Pulse Pipeline

Your Pulse Connection NOV. 06, 2026

CELEBRATING OVER 25 YEARS OF PULSE NEWS REPORTING

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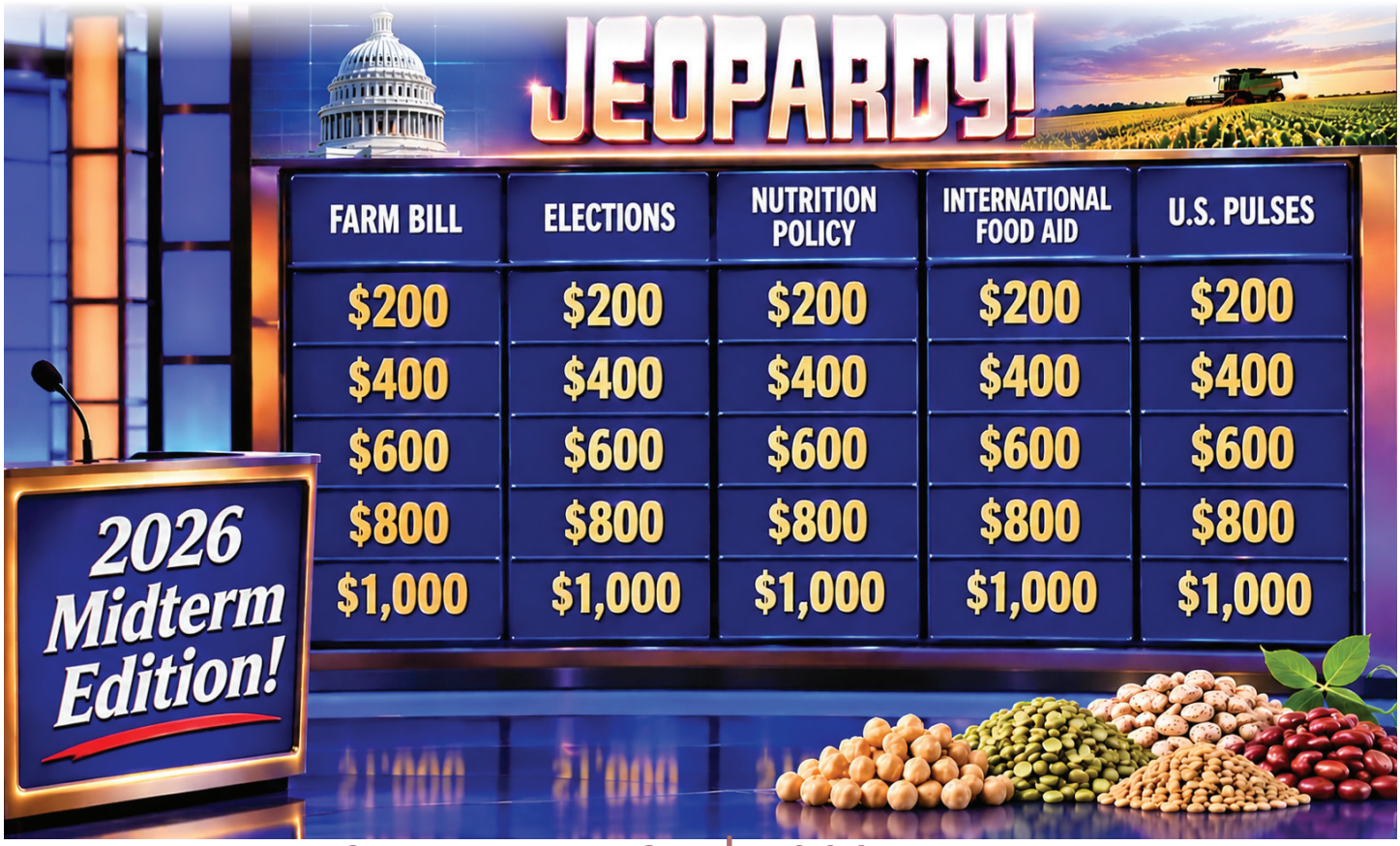

FARM BILL UNCERTAINTY FOR $1,000, ALEX!

IF THE 2026 MIDTERM ELECTIONS WERE A GAME OF JEOPARDY!, AG POLICY MIGHT BE ONE OF THE TOUGHEST CATEGORIES ON THE BOARD.

In *Jeopardy!*, contestants must give their answers in the form of a question. In Washington, lawmakers have plenty of questions, but finding the answers is proving considerably more difficult.

