

**2005-2007 Catfish Feed Disaster Grant Program**  
**Arkansas Agriculture Department**  
**#1 Natural Resources Drive**  
**Little Rock, Arkansas 72205**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency is making grant money available to eligible catfish producers adversely affected by disasters between the dates of January 2, 2005 and February 27, 2007. The Arkansas Agriculture Department (AAD) will administer the program in Arkansas.

**Producer Eligibility**

To be eligible for assistance, catfish producers must meet all of the following criteria:

- Have had a loss related to catfish feed. Loss may include physical loss of feed that was damaged or destroyed, increased feed costs, and/or cost associated to lost feeding days. All losses had to have occurred as a direct result of a disaster condition described in a Presidential, Secretarial, or APLN designation and must have occurred in the county having the natural disaster designation or a contiguous county. A list of such designations can be found at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.
- Be physically located in an eligible county on the beginning date of disaster period listed in designation.
- Be raising catfish in a controlled environment and maintaining catfish for commercial use as part of their farming operation and have a risk in the production of such catfish.
- May not have received assistance covered by any other Federal program for the same catfish feed loss.

**Payment**

No farming operation may receive more than \$80,000 under this program. Except that, general partnerships and joint ventures in which case assistance shall not exceed \$80,000 times the number of members that constitute the general partnership or joint venture.

Actual assistance received will be based on the following guidelines established by USDA/FSA. The AAD must collect all applications by November 12, 2007 and request the total amount of assistance for all producers at one time. Funds will be distributed after receipt by AAD. Late applications will not be considered.

### **Determining Amount of Assistance**

With each completed application, each producer must provide documentation sufficient to substantiate a loss. (see example)

The amount of assistance provided shall be equal to the smaller of the result of the following paragraphs "A" or "B".

- A. Value of applicants eligible losses incurred during calendar year 2005, or calendar year 2006, or from January 1, 2007 through February 27, 2007. Eligible catfish producers incurring eligible losses in more than one calendar year shall elect to receive payment for losses incurred in only one of such years and all of such losses must have been incurred in that same year.
- B. The number of tons of catfish feed purchased by the applicant in the elected calendar year (through February 27, 2007 only for calendar year 2007) multiplied by the USDA/FSA payment rate for that year. Payment rates are: \$24 per ton for 2005; \$26 per ton for 2006; or \$29 per ton for 2007.

Payments are subject to the availability of funds and any requirements of law that may apply.

### **Audits**

The AAD will conduct audits of applications to ensure applicants are equitably compensated for losses.

### **Contact**

Questions, request for applications or comments should be directed to the Aquaculture Division of the Arkansas Agriculture Department at 870-575-8126.

### **Applications**

Mail all applications to:

Arkansas Agriculture Department  
Aquaculture Division  
Mail Slot 4912  
1200 North University Drive  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601