

AgriRecovery: Herd Management Drought Assistance

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

AgriRecovery is a disaster relief framework under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership that provides a coordinated process for federal, provincial and territorial governments to respond rapidly when disasters affecting several producers occur.

The Herd Management Drought Assistance program is the third program developed with industry to help meet the needs of Manitoba livestock producers experiencing drought conditions. The other two programs include the Livestock Feed and Transportation Drought Assistance program and Livestock Transportation Drought Assistance program.

This program will assist livestock producers in offsetting the cost of replacing breeding animals when culling is above normal due to shortages of winter feed. Producers may be eligible to apply for assistance to:

- purchase replacement breeding females
- retain replacement females from their existing herd or flock

The replacement is to assist in returning the applicant's inventory of breeding females to pre-drought levels.

Animals culled under the Herd Management Drought Assistance program are not eligible for assistance under the other two AgriRecovery programs launched on Aug. 31, 2021.

WHO QUALIFIES

Primary producers who owned eligible animals located in Manitoba, and were responsible for their feeding expenses as of March 16, 2021, are eligible. Elk producers must have a Game Farm Production Licence and only elk farmed under that licence are eligible.

An applicant must:

- be an individual who is 18 years of age or older at the time of application; a partnership, a corporation, a cooperative, a commune or a First Nation
- be liable to pay income tax in Manitoba under the Income Tax Act (Canada), or is specifically exempted from filing income tax but is a permanent resident of Canada; and must file farm and expense tax forms

Eligible animals

- Breeding females of beef cattle, bison, sheep, goats, and elk owned by the applicant
- Breeding females are mature females (cows, ewes, does, bred heifers, bred ewe lambs, and bred does) that have previously calved, lambed or been exposed to breeding.

The producer must own a minimum of 10 animals (by animal type) to apply for the program.

Available Assistance

Assistance is provided to replace breeding females culled due to drought and support returning the applicant's inventory of breeding females to pre-drought levels.

Eligible Sales of Breeding Females Culled Due to Drought

The breeding females must be sold during the March 16, 2021 to March 15, 2022 time period and contribute to a decline in the applicant's inventory of eligible breeding females on March 16, 2022.



Eligible Replacement

Breeding females culled due to drought can be replaced by purchases or retaining replacement females from the applicant's existing herd or flock. The replacement must contribute to an increase in the applicant's inventory of eligible breeding females on Jan. 31, 2023. Any increase in the inventory above pre-drought levels is not eligible.

The following replacements are eligible:

- Purchases of mature cows, mature ewes, mature does, bred heifers, bred ewe lambs, and bred does
- Purchases of females that will be bred by Jan. 31, 2023
- Retaining females from the applicant's existing herd to be bred for the first time by Jan. 31, 2023

The replacement animals must be maintained in the herd or flock until Jan. 31, 2023 or later.

Breeding Herd Inventory

The following dates will be used for assessing the impact of drought and subsequent recovery on the applicant's inventory of breeding females:

- March 16, 2021
- March 16, 2022
- Jan. 31, 2023

The difference between the recovery and drought impacted inventory indicates the effect of purchasing and retaining replacement females on recovering from the drought.



