



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Risk
Management
Agency

1400 Independence
Avenue, SW
Stop 0801
Washington, DC
20250-0801

By now you may have heard that next week I will assume a new position in the Department of Agriculture. I will begin serving Secretary Johanns as a senior advisor on energy policy, to help implement the Agriculture provisions of the Energy Policy Act and coordinate development and implementation of the Department's energy strategies, policies, and programs. I am excited about this new opportunity and look forward to working with the Secretary and others to address the Nation's critical energy challenges.

I want to thank all of you with whom I have worked over the past three and a half years for the rich experience it has been to serve America's farmers through Federal Crop Insurance. I am greatly blessed by my association with you and this program. Few know about Federal Crop Insurance outside of agriculture, but I have grown to appreciate its great importance to our economy and to the farming sector.

We have been through many challenges and changes in the past three and a half years that will shape the program for the foreseeable future. The program is growing rapidly and we have set in motion major initiatives that will simplify it and make it better and more accessible by, and valuable to, America's farmers and ranchers. Here are just a few of those ongoing initiatives:

- We are developing several new crop insurance products to address drought and feed cost issues for pasture, forage, rangeland and hay and livestock producers.
- We are combining our five popular revenue products into one master product.
- A small farm revenue product is being refined and expanded across the country.
- We are proactively reaching out to farmers and ranchers with expanded education, outreach, and risk mitigation tools.
- Five new companies have entered the delivery system, others are growing stronger by combining interests, and yet others are actively seeking to enter the program.
- We are cutting fraud, waste and abuse off at the front gate with data mining, remote sensing and proactive, visible monitoring, and we are catching, prosecuting, and kicking serious offenders out of the program.
- We have set a course to address our critical information technology support needs and we continue to face and meet the challenges of implementing a growing program in an environment of constrained budget and staffing.
- We are reaching out to delivery system participants and producers to identify and to positively and proactively address the challenges that face us all.

I sincerely hope and believe that these and many other efforts will make RMA and the program stronger and more vibrant for many years in the future.

Thank you again for your dedicated service to our Nation and its farmers and ranchers.

My kindest regards to all of you,

/s/

Ross J. Davidson, Jr.
Administrator