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[Crop Insurance Deadline Nears in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina](#)

News Release |
Valdosta, Georgia

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April 1, 2020

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Nursery Growers Need to Make Insurance Decisions Soon

VALDOSTA, Ga., April 1, 2020 — The USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina nursery growers that the final date to apply for crop insurance coverage for the 2021 crop year is May 1. Current policyholders who wish to make changes to their existing coverage also have until the May 1 sales closing date to do so. Growers applying for the first time may purchase coverage at any time.

Federal crop insurance is critical to the farm safety net. It helps producers and owners manage revenue risks and strengthens the rural economy.

All applications, including those for new or amended coverage, are subject to a 30-day waiting period before coverage begins. Coverage begins 30 days after receipt of a signed application, Plant Inventory Value Report for each insured practice, and two copies of the grower's most recent wholesale catalog or price list.

Growers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2021 crop year.

USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) is authorizing additional flexibilities due to coronavirus while continuing to support producers, working through Approved Insurance Providers (AIPs) to deliver services, including processing policies, claims and agreements. These flexibilities include enabling producers to send notifications and reports electronically, extending the date for production reports and providing additional time and deferring interest on premium and other payments. RMA staff are working with AIPs and other customers by phone, mail and electronically to continue supporting crop insurance coverage for producers. Farmers with crop insurance questions or needs should continue to contact their insurance agents about conducting business remotely (by telephone or email). More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available online using the RMA [Agent Locator](#). Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at rma.usda.gov.

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Risk Management Agency:

2108 E. Hill Ave. Valdosta, GA 31601
Davina Lee, Director

Contact:

FPAC Press Desk
FPAC.BC.Press@usda.gov