



## USDA Designates Three Southwest Minnesota Counties as Contiguous Natural Disaster Areas Due to Drought in Iowa and South Dakota

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

### Impacted Area 1: Iowa

Triggering Disaster 1: Drought- (Fast Track) S5471

Application Deadline: April 1, 2024

Primary Iowa Counties Eligible: Cass, Lee, Lyon, Montgomery

### Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

**Minnesota:** Nobles, Rock

**Illinois:** Hancock, Henderson

**Iowa:** Adair, Adams, Audubon, Des Moines, Fremont, Guthrie, Henry, Mills, O'Brien, Osceola, Page, Pottawattamie, Shelby, Sioux, Taylor, Van Buren

**Missouri:** Clark

**South Dakota:** Lincoln, Minnehaha

### Impacted Area 2: South Dakota

Triggering Disaster 2: Drought- (Fast Track) S5474

**Application Deadline:** April 1, 2024

**Primary South Dakota Counties Eligible:** Lincoln, McCook, Minnehaha, Turner

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

**Minnesota:** Pipestone, Rock

**Iowa:** Lyon, Sioux

**South Dakota:** Clay, Hanson, Hutchinson, Lake, Miner, Moody, Union, Yankton

### **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:**

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