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Crop Insurance Deadline Nears in Maryland

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Growers with Spring-Planted Crops Need to Make Insurance Decisions Soon

RALEIGH, N.C., February 17, 2017 – The USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds Maryland growers that the final date to apply for crop insurance coverage on most spring-planted crops for the 2017 crop year is March 15, 2017. Current policyholders who wish to make changes to their existing policies also have until March 15 to do so.

Crop insurance provides protection against crop production losses due to natural perils such as drought, hail, and excessive moisture. Coverage for corn, cucumbers, forage seeding, fresh market sweet corn, fresh market tomatoes, grain sorghum, processing beans, processing sweet corn, processing tomatoes, soybeans, spring oats, and tobacco is available in select counties. Additional information can be found on the <u>Actuarial Information Browser</u> page on the RMA website. Coverage is also available for revenue losses caused by a change in the harvest price from the projected price for corn, grain sorghum, and soybeans.

Growers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2017 crop year, including insurance for corn, cucumbers, forage seeding, fresh market sweet corn, fresh market tomatoes, grain sorghum, processing beans, processing sweet corn, processing tomatoes, soybeans, spring oats, and tobacco, which may be eligible for coverage under a written agreement. Crop insurance coverage decisions must be made on or before the sales closing date.

Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at the RMA <u>Agent Locator</u>. Producers can use the RMA <u>Cost Estimator</u> to get a premium amount estimate of their insurance needs online. Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at the RMA website.

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