

(3) Payment**(A) In general**

Under the program, the Secretary shall make payments to eligible producers, based on the quantity of bioenergy produced by the eligible producer during a fiscal year that exceeds the quantity of bioenergy produced by the eligible producer during the preceding fiscal year.

(B) Payment rate**(i) Producers of less than 65,000,000 gallons**

An eligible producer that produces less than 65,000,000 gallons of bioenergy shall be reimbursed 1 feedstock unit for every 2.5 feedstock units of eligible commodity used for increased production.

(ii) Producers of 65,000,000 or more gallons

An eligible producer that produces 65,000,000 or more gallons of bioenergy shall be reimbursed 1 feedstock unit for every 3.5 feedstock units of eligible commodity used for increased production.

(C) Quarterly payments

The Secretary shall make payments to an eligible producer for each quarter of the fiscal year.

(4) Proration

If the amount made available for a fiscal year under subsection (c) of this section is insufficient to allow the payment of the amount of the payments that eligible producers (that apply for the payments) otherwise would receive under this subsection, the Secretary shall prorate the amount of the funds among all such eligible producers.

(5) Overpayments

If the total amount of payments that an eligible producer receives for a fiscal year under this section exceeds the amount that the eligible producer should have received under this subsection, the eligible producer shall repay the amount of the overpayment to the Secretary, with interest (as determined by the Secretary).

(6) Limitation

No eligible producer shall receive more than 5 percent of the total amount made available under subsection (c) of this section for a fiscal year.

(7) Other requirements

To be eligible to receive a payment under this subsection, an eligible producer shall meet other requirements of Federal law (including regulations) applicable to the production of bioenergy.

(c) Funding

Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section—

- (1) not more than \$150,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2006; and
- (2) \$0 for fiscal year 2007.

(Pub. L. 107–171, title IX, §9010, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 485.)

CHAPTER 108—TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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§ 8201. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) Eligible orchardist

The term “eligible orchardist” means a person that produces annual crops from trees for commercial purposes.

(2) Natural disaster

The term “natural disaster” means plant disease, insect infestation, drought, fire, freeze, flood, earthquake, lightning, and other occurrence, as determined by the Secretary.

(3) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(4) Tree

The term “tree” includes a tree, bush, and vine.

(Pub. L. 107–171, title X, § 10201, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 490.)

§ 8202. Eligibility**(a) Loss**

Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary shall provide assistance under section 8203 of this title to eligible orchardists that planted trees for commercial purposes but lost the trees as a result of a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) Limitation

An eligible orchardist shall qualify for assistance under subsection (a) of this section only if the tree mortality of the eligible orchardist, as a result of damaging weather or related condition, exceeds 15 percent (adjusted for normal mortality).

(Pub. L. 107–171, title X, § 10202, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 490.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 8203 of this title.

§ 8203. Assistance

Subject to section 8204 of this title, the assistance provided by the Secretary to eligible orchardists for losses described in section 8202 of this title shall consist of—

- (1) reimbursement of 75 percent of the cost of replanting trees lost due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, in excess of 15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality); or
- (2) at the option of the Secretary, sufficient seedlings to reestablish a stand.