



Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

USDA Designates 2 South Dakota Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas for Drought

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

Impacted Area: South Dakota

Triggering Disaster: Drought that occurred beginning 08/20/2024.

Application Deadline: 8 months from date the memo was signed (If the deadline date falls on a Sat. or Sun., make the deadline the following Monday. If the deadline date falls on a federal holiday, make it the next business day)

Primary Counties Eligible:

South Dakota – Custer and Pennington

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

South Dakota – Lawrence, Meade, Haakon, Jackson, Oglala Lakota, and Fall River

Additional State: Wyoming – Niobrara and Weston

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](#).

Farm Service Agency:

1400 Independence Ave.
SW Washington, DC 20250

Contact:

FPAC Press Desk
FPAC.BC.Press@usda.gov