



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

OCT 10 2008

The Honorable Rick Perry
Governor
State of Texas
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Perry:

Thank you for your letters of August 28 through September 11, 2008, requesting disaster designations for 19 Texas counties due to losses caused by drought.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) has reviewed the Loss Assessment Reports along with the additional information submitted by the State Executive Director, Farm Service Agency (FSA). Based on this review, USDA has determined that there were sufficient production losses to warrant a Secretarial natural disaster designation. Therefore, I am designating all 19 counties as primary natural disaster areas due to drought that occurred during the period of January 1, 2008, and continuing. Those counties are:

Atascosa	Galveston	Kerr	McLennan	Reagan
Bandera	Houston	Kimble	Nolan	Somervell
Brazoria	Irion	Leon	Nueces	Wharton
Edwards	Jackson	Madison	Palo Pinto	

In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, additional areas of your State are named as contiguous disaster counties. Those counties are:

Anderson	Crockett	Jack	Matagorda	Stephens
Angelina	Eastland	Jim Wells	McMullen	Sterling
Aransas	Erath	Johnson	Medina	Sutton
Austin	Falls	Jones	Menard	Taylor
Bell	Fisher	Karnes	Midland	Tom Green
Bexar	Fort Bend	Kendall	Mitchell	Trinity
Bosque	Freestone	Kinney	Parker	Upton
Brazos	Frio	Kleberg	Real	Uvalde
Calhoun	Gillespie	La Salle	Robertson	Val Verde
Chambers	Glasscock	Lavaca	Runnels	Victoria
Cherokee	Grimes	Limestone	San Patricio	Walker
Coke	Harris	Live Oak	Schleicher	Wilson
Colorado	Hill	Mason	Scurry	Young
Coryell	Hood			

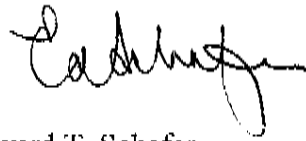
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This designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) which was approved as part of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008. FSA will consider each application on its own merit by taking into account the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Schafer", written in a cursive style.

Edward T. Schafer
Secretary