the guarantee in accordance with section 13(b).

(b) We will determine the extent of any loss the date the cabbage is placed in storage if the production is stored prior to sale, or the date it is delivered to a buyer, wholesaler, packer, processor, or other handler if production is not stored.

(c) In the event of loss or damage covered by this policy, we will settle your claim by:

(1) Multiplying the insured acreage by its respective production guarantee (per acre), by type if applicable (If you have multiple processor contracts with varying prices per hundredweight within the same unit, we will value your production to count by using your highest price election first and will continue in decreasing order to your lowest price election based on the amount of production insured at each price election);

(2) Multiplying each result in section 13(c)(1) by the respective price election, by type if applicable;

(3) Totaling the results in section 13(c)(2);

(4) Multiplying the total production to count of each type, if applicable (see section 13(d)(i)), by its respective price election;

(5) Totaling the results in section 13(c)(4);

(6) Subtracting the results in section 13(c)(5) from the results of section 13(c)(3); and

(7) Multiplying the result in section 13(c)(6) by your share.

For example: For a basic unit you have 100 percent share in 100 acres of cabbage, 50 acres for fresh market and 50 acres for processing as sauerkraut, with a production guarantee (per acre) of 400 hundredweight per acre for fresh market and 400 hundredweight per acre for processing as sauerkraut and a price election of $5.00 per hundredweight for fresh market and $1.90 per hundredweight for processing as sauerkraut. You are only able to harvest 9,000 hundredweight of fresh market cabbage and 9,000 hundredweight of cabbage for sauerkraut because an insured cause of loss has reduced production. Your total indemnity would be calculated as follows:

(1) 50 acres x 400 hundredweight = 20,000 hundredweight guarantee for the fresh market acreage:

50 acres x 400 hundredweight = 20,000 hundredweight guarantee for the processing as sauerkraut acreage.

(2) 20,000 hundredweight guarantee x $5.00 price election = $100,000 value of guarantee for the fresh market acreage.

20,000 hundredweight guarantee x $1.90 price election = $38,000 value of guarantee for processing as sauerkraut.

(3) $100,000 + $38,000 = $138,000 total value of guarantee.

(4) 9,000 hundredweight x $5.00 price election = $45,000 value of production to count for the fresh market acreage.

9,000 hundredweight x $1.90 price election = $17,100 value of production to count for the acreage for sauerkraut.

(5) $45,000 + $17,100 = $62,100 total value of production to count.

(6) $138,000 – $62,100 = $75,900 loss.

(7) $75,900 x 100 percent share = $75,900 indemnity payment.

(d) The total production to count (in hundredweight) of marketable cabbage from all insured acreage on the unit will include:

(1) All appraised production as follows:

(i) Not less than the production guarantee (per acre) for acreage:

(A) That is abandoned;

(B) For which you fail to meet the requirements contained in section 12:

(C) That is put to another use without our consent;

(D) That is damaged solely by uninsured causes; or

(E) For which you fail to provide production records that are acceptable to us;

(ii) All production lost due to uninsured causes;

(iii) All unharvested production;

(iv) All potential production on insured acreage that you intend to put to another use or abandon, if you and we agree on the appraised amount of production. Upon such agreement, the insurance period for that acreage will end when you put the acreage to another use or abandon the crop. If agreement on the appraised amount of production is not reached:

(A) If you do not elect to continue to care for the crop, we may give you consent to put the acreage to another use if you agree to leave intact, and provide sufficient care for, representative samples of the crop in locations acceptable to us. (The amount of production to count for such acreage will be based on the harvested production or appraisals from the samples at the time harvest should have occurred. If you do not leave the required samples intact, or fail to provide sufficient care for the samples, our appraisal made prior to giving you consent to put the acreage to another use will be used to determine the amount of production to count); or

(B) If you elect to continue to care for the crop, the amount of production to count for the acreage will be the harvested production, or our reappraisal if additional damage occurs and the crop is not harvested; and

(2) All harvested production from the insured acreage.

(e) Mature production that is considered damaged cabbage production due to an insured cause but is marketable will be adjusted as follows:

(1) Dividing the local market price per hundredweight of such damaged cabbage production by the applicable price election; and

(2) Multiplying the result by the number of hundredweight of damaged cabbage production.

14. Late and Prevented Planting

The late and prevented planting provisions of the Basic Provisions are not applicable.
Management. Product Administration and Standards Division, Risk Management Agency, at the Kansas City, MO, address listed above, telephone (816) 926–7730.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Executive Order 12866

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has determined that this rule is not significant for the purpose of Executive Order 12866 and, therefore, has not been reviewed by OMB.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the collections of information in this proposed rule have been approved by OMB under control number 0563–0057 through June 30, 2006.

