



Louisiana Farm and Agribusiness Recovery Grant and Loan Program

The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) and the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA) have worked together in the development of a grant and loan program that will provide additional assistance to Louisiana agricultural producers and agribusinesses that were adversely impacted from Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. The funding for this program was approved by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and will come from its Community Development Block Grant funds. A total of \$30 million has initially been approved and allocated for this program. An additional \$25 million is expected to be allocated for the program bringing total funding up to \$55 million

What Will This Program Offer?

While the final details of the application process have not yet been released, it is known that the majority of the funds being made available will go towards the implementation of two programs. These programs will provide direct assistance to agricultural producers and the agribusiness sector that provides the inputs and services needed by production agriculture. They programs are:

- **Farm Recovery Program** - This program will provide funds through a grant/loan program to producers adversely affected by the storms. Assistance under the program can range from \$10,000 to \$100,000 per producer. The money awarded to the producer will be a combination of a grant and loan. The loan portion (80% of the total assistance awarded to the producer) will be for 5 years with a 1 ½ percent interest rate. The grant portion is the remaining 20 percent of the total amount awarded to the producer. If the loan is repaid over the 5 years, then the grant portion is forgiven. Initially, the LDAF will have \$15 million available for this program. After final allocations are received from HUD, the total amount available for this program is expected to be approximately \$31.5 million.
- **Agribusiness Recovery Program** – A similar program to the Farm Recovery Program is being offered to those businesses that provide inputs and services to production agriculture such as custom applicators, cotton gins, elevators, etc. Loans will range from \$10,000 to \$250,000 and will be for 7 years with a 1 ½ percent interest rate. Initially, \$5 million will be made available for this program. After the final allocation from HUD, an additional \$5 million is expected to be made available to this program.

In addition to these two programs, a portion of the funds will be used for critical infrastructure needs. Specifically, \$10 million will be used with the Port of New Orleans to build cold storage facility for the poultry industry to maintain its export competitiveness.

How Will The Program Work?

All of the programs will be administered through the LDAF's Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority. All 64 parishes will be eligible for assistance. The state will be divided into 8 regions with funds being provided based on the estimated economic impact from the storms in each region.

While the final details of the program are not yet complete, the LDAF projects that it will begin to start accepting applications for participation in this program within the next one to two months. **Currently, the LDAF is requesting producers and agribusiness interested in the program to pre-register. A pre-registration form is attached at the end of this newsletter. This pre-registration is NOT a program application.** The purpose of the pre-registration is to allow LDAF to identify those interested in participating in the program. This will hopefully allow LDAF to more quickly and efficiently distribute application packages and to minimize the time between the application period and the final approval of producer awards.

Additional Information

The LSU AgCenter will make additional details of the program available once they have been published. Producers and agribusiness interested in additional information can also contact the LDAF's Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority. Their contact information is:

Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority
Phone: (225) 922 - 1277
Fax: (225) 237 - 5710
Email: LAFA@daf.state.la.us
Homepage: www.ldaf.state.la.us

Louisiana Farm Recovery Loan and Grant Program

Pre-Registration Form



**LOUISIANA FARM RECOVERY
LOAN AND GRANT PROGRAM
Information Request Form
THIS IS NOT A LOAN APPLICATION**



<i>Complete, sign then mail or fax to:</i>	<i>For further information, please contact:</i>
Farm Loan Grant Program Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority P.O Box 3334 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3334 Fax: (225) 237-5710	LAFAs Phone: (225) 922-1277 Fax: (225) 237-5710 E-Mail : LAFAs@ldaf.state.la.us Homepage: www.ldaf.state.la.us

Did you suffer a crop loss, aquaculture loss, or agri-business loss due to a disaster in one or more of the Parishes designated by a Presidential declaration between January 1, 2008 and December 30, 2008? Yes No

Have you already received, or will receive, assistance from any other Federal program for the same crop loss, aquaculture loss, or agri-business loss? Yes No

Please print or type

Producer Data

Name: _____ Farm Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ E-Mail: _____

Parish: _____ FSA Farm Number(s): _____

Louisiana House District: _____ Louisiana Senate District: _____ U.S. Congressional District: _____

(If you don't know in which district your farm or residence is located, it can be found at : <http://www.legis.state.la.us/>)

Type of Organization:

General Partnership Corporation or LLC Joint Venture Individual Proprietorship Other (explain)

<p>I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS NOT A LOAN APPLICATION. THIS FORM IS A REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ONLY.</p> <p align="center">_____ Producer Name Typed or Printed</p> <p align="center">_____ Producer Signature</p> <p align="center">_____ Date</p>	<p>Department Use Only:</p> <p>Date Received: _____</p> <p>Entered by: _____</p> <p>Checked by: _____</p>
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