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Farm Service Agency  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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## USDA Designates Faribault, Le Sueur, and Rice Counties in Minnesota as Primary Natural Disaster Areas Due to Drought

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*Numerous Minnesota Counties Designated as Contiguous Areas Due to Drought in Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota*

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 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

**Impacted Area:** Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota

**Triggering Disaster 1:** Drought Fast Track S5545

**Application Deadline:** 5/20/2024

**Primary Counties Eligible:** Faribault, Le Sueur, Rice

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Minnesota:** Blue Earth, Dakota, Dodge, Freeborn, Goodhue, Martin, Nicollet, Scott, Sibley, Steele, Waseca

**Iowa:** Kossuth, Winnebago

**Triggering Disaster 2:** Drought Fast Track S5543

**Application Deadline:** 5/20/2024

**Primary Iowa Counties Eligible:** Winnebago

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Iowa:** Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Kossuth, Worth

**Minnesota:** Faribault, Freeborn

**Triggering Disaster 3:** Drought Fast Track S5547

**Application Deadline:** 5/20/2024

**Primary South Dakota Counties Eligible:** Brookings, Grant, Roberts

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Minnesota:** Big Stone, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln, Pipestone, Traverse

**North Dakota:** Richland, Sargent

**South Dakota:** Codington, Day, Deuel, Hamlin, Kingsbury, Lake, Marshall, Moody

## **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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