E-Government Act Compliance

FCIC is committed to complying with the E-Government Act to promote the use of the Internet and other information technologies to provide increased opportunities for citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) establishes requirements for Federal agencies to assess the effects of their regulatory actions on State, local, and tribal governments and the private sector. This rule contains no Federal mandates (under the regulatory provisions of title II of the UMRA) for State, local, and tribal governments or the private sector. Therefore, this rule is not subject to the requirements of sections 202 and 205 of the UMRA.

Executive Order 13132

It has been determined under section 1(a) of Executive Order No. 13132, Federalism, that this rule does not have sufficient implications to warrant consultation with the States. The provisions contained in this rule will not have a substantial direct effect on States, or on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

FCIC certifies this regulation will not have a significant economical impact on a substantial number of small entities. Program requirements for the Federal crop insurance program are the same for all producers regardless of the size of their farming operation. For instance, all producers are required to submit an application and acreage report to establish their insurance guarantees and compute premium amounts, and all producers are required to submit a notice of loss and production information to determine an indemnity payment in the event of an insured cause of crop loss. Whether a producer has 10 acres or 1000 acres, there is no difference in the kind of information collected. To ensure crop insurance is available to small entities, the Federal Crop Insurance Act authorizes FCIC to waive collection of administrative fees from limited resource farmers. FCIC believes this waiver helps to ensure small entities are given the same opportunities as large entities to manage their risks through the use of crop insurance. A Regulatory Flexibility Analysis has not been prepared since this regulation does not have an impact on small entities and therefore, this regulation is exempt from the provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 605).

Federal Assistance Program

This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.450.

Executive Order 12372

This program is not subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which require intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. See the Notice related to 7 CFR part 3015, subpart V, published at 48 FR 29115, June 24, 1983.

Executive Order 12988

This proposed rule has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order No. 12988 on civil justice reform. The provisions of this rule will not have a retroactive effect. The provisions of this rule will preempt State and local laws to the extent such State and local laws are inconsistent herewith. With respect to any action taken by FCIC or to require the insurance provider to take specific action under the terms of the crop insurance policy, the administrative appeal provisions published at 7 CFR part 11 or 7 CFR part 400, subpart J, for the informal administrative review process of good farming practices, must be exhausted before any action against FCIC for judicial review may be brought.

Environmental Evaluation

This action is not expected to have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment, health, and safety. Therefore, neither an Environmental Assessment nor an Environmental Impact Statement is needed.

Background

FCIC offered the pilot crop insurance program for mustard beginning with the 1999 crop year in selected counties in the state of North Dakota. For the 2005 crop year, the mustard program was expanded to selected counties in the states of Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. For the 2005 crop year, 2,149 policies were sold with 29,674 acres insured under the pilot mustard program.

FCIC intends to convert the mustard pilot crop insurance program to a permanent crop insurance program beginning with the 2008 crop year. To effectuate this, FCIC proposes to amend the Common Crop Insurance regulations (7 CFR part 457) by adding a new section §457.168, Mustard Crop Insurance Provisions. These provisions will replace and supersede the current unpublished pilot mustard crop provisions.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 457

Crop insurance, Mustard, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Proposed Rule

Accordingly, as set forth in the preamble, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation proposes to amend 7 CFR part 457, Common Crop Insurance Regulations, for the 2008 and succeeding crop years as follows:

PART 457—COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 457 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1506(l), 1506(p).

2. Section 457.168 is added to read as follows:

§457.168 Mustard crop insurance provisions.

The Mustard Crop Insurance Provisions for the 2008 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

FCIC policies: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation
Reinsured policies: (Appropriate title for insurance provider)

Both FCIC and reinsured policies:

Mustard Crop Insurance Provisions

1. Definitions

Base contract price. The price per pound (U.S. dollars) stipulated in the processor contract (without regard to discounts or incentives) that will be used to determine your price election. Harvest. Combining or threshing for seed. A crop that is swathed prior to combining is not considered harvested.
Mustard. A crop of the family Cruciferae, genus and species Sinapis alba (also called Brassica hirta or Brassica alba) or Brassica juncea.

Planted acreage. In addition to the definition contained in the Basic Provisions, mustard seed must be planted in rows. Acreage planted in any other manner will not be insurable unless otherwise provided by the Special Provisions, actuarial documents, or by written agreement.

