USDA Designates Six Pennsylvania Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

Emergency Designation | February 24, 2021

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Emergency Support to Producers in Surrounding Counties Also Available

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 2021 — The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) designated six Pennsylvania counties as primary natural disaster areas. Producers who suffered losses due to recent drought may be eligible for USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) <u>emergency loans</u>.

This natural disaster designation allows FSA to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters. 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 the refinance of certain debts.

Drought - June 1 - Nov. 30, 2020

Producers in Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk and Jefferson counties who suffered losses due to drought that occurred June 1 through Nov. 30, 2020, may be eligible for emergency loans.

Producers in the contiguous Pennsylvania counties of Armstrong, Blair, Cambria, Cameron, Clarion, Forest, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lycoming, McKean, Mifflin, Potter, Union and Warren are also eligible to apply for emergency loans.

Drought - June 6 - Nov. 17, 2020

Producers in Cumberland County who suffered losses due to drought that occurred June 6 through Nov. 17, 2020, may be eligible for emergency loans.

Producers in the contiguous Pennsylvania counties of Adams, Dauphin, Franklin, Perry and York are also eligible to apply for emergency loans.

The deadline to apply for these emergency loans is Oct. 19, 2021.

FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

FSA has a variety of additional programs to help farmers recover from the impacts of this disaster. FSA programs that do not require a disaster declaration include: <u>Emergency Assistance for Livestock</u>, <u>Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program</u>; <u>Emergency Conservation Program</u>; <u>Livestock Forage</u> <u>Disaster Program</u>; <u>Livestock Indemnity Program</u>; <u>Operating and Farm Ownership Loans</u>; and the <u>Tree</u> <u>Assistance Program</u>.

Farmers may contact their local USDA service center for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at <u>farmers.gov/recover</u>.

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