ASR Website and GOOD FARMING PRACTICES

Risk Management Agency
Legislated Authority

- ARPA 2000 - Amended Section 508(a)(3)(A) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act
  - Insurance provided . . . shall not cover losses due to –
    (iii) the failure of the producer to follow good farming practices, including scientifically sound sustainable and organic farming practices.
Legislated Authority

A producer shall have the right to a review of a determination regarding good farming practices made under subparagraph (A)(iii) in accordance with an informal administrative process to be established by the Corporation.

[Sec. 508(a)(3)(B)(i)]
The Problem

- Documentation supporting a grower’s good farming practices was often insufficient.
- Insurance companies delivering crop insurance policies also needed information on which to base their decisions if a grower did not carry out good farming practices.
The ASR Website provides real-time guidance to growers which they could use to document their good farming practices.

The guidance was provided by agricultural experts within the Cooperative Extension System.

The guidance was available to both growers and insurance companies.

Soybean alerts made everyone aware of the areas where soybean rust might become a problem.
Published Material

- Required to support good farming practice determinations
- Information published by an agricultural expert such as agronomy guides, extension service publications, chemical labels, scientifically sound research, textbooks, university agronomic recommendations
ASR Website Provided:

- Means to track the movement of soybean rust
- Guidance (published material) to growers in affected areas
- Ability to print this guidance for documentation purposes
- Accurate information to support good farming practices if questioned
Expanded Effort

- ARPA legislation also provided a means to fund the ASR Website for 2006
- Authorizes partnerships to develop risk management tools for producers
- Emphasis on specialty crops (other legumes) and underserved agricultural commodities
Expanded Effort

- $2.3 Million for the project
- Pest risk management tool for legumes
- Develop the risk management system to provide stakeholders with effective decision support for managing pests and diseases of legume crops, particularly soybean rust
Partnership

- RMA is partnering with Cooperative Extension and North Carolina State University (NCSU)
- NCSU will develop/expand/manage the surveillance and monitoring system
- CSREES will manage all partnership reward related activities
- RMA will collaborate on the testing and evaluation of the tools; its features, training and future plans to administer, maintain and update the risk management tool
Closing

- RMA is very excited to support this effort
- Assists our good farming practice initiative
- Growers may use the site to document their management practices
- Loss adjustment process is now more efficient and less costly as a result
Questions?

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