

United States Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency

May 2012

# 2012 COMMODITY INSURANCE FACT SHEET

# Forage Production

#### **Crop Insured**

Alfalfa is insurable if it is grown for 1 or more years after the stand is established

Alfalfa is defined as:

- A pure stand of perennial alfalfa (including alfalfa seeded with a cover crop or nurse crop);
- At least 4 living alfalfa plants per square foot, depending on age;
- Age up to and including 8 years.

Alfalfa grass mixture is defined as:

- Mixture of perennial alfalfa and perennial grasses;
- At least 1.2 living alfalfa plants per square foot;
- No maximum age limitations;
- Includes all alfalfa stands that are 9 and older.

## **Causes of Loss**

Adverse weather conditions<sup>1</sup> Failure of irrigation water supply<sup>2</sup> Fire Insects<sup>3</sup> Plant disease<sup>3</sup>

#### Wildlife

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

#### **Important Dates**

Sales Closing	October 31
Acreage Report Due	November 15

## **Counties Available**

Forage production is insurable in Carson City, Churchill, Clark, Douglas, Elko, Eureka, Esmeralda, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Lyon, Mineral, Nye, Pershing, Storey, Washoe, and White Pine counties. Forage production may be insurable in other counties by written agreement if specific criteria are met. Contact an agent for more details.

#### **Insurance Period**

Insurance attaches on acreage with an adequate stand on the later of the date we accept your application or

Spring Seeded.....April 15 Fall Seeded & Established Stand.....October 16

Insurance ends the earliest of:

- 1) Total destruction;
- 2) Removal from the windrow or the field for each cutting;
- 3) Final adjustment of a loss;
- 4) Date grazing commences on the forage crop;
- 5) Abandonment of the forage crop; or
- 6) October 15.

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

The forage production guarantee is an individual amount of annual production measured in tons of air dried alfalfa or alfalfa grass depending on the type. An individual guarantee is based on your past production. You will be asked to provide your insurance agent 4 to 10 years of production and planting history. This history is used to determine your average yield per acre. You can choose coverage levels from 50 to 75 percent of your 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 your approved average yield at 55 percent of the announced price.

## **Price Election**

The price used to calculate your premium and indemnity.

Forage Production.....\$149 per ton

#### **Cost of Crop Insurance**

CAT coverage has an application fee of \$300 with 100 percent of the premiums being subsidized. Higher coverage levels are subsidized at lower rates though

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.

USDA pays at least 50 percent of the premium. For more detailed information about coverage and premium amounts, please contact a crop insurance agent or your local county Farm Service Agency office for an agent listing.

#### **Loss Example**

Assume an average yield of 6 tons per acre, 65percent coverage on 100 acres, 100-percent price election of \$149, and 100-percent share.

- 6 Tons per acre average yield
- <u>x .65</u> Coverage level
- 3.9 Tons per acre guarantee
- <u>1.0</u> Tons per acre actually produced
- 2.9 Tons per acre loss
- x \$ 149 Price election
  - **\$ 432** Gross indemnity per acre

#### Where to Buy Crop Insurance

All multi-peril crop insurance, including CAT policies, are available from private insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available on the RMA Web site at:

http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/agents/

#### **Regional Contact**

#### USDA/Risk Management Agency

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