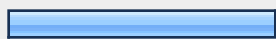
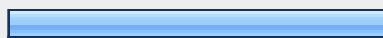



BCAP Implementation Survey

1. Name and Organization (Optional)		
		Response Count
		53
<i>answered question</i>		53
<i>skipped question</i>		43

2. Limited or Broad Implementation: Should USDA initially implement BCAP narrowly or broadly? A narrow approach would restrict acreage, scope of payments, and types of crops and facilities. A broad approach would include a wider range of payments and broader eligibility for project types and sizes. (Visit www.farmenergy.org/news/what-do-you-think-about-bcap to see USDA's summary of the differences between narrow and broad implementation.)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Targeted, limited implementation of BCAP		41.1%	39
Broad implementation		57.9%	55
No Opinion		1.1%	1
Comments			31
<i>answered question</i>			95
<i>skipped question</i>			1

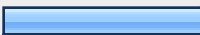
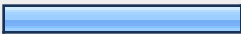


3. New and Existing Projects: Should USDA favor new or existing crops and facilities when selecting BCAP projects?

		Response Percent	Response Count
New facilities and new crops		23.3%	21
New facilities and existing crops		16.7%	15
Existing facilities and new crops		24.4%	22
No preference one way or the other		35.6%	32
Comments			35
answered question			90
skipped question			6

4. Marginal Land Preference: Should USDA favor proposals using marginal lands over otherwise productive land? (Marginal land is land that is of poor quality for agricultural use and unsuitable for other uses.)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		63.8%	60
No		30.9%	29
No Opinion		5.3%	5
Comments			35
answered question			94
skipped question			2

5. Calculating Annual Payments: Should annual payments be based on (a) opportunity cost for an agricultural producer converting land to biomass crops or (b) a “rental rate” similar to the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Rate based on opportunity cost		30.2%	29
Rental rate		36.5%	35
No Opinion		20.8%	20
Other (please specify)		12.5%	12
		<i>answered question</i>	96
		<i>skipped question</i>	0

6. Eligible Lands: The BCAP legislation specifically includes "agricultural land" and "non-industrial private forest land" as eligible land types. What other land types, if any, do you think USDA should include or not include in the program (for example: mature standing forests, reclaimed mine land)? (Note that BCAP excludes Government-owned land, native sod and CRP, WRP and GRP lands.)

		Response Count
		81
		<i>answered question</i>
		81
		<i>skipped question</i>
		15

7. Conservation/Forest Stewardship Plans: BCAP requires ag producers who receive payments to follow conservation or forest stewardship plans. Do you have any suggestions for what kinds of conservation concerns USDA should include in the conservation or forest stewardship plans (for example, nutrient management, harvest during nesting and brooding, etc)?

		Response Count
		74
		<i>answered question</i>
		74
		<i>skipped question</i>
		22

8. Do you have any suggestions for USDA to use existing programs (for example, EQIP) or personnel infrastructure (for example, NRCS offices) in implementing the conservation and forest stewardship plans under BCAP?

		Response Count
		56
	<i>answered question</i>	56
	<i>skipped question</i>	40

9. Weighting the Statutory Criteria: The BCAP statute identifies 8 criteria for USDA to use to select “BCAP Project Areas,” but does not specify how much importance USDA should give to each one. If USDA were to weight or prioritize the BCAP statutory criteria listed below in deciding how to select BCAP Project Areas, how would you recommend USDA weight each of them?

	Very Important	Important	Not Important	Rating Average	Response Count
The volume of the eligible crops proposed to be produced in the proposed BCAP project area and the probability that such crops will be used for the purposes of the BCAP	51.9% (41)	38.0% (30)	10.1% (8)	1.58	79
The volume of renewable biomass projected to be available from sources other than the eligible crops grown on contract acres	40.5% (34)	44.0% (37)	15.5% (13)	1.75	84
The anticipated economic impact in the proposed BCAP project area	37.7% (29)	48.1% (37)	14.3% (11)	1.77	77
The opportunity for producers and local investors to participate in ownership of the biomass conversion facility in the proposed BCAP project area	47.0% (39)	42.2% (35)	10.8% (9)	1.64	83
The participation rate by beginning farmers or ranchers and socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers	43.8% (35)	26.3% (21)	30.0% (24)	1.86	80
The impact on soil, water, and related resources	91.1% (82)	7.8% (7)	1.1% (1)	1.10	90
The variety in biomass production approaches within a project area, including agronomic conditions, harvest and post-harvest practices and monoculture and polyculture crop mixes	45.0% (36)	43.8% (35)	11.3% (9)	1.66	80
The range of eligible crops among project areas	35.7% (30)	42.9% (36)	21.4% (18)	1.86	84
				Comments	20
				answered question	95
				skipped question	1

10. Other Comments: Please provide any other comments you might have on how USDA should implement the BCAP program.

		Response Count
		41
	<i>answered question</i>	41
	<i>skipped question</i>	55