

For: State and County Offices

Monitoring CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Limitation

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

The Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, requires that USDA not enroll more than 25 percent of the total cropland in a county in CRP, including general CRP sign-up, continuous CRP sign-up, grassland CRP, CREP, and ACEP-WRE. County Offices with 25 percent or more of the total cropland in the county enrolled in CRP and ACEP-WRE cannot approve offers that include cropland acres. See 2-CRP, paragraph 81.

State and County Offices **must** review the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report and monitor enrollment of cropland to ensure that the 25 percent county cropland limitation is not exceeded.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- information about what acreage counts towards the 25 percent county cropland limit
- information about the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report
- procedure for reviewing the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report to determine if an offer that includes cropland acreage may be approved
- obsoletes Notice CRP-939 because of omitted steps in the step-action table in subparagraph 4 A.

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2 County Cropland Limitation

A Acreage Subject to 25 Percent County Cropland Limitation

Acreage subject to the 25 percent county cropland limitation and included in the 25 Percent County Cropland Report includes the following:

- cropland acreage enrolled in CRP or projected to be enrolled in CRP on October 1 of the current year, according to the web-based software

Note: Cropland enrolled through grassland CRP signup is included in determining the 25 percent county cropland limitation.

- CRP useful easement acreage under active easement periods but not under CRP-1
- ACEP-WRE cropland acreage as reported by NRCS and recorded by County Office.

See 2-CRP, paragraph 81.

B Acreage Not Subject to 25 Percent County Cropland Limitation

Acreage **not subject** to the 25 percent county cropland limitation and excluded from the 25 Percent County Cropland Report includes the following:

- any land enrolled in Emergency Wetlands Reserve Program (EWRP) administered by NRCS
- pastureland or other noncropland enrolled in ACEP-WRE administered by NRCS
- cropland that is designated as subclass W in the land capability classes IV through VIII because of severe use limitations and soil saturation or inundation, as determined by NRCS
- CRP marginal pastureland
- noncropland enrolled in grassland CRP signup
- cropland enrolled in CRP devoted to field windbreak (CP5) or shelter belts (CP16) and under an easement
- cropland acreage enrolled in CRP under CRP-1 scheduled to expire September 30 of the current year
- cropland acreage enrolled under CREP if a waiver for this exclusion has been approved by DAFP.

See 2-CRP, paragraph 81.

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2 County Cropland Limitation (Continued)

C CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report

The CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report is available on the Conservation Division (CD) SharePoint Site located at https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/fsa-dafp/CEPD/county_Office/SitePages/County-25-Percent-Cropland-Report.aspx.

An updated report is scheduled to be posted weekly. The following table provides a description of the information provided in the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report.

Column Title	Information Provided
County Name	Name of the county.
Cropland acres	Total cropland acres physically located within the county.
Maximum cropland available to enroll in CRP/WRP (25%)	Twenty-five percent of the acreage listed in the column titled "Cropland acres".
Active General Signup cropland acres	Total number of cropland acres physically located within the county that are currently enrolled through general CRP signup.
Active Continuous Signup cropland acres	Total number of cropland acres physically located within the county that are currently enrolled through continuous CRP signup.
Active CREP Signup cropland acres	Total number of cropland acres physically located within the county currently that are enrolled through CREP signup.
Active WRP-ACEP cropland acres	Total number of cropland acres physically located within the county that are enrolled in ACEP-WRE.
Total cropland enrolled in CRP/WRP	Total of cropland acres listed in columns titled "Active General Signup cropland acres," "Active Continuous Signup cropland acres," "Active CREP Signup cropland acres," and "Active WRP-ACEP cropland acres".
% cropland enrolled in CRP/WRP	Percent of total cropland acres enrolled through general, continuous, CREP, and ACEP-WRE determined by dividing the acres listed in the column titled "% cropland enrolled in CRP/WRP" by the acres listed in the column titled "Cropland acres" rounded to one decimal.
Maximum Signup that could be approved for FY 2021 contracts	Total number of cropland acres that are available to be enrolled in CRP with an effective start date in FY 2021 (start date before October 1, 2021) or be enrolled in ACEP-WRE. Important: If the column contains a negative value, County Offices cannot approve contracts with an effective start date in FY 2021. See 2-CRP, paragraph 81.
Maximum Signup that could be approved in total for FY 2021 and FY 2022 contracts	Total number of cropland acres that are available to be enrolled in CRP with an effective start date in FY 2022 (start date on or after October 1, 2021) or be enrolled in ACEP-WRE if none of the acres in the "Maximum Signup that could be approved for FY 2021 contracts" column will be enrolled. Important: If the column contains a negative value, County Offices cannot approve contracts with an effective start date in FY 2022. See 2-CRP, paragraph 81.

