

For: State and County Offices

**Original AFIDA FSA-153 Filings Cannot Be Shared With the Public**

Approved by: Administrator



**1 AFIDA FSA-153 Filings**

**A Background**

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 (AFIDA) requires USDA to compile information on foreign agricultural land ownership and leases. Foreign investors submit FSA-153’s to provide that information along with paper copies of the legal description of their holdings and structure of their businesses.

Selected information from those FSA-153’s is available in Excel spreadsheets at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/economic-and-policy-analysis/afida/agricultural-foreign-investment-disclosure-act-afida/index>.

**Note:** The numbers in the spreadsheet “Owner” and “Parcel” columns are specific to AFIDA and do not match other identifiers in USDA data systems.

**B AFIDA Filings**

USDA OGC recently confirmed that public inspection of AFIDA filings may only occur at USDA headquarters in Washington, DC. Accordingly, hard copy AFIDA filings, including attached legal descriptions or business structure descriptions, cannot be viewed by the public in local FSA offices. 1-AFIDA is being amended to reflect this change.

Members of the public inquiring at County Offices for detailed AFIDA data can be made aware of the Excel spreadsheets at the website in subparagraph A.

In addition, an FSA-153 filing, or portions of the filing, may also be available for release to the public through FOIA. The FOIA request page can be found at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-room/efoia/index>.

Disposal Date	Distribution
June 1, 2025 6-21-24	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

## Notice AFIDA-44

### 1 AFIDA FSA-153 Filings (Continued)

#### C Purpose

This notice encourages State and County Offices to:

- review their AFIDA records in the spreadsheet
- report any records that need to be updated or instances of foreign agricultural land ownership or lease holdings that are not in the records.

#### D Contacts

To report incorrect or missing AFIDA information in the online Excel spreadsheets, contact Mary Estep at [mary.estep@usda.gov](mailto:mary.estep@usda.gov).

Direct any questions about requests for AFIDA documents under FOIA to the Farm Production and Conservation Business Center FOIA/Privacy Act Team at [SM.FP.FOIA@usda.gov](mailto:SM.FP.FOIA@usda.gov).