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a.s.c.s.

FARM PROGRAMS

SOUTHERN RURAL RESEARCH
PROJECT

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FACT SHEET

This sheet deals with :

- * What the price support payment is for the different crops in the ASCS Allotment Programs.
- * What the diversion payments are.
- * How price support and diversion checks are worked out.

PRICE SUPPORT AND DIVERSION PAYMENTS FOR 1967

<u>CROP</u>	<u>PRICE SUPPORT PAYMENT</u>	<u>DIVERSION PAYMENT</u>
Cotton	11.53c. per pound	10.78c. per pound
Corn	73.5c. per bushel	30c. per bushel
Grain Sorghum	62c. per bushel	30c. per bushel
Wheat	\$1.25 per bushel	No diversion payment but Certificates worth \$1.25 per bushel

THIS IS HOW ASCS WORKS OUT WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR CHECKS:

Let's suppose you have a 20 acre allotment of cotton. Your projected yield is 500 pounds per acre. You have chosen to divert 35% of your allotment - or 7 acres. This means you will plant 13 acres.

THIS IS YOUR PRICE SUPPORT CHECK:

Price Support payment	X	Projected yield	X	Acres you planted	
11.53c.		500 pounds		13	= \$749.45

THIS IS YOUR DIVERSION CHECK:

Diversion payment	X	Projected yield	X	Acres not planted	
10.78c.		500 lbs		7	= \$377.30

YOU CAN GET GOVERNMENT MONEY FOR GROWING:Cotton:

If you want to join this program you will get a certain amount of cotton to plant. This is called an Allotment. You will get a price support payment of 11.53 cents a pound. You will get a diversion payment of 10.78 cents a pound. You should sign up for next year's program by the end of February.

Feed Grain:

There is no allotment under this program. Instead, you are given a base, and you may plant most of this. You will get price support payments on corn of 73.5 cents a bushel and on grain sorghum of 62 cents a bushel. You get diversion payments - in certain cases - with both corn and grain sorghum. You can join this program next year any time between February 5th and March 1st.

Wheat:

If you join this program you are given an allotment. You will get price support payments of \$1.25 a bushel. This price will probably go higher this year. Instead of diversion payments you will get certificates if you choose not to plant all of your Allotment. (You must plant at least 65% of it) If you find you need the wheat you didn't plant, you can take the certificates to the wheat storehouse and get the wheat. If you don't want the wheat you can turn in the certificates for cash. Next year you can join the program between February 5th and March 1st. You do this at the County ASCS office.

YOU CAN PLANT LESS THAN YOUR
ALLOTMENT, OR BASE, AND
RECEIVE GOVERNMENT MONEY FOR
DOING THIS.

Under the Feed Grain and Cotton Programs you can get diversion payments. You get this by not planting all of your allotment or base. This is called diversion. For cotton you can divert between 12% and 35% of your allotment. For Feed Grain you must divert 20% of your base. If your base happens to be 25 acres or less, you will get a diversion payment. The diversion payment for corn is 30c. per bushel.

YOU CAN GET PART OF YOUR
GOVERNMENT CHECKS BEFORE
HARVESTING.

Under the Cotton program, you can get half of your diversion payment check - before harvesting.

Under the Feed Grain program you can get half of your diversion check, plus half of your price support check.

YOU CAN GET PRICE SUPPORT
LOANS. THEY HELP YOU GET
A BETTER PRICE FOR YOUR
CROP.

The ASCS has what they call a price support loan program. Under it you receive an advance payment (or loan) while you store your crop. When you sell the crop, you repay the loan to the ASCS office. The program is supposed to help you by making it easier to get a higher price for your crop --- it also helps the Government by aiding to keep the market stable. You can either store your crop on your own land, or in a Government approved warehouse.

MEASURING - YOU CAN GET AN
IDEA OF ACREAGE FROM FIELD
MAPS AT THE ASCS OFFICE.

If you want your land measuring before planting, you will have to pay for this service. However, you can get rough measurements from field maps at the ASCS office. And, you may get your land checked, free of charge, after planting.

UNDER THE COTTON PROGRAM,
IF YOU HAVE 10 ACRES, OR
LESS, OR ONLY GET 3,600 LBS
OF COTTON

You can plant your whole allotment and still get a diversion payment. If you choose to divert some of your allotment YOU CAN GET A DOUBLE DIVERSION payment. For example, if you had a 10 acre allotment, this is what your Government check might look like :-

Price support payment of 6.5 acres planted: \$393.25

Diversion payment of 3.5 acres not planted: \$211.75

Diversion payment on 3.5 acres given
regardless of whether you diverted or not : \$211.75

Total Government Check..... \$816.75

IF YOU THINK ANY OF YOUR
ALLOTMENTS ARE UNFAIR:

You can ask a special committee called the Area Venue Board to change your allotment. This Board is not made up of ASCS Committeemen. They are appointed by ASCS. You have 15 days after you get your notice to ask the Venue Board to change it. You can contact this Board through the ASCS office.

