

NEWS RELEASE

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RMA Streamlines Michigan Acreage Reporting Dates

Springfield, Ill., December 8, 2011 – The Risk Management Agency (RMA) and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) have established 15 common acreage reporting dates for producers participating in RMA and FSA programs. Brian D. Frieden, Director of the Springfield Regional Office, Risk Management Agency, states “For Michigan producers, this means the number of acreage reporting dates will decrease from six to four.”

Beginning in 2012 spring barley, spring cabbage (planted 3/15-5/31), corn, dry beans, forage seeding, green peas, hybrid corn seed, spring oats, popcorn, potatoes, soybeans, sugar beets, tomatoes, and any other crops not listed elsewhere will have a July 15 acreage reporting date. Summer cabbage (planted 6/01-7/20) will have an August 15 acreage reporting date.

Beginning in 2013 January 15 will be the acreage reporting date for apples, blueberries, cherries, grapes and peaches. November 15 will be the acreage reporting date for perennial forage, fall wheat, and any other fall-seeded small grain.

Before this streamlining initiative RMA had 54 acreage reporting dates for 122 crops across the United States. That number has been reduced to 15 acreage reporting dates. These common dates between RMA and FSA will reduce some of the reporting burden on producers and allow USDA agencies to share similar data. “It is always important for producers to discuss any questions or concerns with their crop insurance agent, including how these dates will affect them,” reminds Frieden. For more information and a list of local crop insurance agents, please visit the RMA Web site at www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html.

Waivers of administrative fees for producers who qualify as limited-resource farmers are available. Crop insurance agents will assist those qualifying producers with determining eligibility for waivers.

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