



CROP WATCH

AFBIS Inc

May 2009

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Inside this issue:

2009 Crop Hail	1
Nursery Deadline Reminder	1
Acreage Report Reminders	2
Early Season Claims	2
Joint Venture Signature Requirement	2
Prevented Planting Requirement	2
MPCI Replant Claims	2
CO Broadcast Seeding	2
CO Broadcast Seeding	2
2009 Agent Incentive Leaders	3
Added Land	3
RMA Bulletins	3
Organic Acreage	3

Nursery Deadline Reminder

Nursery Sales Closing Date for New Applicants is May 1, 2009.

FRO will be closed Monday May 25th in observance of Memorial Day.

2009 Crop Hail

Colorado/Montana/Wyoming

There are new 2009 rates. Rewrites have been mailed to all agents and as well as Hail Rate Manuals and padded application forms.

Indiana/Michigan/Missouri

Rates remain the same from 2008 and are available on the Premium Estimator. Rewrites have been mailed to all agents as well as Hail Rate Manuals and padded application forms.

Minnesota/North Dakota/South Dakota

Rates remain the same from 2008 and are available on the Premium Estimator. Rewrites have been mailed to all agents. On-line entry of apps is encouraged.

FRO created Rules and Rates Manuals for CO, MI, MO, MT & WY. If you did not receive one, please contact Holly at 800-662-5142 ext 6935 or email holly_molacek@afbisinc.com.

Reporting Bound Crop Hail Applications

It is the agent's responsibility to transmit all written bound applications each day. If the application is not mailed to Fargo Regional Office the same day it is written and signed by the insured it must be entered on-line or faxed to 701/476-6944.

Crop Hail Web Submissions

Cash premium for web applications must be in our office within 10 business days or the billing plan will be changed to deferred.

Did you know...

Hail causes **\$1 billion** in damage to crops and property each year in the US alone.

The largest hailstone recorded measured 17.5 inches in circumference (over 5.6 inches in diameter) and weighed almost 2 pounds.



Acreage Report Reminders

We ask that agents review their Acreage Reports for accuracy before sending them in. The following is a list of the most commonly missed items.

1. **Simple Average must be requested on the Acreage Report.** Put a \checkmark mark in the Box on the Coverage Summary page.
2. Verify all legals and/or FSN's are printed correctly. If a correction needs to be made, please correct and label as such. If it is not labeled, we will enter the FSN/legal as a new database.
3. Both the Agent and Insured must sign and date the report by the appropriate deadline. An Acreage Report will not be accepted without **both** signatures.
4. Verify all plant dates are listed.
5. Verify the insured's percent interest, and if applicable, any shareholder(s).
6. Total all the acres and enter the totals on the Coverage Summary page.
7. All acres must be reported by legal location (except GRP/GRIP policies).
8. If an FSN is reconstituted and results in farms being combined or divided, the date the reconstitution took place needs to be written on the acreage report. If the recon date is after the Production Reporting Date, then the combining and dividing of the APH will not take place until next year. Underwriters will not be following up for this information.
9. All Acreage Reports are due either in the Fargo Regional Office or submitted on-line 10 calendar days after the Acreage Reporting Deadline.

Early Season Claims

If an insured submits a notice of claim prior to completion of the acreage report, it is imperative that the acreage report is completed as soon as the planting is completed. Crop Adjusters can inspect crop damage at any time after planting, but the claim cannot be finalized until the Proof of Loss form is generated from the information contained in the timely filed acreage report.

Prior to completing the acreage report, we would encourage the insured to certify acreage and shares at the FSA office. They should ask for the FSA form 578 which will assist in accurately insuring all acres and the correct share when completing the AFBIS, Inc. Acreage Report.

Prevented Planting Requirement

The prevented planting crop, unit number, legal description and acreage must be identified on the Notice of Claim. Please remember the PP acreage **MUST** be listed on the acreage report. The Claim Notice is **NOT** a substitute for reporting PP acreage on the acreage report.

MPCI Replant Claims

For crop policies with a replant provision, please remember:

1. The insured must file the claim before he replants.
2. A "replant" means replanting the same crop.
3. The replant must be at least 20 acres or 20% of the acres in the unit.
4. An adjuster must be able to inspect the original planting.

There is **NO REPLANT PAYMENT** on CAT, GRP, or GRIP policies.

Joint Venture Signature Requirement

Both parties involved in a Joint Venture **MUST** sign ALL paperwork, unless there is an Authorized Representative or Power of Attorney for the policy. A separate signed statement can be submitted that states one person has the authorization to sign any/all policies.

Colorado Broadcast Seeding

Reminder: If required by county actuarial Special Provisions, any acreage seeded in this manner **MUST** be inspected to be insurable for 2009.

2009 Agent Incentive Program Leaders as of 5/01/09

State	Agent	Acres	Level
NC	Rick Plemmons	938	2
NC	Charlie Young	572	3
OK	Jeff Baumann	11,151	1
OK	Alton Weathers	10,492	2
OK	Lonnie Paxton	2,879	3
CO	Kevin Pettay	953	2
IN	Gary Hancock	10,425	1
IN	Ross Deatsman	3,739	2
IN	Dennis Chattin	2,943	3
MO	Joe Close	378	3
MT	Jim Krise	14,416	1
MT	Monte Harrison	5,818	2
MT	Wanda Robinette	813	3
ND	Pat Howard	24,688	1
ND	Cliff Weiler	10,924	2
ND	Amanda Schaff	1,015	3
SD	Jim Miller	1,497	1

Requirements:

- ü Net acre growth
- ü MP and CH added together
- ü Not CAT policies
- ü Premium paid by 12/01/09



Added Land

The limitations are 640 acres and maximum 2000 acres. Acreage that exceeds 640 but is less than 2000 acres is sent to RMA for review.

Items needed for a review:

- Producer's written request form
- Previous crop year's APH
- Aerial Photos
- 578's or 156-EZ's

Deadline: Production Reporting Date or Acreage Reporting Date. Early submission is suggested.

Note: All acreage added over 2000 acres will receive a variable T-yield.

RMA Bulletins:

IS-08-007: Controlled Business Requirements of the New Farm Bill

RMA has asked us to notify all agents and subagents as this bulletin addresses writing crop insurance for the agent's immediate family. It goes on to state this family business cannot be a significant part of the agent's total book of business in terms of compensation received for writing it. Please review the bulletin which is included as a link under Crop Watch.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE:

Thank you for the NEW applications you are submitting!! Please review your new apps to determine whether you wrote an app for anyone with whom you have a relationship including familial, business, financial or legal. You must complete the attached Conflict of Interest Disclosure form (included as a link under Crop Watch) for any new policyholder as you must disclose this information as soon as you are aware of it.

Do you insure Organic Acreage?

On the date the acreage is reported, the insured must have an organic plan AND written certification (certificate) in effect from a certifying agency that shows the name of the person certified, effective date of certification, certification number, types of commodities certified, and the name and address of the certifying agency. The organic plan is a written plan, in accordance with the National Organic Program published in 7 CFR part 205, that describes the organic farming practices that the insured and a certifying agent agree upon annually or at such other times as prescribed by the certifying agent. The organic plan will identify which acreage is certified organic, transitional, or buffer zone. The organic plans we have seen include field numbers, crops, and acreage totals.

THE ORGANIC PLAN AND WRITTEN CERTIFICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED BY ACREAGE REPORTING DATE OR THE ACREAGE WILL BE KEYED AS CONVENTIONAL.



WHISTLEBLOWER PHONE NUMBER

The toll-free number for the Inspector General's Hotline is 1-800-424-9121.

