ranchers who did not purchase crop insurance or NAP on their grazing land.

LFP Frequently Asked Questions

When will LFP payments be made? Beginning on Sept. 14, 2009, producers can visit their local Farm Service Agency office and sign up for payments. Payments will be made for both 2008 and 2009 losses.

How is LFP different than past disaster programs? LFP provides different levels of assistance to producers depending upon the severity of the drought so producers who need the most assistance receive it. Only producers in counties suffering at least a "severe" drought will qualify for assistance.

The most recent ad hoc livestock disaster program, the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) provided payments to producers in eligible disaster counties for losses between 2005 and 2007. Producers were only eligible for one annual payment that was approximately \$10.66 for an adult beef cow. Below are the LFP payments for cows:

	One Month	Two Months	Three Months
2008	\$17.90	\$35.95	\$53.70
2009	\$24.02	\$48.04	\$72.07

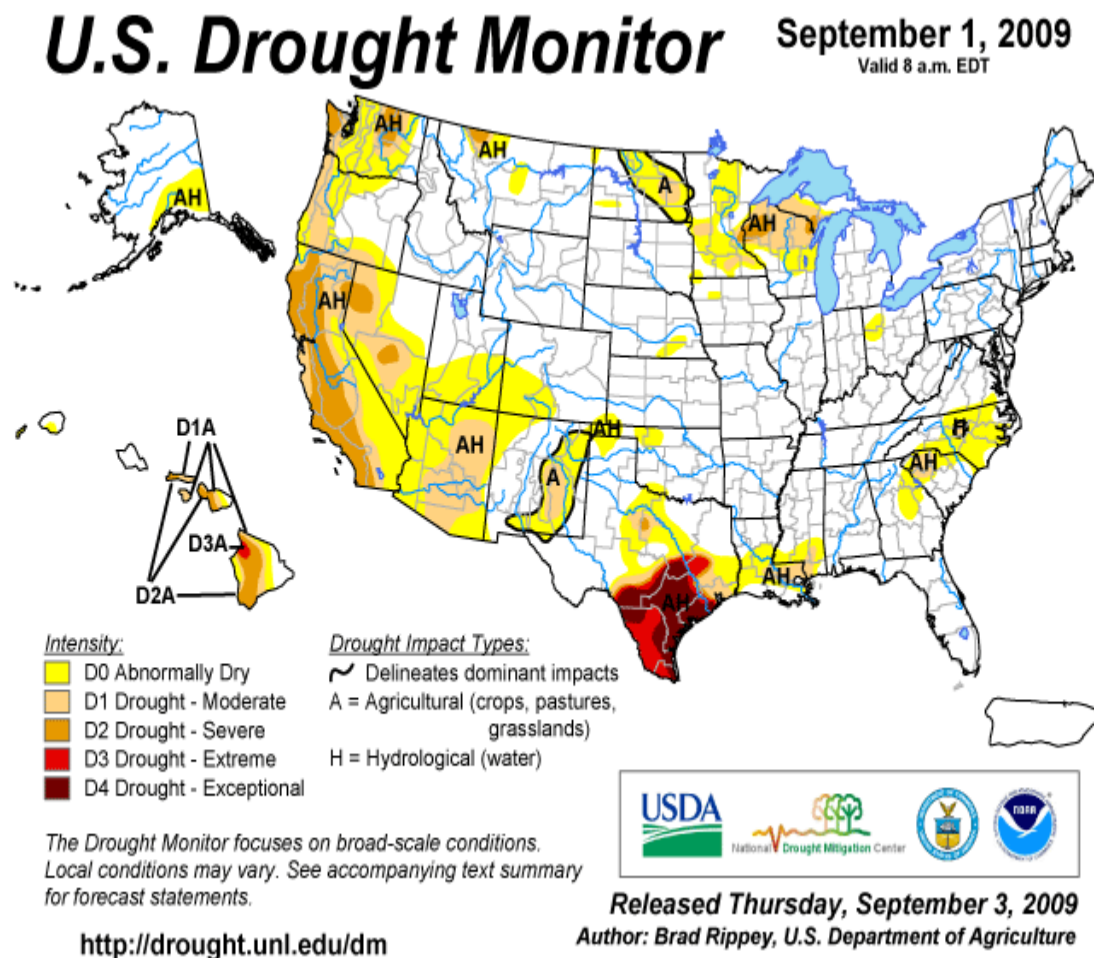
How long will producers have to wait for LFP payments in the future? LFP payments can be made immediately upon a county qualifying.

Can a producer qualify annually for payments? Yes, producers can qualify each year that their county suffers a qualifying drought.

How can a producer know if their county has qualified for a LFP payment? The link to the Drought Monitor is <http://drought.unl.edu/DM/MONITOR.html>. The website contains an archive that will allow producers to determine if their county qualified for LFP payments in 2008. Producers may also call their local FSA office for information.

Does a county need a disaster declaration to qualify for LFP? No, counties qualify solely based upon the U.S. Drought Monitor designations. If any portion of a county qualifies, the entire county qualifies for assistance.

Can LFP payments be reduced? Yes, payments will be reduced if producers have more livestock than their grazing land's carrying capacity.



LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

Purpose: LIP provides indemnity payments to producers whose livestock die due to adverse weather. Producers are paid for death losses of eligible livestock in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat, and extreme cold.

Payment Rate: Producers are paid 75 percent of the market value of the livestock.

LIP Frequently Asked Questions

Are producers required to purchase crop insurance to be eligible for LIP? No, producers are not required to purchase crop insurance to qualify for LIP payments.

Are county disaster declarations required for LIP? No, producers do not have to be in a disaster county to qualify for LIP.

When is the deadline to sign up for livestock losses in 2008? Sept. 13, 2009, is the deadline for producers to provide a notice of loss and file an application for payment for any losses for livestock losses in 2008.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR LIVESTOCK, HONEY BEES, AND FARM-RAISED FISH (ELAP)

Purpose: ELAP provides assistance to farmers and ranchers for losses due to adverse weather and other loss conditions not covered under any other disaster assistance programs.

Who Qualifies: The Secretary is required to use up to \$50 million annually to provide emergency assistance to producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish when they have suffered losses due to disease, adverse weather, blizzards, wildfires or any other conditions as determined by the Secretary.

Producer Requirements: Producers must have purchased crop insurance on all crops or filed the required paper work and paid the applicable Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) fees. The Secretary may provide a waiver for socially disadvantaged, limited resource, and beginning farmers or ranchers who did not purchase crop insurance or NAP.

ELAP Frequently Asked Questions

When will payments be made? Since ELAP is capped at \$50 million annually, payments may need to be prorated to cover all qualifying losses. Applications will be evaluated at the end of each year before payments are made to ensure eligible losses do not exceed available funding. In the event that eligible expenditures would exceed available funding, FSA will prorate available funds by a national factor.

What type of losses would ELAP cover? ELAP covers losses that are not covered by other disaster programs. Losses due to flooding, tornadoes or fires may be examples of losses that could be covered by ELAP.

How do producers apply? Producers who suffer 2008 and 2009 calendar year losses prior to Sept. 11, 2009, must provide a notice of loss to their administrative county FSA office not later than Dec. 10, 2009.

Producers suffering losses on or after Sept. 11, 2009, must file a notice of loss with FSA by the earlier of: 30 calendar days of when loss is apparent or Jan. 30, 2010.

Producers who suffered 2008 calendar year losses must also file an application for payment no later than Dec. 10, 2009. Producers who suffered 2009 calendar year losses must file an application for payment no later than Jan. 30, 2010.