Democrats captured control of both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate in Tuesday's elections, setting the stage for new leadership on congressional agriculture committees when the 120th Congress convenes Jan. 3. The results also raise questions about whether lawmakers will complete the remaining Farm Bill legislation during the lame-duck session or leave the task to the incoming Congress. For U.S. pulse producers, the stakes extend beyond traditional farm programs to include agricultural research, international market development, federal nutrition initiatives and food assistance programs.

FARM BILL IS STILL ON THE BOARD

Although the Farm Bill remains unfinished, much of the agricultural safety net has already been addressed.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, enacted in 2025, strengthened agricultural risk management provisions through higher statutory reference prices, improvements to Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC), and enhancements to federal crop insurance programs. Many of those provisions extend through 2031, providing additional protections for pulse producers regardless of when Congress completes the remaining Farm Bill legislation.

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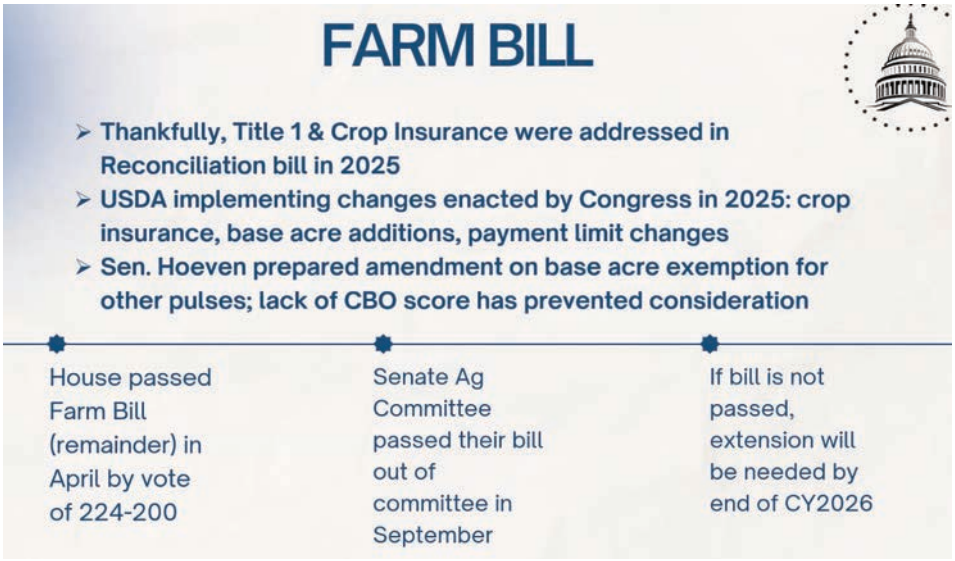

However, important provisions involving agricultural research, market development and other programs remain unresolved.

Before the election, USA Pulses government affairs consultant Tom Hance outlined the possibility of a compromise during the lame-duck session at the Halloween Eve InfoGov Committee meeting, while acknowledging the challenges ahead.

"Hard to predict what that outcome will be. It's not set up for an easy outcome or negotiation," Hance said, discussing the possibility of a Democratic takeover of Congress and the difficult legislative negotiations that could follow.

"The big question mark, of course, is whether they can get to agreement on final bills and get them enacted into law, or if all this is moot."

Negotiations have centered in part on proposed changes to the implementation schedule for state cost-sharing requirements under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

The House approved Farm Bill legislation earlier this year, while the Senate Agriculture Committee advanced its version in September. The full Senate has yet to act.

The election results have added another consideration to those negotiations: whether lawmakers can reach an agreement before control of Congress changes in January.

"I do think that during the lame-duck session, this can be overcome," Hance said, referring to a potential delay in implementing SNAP state cost-sharing requirements.

"I think there's a deal to be made there, probably on the one-year extension, because as we get close to the end of the year, those states that are facing that higher bill are going to view the one-year extension as better than nothing."

Other agricultural policy assessments published ahead of the election offered a more cautious outlook, pointing to the limited congressional calendar, federal funding negotiations and unresolved differences over SNAP requirements as obstacles to completing the Farm Bill before year's end.

From Tom Hance's Oct. 30 InfoGov presentation: Sen. John Hoeven has prepared an amendment addressing the base acre exemption for other pulse crops, but the lack of a Congressional Budget Office cost estimate has prevented its consideration.

