



Fact Sheet: Agricultural Disaster Assistance in Continuing Resolution

The Continuing Resolution (CR) provides critical assistance for producers across the country that have experienced severe weather conditions in 2020 and 2021. \$10 billion in funding is provided to continue the WHIP+ Program for 2020 and 2021 losses. In addition, \$275 million is also made available for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program.

In July, the House Agriculture Committee marked up and unanimously advanced a bipartisan Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute (ANS) to H.R. 267, the 2020 WHIP+ Reauthorization Act, with many of those provisions now contained in the CR.

In addition to providing this supplemental WHIP+ assistance to producers, the CR also will bring more producers into the Federal crop insurance program by requiring that recipients of this assistance purchase crop insurance or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for the next two crop years after receiving assistance.

Key highlights in the CR for WHIP+ agricultural disaster assistance are described below.

- Provides \$10 billion for the disaster assistance provisions outlined in the bill.
- Extends disaster assistance programs through 2020 and 2021, including losses to crops, milk, on-farm stored commodities, crops prevented from planting, adulterated wine grapes, trees, bushes, and vines.
- Maintains the causes of loss that were in WHIP+ and includes additional causes of loss. Assistance will be available for losses due to: droughts, wildfires, hurricanes, floods, derechos, excessive heat, winter storms, freeze, polar vortexes, smoke exposure, quality losses of crops, and excessive moisture in 2020 and 2021.
- Allows for drought assistance to be triggered when counties experience D2 drought conditions on the Drought Monitor for 8 consecutive weeks, or more severe drought conditions.
- Includes \$750 million for livestock losses in 2021.
- Allows payments for sugar and dairy losses in 2021 to be administered through sugar processing facilities or through dairy cooperative processing facilities.
- Allows for one percent of the funds to be used for administrative costs; including streamlining the application process.
- Continues the payment limitations that were in effect for WHIP+, includes provisions to reflect the level of losses that are experienced by specialty crop and high value crop producers, and enables assistance for producers that experienced losses in both 2020 and 2021.
- Ensures that producers are not eligible to receive more than the value of their crop by limiting assistance for producers with crop insurance or NAP coverage to 90 percent of the loss and limiting assistance to 70 percent of the loss for producers without crop insurance or NAP coverage.
- Accounts for the premiums that producers pay for crop insurance and NAP coverage in calculating assistance for producers.
- Continues the requirement in WHIP+ that recipients of assistance under this program must purchase crop insurance or NAP coverage for the next two available crop years.
- Requires the Secretary of Agriculture to submit a report specifying the type, amount, and methods of assistance by state and territory to Congress within 120 days of the end of FY 2022.