DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors

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** URGENT NOTICE **

September 30, 2008 Deadline - Crop Insurance for 2009 Small Grains
The New Farm Bill Makes Your Decision Critical to Disaster Program Eligibility

The new Farm Bill requires crop insurance on all acres of any insurable crop and/or enrollment in the FSA's Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) on all acres of uninsurable crops in order to be eligible for a new "whole farm" disaster program called Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE). *Delaware producers must apply for crop insurance for their fall seeded wheat and barley BEFORE THE SALES CLOSING DEADLINE – **SEPTEMBER 30, 2008** to be eligible for federal disaster aid (SURE) in 2009.*

Most acreage of barley and wheat planted in Delaware is not currently covered by crop insurance. Farms on which uninsured small grains are grown ***will be ineligible*** for the new SURE program. It is critical that you become informed about your small grain insurance options.

The Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA), in partnership with the USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) is working to make sure producers make an informed decision regarding barley and wheat insurance. The enclosed fact sheets provide an overview of the available coverage for these two crops. You can call the DDA Risk Management Info Line at (877) 673-2767 for more details and to receive a list of crop insurance agents. A list of agents can also be obtained online at:

http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/agents/index.cfm

Contact an agent as soon as possible before September 30, 2008.

Details of the new SURE program, as included in the Farm Bill, are still being formulated. What is known at present is that you must have ***at least the catastrophic level (CAT) of coverage on all insurable crops*** and/or be enrolled in the FSA's Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) on all acres of uninsurable crops in order to be eligible.

Please call Don Clifton on the DDA Crop Insurance Info Line, toll free, at 877-673-2767 for more information.

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