

**CCC-601**  
(06-26-03)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
Commodity Credit Corporation

**COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION**  
**NOTE AND SECURITY AGREEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**1. GENERAL.**

(a) **Definitions.** The following definitions shall apply to this form, CCC-601, and any appendix thereto.

- (i) **"Amount Due"** means that amount of the loan due CCC on the maturity date which is (A) the sum of: (1) the total loan amount; (2) any applicable charges; and (3) for loans **disbursed by CCC-184**, interest which has accrued on such amounts computed on a daily basis from the date of disbursement to, but not including, the date of repayment; and (4) for loans **disbursed by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)**, interest which has accrued on such amounts computed on a daily basis from the date of disbursement to, but not including, the second day before the date of repayment (7 CFR Part 1405), or (B) at CCC's discretion, an amount that is less than the sum of the amount of the loan principal plus charges and applicable interest. (C) However, for a CCC commodity loan **disbursed by CCC-184** and that has a total aggregate principal amount of \$500,000 or more, interest, if applicable, shall be calculated when repaid by: (i) wire transfer, on a daily basis from the date of disbursement to, but not including, the second day before the date of repayment; or (ii) other than a wire transfer, on a daily basis from the date of disbursement through the day after the date of repayment. (D) For a CCC commodity loan **disbursed by EFT** and that has a total aggregate principal amount of \$500,000 or more, interest, if applicable, shall be calculated when repaid by: (i) wire transfer, on a daily basis from the date of disbursement to, but not including, the second day before the date of repayment; or (ii) other than a wire transfer, on a daily basis from the date of disbursement to, but not including, the date of repayment.
- (ii) **"CCC"** means the Commodity Credit Corporation.
- (iii) **"Collateral"** means the commodity described in the Note which has been pledged as security for a CCC loan.
- (iv) **"Note"** means any CCC Note and Security Agreement which by reference incorporates this form.
- (v) **"Regulations"** means the regulations in Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations which are applicable to the crop of the commodity described in the Note.
- (vi) **"Schedules of Premiums and Discounts"** means the premiums and discounts established by CCC which are applicable to the grade of the commodity as determined from the grading factors reflected on a: (A) warehouse receipt or (B) Federal Grain Inspection Service official grading certificate. These premiums and discounts shall be used in the settlement of a nonrecourse loan if the producer does not repay the loan as required by the program regulations. Copies of the schedules of premiums and discounts are available in State or county Farm Service Agency offices.
- (vii) **"Total Loan Amount"** means the amount so identified in the Note.
- (viii) **"Loan Service Fee"** means the service fee deducted at loan disbursement and is calculated as follows: (A) for wheat, feed grains, oilseeds, lentils, dry peas, small chick peas, wool, mohair, peanuts, rice, and seed cotton, the smaller of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent (.005) times the gross loan amount or \$45 per loan plus \$3 for each storage structure, warehouse receipt, rick or module, as applicable, over 1; (B) for ginned cotton, the smaller of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent (.005) times the gross loan amount or \$7.50 per loan plus 90 cents for each bale; (C) for sugar, \$60 per loan; and (D) for distress loans, \$45 per loan.
- (ix) All other words and phrases shall have the meanings assigned to them in the regulations found at 7 CFR Parts 718, 1400, 1403, 1421, 1425, 1427, and 1435.

(b) **Joint and Several Liability.** Each producer signing the Note is jointly and severally liable for payment of the amount due.

(c) **Notification.** Several of the terms and conditions of the Note require the producer to notify CCC of actions to be taken by the producer. Any such notification must be made by notifying a representative of CCC at the Farm Service Agency county office that prepared the Note. All notices which CCC must provide to the producer will be mailed to the producer at the address maintained by that office. The producer will be deemed to have received such notice upon deposit, as first class or priority mail, in the U.S. Mail.

