

CORONAVIRUS FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Consideration of Additional Commodities

USDA is providing critical support to our nation's farmers and ranchers through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). CFAP provides vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities and gives them the ability to absorb sales declines and increased marketing costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

USDA will consider additional commodities to be eligible for CFAP by collecting information that is not currently available to USDA on potentially eligible commodities.

Overview

The commodities currently included in the program are those for which USDA data was available to determine that a five percent-or-greater price decline occurred from mid-January 2020 to mid-April 2020. Currently, the eligible commodities for CFAP include:

- Non-specialty crops: malting barley, canola, corn, upland cotton, millet, oats, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, durum wheat and hard red spring wheat and wool.
- Livestock: cattle, dairy, hogs, lambs and yearlings.
- Specialty crops: almonds, apples, artichokes, asparagus, avocados, beans, blueberries, broccoli, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, grapefruit, kiwifruit; lemons, iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce, mushrooms, dry onions, green onions, oranges, papayas, peaches, pears, pecans, bell type peppers, other peppers, potatoes, raspberries, rhubarb, spinach, squash, strawberries, sweet potatoes, tangerines, taro, tomatoes, walnuts, and watermelons.



USDA is looking for data on agricultural commodities not included in the list above for consideration as additional eligible commodities.

USDA is particularly interested in obtaining information within these specific categories:

- Nursery Products
- Aquaculture Products
- Cut Flowers

Ineligible Commodities

Commodities that did not suffer a five percent-or-greater price decline from mid-January 2020 to mid-April 2020 are not eligible for CFAP.

Ineligible commodities include sheep more than 2 years old, eggs/layers, soft red winter wheat, hard red winter wheat, white wheat, rice, flax, rye, peanuts, feed barley, Extra Long Staple (ELS) cotton, alfalfa, forage crops, hemp, and tobacco.

USDA may reconsider the excluded commodities if credible evidence is provided.

Submitting Information

You are encouraged to submit data and information for consideration if you are a producer of an agricultural commodity that you believe have either:

1. suffered a five percent-or-greater price decline between mid-January and mid-April as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic,
2. shipped but subsequently spoiled due to loss of marketing channel, or
3. not left the farm or remained unharvested as mature crops.

In providing input, please consider these questions:

1. What commodities not listed above have suffered a 5-percent-or-greater price loss between January and April 2020 and face additional marketing costs due to COVID-19?
2. What was the price received per unit of measure sold the week of January 13 through January 17, 2020, (or if not available, the nearest date to this) and what is the basis for the determination of this price?
3. What was the price received per unit of measure sold the week of April 6 through April 10, 2020, (or if not available, the nearest date to this) and what is the basis for the determination of this price?

These questions should be used as a guide and are not intended to limit the type or amount of data and information provided. The most helpful and informative information for consideration by USDA describes how the decline in price was determined and documents the sources used to make this determination.

Examples of this type of information include:

- Futures Prices
- Sales Trends
- Market Trends
- Food Price Indexes

You can submit your information using either of these methods:

- *Through the Federal Rulemaking Portal:* Go to [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) and search for Docket ID FSA-2020-0004. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *By Mail:* Director, SND, FSA, US Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 0522, Washington, DC 20250-0522.

The deadline to submit comments is June 22, 2020. The additional commodities USDA determines eligible will be announced late summer 2020.

More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply. For more information about the Notice of Funding Availability and other CFAP program details, visit farmers.gov/cfap or contact your local FSA office. Additionally, producers in search of one-on-one support with the CFAP application process can call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance.

To find your local FSA office, visit farmers.gov/cfap.