



United States Department of Agriculture
Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services
Risk Management Agency

July 20, 2001

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-01-038

TO: Biomass Producer Groups and Trade Associations
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices
All Reinsured Companies

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ *Tim B. Witt*
Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Request for Input from Biomass Producer Groups and Trade Associations

BACKGROUND:

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) intends to obtain input from producer groups before entering into contracts for research and development to increase participation in areas or for commodities that may be underserved by the Federal crop insurance program. RMA believes this input is critical in determining the need and direction of research and potential development.

ACTION:

RMA requests input from groups or individuals representing producers of biomass generating crops so that their needs, concerns, and other input may be considered before it enters into a contract for the research and possible development of risk management strategies for producers who grow crops for biomass purposes. Of particular interest is any input that would help RMA determine producers' interest in such risk management strategies, as well as specific suggestions and concerns regarding the structure, scope, and limitations of such strategies.



6501 Beacon Drive \$ Kansas City, MO 64133

The Risk Management Agency Administers and Oversees
All Programs Authorized Under the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Please provide your input to Lana Cusick by August 20, 2001, to assure its consideration. Ms. Cusick may be reached by telephone at (816) 926-3477, by fax at (816) 926-7343, by e-mail at "Lana_Cusick@rm.fcic.usda.gov," or at the following postal address:

Attention: Lana Cusick
Research and Evaluation Division
Risk Management Agency
P. O. Box 419293, Stop 0813
Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6293

Listed below are organizations that are being provided this Memorandum. Anyone who is aware of other persons or organizations representing producers of biomass crops is encouraged to provide a copy of this Informational Memorandum to them and/or to advise Ms. Cusick how to contact them.

Renewable Fuels Association
Renewable Natural Resources Foundation
American Forage and Grassland Council
American Soybean Association
American Sugar Cane League
American Sugarbeet Growers Association
National Corn Growers Association
National Bioenergy Industries Association
National Grain Sorghum Producers Association
National Hay Association

DISPOSAL DATE:

This Informational Memorandum is effective until the disposal date, September 30, 2001.