NEW CONGRESS, FAMILIAR PRIORITIES

USA Pulses CEO Tim McGreevy discussed the election's implications Nov. 4, the day after the midterms, during a joint meeting of the Western Pulse Growers Association and the Idaho and Washington pulse commissions. McGreevy noted that the results could create an opportunity for additional negotiations before the new Congress takes office.

"The election results create a real possibility of renewed negotiations before the new Congress takes office, and we may be able to get a Farm Bill passed," McGreevy said. "That may require Republicans to make concessions, including restoring funding for school meal programs and SNAP, but that's a possibility."

Regardless of the legislative outcome, McGreevy said USA Pulses will continue pursuing its priorities in Washington, including additional meetings with congressional leaders following the election.

"We still have our priorities that we're going to continue to pursue," McGreevy said.

That effort will become particularly important as congressional agriculture committees prepare for new leadership and the arrival of newly elected members.

The USA Pulses annual Washington, D.C., visit, scheduled for Feb. 1-5, 2027, will provide an opportunity for pulse industry representatives to meet with congressional offices and federal

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PULSE MARKET NEWS

U.S. PULSE PRICES

Grower prices • U.S. $/cwt. (All prices are No. 1 grade)

UPDATED NOV. 03, 2026

REGION / COMMODITY	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	AVG	LAST YR	CHANGE
PACIFIC NORTHWEST					
Green peas	**$12.00**	$12.00	$12.00	$13.08	—
Yellow peas	**NR**	NR	NR	NR	—
Brewer lentils	**$21.00–22.00**	$21.00–22.00	$21.50	$22.00	—
Pardina lentils	**$22.00**	$22.00	$22.00	$22.00	—
Large Kabuli chickpeas	**$21.00-22.00**	$21.00-22.00	$21.67	$17.00	—
NORTHERN PLAINS					
Green peas	**$10.83–12.50**	$10.83–12.00	$11.67	$14.86	▲ **$0.25**
Yellow peas	**$7.92–12.50**	$7.92–11.67	$9.46	$8.95	▲ **$0.21**
Richlea lentils	**$15.00–18.00**	$15.00-18.00	$16.50	$16.00	—
Large Kabuli chickpeas	**$15.25**	$15.25	$15.25	$21.25	—
DRY BEANS					
Black • Min-Dak	**$40.00–45.00**	**$40.00–45.00**	$43.33	$21.50	—
Black • Michigan	**$44.00–50.00**	**$44.00–50.00**	$47.00	$23.00	—
Dark Red Kidney • Min-Dak	**$38.00**	**$42.00**	$38.00	$48.00	▼ **$4.00**
Light Red Kidney • Min-Dak	**$38.00**	**NR**	$38.00	$47.00	NR
Navy • Min-Dak	**$38.00–40.00**	**$38.00–40.00**	$39.00	$26.00	—
Navy • Michigan	**$40.00–50.00**	**$40.00–50.00**	$45.00	$33.00	—
Pinto • Min-Dak	**$42.00–43.00**	**$42.00–43.00**	$42.67	$21.67	—

CANADIAN PULSE PRICES

Grower prices in U.S. $/cwt. (Converted from Canadian prices using Bank of Canada exchange rate)

REGION / COMMODITY	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	AVG	LAST YR	CHANGE
Green peas	**$10.98**	$11.01	$10.98	$11.63	▼ $0.03
Yellow peas	**$10.83**	$10.85	$10.83	$8.28	▼ $0.02
Feed peas	**$7.71**	$7.72	$7.71	$8.92	▼ $0.01
Large green lentils (Laird)	**$20.59**	$20.63	$20.59	$20.23	▼ $0.04
Small red lentils	**$17.23**	$17.26	$17.23	$15.80	▼ $0.03
Medium green lentils (Richlea)	**$14.71**	$14.74	$14.71	$15.13	▼ $0.03
Desi chickpeas	**$19.54**	$19.58	$19.54	$15.43	▼ $0.04
Kabuli chickpeas (9 mm)	**$21.41**	$21.45	$21.41	$21.73	▼ $0.04

Sources: USDA Bean Market News; Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. Canadian prices converted to U.S. dollars using Bank of Canada exchange rate (1.00 CAD = 0.7148 USD).
Note: U.S. and Canadian pea prices are for whole peas.

Prices are indicative and may not reflect actual market conditions at the time of sale.
Northern Tier: cwt. Del warehouse, thresher run, U.S. No. 2 or better. PNW: cwt. Del warehouse, thresher run, U.S. No. 1.

