

The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library

This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.

Help ensure our sustainability.

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search
http://ageconsearch.umn.edu
aesearch@umn.edu

Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.





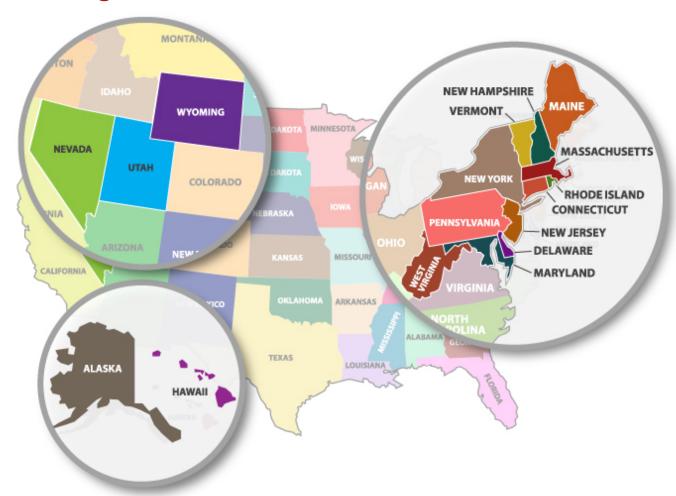
Crop Insurance Education: What we have learned in New York





RMA Targeted States Cooperative Agreement

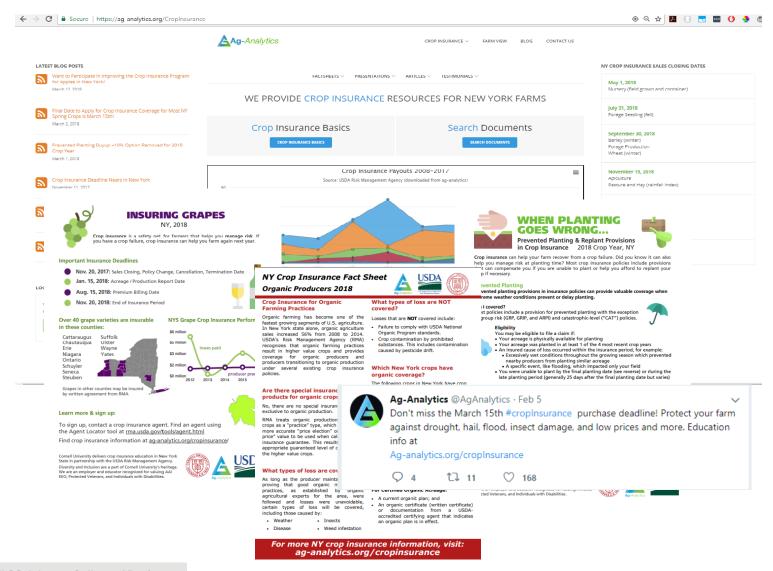
- RMA program targeting 17 states with relatively low crop insurance participation rates.
- The goal is to conduct crop insurance education and promotion activities so producers better understand the crop insurance options available to them.



RMA Targeted States Cooperative Agreement Activities

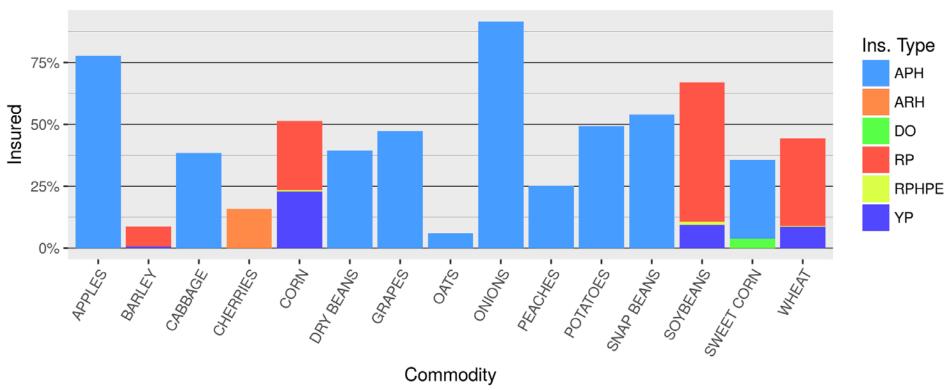
- Several extension partners help deliver an outreach program to diverse producer groups across the state
 - In person activities and presentations
 - Fact sheets and other "education materials"
 - Tailored towards needs of specific groups based on production specialization and crop insurance knowledge
 - For example, crop insurance basics vs. updates on new products
 - Support for record keeping and general risk management in addition to crop insurance to support underserved groups such as beginning farmers.
- Website and mobile app (forthcoming)

RMA Targeted States Cooperative Agreement Activities



Crop Insurance uptake in New York varies by crop





Source: RMA Summary of Business, NASS.

Note: Acres bearing for apples and other crops as relevant. 40-50% of onions are insured at the CAT level.

