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## For Immediate Release

## Area farmers encouraged to review ARC/PLC Selection

Late changes to corn yields under ARC could impact Texas corn farmers

**LUBBOCK, Texas (May 20, 2015)** – <u>Texas Corn Producers</u> encourages farmers to review their farm program selection under the new farm bill, as TCP has been notified that the <u>USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA)</u>, on the advice of the State FSA Committee, has made changes to the yields for corn in certain counties under the Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) program.

"It appears these are minor changes," TCP Executive Director David Gibson said. "However, we encourage each farmer in the affected areas to review and determine how these changes may impact them."

The following counties may have been impacted by a decrease in corn yields or split irrigated and dryland corn acres under this program:

- Borden
- Cottle
- Dickens
- Foard
- Garza
- Hall
- Hardeman

- Kent
- Motley
- Runnels
- Uvalde
- Wichita
- Wilbarger
- Wilson

Additionally, FSA may have made changes to other crops in these and other Texas counties. Access a complete list on the FSA website HERE.

"It is our understanding that the yields for corn under the ARC program were altered in these counties," Gibson said. "TCPB had worked to prevent this late change in the program; however, the State FSA Committee and FSA decided to make the change."

According to a postcard mailed to farmers in these areas, they have the opportunity to revise their base reallocations, yield updates and/or program elections until **May 29, 2015**.

Farmers in these counties now have the opportunity to revise their ARC/Price Loss Coverage (PLC) selection for all the farms in the affected counties. If a producer does not contact the FSA office prior to the <u>May 29, 2015</u>, <u>deadline</u>, their original program selection will remain in effect. However, farmers in this instance should understand the yields used in the program may be different than when they originally signed up. If a farmer is unclear of these yield changes, they should be in contact with their county FSA office prior to the deadline.

TCP encourages farmers who used the <u>farm program calculator</u> developed by the Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University to assist in making their decision on ARC/PLC signup to once again look at the numbers with the tool to determine what impact the change in corn yield for their county may impact them prior to visiting with their county FSA office.

The farm program calculator and other resources are available at <a href="www.TexasCorn.org">www.TexasCorn.org</a>.