DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Peach Crop Provisions



If a conflict exists among the Basic Provisions, the Crop Provisions, the Special Provisions, and the Catastrophic Risk Protection Endorsement, if applicable, the Special Provisions will control the Crop Provisions and these Basic Provisions; the Crop Provisions will control the Basic Provisions; and the Catastrophic Risk Protection Endorsement, if applicable, will control all provisions.

1. Definitions

Actual price per bushel for:

- (a) Fresh peaches means the average price per bushel of U.S. Extra No. 1 "2 inch" peaches (if not available, the next larger size for which a price is available) determined from applicable prices reported by the Market News Service of the United States Department of Agriculture for seven consecutive marketing days, commencing with the day harvest of the variety begins. In the absence of FOB shipping point price from the Market News Service, the price per bushel of U.S. Extra No. 1 "2 inch" peaches will be the total of the price election and allowable costs for the undamaged peaches; and
- (b) Processing peaches means the average price per bushel received from the processor for that applicable variety determined for seven consecutive marketing days, commencing with the day harvest of the variety begins.

Bearing tree - A tree in at least the 4th growing season after set out.

Bushel - Fifty pounds of ungraded peaches.

Days - Calendar days.

Direct marketing - Sale of the insured crop directly to consumers without the intervention of an intermediary such as a wholesaler, retailer, packer, processor, shipper or buyer. Examples of direct marketing include selling through an on-farm or roadside stand, farmer's market, or permitting the general public to enter the field for the purpose of picking all or a portion of the crop.

FSA - The Farm Service Agency, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, or a successor agency. **Good farming practices** - The cultural practices generally in use in the county for the crop to make normal progress toward maturity and produce at least the yield used to determine the production guarantee, and are those recognized by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service as compatible with agronomic and weather conditions in the county.

Harvest - The picking or removal of mature peaches from the trees either by hand or machine.

Interplanted - Acreage on which two or more crops are planted in any form of alternating or mixed pattern.

Irrigated practice - A method of producing a crop by which water is artificially applied during the growing season by appropriate systems and at the proper times, with the intention of providing the quantity of water needed to produce at least the yield used to establish the irrigated production guarantee on the irrigated acreage planted to the insured crop.

Loss in quality - When the crop is damaged to the extent that the producer does not receive the average price for U.S. Extra No. 1 peach.

Packing shed - A facility at which peaches are graded, packed and cooled in preparation for shipment to a wholesale market.

Production guarantee (per acre) - The number of peaches (bushels) determined by multiplying the approved actual production history (APH) yield per acre by the coverage level percentage you elect.

Set out - Transplanting the tree into the orchard.

Written agreement - A written document that alters designated terms of this policy in accordance with section 12.

2. Unit Division

- (a) Unless limited by the Special Provisions, a basic unit as defined in section 1 (Definitions) of the Basic Provisions may be divided into optional units if, for each optional unit, you meet all the conditions of this section.
- (b) Basic units may not be divided into optional units on any basis other than as described in this section.
- (c) If you do not comply fully with these provisions, we will combine all optional units that are not in compliance with these provisions into the basic unit from which they were formed. We will combine the optional units at any time we discover that you have failed to comply with these provisions. If failure to comply with these provisions is determined to be inadvertent, and the optional units are combined into a basic unit, that portion of the additional premium paid for the optional units that have been combined will be refunded to you for the units combined.
- (d) All optional units you selected for the crop year must be identified on the acreage report for that crop year.
- (e) The following requirements must be met for each optional unit:
 - (1) You must have provided records not later than the production reporting date, which can be independently verified, of acreage and production for each optional unit for at least the last crop year used to determine your production guarantee;
 - (2) For each crop year, records of marketed production from each optional unit must be maintained in such a manner that permits us to verify the production from each optional unit, or the production from each unit must be kept separate until loss adjustment is completed by us; and
 - (3) Each optional unit must meet one or more of the following criteria, as applicable, unless otherwise specified by written agreement:

