



**United States Department of Agriculture**

Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services  
Risk Management Agency

**INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM**

TO: All Reinsured Companies  
All Risk Management Field Offices  
All Other Interested Parties

FROM: Kenneth D. Ackerman /s/ Ken Ackerman 5-3-99  
Administrator

SUBJECT: Global Change Program Initiatives within USDA

The issue of global climate change is an important issue for agriculture and forestry. The risks of climate change, such as higher temperatures, changes in precipitation, increased climate variability and extreme weather events can result in significant impacts on agriculture, forestry and rural areas. The risks posed by climate change and the substantial challenge presented by mitigation and adaptation strategies require a strong Department of Agriculture (USDA) commitment to global climate change issues.

USDA is committed to working on global climate change remedies. In collaboration with the USDA Global Change Program Office, the Risk Management Agency developed the attached Global Change Fact Sheet, "Climate Change and U.S. Agriculture," to encourage employees and others associated with risk management programs to become more familiar with global climate change impacts on the U.S. agricultural sector.

Attachment