

Federal Subsidization of Agribusiness Costs



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For decades, agribusinesses have secured special treatment in Washington. Through various price supports, direct payments, subsidized loans, grants, crop insurance, and other federal interventions, layers of highly subsidized farm programs now create an interconnected web of duplicative, inefficient, and costly subsidies that are largely unaccountable to taxpayers. Even though most agribusinesses would survive without support from Uncle Sam, agribusiness lobbyists have convinced Congress that taxpayers should subsidize nearly every aspect of agriculture often regardless of the state of the farm economy or whether federal support is in the public interest. The bulk of these subsidies continue to flow primarily to wealthy landowners and the most profitable agricultural operations. If private sector risk management options were allowed to compete on a level playing field and agribusinesses covered more of the costs of running their own businesses, taxpayers would bear less unnecessary risks and save billions of dollars.

Risks Inherent in Agriculture

Agribusinesses face a wide range of risks and incur several expenses in managing profitable enterprises. Major risks include the [following](#) (with examples of typical expenses):

1. **Financial** (interest payments on agricultural loans)
2. **Human** (life insurance to cover impacts of death, injury, sickness, divorce, or dissolution of partnerships)
3. **Institutional** (changes in government regulations and federal, state, and local taxes)
4. **Price or market** (variations in crop prices and costs of inputs like fertilizer, fuel, seed, storage, transportation, labor, etc.)
5. **Production** (crop insurance for yield losses, pesticide purchases to control weeds and insects, and availability of water)

Helping producers manage these risks has been a stated goal of federal policymakers for decades, and taxpayers spend billions of dollars every year on various federal programs to this end. In many ways, agriculture is one of the most heavily subsidized industries. With the nation holding nearly \$17 trillion in debt and in gridlock over how to reduce deficits, Washington must grapple with what role the government should play in managing and influencing American agriculture by helping agricultural producers manage risk. Policymakers in Washington have demonstrated how they do not fully trust the free market to manage all of the risks associated with agriculture. It is critical, however, that any government intervention in the market occurs only where there is a demonstrated need, and it does not simply crowd out private solutions while picking winners and losers between or even within industries.

An often repeated line is that agriculture is uniquely at risk from forces beyond its control, namely pests, disease, and the weather. But these risks, which are not actually unique to agriculture, can also be confronted with several unique risk management tools not available in other industries (for more details see our piece entitled [Federal-Free Risk Management in](#)

[Agriculture](#)). The key is to ensure that the government's role in managing everyday risks faced by agricultural businesses is relegated only to risks that individual agribusinesses and the market are incapable of successfully managing.

Types of Federal Subsidies Designed to Mitigate Agribusiness Risks

Agribusinesses are eligible for an array of federal subsidies that address nearly every imaginable risk or cost of doing business. Table 1 includes a list of the most prominent and costly supports for agriculture.