- (d) **Applicable Sections.** Except as may otherwise be stated herein: (i) Sections 1 through 3, 5 through 8 and 12 are applicable to all loans; (ii) Section 4 is only applicable to nonrecourse loans; (iii) Section 9 is only applicable to farm-stored nonrecourse loans; (iv) Section 10 is only applicable to warehouse-stored nonrecourse loans; (v) Section 11 is only applicable to recourse loans.
- (e) **Applicable Regulations.** The Note evidences a CCC loan made in accordance with Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Applicable parts of Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations are incorporated by reference as a part of the Note.
- 2. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY.** Participation in CCC Programs is open to all eligible applicants without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, marital status, or disability.
- 3. LOAN MATURITY.** The Note will mature at the earlier of the maturity date stated in the Note or any earlier date determined by CCC. If CCC makes demand for payment before the stated maturity date, the producer will be notified in writing of the accelerated maturity date.
- 4. LIQUIDATION OF NONRECOURSE LOANS.** On or before the loan maturity date, the producer may repay the loan by paying the amount due. If the producer repays the loan at a rate less than the sum of the loan principal plus charges and interest, the producer must provide to CCC evidence of production of the commodity which had been pledged as collateral for the loan. In lieu of repayment of the amount due, the producer may, in accordance with Sections 9 and 10, deliver the collateral to CCC. In the case of farm-stored loans, the producer shall bear all expenses of the delivery of the collateral to the delivery point stated in the delivery instructions issued by CCC. The producer will pay to CCC any costs incurred by CCC if the producer fails to deliver the collateral in accordance with such instructions. In no event will CCC pay to any party any amount which is received from the sale of the collateral if the sales proceeds are in excess of the amount required to settle the loan based on the quantity and quality of the commodity delivered to CCC as determined in accordance with the schedule of premiums and discounts. CCC will reimburse the producer for receiving charges paid by the producer to the warehouse upon delivery of the loan collateral except: (i) such payment by CCC will not exceed the receiving charge which CCC has agreed to pay to the warehouse; and (ii) no payment shall be paid by CCC if the warehouse has paid a premium to the producer for delivery of the loan collateral to the warehouse. If the producer has not paid such charges to the warehouse, the producer agrees to assign such payment to the warehouse and CCC shall issue such payment to the warehouse for the producer's account.
- 5. WAIVER OF PRESENTMENT.** The producer waives presentment for payment, demand, protest, notice of protest, and notice of non-payment of the Note.
- 6. COLLATERAL.** The kind, class, type, and quantity of the commodity which has been pledged by the producer as collateral for the satisfaction of the loan is described in the Note. With respect to farm-stored loans, the collateral consists of the entire quantity of the commodity which is stored as identified in the Note and any authorized replacement of such quantity. With respect to warehouse-stored loans, the collateral consists of the commodity represented by the warehouse receipts identified in the Note and any required supporting documents.
- 7. PRODUCER'S RESPONSIBILITY.**
- (a) **General.** The producer must be in compliance with all applicable program requirements and must have beneficial interest in the commodity pledged as collateral for the loan.
- (b) **Liens.** The producer must pledge commodities which are eligible for loan and which are free and clear of all liens, security interests, and other encumbrances. No additional liens or encumbrances shall be placed on the loan collateral after the loan is approved.
- (c) **Movement of Collateral.** The producer will not move any collateral from the location stated in the Note without prior approval of CCC and then only in accordance with instructions issued by CCC. If such movement is not completed as instructed by CCC or the collateral is disposed of, CCC may at its discretion call the loan, assess liquidated damages as specified in Section 7(f), and take other administrative actions, as determined appropriate by CCC, including denial of future farm-stored loans.
- (d) **Access to Collateral.** The producer will allow CCC to enter the premises and inspect the collateral. In the case of high moisture collateral stored in oxygen-limiting structures, the producer must open the facility when requested by CCC to permit inspection of the collateral. If safe access to the collateral is not provided or if the inspection cap on the facility is not opened to permit visual inspection of the collateral, the loan will be called.
- (e) **Certification.** When the producer certifies to the quantity of the commodity to be pledged as collateral for a loan, the producer must provide an accurate certification of such eligible quantities. If CCC determines that the producer has filed an incorrect certification of such eligible quantity, CCC may at its discretion call the loan, assess liquidated damages, as

specified in Section 7(f), and take other administrative actions, as determined by CCC, including denial of future farm-stored loans.

