



2009 Grape Insurance Fact Sheet

Why should I consider purchasing crop insurance for grapes?

A severe crop loss can significantly impact cash flow. In some cases, producers may have to convert operating expenses into long term debt to cover a loss. If you produce grapes for either wine or juice, your crop may be insurable. Most grape varieties are insurable if vines have reached the fifth growing season. Concord, Elvira, and Niagara varieties are insurable after four years. In addition, production must average at least two tons per acre for at least one of the past three recent crop years.

Insurance for vinifera grapes is available by individual written agreement only. Average yield must be at least two tons per acre, backed up by a minimum of five years production records. All new policy holders must have a vineyard inspection.

What type of coverage does the policy offer?

Grape crop insurance provides a means to manage risk resulting from natural perils such as: adverse weather; fire; insects; plant disease; and wildlife.

Is coverage available in all grape producing counties?

Grape producers in Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Ulster, Wayne, and Yates counties are eligible to purchase crop insurance. Grapes in other counties may be insurable by written agreement under specific criteria.

What kind of records do I have to keep?

An acreage report is due by January 31, 2009. Information to include is the number and ages of productive vines, and changes impacting yield potential such as vine damage or removal, cultural practice changes, etc. Additional information may be required by the policy. Refer to you crop insurance agent for specific questions.

Which Dates are important?

Sales Closing/policy changes *..... November 20, 2008
Production Report Due.....January 31, 2009
Acreage Report Due..... January 31, 2009
Premium Billing September 15, 2009

*Covers price/level and cancellation

When does coverage begin?

Coverage begins on November 21, 2008 or after the policy is approved *, and ends at the earliest of: (1) total destruction of the crop, (2) harvest of the crop, (3) final adjustment of a claim, (4) abandonment of the orchard, (5) November 5, 2009.

*Coverage may be delayed due to pre-approval underwriting inspections.

What is the minimum amount of coverage available?

Catastrophic coverage (CAT) offers a 50% production guarantee and pays losses at 55% of the Federal Crop Insurance maximum indemnity price.

Buy up coverage is available, and you can choose the level of production history to guarantee, up to 75%. The table below illustrates coverage level and premium subsidy percentages.

Coverage Level % → 50 55 60 65 70 75

Premium Subsidy % 67 64 64 59 59 55
Your Premium Share % 33 36 36 41 41 45

Crop insurance enrollment required to be eligible for Farm Bill Crop Disaster Payments

For 2009 and future years, you must have all crops enrolled in crop insurance or NAP to be eligible for disaster payments. Remember that the crop insurance indemnities and disaster payments are each larger if you insure at higher levels of coverage. For more information, contact your county FSA/USDA Office.

What are the price elections for the insurable crop year?

Group	Insurable Varieties	Price/ Ton
A1	Aurora, Elvira, Ventura, & all natives	\$230
A2	Catawba, Dutchess	\$255
A3	Niagara	\$235
A4	Concord	\$215
B1	Delaware, Golden Muscat, Ives	\$320
B2	Cascade, Castel, DeChaunac, Isabella, Rosette, and others	\$410
B3	Cayuga White, Rougeon, Seyval Blanc	\$490
B4	Baco Noir, Vidal Blanc, Vignoles, Villard Blanc	\$515
B5	Leon Millot, Marechal Foch, Verdellet Blanc, Vincent	\$535
B6	Chancellor, Chelois, Colobel	\$590
C	Chambourcin, Traminette	\$860
Group	Vinifera Varieties	Price/ Ton
D1	Chardonnay, Lemberger, & other viniferas not specified below	\$1,235
D2	Riesling, Pinot Blanc	\$1,370
D3	Gewurztraminer, Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir	\$1,490
D4	Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Gamay Beaujolais	\$1,505
D5	Merlot, Sangiovese	\$1,710

Where can I find out more about purchasing crop insurance in New York State?

Contact a crop insurance agent for more information before the 11/20/08 deadline. Additional information is also available at web page: <http://www.rma.usda.gov> . If you need help locating a crop insurance agent, a list is available at the web page: <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/agents/index.cfm> or contact Sarah Johnston at, e-mail: sarahjohnston@agmkt.state.ny.us or by calling 518-457-4531.

