

BACKGROUNDER: Wildlife Damage Compensation Program

Program Basics:

- The Wildlife Damage Compensation program provides compensation for 80 per cent of the loss for:
 - Damage caused by white-tailed deer, mule deer, antelope, elk, bear, moose, bison, ducks, geese and sandhill cranes that have not been held in captivity. Payments are based on a spot price survey, set in September. The crop grade at the time of harvest is used to determine compensation rates.
 - Cleaning costs for excreta-contaminated grain. This rate is determined yearly based on the Canadian Grain Commission's set licensed tariffs and cleaning charges for primary elevators.
 - Damage to stacked hay (producers will not be compensated for bales or hay swaths left in the field).
- The program is funded entirely by the provincial (40 per cent) and federal (60 per cent) governments. There are no costs or premiums paid by producers.
- The program is administered by Saskatchewan Crop Insurance, but you do not have to be a Saskatchewan Crop Insurance customer to be eligible.

Producer Obligations:

- To qualify for compensation, producers must:
 - Allow hunters reasonable access to their farmland
 - Implement prevention measures offered by Saskatchewan Environment, using all reasonable options to control and limit wildlife damage. This includes harvesting early in the fall to avoid over-winter damage and working with local conservation officers to protect stored grain, stacked feed, silage, market gardens, etc.
- Claims per crop must be a minimum of \$100.
- If a producer thinks they may be in a claim position, they must contact Crop Insurance immediately. **An adjuster must assess the damage before the crop can be harvested.**
- Claims can be adjusted for damage incurred at any time throughout the year. However, compensation may be denied if the damage occurred after harvest was generally completed in the area.
- After the crop has been adjusted, the producer must notify Crop Insurance once it has been harvested. Payments will not be made until confirmation has been received, either by phone, fax, or letter.
- Crop Insurance can be reached toll-free at 1-888-935-0000. Producers are asked to leave a message if staff are not available to take their call. During harvest, messages are monitored after business hours and on weekends and adjusters are available on short notice to assess damage.
- Additional information is available at www.saskcropinsurance.com under the Claims section of Our Programs.