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Insuring Canola in the Rolling Plains of Texas

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All crop insurance coverage for canola in Texas must be established via a written agreement.

Deadline for signing an application for canola insurance and to request a written agreement for canola coverage is ***August 31, 2006***. This deadline does not require that canola must be planted or that the written agreement offer must be accepted by the producer. However, if this request for written agreement is not submitted and accepted than a producer will not be able to insure canola for the 2007 growing season.

Producers will need to meet with a local crop insurance agent to sign a request form and supply supporting documents prior to the August 31, 2006 deadline. Supporting Documents include: Evidence of Adaptability, Actual Production History Certification Form – 2007, and Production Records.

Winter wheat, barley and oats are considered similar crops. If wheat, barley, or oats is insured submit a complete, signed, dated Actual Production History (APH) for at least three years of wheat, barley, or oat production history. If not insured submit actual records of production and APH form for at least three years of wheat, barley, or oat production history. You may only select one of the aforementioned crops.

Recommendation by agriculture expert specifically stating fall planted canola is adapted to the relevant county will be need.

Currently only APH Insurance Plan available, no Revenue Plans available.

Coverage levels for canola range from catastrophic level to the 75% level.

Currently transitional yields are being established for Rolling Plains counties. These are preliminary estimates and are subject to change. Current yields established for some Oklahoma counties include 1,400 lb/A for dryland and 2,000 lb/A for irrigated. Transitional yields for Rolling Plains counties could vary between 800 to 1400 lbs/A for dryland depending on past wheat or other small grain production history.

Current premium rate for dryland is 17% and 13% for irrigated. This is an estimate without subsidy, is subject to change, and may vary by county or individual depending on past wheat or other small grain production history.

The 2007 price election for canola has been set at 10.5 cents/lb.

Current insurance planting dates for North Central Oklahoma counties is an earliest planting date of September 10, 2006 and a final planting date of October 10, 2006. These dates have not yet been firmly established for the Rolling Plains. Preliminary dates for the Rolling Plains suggest the earliest planting date will be September 20 and a final planting date of October 15 and may very slightly once finally settled.

There is a late planting period of 5 days after the final planting date (October 10 for North Central Oklahoma). Guarantee will be reduced 3% for each day canola is planted after the final planting date.

Canola must be planted in rows of 16-inches or less. Wide row planting (greater than 16-inches) is not insurable at this time.

Broadcast planting, followed by mechanical incorporation is allowed. However, an adequate stand must be established and be inspected and accepted by the insurance provider. Therefore, if canola is planted with this method and does not come up to an adequate stand than it will not be insurable. This is not a requirement for drill planted canola.

Currently insurance will not be provided if canola is planted on any acreage that was planted to canola, crambe, chickpeas, dry beans, mustard, rapeseed, or sunflowers the previous crop year. This also is subject to change in the future.

Grazing of canola is an uninsurable practice at this time.

There will be a quality adjustment (canola grade, kernel damage, odor) in regards to canola.

There is policy in place for a replant payment. This is allowed if the canola is damaged by insurable cause or loss, most similarly situated producers would not continue to care for the crop, and replanting is a practical option. In this situation the payment is lesser of 20% of the guarantee or 175 lb/A.

Organic canola is insurable with no adjustment to the guarantee per acre rate and a 5% surcharge to the premium rate.

As with all crops good farming practices must be followed to produce the crop and to qualify for any potential insurance claims.

This document is an appended review of current canola insurance provisions and therefore, does not include all language and rules that must be followed. In addition, any of these rules are subject to change. Therefore, producers should thoroughly read any crop insurance documents and make sure they are clear with their insurance provider on all rules and provisions. This information provided herein is for educational purposes only and is not attended as a final rules document and no endorsement by the Texas Cooperative Extension is implied, and may not be reproduced without permission.