USDA

BULLETIN NO.: MGR-00-021

TO: All Reinsured Companies
             All Risk Management Agency Field Offices

FROM: Kenneth D. Ackerman   /s/ Ken Ackerman   6-30-00
             Administrator

SUBJECT: Approved Appraisal Deviation for Tobacco Mosaic Virus for Guaranteed Tobacco
             in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina for Crop Year 2000

BACKGROUND:

The University of Georgia Cooperative State Research, Education, Extension Service (CSREES) has indicated that the infection of Tobacco Mosaic Virus (TMV) for crop year 2000 is the worst epidemic of this virus on record. The first observations of TMV symptoms on infected plants by CSREES Extension Agronomists occurred 3 to 4 weeks after transplanting, indicating damage occurred during the insurance period. Although TMV infection is currently most severe in Georgia, however, Alabama, Florida, and South Carolina also have severe TMV infection.

In a recent notice to County Extension Agents, Dr. Paul F. Bertrand, Extension Plant Pathologist, University of Georgia, encouraged destruction of tobacco fields if early infection was greater than 50 percent. This action would reduce virus inoculum in the soil and the potential infection and losses to future crops. He also indicated that yields and grades are expected to be significantly reduced for tobacco infected at this or higher levels of TMV.

The current procedure contained in the Tobacco (Guaranteed Production) Loss Adjustment Handbook does not provide accurate adjustments for unharvested production on tobacco acreage heavily infected by TMV. CSREES has further indicated that tobacco that is infected in the early stages of growth with TMV will exhibit the virus in all newly emerging leaves resulting in damage comparable to the damage of emerged leaves. Current procedures do not provide an adjustment for newly emerged leaves with expected damage from TMV.

RMA

ACTION:

For the 2000 crop year, the following deviation is authorized:

A   To qualify, 50 percent or more of the marketable leaves from all representative samples identified in column 11 of the Tobacco Appraisal Worksheet must exhibit infection of TMV. See Attachment for a Tobacco Appraisal Worksheet example.

Step   Action

1   In column 11 for each sample, draw a horizontal line through the column. Enter the total number of infected marketable leaves in the top half and the total number of marketable leaves in the bottom half.

2   Divide the total of all infected marketable leaves from all samples by the total of all marketable leaves from all samples to determine the percent infection.

Example: 163 leaves infected $\div$ 285 total leaves (from column 11) = 57 percent infection. Acreage qualifies.

3   In the Remarks section of the appraisal worksheet, document the calculation for percent infection, "Acreage qualifies" or "Acreage does not qualify" on a unit, field, or subfield basis and this Manager's Bulletin number.

B   If the unit, field, or subfield qualifies, as identified in item A above, the following adjustments will be made to the appraisal on the Tobacco Appraisal Worksheet.

Step   Action

1   Use the leaf factors as provided in the Tobacco (Guaranteed Production) Loss Adjustment Handbook (Section 8B item 12) and on the Tobacco Appraisal Worksheet.

2   Determine "Leaves to Emerge" for each sample as defined in column 14. Draw a horizontal line in column 14 and enter result in the top half.

3   Multiply the "Leaves to Emerge" (from the top half of column 14) by the "Leaf Factor" determined in column 12. Enter the result, to the nearest tenth, as the "Leaves to Emerge" in the bottom half of column 14.

Example: Sample No. 1: Column 14 (top half) 70 "Leaves to Emerge" X .4 "Leaf Factor" = 28.0 "Leaves to Emerge" (bottom half)

4 Sum the "Number Normal Leaves" column 13 and "Leaves to Emerge" column 14 (bottom half) to determine the "No. of Normal Leaves on Ten Stalks" column 15.

Example: Sample 1: Column 13 "Number Normal Leaves" 40 + "Leaves to Emerge" (bottom half) 28.0 = 68.0 "No. of Normal Leaves on Ten Stalks."

5 Determine the "Total" "No. of Normal Leaves on Ten Stalks" as defined in column 15. Draw a horizontal line in the "Total" column and enter the result in the top half.

6 Select, from the table in item C below, the "Normal Leaf Factor" by using the percent of TMV infection determined in item A above (rounded to nearest 5 percent increment).

