

USDA Farm Service Agency lowa

Cornbelt Cow-Calf Conference January 2013



Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

ECP was established to provide cost share to eligible agricultural producers to:

- Rehabilitate farmland and conservation practices damaged by natural disasters
- Provide cost share assistance during periods of severe drought



ECP Drought Practices

Drought approved practices and measures include:

- Installing pipelines or other facilities for livestock water
- Constructing and deepening wells for livestock water
- Developing springs or seeps for livestock water

ECP Assistance - Drought

A qualifying producer for ECP assistance may:

- Receive cost share not to exceed 75% of the cost of installing the eligible temporary measures
- Receive 50% for permanent measures

Cost share assistance is limited to \$200,000 per person per natural disaster

Existing water source problems prior to the natural disaster are not eligible for ECP

ECP Application

Local FSA offices monitor weather conditions and COC decides whether to implement ECP.

Prior to starting any work, the producer will:

- Complete a fact sheet, providing information such as
 - Cost estimates to repair
 - Locate area on an aerial photocopy
- Sign a cost share request

ECP Implementation

Local FSA office will preform an on site inspection and notify the producer in writing it has been completed.

When ECP funding is available, producers will be notified if the application has been approved or disapproved. If disapproved, the reason will be stated.

ECP Approval

After the application has been approved, the producers may begin completing work.

After completion:

- Submit bills/invoices for the work completed
- Sign the cost share agreement (FSA-848A)

After all needed information has been provided, payment will be processed.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

- Provides loan interest financing for producers to build and upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.
 - Loan on 85% of net cost of eligible facility
 - Terms of 7, 10, 12 years depending on amount of loan
 - Interest rates vary monthly and are based on the rate CCC borrows from the Treasury Department
 - Maximum loan is \$500,000



Emergency Farm Loans

- Interest Rate is 2.125%
- Repayment typically 1 to 7 years
- Emergency Farm Loans uses:
 - Restore or replace essential property;
 - Pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year;
 - Pay essential family living expenses;
 - Reorganize the farming operation; and
 - Refinance certain debts



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