

Farm  
Service  
Agency

Drought  
Assistance  
Programs

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# IMPACT OF DROUGHT

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- Reduced Crop Production / Crop Loss
  - Return on investment of expensive crop inputs not realized or reduced
- Increased Livestock and Crop Watering
  - Increased expenses for the year
- Decreased Quality of Water
  - Iron and manganese fouling pumping systems
- Additional expenses looming
  - Feed for livestock
  - Rehabilitation of soil



# DISASTER ASSISTANCE

FSA can provide financial assistance when crops or livestock are affected by natural disasters such as drought.





# DISASTER PROGRAMS

- Provides cost-share assistance to help cover expenses
  - ECP – Drought Measures to provide water
- Provide direct payment to farmer
  - ELAP (Water Hauling to livestock and hauling cattle to new grazing areas, pays for food purchases above normal purchases, can cover livestock losses)
  - LFP (Grazing Losses)
  - NAP (Crop Insurance)
  - TAP (Tree, Shrub and Vine Losses)
- Loans
  - Emergency Loans

# Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

## Cost share program (75-90%)

- Emergency water for confined livestock operations
- Permit grazing of pasture or forage by livestock
- Supply emergency water for orchards and vineyards
- Currently open for applications until January 20<sup>th</sup>

# Drought Payments

- FSA has paid 41 livestock producers to help with feed and forage costs
- 19 NAP producers have come forward with high losses due to the drought
- 4 producers have started the TAP process for cost share replanting trees, vines, bushes.

# Drought Impacts Continued

- There is a gap in the Farm Bill with no payments for producers who only grow hay or feedstocks
- Multiple Christmas Tree Farms remained closed this year
- Oyster producers have had higher disease and mortality events than normal due to higher salinity, temperature due to lack of cold fresh water
- Livestock Operations have sold additional livestock to reduce feed costs for the winter
- Irrigation Ponds have gone dry leading to emergency permits to pump from additional water sources

# Additional Resources

- **Rhode Island FSA County Office 401-828-3120 Option 1.**
- **Local Approved Crop Insurance Provider**
- **Farmers.gov/protection-recovery**
  - **[Disaster Assistance Recovery Tool](#)**
  - **[Disaster Assistance At-A-Glance Brochure](#)**
  - **[U.S. Drought Monitor](#)**