

United States Department of Agriculture

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News Release

Release No.: RMA-14-156

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September 30 Sales Closing Date Near For Crop Insurance in South Carolina

VALDOSTA, Ga., Sept. 16, 2014 — USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds farmers of the September 30 sales closing date for crop insurance. This sales closing date applies to crop insurance policies for barley in Anderson, Laurens, Newberry, Oconee, Orangeburg, and York counties; canola in Dillon County; rye in Aiken, Chesterfield, and Edgefield counties; and oats and wheat in select counties. The sales closing date is the last day to buy a new policy or change an existing policy's coverage level.

RMA also recently announced the availability of the Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO) in Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Horry, Lee, Orangeburg, and Sumter counties for winter wheat for the 2015 crop year. SCO is a new county-level policy endorsement that can be added to an underlying crop insurance policy, and covers a portion of losses not covered by the same crop's underlying policy. Producers electing to participate in the Farm Service Agency's Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) for a crop on a farm cannot buy SCO for the same crop on the farm.

Producers applying for SCO for the 2015 winter wheat crop may withdraw coverage on any farm where they have elected, or where they intend to elect, ARC for winter wheat by the earlier of their acreage reporting date or December 15 without penalty. This allows producers more time to make an informed decision related to whether to elect to participate in either the ARC or Price Loss Coverage programs for their winter wheat. If producers withdraw SCO coverage for a farm by the earlier of their acreage reporting date or December 15 they will not be charged a crop insurance premium. To withdraw coverage without penalty, producers must notify their agents of their intended election for ARC by the earlier of their winter wheat acreage reporting date or December 15.

Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. Contact a local crop insurance agent for more information about the program. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA service centers and on the RMA website at: www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/.

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