

From: [RM220 General](#)
To: [RM 220 Administrator](#)
Subject: SEPTEMBER 1 APAS UPDATE – APAS fertilizer emissions reduction submission, federal Livestock Tax Deferral, CAP funding deadlines, APAS District Meetings, RM Council updates
Date: Friday, September 2, 2022 8:18:05 AM

From: Curtis Hemming <chemming@apas.ca>
Sent: Thursday, September 1, 2022 5:11 PM
To: Info <info@apas.ca>
Subject: SEPTEMBER 1 APAS UPDATE – APAS fertilizer emissions reduction submission, federal Livestock Tax Deferral, CAP funding deadlines, APAS District Meetings, RM Council updates

Good afternoon – visit <https://bit.ly/3q4vcAH> to watch this week's 2-minute APAS Update video.

1. APAS submission on fertilizer emissions reduction target: On August 31, APAS sent a submission to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) in response to the federal government's proposed 30% fertilizer emissions reduction target, so you can read our submission at <https://bit.ly/3RfYOab>. APAS also signed onto a joint submission with various Saskatchewan Crop Commissions, so read that joint submission at <https://bit.ly/3AzvS5W>. Finally, we created a short summary of the main points from our submission, so visit <https://bit.ly/3B36eYF> to read that summary, plus I'll include it at the end of this email.

2. Federal Livestock Tax Deferral: The federal government just announced that the Livestock Tax Deferral is available for parts of Saskatchewan, so you can read the details of their announcement at <https://bit.ly/3TBsdx5>. Unfortunately, only the far west side of the province is currently eligible, so APAS will be requesting that the federal government extend eligibility to other parts of the province as well.

3. Application deadlines for CAP funding: Application deadlines are quickly approaching for various programs that are funded through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP). There are programs for wells, dugouts, pipelines, livestock handling equipment, irrigation development, fencing, plus a variety of other things. The provincial Ministry of Agriculture has a good collection of resources that describe the various CAP programs, so visit <https://bit.ly/3cG2jYk> for more

information.

4. APAS District Meetings will be held after harvest: We're still planning to hold APAS District Meetings around the province after harvest, so the dates, times, and locations will be sent out to all the APAS Representatives, Group Members, and Associate Members once they're finalized.

5. APAS updates for RM Council meetings: Let me know if you need APAS update materials for your RM Council meeting, or if you'd like APAS staff or Directors to come discuss our projects and advocacy work.

You'll get the next APAS Update on September 8 – just call or email if you have any questions in the meantime.

Curtis Hemming

Assistant Executive Director

Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan

Phone: 306.789.7774

Email: chemming@apas.ca

Summary of APAS Fertilizer Emissions Reduction Submission

- Saskatchewan makes up almost 40% of Canada's arable land, and Saskatchewan's producers are world leaders in the development of seeding technology and other farm practices to optimize soil health and productivity.

- The 30% reduction target was set without adequate consultation with producers and is based on an incomplete understanding of the technology and nutrient stewardship practices currently used on Saskatchewan farms.

- The 30% reduction target in "absolute" emissions presents a significant policy challenge when considering the pace of technological

change in the sector and the need to increase food production to meet a growing world population.

- APAS strongly advocates for an “intensity-based” approach to measuring emissions, which would allow for production increases, while also ensuring continuous improvements in efficiency and a lower carbon footprint.

- Reduction strategies must be based on sound science with verifiable research showing emissions savings and the benefits of adopting new practices. Measuring emissions from farm practices is an evolving area of research and Canada cannot afford to get ahead of the science when setting targets for the sector.

- Emissions measurement must be based on modeling that is clear, accurate and accounts for regional variations. The expectation that models will improve calls into question the appropriateness of setting a baseline year to measure reductions.

- Emissions reduction strategies should not interfere with Canada’s contributions to global food security, or introduce additional risks to family farm businesses.

- Canada needs to address shortfalls in the design of offset credits for agriculture. For instance, carbon sequestration values from zero-tillage are accounted for in Canada’s emissions inventory reporting, but the practice is excluded as an eligible offset because it is deemed a “common practice.”

- The federal government has not recognized the competitive constraints emissions reduction strategies and other Canadian climate change policies have on primary producers, especially in relation to the U.S approach to carbon credits and emissions reductions in the sector.

- Producers are very concerned with the prospect of new regulatory and administrative requirements, including access to program supports, being used to influence on-farm management decisions.

