



CROP INSURANCE UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2022



Claim Reporting

Drought, wind and hail have taken a toll on fields in central Nebraska. Reporting yields separately for each field (unit) is important every year. This year, it might mean the difference between collecting or not collecting a loss on a bushel shortage. To determine the amount of loss for each unit on a policy, we must be able to determine which bushels apply to each unit. One method is separate settlement sheets with load summaries labeled to show which truckloads came from which unit. To do this on pivot irrigated cropland you would need to separately harvest the dry land corners. Likewise, if you're storing the grain you would need to have a storage marking that could separate the yield on the corners from the irrigated production.



An alternate form of harvest production reporting is the use of harvest monitor records. This requires the ability to calibrate your combine monitor and provide complete and accurate records showing the field's production. We've had great success using this method as long as the records are complete and the system is properly calibrated. Communication with our office is the key. Visit with us about your plans to report production this year.

Pasture-Range-Forage

An important coverage available to livestock producers and pasture landlords is the Pasture, Range, and Forage (PRF) coverage. This policy has been around for years. It provides reimbursement for years of low rainfall. The premium is subsidized by the U.S. government making it a reasonable way to level your feeding needs when there is a lack of rainfall.

The deadline for applying for the coverage for the 2023 calendar year is December 1st. Costs range from \$2 - \$5 per acre, and provide \$20-\$50 per acre. Details are numerous, so call now for a quote and a detailed explanation.

Cover Crops

The use of cover crops are acceptable under crop insurance rules as long as the guidelines are followed as to when growth on the cover crops are terminated in the spring. In general, they should be terminated prior to planting, or in some instances at planting or even prior to emergence. If you have questions about the cover crop rules please contact our office.

Remember to certify your cover crop acres with the FSA prior to November 15th. In 2022 there was a \$5 per acre credit toward your crop insurance premium for crops planted into a cover crop. If this were to be extended for 2023 you will need to certify your cover crops timely.



Silage

Harvesting as silage is an acceptable means of corn harvest. However, steps must be taken to determine the yield, not only for a possible claim payment, but also for production history reporting. Yields must be recorded for each field. In the absence of verifiable records, your yield history will suffer a low “imposed” yield for that crop year.

If you plan to harvest as silage please let our office know as soon as you decide what location you’ll cut. In most cases we’ll want an appraisal by an adjuster. We can arrange that as long as we have a few days notice. If you plan to cut less than half of the unit, we can use the remaining part of the unit to determine the yield.

We encourage you to report corn cut for silage to the FSA office. This will substantiate by a third party the method of harvest.



Monitor Calibration

Harvest mapping equipment is a great tool to use in separating grain yields within a field. However, there are rules that must be followed to allow its use. First, the monitor measuring the grain must be calibrated. We can provide the procedure and forms needed to show calibration computations. Calibrations need to be done according to manufacturer’s instructions. You can use your monitor manual as a reference. Failure to supply the proof of calibration may prevent you from using this important tool.

Wheat Coverage

Deadlines for insuring fall planted wheat start with the sales closing date of September 30th. This date is the last date to take new coverage out, or make changes to existing coverage. If you have plans to plant wheat be sure to contact our office by September 30th to assure proper coverage. The deadline for wheat seeding is October 10th. Acres must be reported by November 15th.

Interest Deferral

Your Multi-Peril Crop Insurance Premium statutory due date is August 15th, with no interest due if paid by September 30th. Again this year the date for interest forgiveness has been extended to November 30th. This only applies to the Multi-Peril premium. Your crop hail/wind coverage has separate due dates.

Keep in mind the interest will still accrue from September 30th if not paid by the November 30th due date. Online payment is available and strongly encouraged to avoid an interest charge due to unforeseen mail delays. We can do that for you by leaving your check in our hands to be run on the final date to avoid interest.

Crop Hail premiums still due have an interest date of either November 30th or December 30th depending on the company with whom it is insured.

Carryover Grain

Carryover grain in on farm storage needs extra attention prior to harvest. An inspection and measurement from an adjuster can substantiate what amount of grain was from the 2021 crop year. If this isn’t done, this carry over grain will be considered 2022 grain, and applied toward any possible claim payment. Call today and we can have it measured within a day or two.