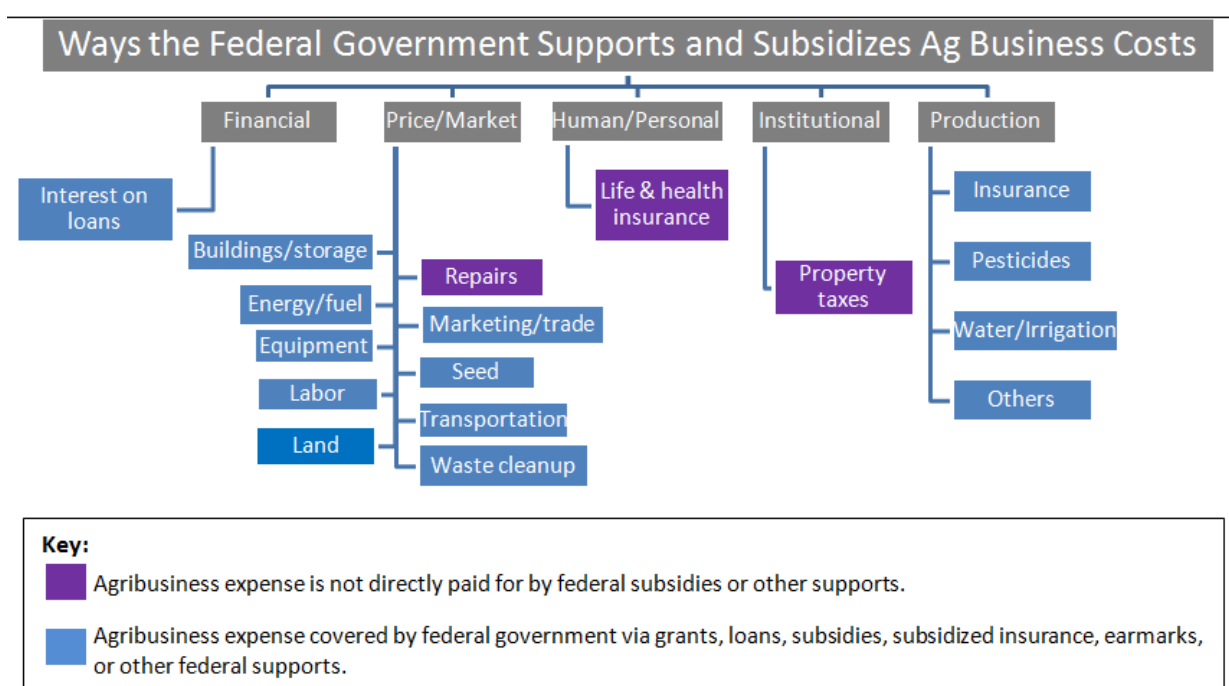
| Table 1: Federal Supports for Agribusinesses | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|----------------|--|--|---|
| Federal Agency | Subsidy Name | Description | Projected Annual Cost, FY14-23 | Federal Agency | Subsidy Name | Description | Projected Annual Cost, FY14-23 |
| EPA, USDA, and DOE | AgStar Program | Outreach program designed to reduce methane emissions from large livestock operations ¹ | Funded through three government agency programs | USDA-FSA | Low-interest and emergency loans | Low-interest government loans at interest rates lower than the market rate; loans to producers who don't otherwise qualify for credit. | Varies; 2009 stimulus spent \$20 million on direct operating loan subsidies. ² |
| Tax code /federal mandates | Federal tax breaks and production mandates | Indirect subsidies through the biodiesel tax credit, ethanol infrastructure subsidies, and a federal biofuels production mandate | \$1.8 billion, or more, as costs of mandates are difficult to quantify | USDA-FSA | Marketing loans | Payments allow farmers to receive government subsidies during times of lower market prices ³ | \$100 million |
| USDA-FAS | Trade promotion programs (Market Access Program, etc.) | Grants designed to promote U.S. commodities and products overseas via product demonstrations, advertising, and conferences | \$235 million | USDA-NRCS | Conservation Innovation Grants | Grant for various conservation projects including manure cleanup ⁴ | Funding through EQIP (below) |
| USDA-FSA | Biomass Crop Assistance Program | Subsidies to plant bioenergy crops or collect, harvest, store, or transport biomass to biofuels or bioenergy facilities | \$40 million | USDA-NRCS | Environmental Quality Incentives Program | 60% of funds pay for livestock waste cleanup, remainder for land and soil conservation, irrigation projects, etc. | \$1.75 billion |
| USDA-FSA | Counter cyclical payments | Government set price floors for selected crops | \$800 million | USDA-RD | Bioenergy Prog. for Advanced Biofuels | Annual payments to increase biofuels production, including soy biodiesel & corn ethanol | \$50.2 million |

