March 12, 2003

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-03-012

TO: All Reinsured Companies
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices
All Other Interested Parties

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ Rodger M. Matthews, for Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Master Yield for Onions in California

ISSUE:

The Risk Management Agency, Davis California, Regional Office has received requests to add onions to the list of crops eligible for Master Yield (MY) in two California counties, Modoc and Siskiyou.

BACKGROUND:

For the 2003 crop year, the onion insurance program was expanded into two northern California counties, Modoc and Siskiyou, and in Klamath County, Oregon, which is adjacent and across the state line from the California counties. In Oregon a MY may be used to determine approved APH yields. Other counties in Oregon previously had the onion program and therefore the 2003 FCIC 18010, Crop Insurance Handbook, (CIH) lists onions as eligible for the MY. Onions is a new program for California, and therefore the CIH does not list the state as being eligible for the MY. Because of this procedural difference, APH yields may be calculated differently for producers farming on the two sides of the state line.

ACTION:

Insurance providers that have successfully completed MY training may approve initial MY for onions (type 215, Spring Planted Whites and Yellow, Irrigated) in California beginning with the 2003 crop year. This action allows Insurance Providers to use the acreage and yield reports provided by the production reporting date to calculate MY.

DISPOSAL DATE:

The disposal date of this Informational Memorandum is December 31, 2003.