

Debate About Farmers' Crop Insurance Heightens

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Years of drenching rainstorms in several northern farm-belt states have caused payments under a popular type of government-subsidized crop insurance to nearly triple in the past decade, heightening debate about whether farmers should be compensated when they can't plant their fields.

Payments for "prevented plantings" exceeded \$2 billion annually in both 2011 and 2013 and are nearing \$1 billion for 2014, with some claims still being...