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| USDA-RMA | Crop insurance subsidies | Premium subsidies to ensure a predetermined level of agribusiness income and subsidies for private crop insurance companies | \$9 billion | USDA-RD | Biorefinery Assistance Program | Taxpayer backed loans for the construction & operation of next generation biofuels such as cellulosic ethanol derived from grasses or ag residues | Varies; total taxpayer liability of \$6.7 billion over ten years |
| USDA-FSA | Direct payments | Per-acre payments paid to land owners regardless of need or whether or not land is producing crops | \$5 billion | USDA-RD | Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program | Loans and grants to local utilities which then lend to local businesses for rural economic development projects ⁵ | Varies, but \$43 million in grants and loans provided in FY2012 ⁶ |
| USDA-FSA | Disaster payments | Ad-hoc and permanent disaster subsidies available after natural disasters or if incomes fall below a target | \$1 billion or more ⁷ | USDA-RD | Rural Energy for America Program | Subsidized grants and loans to fund rural renewable energy projects such as wind, solar, & hydropower but also funding for ethanol blender pumps | \$59 million |
| USDA-FSA | Shallow loss programs | Highly subsidized programs to cover “shallow” dips in anticipated agribusiness revenue for favored crops | \$600 million, or more if new farm bill proposals are enacted | USDA-RD | Rural Utilities Service Loans | Loans to provide or improve rural energy generation, transmission, or distribution | Varies, but \$7 billion of loans were outstanding in FY2012 ⁸ |
| USDA-FSA | Sugar and milk market intervention programs | Various market intervention programs that protect producers from foreign imports and compensate producers for low prices | \$30 million, or more depending on market conditions | USDA-RD | Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG) | Grants to develop value-added agricultural products | Varies, but \$14 million in funding provided in FY2012 ⁹ |
| USDA-FSA | Loan deficiency payments | Operate alongside marketing loans to make subsidy payments when market prices are low | Dependent on market conditions | Various | Federal earmarks | Federal spending earmarked for specific special interest projects such as fruit fly research, swine odor reduction, biotech research... | Earmarks now banned, but at least \$40 million spent from FY05-10. |
| Key: DOE – Dept. of Energy; EPA – Environmental Protection Agency; Farm Service Agency; FAS – Foreign Agricultural Services; NRCS - Natural Resources Conservation Service; RD – Rural Development; RMA – Risk Management Agency; USDA – U.S. Dept. of Agriculture; References: Congressional Budget Office ¹⁰ | | | | | | | |

Types of Agribusiness Risks Subsidized by Taxpayers

The following chart lists most risks faced by agribusinesses and describes whether taxpayers subsidize these business risks through various federal subsidies, loans, and other programs. Most expenditures incurred to avert these risks are also deductible on agribusinesses' annual tax returns. As you can see, in one way, shape, or form, the federal government subsidizes nearly every expense on agribusinesses' balance sheets. Some of the few expenses that are not covered by government programs include routine equipment repairs, life and health insurance, and property taxes. Appendix 1 includes examples of which federal programs subsidize these business costs/risks.

Figure 1



Unintended Consequences When Agribusinesses Face Less Risks

When Uncle Sam steps in to cover most costs of doing business for agribusinesses, numerous unintended consequences result since producers take on more risk and bear less expenses. Some of these unintended consequences include the following:

- Subsidies pick winners and losers, resulting in greater production of certain subsidized crops like corn, soybeans, and wheat while other crops lose production acreage.
- Most subsidies benefit already profitable agribusinesses that would survive without federal supports while young and beginning farmers face entry barriers, sometimes caused by subsidies being built into land prices.
- Private sector risk management options are crowded out and costs are shifted onto taxpayers and the public when agribusinesses face less business risks.
- Sensitive land such as highly erodible acres or wetlands is converted into annual production of subsidized crops, with resulting impacts on downstream water quality.

