



United States Department of Agriculture  
Risk Management Agency

December 2010

## 2011 COMMODITY INSURANCE FACT SHEET

# Potatoes

## Maryland

### Crop Insured

Potatoes planted with certified seed for harvest as either certified seed stock or for human consumption may be insured. The policy does not cover any acreage where potatoes are:

- Inter-planted with another crop
- Planted into an established grass or legume; or
- Planted without following crop rotation requirements specified in the Special Provisions.

### Counties Available

Potatoes are insurable in Kent, Queen Anne's, and Worcester counties. Potatoes may be insurable in other counties if specific criteria are met. Contact a crop insurance agent for details.

### Causes of Loss

Adverse weather conditions<sup>1</sup>  
 Failure of irrigation water supply  
 Fire  
 Insects<sup>2</sup>  
 Plant disease<sup>2</sup>  
 Wildlife

<sup>1</sup>Such as hail, frost, freeze, drought, and excess moisture. <sup>2</sup>Only if sufficient and proper control measures are used.

Note: The policy does not insure against loss of production from damage occurring after potatoes are placed in storage.

### Insurance Period

Coverage begins when the potatoes are planted and ends the earliest of: (1) total destruction of the crop, (2) harvest of the crop, (3) final adjustment of a claim, (5) abandonment of the crop, or (6) October 15.

### Reporting Requirements

**Acreage Report** — You must timely report to your agent all the acres of potatoes in the county in which you have a share.

### Important Dates

Sales Closing .....	January 31, 2011
Final Planting Date .....	May 5, 2011
Acreage Report Date .....	May 15, 2011
End of Insurance.....	October 15, 2011

### Definitions

#### Approved APH (Actual Production History)

**Yield**—A yield based on your actual yields, county average yields, or a combination of both and used to determine your production guarantee.

**Production Guarantee**—Hundredweight (cwt.) guaranteed per acre determined by multiplying your approved APH yield times the coverage level percentage you elect.

**Price Election**—Price used to calculate your premium and indemnity. Price elections are posted on the RMA Web site at:

<http://webapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/ActuarialInformationBrowser/Default.aspx>

### Duties in the Event of Damage or Loss

(1) Protect the crop from further damage by providing sufficient care; (2) notify your agent within 72 hours of your initial discovery of damage (but not later than 15 days after the end of the insurance period); and (3) leave representative samples intact for each field of the damaged unit.

## Coverage Levels and Premium Subsidies

Coverage levels range from 50 to 75 percent of your average yield. An average potato yield of 240 cwt. per acre, for example, would result in a 180 cwt. per acre guarantee at the 75-percent coverage level. Crop insurance premiums are subsidized as shown in the following table. For instance, if you selected the 75-percent coverage level, your premium share would be 45 percent of the base premium:

Coverage Level % →	50	55	60	65	70	75
Premium Subsidy %	67	64	64	59	59	55
Your Premium Share %	33	36	36	41	41	45

Catastrophic (CAT) coverage is fixed at 50 percent of your average yield and 55 percent of the price election. The cost for CAT coverage is an administrative fee of \$300, regardless of the acreage.

## Price Election

\$9.50 per cwt  
\$14.10 in Worcester county only

Price elections are posted on the RMA Web site at:  
<http://webapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/ActuarialInformationBrowser/Default.aspx>

## Insurance Units

Your insurable acreage will be grouped into one or more units in order to establish the approved yield, calculate a guarantee, and determine any indemnity.

**Basic Unit**—A basic unit includes all of your potato acreage in the county by share arrangement. Premiums are reduced by 10 percent for a basic unit.

**Optional Units**—If a basic unit consists of two or more farm serial numbers (FSN) and certain record-keeping criteria are met, you may apply for optional units by FSN. The 10-percent discount will not apply.

## Loss Example

This example assumes an average yield of 240 cwt. per acre, 65-percent coverage level non-irrigated, no options or endorsements, and one basic unit.

240	Cwt. per acre average yield (APH)
x .65	Coverage level percentage
156	Cwt. per acre guarantee
– 56	Cwt. per acre production
100	Cwt. per acre loss
x \$9.50	Price election
\$950	Indemnity per acre
– 62	Estimated premium per acre
<b>\$888</b>	<b>Net indemnity per acre</b>

## Download Copies from the Web

Visit our online publications/fact sheets page at:  
[http://www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/nc\\_rso/](http://www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/nc_rso/)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer