January 13, 2023

THE HONORABLE GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor  
State of California  
State Capitol  
Suite 1173  
Sacramento, California  95814  

Dear Governor Newsom:

On December 2, 2022, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services requested a primary county disaster designation for one California county due to losses caused by excessively high temperatures that occurred from September 1, 2022, through September 9, 2022.

USDA reviewed the Loss Assessment Report and determined that there were sufficient production losses to warrant a Secretarial natural disaster designation; therefore, I am designating Stanislaus County as a primary natural disaster area. In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, additional areas of your state are named as contiguous disaster counties. Enclosed you will find documentation that provides a detailed list of all primary and contiguous counties impacted by this disaster.

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for certain assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. VILSACK  
Secretary

Enclosure
DISASTER DESIGNATION AREAS FOR CALIFORNIA

Primary County:

California
Stanislaus

(1)

Contiguous Counties:

California
Alameda
Calaveras

Mariposa
Merced

San Joaquin
Santa Clara
Tuolumne

(7)