



Office of the Under Secretary
for Farm Production and Conservation
Washington, D.C. 20250

July 1, 2026

THE HONORABLE ABIGAIL SPANBERGER
Governor
State of Virginia
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 22318

Dear Governor Spanberger:

Per 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating one Virginia county as a primary natural disaster area due to a recent drought. I am responding on behalf of the Department.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (see <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>), this county 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.

Per section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, additional areas of your State and an adjacent State 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 Virginia 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 Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency loan assistance, provided eligibility requirements are met. 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. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact FPAC.BC.Congressional@usda.gov, reference disaster designation number 2026N00000677.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Fordyce", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Richard Fordyce
Under Secretary

Enclosure
cc: Brooke Rollins, Secretary of Agriculture

DISASTER DESIGNATION AREAS FOR VIRGINIA AND A CONTIGUOUS STATE

Primary County:

Virginia (1)
Tazewell

Contiguous Counties:

Virginia (4)
Bland Buchanan Russell Smyth

Contiguous Counties in an Adjacent State:

West Virginia (2)
McDowell Mercer