



JIM DOYLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

August 13, 2007

Mr. Mike Johanns, Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Johanns:

I request that you issue a Secretarial Disaster Declaration for 52 counties in Wisconsin that have been impacted by drought conditions beginning this spring and continuing. Many parts of Wisconsin experienced drought conditions last year and the lack of moisture this year has further stressed crops in these areas.

This request is made for the following counties that are being impacted by the lack of moisture: Adams, Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Brown, Buffalo, Burnett, Calumet, Chippewa, Clark, Door, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Florence, Fond du Lac, Forest, Jackson, Juneau, Iron, Green Lake, Kewaunee, La Crosse, Langlade, Lincoln, Manitowoc, Marathon, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Monroe, Oconto, Oneida, Outagamie, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Portage, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Sheboygan, Shawano, St. Croix, Taylor, Trempealeau, Washburn, Waupaca, Winnebago, Wood, Vilas, and Waushara.

The August 13th version of *Wisconsin Crop Progress*, prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture's National Agriculture and Statistics Service (USDA-NASS), shows the requested counties are located in regions of the state experiencing soil moisture shortages in excess of 70%. In northern Wisconsin, only 3 – 11% of the area is reporting adequate moisture. Additionally, as of August 7th, the U.S. Drought Monitor shows most of Wisconsin under a "D1" or moderate drought with some northwestern counties under a "D2" or severe drought.

According to the USDA-NASS, there continues to be concern across the state for loss in yields due to low moisture levels with reports of corn producers considering chopping corn for silage to salvage the crop and Wisconsin pastures and hayfields continuing to dry up and turn brown.

I urge you to act quickly on this request so that the appropriate relief can be made available to the eligible producers. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Doyle".

Jim Doyle
Governor