



United States Department of Agriculture

Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services
Risk Management Agency

February 22, 2001

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-01-009

TO: All Interested Cut Flower Producer Groups
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices
All Reinsured Companies

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ Denise Hoffmann for
Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Request for Input from Cut Flower 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 crops 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 hereby requests input from groups representing domestic cut flower 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 a crop insurance program for this crop. Of particular interest is any input that would help RMA determine growers' interest in such a crop insurance program, as well as specific suggestions and concerns regarding the structure, scope, and limitations that such a program should have.

Please provide your input to Robert Cerda by March 22, 2001, to assure its consideration. Mr. Cerda may be reached by telephone at (816) 926-6341, by fax at (816) 926-7343, by e-mail at "Rob_Cerda@rm.fcic.usda.gov," or at the following postal address:

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



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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Anyone who is aware of other persons or organizations representing cut flower producers is encouraged to provide a copy of this Informational Memorandum to them and/or to advise Mr. Cerda how to contact them. Listed below are organizations that are being provided this Memorandum because they were previously identified as possible contacts interested in providing input.

- The American Floral Endowment
- The American Floral Marketing Council
- The Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers
- The California Flower Cooperative
- The California Cut Flower Commission
- The California Flower Market, Inc.
- The Colorado Greenhouse Growers Association
- The National Florist Association
- The Hawaii Tropical Flower Council
- The Illinois State Florists Association
- The Massachusetts Flower Growers' Association
- The Missouri State Florists' Association
- The Ohio Florists' Association
- The Oregon Horticultural Society
- The Society of American Florists
- Roses, Inc.
- The Pennsylvania Flower Growers
- The San Diego County Flower and Plant Association
- The Southeast Greenhouse Conference

DISPOSAL DATE:

This Informational Memorandum is effective until the disposal date, April 30, 2001.