

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 23, 2009

William J. Murphy
Administrator, Risk Management Agency
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, Room 6092-S
Washington, DC 20250-0805

Dear Administrator Murphy,

With increased precipitation this fall, many farmers are growing increasingly concerned about the effects that extremely wet weather conditions have had in hampering the progress of the 2009 harvest. With this in mind we write to request for an extension of the End of Insurance Period (EOIP) date.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Climatic Data Center the United States recorded the wettest October in history. Four of the nine regions that the United States is divided into have seen precipitation levels in the top 5 wettest years on record.

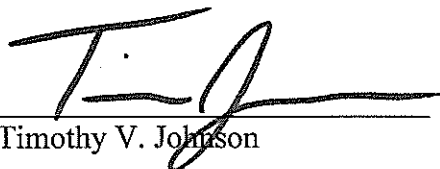
The increased precipitation has hindered farmers from getting to the fields and led to a longer than normal harvesting season. According to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, in the 18 states that harvested 94% of total acres of corn in the U.S. last year only 54% of the crop has been harvested as of November 15th. This is alarmingly below the five-year average of 89% and represents the slowest pace in harvesting since at least the mid-1970's when crop production records first began to appear in the *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*.

In addition, the top 18 states in soybean production are also facing challenges. This year 89% of the crop has been harvested as of November 15th as compared to a five-year average of 96%. As always the pain is localized with many individual counties facing the wettest or near wettest fall on record.

While we recognize that producers unable to harvest by December 10th can request additional time from their crop insurance company, we believe the most complete and thorough course of action to protect producers is to extend the EOIP date. As a result of unprecedented harvesting conditions, producers are focused on rushing to complete the 2009 harvest and we believe these circumstances make the case for an extension of the EOIP date.

We appreciate the guidance that RMA has provided to farmers on this issue and thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,


Timothy V. Johnson


Bill Foster

Phil Hare

Phil Hare

Aaron Schock

Aaron Schock

Jerry Moran

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John Shimkus (11-19)

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Joe Donnelly

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