



# News Release



For Immediate Release

USDA Farm Service Agency  
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**For More Information:**  
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## Recovery Act Funding Loans in Rural Montana

(Bozeman, MT) - March 10, 2009 – Dave Pitts, Farm Loan Chief for USDA's Farm Service Agency announced today that FSA in Montana has obligated \$1.9 million in loans to assist producers within the state. The funding is through the stimulus bill titled the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. 53% of the loan funds were advanced to socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers and ranchers.

\$369,100.00	Socially Disadvantaged Applicants
\$630,000.00	Beginning Farmers and Ranchers applicants

The funds may be used to purchase livestock, equipment, feed, seed, fertilizer, and supplies.

All remaining funding will be allocated through approved loans until all available funds have been expended. Applications are considered on a first come, first served basis with special emphasis placed on beginning and socially disadvantaged applicants. The maximum loan amount for direct loans is \$300,000.

In keeping with the president's goal for the Recovery Act, this loan funding is intended for proper investment into the agricultural sector, to benefit both family farmers and rural economies. The Recovery Act was designed to preserve or create millions of jobs throughout the country and these loans help ensure that recipients remain financially viable and local agri-businesses benefit from direct purchases.

Here is a hypothetical example of purchases made with a \$100,000 direct operating loan:

- Used Farm Tractor: \$45,000
- Livestock: \$18,000
- Seed: \$15,000
- Fertilizer: \$10,000
- Fuel: \$12,000

The effect of this loan reaches the local implement dealership, sale barn, the grain seed distributor, the fertilizer distributor and a local fuel dealership.

For specific information on direct operating loans and other FSA farm loan programs, please visit your FSA county office or our website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>.