Conclusion

With record farm profits projected this year, agribusinesses don't require the current level of taxpayer support they receive from Washington. Congress should reject the farm lobby's push for a continuation of status quo policies, some of which originated during the Great Depression, and the creation of new expensive entitlement programs to increase taxpayer costs in guaranteeing agribusiness incomes. A more cost-effective, transparent, accountable, and responsive agricultural safety net should instead be crafted that allows the private sector to take on risks currently covered by taxpayers.

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Appendix I

| Table 2: Specific Ways the Federal Government Subsidizes Agribusiness Costs | | |
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| Type of Risk | Agribusiness Expenses | |
| | Federal Programs | Ways that Federal Programs Cover Agribusiness Risks/Costs |
| Financial Risk | Interest on Loans | |
| | USDA agricultural subsidies | USDA provides marketing loans and loan deficiency subsidies to growers of certain crops like corn, soybeans, wheat, etc. ¹¹ |
| | USDA credit programs | Low interest loans available to certain producers. ¹² A USDA Farm Service Agency fact sheet notes that low interest commodity loans are “a great way to pay-off higher interest notes with low interest money or to purchase next year’s inputs at discounted prices.” ¹³ An emergency disaster (EM) loan program also provides low interest subsidized loans (2.25% interest rate in 2012) after federally declared disasters. ¹⁴ Finally, Guaranteed Farm Ownership (FO) Loans can be used to refinance debt. ¹⁵ |
| Price or Market Risk | Buildings/Storage | |
| | USDA agricultural subsidies/credit programs | USDA makes commodity purchases of meat, dairy, sugar, and other commodities when prices drop below a pre-determined level; \$170 million of meat was purchased in 2012 to mitigate low prices from increased livestock slaughtering during the drought. ¹⁶ USDA also provides storage payments for cotton and low interest commodity loans for other commodity crops. USDA’s Farm Service Agency notes that the latter allow producers to “obtain low interest, nine-month loans for crops stored on the farm in an eligible structure or at a public warehouse.” ¹⁷ In addition, the emergency disaster (EM) loan program provides low interest subsidized loans (2.25% interest rate in 2012) to help producers repair or replace damaged structures after federally declared disasters. ¹⁸ Finally, Guaranteed Farm Ownership (FO) Loans can be used to construct or repair buildings and other fixtures. ¹⁹ |
| | USDA energy programs | Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) pays to replace agribusinesses’ grain dryer systems with purportedly more efficient ones and Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) pays farm businesses to store bioenergy crops before they are converted to fuel or energy. ²⁰ |
| | USDA Rural Development programs | The B&I Guaranteed Loan Program has previously funded the construction of new grain bins. ²¹ |
| | Energy/Fuel | |
| | USDA credit programs | Again, a USDA Farm Service Agency fact sheet notes that |

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| | | low interest commodity loans are “a great way to pay-off higher interest notes with low interest money or to purchase next year’s inputs at discounted prices.” ²² |
| | Federal earmarks | Including taxpayer dollars for the “National Corn to Ethanol Research Pilot Plant” in IL. |
| | Federal tax credits | Biodiesel and cellulosic ethanol production tax credits, tax credits for corn ethanol infrastructure projects like blender pumps, and others. ²³ |
| | USDA Rural Development/energy programs | USDA Rural Development and farm bill energy title programs pay for both on-farm and large biofuels facilities (biodiesel, corn ethanol, wood-based biofuels, etc), corn ethanol blender pumps, wind, solar, hydropower, woody biomass for energy/heat, energy efficiency projects, etc. ²⁴ More specifically, the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) provides grants for corn ethanol blender pumps and the Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels (BPAB) funds corn ethanol and other biofuels production facilities. ²⁵ REAP, BPAB, the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP), and other farm bill energy title programs also provide subsidies to convert biomass sources into bioenergy. ²⁶ The Business & Industry Guaranteed Loan Program has funded the development or reopening of biodiesel facilities. Rural Utilities Service loans also fund coal plants and woody biomass facilities producing heat, power, & biofuels. |
| | Equipment | |
| | USDA agricultural subsidies/credit programs | Agribusinesses note that USDA direct payments, counter-cyclical price support payments, and crop insurance subsidies allow them to purchase more and/or newer equipment. ²⁷ In addition, the emergency disaster (EM) loan program provides low interest subsidized loans (2.25% interest rate in 2012) to help producers repair or replace equipment after federally declared disasters. ²⁸ |
| | Federal earmarks | Taxpayer dollars for precision agriculture technology in KY. |
| | USDA Rural Development programs | Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG) and business and industry (B&I) loans can both pay for equipment. ²⁹ |
| | Labor | |
| | Federal earmarks | \$250,000 earmark for the Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation in FY10 for “workforce development and out-migration.” |
| | USDA Rural Development programs | Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG) and business and industry (B&I) loans can both pay for portions of producers’ salaries. ³⁰ |
| | Land | |
| | USDA agricultural subsidies/credit programs | Direct payments have been used to purchase land, among covering other ag business expenses. ³¹ According to USDA’s |

