



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

January 10, 2002

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-02-004

TO: Lawn 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 Lawn 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 lawn 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 to which 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

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

Attention: Terrence Katzer
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 lawn seed producers is encouraged to provide a copy of this Informational Memorandum to them and/or to advise Mr. Katzer how to contact them.

American Seed Trade Association
American Society of Agronomy
International Turfgrass Society
National Turfgrass Evaluation Program
Turfgrass Producers International

DISPOSAL DATE:

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