

United States Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency

December 2010

# 2011 COMMODITY INSURANCE FACT SHEET

# Forage Production

# **Crop Insured**

The crop insured will be all the alfalfa in the county for which a premium rate is provided by actuarial documents:

- In which you have a share; and
- That is grown during one or more years after the year of establishment.

We do not insure any alfalfa that does not have an adequate stand (specified in the Special Provisions) at the beginning of the insurance period, is grown with a non-forage crop, or four or more years old after the year of establishment.

#### **Counties Available**

Forage production is available for insurance in the following counties: Alameda, Colusa, Fresno, Glenn, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Lassen, Madera, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Placer, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare and Yolo counties. Crop may be insurable in other counties by written agreement if specific criteria are met. Contact an agent for more details.

#### **Causes of Loss**

Adverse weather conditions<sup>1</sup> Failure of irrigation water supply<sup>2</sup> Fire<sup>3</sup> Insects<sup>4</sup> Plant disease<sup>4</sup> Volcanic eruption Wildlife<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Natural perils such as hail, frost, freeze, wind, drought, and excess moisture.

<sup>2</sup>If caused by an insured peril during the insurance period. <sup>3</sup>unless weeds and other forms of undergrowth have not been controlled or pruning debris has not been removed.

<sup>4</sup>But not damage due to insufficient or improper application of control measures.

#### **Important Dates**

Sales Closing	October 31
Acreage Report Due	January 31

#### **Insurance Period**

Lassen, Modoc, Mono, Shasta, and Siskiyou counties: Insurance attaches on acreage with an adequate stand on the later of the date we accept your application or 1) April 15 the calendar year following the year of seeding for spring planted forage or 2) October 16 the calendar year following the year of seeding for fall planted forage. For calendar years subsequent to the calendar year following the year of seeding insurance attaches October 16.

For all other California counties insurance attaches on acreage with an adequate stand on the later of the date we accept your application or December 1. Insurance ends the earliest of:

- total destruction,
- removal from the windrow or the field for each cutting,
- final adjustment of a loss,
- the date grazing commences on the forage crop,
- abandonment of the forage crop, or
- October 15 for Lassen, Modoc, Mono, Shasta and Siskiyou counties and November 30 for all other counties.

#### **Coverage Levels and Premium Subsidies**

The forage production guarantee is an individual amount of annual production measured in tons of alfalfa hay. An individual guarantee is based on the grower's past production. Prospective insured's are asked to provide their insurance agent 4 to10 years of production and planting history that is used to determine their average yield per acre. Producers can choose coverage levels ranging from 50 to 75 percent of their individual approved average yield and 55 to 100 percent of a price selection announced by USDA. catastrophic risk protection (CAT) coverage guarantees 50 percent of their approved average yield valued at 55 percent of the announced price.

**Price Election:** Price used to calculate your premium and indemnity: **\$149** per ton for 2011

This fact sheet gives only a general overview of the crop insurance program and is not a complete policy. For further information and an evaluation of your risk management needs, contact a crop insurance agent.

# **Cost of Crop Insurance**

The Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 raised the subsidies for federal crop insurance premiums substantially. For CAT coverage, growers pay an application fee of \$300 with 100 percent of the premiums being subsidized. Higher coverage levels are subsidized at lower rates; USDA pays at least 50 percent of the premium. For more detailed information about the amounts of coverage and premiums, please contact a crop insurance agent or your local county FSA office for an agent listing.

#### **Loss Example**

Example assumes 50-percent coverage, 100-percent price election of \$149, an average yield of 6 tons per acre, and 100-percent share.

- 6 Tons per acre average yield (APH)
- <u>x .50</u> Coverage level
- 3 Tons per acre guarantee
- <u>1</u> Tons per acre actually produced
  - 2 Tons per acre loss
- x \$ 149 Price election
  - **\$ 298** Indemnity paid to insured

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#### **USDA/Risk Management Agency**

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# Where to Purchase Crop Insurance

All multi-peril crop insurance, including CAT coverage insurance policies, are available from private insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available on the RMA Web site at: <u>http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/</u>