
USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Drought Assistance Program Sign-up Checklist

If you are interested in signing up for drought disaster assistance through the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), please see below for information to assist you!

If you are an agricultural producer who has never worked with the FSA:

If you are an agricultural producer who has never worked with the FSA, please contact their office to set-up an initial meeting. FSA will need to establish a customer record and a farm record for new clients, as well as determine program eligibility. Please see the attached Fact Sheet for more information:

https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSA-Public/usdfiles/FactSheets/2024/FSA_Customer-FarmRecord_FACTSHEET_24-1-.pdf

For both established and new clients to FSA:

- **Before Your Visit:**

Make an appointment by calling FSA and check on their schedule. An appointment will help to ensure prompt service as FSA offices can get busy, especially at times around program sign-up and reporting deadlines. Tell them about your operation and if you are experiencing a loss due to the drought. If you are interested in specific programs, let FSA know so they can have the correct staff member assist you.

Jefferson/Harrison: 740-937-2500
Tuscarawas/Carroll: 330-339-5585
Guernsey Noble: 740-432-5621
Belmont/Monroe: 740-425-2300

- **Prepare Information:**

Ask FSA staff what information you should bring to help make the most of your appointment. Examples could include lease agreements or property deeds, an official tax ID (such as social security number or employer ID), or legal entity paperwork, livestock inventory records.

- **Keep in touch with your local FSA office:**

Let FSA know if your business changes, if you experience additional disaster or hardships, or if you have any questions about USDA programs and services. Ask FSA to sign you up to receive free electronic newsletter updates from the service center and the Ohio FSA state office. This provides you with information if new program signups are created by Congress and helps to provide producers with information regarding FSA services, loans, and programs sign-ups and deadline announcements.

- **Use the following online tool to help you identify which programs you may be eligible for:**

Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool

Learn about USDA disaster assistance programs that might be right for you by completing five simple steps. Visit <https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/disaster-tool>