



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable Doug Ducey
Governor
State of Arizona
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

DEC 16 2019

Dear Governor Ducey:

In accordance with 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating four Arizona counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (see <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

In accordance with section 321(a) of the "Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act," additional areas of your state and adjacent states are named as contiguous disaster counties. Enclosed you will find documentation that provides a detailed list of all primary and contiguous counties impacted by this disaster.

Other counties in Arizona may have already been designated as natural disaster counties if they had previously met the requirements found under 7 CFR 759.5(a) for the current crop year.

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for certain assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Perdue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sonny" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Perdue".

Sonny Perdue
Secretary

Enclosure

Disaster Designation Areas for Arizona and Contiguous States

Primary Counties:

Arizona	(4)		
Gila	La Paz	Mohave	Yavapai

Contiguous Counties:

Arizona	(6)		
Coconino	Maricopa	Pinal	
Graham	Navajo	Yuma	

In addition, in accordance with section 321(a) of the “Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act,” counties in adjacent states are named as contiguous disaster areas. Those states, counties, and numbers are:

Contiguous Counties in Adjacent States:

California	(3)	
Imperial	Riverside	San Bernardino
Nevada	(2)	
Clark	Lincoln	
Utah	(2)	
Kane	Washington	