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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY
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Request for Input to Improve Common Acreage Reporting Process

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, July 25, 2011 — U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA) and Farm Service Agency (FSA) published a Federal Register request (July 19) for input to help USDA improve services and reduce duplication of effort, including collecting information from the public. The request for information is titled: "Retrospective Review; Improving Common Acreage Reporting Processes."

The Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS) agencies including FSA and RMA have been working on a joint, coordinated initiative to have a common USDA framework for producer's to report information to participate in certain USDA programs. As part of the continued Acreage/Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative (ACRSI) implementation effort, USDA expects the ACRSI will expand on the success of the Comprehensive Information Management System (CIMS), which compiles common producer, program and land information collected by FSA, RMA and Approved Crop Insurance Companies (AIP).

"We are committed to the goals of increasing efficiency and effectiveness in administering USDA programs through the use of technology," said RMA's Spokane Regional Office Director Dave Paul. *"It should also reduce the reporting burden on producers, and cut USDA administrative and operating costs by sharing similar data across participating agencies."*

The announcement includes a 60-day comment period (ending September 19, 2011) required by the Paperwork Reduction Act for changes to the information collection.

Additional information on RMA programs is available at: www.rma.usda.gov