



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

January 17, 2023

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

Farm Production and  
Conservation

TO: All Approved Insurance Providers Writing in the Topeka Region

Risk  
Management  
Agency

FROM: Collin Olsen, Topeka Regional Office Director -- *Collin Olsen*

Topeka Regional  
Office

SUBJECT: Following Another Crop Blanket Written Agreement (Standardized  
Written Agreement) Details for the Topeka Region

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**I. BACKGROUND**

On December 22, 2022, Informational Memorandum [IS-22-003](#) was issued to detail actions RMA is taking as part of a broader set of commitments made last spring by President Biden and Secretary Vilsack to increase domestic food production amid potential global food shortages related to the invasion of Ukraine. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is simplifying and expanding options to insure double crop acreage in areas that do not offer coverage. This will enable agricultural producers to produce two crops on the same land each year, such as spring planted soybeans or grain sorghum following the harvest of a crop such as winter wheat.

In support of the President's and Secretary's commitments, the Topeka Regional Office (TRO) expanded the availability of insurance options for Following Another Crop (FAC) soybeans and grain sorghum in 2023. Please see maps on the [TRO Underwriting Guidelines](#) webpage for the county availability and options for insurance FAC soybeans and grain sorghum.

This memo provides details on one of those insurance options - a new, innovative approach for offering FAC soybeans and grain sorghum - the Blanket Written Agreement (Standardized Written Agreement), or "BL Offers". BL Offers for irrigated soybeans and grain sorghum will be available in select counties in Kansas for the 2023 crop year. See Section III for a list of counties that BL Offers are available. (Note that non-irrigated FAC soybeans and grain sorghum will not be insurable in the 2023 crop year under this memo).

**II. FAC Written Agreement Options and Requirements**

In each of the selected counties, separate BL Offers are available for irrigated soybeans and grain sorghum. A BL Offer is a standardized written agreement offer prebuilt by RMA into the Regional Office Exceptions (ROE) System which allows for

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a producer to choose to insure their irrigated FAC soybeans or grain sorghum. Since the written agreement offer is prebuilt by RMA, a producer does not have to go through an extensive underwriting process and can simply choose to insure their FAC crop by submitting the request with an actuarial change request (ACR) form through their agent and Approved Insurance Provider (AIP).

Each county has a unique written agreement number for both soybeans and grain sorghum that AIPs can access. The BL in each county provides the terms and conditions of insurance available to producers interested in insuring irrigated FAC soybeans or grain sorghum in select counties in Kansas for the 2023 crop year. The rates and T-yields for the FAC practice may vary by county just as they do for other insurable crops.

For all FAC [crop] insured under BL, the definition for FAC applies:

*FAC (Following Another Crop): A planted crop following:*

- 1. A perennial hay crop that was harvested in the same calendar year; and*
- 2. A crop (other than a cover crop) that has reached the headed or budded stage prior to termination, regardless of the percentage of plants that reached the headed or budded stage;*

*Termination means growth has ended. A crop that follows a cover crop that meets the criteria outlined in the Insurance Availability section of the Special Provisions is considered NFAC.*

### **III. Blanket Written Agreement (Standardized Written Agreement) Offer Numbers**

BL Offers were used previously with breached levees, which is where the BL designator originated. See Exhibit A for BL Offer numbers for each county and each crop where they are offered.

### **IV. Action**

Insured's can select a BL Offer by submitting a signed and dated ACR form for irrigated soybeans and or irrigated grain sorghum to their crop insurance agent by the sales closing date. The request type code is "BL" and should include applicable crop types and practices. AIPs process the BL Offers as they would a pre-approved and accepted written agreement, attaching the BL WA number to the insured's policy, and

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transmitting to RMA within 30 days of the sales closing date.

For producers that did not submit the Request for Actuarial Change form for a BL Offer by the sales closing date deadline, a new type/practice T/P written agreement requests may be submitted until the acreage reporting date for the crop. A crop inspection may be required if the producer applies after the sales closing date. All other requirements for a T/P written agreement request apply in accordance with the [Written Agreement Handbook](#).

All other general guidance, frequently asked questions, maps, and other material related to the double cropping expansion can be found at <https://rma.usda.gov/Topics/Double-Cropping-Initiative>.

**DISPOSAL:** Effective for the 2023 Reinsurance Year.

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**Exhibit A  
 BL Offer Numbers by County and Crop**

State	County	Irr. Soybeans		Irr. Grain Sorghum	
		BL Offer Number		BL Offer Number	
Kansas	Barton	230111111		230111211	
Kansas	Cheyenne	230122911		230124111	
Kansas	Clark	230135611		230124211	
Kansas	Comanche	230115011		230115111	
Kansas	Decatur	230143211		230124511	
Kansas	Edwards	230115211		230115311	
Kansas	Ellis	230115511		230115611	
Kansas	Finney	230144711		230125011	
Kansas	Ford	230148011		230125311	
Kansas	Gove	230148111		230125911	
Kansas	Graham	230148211		230127011	
Kansas	Grant	230148511		230127311	
Kansas	Gray	230148911		230127411	
Kansas	Greeley	230154911		230127811	
Kansas	Hamilton	230155511		230127911	
Kansas	Haskell	230155711		230128111	
Kansas	Hodgeman	230155911		230128311	
Kansas	Kearny	230156111		230128411	
Kansas	Kiowa	230115711		230115811	
Kansas	Lane	230156311		230128711	
Kansas	Logan	230156511		230131011	
Kansas	Meade	230156611		230131111	
Kansas	Morton	230156711		230131211	
Kansas	Ness	230156811		230131411	
Kansas	Norton	230157011		230131611	
Kansas	Osborne	230115911		230116011	
Kansas	Pawnee	230116211		230116311	
Kansas	Phillips	230116511		230116611	
Kansas	Pratt	230116811		230116911	

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**Exhibit A (Continued)  
 BL Offer Numbers by County and Crop**

State	County	Irr. Soybeans		Irr. Grain Sorghum	
		BL Offer Number		BL Offer Number	
Kansas	Rawlins	230157111		230131711	
Kansas	Rooks	230117111		230117211	
Kansas	Rush	230117311		230117411	
Kansas	Russell	230117611		230117711	
Kansas	Scott	230157211		230131811	
Kansas	Seward	230157311		230132011	
Kansas	Sheridan	230157811		230132211	
Kansas	Sherman	230158511		230132311	
Kansas	Smith	230117911		230118011	
Kansas	Stafford	230118111		230118211	
Kansas	Stanton	230159111		230132411	
Kansas	Stevens	230159611		230132811	
Kansas	Thomas	230159711		230133411	
Kansas	Trego	230159811		230134511	
Kansas	Wallace	230159911		230134711	
Kansas	Wichita	230160011		230135311	