Montana Hail Insurance Program

The Montana Hail Insurance Program was created in 1917 to provide basic hail insurance coverage on any crop grown in Montana. The program and its staff continue to provide timely, quality service to the agricultural producers of Montana.

Benefits of the Program

- Economical basic hail insurance
- More than nine decades of crop insurance experience
- Premium rates that are established on a county by county basis
- Self-supporting through an enterprise fund of producer dollars
- Maintains a reserve fund to protect policy holders in the event of a catastrophic year
- Directed by a producer-oriented Hail Board
- Hail Board may issue refunds in years where premiums exceed losses, expenses, and actuarial requirements

Additional information can be obtained from:

County Department of Revenue Appraisal & Assessment Offices

OR

Montana Hail Insurance Program

Montana Department of Agriculture
PO Box 200201
Helena, Montana 59620-0201
(406) 444-2402
(406) 444-9442 fax
agr@mt.gov
agr.mt.gov

MONTANA Department of AGRICULTURE

EXHIBIT 2
DATE 1-15-13
HB 189

HAIL INSURANCE PROGRAM

Serving Montana Producers Since 1917

MONTANA Department of AGRICULTURE

Crop Coverage

- Maximum coverage:
  - $50 per acre on non irrigated crops
  - $76 per acre on irrigated crops
- Coverage begins at 12:01 a.m. on the day following issuance of the policy
- Premiums for each county are a percentage of the covered amount, determined by a formula that includes historic hail losses (view rates at agr.mt.gov/crops/hailRates.asp)
- Crops covered:

- Alfalfa
- Alfalfa Seed
- Barley
- Beans
- Camelina
- Canary Seed
- Canola
- Chickpeas
- Corn
- Flax
- Fruits
- Grass Seed
- Hay
- Herbs
- Lentils
- Millet
- Mint
- Mustard
- Oats
- Peas
- Potatoes
- Rape
- Rye
- Safflower
- Sanfoin
- Sorghum
- Soybeans
- Speltz
- Sugar Beets
- Sunflower
- Triticale
- Truck Crops
- Wheat
- Wheatgrass

Important Information & Deadlines

- August 15: Last date to purchase Montana Hail Insurance policies
- October 1: Deadline for claims to be submitted to Montana Hail Insurance Program
- Coverage begins at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the date the policy is issued
- Losses must be reported to Montana Hail Insurance Program within 2 weeks of hail damage occurrence

Purchase Insurance

- Producers may purchase Montana Hail Insurance from the county Department of Revenue Appraisal and Assessment Office until August 15 annually.
- Policies may be paid with cash, charged on a crop lien, or charged to the personal assessment.
- Cash policies receive a 4% premium discount.

Crop Loss Adjustment & Payment

- The program has adjusters available to inspect and adjust hail loss claims.
- It is the participating producers' responsibility to inform the Hail Insurance Program of any losses within two weeks of the loss occurrence.
- When insured with the State and another insurance company, always send a loss claim to each company to ensure claims are processed.

Montana Board of Hail Insurance

The Montana Hail Insurance Program is directed by a five-member Board of Hail Insurance consisting of the Director of the Montana Department of Agriculture, the Montana State Auditor, and three other members appointed by the Governor. The program is assigned to the Montana Department of Agriculture for administrative purposes, and is self supporting through a trust and reserve established with premiums paid by participating producers.