

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



Federal Crop  
Insurance  
Corporation



Product  
Development  
Division

FCIC-25410 (01-1999)  
FCIC-25410-1 (1-2001)

# **RICE LOSS ADJUSTMENT STANDARDS HANDBOOK**

## **2001 and Succeeding Crop Years**



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250**

<b>FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE HANDBOOK</b>	<b>NUMBER: 25410 (01-1999) 25410-1 (1-2001)</b>
<b>SUBJECT:  RICE LOSS ADJUSTMENT STANDARDS HANDBOOK 2001 AND SUCCEEDING CROP YEARS</b>	<b>DATE: January 23, 2001</b>
	<b>OPI: Product Development Division</b>
	<b>APPROVED: <i>Tim B. Witt</i></b>  Deputy Administrator, Research and Development

**THIS HANDBOOK CONTAINS THE OFFICIAL FCIC-APPROVED LOSS ADJUSTMENT STANDARDS FOR THIS CROP FOR THE 2001 AND SUCCEEDING CROP YEARS. IN THE ABSENCE OF INDUSTRY-DEVELOPED, FCIC-APPROVED PROCEDURE FOR THIS CROP FOR 2001 AND SUCCEEDING CROP YEARS, ALL REINSURED COMPANIES WILL UTILIZE THESE STANDARDS FOR BOTH LOSS ADJUSTMENT AND LOSS TRAINING.**

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES/CONTROL CHART**

Major Changes: See changes or additions in text which have been **redlined**. Three stars (\*\*\*) identify information that has been removed.

**Changes for Crop Year 2001 (FCIC-25410-1) issued January 2001:**

- A. Changed the instructions to measure row width, to using four or more rows.
- B. Changed instructions in the insurability section to expand coverage for failure of the irrigation water supply.
- C. Changed “Multiplying” to “Dividing” in After Heading Appraisal Instructions.

**RICE LOSS ADJUSTMENT STANDARDS HANDBOOK  
SUMMARY OF CHANGES/CONTROL CHART (Continued)**

Control Chart For: Rice Loss Adjustment Standards Handbook						
	SC Page(s)	TC Page(s)	Text Page(s)	Reference Material	Date	Directive Number
Remove	1-2		1-2 7-8 15-16		01-1999 01-1999 01-1999	FCIC-25410 FCIC-25410 FCIC-25410
Insert	1-2		1-2 7-8 15-16		01-2001 01-2001 01-2001	FCIC-25410-1 FCIC-25410-1 FCIC-25410-1
Current Index	1-2	1-2	1-2 3-6 7-8 9-14 15-16 17-39	40-42	01-2001 01-1999 01-2001 01-1999 01-2001 01-1999 01-2001 01-1999 01-1999	FCIC-25410-1 FCIC-25410 FCIC-25410-1 FCIC-25410 FCIC-25410-1 FCIC-25410 FCIC-25410-1 FCIC-25410 FCIC-25410

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

---

This handbook identifies the crop-specific procedural requirements for adjusting Multiple Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) losses in a uniform and timely manner. These procedures, which include crop appraisal methods and claims completion instructions, supplement the general (not crop-specific) procedures, forms, and manuals for loss adjustment identified in the Loss Adjustment Manual (LAM).

## **2. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

---

This handbook remains in effect until superseded by reissuance of **either** the entire handbook **or** selected portions (through slipsheets or bulletins). If slipsheets have been issued for a handbook, the original handbook as amended by slipsheet pages shall constitute the handbook. A bulletin can supersede either the original handbook or subsequent slipsheets.

### **A. DISTRIBUTION**

The following is the minimum distribution of forms completed by the adjuster for the loss adjustment inspection:

One legible copy to the insured. The original and all remaining copies as instructed by the insurance provider.

**NOTE:** It is the insurance providers' responsibility to maintain original insurance documents relative to policyholder servicing as designated in their approved plan of operations.

### **B. TERMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND DEFINITIONS**

- (1) Terms, abbreviations, and definitions **general** (not crop specific) to loss adjustment are identified in the LAM.
- (2) Terms, abbreviations, and definitions **specific** to rice loss adjustment and this handbook, which are not defined in this section, are defined as they appear in the text.

## **3. INSURANCE CONTRACT INFORMATION**

---

The insurance provider is to determine that the insured has complied with all policy provisions of the insurance contract. Crop provisions which are to be considered in this determination include (but are not limited to):

## **A. INSURABILITY**

(1) The crop insured will be all the rice in the county for which a premium rate is provided by the actuarial documents:

(a) that is planted for harvest as grain;

**NOTE:** Refer to the Rice Crop Provisions and the Special Provisions for definition of “planted” (e.g., in some areas, rice acreage may be uninsurable unless certain flood irrigation activities/requirements have been met immediately following seeding).

(b) that is flood irrigated; and

**NOTE:** Refer to the Rice Crop Provisions for definition of “flood irrigation” and the LAM for specific instructions regarding irrigation.

(c) that is not wild rice.

(2) Rice acreage is not insurable:

(a) which is planted to rice the preceding crop year unless allowed by the Special Provisions; or

(b) that does not meet the rotation requirements shown in the Special Provisions.

(3) Loss of production due to application of saline water is not an insurable cause of loss. Failure of the irrigation water supply is an insured cause of loss, if during the insurance period drought, intrusion of saline water or another insured peril, as specified in the Crop Provisions, causes the failure. Refer to the LAM regarding instructions on irrigation.

(4) Any acreage of the insured crop damaged before the final planting date, to the extent that the majority of growers in the area would normally not further care for the crop, must be replanted unless the insurance provider agrees that replanting is not practical. Refer to the LAM for replanting provision issues. Refer to section 4 of this handbook for replanting payment procedures.

