

United States
Department of
Agriculture



Federal Crop
Insurance
Corporation



Risk Management
Agency



Product
Administration
and Standards
Division

FCIC-25180 (05-2010)
FCIC-25180-1(07-2012)
FCIC-25180-2(11-2012)

FRESH MARKET TOMATO (DOLLAR PLAN) LOSS ADJUSTMENT STANDARDS HANDBOOK

2013 and Succeeding Crop Years

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

TITLE: FRESH MARKET TOMATO (DOLLAR PLAN) LOSS ADJUSTMENT STANDARDS HANDBOOK	NUMBER: 25180 (05-2010) 25180-1 (06-2012) 25180-2 (11-2012)
EFFECTIVE DATE: 2013 and succeeding crop years	ISSUE DATE: November 1, 2012
Subject:	OPI: Product Administration and Standards Division
Provides the procedures and instructions for administering the Fresh Market Tomato (Dollar Plan) crop insurance program	APPROVED: /s/ Tim B. Witt Tim B. Witt Deputy Administrator

REASONS FOR AMENDMENT

Major Changes: See changes or additions in text, which have been highlighted. Three stars (***) identify where information has been removed.

- A. Removed language requiring re-fumigation of acreage as it is not properly supported by the Crop Provisions or Special Provisions.
- B. Removed language that only mature production in excess of 30 cartons per acre will be counted.
- C. Provided an example of converting cartons of production that weigh less than 25 pounds to equal the standard 25 pound carton unit of measure.

**FRESH MARKET TOMATO (DOLLAR PLAN)
LOSS ADJUSTMENT STANDARDS HANDBOOK**

SUMMARY OF CHANGES/CONTROL CHART (Continued)

Control Chart For: Fresh Market Tomato (Dollar Plan) Loss Adjustment Standards Handbook						
	SC Page(s)	TC Page(s)	Text Page(s)	Reference Material	Date	Directive Number
Remove	1-2		7-8 15-16 23-24		07-2012 07-2012 05-2010	FCIC-25180-1 FCIC-25180-1 FCIC-25180
Insert	1-2		7-8 15-16 23-24		11-2012	FCIC-25180-2
Current Index	1-2	1-4	1-6 7-8 9-10 11-14 15-16 17-22 23-24 25-30 31-36 37-38.1 39-46 47-49	50-53	05-2010 07-2012 11-2012 05-2010 07-2012 11-2012 05-2010 11-2012 07-2012 05-2010 07-2012 05-2010 07-2012 05-2010 07-2012 05-2010 07-2012 05-2010	FCIC-25180 FCIC-25180-1 FCIC-25180-2 FCIC-25180 FCIC-25180-1 FCIC-25180-2 FCIC-25180 FCIC-25180-2 FCIC-25180-1 FCIC-25180 FCIC-25180-1 FCIC-25180 FCIC-25180-1 FCIC-25180 FCIC-25180-1 FCIC-25180

EXAMPLE 2:

Landlord/tenant on 50/50 share

36.0 acres replanted

Insured's actual cost to replant = \$350.00

Maximum allowed per Special Provisions = \$640.00 X .500 (share) = \$320.00

The lesser of \$350.00 and \$320.00 is \$320.00

Enter \$320.00 in Section I, "Appraised Potential" Column of the Claim Form if the insured's share has been applied or \$640.00 if the insured's share has yet to be applied. (Follow individual AIP guidelines). Indicate in the Narrative if adjusted potential has/has not been reduced for share on the Claim Form according to individual AIP guidelines.

D. REPLANTING PAYMENT INSPECTIONS

Replanting payment inspections are to be prepared as final inspections on the Claim Form only when qualifying for a replanting payment. Non-qualifying replanting payment inspections are to be handled as preliminary inspections. If qualified for a replanting payment, a Certification Form may be prepared on the initial farm visit. Refer to the LAM. Enter in item 18 of the Appraisal Worksheet (Planting to Fruit Set/Replant); the date the acreage was replanted (from a completed Certification Form, signed and returned by the insured).

