

United States Department of Agriculture

Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Risk Management Agency

BULLETIN NO.: MGR-00-021.1

TO: All Reinsured Companies

All Risk Management Agency Field Offices

FROM: Kenneth D. Ackerman /s/ Ken Ackerman 8-8-00

Administrator

SUBJECT: Approved Appraisal Deviation for Tobacco Mosaic Virus (TMV) for Guaranteed

Tobacco in North Carolina and Virginia for Crop Year 2000

BACKGROUND:

The Risk Management Agency issued Bulletin MGR-00-021 on June 30, 2000, to authorize an appraisal deviation for severe infestations of TMV in four states. Similar severe early infestations of TMV have been identified on tobacco in Virginia and North Carolina. A recent letter from a Professor of Plant Pathology, Virginia Tech University, stated "this year many Virginia farmers have found extensive levels of TMV-infected plants in their crop within the first 2 to 3 weeks after transplanting." He goes on to state this infestation is the earliest and most widespread that he is aware of, and definitely constitutes an epidemic.

Current indications are that damage from severe TMV infestation has occurred during the insurance period. TMV infection is most severe in Virginia; however, North Carolina also has a severe TMV infestation.

ACTION:

For crop year 2000, the appraisal deviation and criteria authorized in MGR-00-021 is extended to include North Carolina and Virginia.

DISPOSAL:

This bulletin is effective until the disposal date, December 31, 2000.

