USDA Designates 13 Louisiana Parishes as Primary Natural Disaster Areas -Drought (Fast-Track)

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Six Texas Counties Also Eligible for Assistance

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 <u>emergency loans</u>. 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>U.S. Drought Monitor</u>, 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: Texas

Triggering Disaster #1: Drought (Fast Track)

Application Deadline: May 6, 2024

Primary Parishes Eligible: Caldwell, De Soto, Franklin, Ouachita, Red River, Richland, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Tensas, Washington, and Winn

<u>Contiguous Parishes Also Eligible:</u> Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Catahoula, Concordia, East Carroll, Grant, Jackson, LaSalle, Lincoln, Livingston, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Orleans, Sabine, St. Helena, St. John the Baptist, Union, and West Carroll

Mississippi: Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Hancock, Jefferson, Marion, Pearl River, Pike, Walthall, and Warren

Texas: Panola and Shelby

Impacted Area: Texas

Triggering Disaster #2: Drought (Fast Track)

Application Deadline: May 13, 2024

Primary Parishes Eligible: Caddo and Jackson

<u>Contiguous Parishes Also Eligible:</u> Bienville, Bossier, Caldwell, De Soto, Lincoln, Ouachita, Red River, and Winn

Arkansas: Miller

Texas: Cass, Harrison, Marion, and Panola

More Resources

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

Farm Service Agency: 1400 Independence Ave. SW Washington, DC 20250

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