

# NEWS RELEASE

USDA Risk Management Agency • Topeka Regional Office • 2641 SW Wanamaker Rd, Suite 201  
Topeka, KS 66614 • (785) 228-5512 • [rsoks@rma.usda.gov](mailto:rsoks@rma.usda.gov) • <http://www.rma.usda.gov/go/roks>

---

Release No. 02-12

Contact:  
Topeka Regional Office (785) 228-5512

## **CORN AFLATOXIN LOSSES AND CROP INSURANCE**

Topeka, KS, September 14, 2012 — Weather conditions have made the fungus aflatoxin a threat to this year's corn crop. Rebecca Davis, Director of USDA's Risk Management Agency's Topeka Regional Office, offers reminders for producers with crop insurance.

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. Your insurance provider will take samples for testing and submit them to an approved testing facility. Depending on the aflatoxin level present, the corn price may be discounted or, in rare cases, the grain will need to be destroyed. 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. A producer may also make arrangements with their insurance provider to leave representative sample areas of the unharvested crop. The adjuster will take samples from these areas for aflatoxin testing. Producers cannot collect their own samples. Samples must be collected by their insurance provider or a disinterested third party, such as an approved elevator.

An RMA fact sheet "Loss Adjustment Procedures for Aflatoxin", August 2012 is available on the RMA website:

<http://www.rma.usda.gov/news/currentissues/drought/index.html#2012lossadjustment>

A list of approved testing facilities can be found on our website:  
[rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/ks\\_rso/](http://rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/ks_rso/).

Davis 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.

\*\*\*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers. If you believe you experienced discrimination when obtaining services from USDA, participating in a USDA program, or participating in a program that receives financial assistance from USDA, you may file a complaint with USDA. Information about how to file a discrimination complaint is available from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (e.g., 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), or write to: USDA, Director, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 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 (in Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.