

United States Department of Agriculture

Regional Office — Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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Aflatoxin New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas

Weather conditions may make the mold aflatoxin a threat to this year's corn crop. The impact of high levels of aflatoxin on producers varies from a discount in price to the requirement to destroy the grain crop.

Aflatoxin losses are an insurable cause of loss as long as the grain is tested before being moved into commercial or on farm storage, or the insured has arranged with the insurance provider to leave representative areas of unharvested crop from which the adjuster can obtain samples for aflatoxin testing.

Producers should notify their insurance agent if their grain is suspected of containing aflatoxin before harvesting and/or placing harvested grain into storage. Because mold can worsen in storage, losses attributed to farm storage or that cannot be determined because proper testing was not completed, are not covered under the crop insurance policy.

Following is a sample of the aflatoxin testing facilities in New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. This is not a complete list and should only serve as a guide to help in researching testing facility locations. Testing facilities not listed, which meet all the following criteria, can be considered "approved testing facilities."

- The facility must be able to perform quantitative tests on grain, itemizing results in parts per million (ppm) or parts per billion (ppb). Test kits used must be certified by the Federal Grain Inspection Service.
- 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. A disinterested testing facility is one that

is not involved in buying or selling the production in question. Refer to the Loss Adjustment Manual for more information.

Texas Corn Producers - For the 2012 and succeeding crop years, Approved Insurance Providers (AIPs) may consider Office of the Texas State Chemist (OTSC) approved Texas grain elevator facilities to be approved laboratories for corn aflatoxin testing for crop insurance purposes, unless OTSC or RMA announces the suspension of OSS. The OTSC will provide a list of participating elevator facilities that are certified to test for aflatoxin on their website at the following address: <u>http://</u> <u>otscweb.tamu.edu/Risk/OneSample/</u> <u>SampleAbout.aspx</u>.

A&A Laboratories, Inc. 1100 Backus Springdale, AR 72764 800-962-7120

Ag Lab Oklahoma State Dept. of Agriculture 2800 N. Lincoln Blvd. Oklahoma City, OK 73105 405-521-3864

Amarillo Grain Exchange 1300 S. Johnson St. Amarillo, TX 79101 806-372-8511

Corpus Christi Grain Exchange PO Box 9340 Corpus Christi, TX 78408 361-289-0842

Enid Grain Inspection Co. P.O. Box 229 Enid, OK 73702-0229 580-233-1121

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.

Farwell Grain Inspections, Inc. P.O. Box 488 Farwell, TX 79325-04886 806-481-9052

Oklahoma State University Disease Diagnostic Lab P.O. Box 7001 Stillwater, OK 74076-7001 405-744-6623

Plainview Grain Inspection 1100 N. Broadway Plainview, TX 79072 806-293-1364

SGS North America Inc. 900 Georgia Avenue Deer Park, TX 77536 281-479-7170

Williamson County Grain PO Box 31; 504 East Walnut Taylor, TX 76575 512-352-6343

Where to Buy Crop Insurance

All multi-peril crop insurance, including CAT policies, are available from private insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA service centers and on the RMA website at <u>http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html</u>.

Contact Us

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