



CropTalk

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MEMBERSHIP

NCIS OFFICE CLOSING

The NCIS office will be closed on December 25th for the Christmas holiday and January 1st for the New Year holiday.

TRAINING

FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE TRAINING

A train-the-trainer workshop on fraud, waste and abuse is scheduled for December 9, 10 and 11, 2002, in Overland Park. In the June 2000 through December 2001 RMA Program Compliance and Integrity Annual Report to Congress, it was reported that RMA had contracted with a leading expert in the insurance industry to develop anti-fraud training. The training would be tailored to crop insurance and incorporate CD-ROM/video applications to deliver the product to the end user. The report stated that RMA would provide approved insurance providers with material for assisting their compliance personnel in identifying potential fraud in the FCIC Program.

RMA has completed the anti-fraud training materials and is ready to deliver the product to approved providers. The program has been named "The First Line

of Defense." Approved provider's first opportunity to receive this Fraud Prevention training is December 9-11. Company trainers will be instructed on how to deliver the training to their company personnel at this NCIS sponsored train-the-trainer workshop.

What is "The First Line of Defense?"

According to RMA, the Crop Insurance Fraud Prevention Program, "**The First Line of Defense**," is a learning system that has been custom designed for members of the Crop Insurance Anti-fraud "Alliance," which includes industry field loss adjustment personnel. The program's objective is to:

- Improve your ability to **recognize fraud** and to **heighten your awareness** of questionable crop insurance activities.
- Model some of the **basic discovery skills**, further review poor farming practices, and display good communication up and down within the Anti-fraud "Alliance."
- Demonstrate methods to obtain useful information and validate each claim with good questioning skills.
- Develop a **systematic approach** for dealing with unresolved issues.

The program is a learning system that builds awareness and skills. It integrates

TRAINING, cont.

both insurance industry and Crop Insurance knowledge so that your approach is both relevant and realistic.

The program is a blend of extensive industry research in fraud prevention, and the identifying of proven skills and tactical strategies that have been used throughout the United States to train those responsible for handling claims. *(Dean Strasser)*

MPCI UNDERWRITING

IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER

A Notice of revision of Privacy Act system of records was published November 12, 2002. Comments are due to the Deputy Administrator for Compliance December 12; 2002. *(Chris Lindsay)*

2003 CIH SLIPSHEETS

RMA approved the second set of Crop Insurance Handbook slipsheets November 5. Major changes include revisions to the "All Counties" procedure and to the procedures for combining and dividing unit databases in Exhibit 15. NCIS is in the process of printing and distributing these slipsheets to member companies and agents on the CIH mailing list. *(Chris Lindsay)*

2003 POLICY CHANGES

- 2003-NCIS 789 Millet Crop Provisions, issued with NCIS Bulletin #02106. Millet has been moved from a pilot to a regulatory program.
- 2003 GRIP Crop Provisions for

Corn (2003-NCIS 954-GRIP) and Soybeans (964-GRIP), issued with NCIS Bulletin #02107. The only change is to add Michigan and Ohio to the list of states where GRIP coverage is available.

- 2003 RA coverage is expanded to add an RA Malting Barley Endorsement (2003-NCIS 773-RA), RA Cotton Crop Provisions (2003-NCIS 703-RA) and RA Rice Crop Provisions (2003-NCIS 716-RA). The NCIS versions of these policy forms will be issued shortly.

UPDATE ON 2003 SPRING ACTUARIAL RELEASE

RMA recently released the actuarials for CRC Corn and Soybeans. This recent release also includes AGR-Lite documents for all counties in Pennsylvania, except Philadelphia county(101). Corrections were made to the FCI-35s in Wisconsin for GRP Corn and Special Provisions were revised for AGR in 11 states where cost share program exists. A bulletin for 2003 MPC I prices for the 11/30 crops was issued November 27, 2002. *(Dave Snider)*

NCIS MPC I LOSS HANDBOOKS

The following NCIS MPC I loss adjustment procedure is FCIC-approved and now available: M-501 Peanut (11-02) Handbook is effective for the 2002 and succeeding crop years. NCIS Bulletin No. 02105 provides specific details of the major changes to the loss procedure. Orders for this handbook may be placed by phone, fax, or through the NCIS FormStore. Additionally, authorized member company personnel may download this handbook from the NCIS File Transfer Utility system.

(Don Hutsell)

CROP-HAIL

2003 FINAL AVERAGE LOSS COST FILING STATUS

The 2003 Final Average Loss Costs have been filed in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming as of July 31, 2002. Illinois Final Average Loss Costs have also been finalized but the Illinois State Insurance Department does not require them to be filed. As of November 25, 2002 all FALC filings have been approved. *(Therese Stom)*

2003 CROP-HAIL FORM REVISIONS

Crop-hail form revisions for the 2003 crop year have been approved in the following states: Arizona, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee and Wisconsin. The Minnesota department has acknowledged the NCIS filing. A bulletin for Minnesota will be sent out shortly.

