

United States Department of Agriculture

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News Release

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Crop Insurance Deadline Nears in Alabama

Fresh Market Tomato and Popcorn Farmers Need to Make Insurance Decisions Soon

VALDOSTA, Ga., March 2, 2016 - USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds Alabama fresh market tomato and popcorn farmers the final date to apply for crop insurance coverage is March 15. Current policyholders who wish to make changes to their existing coverage also have until the March 15 sales closing date to do so.

Crop insurance provides protection against a loss in production due to natural perils, such as drought or excessive moisture. Coverage is available for fresh market tomatoes in St. Clair County and popcorn in Madison County.

Farmers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2016 crop year. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at the RMA <u>Agent Locator</u>. Farmers can use the RMA <u>Cost Estimator</u> to get a premium amount estimate of their insurance needs online. Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at <u>www.rma.usda.gov</u>.

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