

# How to Use the Cost Estimator on the USDA/RMA Website

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1. log onto [www.rma.usda.gov](http://www.rma.usda.gov)
2. in the middle of the page under “Quick Links”, click on [Cost estimator](#)
3. the Main Menu appears. Click on “Detailed Estimate”
4. “Detailed Criteria”, is where you will be using the pull-down menus to select the criteria you want to get information for. For the sake of this demonstration, we’ll use the year 2014, we’re looking at Revenue protection, New York State and Delaware County. So, in the commodity year menu, select 2014. In the Insurance Plan menu, select Revenue Protection 02. In the State menu, choose New York 36 and in the County Menu, select Delaware 025.
5. When all the drop down menus have been filled in, click the “Continue” button
6. A page comes up that is titled “Detailed Estimate”. Delaware County only has the option of insuring corn under revenue protection. Click on “Add Item”.
7. Your farm data will be entered into the window that appears. For the sake of this demonstration, the farm that we are giving data for is growing grain corn on 100 acres with an APH of 120 bushels per acre, that is non-irrigated with 100% share of the crop. So, starting at the top of the column:
  - a. leave “Enterprise” unchecked,
  - b. make sure the “Commodity” says Corn 0041.
  - c. Under “Type”, select Grain 016,
  - d. in the “Practice” row, choose Non-Irrigated 003;
  - e. in the “Reported Acreage” row, type in 100;
  - f. Leave “No” for the prevented planting and multiple cropping questions;
  - g. in the “Insured Share Percent” row, type in 1.000;
  - h. the projected price for grain corn in 2014 is \$4.62 and the “Price Volatility Factor” is 0.19 (these numbers cannot be changed once the estimates are announced on March 1).
  - i. Under the “Approved Yield” row, type in 120;
  - j. under the “Rate Yield”, type in the same number 120.

- k. Leave the “Yield Cup Surcharge” unchecked;
  - l. the “Unit Structure” should be set to Optional and the rest of the column will stay as is.
8. We’re interested in seeing a comparison of Basic Units verses Optional units. To do this, click on the “Add Item” button (at the top of the column...next to the “Corn 0041” drop-down).
  9. Notice the column you had filled out went to “Item 2”. Populate “Item 1” with the same information as “Item 2” except we will click the “Basic” radial button on the “Unit structure” line.
  10. Click on the “Get Estimates” button at the bottom of the columns.
  - 11.. Be patient, it can take a minute or two for the information to appear.
  12. When your Detailed Estimate appears, the first information you can view is the Liability Amount. If you are interested in seeing what the premium amount would be for this particular scenerio, got to “Show Results In Grid” and
    - a. click on the “Total Premium Amount” radial button to find out what the total premium would be (divide by 100 to get the per acre amount)
    - b. click on the “Producer Premium Amount” radial button to find out what your premium price would be (divide by 100 to get the per acre amount)
    - c. click on the “Subsidy Amount” radial button to find out what the amount of subsidy by the federal government is (divide by 100 to get the per acre amount)
    - d. click on the “Loss Trigger Point” to get that information
    - e. if you want detailed information, click on the “Worksheets” option for Item 1 or Item 2



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*The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets has partnered with USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) to provide crop insurance education to New York State farmers. For more information, please visit the NYS Crop Insurance Education website at [www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/CropInsurance.html](http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/CropInsurance.html) or call 800-554-4501. The RMA website is: [www.rma.usda.gov](http://www.rma.usda.gov). To find a crop insurance agent, ask a neighbor for a recommendation, contact your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office or use the USDA RMA crop insurance agent locator tool on the web at [www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html](http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html)*