



Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

Darrel J. Aubertine
Commissioner, Agriculture and Markets

NYS Agricultural and Community Recovery Fund (ACRF) - Farm Operation Match Component -

On September 3, 2011 Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced the creation of an Agricultural and Community Recovery Fund (ACRF) to help rebuild the agricultural industry and farming areas impacted by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

The Farm Operation Match Component of the ACRF is a coordinated effort by NYS Homes and Community Renewal (NYSHCR) and the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM) to provide emergency funding to help with on farm operating costs incurred as a result of damage by natural disasters.

FUND ADMINISTRATION

ACRF is administered by NYSHCR in coordination with NYSDAM. Under the Farm Operations Match Component, farms located in the following counties may be eligible to receive funding subject to the availability of funds: Albany, Broome, Chenango, Chemung, Clinton, Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Essex, Greene, Herkimer, Montgomery, Nassau, Oneida, Orange, Otsego, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Suffolk, Sullivan, Tioga, Ulster, Warren, Washington, and Westchester.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. November 7, 2011:

NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
10-B Airline Drive
Albany, NY 12235
Attn. Lucy Roberson, Director, Fiscal Management
NYS Agricultural and Community Recovery Fund (ACRF)
- Farm Operation Match Component -

Programmatic Questions should be directed to:

Steve McGrattan
518-457-7836
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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Farm operations that raise or grow the following are eligible to apply for funding:

- Livestock, including dairy
- Fruits, vegetables, bedding plants, nursery and flowers

Eligible farmers must submit applications by November 7, 2011 with documented feed, crop, produce/nursery loss and replacement cost for each eligible expense to NYSDAM.

Eligible Costs – Reimbursement Amount

The maximum amount of allowable replacement cost per farmer will be matched on a 1:1 ratio, until funds for the Farm Operations Match component are depleted.

Feed Replacement - 50% of the allowable replacement cost for livestock feed grown, produced and/or purchased, stored and subsequently lost by the eligible farmer during the time period covered by the program up to a maximum of \$50,000. Actual awards will be based on a prorated formula according to demonstrated need and availability of funding.

Fruit, Vegetable, Bedding Plant, Nursery and Flower Replacement - 50% of the allowable replacement cost for fruits and vegetables that were grown by the eligible farmers and then subsequently purchased from other sources necessary to maintain customers during the time period covered by the program up to a maximum of \$10,000. Actual awards will be based on a prorated formula according to demonstrated need and availability of funding.

- To be eligible for this component, the producer must have maintained CSA, farmers' market or farm stand operations for the period of August 28, 2011 through October 31, 2011 and be able to provide purchase records of replacement product for the continuation of such operations during the above time period.

Eligible Time Period

Eligible loss must have occurred as a result of catastrophic weather and flooding events caused by Hurricane Irene and/or Tropical Storm Lee. Eligible replacement costs must be incurred within the following time frames:

- Feed replacement costs incurred between August 28, 2011 and October 31, 2011.



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- Fruits, vegetables, bedding plants, nursery stock and flowers replacement costs between August 28, 2011 and October 31, 2011.

Farmers - Other Requirements

The State of New York reserves the right to conduct an audit of funded projects. Awardees' financial records relating to the performance of the project shall be maintained for no less than six (6) years after the completion of the project.

Farmers must certify that the replacement cost is not insured or otherwise eligible for funding under any other state or federal program.

Farmers receiving awards under this program will be able to return funds to the state if the farmer determines that funding from another state or federal program is more advantageous and the acceptance of disaster recovery funds under this program would otherwise make the farmer ineligible for funds from other sources.

AWARDING OF FUNDS – PROCESS

Calculation:

Awards will be based on a prorated formula according to demonstrated need and availability of funding.

Process:

- 1) The NYSDAM will approve farmer applications and determine amount of funding awarded per farmer and total amount of funding available to eligible counties.
- 2) Funding will be provided by eligible counties or NYSDAM depending upon the source of funding. Costs for eligible expenditures must be incurred prior to the disbursement of funds.
- 3) Funding will be distributed as a grant to the farmer against his/her invoiced or incurred expenses.