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| | | Farm Service Agency, “Guaranteed Farm Ownership (FO) Loans may be made to purchase farmland” as well. ³² |
| | USDA Rural Development programs | Business and industry (B&I) loans can pay for land purchases, and the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program has paid companies to expand their drainage tile businesses, which allows producers to drain wetlands and move water away from farmland toward nearby waterways quicker than would otherwise occur. ³³ |
| | Marketing, Trade, and Promotion | |
| | Federal earmarks | Taxpayer dollars for “Midwest Agribusiness Trade and Information Center” in IA and National Sheep Industry Improvement Center. |
| | USDA marketing loan assistance programs | USDA provides marketing loans to favored crops like corn, soybeans, wheat, cotton, and rice. ³⁴ |
| | USDA Rural Development programs | Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG) and business and industry (B&I) loans can pay for marketing and advertising. ³⁵ |
| | USDA Trade Promotion programs | Numerous USDA trade promotion program like the Market Access Program, Foreign Market Development Program, Emerging Markets Program, and others subsidize the cost of doing business with other countries. ³⁶ |
| | Seed | |
| | USDA credit programs | Again, a USDA Farm Service Agency fact sheet notes that low interest commodity loans are “a great way to pay-off higher interest notes with low interest money or to purchase next year’s inputs at discounted prices,” and the emergency disaster (EM) loan program provides low interest subsidized loans (2.25% interest rate in 2012) to help producers replant permanent crops such as orchards after federally declared disasters. ³⁷ |
| | Federal earmarks | Taxpayer dollars for the Illinois-Missouri Alliance for Biotechnology whose purpose is “to fund biotechnology research that is an integral part of a Research and Development (R&D) program directed at expanding the volume of profitable businesses in the United States (U.S.) food and agricultural sector. Initially, the IMBA program was limited in scope to corn and soybeans. However, the scope of IMBA interest now encompasses all concepts of these industries.” ³⁸ . Other institutions benefitting from earmarks include the “National Center for Soybean Technology” at the University of Missouri-Columbia; “National Plant and Genetics Security Center” in Columbia, MO; “Biotechnology Research and Development Corporation” in DC; and “Bio-Safety Institute for Genetically Modified Agriculture Products” in Ames, IA. |

