

United States Department of Agriculture

Risk Management Agency

6501 Beacon Drive Kansas City, MO 64133-4676 November 3, 2004

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-04-047

TO: All Reinsured Companies

All Risk Management Agency Field Offices

All Other Interested Parties

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

Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: 2005 Adjusted Gross Revenue-Lite (AGR-Lite) Insurance Policy Materials

Available

BACKGROUND:

On May 6, 2004, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation's (FCIC) Board of Directors approved expansion of the Adjusted Gross Revenue-Lite (AGR-Lite) insurance policy submitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) along with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and the Washington State University Extension Western Center for Risk Management Education. Expansion states include Alaska (selected counties), Idaho, Oregon, North Carolina, and Washington. The AGR-Lite program is already available in all counties in Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey (except Hudson County), New York (52 selected counties), Pennsylvania (except Philadelphia County), Vermont, Rhode Island, and West Virginia.

AGR-Lite provides whole-farm revenue insurance. Coverage is based on the adjusted gross revenue from the whole farm based on five years of tax forms and a farm plan. AGR-Lite covers all commodities on the farm, including animals and animal products.

Changes to the policy for 2005, which are applicable in all states where AGR-Lite is available, include:

- (1) The definition of "Limited Resource Farmer" is changed to adopt the limited resource farmer definition applicable under all USDA programs.
- (2) Section 5(c)-Added language to provide for a waiver of administrative fee if the insured qualifies as a limited resource farmer.
- (3) Section 9(a)(4) Added language to allow insureds to provide final tax information necessary for an indemnity payment following a Federal tax filing extension. The extension must be approved by the Internal Revenue Service and taxes must be filed by the final extended tax due date.



The sales closing date for AGR-Lite is January 31, 2005. Producers interested in AGR-Lite should contact a crop insurance agent and complete an application. The Risk Management Agency (RMA) publishes a list of agents on its web site. The address of the website is: www.rma.usda.gov/.

Although insurance purchases must be executed through crop insurance agents, the RMA premium calculator is available on the RMA web site for general information purposes. To find the AGR-Lite premium calculator:

Go to: Tools/Calculators

Scroll to: Premium Calculation Software for 2000 and succeeding years (Online

Version) - Calculate Premiums

Click on: Calculate Premiums

Because the Federal Crop Insurance Act limits the amount of livestock insurance that may be reinsured each year, the RMA must review all AGR-Lite applications and provide an approval number to the company before coverage can be bound. Insurance companies are reminded that they do not have authority to bind coverage without first obtaining an approval number from RMA's e-DAS system. E-DAS operates on a "real-time" basis and will track total sales, discontinuing sales of both new and renewed policies for those farms with animals and animal products when the annual underwriting capacity for livestock insurance has been obligated.

Following RMA's confirmation of acceptance of the application, insurance companies may notify

applicants that insurance will attach. Unlike most other lines of insurance reinsured by FCIC, crop insurance agents do not have binding authority for AGR-Lite.

ACTION:

The AGR-Lite materials listed below have been placed on the RMA website. The materials include the following:

Material Web Address

Basic Policy http://www.rma.usda.gov/policies/2005policy.html
Underwriting Rules http://www.rma.usda.gov/policies/2005agr-lite.html
AGR-Lite Handbook http://www.rma.usda.gov/policies/2005agr-lite.html

Manual 13 Requirements http://www.rma.usda.gov/data/m13/

The following document will be placed on the RMA website no later than November 5: Special Provisions http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/docbrowser/

DISPOSAL DATE:

This Informational Memorandum is for the purpose of transmitting information and its disposal date is December 31, 2006.