

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 Farm Service Agency
 Texas State FSA Office
 2405 Texas Avenue South
 College Station, TX 77840

TX NOTICE FLP-1102

3-FLP (Rev. 2)

FOR: County Offices

Secretarial Disaster Declaration S3974

Approved by: Acting State Executive Director

/s/ Darren G. Owens

1 Overview

A Background

On **April 13, 2016**, 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 **9 Texas Counties** as primary natural disaster areas. This action is based on damages and losses caused by **excessive rain and moisture** occurring **October 23, 2015 through January 10, 2016**. The primary counties are:

Collin	Cooke	Delta	Denton	Ellis	Fannin	Grayson
Hunt	Lamar					

In addition to the above counties, **15 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:

Dallas	Franklin	Henderson	Hill	Hopkins	Johnson	Kaufman
Montague	Navarro	Rains	Red River	Rockwall	Tarrant	Van Zandt
Wise						

Also, in accordance with section 321 (a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, counties in an adjacent State that are contiguous to one or more of the designated **Arkansas Counties**, are named as contiguous counties where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance. For this designation, the affected States and counties are:

<u>Oklahoma (4)</u>	Bryan	Choctaw	Love	Marshall
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Disposal Date	Distribution (6-RMH/4/22/2016)
April 30, 2017	County Offices

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This designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

B Application Deadline

EM Loan applications will be received through **December 13, 2016** for **production and physical losses**.

2 Action

A Exceptions for Application Deadlines

County Offices shall thoroughly review Exhibit 1.

B Determining Security Values

For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is **October 23, 2015**.

C District Director's and Farm Loan Manager's Responsibilities

District Directors and Farm Loan Managers shall follow instructions according to 3-FLP (Rev. 2), and FmHA Instruction 1945-A for emergency loan applicability.

The Farm Loan Manager shall notify borrowers of Disaster Set-Aside (DSA) availability in accordance with handbook 5-FLP paragraph 42.

D Public Announcements

Special emphasis will be placed on informing the farm community through public announcements and arranging and conducting meetings with local Agricultural lenders and leaders.

3 Contact Point

A Inquires

If there are questions concerning this notice, contact the Conservation or Farm Loan Program Division.

Subject: **Secretarial Disaster Declaration S3974**

Please carefully review the notice listing the primary and contiguous counties determined eligible by Secretary Vilsack and the Emergency Preparedness and Programs Branch for emergency (EM) loans effective **April 13, 2016**.

This declaration is coded **S3974**, and EM loan applications will be received through **December 13, 2016**. For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is **October 23, 2015**.

Please proceed to take the appropriate notification and coordination actions required by Handbook 1-DIS and 7CFR part 759.



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Businesses, Private Nonprofits, Homeowners and Renters

Disaster Field Operations Center—West, P.O. Box 419004, Sacramento, CA 95841

Release Date: April 18, 2016
Release Number: TX 14699-01

Media Contact: Richard Jenkins
Phone: (916) 735-1500

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available to Texas Small Businesses

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Small, nonfarm businesses in 24 Texas counties and neighboring Oklahoma counties are now eligible to apply for low-interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by excessive rain and moisture in the following primary counties that occurred October 23, 2015 – January 10, 2016, announced Director Tanya N. Garfield of SBA’s Disaster Field Operations Center - West.

Primary Texas counties: Collin, Cooke, Delta, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt and Lamar;
Neighboring Texas counties: Dallas, Franklin, Henderson, Hill, Hopkins, Johnson, Kaufman, Montague, Navarro, Rains, Red River, Rockwall, Tarrant, Van Zandt and Wise;
Neighboring Oklahoma counties: Bryan, Choctaw, Love and Marshall.

“SBA eligibility covers both the economic impacts on businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disaster and businesses directly impacted by the disaster,” Garfield said.

Small, nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred.

“Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 4 percent for businesses and 2.625 percent for private nonprofit organizations, a maximum term of 30 years, and are available to small businesses and most private nonprofits without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship,” Garfield said.

By law, SBA makes EIDLs available when the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Secretary Tom Vilsack declared this disaster on April 13, 2016.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency about the U.S. Department of Agriculture assistance made available by the Secretary’s declaration

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA’s secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster loan information and application forms are also available from SBA’s Customer Service Center by calling (800) 659-2955 or emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call (800) 877-8339. For more disaster assistance information or to download applications, visit <https://www.sba.gov/disaster>. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to apply for these loans is Dec. 13, 2016.

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