



United States Department of Agriculture
Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services
Risk Management Agency

January 10, 2002

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-02-003

TO: Vegetable and Flower Seed Producer Groups
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices
All Reinsured Companies

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ *Tim B. Witt*
Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Request for Input from Vegetable and Flower Seed Producer Groups

BACKGROUND:

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) intends to obtain input from producer groups before entering into contracts for research and development to increase participation in areas or for agricultural commodities that may be underserved by the Federal crop insurance program. RMA believes this input is critical in determining the need and direction of research and potential development.

ACTION:

RMA requests input from groups or individuals representing vegetable and flower seed producers so that their needs, concerns, and other input may be considered before it enters into a contract for the research and possible development of risk management strategies or products for producers of this commodity. Of particular interest is any input that would help RMA determine the extent that producers want RMA to pursue such research and potential development of risk management strategies or products. RMA is also interested in receiving specific suggestions and concerns regarding the structure, scope, and limitations producers and producer groups want to be considered for such strategies or products. Anyone who is aware of insurance protection that is generally available from private companies to cover the risks that would likely be covered by recommended risk management strategies or products, is encouraged to advise RMA accordingly as indicated below.



6501 Beacon Drive \$ Kansas City, MO 64133

The Risk Management Agency Administers and Oversees
All Programs Authorized Under the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Please provide your input to Josephine Scott by February 8, 2002, to assure its consideration. Ms. Scott may be reached by e-mail at "Josephine_Scott@rm.fcic.usda.gov," by fax at (816) 926-7343, or at the following postal address:

Attention: Josephine Scott
Research and Evaluation Division
Risk Management Agency
P. O. Box 419293, Stop 0813
Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6293

Listed below are organizations that are being provided this Informational Memorandum. Anyone who is aware of other persons or organizations representing vegetable and flower seed producers is encouraged to provide a copy of this Informational Memorandum to them and/or to advise Ms. Scott how to contact them.

Agratech Seeds Inc., McCordsville, IN
Agripro Seed Inc., Shawnee Mission, KS
Alaska Seed Growers Association, Palmer, AK
Arkansas Seed Dealers Association, Fisher, AR
Arkansas Seed Growers Association, Wilson, AR
Burrell's Seeds, Rocky Ford, CO
Cal-West Seeds, Woodland, CA
Chesmore Seed company, St. Joseph, MO
Fontanelle Hybirds Seed Co., Nickerson, NE
Garst Seed Co, Slater, IA
Golden Harvest Seeds Inc., Bloomington, IL
Harris Seeds, Rochester, NY
Holmes Seed Company, Canton, OH
Indiana Seed Trade Association, Remington, IN
Missouri Seed Improvement Association, Columbia, MO
Montana Seed Trade Association, Townsend, MT
Mycogen Seeds, St. Paul, MN
New York Seed Improvement Cooperative, Inc., Ithaca, NY
Rispen Seeds Inc., Beecher, IL
Rupp Seeds, Inc., Wauseon, OH
Stauffer Seeds, Auroa, NE
Utah Seed Council, Salt Lake City, UT
Washington-North Idaho Seed Association, Ritzville, WA
Winstrip, Inc., North Carolina

DISPOSAL DATE:

This Informational Memorandum is effective until the disposal date, March 31, 2002.