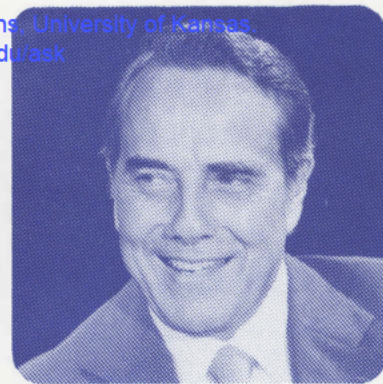


BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

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CONTACT: BRENT BAHLER
(202) 224-6521

4 KANSAS COUNTIES ELIGIBLE FOR USDA DISASTER LOANS

Washington DC -- Farmers in four Kansas counties who suffered crop losses as a result of hail, high winds and tornadoes last May may be eligible for low-cost disaster loans from the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), according to Senator Bob Dole.

"The USDA reviewed the damage reports from Comanche County, which bore the brunt of the May 16 storm," said Sen. Dole, "and concluded that there was indeed a genuine need for this type of assistance."

Sen. Dole said Comanche County - declared a natural disaster area by Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng - along with adjoining counties Barber, Clark and Kiowa will be eligible for low-interest loans.

According to Dole, farmers who can show at least a 30-percent crop loss but cannot obtain credit elsewhere could borrow up to \$500,000 each. The FmHA charges five-percent interest on the first \$100,000 borrowed and eight-percent interest on additional amounts, he said.