



United States Department of Agriculture

Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services
Risk Management Agency

January 16, 2001

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-01-002

TO: All Interested California Fresh Vegetable Producer Groups
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices
All Reinsured Companies

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ Tim B. Witt
Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Request for Input from California Fresh Vegetable Producer Groups

BACKGROUND:

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) intends to obtain input from producer groups before entering into contracts for research and development to increase participation in areas or for crops that may be underserved by the Federal crop insurance program. RMA believes this input is critical in determining the need and direction of research and potential development.

ACTION:

RMA hereby requests input from groups representing California fresh vegetable producers so that their needs, concerns, and other input may be considered before it enters into a contract for the research and possible development of a crop insurance program for these crops. Of particular interest is any input that would help RMA determine growers' interest in such a crop insurance program, as well as specific suggestions and concerns regarding the structure, scope, and limitations that such a program should have.

Please provide your input to Ron Lundine by February 16, 2001, to assure its consideration. Mr. Lundine may be reached by telephone at (816) 926-3854, by fax at (816) 926-7343, by e-mail at "Ronald_Lundine@rm.fcic.usda.gov," or at the following postal address:

Attention: Ron Lundine
Research and Evaluation Division
Risk Management Agency
P. O. Box 419293, Stop 0813
Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6293



6501 Beacon Drive • Kansas City, MO 64133

The Risk Management Agency Administers and Oversees
All Programs Authorized Under the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Anyone who is aware of other persons or organizations representing California fresh vegetable producers is encouraged to provide a copy of this Informational Memorandum to them and/or to advise Mr. Lundine how to contact them. Listed below are organizations that are being provided this Memorandum because they were previously identified as possible contacts interested in providing input.

- California Artichoke Advisory Board
- California Artichoke Shed
- California Asparagus Commission
- California Celery Research Advisory Board
- California Fresh Carrot Advisory Board
- Central California Lettuce Producers Cooperative
- Fresh Garlic Association
- Grower-Shipper Vegetable Association of Central California
- Grower-Shipper Vegetable Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties
- Iceberg Lettuce Research Advisory Board
- Imperial Valley Vegetable Growers Association
- Ventura County Agriculture Association
- Western Growers Association

DISPOSAL DATE:

This Informational Memorandum is effective until the disposal date, March 31, 2001.