

Executive Document

Governor's Executive Order Declaring an Agricultural Emergency.

Issued: March 15, 2000

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Declaration of Agricultural Emergency

WHEREAS, In anticipation that in the year 2000, the State of Utah will again experience similar significant damage to crops such as small grains, alfalfa, and safflower in several regions infested with grasshoppers and/or Mormon crickets as in 1999; and

WHEREAS, Surveys in 1999 showed a conservative estimate of more than 1.5 million acres of public and private land to be significantly infested with grasshoppers and/or Mormon crickets in 18 Utah counties; and

WHEREAS, The eggs laid last year by grasshoppers and/or Mormon crickets on these public and private lands will soon hatch, continuing a reproductive cycle that will exponentially increase this year's insect population over 1999 infestation levels, with corresponding serious consequences for farmers and residents in the affected communities; and

WHEREAS, The Utah Commissioner of Agriculture and Food has again declared an insect emergency in several Utah counties making state funds available for grasshopper and Mormon cricket treatment following the recommendation of the 1999 Grasshopper and Mormon cricket Decision and Action Committee authorized under the Insect Infestation Emergency Control Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael O. Leavitt, Governor of the State of Utah, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Utah, including Section 59-1-903 of the Utah Code,

DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT: It is found, determined, and declared that a "State of Agricultural Emergency" will exist due to the aforesaid grasshopper and Mormon cricket infestation in the State of Utah and that all such affected areas within the State are declared to be agricultural disasters requiring aid, assistance and relief pursuant to the provision of State statutes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah. Done at the State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah, this 15th day of March, 2000.

(State Seal)

MICHAEL O. LEAVITT
Governor

Attest:

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