

**Source:** Risk Management Agency

**Affects:** All Agents in CO, IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, OH, SD, WI

**Date:** May 26, 2011

**Subject:** Biotechnology Endorsement Pilot Program - Smartstax® Refuge-In-A Bag

**Action:** File with Crop Specific Information

**Effective:** 2011

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The Risk Management Agency (RMA) issued the following program announcement.

WASHINGTON, DC, May 25, 2011 – The Risk Management Agency has approved SmartStax® 5% refuge-in-a-bag hybrids as qualifying for the [Pilot Biotechnology Endorsement \(BE\)](#) program, beginning with the 2011 crop year. SmartStax® 5% refuge-in-a-bag is a blend of SmartStax® hybrid and a non-insect-traited hybrid in the same bag. SmartStax® multi-event technology was developed by Monsanto Company and Dow AgroSciences.

The Pilot BE reduces premium rates for corn producers who meet program eligibility requirements and plant qualifying hybrids.

States in the Pilot BE are Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.