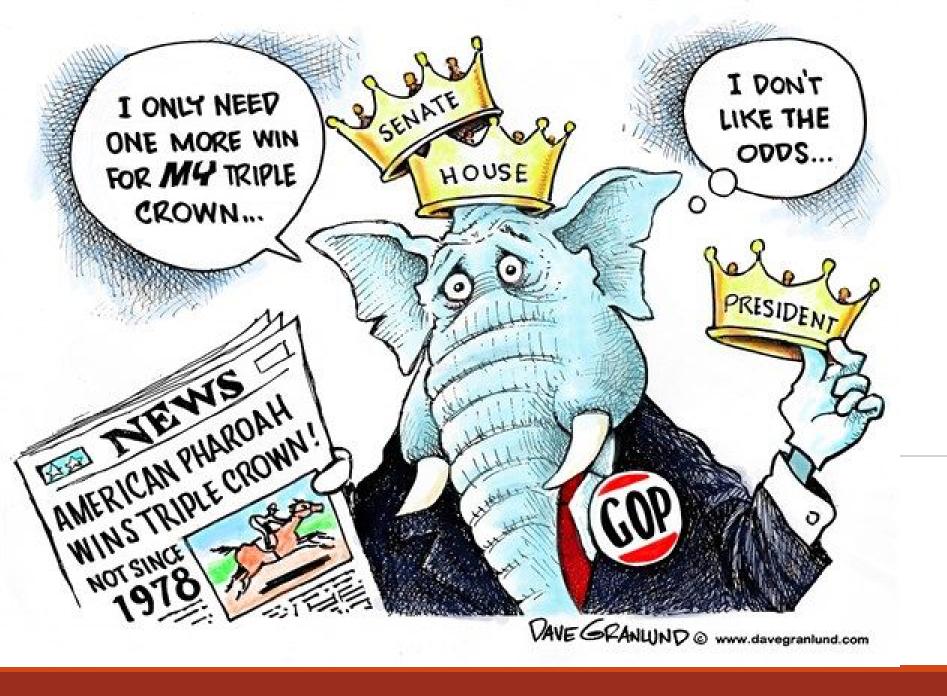
Politics and Policy Update – 9.13.2016

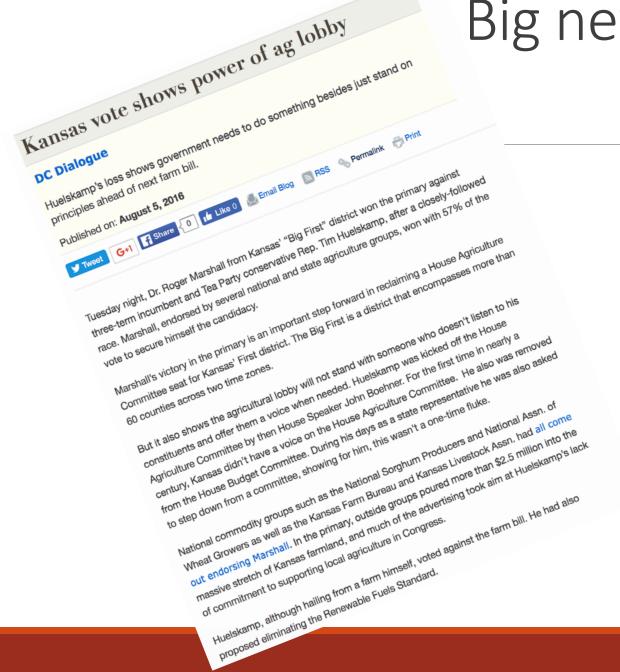
BY KODY BESSENT, PLAINS COTTON GROWERS, INC.



