

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 19, 1981

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DOLE ANNOUNCES PARTIAL USDA REQUIREMENTS FOR REDUCED ACREAGE PROGRAM

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole, R.-Kans., announced today that the Department of Agriculture has established requirements for participation in the reduced acreage program for 1982 crop wheat.

Authorization for the program is included in the four year Farm Bill approved by the Senate on Friday, September 18 and will become effective when similar legislation is passed in the House and signed into law by President Reagan by the end of the month.

Under the terms of the acreage reduction program, wheat producers will be required to conserve 15% of the acreage they planted for harvest in 1981.

The percentage will be less for farmers who divert part of their 1981 wheat acreage base to other crops. Since seedbed preparation and planting have already begun in many Winter wheat states, producers who graze out the required acreage will be in compliance. In addition, adjustments will be made for farmers using rotational planting practices.

The acreage reduction program will require offsetting compliance by producers with more than one farm. Farmers will not, however, be required to comply in order to be eligible for program benefits for other crops.

"I hope that farmers will take advantage of this opportunity to reduce the high level of wheat supplies and help to raise current low prices," Dole said. "I intend to work closely with the Administration to expand exports of agricultural products," the Kansas Senator continued.

"Until our share of foreign markets is increased, we need to bring wheat production into line in order to give farmers a fair price for their efforts."