Why Limited Irrigation?

Irrigation Practice Definition

"A method of producing a crop by which water is artificially applied during the growing season by appropriate systems and at the proper times, with the intention of providing the quantity of water needed to produce at least the yield used to establish the irrigated production guarantee or amount of insurance on the irrigated acreage planted to the insured crop."

Acres eligible for insurance as irrigated

(Section 9(b) of the Common Crop Insurance Policy)

"If insurance is provided for an irrigated practice, you must report as irrigated only that acreage for which you have adequate facilities and adequate water, or the reasonable expectation of receiving adequate water at the time coverage begins, to carry out a good irrigation practice. If you knew or had reason to know that your water may be reduced before coverage begins, no reasonable expectation exists."

Coverage Options for Reducing Irrigation Water

- Option 1 is to plant fewer irrigated acres and report the rest of the planted acres as non-irrigated.
- Option 2 is to continue to plant all your acres with limited water and insure them under a non-irrigated practice.
- For certain counties in Kansas, a 3rd Option exists. Option 3 is to request a limited irrigation yield by written agreement. This option is only available for corn and soybeans in select counties.

Failure to take any of the above options, can result in the following procedures per Paragraph 301 C (6) of the 2022 Loss Adjustment Manual Standards Handbook:

Failure to take action when reducing irrigation may have adverse consequences if there is a loss.

(Par. 301 C (6) of the 2022 Loss Adjustment Manual Standards Handbook)

If the acreage reported for insurance under the IRR practice exceeds the capacity of the irrigation facilities and/or water supply reasonably expected at the time of planting (or on the calendar date for the beginning of the insurance period for perennial crops), limit (reduce) the number of acres insured under the IRR practice to an amount which could have been adequately irrigated.

> ***Example**: An insured reports 100 acres under the IRR practice. It is later determined that, at the time insurance attached, the facilities or water supplies were adequate for only 75 acres but were used on the 100 acres.*

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Failure to take action when reducing irrigation may have adverse consequences if there is a loss.

(Par. 301 C (6) of the 2022 Loss Adjustment Manual Standards Handbook)

(Continued)

Proceed as follows:

a) *Document the number of acres that are insurable as IRR (75 acres, in this case).*

b) *Determine, to the extent practical, the highest yielding 75 acres to be the IRR acres, appraise any reduction in production on the 75 acres caused by applying the available water to the 100 acres, and enter the appraisal on the claim as an uninsured-cause appraisal.*

c) *If only IRR acreage is insurable in the county for the crop, prepare a revised AR showing 75 acres insured under the IRR practice. Enter the 25 acres as uninsured acres, and explain the 25 acres are uninsurable acreage due to inadequate facilities and/or water supplies.*