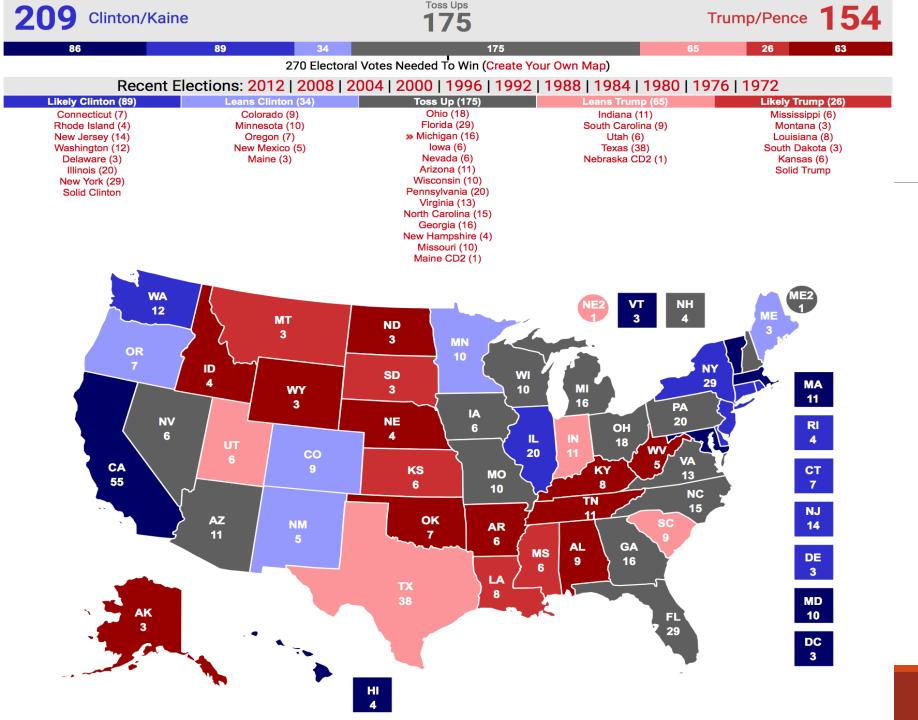
POLITICAL UPDATE

T - MINUS 55 DAYS TILL ELECTION

Big news out of the "Big First"







Race for the White House

Currently estimated that Trump must significantly out perform Romney among white working class voters in PA, OH, FL to have a chance of winning the electoral college.

