



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Risk
Management
Agency

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Avenue, SW
Stop 0801
Washington, DC
20250-0801

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: IS-08-010

TO: All Approved Insurance Providers
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices
All Other Interested Parties

FROM: William Murphy /s/ *William Murphy* 11/19/2008
Deputy Administrator
for Insurance Services

SUBJECT: Claims Advisory – Sugar Beet Acreage

BACKGROUND:

For the past few weeks, the Risk Management Agency (RMA) has received reports that sugar beet producers in west central Minnesota and east central North Dakota have been unable to complete harvesting due to excessive wet conditions. Most producers discontinued harvest until the beets could be lifted without excess mud/dirt. However, the excessively wet conditions continued, and recent freezing temperatures resulted in Minn-DAK Farmers Cooperative shutting down harvest/delivery of beets for the crop year. Other processors may have shut down delivery/harvest in certain areas for the same reasons.

ACTION:

The procedures for acreage not timely harvested due to insurable causes in subparagraph 89 D of the 2008 Loss Adjustment Manual (LAM) Standards Handbook, FCIC 25010, applies when, on a case by case basis, the loss adjuster determines:

- A. A sugar beet insured had to delay harvest of any sugar beet acreage due to an insurable cause of loss such as excessively wet field conditions,
- B. The processor notified growers that they have ended harvest/delivery of sugar beets for the crop year due to the excessively wet conditions and/or freeze, and
- C. The insured agrees that the sugar beets will not be harvested.

If LAM procedures in subparagraph 89 D apply to a producer's insured acreage, the loss adjuster shall maintain in the insured's loss file a copy of the processor's notification letter stating the above insured causes were the reason the processor



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ended harvest/delivery operations for the crop year. If the processor's notification letter does not address the insurable cause of loss, the loss adjuster must document that the failure to timely harvest was due to an insurable cause of loss.

Topped, lifted and piled sugar beets rejected due to uninsured causes such as mud/dirt by the processor are considered production to count.

DISPOSAL DATE:

When claims for 2008 sugar beet affected acreage are settled.