Crop-hail forms issued for 2003 (and the states where filed) include the following:

- 3AZ Arizona Amendatory Endorsement (AZ)
- 3MN Minnesota Amendatory Endorsement (MN)
- 610 Special Provisions – Illinois/Indiana (IL, IN)
- 634 Special Provisions – Michigan/Ohio/

2003 Regional/State Annual Meeting Dates

Regional/State Committee	Meeting Date	Location
Northwest	January 7, 2003	Post Falls, ID
Minnesota—North Dakota—South Dakota	January 7-8, 2003	Morton, MN
Colorado/Wyoming	January 9, 2003	Sterling, CO
Montana	January 9, 2003	Great Falls, MT
Southwest	January 30-31, 2003	Lubbock, TX
Illinois/Wisconsin	February 5-6, 2003	Springfield, IL
Indiana/Ohio/Michigan	February 6, 2003	West Lafayette, IN
Nebraska—Iowa	February 11-12, 2003	Council Bluffs, IA
Kentucky/Tennessee	February 18, 2003	Lexington, KY
California/Nevada	February 19-20, 2003	Monterey, CA
Missouri	February 25, 2003	Columbia, MO
Kansas/Oklahoma	February 26, 2003	Oklahoma City, OK
Southeast—East	March 4-5, 2003	Myrtle Beach, SC
Gulf States	March 13, 2003	Biloxi, MS

CROP-HAIL

Wisconsin (MI, OH, WI)
 632NC UH/H Tobacco Form Special Provisions – North Carolina (NC)
 641K UH/H Tobacco Form Special Provisions – Kentucky (KY)
 641TN Amendatory Endorsement to UH/H Tobacco Form Special Provisions (TN)
 645NC Special Provisions – North Carolina (NC)
 652MN Companion Plan Application (MN)
 653MN Companion Plan Endorsement –

Minnesota (MN)
 679 North Carolina Exceptions and Amendments to General & Special Provisions (NC)

Minnesota only: The 2002 versions of the NCIS 3 General Provisions, NCIS 5 Policy Jacket, NCIS 622 Special Provisions- MN/ND/SD, NCIS 445 Tomatoes, Vegetable and Vine Crop Endorsement, NCIS 677 Tree Fruits, Grapes, Bush Fruits and Berries Endorsement, and the 2000 version of the NCIS 757 Assignment of Indemnity were filed with the Minnesota Department of Commerce for the 2003 crop year. (*Loretta Sobba*)

RECENT NCIS BULLETINS

The following bulletins were issued 11/01 through 11/30. If you did not receive one and feel you should have, please contact Donna Bryan so we can send you a copy and update our mailing list.

BULLETIN NO.	DATE ISSUED	SERIES*	TYPE	TITLE	DISTRIBUTION
2101	11/04/02	983	ML	2002 NCIS California AGR School, Fresno	CA, CLM
2102	11/08/02	2046	MRF	2003 Crop Insurance Handbook Slipsheets	Members
2103	11/12/02	2047	MRF	2003 Peanut APH Conversion	Members
2104	11/15/02	2048	MRF	Privacy Act Notice for Comment	MPCI Managers
2105	11/18/02	984	ML	2003 Peanut Handbook	LM, MM
2106	11/19/02	2049	MRF	2003 NCIS 789 Millet Crop Provisions	M-CO, NE, ND, SD
2107	11/19/02	2050	MRF	2003 GRIP Corn & Soybean Crop Provisions	M-IL, IN, IA, MI, OH
2108	11/25/02	985	ML	2003 CO/WY R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Misc.
2109	11/25/02	6542	HRF	2003 CH Forms for Arizona	CM, H
2110	11/25/02	6543	HRF	2003 CH Forms for Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin	CM, H
2111	11/25/02	6544	HRF	CH Forms for North Carolina	CM, H
2112	11/25/02	986	ML	2003 Northwest R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Misc.
2113	11/25/02	987	ML	2003 Montana R/S Committee Annual Meeting	Misc.
2114	11/25/02	151	E&T	Train-the-Trainer Workshop	Misc.
2115	11/26/02	6545	HRF	2003 C-H Forms for Kentucky & Tennessee	CM, H

*HRF -Hail Rates & Forms	ML -MPCI Loss Adjust.	HL -Hail Loss Adjust.	DP -Data Processing
SRI -Stat. Report Inst.	MRF -MPCI Rates & Forms	MB -Membership	ET -Education/Training