

Under the Florida Agricultural License and Bond Law, any individual, partnership or corporation who purchases more than \$1,000 annually in Florida agricultural products for the purpose of resale and pays for such purchases by any means other than cash (or cash equivalent) up front, must be licensed and bonded as a dealer in agricultural products. Licenses can be obtained through the Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services (FLDACS), Bureau of Agricultural Dealer's Licenses, in Tallahassee. FLDACS does not write agricultural bonds, but does provide on their website a list of surety bond brokers (insurance companies) who are experienced in providing Florida Agricultural Products Dealer bonds. Collateral required to secure the bond may vary based on the dealer's credit history and fees may vary by insurance company. Once the bond is in place, FLDACS would then act as a liaison between the claimant, dealer and insurance company should a claim against the bond be filed for default of payment or other damages by the dealer. Any such claim against a dealer's agricultural bond may also jeopardize that dealer's license. Bonds are generally valid for one year and can usually be set up to renew automatically.

An example and instructions for preparing an acceptable bond is found at the below link:

<http://forms.freshfromflorida.com/06303.pdf>

Duda's credit department requires evidence of a valid agricultural bond before establishing a credit limit. If a bond is in place, we can usually find the details on the FLDACS website. If not, we might ask that you provide a copy.