November 17, 2009

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: PM-09-054

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

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ Rodger M. Matthews, for
      Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Pasture, Rangeland, Forage (PRF) and Apiculture (API) Pilot Programs - Overlapping Index Intervals

BACKGROUND:

With the issuance of the 2010 Rainfall Index (RI) and Vegetation Index (VI) Basic Provisions, and PRF and API Crop Provisions, available index intervals were expanded to allow producers to choose those intervals which best suit their individual operations. Rather than six available intervals for RI and four available intervals for VI; producers can select from eleven flexible two-month intervals for RI, and from ten flexible three-month intervals for VI depending on the growing season and as allowed in the Special Provisions.

PRF Crop Provisions, Section 3(e) and API Crop Provisions, Section 3(f) state “An insured may select any index interval provided in the Special Provisions; however, no month can be included in more than one selected index interval.”

Questions have been raised as to whether these provisions: 1) apply to a producer’s total insured acreage, without regard to grid ID, crop type, or share or 2) apply to individual grids only.

ACTION:

For the 2010 and succeeding crop years, producers will be allowed to select index intervals for the RI and VI insurance programs that contain the same months, provided the intervals are for different grids, crop types, and/or share. However, overlapping months are not permitted within a single grid ID, crop type, and share.
Example:
A producer insures 100 acres in Grid 5792 for the January/February Index Interval. This insured also insures 100 acres in Grid 6773 for the February/March Index Interval. Because the insureds land is located in separate grid IDs, he/she can insure these intervals even though the month of February is included in both Index Intervals.

As a reminder, the same acres cannot be insured in more than one grid ID or county during the crop year.

DISPOSAL DATE:

December 31, 2009.