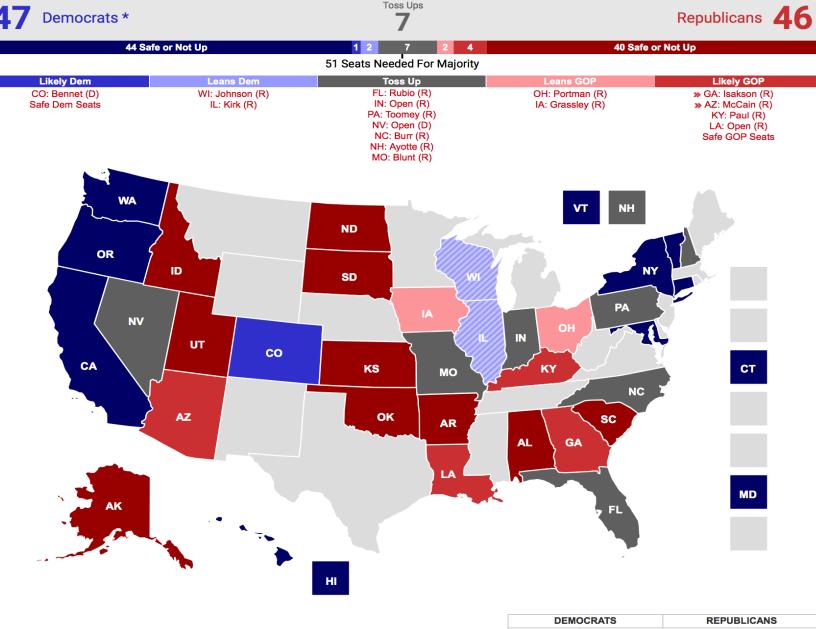
Race for the Senate

36 Seats Up

10 Dem Held

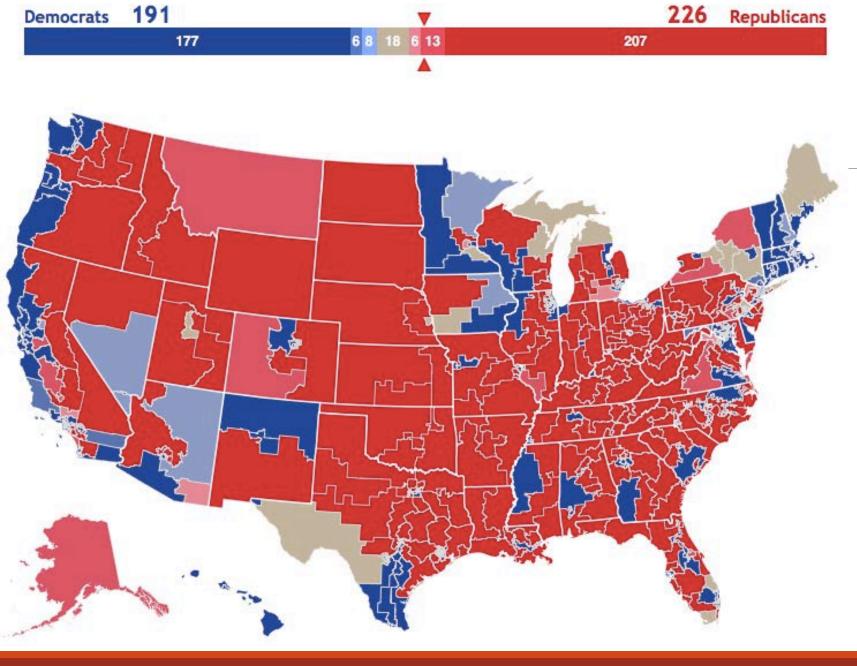
26 GOP Held

6 GOP Seats in States Obama Won – FL, IA, NH, OH, PA, WI

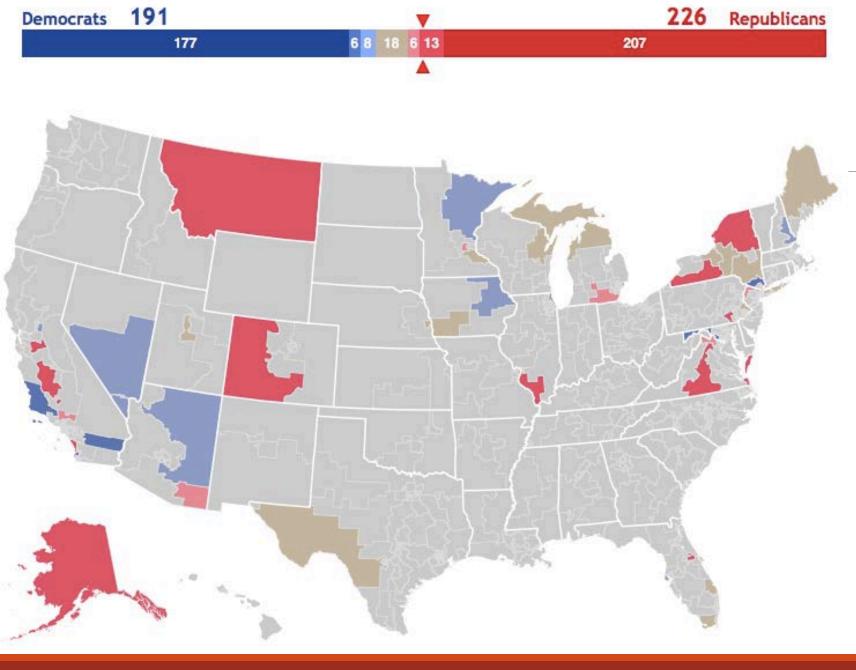


CREATE YOUR OWN MAP

DEM	OCRATS	REP	REPUBLICANS						
Safe	Likely	Safe	Likely						
Leans	Toss up	Leans	Toss up						
Pick-ups ((·) IL WI	Pick-ups							



Race for the House Less Competitive



Race for the House Less Competitive

Only 32 districts up for grabs at this point. GOP could lose all of them and still have a 2 seat majority.

