

NEWS RELEASE

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RMA Reminds Producers of Expanded Availability of Forage (Alfalfa) Seed Pilot

Spokane, Wash., August 10, 2012 ---- USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds producers of the expanded coverage availability for the **Forage (Alfalfa) Seed Pilot** Multi-Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) program to all qualifying producers in Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

Prior to crop year 2012, the pilot program only allowed for coverage availability to producers in limited areas, (e.g., **Idaho:** Canyon and Owyhee counties; **Oregon:** Malheur County and **Washington:** Grant and Walla Walla counties). With the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board's approved conversion of the pilot to a permanent regulatory program, extended coverage was made available through the written agreement process. For the 2013 crop year, producers outside the county pilot area (previously listed) may request MPCI protection for their alfalfa seed crop.

Producers are encouraged to visit with their crop insurance agent by the October 1 (September 30 falls on a Sunday) sales closing date to review and sign up if coverage is available in their county or learn if they would be eligible for coverage under a written agreement if coverage is not generally available in their county. Federal crop insurance program policies are sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance companies and agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers throughout the United States or on the RMA Web site at <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents>.

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