

# Disaster Assistance Available for Farmers

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has designated 20 Iowa counties as disaster areas as the result of severe storms, excessive rain, flooding, flash flooding, hail, high winds, and tornadoes that occurred from April 25 to July 18, 2010. This makes assistance available to agriculture producers in those counties, as well as 32 contiguous counties.

This Secretarial Disaster Designation makes farm operators eligible to be considered for certain types of assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), including emergency loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program. Producers should contact their local FSA office for additional information.

The 20 primary counties included in the Secretarial Disaster Designation are: Appanoose, Clarke, Davis, Decatur, Des Moines, Fremont, Guthrie, Humboldt, Jefferson, Keokuk, Lee, Lucas, Marion, Monroe, Ringgold, Taylor, Van Buren, Wapello, Wayne and Woodbury.

The 32 contiguous counties are: Adair, Adams, Audubon, Carroll, Cass, Cherokee, Crawford, Dallas, Greene, Hancock, Henry, Ida, Iowa, Jasper, Kossuth, Louisa, Madison, Mahaska, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Polk, Poweshiek, Union, Warren, Washington, Webster, and Wright.

In addition, agricultural producers who reside in the 32 counties now covered by the Presidential Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance may also be eligible to apply for assistance for damage to their primary residence and for other types of agriculture assistance. The 32 counties are: Black Hawk, Cherokee, Clayton, Decatur, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette, Franklin, Hamilton, Howard, Humboldt, Ida, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Kossuth, Lee, Lucas, Lyon, Mahaska, Marion, O'Brien, Osceola, Polk, Ringgold, Sioux, Story, Taylor, Union, Warren, Webster, and Wright.

The Individual Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals recover from the effects of disaster. Application may be made online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) or by calling 1.800.621.FEMA (3362) or 1.800.462.7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. (local time).

Applicants registering for aid should be prepared to provide basic information about themselves, details on insurance coverage, and any other information to help substantiate losses.