

# Information on Risk Management Agency and other Financial Services for Ag Businesses During COVID-19

Even in normal times, running an agricultural business involves financial risk. Bad weather, crop pests and diseases, and any number of other contingencies can affect the bottom line.

With the COVID-19 pandemic bringing even more uncertainty to the agricultural industry, farmers may be in need of financial or other support services to help them cope with additional problems that the pandemic may bring to their operations.

All NJDA services regarding crop insurance can be found at

<https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/grants/disaster.html>

Since the Risk Management Agency's (RMA) partners in the crop insurance delivery system are insurance companies and their agents and adjustors, the USDA depends upon them as the customer-facing service on behalf of RMA. Should a crop failure occur locally, the Approved Insurance Providers (AIPs) and their agents and adjustors would be able to accomplish most tasks through telephone and email. With regards to payment of escrow to the AIPs, this process happens in RMA's Kansas City office. Should that office be affected, most of the work will be done via telework. USDA also has capabilities to shift functions to the other regional offices as well to perform those tasks.

USDA's Risk Management Agency has valuable information regarding crop insurance and other programs that may be of use for farmers as they plan for the upcoming season and beyond. That information can be found at: <https://www.rma.usda.gov/>

Other important and useful USDA information directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic can be found at: <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2020/03/17/usda-continues-focus-service-during-covid-19-outbreak>

If you need mental health resources, go to <https://www.nj211.org/mental-health-resources>