E. REPLANTING LIMITATIONS

- (1) The insured must replant any acreage of tomatoes damaged during the planting period in which initial planting took place whenever less than 50 percent of the plant stand remains; and
 - (a) It is practical to replant (as determined by the AIP);
 - (b) If, at the time the crop was damaged, the final day of the planting period has not passed; and
 - (c) The damage occurs within 30 days of transplanting.
- (2) Whenever tomatoes are initially planted during the fall or winter planting periods and the conditions specified in (1) (b) and (1) (c) above are not satisfied, the insured may elect:
 - (a) To replant such acreage and collect a replanting payment due if the AIP determines it is practical to replant as specified in Section 12 of the Crop Provisions. The initial planting period coverage will continue for such replanted acreage.
 - (b) Not to replant such acreage and receive an indemnity based on the stage of growth the plants had attained at the time of damage. However, such an election will result in the acreage being uninsurable for tomatoes in the subsequent planting period.

- (c) An indemnity, based upon the stage of the tomatoes at the time of damage, can be paid if it is not practical to replant (as determined by the AIP) and the land is put to another use. Refer to the LAM for instructions on certification for replants.

F. IMPRACTICAL TO REPLANT

Where it is impractical to replant and stand reduction is evident as a result of an insured cause of loss, the insured may opt to:

- (1) Take an indemnity payment based on the stage at time of damage; or
- (2) Take the remaining “undamaged” tomatoes to harvest.

In (2) above, the area encompassing the damaged, destroyed, or missing plants can be released for “another use,” and be planted (or inter-planted) to other (non-tomato) plants. The acreage released (determined by the percent of stand lost) is to be recorded on a separate line on the claim form, documenting the tomato stage in which the damage occurred. An appraisal on such released acreage would be added to any harvested production from the remaining acreage on the unit to obtain the total unit production to count. The final claim is to be completed upon final disposition of the crop on the unit.

When the crop is damaged to the extent that the majority of growers in the area would no longer care for the crop (and it is not practical to replant), insurance on that acreage is considered to have ceased. If the tomatoes are destroyed, any indemnity will be based on the stage the tomatoes had achieved at the time the insured damage occurred. If the tomatoes are not destroyed and are subsequently harvested, settlement of the claim will be as provided in Section 14 of the Crop Provisions based on the stage the plants had achieved when the damage occurred. The adjuster is cautioned to be certain there is sufficient potential in the damaged tomato crop to warrant further care, BEFORE it is allowed to progress to the next stage guarantee (refer to subsection 3 (e) of the Crop Provisions). Refer to the Basic Provisions for the definition of “Practical to Replant.”

G. TOMATOES PLANTED BACK ON OLD PLASTIC

For insurance purposes, tomatoes planted back on old plastic will be considered replanted (even if replanted after the final planting date for the planting period). Refer to the Crop Provisions and Special Provisions for rotation requirements and when replanting payments apply.

- (7) The average number of pounds for the samples divided by the number of pounds per carton (25 lbs.) equals the average number of cartons in the samples. For example, 125 12 pound containers of cherry tomatoes (125 x 12 lbs. = 1500 pounds ÷ 25 pound standard carton weight = 60 standard 25 pound cartons). For claims purposes, all nonstandard carton sizes or weights must be converted to the 25 pound standard.
- (8) The average number of cartons in the samples multiplied by the acreage factor (1000 for 1/1000 acre or 100 for 1/100 acre) equals the average number of cartons per acre.

7. APPRAISALS, DEVIATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

A. DEVIATIONS

Deviations in appraisal methods require RMA written authorization (as described in the LAM) prior to implementation.

B. MODIFICATIONS

There are no pre-established appraisal modifications or deviations in this handbook. Refer to the LAM for additional information.

