



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

August 3, 2012

Farm and Foreign  
Agricultural  
Services

**INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: PM-12-036**

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/*Tim B. Witt*  
Deputy Administrator

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

**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 efforts. RMA is planning to pursue research into the feasibility of insuring pomegranates. We are expanding that scope to anyone such as packers or processors who may be interested in the pomegranate industry.

**ACTION:**

RMA plans to solicit a contract for determining the feasibility of developing a crop insurance product for pomegranates. We seek any preparatory input from interested parties about the level of interest from producers, or the pomegranate industry about the availability of private insurance products that may be available covering pomegranates, or any other relevant issues that should be considered when carrying out the feasibility and 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

The USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Please address correspondence related to the planned research and feasibility for potential program development by August 24, 2012 to Mark Alderson, Product Design Branch at [mark.alderon@rma.usda.gov](mailto:mark.alderon@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