



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Risk
Management
Agency

6501 Beacon Drive
Kansas City,
MO 64133-4676

November 22, 2004

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-04-052

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: Termination of the Current Sweet Potato Pilot Program and
Replacement with a New Sweet Potato Pilot Program

BACKGROUND:

The Sweet Potato Pilot Program was introduced for the 1998 crop year utilizing the actual production history (APH) plan of insurance for producers in the following States and counties: Alabama – Baldwin County; California – Merced County; Louisiana – Avoyelles, Morehouse, and West Carroll Parishes; North Carolina – Columbus, and Johnston Counties; and South Carolina – Horry County.

Risk Management Agency (RMA) contracted for a comprehensive pilot program evaluation of the Sweetpotato Pilot Program. On October 29, 2003, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board of Directors (Board) considered the findings of the evaluation and decided to continue the existing Sweetpotato Pilot Program for the 2004 crop year with changes, subsequent to development of a new sweetpotato pilot crop insurance program for the 2005 crop year.

In February 2004, RMA contracted for development of a replacement Sweetpotato Pilot Program for 2005 crop year implementation. The new Sweetpotato Pilot Program was initially presented to the Board and approved for expert review in July 2004. The new program and the results of the expert reviews were presented to the Board on October 28, 2004. The Board approved the cancellation of the current sweetpotato policy and approved a new sweetpotato pilot program for the 2005 and succeeding crop years.

ACTION:

The current Sweetpotato Pilot Program is terminated effective for the 2005 Crop Year. Reinsured companies must notify policyholders of the current Sweetpotato Pilot Program, not later than 60 days prior to the February 28, 2005, cancellation date, that their policy is cancelled. Policyholders must also be apprised that a new Sweetpotato



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And Oversees All Programs Authorized Under
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Pilot Program will be offered for the 2005 Crop Year with a sales closing date of February 28, 2005. Program materials for the new program will be provided to the reinsured companies within the next 30 days.

DISPOSAL DATE:

This Bulletin is for the purpose of transmitting information and its disposal date is February 28, 2005.