

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION
VEGETATION INDEX
APICULTURE (API) CROP PROVISIONS**

For ease in the administration of the terms of this policy and to avoid the duplication of documents, as used throughout the Basic Provisions and applicable handbooks and directives, the term “acre” is replaced by “colony”; “acres” and “acreage” are replaced with “colonies”; “acreage report” is replaced with “colony report”; and “acreage reporting date” is replaced with “colony reporting date.”

1. Definitions

Apiculture means the raising and care of honey bees for agricultural crop production purposes, including but not limited to, honey production, collection of pollen and wax, and breeding purposes.

Basic Provisions mean the Rainfall and Vegetation Index Plan Common Policy.

Colony means a group of honey bees housed in a managed hive used for apiculture, which does not include wild or feral honey bees.

Contiguous means, in lieu of the definition contained in section 1 of the Basic Provisions, acreage which contains locations owned or controlled by you, or rented by you for cash or crop share, in a county or grid that continues into an adjoining county or grid without interruption and is occupied and foraged by insurable colonies. Acreage separated by only a public or private right-of-way, waterway, or an irrigation canal will be considered contiguous.

Crop means apiculture with the ability to produce honey.

Crop year means, in lieu of the definition contained in section 1 of the Basic Provisions, January 1 through December 31.

Hive means a shelter constructed in accordance with good farming practices for housing a colony of honey bees, also referred to as a beehive.

Honey bees mean bees of the species *Apis mellifera*, *sp* which produce and store honey.

Location means the point of land where the hive is placed.

Unit means, in lieu of the definition contained in section 1 of the Basic Provisions, the insured colonies by index

interval, share and county within or assigned to a grid.

2. Application

(a) In addition to the provisions contained in section 2(c)(1) of the Basic Provisions, a percent of value must be allocated to at least one index interval for each grid ID and share. The minimum percent of value allowed in any one index interval by grid ID and share is 10 percent.

(b) For the purposes of section 2(c)(1) of the Basic Provisions you may select any index interval provided in the Actuarial Documents. However, the same month cannot be included in more than one selected index interval for the same grid ID and share. For example, if you select an index interval that contains the months of March, April, and May, you cannot select any other index interval offered that contains March, April, or May for the same grid ID and share.

3. Insured Crop

(a) In lieu of the provisions in section 5(a) of the Basic Provisions, the insured crop will be:

- (1) That shown on your application accepted by us; and
- (2) Apiculture:
 - (i) In which you have a share; and
 - (ii) Located on acreage in the county listed on the application accepted by us.

(b) Sections 5(b)(1), (2), (3), (5), (6), (7) and (8) of the Basic Provisions are not applicable to these Crop Provisions.

4. Insured and Insurable Colonies

In lieu of section 6 of the Basic Provisions:

- (a) Insurable colonies include all colonies located within the United States.
- (b) You may elect to insure all or a portion of your insurable colonies in the county:
 - (1) You may select the number of colonies located in the county to be insured;
 - (2) The total number of the insured colonies in the county cannot exceed the number of the total insurable colonies in the county; and
 - (3) The total number of colonies you insure in all grids under all policies cannot exceed the total number of all your insurable colonies in the United States. For example, if you have a total of 200 insurable colonies in the United States and you elect to insure all 200 colonies under these Crop Provisions in grid ID 17220 you cannot insure any colonies in any other grid under this policy or any other policy in the same crop year. However, if you insure only 50 of your 200 insurable colonies in grid ID 17220, you may insure up to 150 colonies in any other eligible grid under these Crop Provisions or the Vegetation Index Apiculture Crop Provisions, as applicable, in the same crop year.
- (c) To be insured, colonies must be:
 - (1) Located in the county and grid ID, for which premium rates are provided in the Actuarial Documents, listed on your application accepted by us;
 - (2) Located on acreage the insured owns or leases that allows the placement of colonies on the acreage;
 - (3) Those in which you have a share; and
 - (4) Reported by the colony reporting date.
- (d) The grid ID and county are determined based on a point of reference selected by you. Separate points of reference must be established as follows:
 - (1) A separate point of reference must be selected for all non-contiguous

- acreage on which hives of the insured colonies are located; and
- (2) With respect to contiguous insured acreage, a point of reference must be selected as follows:
 - (i) If you elect to combine the contiguous acreage into one grid, you must establish a point of reference for the contiguous acreage. For example, contiguous acreage is located in two grids and you elect to insure all your colonies in one grid. You must establish a point of reference in the selected grid for the contiguous acres; or
 - (ii) If you elect to separate the contiguous acreage into separate grids or counties, you must establish a point of reference for all the acres in or assigned to each selected grid. For example, contiguous acreage is located in two grids and you elect to insure some of your colonies in each grid. You must establish a point of reference in each selected grid.
- (e) We will not insure any colonies where you have failed to follow good farming practices for apiculture:
 - (1) We will notify you if we identify an issue regarding good farming practices; and
 - (2) If we notify you, you must contact FCIC for a determination of whether your production methods are considered to be good farming practices.
- (f) If you have insured colonies and:
 - (1) You sell or lease the colonies to another person:
 - (i) You may be eligible to receive any indemnities for insured index intervals during or prior to such action but insurance will cease and no coverage will be provided for any subsequent index intervals and the full premium for the insurance period is owed by you;

or

- (ii) You may be able to transfer your insurance rights in accordance with section 23 of the Basic Provisions; or

- (2) The colonies are destroyed or otherwise disposed of, you may be eligible to receive any indemnities for insured index intervals during or prior to such action but insurance will cease and no coverage will be provided for any subsequent index intervals and the full premium for the insurance period is owed by you.

5. Amounts of Protection and Coverage Levels

- (a) In lieu of section 7(a)(1) of the Basic Provisions, catastrophic risk protection is not available under these Crop Provisions.
- (b) In lieu of section 7(a)(2) of the Basic Provisions, for additional coverage policies:
 - (1) You may select only one coverage level from 70 percent through 90 percent for the county and crop; and
 - (2) You may select only one productivity factor from 60 percent through 150 percent for the county and crop.
- (c) In lieu of section 7(b) of the Basic Provisions, you will have only one dollar amount of protection per colony for the county.

6. Report of Colonies

- (a) In lieu of section 9(b) of the Basic Provisions, your colony report must include the following information:
 - (1) The total amount of all your colonies in which you have a share in the United States;
 - (2) For each applicable grid ID, all the hives of the insured colonies assigned to the grid ID;
 - (3) With respect to the colonies specified in 6(a)(2), your share and grid ID; and
 - (4) A certification that:

- (i) The colonies qualify as apiculture; and

- (ii) The selected index intervals support the vegetation production necessary for the colonies.

- (b) Sections 9(g), (h), and (i) of the Basic Provisions are not applicable to these Crop Provisions.

7. Annual Premium and Administrative Fees

In accordance with section 11(a) of the Basic Provisions, the annual premium is earned and payable at the time the insured crop is reported on the colony report.

8. Access to Insured Crop and Record Retention

In addition to 16(a) of the Basic Provisions, you must also retain and provide upon our request, or the request of any employee of USDA authorized to investigate or review any matter relating to crop insurance, all applicable records for all of your colonies in the United States.