



United States
Department of
Agriculture

August 2, 2012

Farm and Foreign
Agricultural
Services

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: PM-12-035

Risk
Management
Agency

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

Beacon Facility-
Mail Stop 0801
P.O. Box 419205
Kansas City,
MO 64141-6205

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ *Tim B. Witt*
Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Research the Feasibility and Development of an
Insurance Program for Tart Cherries

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(c)(1)(C)) requires the Risk Management Agency (RMA) enter into contracts to carry out research and development.

The Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(c)(2)(B)) also requires that RMA consult with groups representing producers of agricultural commodities that would be served by the policies that are the subject of research and development. RMA is planning to pursue research to develop an insurance product for tart cherries. We are expanding that scope to anyone such as packers or processors who may be interested in the tart cherry industry.

ACTION:

RMA plans to solicit a contract for development of a crop insurance product for tart cherries. We seek any preparatory input from interested parties about the level of interest from producers, or the tart cherry industry about the availability of private insurance products that may be available covering tart cherries, or any other relevant issues that should be considered when carrying out the research for potential program development. Any information pertaining to market impacts, type of insurance most suitable for the crop, or impact on crop expansion would be beneficial.



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

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Please address correspondence related to the planned research and development by August 24, 2012 to Quintrell Hollis, Product Design Branch at quintrell.hollis@rma.usda.gov or by mail to:

USDA/RMA/APDD
Beacon Facility, Stop 0813
PO Box 419205
Kansas City, MO 64141-6205

DISPOSAL DATE:

December 31, 2012