

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board; Notice of Stakeholder Listening Session

**AGENCY:** Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of stakeholder listening session.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463), the United States Department of Agriculture, the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board announces a stakeholder "listening session" in the North Central Region on priority setting and performance assessment for agricultural research, education, and economics. This meeting is scheduled in conjunction with the Joint meeting of the North Central Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors and the Council on Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board (referred to hereafter as the Advisory Board) will hear views from university senior officials and other stakeholder interest groups on research priorities and USDA's performance planning, as part of an ongoing effort to obtain input from diverse stakeholder interest groups on critical issues in food and agriculture. The Advisory Board Chair, Executive Director, and several Advisory Board members will represent the Board at this "listening session."

Approximately 50 individuals are expected to participate in the "listening session," which will be held at the Ramada University Hotel and Conference Center, Columbus, Ohio, on July 17, 1997, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Panelists from the North Central Region will present statements to the Advisory Board on national priorities for agricultural research, education, extension, and economics, and on measures for assessing performance and outcomes of Federally-funded research and education.

Statements by these stakeholders will be based, in part, on the draft Research, Education, and Economics (REE) Strategic Plan for the mission area and the draft REE and Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) Performance Plans.

Comments presented at this North Central Region "listening session" will be carefully considered by the 30-member Advisory Board as they develop final recommendations to the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics on the USDA Strategic and Performance Plans, prior to USDA's submission of the plans and budget to the Office of Management and Budget (by September 30, 1997).

**Dates:** July 17, 1997, 8:30 a.m.–noon.  
**Place:** Ramada University Hotel and Conference Center, Columbus, Ohio.

**Type of Meeting:** Open to the public.  
**Comments:** The public may file written comments before or after the "listening session" with the contact person listed below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Deborah Hanfman, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 3918 South, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP: 2255, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2255. Telephone: 202-720-3684.

Done at Washington, DC, this 12th day of June 1997.

**Catherine E. Woteki,**

*Acting Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

#### Revenue Assurance

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with section 508(h) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (Act), the Federal Crop Insurance

Corporation (FCIC) Board of Directors (Board) approves the insurance of corn and soybeans in select states and counties under the Revenue Assurance plan of insurance. This notice is intended to inform eligible producers and the private insurance industry of the availability of the Revenue Assurance plan of insurance and its terms and conditions.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Timothy Hoffmann, Director, Product Development Division, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, United States Department of Agriculture, 9435 Holmes Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64131, telephone, (816) 926-7387.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 508(h) of the Act allows for the submission of a policy to FCIC's Board and authorizes the Board to review and, if the Board finds that the interests of producers are adequately protected and that any premiums charged to the producers are actuarially appropriate, approve the policy for reinsurance and subsidy, in accordance with section 508(e) of the Act.

In accordance with the Act, the Board approved a program of insurance known as Revenue Assurance, originally submitted by Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company.

The Revenue Assurance program has been approved for reinsurance and premium subsidy, including subsidy for administrative and operating expenses. Revenue Assurance is designed to protect a producer's loss of revenue resulting from low prices, low yields, or a combination of both. The Revenue Assurance policy provides coverage on basic units, optional units, enterprise units, or whole-farm units as selected by the producer.

The Revenue Assurance program is available for corn and soybeans in all counties of Iowa beginning with the 1997 crop year.

Upon a written request, FCIC will provide the Revenue Assurance underwriting rules, rate factors and forms for corn and soybeans. FCIC will also make available the terms and conditions of the Revenue Assurance reinsurance agreement. Requests for such information should be sent to Timothy Hoffmann, at the above stated address.

FCIC herewith gives notice of the availability of the Revenue Assurance program of insurance for use by private