

Vermont Farm Service Agency Farm Loan & Program Results and New Programs

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VT House Agriculture Committee 2-6-26
<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/vermont>



A graphic for the Vermont Farm Service Agency Farm Loan 2025. It features a dark blue background with a large, lighter blue circle. The text "Vermont Farm Service Agency Farm Loan 2025" is written in white, stacked vertically within the circle.

Vermont Farm Service Agency Farm Loan 2025

FSA Farm Loans

\$112 Million in current & proposed loans:

Direct Loan caseload: \$45 Million

Guaranteed Loan caseload: \$66 Million

Direct Loans pending (new): \$848,780

Loans to Beginning Farmers: \$1.58 Million

Current Direct lending rate is 4.625% for operating loans, 5.625% for ownership loans—favorable rates compared to other credit sources

Emergency Loans, 3.75%, *drought trigger*

Delinquency rate (\$) for Direct loans: 2.2%,

Delinquency rate (\$) for Guaranteed Loans, 0.4%

Vermont Farm Service Agency Farm Program Results 2025 & 2026 to date

\$42.7 million to date for 2023 & 2024 flood and 2025 drought disaster payments:

ECAP: \$3.9 million (flooding, excess moisture affecting crop loss, planting)

ECP: \$2.1 million for flooding, 2025 drought in application phase

EFRP: \$22,073

ELAP: \$60,207 (includes honeybees and water hauling)

LFP: \$169,729

LIP: \$33,184 (livestock loss, flood)

NAP: \$774,028

Supplemental Disaster Programs 2024:

SDRP: \$3.7 million (to date)

ELRP: \$32 million (to date)

A graphic with a dark blue background. A large, lighter blue circle is centered on the right side. Inside the circle, the text "Vermont Farm Service Agency New Farm Programs 2026" is written in white, sans-serif font, stacked in five lines.

Vermont Farm Service Agency New Farm Programs 2026

New FSA Programs

Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA)

\$11 B for row crops. Feb 2026 payment if crop reported by 12/19/25, rates set per acre

\$1 billion for specialty crops, forthcoming.

American Relief Act of 2025, \$30 Billion total funding

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/resources/programs/disaster-assistance-programs>

- ELRP, Emergency Livestock Relief Program for Flooding, expected \$40 million+
- SDRP, Supplemental Disaster Relief Program, loss of revenue or quality of crops, Two phases, sign up deadline April 30, 2026, \$3.7 Million, so far
- Small States Block Grants (VT) working with VAAFM

A graphic with a dark blue background and a lighter blue circle in the center. The text "Vermont Farm Service Agency Farm Program Changes 2026" is written in white inside the circle.

Vermont Farm Service Agency Farm Program Changes 2026

OBBA Program changes expected

ARC-PLC:

VT: \$1.5 million payments for 2025 crop year

Changes for 2026:

- Increase in reference prices
- 30 million base acres added nationally
- Increased payment limit


DMC:

VT: 2023 \$29.2 million, 2024 \$800k, 2025 not yet completed.

Changes for 2026:

- Tier 1: increase to 6 million# from 5 million#
- Establish new production history

Also, Tax changes to improve succession planning

A graphic with a dark blue background. On the left, there is a vertical bar with a lighter blue section at the top and a darker blue section at the bottom. To the right of this bar is a large, light blue circle. Inside the circle, the text "Vermont Farm Service Agency USDA Secretary Priorities" is written in white, sans-serif font, centered vertically and horizontally.

Vermont Farm Service Agency USDA Secretary Priorities

Farmers First:

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/farmers-first-small-family-farms-policy-agenda.pdf>

9 USDA Policy Goals including the following:

- Support for small family farms, 86% of all US farms
- Farm transition tax treatment
- Special focus on new and beginning famers
- Reform to H-2A & H-2B
- Streamline processes for programs and approvals
- Easier applications, online access