



Nacogdoches County

JOE ENGLISH

County Judge

Commissioners
Jerry Don Williamson, Pct. 1
Charles "Kilowatt" Thomson, Pct. 2

Shannon L. Burkley
Court Assistant

Commissioners
Jim Elder, Pct. 3
Elton Milstead, Jr., Pct. 4

PRESS RELEASE

September 11, 2013

NACOGDOCHES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS ELIGIBLE FOR DISASTER LOANS

By: Jamie Sugg, CEA

The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture has identified Nacogdoches County as one of 21 Texas counties whose producers are eligible to apply for low-interest emergency disaster loans due to a recent drought.

Secretary Tom Vilsack has notified the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to immediately make emergency loans available to eligible applicants in Nacogdoches County. The local FSA office will have the details on this program.

In addition, the Small Business Administration (SBA), in an agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), provides Economic Injury Disaster Loans to eligible small businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers in counties that have received a disaster declaration from the Secretary of Agriculture.

On August 28, 2013, the Secretary of Agriculture under the final rule of the disaster Designation, found at 7 CFR 759.5 (a), utilized the "Fast Track" authority and designated 5 Texas Counties as primary natural disaster areas. This action is based on damages and losses caused by drought July 02, 2013 through August 26, 2013. The primary counties are: Cherokee, Rusk, Smith, Van Zandt and Wood. In addition to those 5 counties, 16 other Texas counties are named as contiguous counties where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance, pursuant to section 321 (a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act. Those counties are Anderson, Angelina, Camp, Franklin, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Hopkins, Houston, Hunt, Kaufman, Nacogdoches, Panola, Rains, Shelby and Upshur.

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency. Agricultural producers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. Since Secretary Vilsack declared this disaster on August 28, 2013, EM Loan applications will be received through April 28, 2014 for production and physical losses. FSA will consider each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses, security available and repayment ability. If you would like more information concerning this loan program, you may contact the Nacogdoches office of the Farm Service Agency at (936) 564-5891 ext. 2.

101 W. Main, Suite 170
County Courthouse
Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

(936) 560-7755
Fax (936) 560-7841