

NEWS RELEASE

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Crop Insurance Reminders for Those Affected by Aflatoxin

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. September 13, 2012 –Aflatoxin has been reported in several Midwest states. If you think your corn has aflatoxin, notify your crop insurance agent **before** you harvest the grain, put the grain in storage, or deliver it for sale.

If your crop is rejected by an elevator due to aflatoxin, contact your insurance agent immediately. Your insurance provider will take samples and submit them to an approved testing facility. Producers cannot take their own samples.

Aflatoxin levels can increase in storage. Therefore, losses are only insurable if the grain is tested at an approved testing facility **before** being moved into commercial or on-farm storage. Depending on the aflatoxin level, the corn price may be discounted or, in rare cases, the grain will need to be destroyed.

Brian D. Frieden, Director of USDA's Risk Management Agency's Springfield Regional Office, urges all producers to contact their insurance agent with any questions concerning aflatoxin. Your crop insurance agent can provide you with additional information specific to your needs.

Visit our website for a list of approved testing facilities and salvage grain buyers:
rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/il_rso/.

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