

## **Quality Loss Adjustment (QLA) Calculator Now Available**

Friday, February 19, 2021

By Whitney Curry

Cotton producers looking for help filling out an application for the Quality Loss Adjustment (QLA) program have a new educational tool to help them summarize data and gather the needed supporting materials for QLA in counties previously eligible for WHIP+. Developed by the Agriculture Food and Policy Center, the Quality Loss Adjustment (QLA) Calculator for Cotton is now available for download from the AFPC website at <https://afpc.tamu.edu>.

A producer is eligible for a QLA payment if a crop suffered a quality loss due to a qualifying disaster event in either 2018 or 2019. To receive payment on the crop's affected production the dollar amount of the quality loss from all eligible causes of loss combined must be at least 5 percent. Local FSA offices will use the information provided in the QLA application form (FSA-898 <https://www.farmers.gov/sites/default/files/documents/FSA-898-01062021.pdf>) to determine if the 5 percent quality loss threshold has been met and to calculate any QLA payments.

A qualifying disaster event is a named hurricane, qualifying drought, excessive moisture, flooding, snowstorm, tornado, typhoon, volcanic activity, or wildfire that occurred in the 2018 or 2019 calendar year. The portion of the crop that suffered the quality loss is the affected production. There may be qualifying events in both 2018 and 2019.

The deadline to sign up for the QLA program is **Friday, March 5, 2021**. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us.

### **PLAINS COTTON GROWERS, INC. 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

**Friday, April 9, 2021**

**Overton Hotel & Conference Center**

**Featured Speaker:**

**Jim Wiesemeyer, ProFarmer Journalist & Analyst –  
Washington, D.C.,**

*Sponsored by Farmers Cooperative Compress*

## **Cotton Crop Insurance March 15 SCD; Seed Cotton ARC/PLC Choice Effects Insurance Options**

Friday, February 19, 2021

By Whitney Curry

Producers on the Texas High Plains have just a few weeks until the March 15<sup>th</sup> Sales Closing Date (SCD) for the federal crop

insurance program and many still have questions about the different options available to them for the 2021 growing season.

To help answer these questions Lubbock-based Plains Cotton Growers hosted a cotton crop insurance seminar February 16 that has been recorded and posted online as a resource for producers and crop insurance agents leading up to the March 15 SCD. If you still have questions and would like to watch the video or download an extended version of the slideshow used during the seminar visit <https://plainscotton.org/cotton-crop-insurance-seminar/>.

The video and slideshow were developed to familiarize producers with the wide variety of existing and new crop insurance products available to them in 2021.

One of the most misunderstood aspects of a producers crop insurance decision is how their 2021 Agriculture Risk Coverage/Price Loss Coverage program decision's will impact the availability of certain crop insurance products - specifically the Stacked Income Protection Program (STAX).

One of the frequently asked questions from producers this year has been - "What impact does a producer's decision to enroll in the ARC/PLC program have on their ability to insure the cotton acres they plant under the STAX policy endorsement?"

According to Shawn Wade, director of policy analysis and research for Plains Cotton Growers, the interaction between program choices available through the USDA Farm Service Agency and certain crop insurance products is determined by the commodity specific ARC/PLC program choices made for each commodity for which the producer has base acres on the farm.

"When it comes to cotton the determining factor for whether or not a producer is allowed to purchase a STAX endorsement on acreage planted to cotton within an individual FSA Farm serial number is strictly based on whether or not the seed cotton base acreage on that farm is enrolled in either ARC or PLC," says Wade. "The decision that a producer makes relative to the ARC/PLC elections or enrollments for commodity bases other than seed cotton within a Farm serial number have no bearing on the ability of a producer to purchase STAX through the federal crop insurance program."

Wade added that STAX is especially well suited for consideration by producers with no seed cotton base on a farm.

For more information or to ask a question about the information provided in the video or slideshow please contact PCG at 806-792-4904.

### **UPCOMING DEADLINES:**

**Quality Loss Assistance Program (QLA) –  
March 5, 2021**

<https://www.farmers.gov/quality-loss>

**ARC/PLC - March 15, 2021**

[https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/arcplc\\_program/index](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/arcplc_program/index)