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# News Release

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## **Sales Closing Date for Fall-Planted Annual Forage Is Near**

BILLINGS Mont., July 1, 2014 — USDA’s Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds producers in North Dakota and South Dakota that the sales closing date for fall-planted forage insured under the Annual Forage insurance program is July 15.

The Annual Forage program uses a gridded rainfall index as a proxy for rangeland and forage production and is intended to reflect how much precipitation is received relative to the long term average for a specified area and timeframe. Producers are able to divide their liability into two-month index intervals targeting when precipitation is important for the crop being planted. It is critical for producers to review the historical data for their grid. Producers can review historical grid data on the RMA website at: [www.rma.usda.gov/policies/ri-vi/](http://www.rma.usda.gov/policies/ri-vi/).

“Producers should contact their crop insurance agent for more information on the Annual Forage program,” Cynthia Cruea, acting director of RMA’s Billings Regional Office said. For more information on how to find a crop insurance agent go to: [www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html](http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html).

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