

NEWS RELEASE

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Michigan Sweet Cherry Pilot Program Expansion

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., October 9, 2012 – After a devastating year, there is good news for Michigan sweet cherry producers. The Risk Management Agency (RMA) recently approved the expansion of the sweet cherry pilot program. Sweet cherries will be insurable in the following Michigan counties in 2013: Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, and Oceana. Producers have until the November 20, sales closing date to buy sweet cherry insurance.

Brian D. Frieden, Director of the Springfield Regional Office, states, “We are extremely pleased to announce the expansion of the Sweet Cherry Pilot Program.” This is an Actual Revenue History (ARH) insurance plan. You can choose buy-up coverage at the following levels: 50-percent, 55-percent, 60-percent, 65-percent, 70-percent, and 75-percent. Catastrophic Risk Protection (CAT Coverage) is not available for cherries.

Frieden reminds Michigan cherry producers, “If you are interested in buying buy-up coverage for sweet cherries in 2013, contact your crop insurance agent as soon as possible; the November 20 sales closing date is quickly approaching.” To find a crop insurance agent, visit the RMA website at: <http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html>. For information about the ARH Sweet Cherry Policy, visit: <http://www.rma.usda.gov/policies/2013policy.html>.

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