Many types of crop insurance products are available

Yield: apple, barley, fresh-market green beans, processing green beans, dry beans, cabbage, corn, forage production, grain sorghum, grape, green pea, oat, onion, peach, potato, soybean, processing sweet corn, processing tomato, winter wheat

Revenue: barley, corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, tart cherry (pilot), winter wheat, Whole Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP)

Dollar: fresh market sweet corn, nursery

Index: API, PRF

Education challenges: misperception of products

"I don't buy crop insurance because five years ago I had crop insurance for garlic and the payout was not even close to the value of the garlic."

- NY farmer after 2018 RMA Targeted States presentation

(Garlic is not and has never been covered under Federal crop insurance/MPCI, was likely referring to NAP)

Why are some NY farmers underserved?

Misunderstanding may play a role:

- Some do not understand that CI is a riskmanagement tool and not an investment.
 - "I tried insurance twice, and paid in \$500 and got nothing back. I can't continue such losses." (Clendenin 1942, p. 261)
- FSA NAP products are confused with RMA products.
- Thought they should have received a payout when they did not.

These are all education issues...



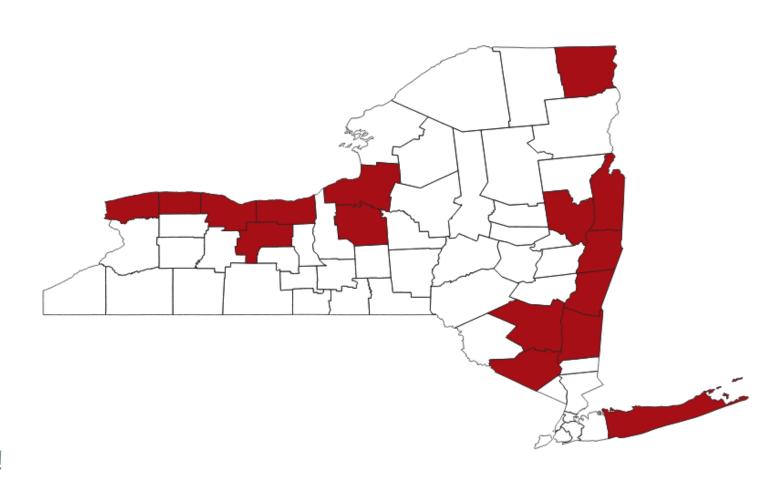
We as extension educators are learning as well!

- NY ag is diverse with several specialty crops that have smaller insurance markets.
- There are several different groups that we present to
 - Specialized and diversified
- Current level of the understanding of crop insurance varies greatly across groups
 - Crop Insurance 101
 - Very specific questions about specific policy provisions
- Let's now look at a New York case...



Crop Insurance for New York Apples

- New York is the second largest U.S. producer of apples.
 - 40,000 bearing acres 2016 (NASS)
 - Most operations specialize in apple production.
- Crop insurance uptake is over 75% of bearing acres.
 - 31,093 acres insured 2017 (RMA)
 - Crop insurance is very important to many producers!



Crop Insurance for New York Apples – APH Policy

Quality Adjustment:

- Basic Coverage: U.S. No. 1 Processing or better is considered production to count.
- Optional Coverage: Apples are graded on quality and a yield adjustment is made.
- Most NY growers opt for the optional quality coverage

Fresh Apple Certification:

- At least 50% of production from reported acreage must have been sold as fresh apples in one or more of the four most recent crop years.
- Blocks

Outreach to NY apples growers

- Partner with regional fruit/commercial horticulture extension programs that hold "fruit schools" in the winter
- Extension newsletter articles
- Meet with individual growers
- WFRP cases/scenario analysis (ongoing)



Crop Insurance for New York Apples

Current Feedback

- RMA Listening Sessions
- Projected prices
 - Varietal groups
 - New varieties/uses
- Quality grades classification as processing vs fresh
- Some resistance to WFRP



Concluding Remarks...

- Our extension programs reach diverse producers through diverse means to provide risk management education on multiple crop insurance products
- There are misconceptions that may serve as barriers to higher crop insurance participation
 - These are being addressed by educational efforts but take time
- We are constantly learning...
- We work to change the way producers look at risk so that crop insurance decisions become part of their overall farm management practice.

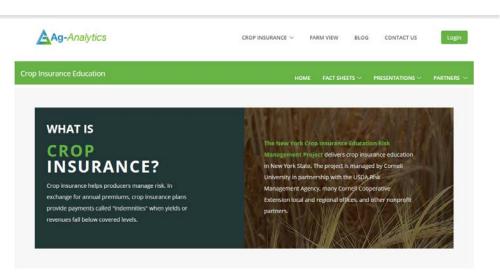
Cornell Crop Insurance & Risk Management Education Project Resources

Currently available

- Newly updated website including
 - Articles
 - Fact sheets
 - Presentations
 - Videos
 - Farmer testimonials

Coming soon

- Risk management podcast series
- More NY case studies
- More fact sheets
- Whole Farm Revenue Protection examples



Cornell University delivers crop insurance education in New York State in partnership with the USDA Risk Management Agency.

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.





Respond Now

Be counted. Answers to the Census of Agriculture can help grow your farm's future, shape farm programs, and boost services for communities and the industry.

Respond Online. www.agcounts.usda.gov

For assistance completing the census, call toll-free (888) 424-7828.

www.agcensus.usda.gov

