



United States
Department of
Agriculture

August 25, 2017

Farm Production
and Conservation

Risk
Management
Agency

Beacon Facility
Mail Stop 0801
P.O. Box 419205
Kansas City,
MO 64141-6205

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: PM-17-049

TO: All Approved Insurance Providers
All Risk Management Agency Field Offices
All Other Interested Parties

FROM: Richard H. Flournoy /s/*Richard H. Flournoy*
Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Rainfall Index and Vegetation Index Basic Provisions and Rainfall Index
Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Crop Provisions Changes Effective for 2018 and
Succeeding Crop Years

BACKGROUND:

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) has revised the Rainfall Index and Vegetation Index Basic Provisions (Basic Provisions) to incorporate changes made in the 2014 Farm Bill Final Rule that was published in the Federal Register on June 30, 2016. This will replace the Farm Bill Amendment that was issued April 2017. In addition, language was added to the Basic Provisions and the Pasture, Rangeland, Forage (PRF) Crop Provisions to allow for organic practice to be offered.

ACTION:

The following materials will be available, by close of business today, on the RMA website at www.rma.usda.gov/policies/pasturerangeforage/.

- Rainfall and Vegetation Index Basic Provisions (18-RIVI)
- Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Crop Provisions (18-RI-PRF)
- Rainfall and Vegetation Index Insurance Standards Handbook

In addition to these changes, RMA will be updating the county base values for the intended uses of grazing and non-irrigated hay under the PRF program. This update will change the county base value from a state level price to a sub-state level price for all states for the 2018 crop year. Actuarial documents will be released by the Contract Change Date.

Questions regarding these modifications may be directed to rma.kcviri@rma.usda.gov.

DISPOSAL DATE:

December 31, 2017