- (i) Optional Units by Section, Section Equivalent, or FSA Farm Serial Number: Optional units may be established if each optional unit is located in a separate legally identified section. In the absence of sections. we may consider parcels of land legally identified by other methods of measure including, but not limited to Spanish grants, railroad surveys, leagues, labors, or Virginia Military Lands, as the equivalent of sections for unit purposes. In areas that have not been surveyed using the systems identified above, or another system approved by us, or in areas where such systems exist but boundaries are not readily discernable, each optional unit must be located in a separate farm identified by a single FSA Farm Serial Number.
- (ii) Optional Units on Acreage Including Both Irrigated and Non-irrigated Practices: Optional units may be based on irrigated acreage and non-irrigated acreage (in those counties where "non-irrigated" practice is allowed in the actuarial table) if both are located in the same section, section equivalent, or FSA Farm Serial Number. The irrigated acreage may not extend beyond the point at which your irrigation system can deliver the quantity of water needed to produce the yield on which the guarantee is based and you may not continue into non-irrigated acreage in the same rows or planting pattern.

3. Insurance Guarantees, Coverage Levels, and Prices for Determining Indemnities

In addition to the requirements of section 3 (Insurance Guarantees, Coverage Levels, and Prices for Determining Indemnities) of the Basic Provisions:

- (a) You may select only one price election for all the peaches in the county insured under this policy unless the Special Provisions provide different price elections by type, in which case you may select one price election for each peach type (fresh or processing) designated in the Special Provisions. The price elections you choose for each type must have the same percentage relationship to the maximum price offered by us for each type. For example, if you choose 100 percent of the maximum price election for one type, you must choose 100 percent of the maximum price election for all other types.
- (b) You must report, not later than the production reporting date designated in section 3 (Insurance Guarantees, Coverage Levels, and Prices for Determining Indemnities) of the Basic Provisions, by type if applicable:
 - Any damage, removal of or addition of trees, or change in practices, or any other circumstance that may reduce the expected yield below the yield upon which the insurance guarantee is based, and the number of affected acres;
 - (2) The number of bearing and non-bearing trees on insurable and uninsurable acreage;

- (3) The age of the trees, variety, type, and the planting pattern; and
- (4) For the first year of insurance, acreage interplanted with another perennial crop, and anytime the planting pattern of such acreage is changed:
 - (i) The age of the crop that is interplanted with the peaches;
 - (ii) The variety, and type if applicable;
 - (iii) The planting pattern; and
 - (iv) Any other reasonable and pertinent information that we request in order to establish your approved yield.

We will adjust the yield used to establish your production guarantee as necessary, based on our estimate of the effect of interplanting a perennial crop; removal or addition of trees or varieties of trees; physical or structural tree damage; a change in practices or changes in tree population and density, and any other circumstance affecting the yield potential of the insured crop. If you fail to notify us of any circumstance that may affect your yields from previous levels, we will adjust your production guarantee as necessary at any time we become aware of the circumstance.

4. Contract Changes

In accordance with section 4 (Contract Changes) of the Basic Provisions, the contract change date is August 31 preceding the cancellation date.

5. Cancellation and Termination Dates

In accordance with section 2 (Life of Policy, Cancellation, and Termination) of the Basic Provisions, the cancellation and termination dates are November 20.

6. Insured Crop

In accordance with section 8 (Insured Crop) of the Basic Provisions, the crop insured will be all the peaches in the county for which a premium rate is provided by the actuarial table:

- (a) In which you have a share;
- (b) That are grown on tree varieties that:
 - (1) Were commercially available when the trees were set out;
 - (2) Are a variety having a chilling hour requirement that is appropriate for the area;
 - (3) Are grown on a root stock that is adapted to the area.
- (c) That the crop insured will be any of the types or varieties of peaches that are grown for the production of Fresh or Processing Peaches (except Processing Peaches excluded in California) on insured acreage and for which a guarantee and premium rate are provided by the Actuarial Table.
- (d) That are grown in an orchard that, if inspected, is considered acceptable by us; and
- (e) That has reached at least the fourth growing season after set out. However, we may agree in writing to insure acreage that has not reached this age if it has produced at least 100 bushels of peaches per acre.

