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USDA Announces New Hybrid Popcorn Seed Policy

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SPOKANE, Wash., Nov. 30, 2020 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA) today announced new crop insurance coverage available for Hybrid Popcorn Seed, under the Hybrid Specialty Seed Crop Provisions. Hybrid Specialty Seed Crop Provisions now covers Hybrid Sweet Corn Seed and Hybrid Popcorn Seed. In addition to the new coverage for hybrid popcorn seed, producers may use their contract price to establish their insurance guarantee.

"Now hybrid popcorn seed producers in our region can be covered by crop insurance," said Ben Thiel, Director of RMA's regional office in Spokane. "Producers interested in this insurance should contact their local crop insurance agent to see if they can take advantage of this addition."

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. 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 insurance agents. A list of insurance agents is available online using the RMA <u>Agent Locator</u>. Learn more

about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at rma.usda.gov.

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