



APAS 2021 Drought Plan

Saskatchewan is facing a severe drought. Canada's Drought Monitor has classified large areas of the province as experiencing extreme, severe, and moderate drought. Extreme heat and below-average precipitation is leading to feed and water supply shortages that are jeopardizing the viability of Saskatchewan livestock producers.

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) is requesting immediate government assistance to help producers cope with these extreme conditions.

Federal Proposals

- ▶ The federal government should immediately designate the entire province of Saskatchewan as eligible under the federal Livestock Tax Deferral program and extend eligibility to include calves, yearlings, and other livestock.
- ▶ The federal government should work with the provincial government to extend the AgriStability enrollment deadline and provide enhanced coverage.

Provincial Proposals

- ▶ *Government of Saskatchewan* – Initiate the AgriRecovery assessment process and establish a Provincial Drought Committee of government and industry representatives to monitor conditions and oversee assistance measures.
- ▶ *Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation* – Expedite the assessment of insured crops that can be pastured or harvested as greenfeed and silage; create a low-yield appraisal level (the point at which it would be uneconomical to harvest a normal crop) for “zero yield” and allow those crops to be grazed or converted to feed without penalty.
- ▶ *Ministry of Agriculture* – Work with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to extend the enrollment period for AgriStability and improve coverage levels to protect producer income from the impacts of drought.
- ▶ *Ministry of Agriculture* – Improve access to water supplies through enhancements to the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP), including:
 - 1) Develop a new Agricultural Water Pumping Program to source and make available loaned pumps and pipes for consolidation of existing water sources.
 - 2) Fast-track water development applications for drought-designated zones.
 - 3) Increase funding caps and waive limitations of eligible expenses to remove program caps for fencing of existing water sources and livestock water tanks.
 - 4) Fund mobile fire protection units for rural communities as eligible expenditures.

About APAS – Founded in 2000 by farmers, APAS is Saskatchewan's democratic, non-partisan agricultural policy and advocacy organization. APAS tackles agriculture's most important problems and offers practical solutions to provincial and national decision makers.