7. Insurable Acreage

In lieu of the provisions in section 9 (Insurable Acreage) of the Basic Provisions, that prohibit insurance attaching to a crop planted with another crop, peaches interplanted with another perennial crop are insurable unless we inspect the acreage and determine that it does not meet the requirements contained in your policy.

8. Insurance Period

- (a) In accordance with the provisions of section 11 (Insurance Period) of the Basic Provisions:
 - (1) Coverage begins on November 21 of each crop year, except that for the year of application, if your application is received after November 11 but prior to November 21, insurance will attach on the 10th day after your properly completed application is received in our local office, unless we inspect the acreage during the 10-day period and determine that it does not meet insurability requirements. You must provide any information that we require for the crop to determine the condition of the orchard.
 - (2) The calendar date for the end of the insurance period for each crop year is September 30.
- (b) In addition to the provisions of section 11 (Insurance Period) of the Basic Provisions:
 - (1) If you acquire an insurable share in any insurable acreage after coverage begins but on or before the acreage reporting date for the crop year, and after an inspection we consider the acreage acceptable, insurance will be considered to have attached to such acreage on the calendar date for the beginning of the insurance period.
 - (2) If you relinquish your insurable interest on any acreage of peaches on or before the acreage reporting date for the crop year and if the acreage was insured by you the previous crop year, insurance will not be considered to have attached, and no premium or indemnity will be due for such acreage for that crop year unless:
 - (i) A transfer of coverage and right to an indemnity, or a similar form approved by us, is completed by all affected parties;
 - (ii) We are notified by you or the transferee in writing of such transfer on or before the acreage reporting date; and
 - (iii) The transferee is eligible for crop insurance.

9. Causes of loss

- (a) In accordance with the provisions of section 12 (Causes of Loss) of the Basic Provisions, insurance is provided only against the following causes of loss that occur within the insurance period:
 - (1) Adverse weather conditions;
 - (2) Fire, unless weeds and other forms of undergrowth have not been controlled or pruning debris has not been removed from the orchard;
 - (3) Earthquake:
 - (4) Insects, but not damage due to insufficient or improper application of pest control measures;
 - (5) Plant disease, but not damage due to insufficient or improper application of disease control measures:
 - (6) Volcanic eruption;
 - (7) Wildlife, unless control measures have not been taken:
 - (8) An insufficient number of chilling hours to effectively break dormancy; or

- (9) Failure of irrigation water supply, if caused by an insured peril that occurs during the insurance period.
- (b) In addition to the causes of loss excluded in section 12 (Causes of Loss) of the Basic Provisions, we will not insure against damage or loss of production due to:
 - (1) Split pits, regardless of cause; or
 - (2) Inability to market the peaches for any reason other than actual physical damage from an insurable cause specified in this section. For example, we will not pay you an indemnity if you are unable to market due to quarantine, boycott, or refusal of any person to accept production.

10. Duties in the Event of Damage or Loss

In addition to the requirements of section 14 (Duties in the Event of Damage or Loss) of the Basic Provisions, and unless the insurance period has ended prior to each of the following events, the following will apply:

- (a) You must notify us within three days of the date that harvest of the damaged variety should have started if the crop will not be harvested.
- (b) You must notify us at least 15 days before any production from any unit will be sold by direct marketing unless you have records verifying that the direct market peaches were "weighed and graded" through a packing shed. Failure to give timely notice that production will be sold by direct marketing will result in an appraised amount of production to count not less than the production guarantee per acre if such failure results in our inability to make the required appraisal.
- (c) If you previously gave notice in accordance with section 14 of the Basic Provisions, and if you intend to claim an indemnity on any unit, you must notify us at least 15 days prior to the beginning of harvest of the damaged variety, so that we may inspect the damaged production. You must not sell or dispose of the damaged crop until after we have given you written consent to do so.
- (d) If you fail to meet the requirements of this section and such failure results in our inability to inspect the damaged production, all such production will be considered undamaged and included as production to count.

