



**Risk Management Agency**

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# News Release

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## **Crop Insurance Deadline Nears in Maine**

*Apple and Blueberry Growers Need to Make Insurance Decisions Soon*

RALEIGH, N.C., Oct. 20, 2016 – The USDA’s Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds Maine apple and blueberry growers that the final date to apply for crop insurance coverage for the 2017 crop year is November 20, 2016. Current policyholders who wish to make changes to their existing policies also have until November 20 to do so.

Crop insurance provides protection against crop production losses due to natural perils such as drought, hail, and excessive moisture. Coverage for apples and blueberries is available in select counties. Additional information can be found on the [Actuarial Information Browser](#) page on the RMA website. Price elections for the 2017 crop year are \$14.15 per bushel for fresh apples, \$2.95 per bushel for processing apples, \$49.90 per bushel for Varietal Group A apples, \$15.25 for Varietal Group B apples, and \$11.15 for Varietal Group C apples. Blueberry price elections are \$0.53 per pound.

Growers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2017 crop year, including insurance for apples and blueberries, which may be eligible for coverage under a written agreement. Crop insurance coverage decisions must be made on or before the sales closing date.

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 [Agent Locator](#). Producers can use the RMA [Cost Estimator](#) to get a premium amount estimate of their insurance needs online. Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at [www.rma.usda.gov](http://www.rma.usda.gov).

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