



United States Department of Agriculture
Risk Management Agency

Raleigh Regional Office Fact Sheet

October 2005

Aflatoxin Testing Facilities

Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia

Weather conditions have made the mold **aflatoxin** a threat to this year's corn crop. The impact of high levels of aflatoxin on producers varies from a discount in price to the requirement to destroy the grain altogether.

Aflatoxin losses are insurable as long as the grain is tested before being moved into commercial or onfarm storage, or if the insured has arranged with the insurance provider to leave representative areas of unharvested crop from which the adjuster can obtain samples for aflatoxin testing.

Insureds should notify their insurance agent before harvesting and/or placing harvested grain in storage if their grain is suspected of containing aflatoxin. Because mold can worsen in storage, losses attributed to farm storage, or that cannot be determined because proper testing was not completed, are not covered under the crop insurance policy.

Following is a list of certified testing facilities for aflatoxin in **North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut** according to the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA). This is not a complete list and should only serve as a guide. To be an "approved testing facility" for crop insurance purposes, the following criteria must be met. Testing facilities not listed which meet all the criteria below can be considered "approved testing facilities." Consult with your crop insurance provider for more information.

1. The facility must be able to perform quantitative tests on grain, itemizing results in parts per million (ppm) and parts per billion (ppb). Test kits used must be certified by GIPSA.

2. The facility must be a recognized commercial, government, or university testing lab that uses industry-recognized sample sizes, equipment, and procedures for testing aflatoxin.
3. The facility must be a disinterested testing facility unless RMA issues a written authorization to waive this requirement.

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Food & Drug Protection Division
1070 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1070
919-733-7366

Toledo Field Office
USDA/GIPSA/FGIS
1910 Indian Wood Cir., Suite 401
Maumee, OH 43537
Contact: David M. Mundwiler
419-259-6276
FAX: 419-259-7464

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
P.O. Box 7476
501 C Barnes Road
Chesapeake, VA 23324
Contact: Tommy Thompson
757-494-2463
FAX: 757-494-2464

For States Other Than NC & VA
Use GIPSA Toledo Field Office

Please contact the Raleigh Regional Office if you have any further questions at:

United States Department of Agriculture
Risk Management Agency
Raleigh Regional Office
4407 Bland Road, Suite 160
Raleigh, NC 27609
919-875-4880

Download Copies from the Web

Visit our online publications/fact sheets page at:
<http://www.rma.usda.gov/pubs/#bfr>.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.