



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Farm and Foreign  
Agricultural  
Services

Foreign  
Agricultural  
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**SUBJECT: Prorated Cash Payments Under the Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Farmers Program**

Dear FY 2011 TAA Applicant:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency recently began the distribution of cash payments to producers who were approved under the FY 2011 Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Farmers Program and who successfully completed part or all of the program's training requirements.

In September 2010, USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service certified group petitions filed by blueberry producers in Maine, lobster producers in the Northeast region, and shrimp producers in Alaska and the Gulf and South Atlantic regions. As a result, more than 6,000 producers applied for training and cash benefits for the period beginning October 1, 2010, and ending December 31, 2010, known as the FY 2011 program.

Eligible producers under the FY 2011 program will receive prorated cash payments based on several factors, including the amount of program funding available, the number of approved applications and overturned appeals, and the amount of travel reimbursements claimed by applicants.

In April, USDA announced preliminary estimates for producer payments to be approximately \$1,200 for developing and implementing an approved initial business plan, and an additional \$2,300 for developing and implementing an approved long-term business plan. However, based on the latest calculations, USDA has revised these estimates. Producer payments are currently expected to be approximately \$971 for developing and implementing an approved initial business plan, and an additional \$1,942 for developing and implementing an approved long-term business plan. Please note that a third payment may be issued to producers at the end of the program if funding remains, once all travel reimbursements are paid and a final tally is made on the number of applicants who have completed all phases of the training requirements.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 reauthorized and modified the TAA for Farmers Program and provided appropriations of \$90 million for the FY 2010 program and \$22.5 million for the FY 2011 program.

General information about the TAA for Farmers Program can be found on the TAA for Farmers Web site at: <http://www.taaforfarmers.org/> or the FAS Web site at: [www.fas.usda.gov/itp/taa](http://www.fas.usda.gov/itp/taa). For more information, contact the TAA for Farmers Program staff in the Office of Trade Programs at telephone (202) 720-0638 or by e-mail at [tradeadjustment@fas.usda.gov](mailto:tradeadjustment@fas.usda.gov).