

# CIRB

Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau, Inc.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Industry Leaders Meet to Navigate the Future of Crop Insurance**

Indian Wells, CA — Agriculture leaders emphasized crop insurance's critical role as the cornerstone of federal farm policy during the 49<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau (CIRB).



"Crop insurance is the foundation of the farm safety net," CIRB Chairman Greg Mills said. "The past two years of devastating drought demonstrate the importance of preserving this critical risk management tool for farmers – and we must ensure that our lawmakers hear and understand this success story."

Nearly 100 crop insurance brokers, reinsurers, and members of allied industry attended the meeting. Speakers provided a policy forecast and discussed strategies to build grassroots support for crop insurance in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress.

"As farm bill negotiations heat up, crop insurance is the one program that everyone involved in agriculture can agree on," said Informa Economics President Jim Wiesemeyer, a conference speaker. "Crop insurance has proven its value time and time again and is supported by both policymakers and farmers."



"The upcoming farm bill process holds many unknowns due to the ongoing federal budget debate," Dr. Craig Jagger, a respected economist and farm bill veteran, said. "That's why it is critical to understand the Congressional budget process and how it impacts the legislative process."

Brandon Willis, Acting Administrator of USDA's Risk Management Agency, also discussed the future of the public-private partnership.

As the farm bill process begins again in 2013, CIRB will actively work to ensure that lawmakers understand the many benefits of crop insurance while opposing changes that will undermine the program's effectiveness. CIRB will keep its members engaged through new advocacy outreach in order to strengthen support for the role crop insurance plays in helping farmers provide Americans with an affordable food supply.

CIRB extends special thanks to the sponsors of its annual meeting: ADM Crop Risk Services, Farmers Mutual Hail, Holborn, Partner Re, Munich Re, RCIS, Guy Carpenter, Totsch Enterprises, ProAg, John Deere, Third Point Re, Mapfre Re, Ag Max/Western Ag, and ARMtech.

For more information about CIRB's annual meeting, contact Sarah Hubbard at [shubbart@torreydc.com](mailto:shubbart@torreydc.com) or call (202) 544-0067. Event attendees can access speaker presentations at [www.cropinsurance.org](http://www.cropinsurance.org).

#### **About CIRB:**

Founded in 1964 and headquartered on Capitol Hill, the Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau (CIRB) is proud to provide unparalleled advocacy, support, and membership services to the crop insurance and reinsurance community. Today, CIRB members provide a vital component of the farm safety net, writing policies in every state and providing billions of dollars in crop protection. Learn more at [www.cropinsurance.org](http://www.cropinsurance.org).