- (f) **Liquidated Damages.** If CCC determines that the producer has violated provisions of Sections 7(c), 7(e), or 8(a), liquidated damages may be assessed on the quantity of the commodity which is involved in the violation. For each violation, CCC will review the actions of the producer to determine if the producer acted in good faith to comply with such provisions.
- (i) For producers determined to have violated provisions of Section 7(c) and if CCC determines that the producer acted in good faith, liquidated damages may be assessed by multiplying the quantity involved in the violation by: (A) 10 percent of the loan rate for the first offense; or (B) 25 percent of the loan rate for the second offense. The producer shall pay such liquidated damage penalties plus the lesser of (1) the principal amount of the loan and charges plus interest, (2) CCC determined value on the date the violation occurred plus 15 percent of the applicable loan rate with respect to the quantity involved in the violation within 30 days of notification by CCC, or CCC will call the loan involved in the violation and require full payment at principal and charges plus interest.
  - (ii) For producers determined to have violated provisions of Section 7(e) or 8(a), and if CCC determines the producer acted in good faith, liquidated damages may be assessed by multiplying the quantity involved in the violation by: (A) 10 percent of the loan rate for the first offense; or (B) 25 percent of the loan rate for the second offense. The producer shall pay such liquidated damages plus the principal amount of the loan and charges plus interest with respect to the quantity involved in the violation, within 30 days of notification by CCC, or CCC will call the loan involved in the violation.
  - (iii) If CCC determines that the producer did not act in good faith with regard to the violation, or for cases other than the first or second offense, CCC will call the loan involved in the violation and may assess liquidated damages computed by multiplying the quantity involved in the violation by 25 percent of the loan rate. The producer shall pay such liquidated damages plus the principal amount of the loan and charges plus interest.

## 8. LIABILITY OF PRODUCER.

- (a) **Fraud or Conversion.** If the producer has made a fraudulent representation in obtaining the loan or has engaged in or aided in the conversion of the collateral, the producer will be liable for the amount of the loan, for any additional amounts paid to the producer, and for all costs which CCC would not have incurred had it not been for the fraudulent representation or conversion, plus interest on such amounts. In addition, CCC may assess liquidated damages, as specified in Section 7(f), and take other administrative actions, as determined by CCC, including denial of future farm-stored loans.
- (b) **Poisonous Substances and Contamination.** The producer will be liable for any damage resulting from tendering to CCC any commodity, whether or not accepted by CCC, containing mercurial compounds, toxin producing molds or other substances poisonous to humans or animals.
- (c) **Over-disbursement or Under-collection.** If the amount disbursed under the Note exceeds the amount authorized by the applicable regulations or a repayment made by the producer is insufficient to repay the amount due, the producer will be liable for repayment of such amounts and charges, if any, plus interest.
- (d) **Claims.** If the producer fails to settle the loan within 30 calendar days from the maturity date of the loan, or such other date as CCC may agree to, a claim for the amount due will be established in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations.
- (e) **Ineligible Commodities.** If at any time CCC determines that the commodity pledged as collateral is ineligible to be pledged as collateral for the loan, the producer shall be liable for the amount of the loan or if the producer repaid the loan at a rate less than the sum of the loan principal plus charges and interest for the ineligible quantity, the producer must repay to CCC the difference between such sum and the repayment amount, plus interest on such amounts. If the producer has received credit from CCC for storage, such amount must also be repaid. Ineligible commodities may not be delivered to CCC in satisfaction of the amount due, except as may be determined by CCC. If CCC allows the producer to deliver the commodity to CCC in satisfaction of the amount due, the value of the commodity shall be determined as specified in Section 11 (g).

## 9. FARM-STORED NONRECOURSE LOANS.

- (a) **General.** This section is applicable to a loan which is made with respect to collateral which is stored in CCC-approved storage under the control of the producer and not in a public warehouse.
- (b) **Loss or Damage to the Commodity.** The producer is responsible for any loss in quantity or quality of the commodity pledged as collateral for a farm-stored loan. CCC shall not assume any loss in quantity or quality of the loan collateral for farm-stored loans.

