

United States Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency

April 2007

## 2007 COMMODITY INSURANCE FACT SHEET

# Grain Sorghum - Crop Revenue Coverage Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina

#### **Crop Insured**

Grain sorghum may be insured under the Crop Revenue Coverage (CRC) plan of insurance if it is planted on insurable acreage and it is a combine-type hybrid grown from hybrid seed and it is not of a type that is used for both grain and forage.

CRC provides protection against a decline in market prices as well as a shortfall in production. The guarantee is in dollars. A loss situation occurs when the dollar value of your production falls below your dollar guarantee. CRC offers protection whether prices rise or fall:

- In most years when the price usually declines as harvest approaches, you are guaranteed a predetermined amount of income per acre.
- In a year of rising prices, a production shortfall would be compensated at the higher marketbased harvest price. This is critical if any lost production must be replaced at higher market prices for on-farm feeding or to fulfill delivery on a forward contract.

#### **Counties Available**

More than one insurance plan is offered for grain sorghum in some locations. Contact your crop insurance agent for more details on plans offered in your state and county.

#### **Insurance Period**

Coverage begins when the crop is planted and ends at the earliest of:

- 1) Total destruction of the crop;
- 2) Harvest of the unit;
- 3) Final adjustment of a loss;
- 4) Abandonment of the crop; or
- 5) December 10.

#### **Causes of Loss**

Adverse weather conditions Earthquake Failure of irrigation water supply<sup>1</sup> Fire Insects<sup>2</sup> Plant disease<sup>3</sup> Volcanic eruption Wildlife Harvest price less than base price

<sup>1</sup>If caused by an insured peril during the insurance period. <sup>2</sup>But not damage due to insufficient or improper application of pest control measures. <sup>3</sup>But not damage due to insufficient or improper application of disease control measures.

#### **Reporting Requirements**

Acreage Report - You must timely report all acres of the crop in which you have a share.

**Notice of Loss**— (1) Protect the crop from further damage by providing sufficient care; (2) notify your agent within 72 hours of your initial discovery of damage; and (3) leave representative samples intact of unharvested crop at least 10 feet wide and extending the entire length of each field of the damaged unit if damage is discovered within 15 days or during harvest.

#### **Important Dates**

Sales Closing	
Final Planting	
Acreage Reporting	June 30
Premium Billing	October 1
Cancellation/Termination	February 28

#### **Definitions**

**Approved Yield**—Your yield per acre based on your actual production history (APH), assigned or adjusted yields, or unadjusted transitional yields that is approved by your verifier.

**Base Price**—The price that determines the minimum guarantee and premium is a percentage, set by FCIC each year, of the corn base price.

**Harvest Price**—The price used to calculate revenue and harvest guarantee is a percentage, set by FCIC each year, of the corn harvest price.

**Minimum Guarantee**—The guaranteed minimum dollar protection is the average yield x base price x coverage level percentage.

**Harvest Guarantee**—Average approved yield x harvest price x coverage level.

**Final Guarantee**—The higher of the minimum or the harvest guarantee. (Note: Your premium will not increase if final guarantee is higher than the minimum guarantee.)

**Calculate Revenue**—Value of your production calculated as bushels produced x harvest price.

Indemnity—Final guarantee - calculated revenue.

**Price Elections**—Price election for base price and harvest price are posted on the RMA Web site at: <a href="http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/pricesinguiry/">http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/pricesinguiry/</a>

#### **Insurance Units**

Your insurable acreage is grouped into a unit based on one of the following unit arrangements:

**Basic Units**: A basic insurance unit includes all of your sorghum acreage in the county, including cash rented land, in which you have 100-percent share. Sorghum grown shares with another entity would be a separate basic unit. Premiums are reduced 10-percent if you insure under basic units.

**Optional Units**: If a basic unit consists of two or more farm serial numbers (FSN) and certain recordkeeping criteria are met, you may select optional units by FSN. The 10-percent basic unit premium discount will not apply.

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

Coverage levels range from 50 to 75 percent of your average yield. Crop insurance premiums are subsidized as shown in the following table. For example, if you select 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 (CAT) coverage is fixed at 50 percent of average 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 \$100 per county, regardless of the acreage.

#### Loss Example

This example assumes an average yield of 60 bushels per acre, a base price of \$2.14, a harvest price of \$2.07, 20 bushels per acre production-to-count, and 75-percent coverage level.

- 60 Bushels per acre approved average yield x .75 Coverage level
- 45 Bushels per acre guarantee basis
- $\underline{x \ 2.14}$  Base price per bushel
- \$ 96.30 Minimum guarantee per acre

If harvest price is less than base price, harvest guarantee does not enter indemnity calculation

- \$ 96.30 Final guarantee per acre
- <u>\$ 41.40</u> (greater of minimum or harvest guarantee) (20 bushels per acre produced x \$2.07 harvest
  - (20 bushels per acre produced x \$2.07 harvest price)
- **\$ 54.90** Indemnity per acre

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