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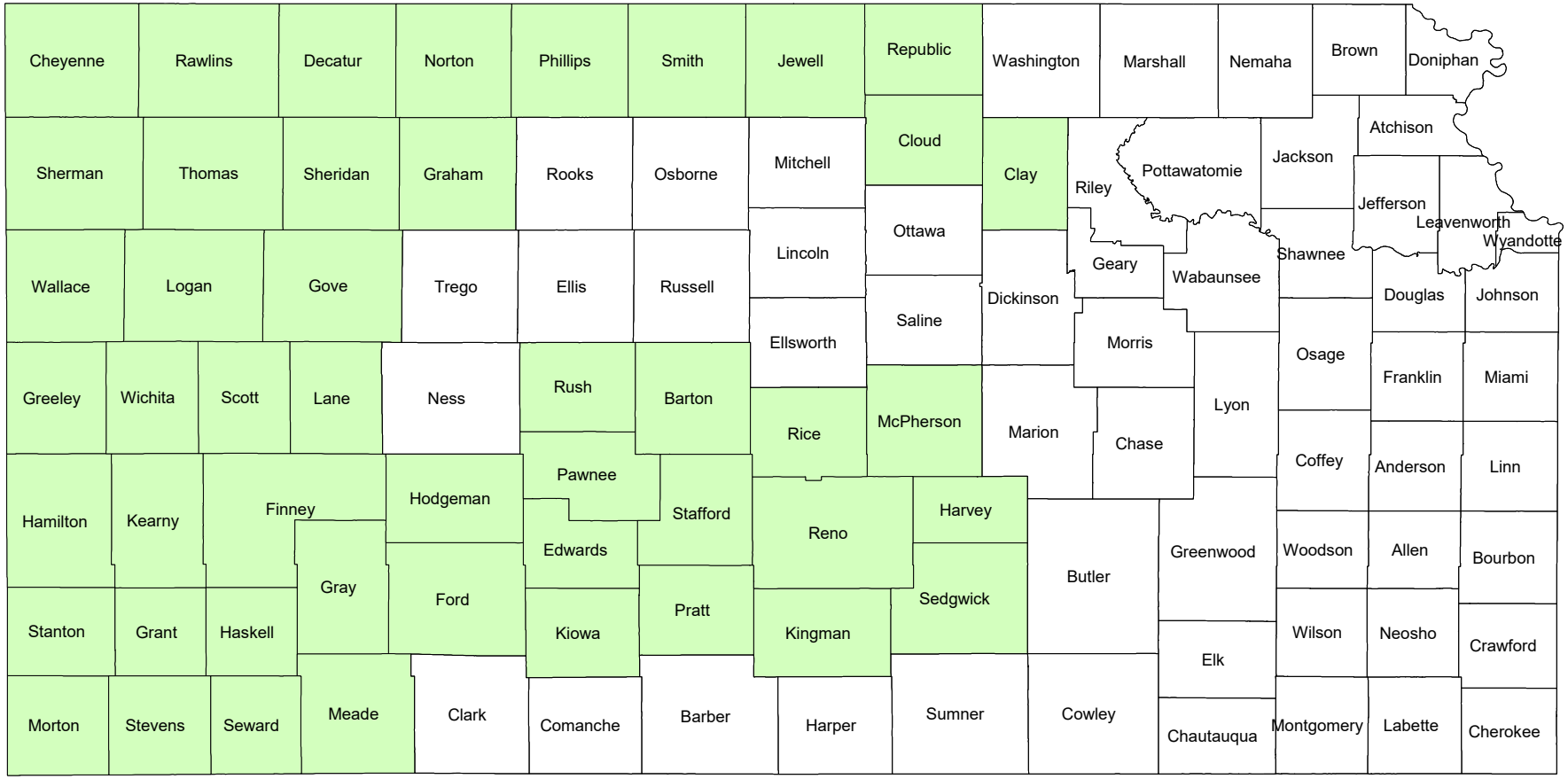
Limited Irrigation Availability

- RMA authorized limited irrigation written agreements in the Sheridan County 6 High Priority area beginning in 2013.
  - This area was the first Local Enhanced Management Area (LEMA) plan received by the Kansas Division of Water Resources.
- RMA expanded the area for limited irrigation written agreements to additional counties beginning in 2017.
  - Any producer implementing limited irrigation is eligible for written agreement whether they are in a LEMA or enrolled in a Water Conservation Area (WCA)

Water Conservation Areas

- Signed into law in April 2015 by Governor Sam Brownback
- Provides a tool to water right owners to extend the usable lifetime of the Ogallala-High Plains Aquifer
- Developed by a water right owner or group of water right owners with the consent of the chief engineer to reduce water withdrawals while maintaining economic value via water right flexibility

Limited Irrigation Counties - Corn



Limited Irrigation is Available

N

0 20 40 80 120 160 Miles

Source: Risk Management Agency
Map Created by: RMA, Topeka Regional Office, Topeka KS
Map Creation Date: December 13, 2017
Map Projection: Mercator

The information displayed in this map is intended to serve as an aid in displaying data provided or stored by the Risk Management Agency. It does not modify, replace, or supersede any USDA published policy provision or procedures.

