



University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point
Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility

LAW
Extension

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RE: Aquaculture Flood Disaster relief program

The following information has been provided by the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) office in Madison and the UWEX Aquaculture Outreach Specialists.

FSA has announced a new disaster program under the 2008 Farm Bill. They will be coming out with Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-Raised Fish (EALHF) Program.

According to FSA Notice DAP-283:

"The EALHF Program will provide emergency relief to producers of livestock (including horses), honey bees, and farm-raised fish because of losses from adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary."

Farmers need to notify FSA of their losses as soon as possible. This year--and this year only--farmers will be able to pay a service fee to become retroactively covered under this program or other disaster programs. In the future, farmers will have to sign up for crop insurance by the appropriate deadlines to be eligible to participate in disaster relief programs.

The rules for this program are still being developed but in the past this type of assistance only covered food crops, which may not cover fish raised for bait or recreational stocking.

Contact your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) to tell them of your flood damage and that you want to apply for assistance. Here is a link to a map with links to local FSA offices in the state:

<http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=wi&agency=fsa>

You need to contact the FSA office before **August 20, 2008**, which is the cut off date for this program.

For additional assistance contact the Aquaculture Outreach Specialist in your area:

North – Ron Johnson, 715-779-3189, ron.johnson@uwsp.edu

Central – Sarah Kaatz, 715-346-3037, skaatz@uwsp.edu

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