



Rural Finance Authority Drought Assistance

[2022 Minn. Laws Chap. 95 Art. 3 Sec. 2 Subd. 5](#)

1/10/2025

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Introduction

This report will present the loans issued by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture Rural Finance Authority (RFA) in response to the drought in Minnesota during 2022-2024.

Background

Disaster Recovery Loan Program

The program helps farmers located in a county (or adjacent county) that was the subject of a State, Federal, or RFA Board disaster declaration. It can be used to:

- (1) clean up, repair, or replace farm structures and septic and water systems, as well as replace seed, other crop inputs, feed, and livestock;
- (2) purchase watering systems, irrigation systems, and other drought mitigation systems and practices when drought is the cause of the purchase;
- (3) restore farmland;
- (4) replace flocks or livestock, make building improvements, or cover the loss of revenue when the replacement, improvements, or loss of revenue is due to the confirmed presence of a highly contagious animal disease in a commercial poultry or game flock, or a commercial livestock operation, located in Minnesota; or
- (5) cover the loss of revenue when the revenue loss is due to an infectious human disease for which the governor has declared a peacetime emergency under section 12.31.

Rural Finance Authority loan participation is limited to 45% of the loan, up to \$200,000. The RFA does not charge any interest on the State's portion of the loan, and no payment is required for the first two years.

Rural Finance Authority Loan Activity

Loans made because of drought during the Fiscal Years 2021 through 2024 resulted in 26 loans to Minnesota farmers, totaling \$2,340,870.

Operation	County	Loan Amount
Livestock	Benton	\$87,431
Crop	Big Stone	\$68,346
Livestock	Carver	\$18,000
Livestock	Clearwater	\$15,750
Livestock	Kandiyohi	\$200,000
Crop	Morrison	\$60,075
Livestock	Ottertail	\$60,750
Livestock	Pope	\$87,750
Livestock	Stearns	\$200,000
Livestock	Stearns	\$57,542
Crop	Stearns	\$135,000
Livestock	Stearns	\$135,000
Livestock	Stearns	\$30,600
Livestock	Todd	\$200,000
Livestock	Todd	\$200,000
Livestock	Wadena	\$23,400
Livestock	Wright	\$17,280
Livestock/Crop	Stearns	\$40,827
Crop	Stearns	\$117,295
Livestock/Crop	Stearns	\$51,585
Crop	Mower	\$46,350
Livestock/Crop	Morrison	\$200,000
Crop	Blue Earth	\$89,962
Livestock/Crop	Stearns	\$100,948
Livestock/Crop	Wright	\$53,086
Livestock/Crop	Stearns	\$43,893