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Crop Insurance Deadline Nears in North Carolina for Spring Planted Crops

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RALEIGH, N.C., Feb. 15, 2022 — The USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds North Carolina burley tobacco, cucumber, fresh market bean, fresh market sweet corn, fresh market tomato, and processing bean growers that the final date to apply for crop insurance coverage for the 2022 crop year is March 15. Current policyholders who wish to make changes to their existing policies also have until the sales closing date 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 burley tobacco, cucumbers, fresh market beans, fresh market sweet corn, fresh market tomatoes, and processing beans is available in select counties. Additional information can be found on the <u>Actuarial Information Browser</u> page on the RMA website.

Crop insurance coverage has been expanded for the 2022 crop year to include fresh market sweet corn in Hyde and Jones counties, and fresh market tomatoes in Haywood, Madison, Polk, and Rutherford counties.

Growers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2022 crop year. Additional crops 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. 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 <u>farmers.gov/coronavirus</u>.

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 <u>www.rma.usda.gov</u>.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In 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 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 <u>www.usda.gov</u>.

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