8. APPRAISAL AND SUMMARY OF HARVESTED PRODUCTION ENTRIES AND COMPLETION PROCEDURES

A. WORKSHEET FORM STANDARDS

- (1) The entry items in subsection 8C are the minimum requirements for the Fresh Market Tomato Appraisal Worksheets. The entry items in subsection 8D are the minimum requirements for the Fresh Market Tomato Summary of Harvested Production Worksheet. All of these entry items are “Substantive,” (i.e., they are required.)
- (2) Appraisal Worksheet Completion Instructions. The completion instructions for the required entry items on the Appraisal and Summary of Harvested Production Worksheets in the following subsections are “Substantive,” (i.e., they are required.)
- (3) The Privacy Act and Non-discrimination Statements are required statements that must be printed on the form or provided to the insured as a separate document. These statements are not shown on the example form in this section. The current Non-discrimination Statement and Privacy Act Statement can be found on the RMA website at <http://www.rma.usda.gov/regs/required.html> or successor website.
- (4) Refer to the DSSH for other crop insurance form requirements (e.g., font point size, etc.)

B. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR WORKSHEET ENTRIES AND COMPLETION PROCEDURES

- (1) Include the AIP's name in the appraisal worksheet title if not preprinted on the AIP's worksheet, when a worksheet entry is not provided.
- (2) Include the claim number on the appraisal worksheet (when required by the AIP), when a worksheet entry is not provided.
- (3) Separate appraisal worksheets are required for each unit appraised and for each field or subfield which, (applicable to replant, preliminary and final claims):
 - (a) Qualifies as a different stage of insurance (Planting to Fruit Set ONLY); or
 - (b) Has a different farming practice.

Refer to section 5, "Fresh Market Tomato Appraisals" for sampling requirements.

- (4) The MVO is applicable only to harvested production.
- (5) An appraisal for potential production is to be completed on any probable loss unit acreage that has **not** been harvested the prescribed number of times.

21. **Average Number Cartons per Acre:** The result of multiplying the average number of cartons in sample (item 19) by the acreage factor (item 20). Round to the nearest whole carton.
- ***22. **Remarks:** Specify, by line, the number of harvests which have been completed on the acreage.

The following required entries are not illustrated on the Appraisal Worksheet example below.

23. **Insured Signature and Date:** Insured's (or insured's authorized representative's) signature and date. BEFORE obtaining the signature, REVIEW ALL ENTRIES on the Appraisal Worksheet WITH THE INSURED (or the insured's authorized representative), particularly explaining codes, etc., which may not be readily understood.
24. **Adjuster Signature, Code No., and Date:** Signature of adjuster, code number, and date signed **after** the insured (or insured's authorized representative) has signed. If the appraisal is performed prior to signature date, document the date of appraisal in the Remarks section of the Appraisal Worksheet (if available); otherwise, document the appraisal date in the Narrative of the Production Worksheet.

Page: Page numbers - (Example: Page 1 of 1, Page 1 of 2, Page 2 of 2, etc.).

Company Name: Any Company **Claim No.:** XXXXXXXX

For Illustration Purposes Only APPRAISAL WORKSHEET (After Fruit Set)				1. INSURED'S NAME I. M. INSURED				2. POLICY NO. XXXXXXX				3. UNIT NO 00100		4. CROP Fresh Market Tomatoes (0086)										
				5. CROP YEAR YYYY				6. PLANTING PERIOD Fall				7. ROW WIDTH 6 Feet												
FLD ID	ACRES	STAGE	FRACTION OF AN ACRE	NO. TOMATOES IN EACH SAMPLE					TOTAL NO. TOMATOES ALL SAMPLES	NO. SAMPLE PLOTS	AVG. NO. TOMATOES SAMPLE	AVG. WGT. 1 TOMATO IN LBS.	AVERAGE NO. LBS. PER SAMPLE	NO. LBS. PER CARTON	AVG. NO. CARTONS IN SAMPLE	ACREAGE FACTOR	AVG. NO. CARTONS PER ACRE							
8	9	10	11	12					13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21							
1B	25.4	4	1/1000	19	17	14	20	21	230	13	17.7	x	0.3125	=	5.5	÷	25	=	0.220	x	1000	=	220	
				16	17	20	16	17																
				19	16	18																		
20. REMARKS																								
6 Foot bed. Field 1B had hail damage. Field 1B Stage 4 No Harvest.																								
Field 1A released to plant to melons on prior inspection. Field 1C will be harvested.																								

Refer to the Above Appraisal Worksheet instructions for required statements and signature entries.