

***More Indiana Counties Added to Disaster List***

Washington, DC – U.S. Congressman Mike Pence applauded the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) announcement that it is designating additional counties in Indiana as primary disaster areas due to drought conditions.

"Farmers across the Hoosier state are hurting because of the devastating drought," said Pence. "I support the Department of Agriculture's continued efforts to provide much-needed assistance to our farmers in the heartland."

Background from the USDA:

The following Indiana counties were designated as primary disaster areas on July 25, 2012: Blackford, Boone, Clinton, Delaware, Fountain, Henry, Madison, Montgomery, Rush, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Vermillion, Vigo and White.

Benefits are also available for the contiguous counties of Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Decatur, Fayette, Franklin, Grant, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Howard, Jasper, Jay, Marion, Parke, Pulaski, Putnam, Randolph, Shelby, Sullivan, Warren, Wayne and Wells.

The USDA encourages all farmers and ranchers to contact their crop insurance companies and local USDA Farm Service Agency Service Centers, as applicable, to report damages to crops or livestock loss. More information about federal crop insurance may be found at [www.rma.usda.gov](http://www.rma.usda.gov). Farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties are eligible to be considered for Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. FSA will consider each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses, security available, and repayment ability.

In total, the following counties across Indiana have been declared disaster areas by the federal government in the past two weeks: Adams, Allen, Bartholomew, Benton, Blackford, Boone, Brown, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Crawford, Daviess, Decatur, DeKalb, Delaware, Dubois, Elkhart, Fayette, Fountain, Franklin, Fulton, Gibson, Grant, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Harrison, Hendricks, Henry, Howard, Huntington, Jackson, Jasper, Jay, Jennings, Johnson, Knox, Kosciusko, Lagrange, La Porte, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Martin, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Noble, Orange, Owen, Parke, Perry, Pike, Posey, Pulaski, Putnam, Randolph, Rush, Shelby, Starke, St. Joseph, Spencer, Steuben, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Vanderburgh, Vermillion, Vigo, Wabash, Warren, Warrick, Washington, Wayne, Wells, White, and Whitley.

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