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Crop Insurance for Sugar Beets Sees Improvements, Flexibility

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Sales Closing Date is March 15, 2019

WASHINGTON, November 30, 2018 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA) today announced changes to its sugar beets crop insurance policy, making the plan more effective and flexible for producers.

The changes to the sugar beets policy updates the policy provisions and definitions to better reflect current agricultural practices for sugar beets. They also help simplify the policy for both producers and crop insurance providers, better aligning it with what is used across industry and clarifying options available.

"RMA is consistently looking for ways to make crop insurance more effective and accessible for producers," said Martin Barbre, Administrator for the Risk Management Agency. "The changes to the sugar beets policy is a reflection of that effort."

Changes to the sugar beets policy came about because of a contracted study implemented by RMA in 2015. Based on the study's findings, the agency worked with industry partners to address recommendations to improve the policy. The changes will be effective for the 2019 and succeeding crop years in states with a November 30 contract change date and for the 2020 and succeeding crop years in all other states. Those interested in purchasing crop insurance for sugar beets, or making changes to an existing policy, must do so through an agent selling on behalf of an approved insurance provider. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at the <u>RMA Agent Locator</u>.

Federal crop insurance helps producers and owners manage risks and strengthens the rural economy. Additional information regarding the sugar beets policy is available on the <u>RMA website</u>.

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