



Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Additional Assistance

Toolkit for Turfgrass Sod Stakeholders

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing additional assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), expanding eligibility for some agricultural producers and commodities as well as updating payments to accurately compensate some producers who already applied for the program. Producers who are now eligible and those who need to modify existing applications due to these updates can contact USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) between Jan. 19 and Feb. 26, 2021.

We need your help. We want to ensure producers are aware of this program and the available resources, including the call center. This toolkit is meant for producers and agricultural organizations to use and share information in their networks. This toolkit includes:

- Key messages
- Newsletter article
- Social media posts
- Social media story posts
- [Posters](#)

A comprehensive stakeholder toolkit for all CFAP changes can be [downloaded here](#).

Frequently Asked Questions can be found at farmers.gov/cfap/faq.

If you have questions, you can reach us at fpac.bc.press@usda.gov.



Key Messages

- The scope and depth of impact felt by the agriculture industry in 2020 was tremendous, and the goal of the assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program was to help ease some of the financial burden.
- USDA is utilizing remaining Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds to implement this additional CFAP assistance.
- Some of these changes are being made pursuant to the recently enacted Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, as well as discretionary changes in response to ongoing evaluation of CFAP and the ability to provide additional assistance, where needed.
- The additional assistance expands eligibility for some producers and commodities as well as makes changes to more accurately compensate producers who already applied for the program. Assistance includes:
 - **CFAP 2 assistance for turfgrass sod.**
 - Turfgrass sod is now eligible because this commodity experienced COVID-19 market disruptions but was not explicitly included in the initial CFAP 2 rule.
 - Industry sources demonstrated turfgrass sod suffered similar COVID-19 disruptions as other eligible products.
 - Payments are based on eligible sales in calendar year 2019 and the new provision includes crop insurance indemnities, Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus (WHIP+) payments received for the 2019 crop year.
 - Producers will be able to apply (or modify an existing CFAP 2 application) between Jan. 19, 2021, and Feb. 26, 2021, by contacting their local USDA Service Center.
 - For new applicants, one-on-one support with applications is also available by calling 877-508-8364.
 - **Updated calculation for sales commodities to more accurately represent what producers would expect to have marketed in 2020 under CFAP 2**
 - FSA has also adjusted the sales commodities calculation to take into account crop insurance indemnities, NAP and WHIP+

Updated 1-21-2021



- payments to more accurately represent what a producer would have marketed if not for a cause of loss.
- Payments will now use the producer's eligible sales in calendar year 2019, plus crop insurance indemnities, NAP and WHIP+ payments for the 2019 crop year, multiplied by the applicable payment rate.
 - Sales commodities include specialty crops, aquaculture, tobacco, specialty livestock, nursery crops and floriculture.
 - This change was made to ensure 2019 calculations are representative of a "normal" year, taking into account impacts from natural disasters.
 - Producers will be able to modify an existing CFAP 2 application between Jan. 19, 2021, and Feb. 26, 2021, by contacting their local USDA Service Center.
 - Additional changes include:
 - CFAP 2 assistance for contract livestock producers
 - CFAP 1 top-up payments for swine
 - Updated calculation for price trigger row crops to treat all producers with crop insurance more equitably, regardless if Actual Production History is available under CFAP 2.



Newsletter Article

USDA Offers Additional Assistance for Turfgrass Sod Producers Through Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing additional assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), expanding eligibility for some agricultural producers and commodities as well as updating payments to accurately compensate some producers who already applied for the program. Producers who are now eligible and those who need to modify existing applications due to these updates can contact USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) between Jan. 19 and Feb. 26.

Turfgrass sod is now eligible for CFAP payments. Turfgrass sod was not explicitly included in the initial CFAP 2 rule.

FSA also adjusted the payment calculation for CFAP 2 to use the producer's eligible 2019 calendar year sales, and 2019 crop insurance indemnities, Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus (WHIP+) payments, multiplied by the applicable payment rate for all sales commodities, which include specialty crops, aquaculture, tobacco, specialty livestock, nursery crops and floriculture.

More Information

Newly eligible producers can submit a new CFAP 2 application or producers who need to modify an existing one can do so between Jan. 19 and Feb. 26, 2021, by contacting their [local USDA Service Center](#). New applicants can also obtain one-on-one support with applications by calling 877-508-8364. Learn more at farmers.gov/cfap.

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Sample Posts for Facebook and Twitter

Below are social media posts for use on Facebook, Twitter, and other platforms. Click on graphic to download. Be sure to tag us: @USDA, @FarmersGov, @usdaFSA, and @USDA_AMS.

- Turfgrass sod is now eligible for #CFAP 2 to provide assistance for #COVID19 market disruptions. Apply now through Feb. 26, 2021. Visit farmers.gov/CFAP or call 877-508-8364. [+ graphic option below]
- .@USDA has a call center available to help with producers' questions on #CFAP for turfgrass sod. Call 877-508-8364. #CFAP [+ graphic option below]



- .@USDA will provide additional assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. #CFAP has expanded eligibility along with other program changes. farmers.gov/CFAP #CFAP [+ graphic option below]



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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Sample Posts for Instagram Story and Facebook Story

Below are graphics for use on Instagram Story and Facebook Story. Click on graphic to download. If your account is enabled to include links, please include farmers.gov/CFAP. Be sure to tag us: @USDA, @FarmersGov, and @USDA_AMS.



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ATTENTION TURFGRASS SOD PRODUCERS

USDA's Farm Service Agency has expanded the **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2** (CFAP 2) to include turfgrass sod.

CFAP 2 provides payments to eligible producers who continue to face market disruptions and associated costs because of the pandemic.

Apply, or modify existing applications, now through **Feb. 26, 2021**.

To learn more, **visit farmers.gov/CFAP**, contact our **call center at 877-508-8364**, or contact your **local FSA office**.