Processor. Any business enterprise regularly engaged in buying and processing mustard, that possesses all licenses and permits for processing mustard required by the state in which it operates, and that possesses facilities, or has contractual access to such facilities, with enough equipment to accept and process contracted mustard within a reasonable amount of time after harvest.

Processor contract. A written agreement between the producer and a processor, containing at a minimum:
(a) The producer’s commitment to plant and grow mustard of the types specified in the Special Provisions and to deliver the production to the processor;
(b) The processor’s commitment to purchase all the production stated in the processor contract; and
(c) A base contract price.

Salvage price. The cash price per pound (U.S. dollars) for mustard that qualifies for quality adjustment in accordance with section 13 of these Crop Provisions.

Swathed. Severance of the stem and seed pods from the ground and placing into windrows without removal of the seed from the pod.

Type. A category of mustard identified as a type in the Special Provisions.

2. Unit Division
In addition to the requirements of section 34 of the Basic Provisions, optional units may also be established by type, if designated on the Special Provisions.

3. Insurance Guarantees, Coverage Levels, and Prices for Determining Indemnities
(a) In addition to the requirements of section 3 of the Basic Provisions, you may select only one price election percentage for all the mustard in the county insured under this policy unless the Special Provisions allow different price elections by type.
(b) If price elections are allowed by type, you can select one price election for each type designated in the Special Provisions. The price elections you choose must have the same percentage relationship to the base contract price (maximum price) offered for each type. For example, if you choose 100 percent of the maximum price for a specific type, you must also choose 100 percent of the maximum price for all other types.
(c) If there are multiple base contract prices within the same unit, each will be considered a separate price election which will be multiplied by the number of acres under applicable processor contract (For processor contracts that stipulates the amount of production to be delivered, the number of acres is determined by dividing the amount of production to be delivered by the approved yield). These amounts will be totaled to determine the premium, liability, and indemnity for the unit.

4. Contract Changes
In accordance with section 4 of the Basic Provisions, the contract change date is November 30 preceding the cancellation date.

5. Cancellation and Termination Dates
In accordance with section 2 of the Basic Provisions, the cancellation and termination dates are March 15.

6. Report of Acreage
In addition to the provisions in section 6 of the Basic Provisions, you must provide a copy of all processor contracts to us on or before the acreage reporting date.

7. Insured Crop
(a) In accordance with section 8 of the Basic Provisions, the crop insured will be all mustard in the county for which a premium rate is provided by the actuarial table:
(1) In which you have a share;
(2) That is planted for harvest as seed;
(3) That is grown under, and in accordance with, the requirements of a processor contract executed on or before the acreage reporting date and is not excluded from the processor contract at any time during the crop year; and
(4) That is not, unless allowed by the Special Provisions or by written agreement:
(i) Interplanted with another crop;
(ii) Planted into an established grass or legume; or
(iii) Planted following the harvest of any other crop in the same crop year.
(b) You will be considered to have a share in the insured crop if, under the processor contract, you retain control of the acres on which the mustard is grown, your income from the insured crop is dependent on the amount of production delivered, and the processor contract provides for delivery of the mustard under specified conditions and at a stipulated base contract price.
(c) A commercial mustard producer who is also a processor may establish an insurable interest if the following requirements are met:
(1) The processor must comply with these Crop Provisions;
(2) Prior to the sales closing date, the Board of Directors or officers of the processor must execute and adopt a resolution that contains the same terms as an acceptable processor contract. Such resolution will be considered a processor contract under this policy; and
(3) Our inspection reveals that the processing facilities comply with the definition of a processor contained in these Crop Provisions.

8. Insurable Acreage
In addition to the provisions of section 9 of the Basic Provisions:
(a) Any acreage of the insured crop that is damaged before the final planting date, to the extent that a majority of producers in the area would not normally further care for the crop, must be replanted unless we agree that it is not practical to replant.
(b) We will not insure any acreage that does not meet the rotation requirements, if applicable, contained in the Special Provisions.
(c) The maximum insurable acreage will be determined by the acreage amount stated in the processor contract(s), if applicable.

9. Insurance Period
In accordance with the provisions of section 11 of the Basic Provisions, the end of the insurance period is October 31 of the calendar year in which the crop is normally harvested unless otherwise stated in the Special Provisions.

10. Causes of Loss
In accordance with the provisions of section 12 of the Basic Provisions, insurance is provided only against the following causes of loss which occur during the insurance period:
(a) Adverse weather conditions;
(b) Fire;
(c) Insects, but not damage due to insufficient or improper application of pest control measures;
(d) Plant disease, but not damage due to insufficient or improper application of disease control measures;
(e) Wildfire;
(f) Earthquake;
(g) Volcanic eruption; and
(h) Failure of the irrigation water supply, if applicable, caused by a cause
of loss specified in section 10(a) through (g) that occurs during the insurance period.

