

Aflatoxin Testing

CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV

The impact of high levels of aflatoxin varies from a discount in price to the requirement to destroy the grain.

If you think your insured crop has aflatoxin, contact 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 aflatoxin testing facility.

Because aflatoxin can worsen in storage, aflatoxin losses are only insurable if:

- the grain is tested at an approved testing facility **before** being moved into commercial or on-farm storage; or
- your insurance provider asks you to leave representative sample areas of the unharvested crop for taking samples for testing.

Losses not covered under the crop insurance policy include:

- losses due to increases in the aflatoxin level while in farm storage.
- losses that cannot be determined because proper testing was not completed.

Refer to the applicable Special Provisions of Insurance for the most current policy on testing.

Criteria for Approved Testing Facilities

Testing facilities meeting the criteria below can be considered “approved testing facilities” for crop insurance.

1. A certified facility must be able to perform quantitative tests on grain, itemizing results in

parts per million (ppm) and parts per billion (ppb). Test kits used must be certified by the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (<http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/svcpro.html>).

2. The facility must be a recognized commercial, government, or university testing lab that uses industry-recognized sample sizes, equipment, and procedures for testing aflatoxin.

3. The facility must be a disinterested testing facility. The facility must not be involved in buying or selling the type of grain that is being tested.

*Talk to your crop insurance provider for more information.

Approved Testing Facilities

Following is a list of certified testing facilities for aflatoxin in **Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, and West Virginia**. This is not a complete list and should only serve as a guide.

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Food Quality Assurance Program
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
Telephone: (410) 841-5769
Fax: (410) 841-2750

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Elizabeth City Lab

407G South Griffin Street
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Telephone: (252) 337-9782
(252) 337-9783
Fax: (252) 337-9784

Raleigh Lab

1400 South Blount Street
Raleigh, NC 27603
Telephone: (919) 733-4491
(919) 733-4498
Fax: (919) 733-9215

**Virginia Department of Agriculture and
Consumer Services**

501 C Barnes Road
Chesapeake, VA 23324
Telephone: (757) 494-2464
Fax: (757) 494-2463

**For States Other Than MD, NC, & VA
(Use GIPSA Toledo Field Office)****Toledo Field Office**

USDA/GIPSA/FGIS
1910 Indian Wood Circle, Suite 401
Maumee, OH 43537
Telephone: (419) 893-3076
Fax: (419) 893-2861

Regional Contact**USDA/Risk Management Agency**

Raleigh Regional Office
4405 Bland Road, Suite 160
Raleigh, NC 27609
Telephone: (919) 875-4880
Fax: (919) 875-4915
E-mail: rsonc@rma.usda.gov

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