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3 Counties Exceeding 25 Percent County Cropland Limitation

A Counties Exceeding County Cropland Limitation for FY 2021

County Office **must** access and review the **current** CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report each week when the report is updated. Using prior versions of the report will result in inaccurate data and may result in erroneous enrollment of acres.

When the number of acres listed in the “Maximum Signup that could be approved for FY 2021 contracts” column of the report is zero or negative, COC must immediately reject all offers with an effective date in FY 2021 (an effective date before October 1, 2021) that includes any cropland physically located within the county. County Office must inform the producer using CRP-26. See 2-CRP, subparagraph 81 F.

Important: County Office must use the county data for the county where the cropland being offered is **physically located**.

B Counties Exceeding County Cropland Limitation for FY 2022

County Office **must** access and review the **current** CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report each week when the report is updated. Using prior versions of the report will result in inaccurate data and may result in erroneous enrollment of acres.

When the number of acres listed in the “Maximum Signup that could be approved in total for FY 2021 and FY 2022 contracts” column of the report is zero or negative, COC must immediately reject all offers with an effective date in FY 2022 (an effective date on or after October 1, 2021) that includes any cropland physically located within the county. County Office must inform the producer using CRP-26. See 2-CRP, subparagraph 81 F.

Important: County Office must use the county data for the county where the cropland being offered is **physically located**.

4 Counties Within 5 Percent of County Cropland Limitation

A Counties With 20.0 Percent or Greater Cropland Enrolled in CRP/ACEP-WRE

County Office **must** access and review the **current** CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report each week when the report is updated. Using prior versions of the report will result in inaccurate data and may result in erroneous enrollment of acres.

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4 Counties Within 5 Percent of County Cropland Limitation (Continued)

A Counties With 20.0 Percent or Greater Cropland Enrolled in CRP/ACEP-WRE (Continued)

County Office must follow the steps in the following table for each continuous CRP signup offer, including offers to enroll cropland through CREP, submitted that includes any cropland acres when **both** the percentage listed in the “% cropland enrolled in CRP/WRP” column of the report is equal to or greater than 20.0 percent for the county where the cropland being offered is **physically located**, and:

- for offers with a FY 2021 start date (start date before October 1, 2021), the number of acres listed in the “Maximum Signup that could be approved for FY 2021 contracts” column of the report is greater than zero
- for offers with a FY 2022 start date (start date on or after October 1, 2021), the number of acres listed in the “Maximum Signup that could be approved in total for FY 2021 and FY 2022 contracts” column of the report is greater than zero.

Step	Action	Result
1	Follow the process flow according to 2-CRP, subparagraph 171 C, through Step 17. COC or CED will not act on CRP-1 until completing all steps in this table.	
2	Access the current 25 Percent County Cropland Report through the SharePoint site provided in subparagraph 2 C. Important: County Office must access the current 25 Percent County Cropland Report. Using prior versions of the report will result in inaccurate data and may result in erroneous enrollment of acres.	
3	From the current 25 Percent County Cropland Report, enter the value from the “Maximum Signup that could be approved for FY 2021 contracts” column for the county where the cropland on the CRP-1 from Step 1 is physically located. Important: The data for the county where the cropland is physically located must be used.	
4	From the current 25 Percent County Cropland Report, enter the value in the “Maximum Signup that could be approved for FY 2021 and FY 2022 contracts” for the county where the cropland on the CRP-1 from Step 1 is physically located. Important: The data for the county where the cropland is physically located must be used.	

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4 Counties Within 5 Percent of County Cropland Limitation (Continued)

A Counties With 20.0 Percent or Greater Cropland Enrolled in CRP/ACEP-WRE (Continued)