11. Settlement of Claim

- (a) We will determine your loss on a unit basis. In the event you are unable to provide separate acceptable production records:
 - For any optional units, we will combine all optional units for which such production records were not provided; or
 - (2) For any basic units, we will allocate any commingled production to such units in proportion to our liability on the harvested acreage for the units.
- (b) In the event of loss or damage covered by this policy, we will settle your claim by:
 - (1) Multiplying the insured acreage for each type, if applicable, by its respective production guarantee;
 - (2) Multiplying each result in section 11(b)(1) by the respective price election;
 - (3) Totaling the results in section 11(b)(2);

- (4) Multiplying the total production to be counted by type, if applicable, (see subsection 11(c)) by the respective price election;
- (5) Totaling the results in section 11(b)(4);
- (6) Subtracting the total in section 11(b)(5) from the total in section 11(b)(3); and
- (7) Multiplying the result in section 11(b)(6) by your share.
- (c) The total production to count (in bushels) from all insurable acreage on the unit will include:
 - (1) All appraised production will be determined as follows:
 - (i) Not less than the production guarantee per acre for acreage:
 - (A) That is abandoned;
 - (B) From which production is sold by direct marketing if you fail to meet the requirements contained in section 10;
 - (C) That is damaged solely by uninsured causes; or
 - (D) For which you fail to provide production records that are acceptable to us;
 - (ii) Production lost due to uninsured causes;
 - (iii) Unharvested production;
 - (iv) Potential production on insured acreage that you intend to abandon or no longer care for, if you and we agree on the appraised amount of Upon such agreement, the production. insurance period for that acreage will end. If you do not agree with our appraisal, we may defer the claim only if you agree to continue to care for the crop. We will then make another appraisal when you notify us of further damage or that harvest is general in the area unless you harvested the crop, in which case we will use the harvested production. If you do not continue to adequately care for the crop, our appraisal made prior to deferring the claim will be used to determine the production to count; and
 - (v) Any appraised production on insured acreage will be considered production to count unless such production is exceeded by the actual harvested production.
 - (2) All harvested production from the insurable acreage.
 - (3) Mature marketable peach production may be reduced as a result of a loss in quality due to an insured cause of loss. The amount of production to count for such peaches will be determined as follows:
 - (i) Peaches grown for fresh use by:
 - (A) Dividing the value of the damaged peaches by the actual price for undamaged peaches; and
 - (B) Multiplying the result of section 11(c)(3)(i)(A) by the number of bushels of the eligible damaged peaches.
 - (ii) Peaches grown for processing by:
 - (A) Dividing the value of the damaged peaches by the actual price of undamaged peaches for processing; and

- (B) Multiplying the result of section 11(c)(3)(ii)(A) by the number of bushels of the eligible damaged peaches.
- (4) Peaches that cannot be marketed due to insurable causes will not be considered production to count.

12. Written Agreements

Terms of this policy which are specifically designated for the use of written agreement may be altered by written agreement in accordance with the following:

- (a) You must apply in writing for each written agreement no later than the sales closing date, except as provided in section 12(e);
- (b) The application for a written agreement must contain all variable terms of the contract between you and us that will be in effect if the written agreement is not approved;
- (c) If approved, the written agreement will include all variable terms of the contract, including, but not limited to, crop type or variety, the guarantee, premium rate, and price election;
- (d) Each written agreement will only be valid for one year (If the written agreement is not specifically renewed the following year, insurance coverage for subsequent crop years will be in accordance with the printed policy); and
- (e) An application for a written agreement submitted after the sales closing date may be approved if, after a physical inspection of the acreage, it is determined that no loss has occurred and the crop is insurable in accordance with the policy and written agreement provisions.