UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250

For: KS, NE, ND, OK, SD, and TX State and County Offices

Pilot Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan and NAP Coverage

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs

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1 Overview

A Background

The Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan, a privately developed product approved by the FCIC Board of Directors under Federal Crop Insurance Act (FCIA), Section 508(h) offers crop insurance protection for annually planted crops used for livestock feed or fodder and was available for the 2014 crop in Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Texas.

In 2014, given the limited time available for producers in Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Texas to transition from NAP to the new RMA pilot CAT level Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan, an exception was made for the 2014 crop year only, to allow NAP coverage to be offered for annually planted crops used for livestock feed or fodder.

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill), Section 12305(b)(1)(B), amended FCIA, Section 508(b) by providing that CAT level coverage will not be available for crops and grasses used for grazing under the RMA pilot Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan.

B Purpose

This notice informs selected State and County Offices that in 2015:

- RMA is offering a CAT level Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan to producers in their State for mechanically harvested livestock feed
- NAP coverage is available for annually planted crops for livestock feed intended for grazing because RMA is not offering CAT level coverage for annually planted crops for livestock feed intended specifically for grazing under its Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan in their State.

Disposal Date	Distribution
March 1, 2015	Above State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

2 2015 CAT Level Coverage - Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan

A Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan

RMA's pilot annual forage policy uses a rainfall index to provide coverage for annually planted forage crops at CAT and buy-up levels. The plan:

- is being piloted in Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Texas
- covers 2015 crops planted annually that are used for livestock feed that is mechanically harvested.
 - **Note:** The 2014 Farm Bill provided that CAT level coverage would no longer be available for crops and grasses used for grazing under the RMA pilot Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan at the CAT level. RMA added the following Special Provision statement to remove CAT coverage for the intended use of grazing:

"In addition to 5(a) of the crop provisions, CAT level coverage is not available for crops and grasses intended or used for grazing."

The sales closing date for this insurance is July 15 for crops planted in the fall, and December 15 for crops planted in the spring.

Interested producers should contact a crop insurance agent for further information. A list of agents can be found on RMA's web site at **www.rma.usda.gov**/.

B RMA Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan vs. NAP Coverage

The statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available and is produced for food or fiber. According to 1-NAP, subparagraph 1 B, NAP is limited to only commercial crops or agricultural commodities for which CAT is not available that are produced for food or fiber.

For 2015, for producers in Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Texas:

- NAP coverage is available for annually planted crops for livestock feed intended for grazing because RMA is not offering CAT level coverage for annually planted crops for livestock feed intended specifically for grazing under its Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan
- RMA is offering a CAT level Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan to producers in their State for mechanically harvested livestock feed.

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2 2015 CAT Level Coverage - Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan (Continued)

C NAP Crops and Intended Uses Ineligible for 2015 Coverage

For 2015, NAP coverage will not be available in Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Texas for annually planted crops used for mechanically harvested livestock feed that includes, but is not limited to, small grains, forage sorghums, mixed forages, turnips, and other annually planted crops with the following intended uses:

- "Fg"
- "Gc"
- "Hy"
- "Sg".

Note: State and County Offices should contact the RMA regional office if they have questions about whether CAT level coverage is available for an annual forage crop.

3 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices identified in this notice shall ensure that County Offices:

- are immediately notified of the contents of this notice
- immediately publicize the contents of this notice.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall publicize for 2015 that:

- NAP coverage is available for annually planted crops for livestock feed intended for grazing because RMA is not offering CAT level coverage for annually planted crops for livestock feed intended specifically for grazing under its Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan
- RMA is offering a CAT level Rainfall Index-Annual Forage Insurance Plan to producers in their State for mechanically harvested livestock feed.