Status of Appropriations

Attempt at "regular order" in 2016 – move all 12 bills separately and with open amendment process

Only two of twelve bills passed both chambers to date

Status of Appropriations

Bill	House Committee	Senate Committee	House Floor	Senate Floor	Conference Report
Agriculture	Passed 4/19	Passed 5/19			
CJS	Passed 5/24	Passed 4/21			
Defense	Passed 5/17	Passed 5/26	Passed 6/16	Rejected MTP 7/7	
Energy and Water	Passed 4/19	Passed 4/14	Passed 5/26	Passed 5/12	
Financial Services	Passed 6/9	Passed 6/16	Passed 7/7		
Homeland Security	Passed 6/22	Passed 5/26			

Status of Appropriations

Bill	House Committee	Senate Committee	House Floor	Senate Floor	Conference Report
Interior	Passed 6/15	Passed 6/16	Passed 7/14		
Labor/HHS	Passed 7/14	Passed 6/9			
Legislative Branch	Passed 5/17	Passed 5/19	Passed 6/10		
MilCon/VA	Passed 4/13	Passed 4/14	Passed 5/19	Passed 5/19	Senate rejected cloture on 6/28 and again on 7/14
State/Foreign Ops	Passed 7/12	Passed 6/29			
Transportation/ HUD	Passed 5/24	Passed 4/21			

What is the latest holdup?



Leadership's Last Resort – CR

ns \equiv

The Washington Post

Republicans are now debating how long a stop-gap spending bill they need to move before the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30 should last. Congress goes on a seven week recess after this week and will return after Labor Day.

Some House conservatives are pushing for a bill, known as a continuing resolution or CR, that would last six months so work on this year's annual spending work can be completed with a new president in the White House rather than have a massive year-end omnibus funding measure pushed through during a post-election lame duck session. A CR generally funds the government at current spending levels and includes few policy provisions.

Leadership's next move — The MiniBus or OmniBus?



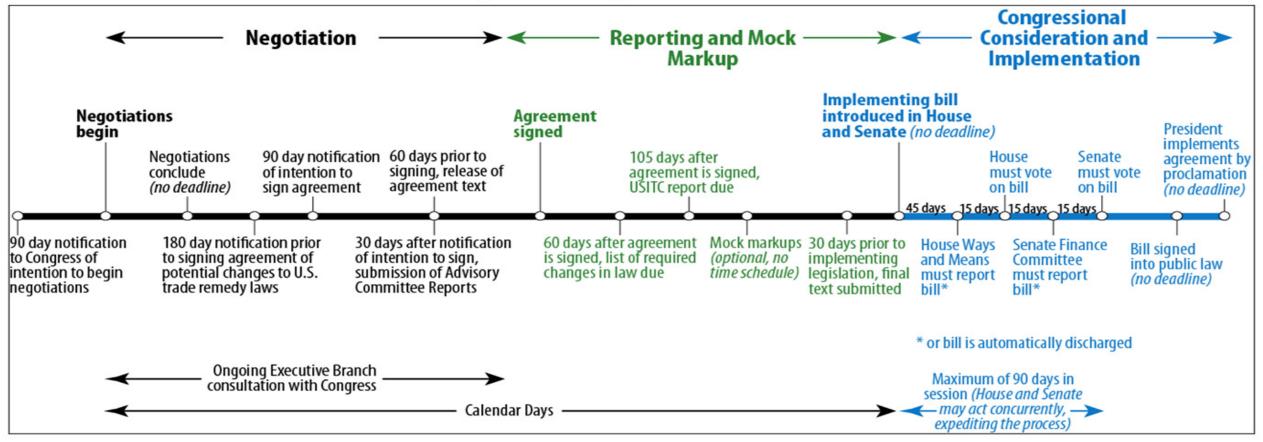
What to Expect Moving Forward

Appropriations Activity

- Expect short-term CR in Sept. (through early Dec?)
- Decision by Dec. on long-term CR or omnibus bill
- Possibly pass several smaller, combined appropriations packages
- Election outcome will influence decision