## **B. PROVISIONS NOT APPLICABLE TO CAT COVERAGE**

(1) Optional units.

(2) Written Agreements.

(3) Hail and Fire Exclusion provisions (also not applicable if additional coverage is less than 65/100 or comparable coverage).

(4) High Risk Land Exclusion.

(5) Replanting Payments.

(6) Coverage Enhancement Option (in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi only).

## **D. REPLANT PAYMENT INSPECTIONS**

Replanting payment inspections are to be prepared as final inspections on the claim form only when qualifying for a replant payment. Non-qualifying replant-payment inspections (**unless the claim is withdrawn by the insured**) are to be handled as preliminary inspections. If qualified for a replant payment, a Certification Form may be prepared on the initial farm visit. Refer to the LAM. Enter in item 18, the date the acreage was replanted to rice (from a completed Certification Form, returned by the insured).

## **5. RICE APPRAISALS**

---

---

### **A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

Potential production will be appraised in accordance with procedure specified in this handbook and the LAM.

### **B. SELECTING REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLES FOR APPRAISALS**

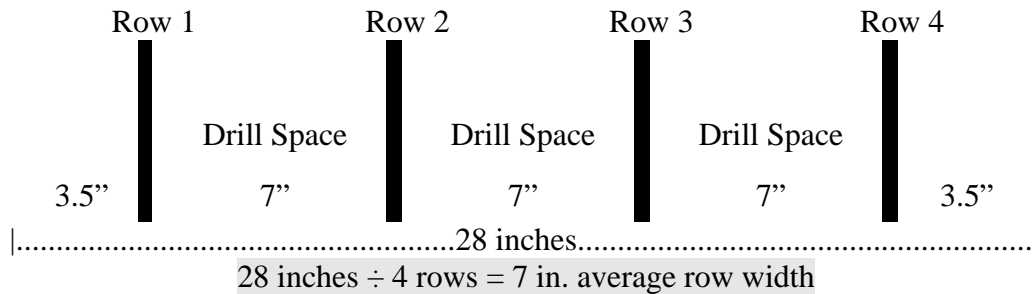
- (1) Determine the number of required samples for a field or subfield by the field size, the average stage of growth, age (size) and general capabilities of the plants, and variability of potential production and plant damage within the field or subfield.
- (2) Split the field into subfields when:
  - (a) variable damage causes the crop potential to appear to be significantly different within the same field; or
  - (b) the insured wishes to destroy a portion of a field.
- (3) Each subfield must be appraised separately.
- (4) Take not less than the minimum number (count) of representative samples required in **TABLE A**.

### **C. MEASURING ROW WIDTH FOR SAMPLE SELECTION**

Use these instructions for all appraisal methods that require row width determinations.

- (1) Use a measuring tape marked in inches or convert a tape marked in tenths, to inches, to measure row width (refer to the LAM for conversion table).
- (2) Measure across **FOUR OR MORE** rows, from the center of the first row to the center of the fourth row (or as many rows as needed), and divide the result by the number of rows measured across, to determine an average row width in whole inches.

**EXAMPLE:**



(3) Where rows are skipped for tractor and planter tires, refer to the LAM.

(4) For broadcast acreage, use a 3-foot square grid (9 square feet).

**D. ROW WIDTH FACTOR**

Apply the average row width to **TABLE B** to determine the length of row to use and the square foot factor required for the sample row.

**NOTE:** For drill spacing measurements other than those identified in **TABLE B**, utilize the following procedure. Because drill spacings smaller than 6 inches result in a small square foot factor, it will be necessary to utilize **TWO** rows to assure a representative sample. For a 3-inch drill spacing, use the square foot factor shown for the 6-inch drill spacing; for a 4-inch spacing use the square foot factor for an 8-inch spacing; etc. The row length for each of the two rows is the length shown in the table for the square foot factor. When the drill spacing is in ½-inch increments, the square foot factor can be calculated as in the following example, using a 10 foot length of row.

**EXAMPLE:** If the drill spacing is determined to be 7½-inches, divide 7 ½ by 12 inches = .6250 factor. Multiply this factor times 10 to determine the square foot factor. In this case .6250 X 10.0 feet = 6.25 (to the nearest tenth) = 6.3 Square Foot Factor for a 7½-inch drill spacing using a 10 foot length of row).

**E. STAGES OF GROWTH**

These instructions detail growth stages and directions for appraising potential production of rice utilizing before-heading and after-heading appraisal methods.

- (1) Before Heading:
  - (a) Seedling stage to the tillered stage.
  - (b) Tillered stage through the boot stage.



36. **Yield Factor:** Kernel-to-pounds per acre yield factor for the variety and type from **TABLE E**.
37. **Pounds per Acre Appraisal:** In the column heading, line out “Bu” and enter “Lbs.” Enter in whole pounds the result of dividing the average number of kernels per square foot (item 35) by the yield factor (item 36).
38. **Insured’s Signature and Date:** Insured’s (or insured’s authorized representative’s) signature and date. BEFORE obtaining signature, REVIEW ALL ENTRIES on the appraisal worksheet WITH THE INSURED, particularly explaining codes, etc., which may not be readily understood.
39. **Adjuster’s Signature, Code, and Date:** Signature of adjuster, code number, and date signed **after** the insured (or insured’s authorized representative) has signed. If the appraisal is performed prior to signature date, document the date of appraisal in the Remarks/Narrative section of the Appraisal Worksheet (if available); otherwise, document the appraisal date in the Narrative of the Production Worksheet.
40. **Page Number:** Page numbers (Example: Page 1 of 1, Page 1 of 2, Page 2 of 2, etc.)

