



Disaster Assistance Programs for Organic Livestock and Forage Production in California

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

FSA Program Summary¹

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops to protect against natural disasters that result in lower yields or crop losses, or prevent crop planting.

Target Audience: Producers of crops not covered by federal crop insurance (noninsurable crops), including seeded pasture and native grass for livestock.

Organic Commodities Covered:

- Varies depending on the county. Check in with your county FSA office to see if crops planted and grown for livestock consumption, such as grain, forage crops, or native grasses/forage, are covered in your county. Some crops may have organic coverage rates, and some may not. The reason that a crop may not be covered in a particular county is because federal crop insurance may cover that crop. The only difference between organic/non-organic is the yield and price.
- You can request an organic rate/yield for most crops with a yield, if it is not already available. This is typically done on a county-by-county basis through your FSA county office. To request an organic rate for a crop, you need the following information: crop name, type, intended use, irrigation practice, and organic market price. Check in with your county FSA office for the complete details on requesting an organic rate/yield.

Geographic Availability: All counties in the United States. The crops/forages covered vary by county, so do crops/forages with organic coverage rates. Check with your FSA office for information specific to your county.

What types of loss are covered?¹

Eligible causes of loss include the following natural disasters:

- Damaging weather, such as drought, freeze, hail, excessive moisture, excessive wind, or hurricanes;
- Adverse natural occurrences, such as earthquake or flood; and
- Conditions related to damaging weather or adverse natural occurrences, such as excessive heat, plant disease, volcanic smog (VOG), or insect infestation.

The natural disaster must occur during the coverage period, before or during harvest, and must directly affect the eligible crop.

Apply and Pay the Service Fee Before a Disaster Occurs

Unlike other FSA disaster assistance programs that come into effect after a natural disaster occurs, NAP is a risk management program that producers apply for before a disaster occurs. An application fee and a service fee are due by the application closing date, which vary depending on the crop. The basic NAP fee is waived and buy-up premiums are reduced for beginning, limited resource, socially disadvantaged, and veteran farmers/ranchers.

Additional Disaster Assistance Programs

In addition to NAP, FSA offers numerous disaster assistance programs for livestock operations. While none of these programs are specifically for organic livestock operations, these operations are still eligible for disaster assistance. FSA's disaster assistance programs include Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP); Livestock Forage Program (LFP); and the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). These programs are available after a disaster occurs. Your county may be eligible for certain programs due to drought, fire, or other natural disasters. FSA recommends filing an annual acreage report with your county FSA office each year. This speeds up the application process for disaster assistance after a disaster has occurred.

How can I learn more about FSA risk management and disaster assistance programs?

For the most up-to-date information on all FSA disaster assistance programs, including eligibility requirements, program limitations, and application deadlines, visit your county FSA office. Locate your county office using USDA's service center locator on www.Farmers.gov.



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¹ https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSA-Public/usdfiles/FactSheets/2017/nap_for_2015_and_subsequent_years_oct2017.pdf