



June 30, 2010

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

**INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: PM-10-028**

Farm and Foreign  
Agricultural  
Services

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

Risk  
Management  
Agency

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/*Tim B. Witt*  
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SUBJECT: Vegetation Index Basic Provisions, Vegetation Index Insurance Standards Handbook, Apiculture Crop Provisions, and Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Crop Provisions Effective for the 2011 and Succeeding Crop Years

**BACKGROUND:**

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) Board of Directors (Board) approved expansion of the Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage (PRF) pilot program and enhancements to the Vegetation Index (VI) plan of insurance for both PRF and Apiculture (API), which are being implemented beginning with the 2011 crop year.

The Rainfall Index (RI) PRF plan of insurance has been expanded to specific counties in Colorado and all counties in the states of California, Florida, Georgia, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Texas.

The VI PRF plan of insurance has been expanded to the balance of counties in Idaho, Oregon, and South Dakota not previously included in the program; and all counties in the states of Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah.

Enhancements to the VI plan of insurance for both PRF and API include adding a Total Loss Factor and removing the temperature constraint component of the index. The Total Loss Factor is designed to more accurately represent the level of loss at which the maximum indemnity amount, a 100-percent loss payment, would be made.

**ACTION:**

The following RI and VI pilot program materials, which include the FCIC Board approved enhancements effective for the 2011 crop year, will be available by close of business



The Risk Management Agency Administrators  
And Oversees All Programs Authorized Under  
The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

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today on the RMA Website at: [www.rma.usda.gov/policies/ri-vi/](http://www.rma.usda.gov/policies/ri-vi/)

- VI Basic Provisions (11-VI),
- VI-API Pilot Insurance Program Crop Provisions (11-VI-API)
- VI-PRF Pilot Insurance Program Crop Provisions (11-VI-PRF)
- VI Insurance Standards Handbook (FCIC-18140)

Applications to participate in the RI or VI pilot programs must be completed by the Sales Closing Date of September 30, 2010.

Producers interested in RI or VI pilot programs should contact a crop insurance agent. RMA publishes a list of agents on its website at: <http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html>.

**DISPOSAL DATE:**

December 31, 2010