



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Risk
Management
Agency

Beacon Facility –
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October 6, 2008

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: PM-08-054

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

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

SUBJECT: Vegetation Index (VI) and Rainfall Index (RI) Insurance Standards
Handbooks –Determining Grid ID and Use of the Website

BACKGROUND:

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) has received requests that the VI and RI Insurance Standards Handbooks issued on August 28, 2008, be updated to contain information regarding the use of RMA interactive Web tools, which are available to determine appropriate Grid ID(s). Additionally, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) recently released 1-NAP handbook amendment containing decisions on the Non-Insured Crop Assistance Program (NAP) and other programs that have relevance to the VI and RI programs.

Also, the VI and RI Basic Provisions, Pasture, Rangeland, Forage (PRF) Crop Provisions, and Apiculture (API) Crop Provisions issued on August 28, 2008, contain minor typographical and grammatical errors.

ACTION:

The VI and RI Insurance Standards Handbooks on the RMA website are modified to include “Exhibit 4: Determining Grid ID(s) and Use of the Website,” and Exhibit 5: Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Example. Appendix C “FSA Decisions on NAP and Other Programs” has been updated to reflect FSA’s recently released 1-NAP handbook amendment.

VI and RI Basic Provisions, PRF Crop Provisions, and API Crop Provisions are updated to correct minor typographical and grammatical errors. Approved Insurance Providers are not required to reprint policies to correct these minor errors as the policies released August 28, 2008, are legally sufficient.



The Risk Management Agency Administers
And Oversees All Programs Authorized Under
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RMA will make available by the close of business today the updated documents as discussed herein.

DISPOSAL DATE:

This informational memorandum is for the purpose of transmitting information and the expiration date is December 31, 2008.