

# Executive Document

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## Governor, Administration: Governor's Executive Order: Declaring a Statewide Agricultural Disaster

Issued: May 20, 2003

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### EXECUTIVE ORDER

#### Declaration of Agricultural Disaster

WHEREAS, extreme drought has reduced soil moisture in many areas of the state to render crop production unproductive for agricultural purposes;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Drought Monitor classifies the drought conditions in the state of Utah as "Extreme and/or Exceptional";

WHEREAS, the well below normal snow pack has left the spring snow melt minimal or nonexistent in most areas of the state;

WHEREAS, many agricultural reservoirs throughout the state will not receive adequate supplies of irrigation water;

WHEREAS, low runoff, hot, dry winds, and insect infestations in many areas of the state have exacerbated the drought conditions;

WHEREAS, many grazing lands that are normally available to livestock owners are not available or do not offer adequate livestock feed;

WHEREAS, high forage costs, and feed and livestock transportation costs will weigh heavily on an industry already facing the fifth consecutive year of drought.

NOW THEREFORE, I Michael O. Leavitt, Governor of the state of Utah by virtue of the power vested in me by the constitution and the laws of the state of Utah, declare a "Statewide Agricultural Disaster".

IN TESTIMONY, WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah, this 20th day of May, 2003.

(State Seal)

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor

ATTEST:

Olene S. Walker  
Lieutenant Governor

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