



**AG
SERVICE
ASSOCIATES**
Crop Insurance Specialists

CropLink Newsletter

*"Providing the Link between Crop Insurance,
Agronomics and Risk Management"*

Courtesy of Ag Service Associates

April 2008

Welcome to another **CropLink** publication which is sent to you, courtesy of Ag Service Associates. This publication assists growers with crop insurance questions across areas of the central corn belt. **CropLink** is also available electronically and updated with extensive information on our Ag Service Associates website www.ASAcrop.com. For additional information contact us at **(308) 995-6187 or (800) 711-3619** and ask for any of our crop insurance specialists between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. If you have questions before or after hours please call John at 308-991-0181, Susan at 308-991-4418 or Brian at 308-279-0186.

CURRENT INSURANCE UPDATES:

Wheat:

- If you plan to **destroy** any wheat acres that you have insured under your Multi-Peril policy please contact our office so an adjuster can appraise your wheat.
- On Non-Irrigated acres a crop following wheat that has reached the headed stage is uninsurable. Please call our office if you are planning on haying wheat then going to a second crop.
- Are you considering hail coverage this year? Remember hail carryover coverage expires May 15th.
- For easy record keeping be sure to certify the same acres at the FSA that you reported for your crop insurance policy.

Spring Crops: (Corn, Soybeans, Sorghum, etc...)

- The 2008 base prices are set for revenue policies (RA/CRC)...Revenue base price for corn is \$5.40, soybeans are \$13.36 and grain sorghum is \$5.06. Contact your agent if you have questions about a crop not listed.
- The 2008 Crop-Hail rates are available. Please evaluate your hail insurance protection and call your agent for a quote and a hail plan that will fit your operation.
- Are you adding new ground or breaking out new ground this year? Please call your agent as soon as possible!
- Initial planting dates vary by county and by crop. **Corn: April 1st – 5th, Soybeans: April 26th, Grain Sorghum: April 16th – May 6th.** Please contact our office if you have any questions about an initial plant date.

REPLANTING RULES FOR 2008:

The rules for replanting an existing crop have changed for 2008. Call our office if you feel that you have a crop that you would like to replant. For replant loss adjusting purposes, you **must agree either verbally or in writing** to the terms of the replanting procedures before the existing crop is destroyed. Replanting without the consent of the Approved Insurance Provider could be considered destroyed without consent and be devastating to your policy. Please call your agent before you replant so that an adjuster can give you permission to replant or leave representative sample areas. **The insurance provider must give you permission prior to replanting to be eligible for a replant payment!!!**

LIVESTOCK RISK PROTECTION:

Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) coverage protects producers against a decline in the market prices below a producer's selected coverage price. There are a variety of coverage prices and periods so that the expiration of the coverage corresponds to the time that you would normally be marketed and sold. There are several types of animals that can be insured under this policy. Feeder cattle would be divided into two categories: Cattle under 600 pounds and cattle between 600 and 900 pounds. Fed cattle would be those that are going to be finished: Cattle between 1000 and 1400 pounds. Swine could also be covered under this policy. While fed cattle and swine must be marketed and sold, the producer may retain ownership of the feeder cattle at the end of the coverage period. At the end of the coverage period, if the actual ending value determined by RMA is below the coverage price, you may be paid an indemnity for the difference. Instead of selecting a coverage level like your MPC policy, you select a coverage price. The coverage price generally corresponds to a coverage level ranging from 70% to 100%. With the volatility in the markets this year if you are raising livestock this policy may be a way to reduce your risk. Please call our office if you are interested in discussing this policy.

MAINTAINING PLANTING RECORDS:

As planting begins across the Midlands, it is vital that you maintain accurate planting records. **Your acreage report is one of the most important pieces of paper work that you will complete for your crop insurance purposes.** Crop insurance records must include: Crop, Practice, Plant Date, Number of Acres and your Percent Share in the Crop. Keeping accurate records during the planting season can expedite the acreage reporting process and eliminate potential errors. Mis-reporting acres can be disastrous if you have a claim. Our helpful staff is prepared to assist you with this process by providing various methods including acreage reporting worksheets, crop production record books, or the maps provided by ASA to clients.

2008 Hail Rates Are Available:

With the high commodity prices how can you protect up to the value that you have in your crop? The answer is with a Crop-Hail policy. Hail is one of your highest risk factors for irrigated crops. Crop-Hail is designed to cover that top portion of your crops that the MPCl policy does not cover. With corn value per acre reaching \$1000/acre or more and soybean values approaching \$800/ acre or more, now is the time to determine how much of this value that you want to protect. With wheat prices rising much higher than what the MPCl base price was set and the opportunities to forward market at very high prices, you may need to add hail coverage to protect the value that you have in the field. At ASA, we take the time to evaluate each producer and find one of the many different coverage's that fits best into your operation. In addition to the many different conventional hail plans ASA offers the "Hail Production Plan" (HPP) which allows for hail coverage up to 110% of your proven yields. However, it is important to realize the difference between the HPP policy and a conventional hail policy. Please visit with your agent soon to evaluate which hail policy will best fit into your operation. Remember, hail carryover coverage on **wheat expires on May 15th** and **coverage on spring crops expires on June 1st**.

CropLink Newsletter a Publication of Ag Service Associates
P.O. Box 708
Holdrege, NE 68949

Postage

Address:

Crop Insurance is our Only Business!!!

Visit us at: www.ASAcrop.com

Insurance Reminders and Upcoming Events:

- ✓ If you intend on destroying existing wheat to plant another crop, notify us as soon as possible.
- ✓ Maintain good planting records for acreage reporting purposes.
- ✓ Evaluate your hail coverage levels. Hail rates are available and we a can review your options.
- ✓ Hail carryover coverage expires May 15th for wheat.
- ✓ Corn, Soybean and Sorghum hail carryover coverage expires June 1st.
- ✓ Contact Ag Service Associates if you are adding land or breaking out new ground as soon as possible.
- ✓ If you are considering replanting a crop, Contact ASA prior to replanting!

CropLink Newsletter is a Publication of Ag Service Associates. For photocopy rights or changes within distribution call 1-800-711-3619.

***Crop Insurance is our Only Business!!
For Information Call...
1-800-711-3619***