

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 2ND, 1989

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AG SECRETARY OKAYS DOLE/KASSEBAUM DROUGHT PROPOSAL: HAYING AND
GRAZING AUTHORIZED ON CONSERVATION ACREAGE

WASHINGTON -- Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Kassebaum today hailed Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter's announcement that drought-plagued livestock producers will have access to Conservation Reserve Acres (CRP) to hay and graze their stock. USDA will open CRP acres, which farmers have contracted to take out of production for 10 years and establish grass stands, on a county-by-county basis.

"The secretary agrees with us that this emergency measure is warranted and absolutely necessary as Kansas livestock producers continue their battle with the drought," Dole said. "This timely action will provide another source of feed to producers who are being forced to move cattle to local markets and feedlots or out of state."

"I hope this will slow the liquidation of foundation herds," Kassebaum said. "I am pleased the secretary acted quickly on our request."

Dole and Kassebaum met with Secretary Yeutter yesterday to review drought conditions and asked the Secretary to make a quick decision on opening CRP acres to haying and grazing. Dole had written Yeutter several weeks ago urging similar action. In his earlier letter Dole pointed out that normal set-aside acres had little grass left to hay and graze and that any forage on CRP acres would be beneficial to Kansas livestock producers.

Kansas has 2.5 million acres enrolled in the CRP.

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