



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Jason Crowell
27th Senate District

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Sen. Jason Crowell's Senate District Approved for Drought Relief

JEFFERSON CITY—Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today announced that each county in the 27th Senate District has been declared a disaster area by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). This disaster declaration gives farmers and ranchers in Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry and Scott counties access to federal disaster aid to help them cope with the summer-long drought.

This announcement comes after a summer-long rain scarcity damaged farmlands and dried up lakes and ponds in Missouri. After conducting drought assessments, Gov. Matt Blunt requested that the USDA declare 112 of Missouri's 114 counties disaster areas so the state can begin to recover from the Midwest's worst drought since the 1980s.

"Farmers and ranchers who were devastated by this growing season's drought will now have access to low-interest emergency loans to salvage what is left of their livelihoods," Crowell said. "I am grateful to the USDA for realizing the important role that Missouri farmers and ranchers play in the country's agriculture industry."

The USDA requires that a county suffer a minimum 30-percent production loss of at least one crop in order to be designated as a disaster area. The only counties in Missouri to not be included in the drought declaration were Atchison and Holt in northwest Missouri, though they could be added later if they meet future eligibility requirements.

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