

media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Agricultural Resources for Colorado Flood Victims

LAKEWOOD, Colo. – There are a number of resources available to assist agricultural producers affected by recent flooding in Colorado.

Federal Information

Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture, John Salazar, has discussed the flooding emergency at length with the leader of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Secretary Tom Vilsack. The USDA encourages farmers, ranchers, producers, landowners and rural communities in the presidentially declared disaster areas to contact their local USDA Farm Service Agency Service Center to report damages to crops or livestock; their local Rural Development office for housing, business or community assistance information and/or their local Natural Resources Conservation Service office for help with debris removal.

“We will continue working with our federal partners to assess the impacts to agriculture,” said Salazar. “I’ve been impressed, but not surprised, that the agricultural community has been working together throughout this emergency. Agriculture is a vital part of this state’s foundation and will continue being a building block for this great state.”

Additional Resources:

- Fact sheets specifically for Colorado flood victims: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentidonly=true&contentid=storms_tornadoes_flooding_response.xml
- FSA county contact information: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=co&agency=fsa>
- Rural Development contact information: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/StateOfficeAddresses.html>
- Natural Resources Conservation Service contact information: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/co/contact/>

Horse & Livestock Feed

It is important to feed good quality hay to horses and other livestock but it may be in short supply in the Colorado areas recently affected by flooding. Flood-damaged or moldy hay is not considered quality hay and, if possible, should not be fed to livestock.

The Colorado Department of Agriculture publishes the Colorado Hay Directory annually to help promote Colorado grown hay. The 2013 edition of the directory is available to the public at no cost. At this point there seems to be adequate hay supplies in other parts of the state.

The Colorado Hay Directory features producers and brokers of hay as well as companies that provide hay-related products and services. Categorized by region, each listing includes the type and amount of hay available, bale type and size, whether or not laboratory analysis is available, certified weed free status and identifies organic hay.

The directory and other hay resources are available online at http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/ag_Markets/CBON/1251627561153. For more information or to request a copy of the 2013 Colorado Hay Directory, call the Colorado Department of Agriculture at (303) 239-4115.

The Colorado Hay Directory is published by the Colorado Department of Agriculture in cooperation with participating Colorado hay producers, Colorado State University Extension, and with support from Green Colorado, Hutchison Incorporated and ProAG-Morris Industries Inc.

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