

# Cornell Cooperative Extension

## Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program

### CFAP for NYS Fruit and Vegetable Farms (as of July 2020)

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CFAP or the Corona Virus Assistance Program helps agricultural producers impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak by providing direct payments to producers of eligible commodities. There are currently CFAP payments available for dairy livestock (beef pork lamb) non-specialty crops (corn malting barley soybeans wheat oats) wool AND specialty crops (fruits vegetables and herbs). This fact-sheet focuses on the latter.

Generally to be eligible for a CFAP payment a farmer must have sold (or tried to sell) a specialty crop between January 15 and April 15 2020 that USDA has determined suffered a 5- percent-or-greater price loss over a specified time resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak or faces additional significant marketing costs for unsold inventories. In NYS these would generally be crops harvested in FY2019 and in storage or crops that matured and were ready to sell in January-April.

USDA greatly expanded the number of specialty crops in July that are eligible and the amount of funding for some crops that were eligible in a notice of funding availability (NOFA) so more specialty crop farmers should look at this program. If you sold apples potatoes onions garlic greens greenhouse herbs and micro-greens, you should be looking at this program! For these crops there is now an automatic payment based on crop sold rather than based on losses. The full list of eligible specialty crops (as of July 10) is at the end of this fact sheet.

Other specialty crops will be announced in a future NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) as losses due to COVID-19 market disruptions are better understood. Nursery crops and cut flowers are still under consideration but have not yet been included.

#### **How are payments determined?**

There are three possible payments for eligible crops:

1. CARES Act Payments for crops that USDA has determined had a five percent-or-greater price decline in sales price that were sold between January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020. This does not mean that YOUR prices needed to decline by more than 5% if a crop you sold is on this list you are eligible for the payment.
2. CARES Act Payments for eligible crop shipments that left the farm by April 15, 2020 and spoiled due to no market or the buyer did not (could not) pay.
3. CCC Payments for eligible crops that did not leave the farm by April 15 2020 (for example were harvested but sitting in crates on the farm) or mature crops that were unharvested by that date (for example were plowed under) due to lack of buyers and which have not been and will not be sold. This could also include crops you donated because the market dried up.

Payments for eligible specialty crops will be 80% of the sum of:

- (1) For eligible specialty crops that were sold between January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020 the quantity sold multiplied by the payment rate in **Column 2**; Producers must maintain records such as a bill of sale documenting that they sold the crop and the amount sold.
- (2) For eligible specialty crops listed that were harvested and shipped off the farm between January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020 producers must obtain documentation such as a letter from the buyer explaining non-payment or other record validating non-payment. This applies to producers who have met contractual obligations in delivering the crop to the buyer but have not been paid the harvested and shipped quantity that spoiled (or was unpaid) multiplied by the payment rate in **Column 3**.
- (3) For eligible unpriced specialty crops listed that did not leave the farm or mature crops that remained unharvested between January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020 due to loss of marketing channel the sum of the quantity of crops that did not leave the farm (in acres in this case) or the quantity of mature crops that remained unharvested multiplied by the payment rate in **Column 4**.

Table 1: Example Eligible Crops and Payment Rates – full list of crops and payments is available on the USDA CFAP website.

<b>Example Eligible Crop</b>	<b>Column 2 crops you sold between January and April (per lb)</b>	<b>Column 3 crops that left the farm to be sold between January and April, but pmt. not received (per lb)</b>	<b>Column 4 mature crops that never left the farm (could have been donated or destroyed) (per acre)</b>
Apples	\$0.05	\$0.22	\$1500.00
Cabbage	\$0.04	\$0.07	\$367.00
Collard Greens	\$0.04	\$0.21	\$560.00
Garlic	\$0.17	\$1.10	\$3410.00
Greens	\$0.08	\$0.16	\$420.00
Kale	\$0.00	\$0.22	\$748.00
Green Leaf Lettuce	\$0.44	\$0.60	\$2611.20
Dry Onions	\$0.01	\$0.05	\$540.10
Potatoes, fresh (not russets)	\$0.01	\$0.04	\$449.00
Potatoes, fresh (russets)	\$0.07	\$0.09	\$898.00
Strawberries	\$0.84	\$0.72	\$7042.00
Tomatoes	\$0.64	\$0.38	\$6122.90

Should you apply?

