

AFPC Crop Decision Aids Data Collection Form and Instructions

Use the form on the last page of this document to collect the data that you will need to enter to use the various AFPC crops Decision Aids. Use one data form for each farm unit. You should create a farm unit in the My Data area of the web site for each unique FSA#-crop-practice combination in your operation.

Across all AFPC decision aid modules, consistent units of measurement shown in the table below are used for prices and yields for each crop. For all data items in the following sections, collect price and yield data in these units. Data must be provided in these units to be consistent with the national and county-level data that will be used for your analysis, and using different units will invalidate the results of the analysis.

Crop	Price Units	Yield Units
Corn	\$/bushel	Bushels/acre
Cotton	\$/pound	Pounds/acre
Grain Sorghum	\$/bushel	Bushels/acre
Rice	\$/hundredweight	Hundredweight/acre
Soybeans	\$/bushel	Bushels/acre
Wheat	\$/bushel	Bushels/acre

1. Account Information

This is information you enter when creating a new account.

Full Name. This is simply your name, not any kind of official user name or account name. This is simply printed on the output for the convenience of managers or insurance agents running the decision aid for multiple clients.

Email. This is the email address that will serve as your user name. It will be used to identify you across AFPC decision aids and will be used to notify you of important changes to the Decision Aids (based on the results of USDA rulemaking for the 2014 Farm Bill). Enter a valid email address.

Password. Enter a password consisting of 8 or more characters. Write the password down so that you can re-access your personal data throughout the signup period, and when you want to use the annual insurance or generic base allocation tools in future years.

State. This is the state in which you produce the relevant crop. Choose a valid state from the drop down list.

2. Unit Information

This information is entered when you create a new farm unit by pressing “Add a new farm unit” on the “My Data” page. Note that required fields are marked with a red asterisk (*) on the web page.

Name. This is any name by which you refer to a specific unit (e.g., “Smith Farm”, “Main Unit”, or “Johnson Lease”). Enter anything you wish here that will help you identify and recognize the unit later.

Description. This optional field can contain any additional information you wish to enter.

FSA Number. This must consist only of numeric digits (0, 1, 2, ...). This can generally be found on the APH report provided by your insurance company.

County. This is the county in which you produce the relevant crop. Choose a valid county from the drop down list. This will be used to access the correct historical county yields when performing analysis for this unit.

Crop. This is the crop that you produce on this unit. Choose an available crop from the drop down list. (Note, if you produce multiple crops on a single FSA number, they must be entered as a separate farm unit in My Data).

Practice. This is the practice you use to produce the crop (e.g., irrigated, non-irrigated, etc.). Available choices will vary by crop. Choose an available practice from the drop down list.

Typical Harvest-time Basis. This is used to calculate expected market receipts for selling your crop. Here, the typical basis is defined as the typical value of your local harvest-time spot price minus the harvest-time futures price for the relevant futures contract that is used to calculate your crop insurance indemnities. If you do not know what futures contract to use in calculating this number, contact your insurance agent or go to <http://www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/rsos.html> and navigate to your state’s RMA regional office web page, and download the appropriate “Crop Fact Sheet” for your crop. This number may be negative or positive, and must be given in the price units for your crop specified above.

APH Yield. This is the non-trend adjusted APH. If your county-crop combination is NOT eligible for a trend adjustment option, this number would be described on the APH report from your insurance agent as the “average APH yield” or “approved yield”. If you are eligible for the trend adjustment option, this would likely NOT be described as “approved yield.”

Trend Adjusted APH Yield. If your county-crop combination is eligible for a trend adjustment option, this number would be described on the APH report from your insurance agent as the “adjusted yield” or “approved yield”. If you are NOT eligible for the trend adjustment option, enter zero -- do not leave this space blank.

Counter Cyclical Yield. This is your official FSA counter cyclical yield used through 2013. This can be obtained from your FSA county/regional office.

2013 Base Acres. This is your official base acreage for federal farm programs for marketing years through 2013. This can be obtained from your FSA county/regional office.

Future Acres. These fields contain acres to be planted for 2014 through 2018. These values need not correspond to historical planted acres or base acres.

2014 Base Acres. This number is initially optional (although it will later be required to run the annual generic base allocation and the insurance decision aids). This is your official base acreage for federal farm programs for marketing years 2014 and beyond. This can be the same as your 2013 base acres, or if you choose to update you can determine the updated values using the AFPC Base Acre Update Decision Aid. If the crop for this farm unit is cotton, the 2014 Base Acres will be considered “generic” base acres by the various Decision Aid tools.

PLC Yield. This number is initially optional (although it will later be required to run the annual generic base allocation and the insurance decision aids). It is your official FSA PLC yield used for marketing years 2014 and beyond. This could be the same as your CC Yield, or you might choose to update this, and can determine the updated value using the AFPC Yield Update Decision Aid.

Title I Program. This item is initially optional (although it will later be required to run the annual generic base allocation and the insurance decision aids). This is your choice of Title I program under the 2014 Farm Bill (PLC, ARC-County, or ARC-Individual). This choice is not available for cotton.

3. Unit Yield Information

These data are entered by selecting “Edit” for the relevant unit on the My Data page, and then using the boxes at the bottom of the unit editing page. For each yield observation entered, you must enter either prevented planting acres or both planted acres and a yield per planted acre.

Historical Yields per Planted Acre. These must be your actual yields per planted acre (“A yields”). Do not enter T-yields. You need not enter yields for all years shown in the table, and may enter yields for years earlier than those shown in the table. Years for which you enter yields need not be consecutive.

Planted Acres. Actual historical planted acres as reflected in your RMA records.

Prevented Planting Acres. Historical prevented planting.

Unit Information Sheet

Use this form to collect all information needed for AFPC Decision Aids for each farm unit.

Name	
Description (optional)	
FSA Number	
County	
Crop	
Practice	
Harvest-time Basis	
APH Yield	
Trend-adjusted APH	
Counter Cyclical Yield	
PLC Yield (optional)	
2013 Base Acres	
2014 Base Acres (optional)	
2014 Future Acres	
2015 Future Acres	
2016 Future Acres	
2017 Future Acres	
2018 Future Acres	

	Actual Yield per Planted Acre	Planted Acres	Prevented Planting Acres
2000			
2001			
2002			
2003			
2004			
2005			
2006			
2007			
2008			
2009			
2010			
2011			
2012			
2013			