▲ Higher than last week.
▼ Lower than last week.
-- No Change.

usa pulses
dry peas • lentils • chickpeas • dry beans

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agencies, introduce the industry's priorities to new lawmakers and renew relationships with returning members.

Those priorities include continued support for pulse crop research, international market development, food assistance programs and initiatives that expand the use of dry peas, lentils, chickpeas and dry beans in U.S. consumers' diets.

International food assistance may offer one of the more immediate opportunities for USA Pulses as it establishes relationships with the incoming Congress. Hance identified the restoration of international food aid programs as a priority with bipartisan congressional support, although he cautioned that administrative infrastructure must be reestablished before funding can begin flowing through those programs.

For U.S. pulse producers, renewed purchasing activity could provide additional market opportunities while supporting international humanitarian efforts.

MAHA AND THE NUTRITION QUESTION

Another area receiving considerable attention in Washington is Make America Healthy Again (MAHA), the administration's initiative emphasizing nutrition, chronic disease prevention and changes to the nation's food system.

The midterm elections produced mixed results for candidates associated with the movement. According to a preliminary analysis by Food Directions, USA Pulses' nutrition policy consulting firm, 19 of 36 MAHA-aligned candidates won their general election races, 14 lost and three races remained undecided as of Nov. 4.

Food Directions noted that many MAHA-aligned victories involved established Republican incumbents in relatively safe districts, while candidates endorsed by the movement faced greater difficulties in competitive races. Despite those setbacks, MAHA retains allies within the administration and Congress, suggesting that its food policy priorities could remain influential even as the movement adjusts to the election results.

"MAHA faced some notable electoral setbacks, but it remains too early to determine what, if any, impact the results will have on the direction or pace of food policy," Food Directions concluded.

Despite the political uncertainty, the movement's emphasis on nutrition and healthier diets presents potential opportunities for the pulse industry.

Hance noted that some MAHA priorities overlap with policies traditionally supported by Democrats, creating possible areas of bipartisan cooperation.

"There's certainly a lot of things that a Senator Booker and a Secretary Kennedy would agree on," Hance said. "I think some of it is beneficial for pulses."

Hance cautioned, however, that political differences could complicate efforts to turn shared priorities into legislation. He also identified potential concerns for growers involving pesticide regulation and expressed skepticism that significant advances in federal nutrition policy would occur in 2027.

Nevertheless, the emphasis on whole, nutrient-dense foods in federal nutrition policy provides an opportunity for the pulse industry. Recently updated healthy eating resources from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services identify dry beans, peas and lentils among plant-based protein foods.

McGreevy also sees potential in anticipated changes to federal school nutrition guidance, particularly as policymakers consider how to incorporate more nutritious foods into school meals.

"We hope that pulses will play somewhat of a prominent role," McGreevy said.

USA Pulses continues advocating for the Pulse Crop Health Initiative and School Pulse Crops Product Program, while pursuing additional opportunities to develop pulse-based foods for school meal programs.

Although the political landscape is changing, the industry's message remains consistent: pulses are affordable, nutritious foods with an important role in improving dietary quality.

MEANWHILE, USDA IS BUYING

While those on the Hill continue to debate the next Farm Bill, federal agricultural purchasing programs continue providing opportunities for U.S. pulse crops.

USDA has been moving forward with commodity purchasing activity, including two solicitations highlighted later in this week's newsletter.

The activity follows the department's previously announced Section 32 purchasing initiative, which includes substantial planned purchases of dry peas, lentils and chickpeas for domestic food assistance programs.

These purchases can provide an additional market outlet for U.S. producers and processors while supplying nutritious foods to the people who need them.

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MIDTERMS CONT.

The distinction between announced purchasing plans, active solicitations and completed contract awards remains important. Nevertheless, the continuing purchasing activity is welcome news for the industry.

ARC OR PLC: WHAT'S THE ANSWER?

For pulse producers evaluating their own operations, one particularly important decision is whether to elect Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC). Both federal farm safety-net programs were strengthened by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, but they offer different approaches to protecting farm income.

Determining which option is appropriate depends on individual farm circumstances, program calculations and expected payments.