- (c) **Settlement.** (i) If the producer elects to deliver the collateral to CCC in satisfaction of the amount due in accordance with Section 4, CCC will not accept delivery of any quantity of commodity in excess of 110 percent of the eligible outstanding loan quantity, at time of settlement, as determined by CCC. If a quantity in excess of the eligible quantity is included on the warehouse receipt tendered to CCC for such delivery, the producer shall provide for the correction of such warehouse receipt and other applicable documents. If the producer does not take action to correct such warehouse receipt, CCC shall provide for such corrected documents and any charges incurred by CCC shall be for the account of the producer. The collateral shall be delivered in bulk form except as determined by CCC. If the loan collateral is delivered to CCC in satisfaction of the amount due, in accordance with Section 4, the value of the collateral for purposes of settlement will be determined using the applicable schedules of premiums and discounts on the basis of the quality of the collateral for the quantity which is delivered to CCC. (ii) Settlement of corn which is collateral will be made on a shelled corn basis. (iii) The producer is responsible for any loss in quantity or quality of the collateral. If the value of the collateral at settlement is less than the amount due, the producer will pay to CCC the amount of such deficiency and charges, plus interest on such deficiency from the date of disbursement. (iv) If the value of the collateral at settlement is greater than the amount due, such excess will be retained by CCC and CCC will have no obligation to pay such amount to any party. (v) If at any time prior to the maturity date of the loan the collateral can no longer be properly stored due to deterioration or for any other reason, the producer may authorize CCC to sell such collateral on behalf of the producer. (vi) Title to the collateral will vest in CCC only after delivery of the collateral to CCC in accordance with Section 4.

## 10. WAREHOUSE-STORED NONRECOURSE LOANS.

- (a) **General.** This section is applicable to a loan which has been made with respect to eligible commodities pledged as loan collateral which is stored in a warehouse approved by CCC.
- (b) **Rights of CCC.** At any time prior to the date CCC takes title to the collateral or the date the producer redeems such collateral, in order to protect its interest, CCC may move the collateral from one storage location to another storage location or otherwise handle the collateral including the compression of cotton. Any charges incurred by CCC as the result of such action will be paid by the party redeeming such collateral.
- (c) **Settlement.** (i) If the producer elects to forfeit the collateral in satisfaction of the amount due in accordance with Section 4, the value of the collateral for purposes of settlement will be determined using the applicable schedules of premiums and discounts on the basis of the weight, grade, and other quality factors stated on the warehouse receipt or supporting documents. (ii) The producer is responsible for any loss with respect to the quantity or quality of the collateral to the extent that such loss is caused by action or inaction of the producer. If the producer is responsible and, the value of the collateral at settlement is less than the amount due, the producer will pay to CCC the sum of the amount of such deficiency plus charges, and interest which has accrued on such deficiency from the date of disbursement. (iii) If the value of the collateral at settlement is greater than the amount due, the amount of such excess will be retained by CCC and CCC will have no obligation to pay such amount to any party. (iv) Title to the collateral will vest in CCC on the day following the loan maturity date.
- (d) **Cotton Loan Settlement.** If the producer elects to forfeit either upland cotton or ELS cotton loan collateral to CCC in satisfaction of the amount due in accordance with Section 10(a), the producer shall pay to CCC: (at rates that are specified in the storage agreement between the warehouse where the cotton is stored and CCC) (i) all warehouse storage charges associated with the forfeited cotton that accrued before the cotton was pledged as collateral for the loan; and (ii) any accrued warehouse receiving charges associated with the forfeited cotton, including, if applicable, charges for new bale ties.

## 11. RECOURSE LOANS.

- (a) **General.** CCC may make recourse loans available to eligible producers of high moisture corn, high moisture grain sorghum, seed cotton, sugar, and other commodities, as determined by CCC. If such loans are available, the producer is liable for the entire amount due and may not deliver the collateral to CCC in satisfaction of the amount due, except as may be determined by CCC.
- (b) **Availability of Nonrecourse Loans.** In limited circumstances, CCC may allow the producer to pledge as collateral for a nonrecourse loan the commodity which has been previously pledged as collateral for a recourse loan. The maturity date for such loans shall be as determined by CCC. If this option is made available by CCC, the producer must immediately repay the entire amount due under the recourse loan.
- (c) **Loss or Damage to the Commodity.** The producer is responsible for any loss in quantity or quality of the commodity pledged as collateral for a farm-stored loan. CCC shall not assume any loss in quantity or quality of the loan collateral for farm-stored loans.

