

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE WIRES CARLIN ON DROUGHT
FOLLOWING DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BRIEFING --
HEATWAVE SCORCHES KANSAS CROPS

WASHINGTON -- Following a top-level briefing on the drought with U.S. Department of Agriculture officials, Kansas Senator Bob Dole today wired Governor John Carlin to alert him to a possible request for federal disaster assistance.

The following is the content of the telegram:

In a meeting today with USDA officials, they indicated that drought conditions are now considered serious throughout great plains area, including Kansas. 6 to 10 day long-range weather outlook is for continued above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall.

Kansas State ASCS office has received 21 county requests for emergency grazing program. Reported crop losses total 75-85 percent of corn for grain, 60-70 percent of soybeans and 50-70 percent of grain sorghum, with particular damage in northeastern counties.

I have asked the State ASCS Committee to act promptly on county requests to minimize drought impact on available feed supplies. I urge you to monitor the drought situation closely and to advise whether conditions warrant consideration for federal disaster relief.

BOB DOLE
US Senate

Dole, senior Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee, today met with Deputy U.S. Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng and the USDA's Assistant Secretary for Economics William Leshner, to exchange information on crop loss and discuss the impact of the heatwave that has scorched Kansas and at least fifteen other states.

At the briefing in Dole's office the Kansas Senator reported that the 21 counties which have requested permission from the state's ASCS to utilize emergency grazing procedures, have reported significant crop loss due to the record-setting heat and lack of rain.

Information on the 21 county crop loss accompanies this release.