HOW TO DETERMINE HERD MANAGEMENT PAYMENT

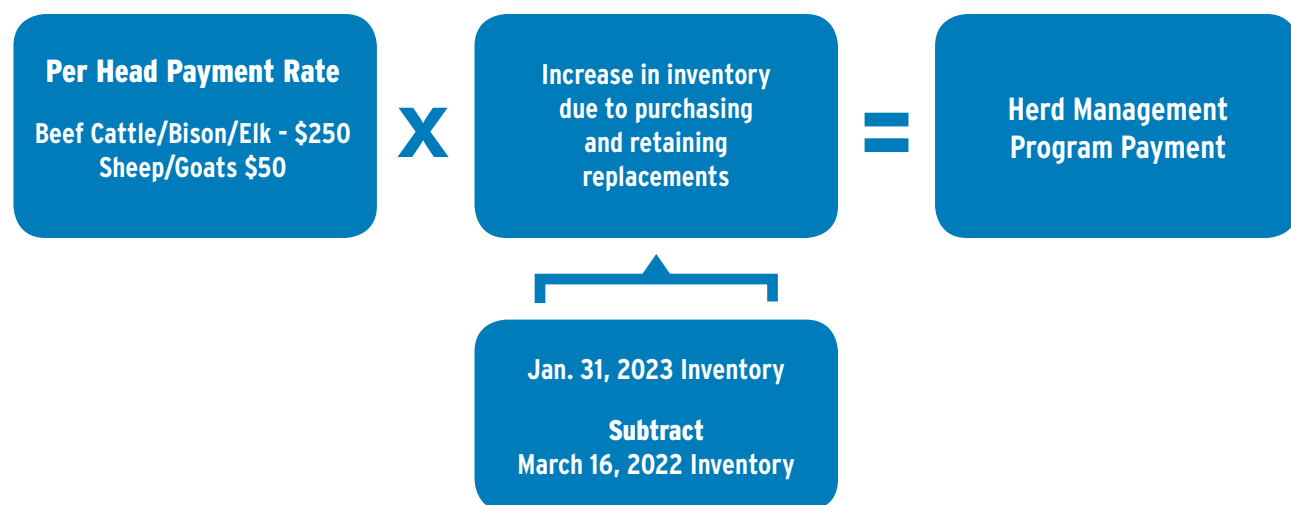
Payment Rates

Payments per head for each animal type are listed in the table below for the replacement of eligible breeding animals culled due to drought. The payments are made for breeding females purchased or retained.

Animal Type(s)	Payment (\$) per head
Beef Cattle, Bison, Elk	\$250
Sheep and Goats	\$50

Producers are paid the rates shown in the table above, based on the increase in the breeding female inventory between March 16, 2022 and Jan. 31, 2023.

The payments are calculated as follows,



Note: Payments are capped once inventory is restored to pre-drought levels. No payments are made for increases in inventory beyond the pre-drought level.

Other Criteria for Declaration of Inventory of Breeding Females:

The following animals should not be included in the declared inventories of breeding females:

- animals sold prior to being exposed to breeding for the first time
- market livestock intended for slaughter or purposes other than breeding
- animals sold after March 15, 2022

- animals leased by the applicant
- animals not located in Manitoba as of March 16, 2021 (pre-drought) or Jan. 31, 2023 (when recovery complete)

For the March 16, 2022 inventory declaration, breeding females that both gave birth and were sold in the Jan. 1, 2022 to March 15, 2022 time period should be included in the number of head declared.

Producers should maintain records of breeding animals sold or purchased in case they are requested by the program administrator.

HOW TO APPLY

The application package will be available on Jan. 10, 2022: online at www.manitoba.ca/agriculture, in-person at **AG-MASC Service Centre**, or by calling 1-844-769-6224 to receive a copy in the mail.

Application is a two-step process requiring applicants to fully complete and submit:

- 1) Application form, declaring their:
 - a. March 16, 2021 inventory of eligible breeding females owned
 - b. March 16, 2022 inventory of eligible breeding females owned
- 2) Claim form, declaring their:
 - a. Jan. 31, 2023 inventory of eligible breeding females

Program Timelines

- April 15, 2022 11:59 PM - Deadline for application declaring March 16, 2021 and March 16, 2022 inventory. **Only producers who have submitted an application by this deadline will be able to submit a claim.**
- Dec. 1, 2022 - Claim forms will be available
- Feb. 17, 2023 11:59 PM - Deadline for claim forms declaring Jan. 31, 2023 inventory

Further Resources

- Herd Management Drought Assistance - Frequently Asked Questions
- Video - Herd Management Drought Assistance - Determining Payments
- Video - Herd Management Drought Assistance - Two-Step Application Process



Contact Us

- Go to manitoba.ca/agriculture
- Toll free at 1-844-769-6224
- Email us at agriculture@gov.mb.ca
- Follow us on Twitter @MBGovAg
- Visit your nearest AG-MASC Service Centre