IF YOU PLANT LESS THAN YOUR
ALLOTMENT AND DON'T DIVERT,
YOUR ALLOTMENT WILL BE CUT
FOR THE NEXT YEAR.

But you can plant 10% less than your allotment without having your allotment cut.

PLOWING UP YOUR CROPS:

If you plant more than your allotment, the Government gives you time to plow up the extra amount. The deadline this year was July 20th. If you didn't plow up you may stand to lose some of your price support and diversion payments. If you don't think you have to plough-up, you can ask to be re-measured. You pay for this - but the ASCS pays if the mistake was theirs.

YOU CAN OVERPLANT A LITTLE --- WITHOUT HAVING TO PLOUGH UP.

The ASCS Office allows you to overplant your allotment by a small amount. The amount is one-tenth of an acre, or 2% of the allotment - whichever is greater. For example, if you had a five acre allotment of cotton and planted 5 acres and one-tenth you would be in compliance.

YOUR PROJECTED YIELD:

If you are not sure how the projected yield (how much of your crop the ASCS says you are supposed to average an acre) is worked out -- the following explanation may clear it up:

The ASCS National Office in Washington D.C., sets an average projected yield for each State. This is then broken down into County figures. It is the job of the local Community ASCS Committeemen to find out the actual yields of the farmers in their Community. They get the actual yield for the past three years. This is shown on gin receipts. The ASCS men then adjust these figures so that they fit in with what Washington DC says the projected yield should be.

For example: In Hinds County, the yield has been set at about 500 pounds by Washington. When the Community ASCS Committeemen see each farmer to find out his actual yield, they may find that Farmer Joe averages 650 pounds per acre, that Farmer Bill averages 400 pounds, and so on. When the ASCS office (county office) reviews the figures they may cut Farmer Joe down to 575 lbs. per acre, and cut Farmer Bill to 375 lbs., and so on until the figure for all the farmers' yields together averages out to 500 lbs. per acre. That figure then, is each farmers projected yield.

IF YOU DON'T THINK YOUR
PROJECTED YIELD IS FAIR

You can ask the County ASCS Committee to change it. You have 15 days to do this after receiving your notice of what your projected yield is. You should support your appeal with warehouse or gin receipts for the past 3 years. You can make a further appeal to the State ASCS office if you are turned-down by the County Committee.

YOU CAN GET MONEY FROM THE
GOVERNMENT TO BUILD FARM
PONDS, OR DRAIN PART OF
YOUR LAND.

In order to do this you join a program called the Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP). Under it, you can get up to half of the money you need. This is an outright grant. You should apply through the ASCS office. You might be able to finance the remainder of the project through a FHA loan.

YOU CAN EARN MONEY BY SEMI-
PERMANENT DIVERSION .

If you co-operate in a program known as the Cropland Adjustment Program, you get money for taking land out of production. In order to get payments you have to do this for a minimum of five years. The maximum is 10 years. You can take out 10% of your cropland , and 10% of your base and allotment. The Government pays you a part of the value of the crops you would have grown on the land. You can improve this land by making use of Conservation funds. These are given on a cost-share basis.

IF YOU NEED MONEY

FOR YOUR FARM -- OR -- HOUSE

YOU CAN GET LOANS FROM THE FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION (FHA).

A LOAN TO HELP YOU BUY LAND OR A FARM

This is called the Farm Ownership Loan. You can borrow this money for up to 40 years. The loan cannot be more than the value of the land you buy. The amount you can borrow is set by the county FHA committee. You can also get this loan if you have some other job but want to make more money by farming. You must, however, have had farm experience.

A LOAN TO MAKE YOUR FARM-WORK BETTER.

With this loan you can buy things like :-

- * Seed
- * Fertilizer
- * Machinery
- * Livestock

This loan is called the Farm Operating Loan, and you can borrow the money for between 5 and 7 years. You can borrow up to \$35,000 depending on your ability to repay the loan.

A LOAN TO BUILD, OR FIX UP YOUR HOUSE - OR - FARM BUILDINGS.

This is called the Rural Housing Loan. You can borrow the money for up to 33 years. The loans are usually around \$10,000.

A LOAN TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF YOUR LAND .

