



## USDA Designates 20 Counties in Florida as Primary Natural Disaster Areas Due to Winter Storm

**Emergency Designation | Florida | April 08, 2026**

Florida

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.

### Triggering Disaster #1

**Impacted Area:** Florida

**Triggering Disaster:** Freeze and frost that occurred during Jan. 23, 2026, through Feb. 5, 2026

**Application Deadline:** Dec. 1, 2026

### Primary Counties Eligible:

- **Florida:** DeSoto, Hardee, Hillsborough, Manatee, St Johns, Sarasota, Seminole, and Volusia

### Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

- **Florida:** Brevard, Charlotte, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Highlands, Lake, Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Putnam

### Triggering Disaster #2

**Impacted Area:** Florida and Alabama

**Triggering Disaster:** Freeze, frost, and ice that occurred during Jan. 23, 2026, through Feb. 5, 2026

**Application Deadline:** Dec. 1, 2026

**Primary Counties Eligible:**

- **Florida:** Bay, Holmes, and Washington

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

- **Florida:** Calhoun, Gulf, Jackson, and Walton
- **Alabama:** Geneva

**Triggering Disaster #3**

**Impacted Area:** Florida

**Triggering Disaster:** Freeze, frost, ice, and high winds that occurred during Jan. 23, 2026, through Feb. 5, 2026

**Application Deadline:** Dec. 1, 2026

**Primary Counties Eligible:**

- **Florida:** Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, and Polk

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

- **Florida:** Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Manatee, Marion, Okeechobee, Pasco, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia

**Triggering Disaster #4**

**Impacted Area:** Florida and Georgia

**Triggering Disaster:** Freeze, frost, and high winds that occurred during Jan. 23, 2026, through Feb. 5, 2026

**Application Deadline:** Dec. 1, 2026

**Primary Counties Eligible:**

- **Florida:** Baker, Marion, Miami-Dade, and Union

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

- **Florida:** Alachua, Bradford, Broward, Citrus, Clay, Collier, Columbia, Duval, Lake, Levy, Monroe, Nassau, Putnam, Sumter, and Volusia
- **Georgia:** Charlton, Clinch, and Ware

**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](mailto:FPAC.BC.Press@usda.gov)