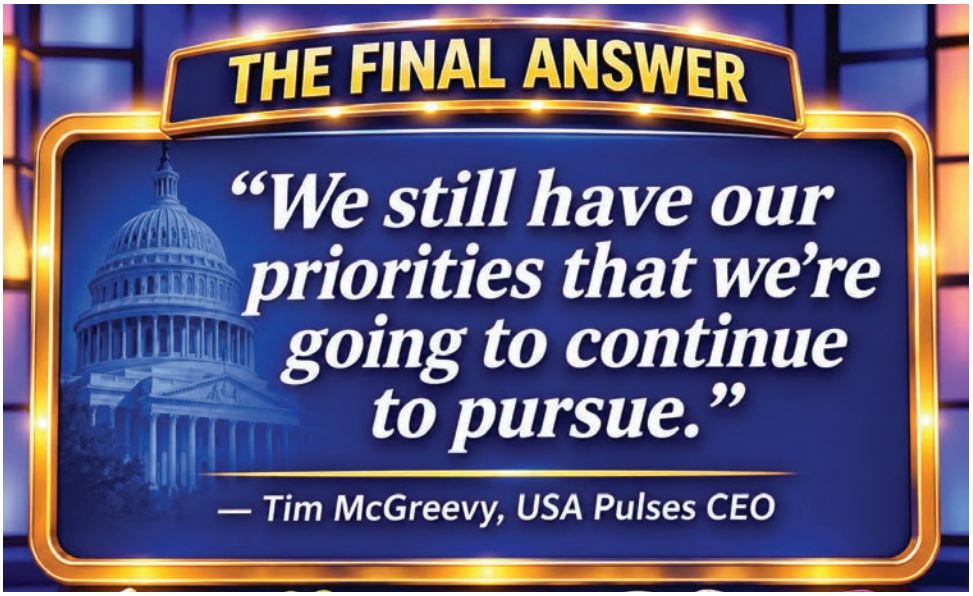
Producers face a Dec. 11 deadline for their 2026 crop year ARC/PLC elections, making it particularly important to understand the differences.

USA Pulses will publish a special ARC vs. PLC bulletin next week examining the programs, recent changes and considerations for pulse producers. Growers should review their individual circumstances and consult their local Farm Service Agency office before making enrollment decisions.

THE FINAL ROUND BEGINS

Congress returns to Washington next week with an unfinished Farm Bill, federal funding decisions and a limited calendar before the new Congress takes office.

USA Pulses government affairs consultant Tom Hance believes lawmakers could reach an agreement during the lame-duck session. If they cannot complete the remaining Farm Bill provisions, he expects Congress to approve an extension rather than leave the legislation unresolved.



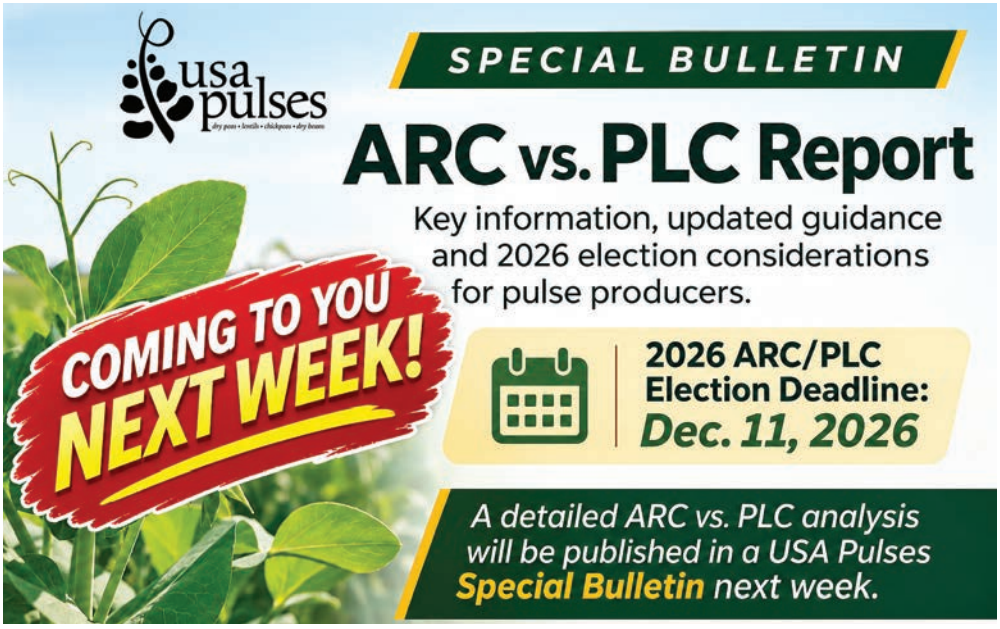
For USA Pulses, the legislative uncertainty does not change its advocacy agenda.

"We'll be returning to Washington, D.C., before Thanksgiving to follow up on our discussions and revisit these programs following the election," McGreevy said.

