

## Springfield Regional Office — Springfield, IL

Revised August 2015

# Forage Production

## Michigan

### Crop Insured

You can insure forage production if:

- Premium rates are provided;
- You have a share;
- It is grown one or more years after the year of establishment;
- It is pure alfalfa;
- It is Alfalfa and grass mix;
- It is Birdsfoot trefoil; or
- Birdsfoot trefoil and grass mix.

A pure stand contains 60% or more of either alfalfa or birdsfoot trefoil. A mixed stand contains more than 25%, but less than 60%, of either alfalfa or birdsfoot trefoil.

Insurance is not available for any acreage that:

- Does not have an adequate stand at the beginning of the insurance period;
- Is grown with a non-forage crop;
- Is grown for rotational grazing purposes; or
- Exceeds the age limitation contained in the Special Provisions.

### Counties Where Available

Forage production is insurable in Allegan, Alpena, Barry, Chippewa, Clare, Clinton, Delta, Huron, Ionia, Isabella, Jackson, Kent, Lapeer, Mecosta, Menominee, Missaukee, Montcalm, Newaygo, Ogemaw, Osceola, Ottawa, Sanilac and Washtenaw counties.

### Causes of Loss

You are protected against the following:

- Adverse weather;
- Failure of irrigation water supply;
- Fire;
- Insect damage and/or plant disease, unless you have insufficiently or improperly applied pest or disease control measures; or
- Wildlife.

### Insurance Period

Coverage begins on fall seeded acreage October 16, 2015 following the year of establishment on acreage that has an adequate stand.

Coverage begins on spring seeded acreage May 22, 2016 following the year of establishment on acreage that has an adequate stand.

Coverage ends the earliest of:

- Total destruction of the forage crop;
- Removal from the windrow or the field for each cutting;
- Final adjustment of a loss;
- The date grazing commences;
- Abandonment of the forage crop; or
- October 15, 2016.

### Important Dates

Sales Closing/Cancellation.....September 30, 2015  
Acreage Reporting..... November 15, 2015

### Reporting Requirements

You must report all of your forage acreage, production and any losses, when evident, to your insurance agent.

### Definitions

**Adequate Stand** - A population of live forage plants that equals or exceeds the minimum required number of plants per square foot as shown in the Special Provisions.

**Year of Establishment** - The period between seeding and when the forage crop has developed an adequate stand. Determined by the date of seeding.

### Coverage Levels and Subsidies

Crop insurance premiums are subsidized as shown in the following table. For example, if you select the 75-percent coverage level, the premium subsidy is 55 percent and your premium share is 45 percent of the base premium.

Item	Percent					
Coverage Level	50	55	60	65	70	75
Premium Subsidy	67	64	64	59	59	55
Your Share	33	36	36	41	41	45

## Price Elections

A price election is the price you are paid per ton if you have a loss. This is based on the percentage of established price you chose.

You may elect one price election for all the forage in the county unless the Special Provisions provide different price elections by type.

### Established Prices:

Alfalfa:	\$160.00
Birdsfoot Trefoil	\$160.00
Mixture:	\$160.00

## Coverage Options

**Actual Production History (APH)** - You choose the amount of your average yield you wish to insure and the percent of the RMA predicted price. If your production falls below the yield insured, you are paid a loss.

**Area Yield Protection (AYP)** - Protects against widespread yield loss, usually on a county basis.

**Catastrophic Coverage (CAT)** - Pays 50 percent of your average yield and 55 percent of the projected price. You pay a \$300 administrative fee per crop per county, regardless of acreage.

## Insurance Units

**Basic Unit** - Includes all of your insurable forage acreage in the county by share arrangement. Premiums are reduced 10 percent for a basic unit.

**Optional Unit** - If a basic unit consists of two or more sections of land, and you meet record keeping requirements, you may apply for optional units by section. The 10-percent premium discount will not apply.

## Replanting and Prevented Planting

Replant payments, late planting, and prevented planting are not available.

## Loss Example

Assume you have 100 percent share in 100 acres of Alfalfa in the unit, with a guarantee of 3.0 tons per acre and a price election of \$160.00 per ton. Due to

adverse weather, you were only able to harvest 50.0 tons. Your indemnity would be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 100 \text{ Acres} \\
 \times 3.0 \text{ Tons} \\
 \hline
 300 \text{ Ton guarantee} \\
 \times \$160 \text{ Price election} \\
 \hline
 \$48,000 \text{ Total value guarantee}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 50 \text{ Actual tons produced} \\
 \times \$160 \text{ Price election} \\
 \hline
 \$8,000 \text{ Total value tons produced}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \$48,000 \text{ Total value guarantee} \\
 - \$8,000 \text{ Total value tons produced} \\
 \hline
 \$40,000 \text{ Loss} \\
 \times 1.0 \text{ Share} \\
 \hline
 \mathbf{\$40,000 \text{ Final Payment}}
 \end{array}$$

## Where to Buy Crop Insurance

You can buy a crop insurance policy from approved participating insurance agents. You can get a list of agents at any USDA service center or on the RMA website: <http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html>

## Contact Us

### USDA/Risk Management Agency

Springfield Regional Office  
 3500 Wabash Avenue  
 Springfield, IL 62711-8287  
 Telephone: (217) 241-6600  
 Fax: (217) 241-6618  
 E-mail: [rsoil@rma.usda.gov](mailto:rsoil@rma.usda.gov)

## Download Copies from the Web

Visit our online publications/fact sheets page at: [http://www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/il\\_rso/](http://www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/il_rso/).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete, sign and mail a program discrimination complaint form, (available at any USDA office location or online at [www.ascr.usda.gov](http://www.ascr.usda.gov)), to: United States Department of Agriculture; Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights; 1400 Independence Ave., SW; Washington, DC 20250-9410. Or call toll free at (866) 632-9992 (voice) to obtain additional information, the appropriate office or to request documents. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136.