

FLORIDA CITRUS RECOVERY BLOCK GRANT

Florida's Citrus Recovery Block Grant Program ("CRBG") is available to citrus producers who maintain an active citrus farming operation and who suffered citrus crop damage as a result of Hurricane Irma. In order to qualify for CRBG, producers must first apply for the Federal 2017 USDA Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program (WHIP). Producers receiving assistance under either CRBG or WHIP must obtain federal tree and crop insurance for crop years 2020 and 2021. Total payments from insurance, WHIP, and the CRBG shall not exceed 85% of total losses identified by WHIP for insured applicants or 65% of total losses identified by WHIP for uninsured applicants. Payments will be delivered through the State of Florida's My Florida Marketplace (MFMP) vendor payment system via direct deposit or hard-copy check.

THREE PART PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency ("FSA"), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Florida Division of Emergency Management ("DEM") developed the CRBG. The amount of available grant funding is capped at \$340,000,000. DEM will administer the funds, which are available for the following purposes:

PART 1: TREE RESETS, GROVE REHABILITATION, AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM REPAIR/REPLACEMENT (ESTIMATED \$129 M) –

- Funding is available for eligible producers with crop production loss of at least 20% due to Hurricane Irma
- Up to \$385.00/acre for tree resets, rehabilitation or replacement; irrigation and drainage system repair, etc.
- Available Fall 2018
- Complete grant application with supporting documentation is required (see below).

PART 2: FUTURE ECONOMIC LOSSES (ESTIMATED \$182 M) –

- Funding is available for eligible producers with crop production loss of at least 40% due to Hurricane Irma
- Application with supporting documentation for Part 1 required
- Up to \$745.50/acre for expected citrus losses for crop years in 2019 and 2020
- Up to 3 payments total to be disbursed upon completion of:
 - Fall 2018 Site Inspection – up to \$372.75/acre
 - Proof of purchase for 2020 tree and crop insurance – up to \$186.38/acre
 - Proof of purchase for 2021 tree and crop insurance – up to \$186.38/acre

PART 3: CROP INSURANCE PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND ESTIMATED \$29 M) –

- Funding may be available to purchase Federal crop insurance for years 2022 and 2023
- Up to 2 payments may be disbursed following crop insurance premiums for crop years 2022 and 2023:
 - Proof of purchase for 2022 crop year insurance – award amount TBD
 - Proof of purchase for 2023 crop year insurance – award amount TBD

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application cycle is scheduled to open on September 18, 2018. Producers may download applications on-line at www.floridadisaster.org or by making an appointment with DEM at the FSA locations listed below:

- Bartow
- Kissimmee
- Wauchula
- Okeechobee
- Moore Haven
- Fort Myers
- Fort Pierce

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR PAYMENT

In order to comply with Federal and State requirements, DEM will require the following documentation prior to payment:

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR PAYMENT	
ALL PARTS	Completed WHIP application; Proof of tree and crop insurance for 2020 and 2021 crop years; and, Certifications of continuing citrus operations.
PART 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proof of expenditures such as receipts, invoices, or credit card statements – up to \$385/acre
PART 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1 application• Fall 2018 site inspection – up to \$372.75/acre• Proof of purchase for 2020 tree and crop insurance – up to \$186.38/acre• Proof of purchase for 2021 tree and crop insurance – up to \$186.38/acre
PART 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proof of purchase for 2022 crop year insurance – TBD• Proof of purchase for 2023 crop year insurance – TBD.

APPLICATION WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

To learn more about the program, four application workshops will be held throughout the State. See below for details.

WORKSHOP #1 – FORT PIERCE

Monday – September 24th, 9:00-12:00

USDA Horticultural Lab - 2001 S Rock Rd, Fort Pierce, FL 34945

WORKSHOP #2 – LAKE ALFRED

Thursday – September 27th, 9:00 – 12:00

Citrus Research and Education Center - 700 Experiment Station Road Lake Alfred, FL 33850

WORKSHOP #3 – SEBRING

Thursday – September 27th, 2:00-5:00

Bert Harris Ag Center 4509 George Blvd. Sebring, FL 33875

WORKSHOP #4 - LABELLE

Friday – September 28th, 9:00 – 12:00

Dallas Townsend, FL 1085 Pratt Blvd. LaBelle, FL 33935

For more inquiries concerning Florida’s Citrus Recovery Grant Program, contact DEM Senior Management Analyst Joseph Oglesby at (850) 815-4450.