



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FARM SERVICE AGENCY

USDA
Ohio Farm Service Agency

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USDA Farm Service Agency's Administrator Declares Physical Loss in Several Ohio Counties

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Sept. 4, 2012 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Administrator has declared emergency physical loss loans are available in thirty Ohio counties.

The following counties were designated as primary natural disaster areas, due to high winds, hail, lightning, and excessive heat events that occurred from June 29, 2012 through July 1, 2012. Those counties are:

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|------------|
| Allen | Guernsey | Licking | Morgan | Tuscarawas |
| Belmont | Hancock | Madison | Muskingum | Union |
| Champaign | Harrison | Marion | Noble | Van Wert |
| Defiance | Jackson | Meigs | Ottawa | Vinton |
| Fayette | Jefferson | Mercer | Paulding | Washington |
| Gallia | Lawrence | Monroe | Putnam | Wyandot |

In addition thirty-five counties are named as contiguous disaster counties where eligible farmers may qualify for FSA emergency physical loss loan assistance:

| | | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Athens | Crawford | Hardin | Lucas | Sandusky |
| Auglaize | Darke | Henry | Miami | Scioto |
| Carroll | Delaware | Highland | Morrow | Seneca |
| Clark | Erie | Hocking | Perry | Shelby |
| Clinton | Fairfield | Holmes | Pickaway | Stark |
| Columbiana | Franklin | Knox | Pike | Williams |
| Coshocton | Greene | Logan | Ross | Wood |

All counties listed above were designated natural disaster areas on **August 24, 2012**, making FSA Emergency Physical Loss loans available to eligible applicants with qualifying severe physical losses in the primary and contiguous counties, provided eligibility requirements are met. This approval is limited to applicants who suffered disaster related damages to chattels, or real estate essential to the farming operation. To qualify, farmers must be unable to obtain credit from commercial sources. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part or all of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security

available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the emergency loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity.

USDA has also made other programs available to assist farmers, including the Emergency Conservation Program, Federal Crop Insurance and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program.

Interested farmers should contact their local FSA county office for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs.