

United States

Department of Agriculture

Davis Regional Office — Davis, CA

Revised March 2014

# Alfalfa Seed

## **Crop Insured**

Irrigated alfalfa seed is insurable if grown solely for harvest as certified forage seed under certification standards of a certifying agency or grown under a forage seed contract.

The policy does not cover a forage seed crop that is interplanted with another crop, does not have an adequate stand at the beginning of the insurance period as shown below, exceeds the earlier of the maximum age of stand stipulated by the originator of the certified seed or the fifth and succeeding crop year after the crop year of initial seeding, or is used for any purpose during the crop year other than for seed production.

ESTABLISHED	FALL PLANTED	SPRING PLANTED
STAND	SEED TO SEED	SEED TO SEED
(# Living & fully	(# Living alfalfa	(# Living alfalfa
developed alfalfa	plants/sq. ft.)	plants/sq. ft.)
0.34	1.03	

# **Counties Available**

Alfalfa seed is insurable in Humboldt and Pershing counties. The crop may be insurable in other counties by written agreement if specific criteria are met. Contact a crop insurance agent for more details.

# **Causes of Loss**

You are protected against the following:

- Adverse weather conditions;
- Earthquake;
- Failure of irrigation water supply, if caused by an insured peril during the insurance year;
- Fire;
- Insects or plant disease, but not damage due to insufficient or improper application of control measures;

- Volcanic eruption; or
- Wildlife.

Unless solely and directly caused by an insurable cause of loss (listed above), the following will not be insurable:

- Crop not being timely harvested;
- Insufficient supply of pollinators;
- Failure of certification standard or seed contract acceptance caused by failure to follow proper isolation requirements or inadequate weed control; or
- Failure of certification standard or seed contract acceptance due to failure to follow all other certification or contract requirements.

#### **Insurance Period**

Insurance begins on acreage with an adequate stand on November 1 for fall-planted seed to seed and established stands and May 15 for spring-planted seed to seed. Insurance ends at the earliest occurrence of one of the following:

- Total destruction of the crop;
- Final adjustment of a loss on a unit;
- Abandonment of the crop;
- Harvest (removal of the seed from the windrow or field);
- The date grazing starts on the crop; or
- October 31.

#### **Important Dates**

Sales Closing/Cancellation	October 31, 2013
Acreage/Production Reporting.	July 15, 2014
Premium Billing	August 15, 2014
Termination	October 31, 2014

#### **Reporting Requirements**

In addition to the acreage reported by the acreage reporting date, you must supply:

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.

- A copy of your forage seed contract for your contracted acreage; or
- If not contracted, a copy of the accepted certification application for your certified seed acreage.

## **Coverage Levels and Premium Subsidies**

The guarantee is measured in pounds of seed and based on the growers past production. Coverage levels range from 50 to 75 percent of your approved yield. Crop insurance premiums are subsidized as shown in the following table. For example, if you choose the 65-percent coverage level, your premium share would be 41 percent of the base premium.

Item	Percent						
Coverage Level	50	55	60	65	70	75	
Premium Subsidy	67	64	64	59	59	55	
Your Premium Share	33	36	36	41	41	45	

Catastrophic Risk Protection (CAT) coverage is fixed at 50 percent of your approved yield and 55 percent of the price election. CAT is 100-percent subsidized with no premium cost to you. There is, however, an administrative fee of \$300 per crop per county, regardless of the acreage.

# **Price Election**

For seed grown under contract, the price election is the price per pound stated in the forage seed contract. For certified seed not under a seed contract, the price election is \$2.09 per pound.

#### Loss Example

Assume an average yield of 300 pounds per acre, 65-percent coverage, a contract price of \$2.09, and 100-percent share.

- 300 Pounds per acre average yield
- $\underline{x 0.65}$  Coverage level
- 195 Pounds per acre guarantee
- 100 Pounds per acre actually produced
  - 95 Pounds per acre loss
- x \$ 2.09 Contracted price
  - \$199 Gross indemnity per acre

Price used above is for example only. Contact a crop insurance agent for current information.

## 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 at all USDA service centers and on the RMA website at: www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/agents/.

## **Contact Us**

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