11. Replanting Payment

(a) In accordance with section 13 of the Basic Provisions, a replanting payment is allowed if the insured crop is damaged by an insurable cause of loss to the extent that the remaining stand will not produce at least 90 percent of the production guarantee for the acreage, and it is practical to replant or we require you to replant in accordance with section 8(a).

(b) The maximum amount of the replanting payment per acre will be the lesser of 20 percent of the production guarantee (per acre) or 175 pounds, multiplied by the price election applicable to the acreage to be replanted, multiplied by your insured share.

(c) When the mustard is replanted using a practice that is uninsurable as an original planting, the liability for the unit will be reduced by the amount of the replanting payment that is attributable to your share. The premium amount will not be reduced.

12. Duties in the Event of Damage or Loss

In accordance with the requirements of section 14 of the Basic Provisions, the representative samples of the unharvested crop that we may require must be at least 10 feet wide and extend the entire length of each field in the unit. The samples must not be harvested or destroyed until the earlier of our inspection or 15 days after harvest of the balance of the unit is completed.

13. Settlement of Claim

(a) We will determine your loss on a unit basis.

(i) In the event you are unable to provide separate acceptable production records:

(1) For any optional units, we will combine all optional units for which acceptable 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.

For any processor contract that stipulates the amount of production to be delivered, and not withstanding the provisions of this section or any unit division provisions contained in the Basic Provisions or these Crop Provisions:

(2) No indemnity will be paid for any loss of production on any unit if you produce sufficient production to fulfill the processor contracts forming the basis for the guarantee;

(i) Production in excess of the guarantee from a unit will be included as production to count for the purposes of section 13(b)(4) for any unit where the amount of production to count is less than the guarantee for such unit until the production to count equals the guarantee for the unit; and

(ii) Once all production in excess of the guarantee for a unit is allocated to units where the amount of production to count is less than the guarantee for such unit, an indemnity will be determined for those units where the adjusted production to count remains is less than the guarantee in accordance with section 13(b).

(b) In the event of loss or damage covered by this policy, we will settle your claim by:

(1) Multiplying the insured acreage of each mustard type, if applicable, by its respective production guarantee (per acre);

(2) Multiplying each result in section 13(b)(1) by the respective price election for each type, if applicable;

(3) Totaling the results in section 13(b)(2);

(4) Multiplying the production to be counted for each type, if applicable (see section 13(c)), by its respective price election (If you have multiple processor contracts with varying base contract prices within the same unit, we will value your production to count by using your highest price election first and will continue in decreasing order to your lowest price election based on the amount of production insured at each price election);

(5) Totaling the results in section 13(b)(4);

(6) Subtracting the total in section 13(b)(5) from the total in section 13(b)(3); and

(7) Multiplying the result in section 13(b)(6) by your share.

Example # 1 (with one price election for the unit):

You have 100 percent share in 20 acres of mustard in a unit with a 650 pound production guarantee (per acre) and a price election of $0.15 per pound. Due to insurable causes, you are only able to harvest 10,000 pounds and there is no appraised production.

Your indemnity would be calculated as follows:

(1) 20 acres × 650 pounds = 13,000 pounds guarantee;

(2) 13,000 pounds × $0.15 price election = $1,950 value of guarantee;

(3) $1,950 total value of guarantee;

(4) 10,000 pounds × $0.15 price election = $1,500 value of production to count;

(5) $1,500 total value of production to count;

(6) $1,950 − $1,500 = $450 loss; and

(7) $450 × 100 percent = $450 indemnity payment.

Example # 2 (with two price elections for the same unit):

You have 100 percent share in 20 acres of mustard in a unit with 650 pound production guarantee (per acre), 10 acres with a price election of $0.15 per pound, and 10 acres with a price election of $0.10 per pound, due to insurable causes you are only able to harvest 8500 pounds and there is no appraised production. Your indemnity would be calculated as follows:

(1) 10 acres × 650 pounds = 6500 pounds guarantee × $0.15 price election = $975 value guarantee;

(2) 10 acres × 650 pounds guarantee × $0.10 price election = $650 value guarantee;

(3) $975 + $650 = $1,625 total value guarantee;

(4) 6500 pounds production × $0.15 price election (higher price election) = $975 value of production to count;

(5) 2000 pounds production × $0.10 price election (lower price election) = $200 value of production to count;

(6) $975 + $200 = $1,175 total value of production to count;

(7) $1,175 total value guarantee − $1,175 total value of production to count = $450 loss; and

(8) $450 × 100 percent = $450 indemnity payment.

