



United States Department of Agriculture



# USDA's Farm Service Agency

A photograph of several cows grazing in a green field, partially obscured by a green curved graphic element.

# Agenda

- What is the Farm Service Agency (FSA)?
  - Goals
- FSA Programs
  - Loans; Targeted Underserved; Disaster Assistance; Conservation; Price Support
- County Office Committees
- Recent Developments
- FSA Initiatives
- Address Questions from Committee



A photograph showing the lower legs and hooves of several cows grazing in a green field. The image is partially obscured by a large green curved graphic element.

## What is the Farm Service Agency

The Farm Service Agency is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and provides programs and loans to help farmers, ranchers, and agricultural partner organizations provide food, fuel, and fiber to millions of people worldwide.





## Goals

1. Provide a financial safety net for America's farmers and ranchers to sustain economically viable agricultural production;
2. Increase stewardship of America's natural resources while enhancing the environment;
3. Ensure commodities are procured and distributed effectively and efficiently to increase food security;
4. Transform and modernize the Farm Service Agency.



## Types of Programs

### Loans

- Guaranteed and Direct
- Farm Ownership (FO) Loans
- Farm Operating (OL) Loans
- Microloans
- Youth Loans
- Emergency (EM) Loans (only Direct)
- Land Contact (only Guaranteed)
- Conservation Loans

## Types of Programs

### Socially Disadvantaged Applicant (SDA)

As defined by law, an SDA applicant is one who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as a member of a group, without regard to their individual qualities.

SDA groups are African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asians, Pacific Islanders, and Women.

## Fiscal Year 2014

### Targeted SDA Loans

- 23.9 % of loan recipients were underserved applicants (\$759 million)
- 13.6% of loans were made to women (\$389 million)



A photograph of several cows grazing in a green field, positioned at the top of the slide. The image is partially obscured by a large green curved graphic that serves as a background for the text.

## Types of Programs Other Targeted Funds

### Beginning Farmer Loans

- FSA targets a portion of its direct and guaranteed FO and OL funds to beginning farmers

In FY 2014, 4% of all loans were made to Veterans.



## Fiscal Year 2014

### Loans for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

- 51.8 % of loan recipients were beginning farmers (\$2.39 billion)
- 34 % of all microloans were made to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (\$34 million)



## Types of Programs Disaster Assistance

- Livestock Forage Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Tree Assistance Program
- Emergency Conservation Program
- Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)



## Types of Programs Conservation

- Conservation Reserve Program
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- Emergency Forest Restoration Program
- Farmable Wetlands Program
- Grasslands Reserve Program
- Source Water Protection Program



## Types of Programs Price Support

- Farm Storage Facility Loans
- Market Loss Assistance Payment Programs
  - Margin Protection Program for Dairy Producers (MPP-Dairy)
  - Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (Alaska, Hawaii, and areas including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Virgin Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Republic of Palau)





## County Office Committees

- FSA has a large presence in the local community through farmer-elected county committee members.
- County Committees help deliver FSA programs by applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on the various programs.



# Recent Developments

- ❖ GovDelivery
- ❖ USDA's Veterans Initiative
- ❖ Cooperative Agreements
- ❖ Limited English Proficiency (LEP)





# FSA Initiatives

- ❖ Bridges to Opportunity
- ❖ Receipt for Service
- ❖ Stakeholder Resources







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A photograph of several sheep grazing in a lush green field. The sheep are of various breeds, including a black one on the left and several white ones with different markings. They are all focused on eating the grass.

## Farm Service Agency

For More Information Contact:

[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)