

USDA Designates Five Texas Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought

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This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through [emergency loans](#). Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation, or to refinance certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

According to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for eight or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

Impacted Area: Texas

Triggering Disaster: Drought (Fast Track) occurring April 16, 2024, and continuing.

Application Deadline: February 18, 2024

Primary Counties Eligible: Zavala

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible: Dimmit, Frio, Kinney, Maverick, Medina, and Uvalde

Triggering Disaster 2: Drought (Fast Track) occurring April 23, 2024, and continuing.

Application Deadline: February 24, 2024

Primary Counties Eligible: Crockett, Dimmit, Pecos, and Terrell

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible: Brewster, Crane, Frio, Irion, Jeff Davis, La Salle, Maverick, Reagan, Reeves, Schleicher, Sutton, Upton, Val Verde, Ward, Webb, and Zavala

More Resources

On farmers.gov, the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](#), [Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet](#), and [Loan Assistance Tool](#) can help you determine program or loan options. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

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