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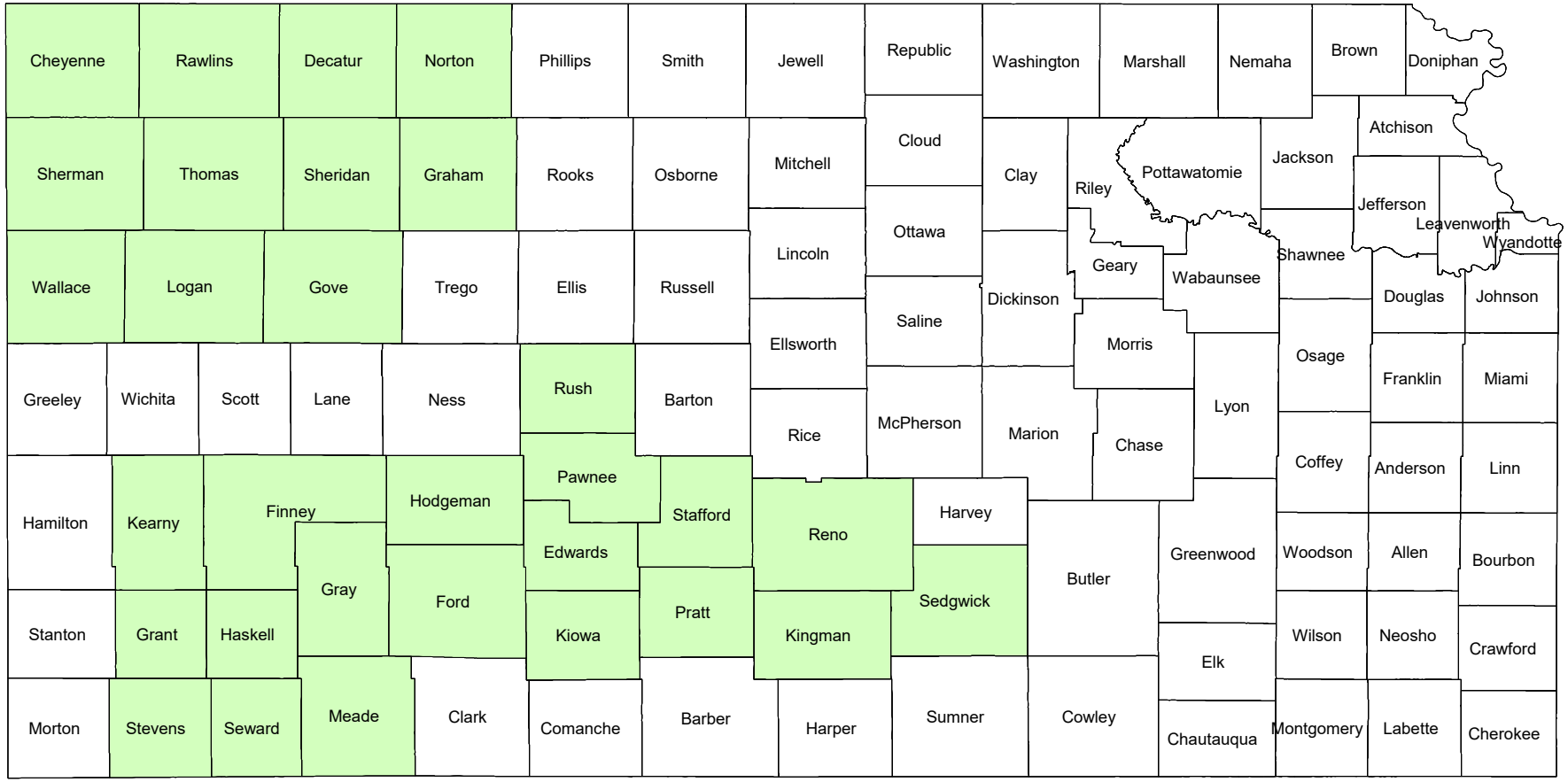
Limited Irrigation Counties - Soybeans



Limited Irrigation is Available

N

0 20 40 80 120 160 Miles

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Requesting a Written Agreement

- Complete a request for a type/practice (TP) written agreement (Agents should be familiar with process)
- You will need:
  - Minimum documentation according to RMA's Written Agreement Handbook
  - Information from Water Use Reports
  - Your intended maximum level of irrigation for the current year
  - Your type of irrigation system
- The following Application can facilitate the limited irrigation written agreement request and estimate limited irrigation yield

  https://geohydro.kgs.ku.edu/geohydro/rma/wr_lookup.cfm

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Water Right Selection

Please enter a water right file number for the RMA Tool.

Bolded indicates a required field.

Right Type:	
Vested County Code:	
Water Right Number:	
Water Right Qualifier:	

Select Water Rights

https://geohydro.kgs.ku.edu/geohydro/rma/wr_lookup.cfm

Disclaimer

For information on the RMA Documentation Tool, please contact Richard Rockel. For water right related questions, please contact Alex Whitesell. For web page or internet based comments, please contact Brownie Wilson. RMA Limited Irrgation Tool updated Summer, 2017. Water rights data updated daily.

Kansas Water Office

KU Kansas Geological Survey, The University of Kansas

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For more information on what is limited irrigation or how to request limited irrigation coverage by Written Agreement, go to the Topeka RO webpage at:

www.rma.usda.gov/en/RMALocal/Field-Offices/Regional-Offices/Topeka-Kansas-Regional-Office-Page