

Natural Disaster Assistance for Livestock Producers

Drought & Extreme Heat, Flooding, Hurricanes & Tropical Storms, Tornadoes, Wildfires, Winter Storms and Other Declared Disasters

Natural disasters often affect animals and the animal agriculture industry in profound ways. The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) partners with local, state, federal and non-governmental and sector partners to help the animal agriculture industry persist through and recover from natural disasters. If a disaster has impacted your operation, assistance is available to aid in mitigating further risks, recover from losses and assist in preserving resources. This is a non-comprehensive list of assistance available to producers looking for aid and/or relief.

Available Assistance

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Hay Hotline

- TDA's hay hotline helps agricultural producers locate forage and hay supplies.
- If you need hay or would like to donate hay, visit <https://www.texasagriculture.gov/Home/ProductionAgriculture/HayHotline>, call 512-463-9360.

Disaster Relief

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA)

- The USDA's FSA offers disaster assistance and low-interest loan programs to assist agricultural producers in their recovery efforts following natural disasters. For more details and questions, contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA county office, visit www.offices.usda.gov.
 - **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)**
Provides benefits for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality due to extreme weather.
 - **Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)**
Provides benefits for grazing acre losses.
 - **Emergency Haying and Grazing of Conservation Reserve Program Acres (CRP)**
Allows producers to graze livestock on lands enrolled in CRP, except for during primary nesting season.
 - **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP)**
Provides assistance for feed losses as well as water hauling and feed transportation expenses.

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) STAR Fund

- The State of Texas Agriculture Relief Fund is available to help Texas farmers and ranchers rebuild fencing, restore operations and pay for other agricultural disaster relief.
- A cost share for producers in declared disaster areas for rebuilding agricultural operations.
- If you are interested in applying for assistance or donating to the STAR Fund, visit https://www.texasagriculture.gov/home/productionagriculture/disasterassistance/starfund?fbclid=IwAR0jtqgl-HWokl5jQ9xuA1tsjYjT9zhIFdqmkYni7f2JdTXb24_i5B64EUE.

