

## **Pest Control Program Backgrounder**

The Saskatchewan Government is introducing a \$4 million comprehensive Pest Control Program in 2009-10.

- The Gopher Control Rebate Program, which was introduced in October 2008, will be continued in 2009-10.
  - The province will contribute \$2.93 million to this program.
  - This provides farmers, ranchers, RMs and First Nations with a 50 % rebate on their purchases of eligible gopher control products.
  - All Saskatchewan producers are eligible.
  
- The Pest Control Program will also include \$600,000 for a fieldworker program to provide support for control of pests and diseases. This is a \$60,000 increase over last year. Pest and diseases controlled under the program include:
  - Rats,
  - Perennial weeds,
  - Hantavirus, and
  - Dutch Elm Disease
  
- A \$350,000 Saskatchewan Livestock Predation Program will also be included as part of the Pest Control Program.
  - This program hires hunters and trappers to control coyotes and wild boars.
  - This is a \$50,000 increase from 2008-09.
  
- Lastly, the Pest Control Program will continue to provide \$125,000 in funding for products to control black flies, which harm livestock in Northern Saskatchewan.