

United States Department of Agriculture

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News Release

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Crop Insurance Deadline Nears in Massachusetts *Clam Producers Need to Make Insurance Decisions Soon*

RALEIGH, N.C., Nov. 16, 2015 - USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds Massachusetts clam producers that the final date to apply for crop insurance on next year's crop is November 30. Current policyholders who wish to make changes to their existing policies also have until November 30 to do so. Insurance coverage for clams is available under a pilot program in Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Nantucket, and Plymouth counties.

The amount of coverage is based upon an inventory value of your clam beds with a price election of \$0.17 per clam. Crop insurance provides coverage for death of clams due to protected causes of loss such as oxygen depletion, disease, freeze, hurricane, decrease of salinity, tidal wave, storm surge, and ice floe. Clam producers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2016 crop year.

Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at the RMA <u>Agent Locator</u>. Clam producers can use the RMA <u>Cost Estimator</u> to get a premium amount estimate of their insurance needs online. Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at <u>www.rma.usda.gov</u>.

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