



# NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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## FSA Informs Producers of SURE Eligibility on 2011 and 2012 Crops

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Sept. 1, 2011 -- Steven Maurer, State Executive Director for Ohio's Farm Service Agency (FSA), would like to inform eligible producers which may and may not suffer loss because of disaster events occurring on or before September 30, 2011, about how the 2008 Farm Bill provisions that authorized SURE will be administered for 2011 and 2012 crops.

The SURE Program was authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) to provide assistance to producers suffering crop losses because of disasters on or before September 30, 2011. To receive SURE payments; an eligible producer on a SURE farm must have a qualifying loss. A qualifying loss is defined as a loss of 10 percent or more on at least 1 crop of economic significance because of disaster on a farm that is either:

- located in a disaster county; or
- if not located in any disaster county or county contiguous to such a county, but has an overall loss greater than or equal to 50 percent of normal production on the farm (expected revenue for all crops on the farm) because of disaster.

At the time of filing the 2011 or 2012 SURE application for payment, the producer will be required to identify and certify the crop of economic significance on the SURE farm that suffered the 10 percent loss because of disaster occurring on or before September 30, 2011.

Crops are **not** required to be harvested on or before September 30, 2011, to maintain eligibility for SURE.

The determination of whether a producer's certification of crop loss is because of a disaster occurring on or before September 30, 2011, FSA will review the crop's planting and growing period, asserted disaster event, and any other pertinent information that may be relevant or available.

For more information about the SURE program, visit your local FSA office or the website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/sure>.