

Cotton and Generic Base Acres
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At this time of the year, **landowners** and **agricultural producers** should be making important decisions concerning the new programs on the 2014 Farm Bill. The safety net programs offer different options to the eligible **covered commodities**, which includes:

- barley, canola, chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, rice, safflower, sesame seed, soybeans, sunflower seed, and wheat.

Upland cotton is no longer considered a covered commodity. 2013 Cotton Base Acres are now converted to **Generic Base Acres**, which:

- May be planted to any crop
- May NOT be reallocated during base acres reallocation
- May receive Price Loss Coverage (PLC) or Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) payments for the acres planted to a covered commodity
- May be reduced:
 - For participation in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP);
 - When taken out of agricultural production use;
 - On farms that have more base acres than available cropland.

In the case of Generic Base Acres planted to a covered commodity and enrolled on **ARC or PLC**, eligible **payments** will be attributed to a commodity depending on the scenario:

1. *Single covered commodity* planted on a farm & total acreage planted to the commodity equals or exceeds generic base acres:
 - a. Generic base acres are attributed to that covered commodity in an amount equal to the number of generic base acres on the farm in question.
2. *Multiple covered commodities* planted on a farm & total acreage planted of all commodities exceeds generic base acres:
 - a. Generic base acres are attributed to each covered commodity on the farm on a pro rata basis, the ratio of:
Acreage planted to a covered commodity / total acreage planted to all covered commodities on a farm.
3. *Multiple covered commodities* planted on a farm & total acreage planted of all commodities does not exceed generic base acres:
 - a. Total acres planted to each covered commodity are attributed to each covered commodity.

More details on commodity programs, cotton programs and insurance options can be found in companion information sheets. Stay informed!

Have any questions or concerns? **Contact us!**

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Visit our website: 2014 Farm Bill Education Program (fred.ifas.ufl.edu/FarmBill)