

**FAS-930**  
(10-30-09)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
Foreign Agricultural Service

**TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS (TAAF)**  
**PETITION FOR CERTIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY FOR A GROUP OF PRODUCERS**

**NOTE:** *The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is 7 CFR Part 1580 and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-5). The information will be used to determine eligibility for benefits provided by the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers program. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for USDA/FAS/2. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for participation in the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers Program.*

*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 0551-0040. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 6 hours 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. Completed petition may be submitted by fax or emailed or delivered to addresses listed below.*

<b>FAX:</b> 202-720-0876	<b>MAIL TO:</b>	<b>COURIER DELIVERY</b>
<b>Or:</b>	TAAF Foreign Agricultural Service Stop 1021 USDA 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250-1021	TAAF Foreign Agricultural Service Suite 400 USDA 1250 Maryland Avenue, S.W. Washington, DC 20024
<b>EMAIL:</b> <a href="mailto:tradeadjustment@USDA.gov">tradeadjustment@USDA.gov</a>		

1. Name of Authorized Representative or Primary Contact <b>Brian E. Vickers</b>	2. Name and Business Address (including City, State, and Zip Code) <b>Vickers Crab Harvesting</b> <b>1133 Franklin Street</b> <b>Darien, GA 31305</b>
3. Telephone Number (Including Area Code) <b>912-437-8279</b>	5. E-Mail Address <b>bvickers@darientel.net</b>
4. Fax Number (Including Area Code) <b>912-437-2140</b>	

6. This petition is made on behalf of the following producers: (Enter at least 3 names if filed by an individual. Organizations do not need to enter producer name.)

A. Name of Producers	B. Mailing Address	C. Telephone No. (Including Area Code)	D. E-Mail Address
<b>Brian E. Vickers</b>	<b>1133 Franklin Street</b> <b>Darien, GA 31305</b>	<b>912-437-8279</b>	<b>bvickers@darientel.net</b>
<b>Kenneth E. Howard</b>	<b>P.O. Box 196</b> <b>Darien, GA 31305</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Shea Howard</b>	<b>P.O. Box 2073</b> <b>Darien, GA 31305</b>	<b>912-437-2005</b>	<b>None</b>

**7. COMMODITY INFORMATION:**

A. Description of the raw (excludes processed) agricultural commodity: (e.g., fresh raspberries) <b>Fresh Blue Crabs</b>	B. Competing Imported Commodity's Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) Number (HTS can be found at: <a href="http://www.usitc.gov/taffairs.htm">http://www.usitc.gov/taffairs.htm</a> ) <b>0306.14.40 90</b>
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C. This petition is for the most recent marketing year for the commodity beginning in 1/1/2009 (month/year) and ending 12/31/2009 (month/year)

D. Check the production area of the commodity for which this petition is submitted (state, states, or national):

National  State (Identify State or States(list): Georgia)

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*To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 677-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8842 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

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8. Provide one of the following for the most recent marketing year and for each of the 3 preceding marketing years: the average annual price, production quantity, value of production, or cash receipts.

**Note: Use Official data if available.** The Department's National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS) has national price data available for many raw agricultural commodities. The information can be found at [www.usda.gov/nass](http://www.usda.gov/nass). You must state the source of your data. If you do not use official data, you must provide contact information for verification purposes and supporting documentation to show how your data was calculated or obtained.

(Check and complete only one)	(1) Most Recent Year 2009	(2) 1 Year Ago 2008	(3) 2 Years Ago 2007	(4) 3 Years Ago 2006
A. <input type="checkbox"/> Average Annual Price	\$	\$	\$	\$
B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production Quantity lbs.	3,418,411	4,180,334	4,398,961	4,075,882
C. <input type="checkbox"/> Value of Production	\$	\$	\$	\$
D. <input type="checkbox"/> Cash Receipts	\$	\$	\$	\$

9. Source of data entered in items 8A - 8D: **Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources - Blue Crab Landings**

10. **Basis for request for adjustment assistance.** Explain (or attach documentation) how imports have affected your commodity during the most recent marketing year based on at least one of the following measures: price, quantity of production, value of production, or cash receipts. Include any other factors that may also have contributed to lower producer prices below:

Blue crab harvesting production has been steadily declining since the 1990's when crab picking plants were plentiful in Southeast Georgia and landings were taken to the crab houses where the meat was picked, processed and shipped all over the United States and to foreign markets. In recent years all Crab Picking Plants in our area and indeed in the whole of the east coast of the Carolinas, Florida, and Georgia have disappeared. This left only a live crab market which dictated lower productions. The mounting increase in crab meat imports from markets in China, Indonesia, Venezuela, Thailand, South Korea, Philippines, and other Southeast Asian and South American countries have devastated our markets for our live blue crabs.

It has become increasingly difficult to make a living in our industry, because of the decrease in productions and no offsetting decrease in the cost of doing business - as gas, bait, and traps and supplies have continued to escalate.

Blue Crab harvesting has been a way of life for many of us for generations. It is a shame to see the industry suffer due to the trade imbalance between our country and foreign countries that import less expensive crabs because of the lower cost of harvesting in countries that pay near slave labor wages to their workers.

In closing, we respectfully request financial assistance in this time of great need and further request assistance in re-building our way of life - blue crab harvesting.

11A. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRIMARY CONTACT  <i>Dorian E. Nicksa</i>	11B. TITLE  <b>Primary Contact</b>	11C. DATE SIGNED (MM-DD-YYYY)  <b>04-09-2010</b>
12A. SIGNATURE OF FAS REPRESENTATIVE	12B. TITLE	12C. DATE PETITION FILED (MM-DD-YYYY)