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| | USDA conservation programs | Conservation payments are available to cover cost of planting grass or trees into conservation uses. ³⁹ |
| | USDA energy programs | Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) pays landowners to plant farmland to bioenergy crops. ⁴⁰ |
| | USDA federal research programs | Various USDA programs and sub-agencies (such as the National Institute of Food and Agriculture) fund biotech seed research. ⁴¹ |
| | Transportation | |
| | Corps of Engineers | Taxpayers cover at least 50 percent of the cost of construction and 100 percent of the annual maintenance for structures that make navigation feasible on the nation's inland waterways. Many sections of these waterways transport primarily bulk agricultural commodities. |
| | USDA energy programs | Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) pays entities to transport bioenergy crops before they are converted to fuel or energy. ⁴² |
| | Waste Clean-Up | |
| | Conservation programs | 60 percent of funding for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) pays to clean up livestock waste from animal feeding operations; in addition, the Farm Service Agency's conservation loan program and Conservation Innovation Grants (CIGs) also pay for anaerobic digesters. ⁴³ |
| | Environmental Protection Agency programs | EPA's AgStar program pays for anaerobic digesters. ⁴⁴ |
| | Federal earmarks | Taxpayer dollars for "Reducing Gaseous Particulate Matter Emissions from Animal Feeding Operations," "Swine Odor and Manure Management Research" in Ames, IA, "Animal Waste Management," "Animal Waste Management Research Laboratory," "Swine and Other Animal Waste Management" in NC, and "Monitoring Agricultural Sewage Sludge Application." |
| Production Risk | USDA energy programs | Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) and the Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels (BPAB) both pay for anaerobic digesters. ⁴⁵ |
| | USDA rural development programs | Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG), business and industry (B&I) loans, and the Rural Utilities Service's electric programs pay for anaerobic digesters. ⁴⁶ |
| | Insurance for Loss of Crops or Revenue | |
| | USDA agricultural subsidies/credit programs | Shallow loss subsidies, disaster payments, low interest loans, and other payments are available to reduce the costs of doing business and replace private risk management tools like hedging and forward contracting. ⁴⁷ More specifically, the emergency disaster (EM) loan program provides low interest subsidized loans (2.25% interest rate in 2012) to |

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| | | help producers recover from production losses after federally declared disasters. ⁴⁸ |
| | USDA Risk Management Agency programs | Instead of individuals or companies covering the full cost of their insurance protection, the federal taxpayer pays, significantly subsidizing insurance policy holders, agents, and companies. Beneficiaries, on average, pay less than half the costs of their insurance policies. The insurance companies that provide crop insurance carry little actual risk and instead are paid handsomely by Uncle Sam (specifically USDA) who also bears the burden of losses. Additionally, crop insurance can be used to insure an expected level of revenue, meaning insurance payouts can kick in even after a bountiful harvest. USDA grants also promote highly subsidized federal crop insurance policies to Christmas tree, dairy, floriculture, and sugar producers, among others. ⁴⁹ |
| | Pesticides | |
| | Federal earmarks | Taxpayer dollars for olive fruit fly research in France and a fruit fly facility in Hawaii, “Minor-Use Pesticides,” and corn rootworm research in Ames, IA. |
| | USDA federal research programs | Various USDA programs pay for pesticide research. ⁵⁰ |
| | Water/Irrigation | |
| | Conservation programs | The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) pays for large-scale irrigation projects on individual farms. ⁵¹ |
| | USDA energy programs | Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) pays to replace irrigation pumps with purportedly more efficient ones. ⁵² |
| | Others | |
| | Federal earmarks | Federal dollars for a “Managed Drainage System for Crop Production” project in MO. |
| | USDA energy programs | Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) pays for oxygen monitoring systems for catfish farms. ⁵³ |

¹ <http://www.epa.gov/agstar/about-us/index.html>

² <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21212.pdf>

³ [http://www.usda.gov/documents/Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments.pdf](http://www.usda.gov/documents/Marketing_Assistance_Loans_and_Loan_Deficiency_Payments.pdf)

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<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/cig/?cid=stelprdb1048721>

⁵ <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2013/07/0146.xml>

⁶ <http://www.obpa.usda.gov/budsum/FY14budsum.pdf>

⁷ http://cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/44202_USDAMandator%20FarmPrograms.pdf

⁸ <http://www.obpa.usda.gov/budsum/FY14budsum.pdf>

⁹ <http://www.obpa.usda.gov/budsum/FY14budsum.pdf>

¹⁰ http://cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/43893_USDAfarmPrograms.pdf

