



United States Department of Agriculture  
Risk Management Agency

November 2006

## 2007 COMMODITY INSURANCE FACT SHEET

# Blueberries

## Maine

### Crop Insured

Blueberries of the lowbush type that have already produced at least 1,000 pounds per acre may be insurable. An inspection of the blueberry acreage will be necessary to determine insurability. The acreage must be pruned every other year to maintain coverage.

### Counties Available

Hancock, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Waldo, Washington. Blueberries in other counties may be insurable by written agreement if specific criteria are met.

### Causes of Loss

Adverse weather conditions<sup>1</sup>  
Failure of irrigation water supply<sup>2</sup>  
Fire<sup>3</sup>  
Insects<sup>4</sup>  
Insufficient chilling hours<sup>5</sup>  
Plant disease<sup>4</sup>  
Wildlife

<sup>1</sup>Natural perils including hail, frost, freeze, wind, drought, and excess moisture. <sup>2</sup>If caused by an insured peril that occurs during the insurance period. <sup>3</sup>Unless weeds and undergrowth are not controlled or pruning debris is not removed. <sup>4</sup>But not damage due to insufficient or improper application of control measures. <sup>5</sup>To effectively break dormancy.

Note: This policy does not cover loss of production due to: (1) failure to install and maintain proper drainage; (2) failure to harvest timely; (3) inability to market the fruit for any reason other than physical damage from a covered cause of loss; or (4) mechanical damage.

### Insurance Period

Insurance will attach the second growing season of a 2-year cycle following pruning (the first year being vegetative). Coverage for the 2007 crop year begins November 21, 2006, and ends the earliest of: (1) total destruction of the crop, (2) harvest of the crop, (3) final adjustment of a claim, (4) abandonment of the crop, or (5) September 15, 2007.

### Reporting Requirements

**Acreage Report**—You must report your current acreage to your crop insurance agent by the acreage report date (see Important Dates below).

**Direct Marketing**—If you intend to market any production directly to the consumer, you must notify your crop insurance agent or insurance company representative at least 15 days prior to the beginning of harvest so that a pre-harvest appraisal can be made.

### Notice of Claim

- If crop damage occurs, You must give notice within 72 hours of initial discovery of damage
- If you previously gave notice of crop damage, you must also provide notice at least 15 days prior to the beginning of harvest if you intend to claim an indemnity
- If crop will not be harvested, you must give notice within 3 days of the date harvest should have started.

**Production Report**— A report of production from the previous year is also required (see Important Dates). This report must include any practice changes that could adversely impact yield potential and other information as required by the policy.

### Important Dates

Sales Closing .....	November 20, 2006
Production Report Due .....	January 31, 2007
Acreage Report Date.....	January 31, 2007
Premium Billing .....	September 15, 2007