Step	Action	Result
5	<p>Enter the total number of cropland acres from all CRP-1's that were approved, but not recorded in CCMS as an approved CRP-1, any time before the date of the current 25 Percent County Cropland Report.</p> <p>Important: If the cropland on the CRP-1 from Step 1 is physically located in a different county, County Office must contact the physical location County Office to obtain the total number of cropland acres from all CRP-1's that were approved, but not recorded in CCMS as an approved CRP-1, the week before the date of the current 25 Percent County Cropland Report.</p>	
6	<p>Enter the total number of cropland acres from all CRP-1's that have been approved since the current 25 Percent County Cropland Report was posted.</p> <p>Important: If the cropland on the CRP-1 from Step 1 is physically located in a different county, County Office must contact the physical location County Office to obtain the total number of cropland acres from all CRP-1's that have been approved since the current 25 Percent County Cropland Report was posted.</p>	
7	<p>Enter the total number of acres determined acceptable from general CRP signup 56 for which a CRP-1 has not been approved.</p> <p>Important: If the cropland on the CRP-1 from Step 1 is physically located in a different county, County Office must contact the physical location County Office to obtain the total number of acres determined acceptable from general CRP signup 56 for which a CRP-1 has not been approved.</p>	
8	<p>Enter the total number of cropland acres determined acceptable from grassland CRP signup 203 for which a CRP-1 has not been approved.</p> <p>Important: If the cropland on the CRP-1 from Step 1 is physically located in a different county, County Office must contact the physical location County Office to obtain the total number of acres determined acceptable from general CRP signup 56 for which a CRP-1 has not been approved.</p>	

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4 Counties Within 5 Percent of County Cropland Limitation (Continued)

A Counties With 20.0 Percent or Greater Cropland Enrolled in CRP/ACEP-WRE (Continued)

Step	Action	Result
9	Add the result of Step 5, Step 6, Step 7, and Step 8.	
10	Subtract the result of Step 9 from the result of Step 3.	
11	Subtract the result of Step 9 from the result of Step 4.	
12	Enter the total number of cropland acres on the CRP-1 offer being processed from Step 1.	
13	Enter the FY of CRP-1 from Step 1. If the start date of CRP-1 is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • before October 1, 2021, then the FY of CRP-1 is FY 2021; go to Step 14 • on or after October 1, 2021, then the FY of CRP-1 is FY 2022; go to Step 16. 	
14	Is the result of Step 12 less than or equal to the result of Step 10? If: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Yes”, go to Step 15 • “No”, go to Step 18. 	

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4 Counties Within 5 Percent of County Cropland Limitation (Continued)

A Counties With 20.0 Percent or Greater Cropland Enrolled in CRP/ACEP-WRE (Continued)

Step	Action	Result
15	<p>County Office may continue to process CRP-1 from Step 1 according to 2-CRP, subparagraph 171 C, Step 18. This is the last step to be completed.</p> <p>Important: If the cropland on CRP-1 from Step 1 is physically located in a different county, County Office must immediately contact the physical location County Office and provide the total number of cropland acres that will be approved.</p>	
16	<p>Is the result of Step 12 less than or equal to the result of Step 11? If:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Yes”, go to Step 17 • “No”, go to Step 18. 	
17	<p>County Office may continue to process CRP-1 from Step 1 according to 2-CRP, subparagraph 171 C, Step 18. This is the last step to be completed.</p> <p>Important: If the cropland on CRP-1 from Step 1 is physically located in a different county, County Office must immediately contact the physical location County Office and provide the total number of cropland acres that will be approved.</p>	
18	<p>STOP. COC must immediately reject the offer and follow 2-CRP, subparagraph 81 F, to inform the producer using CRP-26. The number of cropland acres offered on CRP-1 from Step 1 exceeds the number of cropland acres that can be enrolled without exceeding the 25 percent county cropland limit.</p>	

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5 Examples

A Example 1

The following information from the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report applies to example 1. The value in the:

- “County Name” column is County X
- “% cropland enrolled in CRP/WRP” column is 25.5 percent
- “Maximum Signup that could be approved for FY 2021 contracts” column is -542.7
- “Maximum Signup that could be approved in total for FY 2021 and FY 2022 contracts” column is 16,618.6.

Producer A submits an offer through continuous CRP signup 55 to enroll 25.0 acres of cropland physically located in County X with a start date of September 1, 2021 (FY 2021). COC **must** immediately reject Producer A’s offer because County X is over the 25 percent county cropland limit for FY 2021. See subparagraph 3 A and 2-CRP, subparagraph 81 F.

Producer B submits an offer through continuous CRP signup 55 to enroll 20.0 acres of marginal pastureland physically located in County X with a start date of September 1, 2021 (FY 2021). County Office may process Producer B’s offer. The 25 percent county cropland limitation is not an issue for Producer B’s offer because the offer does not include any cropland.