TPP in Lame Duck Session?

Figure B-I. Congressional Timeline

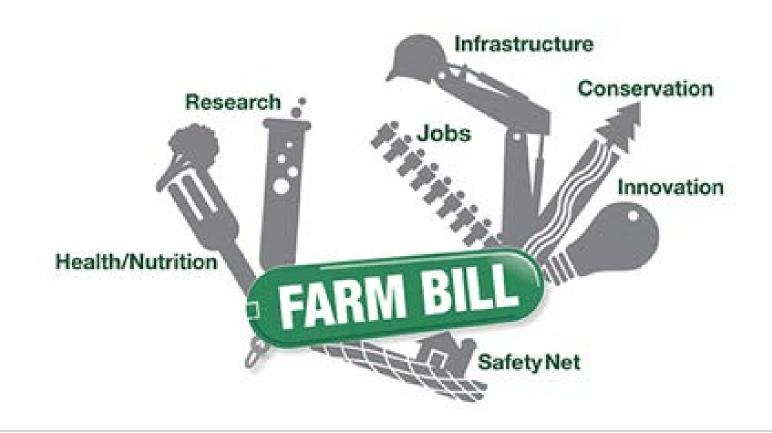


Source: CRS.

Calendar is Running out... 28 Working Days left in House, 38 in Senate.

JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER				
1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3				
3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	4 5 6 7 8 9 10				
10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	11 12 13 14 15 16 17				
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	18 19 20 21 22 23 24				
31	28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30				
21						
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER				
OCTOBER 1	NOVEMBER 1 2 3 4 5	DECEMBER 1 2 3				
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	, 1101=11=1					
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3				
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10				
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17				

(Red days = Senate not in session)



FARM POLICY UPDATE

2 YEARS IN, 3 (MAYBE) TO GO

TABLE 2. PROJECTED 2015 PRICE LOSS (PLC) COVERAGE PAYMENT RATES

BASED ON STATUTORY REFERENCE PRICES, PROJECTED 2015/16 MARKET YEAR AVERAGE (MYA) PRICES AND 2015 NATIONAL AVERAGE LOAN RATES

