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THE WORKS PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY



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-- Works Progress Administration --

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## Works Progress Administration Rushes Drought Relief Aid to Kentucky

Deputy Administrator Aubrey Williams announced today that Kentucky, with more than half its area parched by drought and 33,000 families reported in need of immediate assistance, became the tenth state in the midwest and west to receive emergency aid from the Works Progress Administration.

Howard O. Hunter, Assistant Works Progress Administrator in charge of drought operations, reported to Mr. Williams he had authorized Bruce Uthus, Field Representative, to work out a program with George H. Goodman, State Works Progress Administrator for Kentucky, employing drought victims on water conservation and other useful projects. As in other drought states, the Resettlement Administration will cooperate in extending grants and seed and feed loans, as well as in certifying farmers in need of work to other help.

Eighty of the 120 counties in Kentucky have been classified as emergency drought areas by the Department of Agriculture. The north central and northeastern sections are said to show the greatest crop loss, with small areas bordering Tennessee and Illinois similarly affected. Conditions in some of these sections are described as comparable to the scorched plains of the Dakotas in what Administrator Goodman calls the "most serious emergency Kentucky has ever known."

R. C. Jacobson, Field Representative, reported to Mr. Hunter today that Kansas, recently added to the list of states receiving emergency drought aid, is ready to launch a large water conservation program to provide small earth dams and water storage throughout its drought area. The Works Progress Administration will assign men to these projects, he reported, as rapidly as they are certified for aid by the Resettlement Administration, actual work beginning next week.

Missouri and Nebraska are preparing to get under way with a similar program for employment of drought victims, chiefly on water conservation and supply projects.

Employment of destitute farmers by the Works Progress Administration in the great plains area today reached approximately 37,000. With official figures from some sections unavailable for the entire week, the report by states showed:

North Dakota	15,660
South Dakota	14,350
Montana	3,745
Minnesota	1,493
Wyoming	1,050
Colorado	628