

CAT Fee Increase

There is a big change coming for the 2020 crop year. This change will affect those currently covered at the CAT level. The current fee for CAT policies is \$300. For the crop year 2020 RMA has increased the fee to \$655. We are encouraging our customers that are at the CAT level buy up to the 50% level. This will possibly give you more coverage but may be cheaper than the new CAT fee. If you would like to discuss this in more detail please reach out to us. Fall crop deadlines will be here before we know it.

Flood Relief

Due to the widespread flooding and excess moisture conditions in many parts of the nation, there has been catastrophic damage to crops. RMA has made the decision to defer any interest accrued on unpaid premiums with a billing date of August 15th. This is due to the fact that some farmers and ranchers may not have received their indemnities yet because of the significant crop losses this year. Policies with unpaid premiums as of November 30th will have interest attached starting December 1st. This does not apply to Rainfall Index policies.



Get to FSA!

➤ 2019 Market Facilitation Program (MFP) Payment

- MFP is also known as the trade assistance program. This payment is based strictly on planted crop acres certified with FSA in 2019. RMA has established a per county pay rate for all commodities that qualify. The eligible planted acres cannot exceed the farmers 2018 total plantings. The payment is not dependent on which crops were planted in 2019, meaning perennial crops also qualify. Almost all crops besides some very specialty type crops qualify for the payment. FSA is paying 50% of payment right away and the other half may be coming later this year.

➤ 2019-2020 ARC/PLC Program

- Enrollment dates for the 2019 crop year are September 3, 2019 – March 15, 2020. However, most FSA offices are encouraging growers to wait until October because they will be able to sign up for both 2019 and 2020 and have the opportunity to update their base yields in the same trip.

➤ Dairy Margin Coverage Program

- Ag Hedge Desk and FARM Inc. feel that the DMC program is a good tool for most dairies. If you haven't signed up, we recommend purchasing as much coverage as possible. Up to 5 million pounds of annual production (the Tier 1 limit) at the \$9.50 coverage level. We are also recommending signing up for the 5 years to receive the 25% premium discount. The first and second quarters of this year are already paying for 2019. September 20th is the final day to sign-up. AGI's do not apply to this program, there is no payment limitation. Dairy producers are able to have both the DMC program and the Dairy Revenue Protection policy.

STAX Reminder!

If you have signed up for the PLC program with FSA you **do not** have STAX coverage this year. There were some growers that had farm numbers that did not qualify for the PLC program due to no program crops being grown under that number in that window of time. If that was the case, then STAX coverage does apply to the acres under that specific farm number. We retrieved this information from your local FSA office. If you are unsure if any of your acres qualified for STAX or not, please reach out to us and we can clarify that for you!

Don't Wait To Say

Any event that occurs that may adversely affect your yields is something we need to know about. You can never give us too much information. If anything comes up please notify us ASAP. That's why you have insurance, right?

Important Dates

- October 1st - October 31st – Harvest prices are measured for cotton and corn off DEC board.
- October 31st – Final date to make changes or add coverage to your fall crops.
- November 15th – Final date to sign up or make changes to PRF policies. Acreage reporting deadline for PRF policies.
- November 20th – Final date to make changes or add coverage to Citrus policies.
- December 15th – Fall Production Reporting Deadline including Wheat and Barley.
- December 31st – Final date to make changes or add coverage to Pistachio policies.

*Don't forget that we are required to report production by section, as harvest time approaches please be aware of how your production records are being kept!



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