



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

February 8, 2002

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-02-010

TO: Christmas Tree Producer Groups
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices
All Reinsured Companies

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

SUBJECT: Request for Input from Christmas Tree Producer Groups

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 Christmas Trees so that their needs, concerns, and other input may be considered before it enters into a contract for the research and possible development of a risk management program for Christmas Trees. Of particular interest is any input that would help RMA determine the extent that producers want RMA to pursue such research and potential development of risk management strategies or products. RMA is also interested in receiving specific suggestions and concerns regarding the structure, scope, and limitations producers and producer groups want to be considered for such strategies or products. Anyone who is aware of insurance protection that is generally available from private companies to cover the risks that would likely be covered by recommended risk management strategies or products is encouraged to advise RMA accordingly as indicated below.



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 Charles Naglich by March 8, 2002, to assure its consideration. Mr. Naglich may be reached by telephone at (816) 926-1832, by fax at (816) 926-7343, by e-mail at "Charles_Naglich@rm.fcic.usda.gov," or at the following postal address:

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

Listed on the attachment are organizations that are being provided this Memorandum. Anyone who is aware of other persons or organizations representing Christmas Tree producers is encouraged to provide a copy of this Informational Memorandum to them and/or to advise Mr. Naglich how to contact them.

DISPOSAL DATE:

This Informational Memorandum is effective until the disposal date, April 30, 2002.

Attachment

Organizations

Alabama Christmas Tree Association
California Christmas Tree Association
Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers Association
Florida Christmas Tree Association
Georgia Christmas Tree Association
Illinois Christmas Tree Association
Indiana Christmas Tree Growers Association
Inland Empire Christmas Tree Association
Iowa Christmas Tree Association
Kansas Christmas Tree Grower Association
Louisiana/Mississippi Christmas Tree Association
Maine Christmas Tree Association
Maryland Christmas Tree Association
Massachusetts Christmas Tree Growers Association
Michigan Christmas Tree Association
Mid-South Christmas Tree Association
Minnesota Christmas Tree Growers Association
Missouri Christmas Tree Producers Association
Montana Christmas Tree Association
National Christmas Tree Association (NCTA):
Nebraska Christmas Tree Growers Association
New Hampshire/Vermont Christmas Tree Association
New Jersey Christmas Tree Growers Association
New York Christmas Tree Growers Association
North Carolina Christmas Tree Association
North Dakota Christmas Tree Growers Association
Northwest Christmas Tree Association
Ohio Christmas Tree Association
Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association
Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Association
Rhode Island Christmas Tree Growers
Rocky Mountain Christmas Tree Association
South Carolina Christmas Tree Association
Texas Christmas Tree Growers Association
The National Christmas Tree Association
Virginia Christmas Tree Growers Association
West Virginia Christmas Tree Growers Association
Wisconsin Christmas Tree Producers Association