

Corn Combo Prices and Spring-Planted Crop Enrollment

Lock in Crop Insurance Prices, Signup by March 15

Producers who want to protect their investments from rising input costs, unstable markets and adverse weather conditions can sign up for crop insurance coverage on insurable spring-planted crops by March 15.

As has been evident from recent weather fluctuations, crop insurance is an essential part of doing business. Crop insurance has helped many farmers who suffered severe crop damage get back on their feet. Crop insurance keeps farmers farming.

The principle insurable spring crops for NH farmers are corn and fresh market sweet corn. Protection for additional crops may be available by written agreement or by using the NAP program from FSA/USDA.

Prices announced on March 1 for crop insurance protection and claims in 2012 are:

- * Corn conventional practice insured as grain is \$5.68/bu.
- * Corn organic practice insured as grain is \$7.99/bu.
- * Corn insured as silage with a tonnage guarantee is \$50 per ton;

Examples: Producers with a conventional corn price of \$5.68 per bushel can purchase protection for a farm with a 125 bushel APH yield ranging from \$195 to \$604 per acre. Producers with a corn silage price of \$50 per ton can purchase protection for an 18 ton APH yield ranging from \$247 to \$765 per acre.

Producers insuring multiple or large farms may also be able to insure using "enterprise units" to receive up to a 50 percent premium discount. Enterprise units may reduce premium cost by up to 50% which may allow them a higher coverage levels.

Producers should contact their local crop insurance agent before March 15 to purchase insurance or make changes to existing policies. A list of agents can be found at www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/agents.