This is called a Loan for Water development and soil conservation. You can borrow money for up to 40 years, and you may be given 15 years before making the first re-payment. The amount you get cannot be more than the value of your farm. Under this loan, for example, you can get money for raising the water table on your land.

A NEW, GENERAL PURPOSE LOAN.

This is called an Opportunity Loan. You can get the loan for things like :

- * Running a small business
- * For your farm

You can borrow up to \$2,500 and you have 15 years to repay.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT ALL THESE LOANS

1. YOU CAN GET ALL THESE LOANS FROM THE FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION (FHA).

They have an office in every county. It is usually in the ASCS Office and other government farm offices.

2. These loans are especially FOR FARM FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOW INCOME.

What FHA means by a farm family is - when the whole family works the farm. If you have 2 or more hired hands to help you, you cannot get an FHA Loan.

3. In order TO GET THESE LOANS YOU HAVE TO MAKE AN AGREEMENT with the government that you will repay the loan. If you are unable, you will have to turn over to them whatever you took the loan out for (like your house maybe). This is called a mortgage.

On smaller loans like the Opportunity Loan or loans under \$1500 all you have to do is make a promise to repay the money and sign a paper that you will do that. You will not have to turn anything over to them.

4. On all the loans the government will arrange for YOU TO REPAY THE LOAN DURING THE TIMES WHEN YOU ARE MAKING GOOD MOENY.

During the times when you are not making such good money you will have to repay less.

5. When you get a loan YOU CAN GET HELP FROM THE FHA PEOPLE in your county.

They will help you draw up a plan of how you can spend the money so it will help you the most.

6. YOU CAN GET MORE THAN ONE LOAN.

You can get as many as you need to help you with your farm or house as long as FHA is pretty sure you can pay all the loans back.

7. IF YOU ARE REFUSED A LOAN

and think you should have gotten it, you can write to or call the State FHA Office and tell them what happened. You can have them ask the county FHA Office to change their mind.

YOU CAN GET ADVICE AND HELP FOR YOUR FARMING PROBLEMS

The government has a service program whose job it is to help all farmers with their farming problems.

This program is called the "EXTENSION SERVICE".

This service experiments with crops, seed, fertilizer, soil, livestock, and any other things that would help farmers farm better.

The COUNTY AGENT is part of the extension service and it is his job to pass on to all farmers the new things the extension service found out about farming.

THE COUNTY AGENT WILL TELL YOU THINGS LIKE:

What new farm tools and machinery are available and what they can do.

- . how to grow better, healthier crops
- . How to use the money you do make to improve your farm and home so you can even make more money.
- . What crops and livestock you should have to make more money.
- . What other government farm programs will help you (like the FHA).

ASCS ELECTION 1967.WHO MAY TAKE PART

Anyone over 21 who is a farm operator. This includes tenants, sharecroppers, and farmers' wives who either operate the farm, or whose name is on the title deed. In addition anyone who is under 21 who carries out all the operations on a farm, may vote in the ASCS election.

WHO IS ELECTED THIS YEAR

The whole of the Community ASCS Committee. That's to say, the 3 regular members and the two alternate members. All five serve for one year. Only 1 member of the County ASCS Committee, plus two alternate members are elected this year. The full member serves for 3 years. The alternate members serve for one year.

THE MAIN ELECTION DATES

- August 14th : You should receive written notice of the election & details about Community boundaries.
- August 24th : Last day for filing nominating petitions.
- September 8th : The ballots are sent out by the ASCS office. You can vote for up to five candidates.
- September 18th : Last day for mailing your ballot, OR taking it to the ASCS office.
- September 22nd : Counting of ballots for the Community Committee must have been completed.
- October 16th : Election of the County ASCS Committee at the County Convention.

NOMINATING PROCEEDURE

You can nominate one person to be on the ballot. All you have to do is to draw up a nominating petition (like the one below) and have it signed by five other farmers besides yourself. This petition may be handed into the ASCS County office between August 14th and August 24th.

VOTING

Voting is done by mail - the same as last year. You can vote for up to five names on the ballot - or as few as you want. When you have marked the ballot, put it into the plain envelope. Then put this into the envelope with the ASCS office address. Sign the certificate and mark the date. Return the ballot not later than September 18th.

COUNTING

The counting of ballots takes place in public. It is done by the County ASCS Committee and must be carried out by September 22nd. If you are a candidate or a candidate's poll watcher, you have a right to stand close enough to see the actual counting.

Sample nominating petition.

We, the undersigned ask that.....who is a farm operator/
tenant/sharecropper inCommunity,.....County,
Mississippi, be placed on the ballot for nomination to the
.....Community ASCS Committee, to be voted on September 9th to
September 18th, 1967.

Signed.....address.....

dated :.....