

NEWS RELEASE

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Apple and Grape Growers: Crop Insurance Deadline Nears

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., October 29, 2012 —Apple and grape growers interested in buying a new insurance policy, or making changes to an existing policy, need to do so by November 20, the sales closing date.

Brian Frieden, Director of the Risk Management Agency's Springfield Regional Office, urges producers to contact a crop insurance agent for details. Agents can help new producers determine what policy works best for their operation and review current policyholders' existing coverage to ensure the policy meets their needs.

"Crop insurance protects growers from many different types of risk. For example, apple and peach producers can be protected from losses resulting from frost, drought or summer storms," reminds Frieden.

The Risk Management Agency is the part of the United States Department of Agriculture that administers the federal crop insurance program. Private insurance companies, approved by the Risk Management Agency, sell and service the policies. These companies have crop insurance agents who work with producers directly. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers or on the RMA website at: <http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html>.

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