



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm and Foreign
Agricultural Services

Risk
Management
Agency

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June 23, 2015

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

TO: All Approved Insurance Providers Writing in the States of Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska

FROM: Rebecca Davis */s/ Rebecca Davis*
Director, Topeka RO

SUBJECT: Aerial Seeding of Soybeans

BACKGROUND

Due to the wet conditions in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, the Topeka RO has received several questions in regards to the insurability of aerial seeded soybeans.

The Coarse Grains Crop Provisions in conjunction with the Common Crop Insurance Policy (CCIP) Basic Provisions provides that aerial seeding is not an insurable planting practice unless allowed by the Special Provisions, actuarial documents, or by written agreement. As the Special Provisions and actuarial documents do not allow the aerial seeding practice as insurable, a written agreement is required for insurability of aerial seeded soybeans.

ACTION

The appropriate written agreement request type for aerial seeded soybeans is the TP type written agreement for unrated practices and types. To request a TP written agreement for insurability of the aerial seeding practice, follow the procedures provided in the Written Agreement Handbook in Part 2, Section 2, for information pertaining to deadlines and general request requirements, in addition to the TP specific request requirements located in Part 3 of the Written Agreement Handbook.

Any written agreement approved for the aerial seeded practice will be a conditional approval. A written agreement will provide instructions for the specific time a crop inspection appraisal is required to be completed, and will require that the aerial seeded soybeans be mechanically incorporated into the soil to meet the properly prepared seedbed portion of the CCIP definition of planted acreage. If mechanical incorporation into the soil is not completed, the production guarantee is limited to the same amount as the prevented planting guarantee for the crop, and any production from the soybeans will be counted against that production guarantee for indemnity purposes.

The requirement of mechanically incorporating the aerial seeded soybeans increases the importance of the written agreement requirement of obtaining the evidence of adaptability from an agricultural expert for this planting practice, and the expert's opinion should address the mechanical incorporation requirement of this planting practice.

See the following for important provision citations:

Coarse Grains Crop Provisions:

Definitions:

Planted acreage - In addition to the definition contained in the Basic Provisions, coarse grains must initially be planted in rows, unless otherwise provided by the Special Provisions, actuarial documents, or by written agreement.

CCIP Basic Provisions:

Definitions:

Planted acreage – Land in which seed, plants, or trees have been placed, appropriate for the insured crop and planting method, at the correct depth, into a seedbed that has been properly prepared for the planting method and production practice.

9 Insurable Acreage:

(a) (2) (vii) The acreage is planted in any manner other than as specified in the policy provisions for the crop unless a written agreement specifically allows insurance for such planting;

16 Late Planting:

(d) Any acreage on which an insured cause of loss is a material factor in preventing completion of planting, as specified in the definition of “planted acreage” (e.g., seed is broadcast on the soil surface but cannot be incorporated) will be considered as acreage planted after the final planting date and the production guarantee will be calculated in accordance with section 16(b)(1).

16 Late Planting:

(b) Acreage planted after the late planting period (or after the final planting date for crops that do not have a late planting period) may be insured as follows:

(1) The production guarantee or amount of insurance for each acre planted as specified in this subsection will be determined by multiplying the production guarantee or amount of insurance that is provided for acreage of the insured crop that is timely planted by the prevented planting coverage level percentage you elected, or that is contained in the Crop Provisions if you did not elect a prevented planting coverage level percentage;

DISPOSAL DATE

December 31, 2015.