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SANDRA K. DUCKWORTH, COUNTY CLERK

On **May 2, 2022**, the Secretary of Agriculture designated 7 Texas counties as primary natural disaster areas. This action is based on damages and losses caused by Drought (Fast Track) occurring March 8, 2022 and continuing. The primary counties are: Dewitt, Falls, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Limestone, **Newton**.

In addition to the above counties, 22 other Texas counties are named as contiguous 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: Anderson, Bexar, Caldwell, Comal, Fayette, Goliad, Hays, Henderson, Hill, Jasper, McLennan, Milam, Navarro, Orange, Robertson, Sabine, Victoria, Wilson.

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. EM Loan applications will be received through **January 3, 2023** for production and physical losses. Local contact information:

Department of Agriculture

JASPER SERVICE CENTER

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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