USDA-FSA has a payment calculator on the CFAP page (<https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>) that you can use to estimate what your CFAP payment is likely to be. This will help you determine if it is worth applying. If your crop is eligible for a payment in column 1 it is almost certainly worth applying as the application process is easy. USDA FSA has made this program very accessible (by USDA standards). Unfortunately for NYS specialty crop growers without crops in storage or early season crops currently summer and fall crop losses for 2020 aren't covered as the crops needed to be mature and harvested by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

USDA is aware that there are likely to be some specialty crops that suffered losses that weren't included. If you suffered significant losses from a specialty crop that isn't covered USDA is collecting data to consider including other crops. Examples of these could include maple syrup and nursery plants. Contact FSA if you produce a specialty crop that suffered losses that aren't reflected here.

What do you Need to Apply?

Sign ups for CFAP began on May 26 and will run through August 28. The application for CFAP is available at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>. Forms are on-line. The program is first come first served at the national level. Links to local FSA offices are also on that website.

All applicants need to be signed up with USDA FSA to be able to apply for these funds. If you have NAP have had a USDA-FSA loan or have USDA NRCS cost-share funding you are probably already in their system. Because USDA disaster payments almost always require you to be signed up with FSA even if CFAP payments are not much signing up with USDA-FSA would get you into the USDA system to be eligible for future programs. Also, by being in the system USDA is more likely to see how disasters impact your farm.

List of Specialty Crops eligible for CFAP as of July 10, 2020

Alfalfa Sprouts <sup>1</sup>, Almonds , Apples <sup>23</sup> , Anise <sup>1</sup> , Artichokes <sup>3</sup> , Arugula <sup>1</sup> , Asparagus <sup>3</sup> , Avocados , Basil <sup>1</sup> , Beans , Bean Sprouts <sup>1</sup> , Beets <sup>1</sup> , Blackberries <sup>1</sup> , Blueberries <sup>23</sup> , Broccoli , Brussels Sprouts <sup>1</sup> , Cabbage , Cantaloupe <sup>3</sup> , Carrots , Cauliflower , Celeriac (Celery Root) <sup>1</sup> , Celery , Chives <sup>1</sup> , Cilantro <sup>1</sup> , Coconut <sup>1</sup> , Collard Greens <sup>1</sup> , Corn sweet , Cucumbers <sup>3</sup> , Dandelion Greens <sup>1</sup> , Eggplant , Garlic <sup>23</sup> , Grapefruit , Greens (others not listed) <sup>1</sup> , Guava <sup>1</sup> , Kale Greens <sup>1</sup> , Kiwifruit <sup>3</sup> , Lemons , Lettuce Boston <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce green leaf <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce iceberg , Lettuce Lolla Rossa <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce oak leaf - green <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce oak leaf - red <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce red leaf <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce romaine , Marjoram <sup>1</sup> , Mint <sup>1</sup> , Mushrooms <sup>3</sup> , Mustard Greens <sup>1</sup> , Okra <sup>1</sup> , Onions dry , Onions green , Oranges , Oregano <sup>1</sup> , Papaya <sup>3</sup> , Parsnips <sup>1</sup> , Passion Fruit <sup>1</sup> , Peaches <sup>35</sup> , Pears , Peas Green (English/Garden Snap and Sugar) <sup>1</sup> , Pecans , Peppers bell type , Peppers other , Pineapples <sup>1</sup> , Pistachios <sup>1</sup> , Potatoes fresh - other <sup>234</sup> , Potatoes fresh - Russets <sup>234</sup> , Potatoes processing <sup>234</sup> , Potatoes seeds <sup>234</sup> , Radicchio <sup>1</sup> , Raspberries <sup>23</sup> , Rhubarb <sup>35</sup> , Rosemary <sup>1</sup> , Sage <sup>1</sup> , Savory <sup>1</sup> , Spinach , Squash , Sorrel <sup>1</sup> , Strawberries , Sugarcane table <sup>1</sup> , Sweet potatoes , Swiss Chard <sup>1</sup> , Tangerines <sup>23</sup> , Taro <sup>23</sup> , Thyme <sup>1</sup> , Tomatoes , Turnip Tops Greens <sup>1</sup> , Walnuts , Watermelons

*1: Commodity added in response to Notice of Funding availability, effective July 10, 2020*

*2: Expanded eligibility to include CARES Act funding for sales losses because USDA found these commodities had a 5 percent or greater price decline between mid-January and mid-April as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.*

*3: Payment rate corrected per notice published in Federal Register July 10, 2020.*

*4: Divided potatoes into fresh russets, other fresh, processing and seed, with payment rates attributed accordingly.*

*5: USDA determined that peaches and rhubarb no longer qualify for payment under the CARES Act sales loss category.*