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<u>Crop Insurance Deadline Nears in North Carolina for Apples, Blueberries, Grapes, and Peaches</u>

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RALEIGH, N.C., Oct. 20, 2022 — The USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds North Carolina apple, blueberry, grape, and peach growers that the final date to apply for crop insurance coverage for the 2024 crop year is November 20. Current policyholders who wish to make changes to their existing policies also have until November 20 to do so.

Federal crop insurance is critical to the farm safety net. It helps producers and owners manage revenue risks and strengthens the rural economy. Coverage for apples, blueberries, grapes, and peaches is available in select counties. Additional information can be found on the <u>Actuarial Information Browser</u> page on the RMA website.

Growers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2024 crop year, including insurance for apples, blueberries, grapes, and peaches. Additional crops or counties may be eligible for coverage under a written agreement. Crop insurance coverage decisions must be made on or before the sales closing date.

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. RMA staff are working with AIPs and other customers by phone, mail and electronically to continue

supporting crop insurance coverage for producers. On farmers.gov, you can find more information on <u>USDA's response and relief for producers</u> and use other tools and resources.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit usda.gov.

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