- (d) **High Moisture.** Producers of corn and grain sorghum who normally harvest all or a portion of their crop in a high moisture condition may obtain recourse loans from CCC. High moisture means moisture content in excess of: (i) for corn, 15.5 percent; and (ii) for grain sorghum, 14.0 percent. Producers of such high moisture commodities who deliver such commodities to a feedlot, feed mill, or commercial or on farm high moisture storage that does not meet CCC's requirements for approved storage may acquire, in the same county, a like quantity of such commodity to replace the applicable quantity of high moisture feed grains to obtain a loan. Such producers must: (i) complete the applicable CCC forms; and (ii) provide to CCC: (A) certified scale tickets which adequately describe the commodity, the weight of the commodity and the moisture content of the commodity; or (B) if such scale tickets are not available, measurements of the high moisture feed grain made while the commodity was in the field or in storage. Such loans will be made on a quantity of feed grains of the same crop acquired by the producer equivalent to a quantity not to exceed the quantity determined by multiplying: (i) the acreage of the feed grain in a high moisture condition harvested on the producer's farm; by (ii) the lower of the farm program yield or the actual yield on a field, as determined by the Secretary, that is similar to the field from which such high moisture feed grains were obtained.
- (e) **Seed Cotton.** The producer may, prior to the maturity date, with the written approval of CCC move seed cotton from the location where stored to a gin in order to gin such cotton and sell the cottonseed obtained therefrom. (i) If prior to the maturity date the amount due has not been paid, the producer will pay to CCC an amount equal to the proceeds obtained from the sale of the cottonseed and the lint cotton or, if a loan or loan deficiency payment is made by CCC with respect to the lint cotton, CCC will deduct the amount due from any such proceeds which are disbursed. (ii) If prior to the maturity date the amount due has not been paid or the collateral has not been ginned, the producer must, as instructed by CCC, move the collateral to a gin at the producer's expense. If the producer fails to move the collateral as instructed by CCC, CCC may enter the premises and remove, gin, and sell the collateral. Any proceeds from the sale of the collateral will be retained by CCC and applied to the amount due. (iii) If the amount due has not been paid and warehouse receipts have been issued with respect to lint cotton obtained from the collateral, the producer will deliver the receipts to CCC or allow CCC to obtain from any person such receipts. CCC may sell such cotton, if the amount due has not been paid by the maturity date.
- (f) **Discretionary Loans.** Commodities which are pledged as collateral for a non-recourse loan as provided in Sections 9 and 10 but which are determined to be ineligible to be pledged as collateral for such a loan due to the quality of the commodity or other factors affecting value of the commodity; or the storage of the commodity is unapproved storage, may, at CCC's sole discretion, be pledged as collateral for a recourse loan.
- (g) **Settlement.** (i) If CCC allows the producer to deliver to CCC in satisfaction of the amount due the quantity of the collateral which is described in the Note, the value of the collateral for purposes of settlement will be equal to the proceeds received from the sale of the commodity. Title to the collateral will vest in CCC only after delivery of the collateral to CCC in accordance with Section 4. (ii) The producer is responsible for any loss with respect to the quantity and quality of the collateral. If the value of the collateral at settlement is less than the amount due, the producer will pay to CCC the amount of such deficiency plus charges, and applicable interest with respect to such deficiency from the date of disbursement. (iii) If the proceeds received from the sale of the commodity are greater than the sum of the amount due plus any costs incurred by CCC in conducting the sale of the commodity, the amount of such excess will be paid to the producer or, if applicable, to any secured creditor of the producer.

## 12. ADMINISTRATIVE AND JUDICIAL REVIEW.

The producer may obtain an administrative hearing in accordance with 7 CFR Part 780 with respect to a dispute arising between CCC and the producer concerning the Note, and must exhaust such administrative remedy prior to initiating a judicial action in a court of competent jurisdiction.

**NOTE:** *The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the information to be supplied on this form is the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, and the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act, as amended. The information on the attached Note and Security Agreement will be used to determine eligibility and the amount of program benefits. The information may be furnished to other USDA agencies, IRS, Department of Justice, or other State and Federal law enforcement agencies, and in response to orders of a court magistrate or administrative tribunal. Furnishing the requested information is voluntary; however, failure to furnish the correct complete information will result in a determination of ineligibility for program benefits. The provisions of criminal and civil fraud statutes, including 18 USC 286, 287, 371, 641, 651, 1001; 15 USC 714m; and 31 USC 3729, may be applicable to information provided by the producer on this form.*

*According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0087. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 21 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.*