

February 21, 2007

## United States Department of Agriculture

Risk Management Agency

St. Paul Regional Office

30 7<sup>th</sup> Street E Suite 1450 St. Paul MN 55101-4937 Attention: MPCI Underwriting Departments of Approved Insurance Providers

Subject: Written Agreements for Soybeans Interplanted in Rye

The Insurance Services Division will allow our office to consider requests for Written Agreements to provide insurance coverage in 2007 for a planting practice that was uninsurable in prior years. Organic producers, primarily, use this practice to control weeds. This practice consists of interplanting soybeans into a nurse crop of standing, fall planted rye. The rye is not harvested in this no-till soybean practice, but is clipped when the heads start to form, so the rye plants can remain as mulch. To be insurable, the producer must follow a recognized good farming practice as determined by an agriculture expert and meet all other requirements of the policy and the Written Agreement handbook.

The Written Agreement Type will be SG and is only applicable to the APH plan of insurance (not applicable to CRC, IP, or RA) based on the policies. Although the deadline for the request for an SG type Written Agreement is 15 days after the acreage reporting deadline it is recommended that requests be made earlier as insurance coverage will not attach until the Written Agreement is approved. Crop insurance coverage will not be retroactive to the planting date.

This letter is also available on the St. Paul Regional Office page of the RMA website at www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/mn\_rso.

Duane Voy Deputy Director

