



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm Production
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Risk
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INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

TO: All Approved Insurance Providers Writing in the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia

FROM: Alexander Sereno /s/
Director, Raleigh Regional Office (RO)

SUBJECT: Written Agreement Handbook Requirements for Paragraph 22A(7) - New Written Agreement requests and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey

BACKGROUND:

The 2020 Written Agreement Handbook (WAH) Paragraph 22A (7) states “All new requests for a written agreement (WA) must include NRCS soil surveys, if required by the RO [see footnote (1) of Exhibit 5]”; Footnote (1) of Exhibit 5 states, “A RO may not need soil survey maps submitted. Check the applicable RO web site at www.rma.usda.gov/RMALocal/Field-Offices/Regional-Offices for requirements when soil surveys need to be submitted with the request.”

The purpose of this Informational Memorandum is to provide Approved Insurance Providers that write in the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia with the Raleigh Regional Office requirements on submitting NRCS soil surveys for new WA requests.

ACTION

For 2020 and succeeding crop years, the Raleigh Regional Office will require submission of NRCS soil surveys for new actuarial change requests for New Breaking and Unrated Land type written agreements. NRCS soil surveys are not required for any actuarial change request types not included above.

New Breaking or Unrated Land type requests submitted without the NRCS soil surveys will be considered incomplete per Paragraph 23 of the and may be subject to non-acceptance per Paragraph 33 of the WAH. New Breaking and Unrated Land type requests that are incomplete due to missing NRCS soil surveys will result in a scorecard error in accordance with Paragraph 66 of the WAH.

While the Raleigh Regional Office only requires NRCS soil surveys for new actuarial change requests for New Breaking and Unrated Land type written agreements, a soil analysis will continue to be reviewed for all request types when required in Part 3 of the WAH. Please note that the Raleigh Regional Office reserves the right to request soil surveys on a case by case basis when required in Part 3 of the WAH. Any such request will not result in a scorecard error.

Please contact the Raleigh Regional Office at RSONC@usda.gov if you have any additional questions.

DISPOSAL DATE: This bulletin will remain in effect until rescinded or superseded.