B Example 2

The following information from the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report applies to example 2. The value in the:

- “County Name” column is County Y
- “% cropland enrolled in CRP/WRP” column is 19.7 percent
- “Maximum Signup that could be approved for FY 2021 contracts” column is 7,709.8
- “Maximum Signup that could be approved in total for FY 2021 and FY 2022 contracts” column is 16,480.4.

Producer C submits an offer through continuous CRP signup 55 to enroll 1,250.0 acres of cropland physically located in County Y with a start date of September 1, 2021 (FY 2021). Producer D submits an offer through continuous CRP signup 55 to enroll 300.0 acres of cropland physically located in County Y with a start date of October 1, 2021 (FY 2022).

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5 Examples (Continued)

B Example 2 (Continued)

County Office may process and act on both Producer C's offer and Producer D's offer without completing the steps specified in subparagraph 4 A because the "% cropland enrolled in CRP/WRP" column from the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report for the county where the cropland being offered is physically located (County Y) is below 20.0 percent and the total cropland offered for each FY is less than the maximum number of cropland acres that could be enrolled before meeting the 25 percent county cropland limitation.

C Example 3

The following information from the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report applies to example 3. The value in the:

- "County Name" column is County Z
- "% cropland enrolled in CRP/WRP" column is 25.0 percent
- "Maximum Signup that could be approved for FY 2021 contracts" column is -44.5
- "Maximum Signup that could be approved in total for FY 2021 and FY 2022 contracts" column is 6,178.1.

Producer H submits an offer, through continuous CRP signup 55, to enroll 2,300.0 acres of cropland physically located in County Z with a start date of October 1, 2021 (FY 2022). County Office must complete the steps specified in subparagraph 4 A because the "% cropland enrolled in CRP/WRP" column from the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report for the county where the cropland being offered is physically located (County Z) is 25.0 percent or higher; however, up to 6,178.1 acres of cropland can be enrolled if the FY of the CRP-1 will be FY 2022 (on or after October 1, 2021).

County Office completes the steps in subparagraph 4 A. The following are the results of each step.

Step	Result
1	County Office processes Producer H's offer according to 2-CRP, subparagraph 171 C, through Step 17.
2	County Office accesses the current CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report from the CD SharePoint site.
3	-44.5 acres
4	6,178.1 acres

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5 Examples (Continued)

C Example 3 (Continued)

Step	Result
5	3,452.7 acres COC approved 3 CRP-1's in the weeks before the date of the current CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report; however, the County Office has not recorded the 3 approved CRP-1's in CCMS. The total number of cropland acres from the 3 CRP-1's is 3,452.7 acres.
6	356.2 acres COC approved 1 CRP-1 since the current CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report was posted on the CD SharePoint site; however, the County Office has not recorded the approved CRP-1 in CCMS. The total number of cropland acres from CRP-1 is 356.2 acres.
7	2,201.4 acres There were 5 general CRP signup 56 offers for a total of 2,401.4 acres determined acceptable by the National Office. At the time the County Office is processing Producer H's offer from Step 1, the County Office had already approved 1 of the 5 general signup 56 acceptable offers; however, the County Office has not recorded the CRP-1 in CCMS as an approved CRP-1. The approved CRP-1 was for a total of 200.0 acres. Because the approved CRP-1 was not recorded in CCMS before the date of the current 25 Percent County Cropland Report, the 200.0 acres is included in Step 5. The remaining 2,201.4 cropland acres of the 4 acceptable offers not yet approved are entered in this Step.
8	0 acres At the time the County Office is processing Producer H's offer from Step 1, the grassland CRP signup has not ended; therefore, there have been no grassland CRP signup 203 offers determined acceptable or rejected by the National Office.
9	6,010.3 acres
10	-6,054.8 acres
11	167.8 acres
12	130.6 acres
13	FY 2022
14	Blank
15	Blank
16	Yes
17	County Office continues to process Producer H's offer according to 2-CRP, subparagraph 171 C, through Step 18.
18	Blank

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6 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices will:

- review the CRP 25 Percent County Cropland Report weekly as soon as it is posted
- ensure that County Offices follow this notice and 2-CRP
- monitor status of counties and communicate to County Offices when the county is close to reaching 20.0 percent of the county cropland limitation.

State Office may, at its discretion, require County Office to submit offers to State Office for review before approving the offer to ensure the 25 percent county cropland limitation is not exceeded.

B County Office Action

County Offices will:

- follow the provisions of this notice
- review 2-CRP, paragraph 81, for additional information about the 25 percent county cropland limitation.