



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FARM SERVICE AGENCY

USDA
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USDA Reminds Producers of SURE Disaster Program Deadline

EAST LANSING, MI, July 21, 2011 - Christine White, State Executive Director for Michigan's Farm Service Agency (FSA) today reminded producers that they have until Friday, July 29, 2011, to apply for assistance for 2009 crop losses under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program. The program provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or quality losses due to natural disasters.

"It's vital all producers who suffered a crop loss in 2009 know assistance is available," said White. "Producers need to take the first step and apply for the SURE program in their local FSA county office by Friday, July 29th."

To be eligible, producers in disaster declared counties must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance and obtained a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). Exceptions apply for socially disadvantaged producers, limited resource producers and beginning farmer and ranchers. In 2009, all Michigan counties were declared a disaster county or contiguous to a disaster county by the Secretary of Agriculture under a Secretarial Disaster Designation. The SURE program takes into account losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide.

Persons or legal entities whose average nonfarm adjusted gross income exceeds \$500,000 are not eligible for SURE payments. A limit of \$100,000 per person or legal entity applies to the payments for SURE and the livestock disaster programs administered by FSA.

A producer interested in signing up for 2009 SURE must do so before close of business July 29, 2011 at their local FSA county office. Multi-county producers can apply in any county FSA office they do business with.

For more information about USDA Farm Service Agency disaster assistance programs, visit a local FSA county office or <http://disaster.fsa.gov>

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