While hemp did make it into the new Farm Bill, various USDA agencies still have work to do on setting standards and policy regarding this commodity. Until hemp is incorporated into federal programs, each USDA agency is proceeding with establishing hemp within the various commodity programs.

**Risk Coverage for hemp**

**Crop Insurance** – The USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) administers federal crop insurance programs. Multi-Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) covers loss of crop yields due to all types of natural causes including drought, excessive moisture, freeze, and disease. Whole Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) is a revenue protection insurance program, providing a risk management safety net for all commodities on the farm. Currently there is no MPCI coverage for hemp, and hemp is not yet listed on the WFRP commodity list. But for producers with a lot of interest in this crop, you are encouraged to write letters advocating for insuring hemp, especially if you have acreage, yield, and pricing information. Producers in the Northeastern states can send correspondence to:

Alex Sereno, Director  
RMA Raleigh Regional Office  
4405 Bland Road  
Suite 160  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

**Disaster Assistance** – One of the programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) is the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), designed to protect against losses on expected crop yields for non-insurable crops. FSA offices across the nation do not yet have the guidance or authority to apply current FSA programs to the hemp crop. This includes FSA loan programs. Farmers should contact your local FSA offices to stay apprised of changes that may occur regarding hemp.

For more information on hemp, go to the UVM Northwest Crops & Soils website:  
[https://www.uvm.edu/extension/nwcrops/crops/industrial-hemp](https://www.uvm.edu/extension/nwcrops/crops/industrial-hemp)

For more information on agricultural risk management in Vermont, go to the UVM Ag Risk website:  
[http://go.uvm.edu/ag-risk](http://go.uvm.edu/ag-risk)