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THE NEW RISK-BASED CAPITAL MODEL FOR FARMER MAC

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**Regional Research Project NC-221 Conference
“Financing Agriculture and Rural America: Issues of Policy, Structure and Technical Change”
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The New Risk-Based Capital Model for Farmer Mac

Andrew D. Jacobs

NC 221 Annual Meeting

McLean VA

October 2, 2001

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A Little History!

- Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1991
 - Section 8.32 Required FCA to Establish a Risk-Based Capital Stress Test for Farmer Mac
- Farm Credit System Reform Act of 1996
 - Prohibited FCA from Establishing a Stress Test Before February 1999.
- Proposed Rule November 1999
 - Comment Period Through June 2000
- Final Rule April 2001
 - Effective Date May 23, 2001
 - 12 Month Phase In
 - Required to Report, but Not Comply
 - Address Implementation Issues With Farmer Mac

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Objectives

- Comply with Statutory Requirements.
 - Prescribed Stressful Credit Risk
 - Prescribed Stressful Interest Rate Risk
 - Maintain Solvency for 10-year Period
- Require Regulatory Capital that Appropriately Reflects Prescribed Stressful Conditions
- Ensure the Stress Test is Internally Consistent
- Avoid Creating Inappropriate Economic Incentives
- Keep it as Simple and Flexible as Possible.
- Reflect Farmer Mac's Current Operating Policies and Procedures
- Maintain Reasonable Development Cost.

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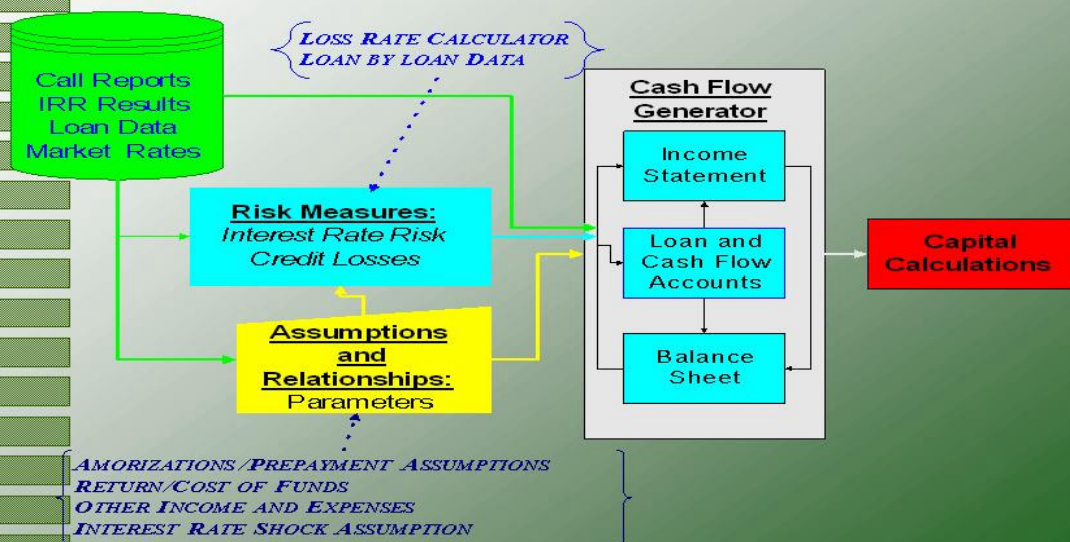
Final Rule

- Establishes the Risk-Based Capital Stress Test
- Establishes Capital Calculation, Reporting, and Compliance Requirements
- Provides Farmer Mac Flexibility to Calculate the Stress Test
- Outlines Monitoring, Examination, Supervisory, and Enforcement Activities.
- Prescribes Certain Business and Capital Planning Requirements.

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Stress Test Components



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Statutory Requirements

- Credit Risk Component
 - Reasonably Relate Loan Default Probability and Severity of Losses to those:
 - Experienced in contiguous areas of the US containing at least 5% of the total US population that experienced the highest rates of default and severity of agricultural mortgage losses during a historical period of at least 2 consecutive years.
 - Referred to Often as the Benchmark Loss Rate
- Interest Rate Risk Component
 - Shock Rates
 - 50% of the average interest rate on Treasury obligations the previous 12 months OR
 - 600 basis points, whichever is less
 - Hold Shocked Rates Constant throughout the 10-year Period.

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Credit Risk Component

Loss Rates Calculator

- Apply Loss Frequency Equation to Loan Level Data
 - Equation Estimated from Historical Data
 - Based on Farmer Mac Loan Origination Data
 - Probability that a Loan Defaults **and** has Positive Losses
- Multiply Loss Severity with the Default Probability Estimate
 - 20.9% Weighted Average
- Adjust for Loan Seasoning
 - Represented by a Beta Distribution
- Use Results to Compute State Level Loss Rates
- Apply State Level Loss Rates in the Stress Test
 - Need to Allocate Lifetime Age-Adjusted Losses to Each Period of the 10-Year Stress Test

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Loss Frequency Equation

Explanatory Variables

- Reflecting Farmer Mac Loan Characteristics
 - LTV Ratio at Loan Origination;
 - DSCR at Loan Origination;
 - Original Loan Balance in 1997 Dollars; and
 - D/A Ratio at Loan Origination.
- Reflecting Credit Stress
 - Maximum Annual Percentage Decline in Farmland Prices
 - Negative 23.52%
 - Based on Benchmark Loss Study
- Nonlinear Transformations Applied to LTV, Loan Size, and Maximum Land Price Decline
- Explanatory Variables Produced the Best Statistical Fit.

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Interest Rate Risk Component

- Interest Rates are Shocked Up and Shocked down
 - Most stressful Rate Movement is Used
 - Consistent with Statutory Requirements
- Stress Test the 10 year CMT
 - Simple to Apply and Readily Available
 - Allow Farmer Mac to Use Additional Rate Indices
- Interest Rate Risk Measurement
 - Measure through Market Value Changes Based on Farmer Mac's Reported Exposures
 - Calculate Effective Duration of Equity in 50 BP Increments
 - Use Effective Duration to Determine Dollar Impact of Interest Rate Risk for the Rate Shock Prescribed by the Statute
 - Applied to Equity Within the 1st Year of Stress Test

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Other Issues

- Stress Test Run Under a Steady State
 - Assets essentially held constant
 - Financial Performance Reflected in Equity
 - Credit Risk Effects -- Net Income or loss
 - Interest Rate Risk Effects
 - Liabilities Used to Maintain Accounting Identity
 - Assets = Liabilities - Equity
- Income and Expense Generation
 - Earnings Rates on Assets
 - Cost Rates on Debt
 - Guarantee Fees and Other Income
 - Operating Expenses
- Regulatory Capital Calculation
 - Increase/Decreases Starting Equity Until Insolvency Constraint is Satisfied

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