7 Multiply the "Total" "No. of Normal Leaves on Ten Stalks" times the "Normal Leaf Factor." Enter the result in the bottom half of the "Total" block of column 15. Use the result from the bottom half to calculate the appraisal.

Example: Total Column 15 (top half) = 255.0 "Total" "No. of Normal Leaves on Ten Stalks" X .84 "Normal Leaf Factor" based on 55 percent infection = 214.2 "Total" "No. of Normal Leaves on Ten Stalks." Document the "Normal Leaf Factor" used for the calculation in the Remarks section.

C Normal Leaf Expected Based on Percentage of TMV Infection.

% TMV Infection	Normal Leaf Factor
50	.85
55	.84
60	.83
65	.82
70	.81
75	.80
80	.79
85	.78
90	.77
95	.76
100	.75

Note: Table developed by Risk Management Agency from information provided by the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service.

D   Loss adjusters are reminded of the requirements of the Loss Adjustment Manual, Section
         3, Paragraph 152.

<u>DISPOSAL</u>: This bulletin is effective until the disposal date, December 31, 2000.

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

COMPANY ANY COMPANY   CLAIM NUMBER XXXXXXX

FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY

APPRAISAL WORKSHEET
TOBACCO

1 INSURED'S NAME	2 POLICY NUMBER	3 FSA FARM NUMBER	4 CROP YR.
I. M. INSURED	XXXXXXX	145	YYYY

5 TYPE	6 TOTAL NO. PLANTS PER ACRE	7 UNIT NO.	FIELD NO.	8 NO. ACRES	9 LEAF STAGE
014	7,576	00100	B	3.00	10

PART I - SAMPLE DETERMINATIONS

16 ROW WIDTH	17 SPACING
46	18

	10	11		12		13		14		15	FACTOR TABLE		
SAMPLE NO.	PERCENT PLANT LOSS	NUMBER LEAVES ON TEN STALKS	x	LEAF FACTOR	=	NUMBER NORMAL LEAVES	+	LEAVES TO EMERGE	=	NO. OF NORMAL LEAVES ON TEN STALKS	NUMBER OF LEAVES REQUIRED TO EQUAL ONE NORMAL LEAF		MULTIPLY NUMBER OF LEAVES COUNTED BY FACTOR
1	0	55 / 100		0.4		40.0		70 / 28.0		68.0	½		2.0
2	0	48 / 90		0.6		54.0		80 / 48.0		102.0	5/8		1.6
3	0	60 / 95		0.5		47.5		75 / 37.5		85.0	3/4		1.3
4											7/8		1.1
5											1		1.0
6											1-1/4		.8
7											1-1/2		.7
8											1-3/4		.6
9											2		.5
10													

		18 SAMPLES	19 AVG. % PLANT LOSS		TOTAL			255.0	20 TOTAL NO. SAMPLES CHECKED	21 AVG. LEAVES PER SAMPLE	22	23 AVG. NO. NORMAL LEAVES PER STALK
TOTAL	0	÷	= 0					214.2 ÷	3	= 71.4	÷ 10 =	7.1

PART II

24 AVERAGE NO. NORMAL LEAVES PER STALK	25 PLANTS PER ACRE	26 % POTENTIAL	27 TOTAL NUMBER LEAVES PER ACRE	28 NUMBER OF LEAVES PER POUND	29 APPRAISAL PER ACRE
7.1	x 7,576	x 1.000	= 53,790	÷ 60	= 897

	30 % POTENTIAL	31 POTENTIAL POUNDS PER ACRE OF ONE NORMAL LEAF PER STALK	32 APPRAISAL PER ACRE
	x	x 100	=

33 REMARKS

Deviation authority from Managers Bulletin (No.) dated (MM-DD-YYYY).

163 leaves infected ÷ 285 total leaves from column 11 = 57% infection. Acreage qualifies.

.84 Normal Leaf Factor

34 INSURED'S SIGNATURE	DATE	35 ADJUSTER'S SIGNATURE AND CODE NUMBER	DATE
I. M. INSURED	MM-DD-YYYY	I. M. ADJUSTER XXXXXX	MM-DD-YYYY