Senator Thurmond today pointed out an agriculture relief program established in South Carolina under which up to half the cost will be paid for by the government.

Several inquiries have been received at the Senator's office asking about the possibility of farmers suffering freeze or other disaster damage to their crops securing additional grants from the Federal Government.

After consultation with Ben Boatwright, South Carolina Chairman of the Stabilization and Conservation Committee, Senator Thurmond released information about this program designed to assist the farmers.

Up to four dollars per acre will be paid by the government to farmers for the cost of seed needed to establish vegetative cover crops. This program also would permit the cost of fertilizer to be included, but the total portion paid by the ASC committee can not exceed the four dollars per acre.

This conservation practice is designated in the national Agricultural Conservation Practices handbook as "Practice D4" and in the South Carolina handbook as "Practice No. 9." The explanation is on page 21 of the South Carolina handbook.

Under various specified regulations, oats, barley, rye, or mixtures of these grains with wheat, may be planted as well as lespedeza, millet, sudan grass, etc.

Applications for assistance under the program should be made directly to the County Stabilization and Conservation committees.