¹¹ <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=prsu&topic=ldp>

¹² http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/RD_Loans.html
¹³ http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/newsReleases?mystate=wi&area=stnewsroom&subject=stnr&topic=landin&newstype=stnewsrel&type=detail&item=stnr_wi_20121005_rel_001.html
¹⁴ <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21212.pdf>
¹⁵ http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/guaranteed_farm_loans.pdf
¹⁶ <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21212.pdf>
¹⁷ http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/newsReleases?mystate=wi&area=stnewsroom&subject=stnr&topic=landin&newstype=stnewsrel&type=detail&item=stnr_wi_20121005_rel_001.html,
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=coop&topic=was-ca>
¹⁸ <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21212.pdf>
¹⁹ http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/guaranteed_farm_loans.pdf
²⁰ <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=ener&topic=bcap>,
²¹ <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/SupportDocuments/MN-RBS-REAP-2011Recipients.pdf>
²² <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2013/06/0129.xml>
http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/newsReleases?mystate=wi&area=stnewsroom&subject=stnr&topic=landin&newstype=stnewsrel&type=detail&item=stnr_wi_20121005_rel_001.html
²³ <http://www.afdc.energy.gov/laws/law/US/10513>, <http://www.afdc.energy.gov/laws/law/US/396>
²⁴ http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/bcp_reapreseei.html
²⁵ http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_Biofuels.html
²⁶ <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=ener&topic=bcap>
²⁷ <http://www.dtnprogressivefarmer.com/dtnag/common/link.do;jsessionid=208D85D048A91B31FD05217E1C2EC5FD.agfreejvm1?symbolicName=/ag/blogs/template1&blogHandle=agequipment&blogEntryId=8a82c0bc3a5e6fae013a99606b320263>
²⁸ <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21212.pdf>
²⁹ <http://sustainableagriculture.net/blog/whats-at-stake-value-added/>,
http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/b&i_gar.htm
³⁰ http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_VAPG.html, http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/b&i_gar.htm
³¹ <http://aep.oxfordjournals.org/content/32/1/170.full.pdf>
³² http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/guaranteed_farm_loans.pdf
³³ http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/b&i_gar.htm, http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_redlg.html,
<http://www.ellingsoncompanies.com/>
³⁴ http://www.usda.gov/documents/Marketing_Assistance_Loans_and_Loan_Deficiency_Payments.pdf
³⁵ http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_VAPG.html
³⁶ <http://www.fas.usda.gov/mos/programs/map.asp>
³⁷ <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21212.pdf>,
http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/newsReleases?mystate=wi&area=stnewsroom&subject=stnr&topic=landin&newstype=stnewsrel&type=detail&item=stnr_wi_20121005_rel_001.html
³⁸ <http://www.imba.missouri.edu/>
³⁹ <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=copr&topic=crp>
⁴⁰ <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=ener&topic=bcap>
⁴¹ <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/biotechnology.cfm>
⁴² <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=ener&topic=bcap>
⁴³ <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/>,
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/>
⁴⁴ <http://www.epa.gov/agstar/anaerobic/index.html>
⁴⁵ http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/bcp_reapreseei.html, http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_Biofuels.html
⁴⁶ http://www.epa.gov/agstar/documents/agstar_federal_incentives.pdf
⁴⁷ <http://www.taxpayer.net/library/article/federal-free-risk-management-in-agriculture>
⁴⁸ <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21212.pdf>
⁴⁹ <http://www.taxpayer.net/library/article/golden-fleece-awarded-to-agriculture-risk-management-agency>, http://www.taxpayer.net/images/uploads/downloads/CropInsurance_FedCashAssurance.pdf

⁵⁰ <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/fo/regionalintegratedpestmgtnortheastern.cfm>

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http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/programs/financial/equip/?cid=nrcs143_008300

⁵² http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/bcp_reap.html

⁵³ http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/supportdocuments/120625_reaplistfinal.pdf