

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 21, 1991

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

DOLE ANNOUNCES 28 KANSAS COUNTIES QUALIFY FOR
HAYING AND GRAZING EMERGENCY RELIEF

- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today announced the approval of 28 Kansas counties for an emergency livestock feeding program to help drought-stricken livestock producers.

Kansas producers in the designated counties will be eligible for emergency haying and grazing on Acreage Conservation Reserve (ACR) and Conservation Use (CU) acreage. Under the program announced today, the federal set aside land can be used during the five principal growing months, May 15 to October 15. The program was approved today by the Agriculture and Soil Conservation Service, a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Our crops and rangeland are in dire need of rain. We can't wait on Mother Nature to bring the moisture our lands need; it might not come. In the meantime, Kansas farmers and ranchers can take advantage of this helping hand to deal with the effects that the drought and heat over the last several months have brought to our Kansas livestock producers," said Dole. "This timely action will provide another source of feed to producers who's only other choice is to move cattle to local markets and feedlots or out of state."

Eligible Counties Announced Today

Qualifying farmers and ranchers in counties where the County Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service Committee documents that rainfall and/or forage area at least 40% below normal are eligible to apply for haying and grazing on CRP lands under the following conditions:

--All determinations will be on a county by county basis. All applications will be reviewed in Washington for accuracy.

--There will be a 50% offset in CRP payments for the current contract year.

--Individual producers must show a 40% loss in forage production.

--Hay harvested from CRP acres may not be sold but instead must be used by the CRP participants to maintain their livestock. The leasing of grazing privileges on CRP acres will not be permitted. Producers who violate these conditions will be subject to having their CRP contract terminated or to other remedies as may be authorized by the CRP contract and regulations. Such remedies could include a refund by the participant of all payments made under the CRP contract or, if required by USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation in lieu of terminating the contract, a further reduction in future CRP payments.

--Producers who have been authorized to hay and graze CRP acres will be required to report hay harvest and livestock data to ASCS County offices.

--At least 25% of the field must be left undisturbed for wildlife cover if hayed. When grazed, at least 25% of the sum of the acres in continuous fields must be left undisturbed.

--Any stand failures must be re-established at owner expense. Vegetative cover specifications in the CRP contract will not be waived due to drought conditions.

--No haying or grazing on CRP stands planted after December 1, 1989. Stands to be grazed which were planted between July 15, 1989, and December 1, 1989, must be inspected and approved by USDA's Soil Conservation Service.

--Only one cutting of hay will be permitted.

--There will be no haying after September 15.

--Hayed acres must have at least three inches of stubble remaining.

--Each county grazing period and stocking rate will be determined by the ASC County committee in consultation with the SCS, but there will be no grazing after October 1.

--No assistance will be provided for livestock facilities such as fencing or watering equipment on CRP acres.

##

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 21, 1991

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

DOLE ANNOUNCES 28 KANSAS COUNTIES QUALIFY FOR
HAYING AND GRAZING EMERGENCY RELIEF

- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today announced the approval of 28 Kansas counties for an emergency livestock feeding program to help drought-stricken livestock producers.

Kansas producers in the designated counties will be eligible for emergency haying and grazing on Acreage Conservation Reserve (ACR) and Conservation Use (CU) acreage. Under the program announced today, the federal set aside land can be used during the five principal growing months, May 15 to October 15. The program was approved today by the Agriculture and Soil Conservation Service, a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Our crops and rangeland are in dire need of rain. We can't wait on Mother Nature to bring the moisture our lands need; it might not come. In the meantime, Kansas farmers and ranchers can take advantage of this helping hand to deal with the effects that the drought and heat over the last several months have brought to our Kansas livestock producers," said Dole. "This timely action will provide another source of feed to producers who's only other choice is to move cattle to local markets and feedlots or out of state."

Eligible Counties Announced Today

Qualifying farmers and ranchers in counties where the County Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service Committee documents that rainfall and/or forage area at least 40% below normal are eligible to apply for haying and grazing on CRP lands under the following conditions:

--All determinations will be on a county by county basis. All applications will be reviewed in Washington for accuracy.

--There will be a 50% offset in CRP payments for the current contract year.

--Individual producers must show a 40% loss in forage production.

--Hay harvested from CRP acres may not be sold but instead must be used by the CRP participants to maintain their livestock. The leasing of grazing privileges on CRP acres will not be permitted. Producers who violate these conditions will be subject to having their CRP contract terminated or to other remedies as may be authorized by the CRP contract and regulations. Such remedies could include a refund by the participant of all payments made under the CRP contract or, if required by USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation in lieu of terminating the contract, a further reduction in future CRP payments.

--Producers who have been authorized to hay and graze CRP acres will be required to report hay harvest and livestock data to ASCS County offices.

--At least 25% of the field must be left undisturbed for wildlife cover if hayed. When grazed, at least 25% of the sum of the acres in continuous fields must be left undisturbed.

--Any stand failures must be re-established at owner expense. Vegetative cover specifications in the CRP contract will not be waived due to drought conditions.

--No haying or grazing on CRP stands planted after December 1, 1989. Stands to be grazed which were planted between July 15, 1989, and December 1, 1989, must be inspected and approved by USDA's Soil Conservation Service.

--Only one cutting of hay will be permitted.

--There will be no haying after September 15.

--Hayed acres must have at least three inches of stubble remaining.

--Each county grazing period and stocking rate will be determined by the ASC County committee in consultation with the SCS, but there will be no grazing after October 1.

--No assistance will be provided for livestock facilities such as fencing or watering equipment on CRP acres.

##