



United States Department of Agriculture  
Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services  
Risk Management Agency

July 17, 2001

**INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-01-037**

TO: Perennial Crop Producer Groups  
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices  
All Reinsured Companies

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ *Tim B. Witt*  
Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Request for Input from Perennial Crop Producer Groups

**BACKGROUND:**

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) intends to obtain input from producer groups before entering into contracts for research and development to increase participation in areas or for commodities that may be underserved by the Federal crop insurance program. RMA believes this input is critical in determining the need and direction of research and potential development.

**ACTION:**

RMA requests input from groups or individuals representing producers of perennial crops so that their needs, concerns, and other input may be considered before it enters into a contract for the research and possible development of a risk management strategy that would provide coverage against losses associated with perennial crop pathogens such as Pierce's disease and plum pox. Of particular interest is any input that would help RMA determine producers' interest in such a risk management program, as well as specific suggestions and concerns regarding the structure, scope, and limitations of such a program.



6501 Beacon Drive \$ Kansas City, MO 64133

The Risk Management Agency Administers and Oversees  
All Programs Authorized Under the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Please provide your input to Ron Lundine by August 24, 2001, to assure its consideration. Mr. Lundine may be reached by telephone at (816) 926-3854, by fax at (816) 926-7343, by e-mail at "Ronald\_Lundine@rm.fcic.usda.gov," or at the following postal address:

Attention: Ron Lundine  
Research and Evaluation Division  
Risk Management Agency  
P. O. Box 419293, Stop 0813  
Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6293

Listed on the attachment are organizations that are being provided this Memorandum. Anyone who is aware of other persons or organizations representing perennial crop producers is encouraged to provide a copy of this Informational Memorandum to them and/or to advise Mr. Lundine how to contact them.

**DISPOSAL DATE:**

This Informational Memorandum is effective until the disposal date, September 30, 2001.

Attachment

## Perennial Crop Producer Groups:

Arizona Grape Growers Association  
Arizona Apple Growers Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
California Association of Winegrape Growers  
California Apple Commission  
California Avocado Commission  
California Fig Advisory Board  
California Kiwifruit Commission  
California Olive Association  
California Pear Advisory Board  
California Rare Fruit Growers, Inc.  
California Table Grape Commission  
California Walnut Commission  
Cherry Industry Administrative Board  
Edinburg Citrus Association  
Florida Citrus Mutual  
Florida Grape Growers Association  
Hazelnut Growers of Oregon  
Michigan Blueberry Growers Association  
Michigan Plum Advisory Board  
National Cherry Growers & Industries Foundation  
National Grape Growers  
National Juice Products Association  
National Peach Council  
New England McIntosh Growers Association  
North American Blueberry Council  
Northern Nut Growers Association  
Olive Growers Council  
Oregon Blueberry Growers' Association  
Oregon Hop Commission  
Pear Bureau Northwest  
Pennsylvania Apple Marketing Board  
Pennsylvania Grape Industry Association  
Pennsylvania Peach & Nectarine Research Board  
Saticoy Lemon Association  
Sonoma County Grape Growers Association  
Texas Fruit Growers Association  
The Cranberry Institute  
The North American Blueberry Council  
U.S. Apple Association  
Vinifera Wine Growers Association  
Walnut Council  
Washington Apple Commission  
Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers  
Washington State Fruit Commission  
Western Growers Association  
Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association