

Stakeholder Announcement

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RMA to Offer Additional Opportunities for Input on Apple Crop Insurance Policy

WASHINGTON, February 20, 2024 — The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will postpone issuing a final rule on the Apple Crop Provisions for crop year 2025. USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) plans to gather additional feedback from apple producers on how to improve the program, which will build on the valuable input gathered during virtual and in-person listening sessions in 2023 as well as feedback gathered through a 2022 *Federal Register* notice.

In the future, RMA will announce additional feedback opportunities.

Additional Background

RMA invited public comments on a proposed rule to amend the Apple Crop Provisions through April 15, 2022, and received almost 1,200 written comments from 193 commenters. Commenters included producers, producer groups, government agencies, academia, agents, insurance companies, and a trade association.

After analyzing the written comments, RMA determined that a subsequent round of listening sessions would be beneficial to answer questions and garner additional stakeholder feedback prior to issuing a final rule. In 2023, RMA conducted six in-person and two virtual listening sessions attended by over 500 stakeholders.

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