



JULY 2014

BULLETIN



USDA Provides 12-Week Progress Update on Disaster Assistance

USDA has processed 106,000 payments to farmers and ranchers in 40 states who suffered drought, blizzard, and other weather related losses between October 2011 and passage of the 2014 Farm Bill. More than \$1.2 billion in payments to qualifying farmers and ranchers have been processed. USDA estimated that roughly \$2.5 billion would be provided in disaster relief to cover losses from October 2011 through September 2014. If those estimates prove accurate, it would mean nearly half of all disaster payments have already been provided.

While disaster relief is a critical lifeline that can prevent farmers and ranchers who do not have access to crop insurance from being wiped out by weather-related losses beyond their control, most producers only receive support equal to 60 percent of their actual losses.

USDA disaster programs include:

The [Livestock Forage Disaster Program](#) (LFP) and the [Livestock Indemnity Program](#) (LIP) provides payments for grazing losses due to drought and livestock deaths due to adverse weather.

The [Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program](#) (ELAP) provides assistance for livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish losses due to disease (including cattle tick fever), weather, wildfires and colony collapse disorder, or for losses not covered under other disaster assistance programs established by the 2014 Farm Bill.

The [Tree Assistance Program](#) (TAP) provides financial assistance to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate trees, bushes and vines that were lost or damaged by natural disasters.

Specific program deadlines are as follows:

- 2011-2013 ELAP – Friday, Aug. 1, 2014
- 2011 -2014 LFP – Friday, Jan. 30, 2015
- 2011-2014 LIP – Friday, Jan. 30, 2015
- 2011-2014 TAP – Monday, Feb. 2, 2015

Producers affected by adverse weather should contact their FSA county office to make an appointment and learn if they are eligible for disaster assistance. For more information, producers may review the [2014 Farm Bill Fact Sheet](#), and the [LIP](#), [LFP](#), [ELAP](#) and [TAP](#) fact sheets online, or visit any local FSA office.

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