(c) The total production to count (in pounds) from all insurable acreage in the unit will include:

(1) All appraised production as follows:

(i) Not less than the production guarantee (per acre) for acreage:

(A) That is abandoned;

(B) That is put to another use without our consent;

(C) That is damaged solely by uninsurable causes; or

(D) For which you fail to provide acceptable production records;

(ii) Production lost due to uninsurable causes;

(iii) Unharvested production (mature unharvested production may be adjusted for quality deficiencies and excess moisture in accordance with section 13(d)); and

(iv) Potential production on insured acreage that you intend to put to another use or abandon, if you and we agree on the appraised amount of production. Upon such agreement, the insurance period for that acreage will end when you put the acreage to another use or abandon the crop. If agreement on the appraised amount of production is not reached:

(A) If you do not elect to continue to care for the crop, we may give you consent to put the acreage to another use if you agree to leave intact, and provide sufficient care for, representative samples of the crop in locations acceptable to us (The amount of production to count for such acreage will be based on the harvested production or appraisals from the samples at the time harvest should have occurred. If you do not leave the required samples intact, or you fail to provide sufficient care for the samples, our appraisal made prior to giving you consent to put the acreage to another use will be used
to determine the amount of production to count:); or

(A) Discounts used to establish the salvage price will be limited to those that are usual, customary, and reasonable.

(B) The salvage price will not include any reductions for:

(1) Moisture content;

(2) Damage due to uninsured causes;

(3) Drying, handling, processing, or any other costs associated with normal harvesting, handling, and marketing of the mustard; except, if the salvage price can be increased by conditioning, we may reduce the salvage price, after the production has been conditioned, by the cost of conditioning but not lower than the salvage price before conditioning; and

(ii) We may obtain salvage prices from any buyer of our choice. If we obtain salvage prices from one or more buyers located outside your local market area, we will reduce such price by the additional costs required to deliver the mustard to those buyers.

(iii) Factors not associated with grading under the Directive for Inspection of Mustard Seed, provided by the Federal Grain Inspection Service or such other directive or standards that may be issued by FCIC including, but not limited to, protein and oil will not be considered.

(e) Any production harvested from plants growing in the insured crop may be counted as production of the insured crop on an unadjusted weight basis.

14. Late Planting

In lieu of section 16(a) of the Basic Provisions, the production guarantee (per acre) for each acre planted to the insured crop during the late planting period will be reduced by 1 percent per day for each day planted after the final planting date, unless otherwise specified in the Special Provisions.

15. Prevented Planting

In addition to the provisions contained in section 17 of the Basic Provisions, your prevented planting coverage will be 60 percent of your production guarantee (per acre) for timely planted acreage. If you have limited or additional levels of coverage, as specified in 7 CFR part 400, subpart T, and pay an additional premium, you may increase your prevented planting coverage to the levels specified in the actuarial documents.

Signed in Washington, DC, on November 7, 2006.

Eldon Gould,
Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

[FR Doc. E6–19320 Filed 11–15–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–08–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 966

[Docket No. FV06–966–2 PR]

Tomatoes Grown in Florida; Increased Assessment Rate

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This rule would increase the assessment rate established for the Florida Tomato Committee (Committee) for the 2006–07 and subsequent fiscal periods from $0.025 to $0.035 per 25-pound container or equivalent of tomatoes handled. The Committee locally administers the marketing order which regulates the handling of tomatoes grown in Florida. Assessments upon Florida tomato handlers are used by the Committee to fund reasonable and necessary expenses of the program. The fiscal period begins August 1 and ends July 31. The assessment rate would remain in effect indefinitely unless modified, suspended, or terminated.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 1, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning this rule. Comments must be sent to the Docket Clerk, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0237, Washington, DC 20250–0237; Fax: (202) 720–8938, E-mail: moab.docketclerk@usda.gov; or Internet: http://www.regulations.gov. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the Federal Register and will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular business hours, or can be viewed at: http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/moab.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William G. Pimental, Marketing Specialist or Christian D. Nissen, Regional Manager, Southeast Marketing Field Office, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA; Telephone: (863) 324–3375, Fax: (863) 325–8793, or E-mail: William.Pimental@usda.gov or Christian.Nissen@usda.gov.

Small businesses may request information on complying with this regulation by contacting Jay Guerber, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0237, Washington, DC 20250–0237; telephone: (202) 720–