

Backgrounder

2010 Pasture Recovery Initiative (PRI)

The federal and provincial governments have agreed to support an AgriRecovery response to extreme drought areas located in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Who is eligible for the 2010 Pasture Recovery Initiative?

Livestock producers pasturing in the eligible counties and municipal districts in Central and Northern Alberta and West Central and Northwest Saskatchewan will receive variable payments based on the type of breeding livestock they had as of January 1, 2010.

How were the primary drought areas determined?

The areas that were severely damaged due to drought were determined in consultation with the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Information used to determine drought impact and severity included various sources of data such as soil moisture indexes and precipitation models.

What areas are eligible for PRI?

In Alberta, the eligible Counties and Municipal Districts are:

Acadia No. 34	Opportunity No. 17
Athabasca County	Paintearth County No. 18
Barrhead County No. 11	Parkland County
Beaver County	Peace No. 135
Big Horn No. 8	Ponoka County
Big Lakes No. 125	Provost No. 52
Birch Hills County	Red Deer County
Bonnyville No. 87	Rocky View No. 44
Brazeau County	Saddle Hills County
City of Calgary	Smoky Lake County
Camrose County	Smoky River No. 130
Clear Hills County	Special Area No. 2
Clearwater County	Special Area No. 3
City of Edmonton	Special Area No. 4
Fairview No. 136	Spirit River No. 133
Flagstaff County	St. Paul County No. 19
Foothills No. 31	Starland County (and Drumheller)
Grande Prairie County No. 1	Stettler County No. 6
Greenview No. 16	Strathcona County (and Elk Island)
Kneehill County	Sturgeon County
Lac La Biche (Lakeland) County	Thorhold County No. 7
Lac Ste. Anne County	Two Hills County No. 21
Lacombe County	Vermilion River County No. 24
Lamont County	Wainwright No. 61
Leduc County	Westlock County
Lesser Slave River No. 124	Wetaskiwin County No. 10
Minburn County No. 27	Wheatland County
Mountain View County	Woodlands County
Northern Lights County	Yellowhead County
Northern Sunrise County	

In Saskatchewan, the eligible Rural Municipalities are:

Canaan No.225	Kindersley No.290	Grandview No.349	Round Valley No.410	Eldon No.471
Victory No.226	Milton No.292	Mariposa No.350	Senlac No.411	Wilton No.472
Lacadena No.228	Montrose No.315	Progress No.351	Douglas No. 436	Spiritwood No.496
Coteau No.255	Harris No.316	Heart's Hill No.352	North Battleford No.437	Medstead No.497
King George No.256	Marriott No.317	Eagle Creek No.376	Battle River No.438	Parkdale No.498
Monet No.257	Mountain View No.318	Glenside No.377	Cut Knife No.439	Mervin No. 499
Snipe Lake No.259	Winslow No.319	Rosemount No.378	Hillsdale No.440	Frenchman Butte No. 501
Newcombe No.260	Oakdale No.320	Reford No.379	Manitou Lake No.442	
Chesterfield No.261	Prairiedale No.321	Tramping Lake No.380	Meeting Lake No.466	Britannia No. 502
Fertile Valley No.285	Antelope Park No.322	Grass Lake No.381	Round Hill No.467	Big River No. 555
Milden No.286	Vanscoy No.345	Eye Hill No.382	Meota No.468	Loon Lake No. 561
St. Andrews No.287	Perdue No.346	Mayfield No.406	Turtle River No.469	Meadow Lake No. 588
Pleasant Valley No.288	Biggar No.347	Buffalo No.409	Paynton No.470	Beaver River No.622

What is the definition of a breeding animal?

Breeding animal means horses, beef cattle, bison, elk, deer, llamas, sheep, goats, horses (meat or PMU) or alpacas that were:

- Bred to produce offspring in 2010 or a breeding male;
- Primarily grazed on lands within the primary drought area in 2009; and
- Were on hand at January 1, 2010.

How does the payment work?

PRI will pay an eligible applicant an amount calculated as the number of eligible breeding livestock multiplied by the following per head amounts:

Horses	\$60.00
Beef Cattle and Bison	\$50.00
Elk	\$25.00
Deer and Llamas	\$12.50
Sheep, Goats and Alpacas	\$10.00

Payments may be prorated based on grazing acres in cases where eligible applicants also pasture outside the Designated Areas.

How many eligible animals are there?

It is estimated that there are more than 2.2 million breeding animals in the affected areas.

How do livestock producers receive their payment?

In Alberta, producers within the primary drought area will be receiving an information package in the mail that includes an application form. This form must be filled out and returned to Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC), who is administering the program. There will also be forms available at www.afsc.ca and at AFSC district offices within the affected area. The deadline to apply is September 1, 2010.

In Saskatchewan, eligible producers can pick up applications at their local Rural Municipality Office, Saskatchewan Agriculture Regional Office, Crop Insurance Office, or by calling the toll free line at 1-877-874-5365. Application forms are also available online at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca. The deadline to apply is September 1, 2010.

Why is this payment important for livestock producers?

Pasture development for 2010 is expected to be delayed by at least four to six weeks or more in the hardest hit areas, resulting in feed challenges for livestock producers. This payment will allow eligible livestock producers time to evaluate their pastures and make decisions, as necessary.

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