Looking ahead to the arrival of new lawmakers in January, McGreevy emphasized the importance of maintaining the industry's relationships and continuing its advocacy efforts.

"Change can be unsettling," McGreevy said. "But I think we have to look at the opportunities, too. We've got a good story to tell about U.S. pulses, and while we may have some new faces to work with, our priorities haven't changed."

The questions may change as new lawmakers take their seats, but the pulse industry's priorities remain the same. And in Washington, the final answers are still a long way from being written.



USDA PULSE SOLICITATION

ANNOUNCEMENT
Purchase Solicitation
2000011632

Invitation Total: 1,757 MT

Commodity	Size	Metric Tons
Lentils	12/2;24/1	367
Green Split Peas	12/2	55
Baby Lima	12/2;24/1	256
Blackeye	12/2	146
Great Northern	12/2;24/1	219
Light Red Kidney	12/2;24/1	164
Pinto	12/2;24/1; tote	550

Solicitation due date is: 11/16/2026

Download the Purchase Solicitation Here

ANNOUNCEMENT
Purchase Solicitation
2000011562

Invitation Total: 4,677 MT

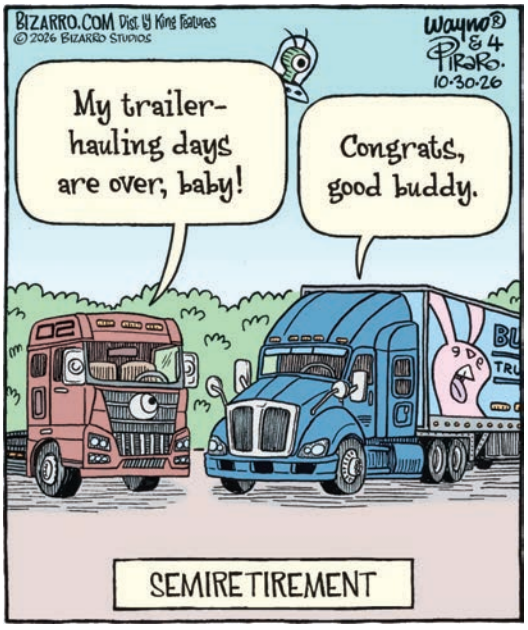
Commodity	Size	Metric Tons
Baby Lima	6/10	16
Black Turtle	6/10	362
Blackeye	6/10;24/300	252
Chickpeas	6/10;24/300	288
Great Northern	6/10	66
Pink	6/10	49
Pinto	6/10;24/300	1,450
Red Kidney	6/10	115
Small Red	6/10	49
Black	24/300	1,031
Light Red Kidney	24/300	999

Solicitation due date is: 11/17/2026

Download the Purchase Solicitation Here

We are working with US Government Officials to ensure that dry peas, lentils, and chickpeas are purchased through programs like PL 480 and Section 32. We strive to notify you and other industry partners promptly.

FridayFunny!



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 6–12	ACLM Conference
Nov. 11	USAPTA Board Meeting
Nov. 12	USA Pulses Board Meeting
Nov. 16–20	Mexico-Guatemala Trade Mission
Nov. 17–19	USAEDC Fall Meeting
Dec. 1–2	MT Grain Growers Association Mtg.

PULSE CROP LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS (LDP) RATES

Loan Rates & Weekly Posted Prices		Dry Peas				Lentils				Lg Chickpeas		Sm Chickpeas	
		West		Midwest		West		Midwest		All		All	
		2026	2025	**2026**	2025	**2026**	2025	**2026**	2025	**2026**	2025	**2026**	2025
Pulse Loan Rate (No. 2 Grade)		**$7.18**	$6.10	**$6.85**	$6.15	**$14.30**	$13.00	**$14.30**	$13.00	**$15.40**	$14.00	**$11.00**	$10.00
Oct. 30, 2026	NPP	**$10.83**	$10.83	**$10.50**	$10.88	**$20.47**	$20.47	**$20.47**	$20.47	**$18.61**	$18.61	**$12.65**	$12.65
	LDP												
Oct. 23, 2026	NPP	**$10.82**	$10.78	**$10.49**	$10.83	**$20.35**	$20.31	**$20.35**	$20.31	**$18.62**	$18.65	**$12.65**	$12.65
	LDP												

Source: USDA Farm Service Agency

Note: Midwest region, all counties in Montana and North Dakota, plus all counties east of those states into and including Michigan.

NPP = National Posted Price
LDP = Loan Deficiency Payment