

Frequently asked questions about the 2012 forage crop

August 8, 2012

1. When are Production Insurance claims being paid?

After the rainfall collection period, Agricorp sends producers a rainfall report. The report details any applicable claims, which are based on the coverage amount and option. If a claim is payable, the cheque will be included with the report. Excess rainfall reports and claims are mailed mid-August and insufficient rainfall reports and claims are mailed mid-September. Producers do not need to contact Agricorp to make a claim.

2. How can my AgriStability coverage help me?

AgriStability covers margin declines of more than 15 per cent that are caused by any combination of production losses, adverse market conditions or increased costs, including those caused by adverse weather. Farmers in Prescribed Drought Regions, who are forced to sell breeding stock due to shortages in hay and pasture, will be protected from reductions in their reference margin. For more information on AgriStability, read *AgriStability in plain language* (http://www.agricorp.com/en-ca/Programs/AgriStability/Pages/Publications.aspx).

3. When will we know the final rainfall data?

Rainfall data from May to August is posted on agricorp.com every month (http://www.agricorp.com/en-ca/Programs/ProductionInsurance/ForageRainfall/Pages/RainfallData.aspx).

4. When can an adjuster come out to inspect my crop?

Adjusters don't inspect crops in response to a claim because payments are based on rainfall data. They may examine your crops to determine their value when you apply for new coverage or changes to coverage.

5. What if I get a lot of rain on one day of my rainfall period that affects or prevents my claim but doesn't help my crop?

In recognition that there is a limit to the benefit of increased rainfall on a single day, daily rainfall is capped at 50 millimetres.

6. Why is the coverage only for rainfall?

Agricorp, OMAFRA and industry groups worked together to develop a simple program with minimal delivery costs. Insurance for forage is challenging worldwide because damage and value are difficult to assess without processes that cost more than the value of the crop. Rainfall derivative is a widely-accepted approach to provide protection against the most significant peril and to ensure producers receive timely payments when they need them.

7. How do we know the rainfall data is accurate?

The rainfall data is collected by the Weather Innovations Network, a professional weather service using a network of 350 rainfall collection stations across Ontario. Producers can choose the location of the rainfall station in their surrounding area to ensure the rainfall data used most closely matches the rainfall patterns for their farm.