

United States Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency

November 2009

## 2010 COMMODITY INSURANCE FACT SHEET

# Potatoes

New Jersey

## **Crop Insured**

Potatoes planted with certified seed for harvest as either certified seed stock or for human consumption may be insured. The policy does not cover any acreage where potatoes are:

- Inter-planted with another crop
- Planted into an established grass or legume; or
- Planted without following crop rotation requirements specified in the special provisions.

#### **Counties Available**

Potatoes are insurable in Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Salem counties. Potatoes may be insurable in other counties if specific criteria are met. Contact a crop insurance agent for details.

#### **Causes of Loss**

Adverse weather conditions<sup>1</sup> Failure of irrigation water supply Fire Insects<sup>2</sup> Plant disease<sup>2</sup> Wildlife

<sup>1</sup>Such as hail, frost, freeze, drought, and excess moisture. <sup>2</sup>Only if sufficient and proper control measures are used.

Note: The policy does not insure against loss of production from damage occurring after potatoes are placed in storage.

## **Insurance Period**

Coverage begins when the potatoes are planted and ends the earliest of: (1) total destruction of the crop, (2) harvest of the crop, (3) final adjustment of a claim, (5) abandonment of the crop, or (6) October 15, 2010.

## **Reporting Requirements**

Acreage Report — You must timely report to your agent all the acres of potatoes in the county in which you have a share.

#### **Important Dates**

Sales Closing	December 31, 2009
Final Planting Date	May 10, 2010
Acreage Report Date	
End of Insurance	October 15, 2010

## **Definitions**

#### **Approved APH (Actual Production History)**

**Yield**—A yield based on your actual yields, county average yields, or a combination of both and used to determine your production guarantee.

**Production Guarantee**—Hundredweight (cwt.) guaranteed per acre determined by multiplying your approved APH yield times the coverage level percentage you elect.

**Price Election**—Price used to calculate your premium and indemnity. Price elections are posted on the RMA Web site at:

http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/pricesinquiry/

## **Duties in the Event of Damage or Loss**

(1) Protect the crop from further damage by providing sufficient care; (2) notify your agent within 72 hours of your initial discovery of damage (but not later than 15 days after the end of the insurance period); and (3) leave representative samples intact for each field of the damaged unit.

This fact sheet gives only a general overview of the crop insurance program and is not a complete policy. For further information and an evaluation of your risk management needs, contact a crop insurance agent.

#### **Coverage Levels and Premium Subsidies**

Coverage levels range from 50 to 75 percent of your average yield. An average potato yield of 240 cwt. per acre, for example, would result in a 180 cwt. per acre guarantee at the 75-percent coverage level. Crop insurance premiums are subsidized as shown in the following table. For instance, if you selected the 75-percent coverage level, your premium share would be 45 percent of the base premium:

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

Catastrophic (CAT) coverage is fixed at 50 percent of your average yield and 55 percent of the price election. The cost for CAT coverage is an administrative fee of \$300, regardless of the acreage.

## **Price Election**

\$8.00 per cwt

Price elections are posted on the RMA Web site at: http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/pricesinquiry/

#### **Insurance Units**

Your insurable acreage will be grouped into one or more units in order to establish the approved yield, calculate a guarantee, and determine any indemnity.

**Basic Unit**—A basic unit includes all of your potato acreage in the county by share arrangement. Premiums are reduced by 10 percent for a basic unit.

**Optional Units**—If a basic unit consists of two or more farm serial numbers (FSN) and certain record-keeping criteria are met, you may apply for optional units by FSN. The 10-percent discount will not apply.

## Loss Example

This example assumes an average yield of 240 cwt. per acre, 65-percent coverage level, no options or endorsements, and one basic unit.

- 240 Cwt. per acre average yield (APH)
- <u>x .65</u> Coverage level percentage
- 156 Cwt. per acre guarantee
- <u>– 56</u> Cwt. per acre production
- 100 Cwt. per acre loss
- <u>x \$8.00</u> Price election \$800 Indemnity per acre
- 43 Estimated premium per acre
- \$757 Net indemnity per acre

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