August 31, 2016 1/

A	В	С	D	E	6	G	H	I Higher of (E-H or zero)	J (E-G)
Commodity	Marketing Year	Publishing Dates for the Final 2015/16 MYA Price and 2015 PLC Effective Price	Unit	Statutory Projected (P) or Final (F) 2015/16 Price MYA Price		2015 National Loan Rate	Projected (P) or Final (F) 2015 Effective Price	Projected (P) or Final (F) 2015 PLC Payment Rate	Maximum PLC Payment Rate
Wheat	Jun. 1-May 31	June 29, 2016	Bushel	\$5.50	\$4.89 F	\$2.94	\$4.89 F	\$0.61 F	\$2.56
Barley	Jun. 1-May 31	June 29, 2016	Bushel	\$4.95	\$5.52 F	\$1.95	\$5.52 F	\$0.00 F	\$3.00
Oats	Jun. 1-May 31	June 29, 2016	Bushel	\$2.40	\$2.12 F	\$1.39	\$2.12 F	\$0.28 F	\$1.01
Peanuts	Aug. 1-Jul. 31	August 31, 2016	Pound	\$0.2675	\$0.1930 P	\$0.1775	\$0.1930 F	\$0.0745 F	\$0.0900
Corn	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	September 29, 2016	Bushel	\$3.70	\$3.60 P	\$1.95	\$3.60 P	\$0.10 P	\$1.75
Grain Sorghum	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	September 29, 2016	Bushel	\$3.95	\$3.30 P	\$1.95	\$3.30 P	\$0.65 P	\$2.00
Soybeans	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	September 29, 2016	Bushel	\$8.40	\$8.95 P	\$5.00	\$8.95 P	\$0.00 P	\$3.40
Dry Peas	Jul. 1-Jun. 30	September 29, 2016	Pound	\$0.1100	\$0.1280 P	\$0.0540	\$0.1280 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.0560
Lentils	Jul. 1-Jun. 30	September 29, 2016	Pound	\$0.1997	\$0.3090 P	\$0.1128	\$0.3090 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.0869
Large Chickpeas	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	November 30, 2016	Pound	\$0.2154	\$0.3100 P	\$0.1128	\$0.3100 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.1026
Small Chickpeas	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	November 30, 2016	Pound	\$0.1904	\$0.2500 P	\$0.0743	\$0.2500 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.1161
Sunflower Seed	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	November 30, 2016	Pound	\$0.2015	\$0.1970 P	\$0.1009	\$0.1970 P	\$0.0045 P	\$0.1006
Canola	Jul. 1-Jun. 30	November 30, 2016	Pound	\$0.2015	\$0.1570 P	\$0.1009	\$0.1570 P	\$0.0445 P	\$0.1006
Flaxseed	Jul. 1-Jun. 30	November 30, 2016	Bushel	\$11.284	\$9.000 P	\$5.650	\$9.000 P	\$2.284 P	\$5.634
Mustard Seed	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	November 30, 2016	Pound	\$0.2015	\$0.3180 P	\$0.1009	\$0.3180 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.1006
Rapeseed	Jul. 1-Jun. 30	November 30, 2016	Pound	\$0.2015	\$0.4320 P	\$0.1009	\$0.4320 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.1006
Safflower	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	November 30, 2016	Pound	\$0.2015	\$0.2450 P	\$0.1009	\$0.2450 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.1006
Crambe	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	November 30, 2016	Pound	\$0.2015	\$0.5180 P	\$0.1009	\$0.5180 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.1006
Sesame Seed	Sep. 1-Aug. 31	November 30, 2016	Pound	\$0.2015	\$0.3900 P	\$0.1009	\$0.3900 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.1006
Rice (long grain)	Aug. 1-Jul. 31	October 31, 2016	Pound	\$0.1400	\$0.1100 P	\$0.0650	\$0.1100 P	\$0.0300 P	\$0.0750
Rice (med/short grain) 2/	Aug. 1-Jul. 31	October 31, 2016	Pound	\$0.1400	\$0.1130 P	\$0.0650	\$0.1130 P	\$0.0270 P	\$0.0750
Rice (temporate japonica)	Oct. 1-Sep. 30	January 31, 2017	Pound	\$0.1610	\$0.1800 P	\$0.0650	\$0.1800 P	\$0.0000 P	\$0.0960

Scene 1; Marketing Loan Score – May 2013

PROGRAM PAYMENT SUMMARY CBO's May 2013 Baseline {Direct, CCP, ACRE & MLG Only}	2012 Actual	2013	2014	2015	2016	Fiscal 2017 Projed	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total 2013-23
						Millions o	f Dollars						
Total Marketing Loan Benefits													
Corn	0	0	2	4	5	6	5	5	5	5	4	3	44
Soybeans	0	0	4	17	16	13	11	14	17	18	15	12	137
Wheat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Upland Cotton	0) 4	5	14	27	33	37	40	38	44	43	43	328
Rice	0) 3	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	64
Peanuts	6	12	12	20	25	26	27	28	28	30	30	31	269
Sorghum	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	17
Barley	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	13
Oats	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Other Oilseeds	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	16
Wool	0) 1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	31
Mohair	0) 1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Honey	0) 3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	33
Dry Peas	0) 2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	22
Lentils	0) 2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	22
Small Chickpeas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Large Chickpeas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Marketing Loan Benefit	t 6	28	47	78	96	101	103	110	111	119	115	111	1,018

