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# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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## DOLE COMMENTS ON USDA CROP FORECAST

WICHITA, KANSAS -- Commenting on the Department of Agriculture's forecast of record crops in 1974, Senator Bob Dole says "farmers cannot be expected to have record yields when they cannot get adequate fuel and fertilizer."

"I hope the USDA forecast proves correct," Dole says, "but it will happen only if USDA's call for farmers to go all out in production is backed up by other agencies of government, like the Cost of Living Council and the Federal Energy Office, which must take the necessary steps to ensure that farmers have as much fuel and fertilizer as possible."

Dole asked the Cost of Living Council and the Internal Revenue Service, earlier this week, to conduct an investigation to determine where existing fertilizer supplies are going. He has also asked for a more intensive investigation of the matter by the General Accounting Office. "Most of the farmers contacting me," says Dole, "report getting less than 30 percent of the fertilizer they got last year. Some have received none at all. Without relief, these can be expected to have, at best, only a moderate harvest. I believe the Federal Energy Office will act to improve the regulations guaranteeing 100 percent of current fuel requirements for farmers. I am hopeful we can have progress on the fertilizer problem, as well."