

Talking points for the USDA-Specialty Crops Funds

- Secretary Veneman's letter directs the Governor to name a point of contact for the handling of these funds.
- USDA Commodity Credit Corporation accepted contact information without verification or identification from Governor Musgrove's Office.
- USDA-CCC paid funds to the Mississippi Department of Agriculture without direction from Governor Musgrove's Office.
- USDA should demand the return of those funds for proper handling through the Governor's Office as originally directed by Secretary Veneman.

Talking Points for Commissioner Spell

- USDA is prepared to ask for the return of the funds and redirect to an account of your designation.
- Rather than sending a letter to USDA requesting the funds, ask for the money to placed under your supervision.