July 6, 2016



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2016 Loan Deficiency Payments Now In Effect

As cash commodity prices have dropped recently, producers have been watching for LDP's to go into effect, which happened this week. Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's) were first utilized in the 1990's as a way to provide commodity producers price protection up to the USDA-established commodity loan rate without obtaining a grain commodity Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL). The 2014 Farm Bill re-authorized LDP's and MAL's.

Scene 2; Marketing Loan Score – March 2016

PROGRAM PAYMENT SUMMARY CBO's March 2016 Baseline	2015 Actual	2016	2017	2018	2019	Fiscal \ 2020 - Projecte	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total 2016-26
Total Marketing Loan Benefits						Millions	of Dollar	s					
Corn	0	8	25	24	21	18	14	11	11	11	12	12	165
Sorghum	0	3	8	7	6	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	50
Barley	0	3	6	8	8	9	9	8	7	7	7	7	79
Oats	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Total Feed Grains	0	15	40	39	35	32	27	23	23	22	22	23	303
Soybeans	0	33	52	43	40	32	27	25	31	30	29	31	371
Wheat	0	34	127	128	116	72	67	63	61	62	60	64	852
Upland Cotton	360	255	272	79	71	55	31	41	54	63	69	84	1,075
Rice	1	4	10	12	13	13	12	12	14	12	14	16	132
Peanuts	16	49	55	60	70	67	60	54	53	54	49	54	626
Other Oilseeds	0	2	5	5	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	39
Wool	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	11
Mohair	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Honey	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Dry Peas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lentils	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Small Chickpeas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Large Chickpeas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Loan Benefits	379	393	564	367	349	276	229	224	239	248	246	276	3,412

Continued

What happens when you don't have a safety net? "Band-aids don't fix bullet holes"

Office of Communications

1400 Independence Ave, SW Washington, DC 20250-1300 (202) 720-4623 oc.news@usda.gov www.usda.gov

News Release

Release No. 0140.16

Contact: Kent Politsch, 202-720-7163

USDA Provides Targeted Assistance to Cotton Producers to Share in the Cost of Ginning
One-time Payments to Begin in July to Assist with 2016 Ginning Season

WASHINGTON, June 6, 2016 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) will provide an estimated \$300 million in cost-share assistance payments to cotton producers through the new Cotton Ginning Cost-Share program, in order to expand and maintain the domestic marketing of cotton.

House Ag Committee Activity

Chairman Conaway has led an aggressive hearing schedule highlighting the state of the farm economy and examining how programs are working.

Hearings held in 2015: 49

Hearings held to date in 2016: 31

Activity in 2017?



What happens if Farm Bill gets extended? Option to switch to PLC

CORN SUPPLY AND USE CBO's March 2016 Baseline	2014 Actual	2015	2016	2017	2018	Marke 2019	eting Year ^a 2020 Projecte	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Participation in ACRE/ARC	93.4%	93.4%	93.4%	93.4%	93.4%	52.4%	52.4%	52.4%	52.4%	52.4%	52.4%	52.4%	52.4%

How does this affect potential 2018 Farm Bill?

Peterson: Farm bill may be need to be moved up

House Agriculture Committee ranking member Collin Peterson, D-Minn., said last week that if complaints about the farm bill get worse, the next rewrite of the bill may need to be moved up from 2018 to 2017, KDAL, a Duluth, Minn., radio station reported.

"It hasn't gotten to be too much of an issue so far, but I think this winter is gonna be a big problem, and if it gets bad enough, it might force us to move a year early on the farm bill, which wouldn't be a bad idea," Peterson said.

Questions

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