

**United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**

Farm Production and  
Conservation

Risk Management  
Agency

Valdosta Regional  
Office

2108 E. Hill Ave.  
Valdosta, GA 31601

**SUBJECT:** Reinsurance Year 2026 and 2027 Regional Underwriting Guidelines for Pecan Revenue Policies in Florida and Georgia Impacted by Hurricane Idalia in 2023, Tropical Storm Debby, and Hurricane Helene in 2024

**DATE:** September 30, 2025

**TO:** Approved Insurance Providers servicing the states of Florida and Georgia

**FROM:** Davina S. Lee /s/  
Director

**BACKGROUND:**

Pecan orchards in Florida and Georgia experienced damage from Hurricane Idalia in August 2023, Tropical Storm Debby in August 2024 and Hurricane Helene in September 2024, which affected bloom and production for 2025. Underwriting Guidelines (UG) issued on December 12, 2024, provided procedures for underwriting pecan orchards with damaged acreage. With good management practices, the damaged orchards have the ability to return to pre-hurricane productivity and increase productivity for the 2026 and succeeding crop years.

The 2026 FCIC 18010 Crop Insurance Handbook (CIH) gives the Risk Management Agency (RMA) Regional Offices (ROs) the authority to issue UG for perennial crops.

CIH Part 18, Section 8, para. 1881; Part 21, Section 6, para. 2171; and Part 22 provide procedures for submitting RO Determined Yield requests. The CIH procedures allow a RO Determined Yield Request for a higher yield when there is a cause for expecting a higher yield. RO Determined Yields for a higher yield are only applicable in the first year of the two-year coverage module.

**ACTION:**

The Valdosta RO is issuing this UG to authorize the AIP to calculate Approved Average Revenue with these procedures in lieu of requesting a RO Determined Yield. This authorization is allowed only for renewal policies that are in the first year of the two-year coverage module (2026 or 2027 crop years, as applicable).

Procedures provided below apply to policies in Jefferson County, Florida; and all counties in Georgia with damage attributed to Hurricane Idalia (2023), Hurricane Helene (2024), and Tropical Storm Debby (2024).

## 1. Crop Year 2026 Renewal Policies (first-year coverage module)

The following guidelines apply to policies renewing in 2026 which will be in the first year of the two-year coverage module:

- a. Policies renewing in crop year 2026 with Summary of Revenue History (SRH) databases for insured pecan acreage with reduced revenues due to hurricane or tropical storm damage in crop year 2023 and/or 2024 may use the procedures in this UG for calculating the Approved Average Revenue for the 2026 crop year provided that:
  - 1) The acreage meets insurability requirements set forth in the Pecan Revenue Crop Provisions and the county Special Provisions; and
  - 2) The database to be adjusted has actual average gross sales per acre reported for each of the 2020 through 2025 crop years.
- b. For databases meeting the requirements in 1 (a)(1) and 1 (a)(2), the Approved Average Revenue used for calculation of the amount of insurance per acre will be the higher of:
  - 1) The total of the average gross sales per acre divided by the total number of crop years; or
  - 2) The simple average of the average gross sales per acre with substitution of the actual average gross sales for 2023 and/or 2024 crop years with a revenue adjustment value based on NASS prices (see (c) (1) below) when the calculated revenue adjustment value is higher than the reported actual average gross sales per acre.
- c. Revenue Adjustment Value Calculation

The following calculations are completed to determine potential revenue adjustment values for each SRH database. The procedure removes the effect of the price change between the 2021/2022 crop years and the 2023/2024 crop years.

- 1) Revenue adjustment value calculation using NASS prices.
  - i. Determine the simple average of the 2021 and 2022 average gross sales per acre;
  - ii. Divide the average gross sales from (i) by the NASS average price of \$1.84 for the 2021 and 2022 crop years;
  - iii. Multiply the value from (ii) by the NASS average price of \$1.66 for the 2023 and 2024 crop years;
  - iv. Multiply the product of (iii) by 0.60, rounded to whole dollars. This is the potential revenue adjustment value referenced in (b)(2) above.

