CROP INSURANCE UPDATE
AUGUST 2026

Phillips INSURANCE AGENCY

Multi-Peril Billing Extended to Nov 30

For the 2026 crop year, the USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) has authorized insurance companies to defer interest on Multi-Peril Crop Insurance premiums for an additional 60 days. While the normal interest-free payment deadline for most spring-planted crops is September 30, producers will be able to pay their 2026 premiums through **November 30th without interest**.

This type of payment flexibility has been used before during difficult crop years. RMA provided similar relief in 2012, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, often in response to drought, flooding, COVID-19, or other widespread financial hardships affecting producers. The relief was not broadly offered for the 2024 or 2025 crop years. The current September 30 payment timeline traces back to changes made in the 2008 Farm Bill, which moved the crop insurance premium billing date earlier in the year.

For 2026, RMA's action provides producers with additional time to manage cash flow, making November 30 the practical deadline to pay affected Multi-Peril premiums without interest.

Crop-Hail Premium Cash Discount

Policyholders with Hail or Hail/Wind coverage through Rain and Hail, LLC may qualify for a 3% cash discount if the premium is paid by August 30. If you choose not to take advantage of the discount, the regular premium may be paid without interest through November 30. We strongly encourage you to make premium payments online or through our office to help ensure they are received by the applicable deadline. Our office can accept your bank routing number, account number, and account name and process the payment on the final business day before the deadline to help avoid late fees or interest charges.

Harvest Meetings

We will be hosting pre-harvest customer appreciation meetings at our office on **Tuesday, September 1st**. Hot buffets will be ready at 12 PM & 6 PM to accommodate individual schedules. We'll review new changes in crop insurance and cover important topics for the upcoming production reporting season. There will be a brief review of claim procedures and time to visit with our team to answer any questions you may have before harvest begins. Postcard invitations will be in your mail box later this month.

Phillips INSURANCE AGENCY
2 PRAIRIE HILLS RD
PLEASANTON NE 68866

Monitor Calibration

Harvest mapping equipment is a great tool for separating yields within a field. However, there are rules that must be followed for those records to be accepted. First, the monitor measuring the grain must be properly calibrated. We can provide the procedures and forms needed to document calibration. Your combine monitor should be calibrated according to the manufacturer's instructions, and your monitor manual can be used as a reference. Failure to provide proof of calibration may prevent you from using this valuable tool for crop insurance purposes.

Production Reporting & Claims Reporting

Reporting yields separately for each field (unit) is important every year. To determine the amount of loss on each unit, we must be able to identify which bushels belong to each unit. One method is using separate settlement sheets with load summaries showing which truckloads came from each unit.

On pivot-irrigated cropland, this may require harvesting the dryland corners separately. If grain is stored on the farm, you may need to designate a separate bin or storage area to separate production from the corners and irrigated acres.

Another option is using harvest monitor records. This requires a properly calibrated combine monitor and complete, accurate records showing each field's production. We have had great success using this method when records are complete and the system is properly calibrated.

Communication with our office is key. Please visit with us about your plans for reporting production this year.

Carryover Grain

Carryover grain in on-farm storage needs extra attention before harvest. An inspection and measurement by an adjuster can document how much grain remains from the 2024 crop year. If this is not done, the carryover grain may be considered 2025 production and applied toward any potential claim payment. Call our office and we can usually arrange to have it measured within a day or two.

Silage

Crop insurance allows silage as an acceptable method of harvest. However, an appraisal of the crop must be completed before the silage is cut. If less than 50% of the field is harvested as silage and there is no potential claim, the yield may be calculated using the remaining crop harvested as grain.

We keep a list of producers who normally cut silage and will attempt to contact you as harvest approaches. However, if you have not heard from us by the time you are ready to begin silage harvest, please call our office so we can discuss a plan for any required appraisal.