

For: State and County Offices

Rollover of Previously Established TAP Normal Mortality Rates

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

The authorization for the TAP program expired on September 30, 2011. The Agricultural Act of 2014, enacted on February 7, 2014, authorizes TAP as a permanent program. TAP provides assistance to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate trees (including nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut, or Christmas trees), bushes, and vines that were lost or damaged because of natural disaster.

In preparation for the restart of the TAP program, the TAP mortality rates established under the 2008 Farm Bill have been rolled over on the Web. State Office administrative users will be able to update these previously established normal mortality rates before restart.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- guidance to STC’s for establishing **and/or** revising previously established TAP normal mortality rates for each eligible type of tree, bush, or vine, such as orange tree, blueberry bush, and grapevine

Note: If STC determines normal mortality rates established for the 2008 Farm Bill are accurate, **no further action is necessary.**

- the deadline for establishing **and/or** revising previously established TAP normal mortality rates for each eligible type of tree, bush, or vine
- instructions for submitting names of State Office employees needing access to the TAP normal mortality rate load process.

Disposal Date	Distribution
October 1, 2014 3-13-14	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

2 Adjusting Normal Mortality Rates

A Establishing Normal Mortality Rates

Under the 2008 Farm Bill, STC's established normal mortality rates for each tree, bush, or vine for their respective State by obtaining recommendations from:

- applicable State tree organizations
- applicable NIFA
- other knowledgeable and credible sources, such as University research and botany journals.

Normal mortality rates are generally **not** established for different geographic locations within a State. However, if STC can document that existing conditions or circumstances with a specific geographic location within the State would result in substantially higher mortality rates than the rest of the State, STC may establish separate normal mortality rates for that specific geographic location within the State.

Example: The counties south of Interstate 4 are known to suffer freeze damage. Because of freeze damage, the normal mortality rates in these counties are significantly higher than for the counties in the rest of the State. STC determined that the counties that incur freeze damage shall have normal mortality rates established separately from the other counties in the State.

If sufficient documentation is **not** available from the sources listed in this subparagraph within the State to establish normal mortality rates, STC's may obtain supporting documentation from contiguous STC's that have established TAP normal mortality rates from recommendations received from the sources in this subparagraph.

STC's shall:

- document any changes, recommendations, and determinations of normal mortality in STC minutes
- attach copies of supporting documentation used to determine normal mortality rates to applicable STC minutes.

If documentation is **not** available for establishing normal mortality rates from sources listed within the State or contiguous States, STC's may establish normal mortality rates using the normal mortality rates previously established for the State in 1-TAP (Rev. 2), Exhibit 5.

Normal mortality rates are year specific; however, in most cases the mortality rates do **not** change from year to year.

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2 Adjusting Normal Mortality Rates (Continued)

B Deadline for Changes to Previously Established Normal Mortality Rates

STC's shall ensure that **any changes** to normal mortality rates established under the 2008 Farm Bill are:

- established for all trees, bushes, and vines no later than COB March 31, 2014
- loaded into the normal mortality rate table no later than April 15, 2014.

The normal mortality rates established for 2011 were rolled over in the automated system to 2012, 2013, and 2014. STC's shall use the 2011 mortality rates when determining whether any changes or additions are needed.

3 State Office Administrative Access

A Requesting Access

Exhibit 1 contains a list of all current State Office administrative users. Requests for changes to this list shall be made according to the following:

- provide the National Office with all State employees who are to be added or removed, and include the following:
 - State name
 - employee's legal first and last name
 - employee's USDA eAuthentication user ID
 - whether access shall be added or removed
- FAX information to 202-720-0051, ATTN: Neeru Gulati

Note: Include on the FAX that the request is for TAP State Office administrative access.

- contact PECD, Program Delivery Branch at 202-720-3464 with any questions or concerns.

Note: Additional employees can be added or removed at any time by following instructions in this subparagraph.

TAP State Office Administrative Users

Following is a list of current TAP State Office administrative users.

State	Last Name	First Name
Alabama	Brown	Rita
	Malone	Walda
Arkansas	Colvard	Diana
	Franco	Antonio
California	John	Carol
Colorado	Peterson	Jenny
	Pierson	Diane
Connecticut	Csutoras	Rebecca
	Marsden	Devon
	McGarrity	Coleen
Delaware	Manges	Lynn
	Reed	Maryann
	Talley	Robin
Florida	Folsom	Debra
	Hendricks	Deborah
	Roller	Amy
	Vazquez	Christopher
Georgia	Riley	Charles
Guam	Peterson	Steven
Hawaii	Peterson	Steven
Idaho	Abbott	Ronald
	Mitchell	Jeffrie
Illinois	Diebal	Jamie
	Martin	Kimberly
Indiana	Birt	Ron
	Hovermale	Susan
	Kendall	Marietta
	Maxwell	Jacob
	Schweikhardt	Carl
Iowa	Friedow	Vickie
	Holcombe	Robin
	Strickler	Irene
Kansas	Peterson	Jean
	Wikoff	Carla
	Winkler	Rod
Kentucky	Kester	Marcinda
	Stevenson	Jeremy

TAP State Office Administrative Users (Continued)

State	Last Name	First Name
Louisiana	Chapman	Alva
Maine	Gustin	Maine
	Speck	Scott
Maryland	Mann	Joanne
	Wevodau	Robert
Massachusetts	Carver	Lori
	Devine	John
Michigan	Allen	Dale
	Losey	Kelly
Minnesota	Garry	Wanda
	Thomason	Caroline
Mississippi	Carnegie	Richard
	Evans	Demetrice
	Roberson	Stacy
Missouri	Bealer	Rod
	Newland	Douglas
	Sayers	Kathy
Montana	Dietz	Sydney
	Dubish	Alexander
Nebraska	Cross	Seth
	Reisdorff	Gregory
Nevada	Goin	Deborah
	Nuffer	Katie
	Wegren	Gustin
New Hampshire	Grames	Linda
	McGarrity	Coleen
	Phinizy	James
New Jersey	Coles	Nancy
New Mexico	Ortiz	Andrew
New York	Bochenek	Dolores
	Green	Virginia
North Carolina	Woodall	Susan
North Dakota	Hochhalter	James
Ohio	Piper	Christina
Oklahoma	Thompson	Melinda
	Wanger	Rodney
Oregon	Davis	Pamela
	Go	Lychou
Rhode Island	Soileau	Marilu

TAP State Office Administrative Users (Continued)

State	Last Name	First Name
South Carolina	Gamble	Ruth
	McCaskill	Kenneth
	Odum	Wayne
South Dakota	Campbell	Daryl
	Clayton	Diane
Tennessee	Bush	Vernestine
	Eldridge	Rondal
Texas	McCoslin	Amy
	Reed	Scott
	Sayers	Kathy
Utah	Son	Cary
Virginia	Wash	Allison
	Whitlock	Brent
Washington	Hamilton	Rodney
	Schettler	Dwaine
	Scott	Dawn
West Virginia	Taylor	Leanne
Wisconsin	Eagan	Tracy
	Raeder	Russell
Wyoming	Valdez	Linda