- d. The SRH database will retain all reported actual average gross sales per acre. The calculated revenue adjustment values are used only in the determination of the Approved Average Revenue and are not used for determination of insurability of the orchard. Minimum production insurability requirements still apply.
  - e. A Pre-acceptance Inspection Report (PAIR) is not required for orchards that meet the requirements in 1(a) for the AIP to adjust the Approved Average Revenue by these procedures if a PAIR was completed for the 2025 crop year.
  - f. The Approved Average Revenue calculated using these procedures will apply to both years of the two-year coverage module (2026 and 2027 crop years) and will be subject to the terms and conditions in section 3 (Insurance Guarantees and Coverage Levels for Determining Indemnities) and section 6 (Report of Acreage) in the Pecan Revenue Crop Provisions (FCIC 25-0020). All databases using these procedures for determination of the Approved Average Revenue for calculating the amount of insurance per acre must report Special Case Yield Indicator “H” and Yield Limitation Flag “01” when reporting to PASS.
  - g. Insureds may submit a RO Determined Yield request to the Valdosta RO for renewal policies with databases that do not have actual average gross sales per acre for crop years 2020 – 2025. Completed Revenue Reports for each year with actual average gross sales (certifying reported production and sales) must be submitted with the request in addition to the required documentation in the CIH para. 2205D. A current PAIR is not required unless the acreage had an insurable loss due to reduced production in the 2025 crop year. The signed request must be received by the Valdosta RO no later than 45 days after the acreage reporting date.
  - h. Databases that did not meet the minimum insurability requirement in (a) (1) may request a Policy Exception written agreement in accordance with FCIC 24020 Written Agreement Handbook para. 76F. A current PAIR is required. The request must be signed by the producer on or before the sales closing date of January 31, 2026, and transmitted to the Valdosta RO by February 23, 2026.
2. Crop Year 2026 New Policies (first year of two-year coverage module)

Pecan acreage that has recovered from hurricane damage and will be insured under a new two-year coverage policy starting in the 2026 crop year may be eligible for an increase in the Approved Average Revenue through a RO Determined Yield request.

Production records for the 2020 through 2025 crop years must be available. In addition to required documentation set forth in the CIH para. 2205D, the insured must submit the current signed Revenue Report with total production in pounds and gross sales for the acreage, by database, for the period of 2020 – 2025. The request deadline is 30 days after the acreage reporting date.

A PAIR is required and must be completed not later than 30 days after the sales closing date of January 31 for all new policy applications.

3. Crop Year 2027 Renewal Policies (first year of two-year coverage module)

The procedures in this section apply to renewal policies that will be in the first year of the two-year coverage module in crop year 2027. For policies renewing in crop year 2027, SRH databases for insured pecan acreage that had losses due to hurricane damage in crop years 2023 and 2024 may use the procedures in section 1 (b) – (d) in this UG for calculating the Approved Average Revenue for the 2027 crop year provided that:

- 1) The acreage meets insurability requirements set forth in the Pecan Revenue Crop Provisions and the county Special Provisions; and
- 2) The database to be adjusted has actual average gross sales per acre reported for each of the 2021 through 2026 crop years.
  - a. A PAIR is not required for orchards that meet the requirements in (1) and (2) above for the AIP to adjust the Approved Average Revenue by these procedures if a PAIR was completed for the 2024, 2025, or 2026 crop years.
  - b. Insureds may submit a RO Determined Yield request to the Valdosta RO for renewal policies with databases that do not have actual average gross sales per acre for crop years 2021 through 2026. Completed Revenue Reports (certifying reported production and gross sales) for each year with actual average gross sales, including the most recent two crop years, must be submitted in addition to required documentation in the CIH para. 2205D. A current PAIR is not required unless the acreage had an insurable loss due to reduced production in the 2026 crop year. The signed request must be received by the Valdosta RO no later than 45 days after the acreage reporting date.
  - c. The Approved Average Revenue calculated using these procedures will apply to both years of the two-year coverage module (2027 and 2028 crop years) and will be subject to the terms and conditions in section 3 (Insurance Guarantees and Coverage Levels for Determining Indemnities) and section 6 (Report of Acreage) of the Pecan Revenue Crop Provisions. All databases using these procedures for determination of the Approved Average Revenue for calculating the amount of insurance per acre must report Special Case Yield Indicator “H” and Yield Limitation Flag “01” when reporting to PASS.

If you have any questions or if we can be of any assistance, please contact the Valdosta Regional Office at (229) 242-7235.

Exhibit A: RO Determined Yield Type, Yield Limitation Flag, and Rate Yield Chart (Excerpt from CIH Exhibit 22)

RO Determined Yield Type	Applicable Crop	Special Case Yield Indicator	YA/QL/YE	Rate Yield	Yield Limitation Flag YLF (applies whether RO UG or RO DY)
Higher Yield Request	Category C & Pecan Revenue	H	No	Equal Average Yield	01

\* For Pecan Revenue, "Average Yield" equals the simple average of the yearly Average Gross Sales.

**DISPOSAL DATE:**

January 31, 2028, unless rescinded.