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Crop Insurance Reminders for Upper Midwest Drought Conditions

Saint Paul, Minn, July 13, 2012 — Record heat and drought conditions in June and July have damaged Upper Midwest crops this year. USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) offers a few basic reminders for producers with crop insurance.

If you have a crop loss, notify your crop insurance agent before destroying the insured crop, putting the insured crop to an alternative use, or abandoning any portion of the insured crop. Your crop insurance company will discuss your options and, if necessary, send a loss adjuster to work the claim. Keep in mind damaged crops taken to harvest must be cared for and maintained following generally recognized practices. If you decide not to maintain the entire crop, the company can work out representative sample areas or strips to be left intact for future appraisal.

Please talk with your crop insurance agent and insurance company to explore the available options when your crops are damaged by drought conditions.

July 15 is the Acreage Reporting Date for spring planted crops. You will need to report your acreage to your crop insurance agent by the deadline of July 16th.

RMA supervises the largest single part of America's safety net for farmers and ranchers: the Federal Crop Insurance Program. Our mission is to provide a broad spectrum of risk management information to help strengthen the economic stability of America's agricultural producers.

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