

News Release

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48 NEBRASKA COUNTIES ELIGIBLE FOR USDA EMERGENCY LOANS

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA (October 19, 2007) – Farm Service Agency (FSA) Acting State Executive Director, Milton Rogers announced today that Nebraska farmers in 48 counties are eligible to apply for low interest Emergency (EM) loans due to physical losses caused by excessive rain, hail, high winds, flash flooding, and tornadoes that occurred from July 12, 2007, through September 24, 2007. The eight primary counties that were designated on October 15, 2007 by FSA Administrator, Teresa C. Lasseter, due to this disaster are as follows:

Adams Burt Clay Gosper Holt Merrick Saunders Sherman

In addition, 40 Nebraska counties are eligible because they are contiguous to one or more of the primary counties. Those counties are:

Antelope	Dawson	Greeley	Loup	Seward
Boyd	Dodge	Hall	Nance	Thayer
Buffalo	Douglas	Hamilton	Nuckolls	Thurston
Butler	Fillmore	Howard	Phelps	Valley
Cass	Franklin	Kearney	Platte	Washington
Colfax	Frontier	Keya Paha	Polk	Webster
Cuming	Furnas	Knox	Rock	Wheeler
Custer	Garfield	Lancaster	Sarpy	York

Emergency loan applications are available and must be submitted through the local FSA county office from any applicant who qualifies for a physical loss from this disaster in these 48 counties. To qualify for an EM loan, an applicant must be an established family farm operator; provide evidence of having suffered a qualifying physical loss; and be unable to obtain suitable credit from a source other than FSA. The low interest loans may cover up to 100 percent of their physical losses, to a maximum amount of \$500,000. The loan applicants must show ability to repay the loan and the loan must be adequately secured. FSA loans for actual physical losses may be used to repair or replace equipment, livestock or buildings (including homes) lost through the disaster. The damaged or destroyed physical property must be essential to the success of the farming operation. The current interest rate for the EM loans is 3.75%. The deadline for submitting applications is June 16, 2008.

In addition to the Emergency (EM) Loan Program, the FSA has other Direct and Guaranteed Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loan Programs, which can be considered in assisting farmers to recover from their losses. Additional information about FSA Farm Loan Programs is available at www.fsa.usda.gov/dafl.