

# Ag Action Manitoba Program for Farmers

One program. Built with you in mind.



**A Program Guide to the Terms and Conditions**

2018-2023

Version 6



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# Ag Action Manitoba

## One program. Built with you in mind.

**Ag Action Manitoba** is a five-year, \$176 million, all-encompassing program offered to farmers, agri-processors, industry organizations, researchers and industry service providers.

Ag Action Manitoba supports a wide variety of activities and strategic investments. This guide focuses on program activities directed towards **farmers**.

Farmers can apply for funding aimed at:

- developing new skills, technologies and products
- increasing production and adding value to products
- finding new markets

The Ag Action Manitoba program, funded under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, is administered by Manitoba Agriculture. Manitoba Agriculture staff are available to advise, support and work with applicants to help them reach their goals and to help the agricultural sector become more profitable, competitive and innovative.

### Canadian Agricultural Partnership

The Canadian Agricultural Partnership is a \$3 billion, five-year investment by federal, provincial and territorial governments to help Canada's agriculture and agri-food sectors innovate, grow and prosper.

This investment is cost shared, with 60 per cent of funding provided by the federal government and 40 per cent by the provinces and territories. The provinces and territories deliver the Canadian Agricultural Partnership's programs to ensure they meet regional needs.

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## About This Guide

This guide provides applicants with further details related to Ag Action Manitoba's cost share funding assistance.

Manitoba Agriculture will update the guide regularly, and it is subject to change without notice. New opportunities may be made available during the term of the Ag Action Manitoba program.

**For more information, contact Manitoba Agriculture at:**

- **1-844-769-6224**
- **agaction@gov.mb.ca**
- **manitoba.ca/agriculture**

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## SECTION 1

# Program Description

The Ag Action Manitoba Program for Farmers supports the growth and sustainability of primary agriculture in Manitoba.

Whether you are new to farming or have been in the business for a long time, Ag Action Manitoba offers practical and flexible activities to help farmers reach their farm business goals. In addition to program activities, farmers can participate in collaborative strategic investments along the entire value chain to help enhance sustainability and growth of the sector.

With this program, farmers can:

- learn new skills
- harness new technologies
- develop new products
- find new markets
- add value to a product
- increase production
- continue to farm sustainably
- maintain public trust

Program activities work to improve plant and animal health, environmental sustainability and skill development.

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## SECTION 2

# Program Eligibility

Ag Action Manitoba supports a wide variety of activities and strategic investments. This guide focuses on program activities directed towards farmers.

Eligible farmers include:

- existing, young and beginning producers, growers and ranchers
- individuals, partnerships, or registered corporations, co-operatives, or any other associations of persons actively engaged in farming

Farmers:

- must be farming in the Province of Manitoba
- can be from inside or outside of Manitoba, as long as the activities related to the application occur in Manitoba or have a positive outcome for Manitoba
- must ensure that they meet all eligibility requirements, as detailed for each activity

Additional factors may be considered in determining the eligibility of the applicant, including:

- the provision of false or misleading information by the applicant under other Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs
- amounts due and owing by the applicant under other Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs

Government employees, who are the majority shareholder (50 per cent or greater ownership) in a farm business or operation, are not eligible to apply for funding. A farm business or operation, which includes a government employee as a minority shareholder, is eligible to apply for funding.

Be sure to refer to each Ag Action Manitoba program activity for specific requirements for eligibility.

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## SECTION 3

# Program Activities

Eligible farmers can apply to the following activities under Ag Action Manitoba program:

- **Training and Consulting**
- **Distribution and Marketing Alliances**
- **Assurance**

See sections 5 through 7 for more details of each activity.

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## SECTION 4

# Cost Share Funding

Activities are cost shared between government (the program) and the applicant. Cost share ratios and funding caps vary for each activity.

### Eligible costs

Eligible costs are expenses directly related to the execution of an approved project. The applicant must provide detailed costs for each activity and focus area in the application.

The applicant is solely responsible for all costs and expenses of the project, including all ineligible costs and any project deficits or cost over-runs.

Provincial Sales Tax (PST) and the non-recoverable portion of Goods and Services Tax (GST) are eligible costs.

### Funding from government

When including funds from government sources to meet the applicant's share, a stacking limit will apply and must be adhered to.

A stacking limit refers to the maximum level of total Canadian government funding (federal, provincial/territorial and municipal) that a successful applicant can receive towards the total eligible costs of a project.

The maximum level of total government funding must not exceed:

- 75 per cent of total approved project costs for non-profit organizations
- 50 per cent of total approved project costs for all other applicants

### Ineligible costs

The recoverable portion of GST is ineligible.

Where a project is approved, no eligible expenses will be reimbursed unless a funding decision letter or contribution agreement is signed.

**Refer to each activity for a complete list of eligible and ineligible costs under Ag Action Manitoba.**

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## SECTION 5

# Training and Consulting

This activity provides funding to farmers for developing management skills and farm business plans. The activity will help individual farmers improve their understanding of how to start, operate and grow a profitable farming operation.

**Training** includes the following focus areas:

- farm transition
- farm risk management
- financial management
- human resource management

**Young and beginning farmers** are eligible for unique training that helps to build farm business management knowledge and leadership capacity.

An identified list of skill development courses and training events eligible for cost share can be found at [manitoba.ca/agriculture](http://manitoba.ca/agriculture). The list of courses and events will be updated in July and December every year. New requests may be considered three months prior to update.

The **consulting** activity helps farmers develop and tailor targeted plans to fit individual farm needs. The focus areas include:

- **initial** professional consulting services for farm transition, human resource and risk management awareness

- **in-depth** professional consulting services for financial planning and analysis if expanding or diversifying a livestock operation in Manitoba.

Professional consulting services must be rendered by a consultant who holds a professional designation, such as P. Ag or CGA in their associated area of consultation.

**Young and beginning farmers** are eligible for consultation activities if planning to establish or buy into a commercial farm business. Farmers have 90 days from the date of written approval to complete their consultation or skills training. Exceptions will be made for training activities that require a longer period of time to be completed.

Any training or consulting done before approval may not receive funding. To guarantee funding, the application and project must be approved in writing through a funding decision letter.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 for this activity.

Training has a funding cap of \$2,500.

Initial professional consulting is capped at \$500.

In-depth consulting is capped at \$2,500.

Funding caps are applied to the farm business unit, which includes all shareholders.

## Eligible costs

### For the Training activity

- registration fees for workshops and training events
- books and supplies required for completing a workshop or training event
- specialized software and decision-making tools, such as the FCC Ag Expert software

Additional support for young and beginning farmers include:

- registration fees, books, supplies and specialized decision software, or tools that develop individual farm business management capacity and leadership skills

### For the Consulting activity

Initial professional consulting services for:

- human resource management planning on farms
- transition planning on farms

- risk management awareness
- in-depth professional financial planning and analysis consultation if diversifying into livestock or expanding an existing livestock operation

Additional support for young and beginning farmers include:

- in-depth financial consulting services to complete a financial plan for establishing or purchasing a commercial interest in a farm business

## Ineligible costs

- in-kind contributions
- professional fees for the actual planning and development of business structures like corporations

## Application Assessment

Applications are reviewed and assessed on a first come first served basis until funds are fully allocated.

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## SECTION 6

# Distribution and Marketing Alliances

Financial assistance is provided to proposed projects that develop and enhance distribution networks and collaborative marketing of primary agricultural products.

The goal of this activity is to open new markets and opportunities to supply live, raw, and minimally processed crops and livestock required by buyers, processors and exporters.

Successful proposed projects will benefit multiple farmers and reduce farmer dependence on commodity markets. While the proposed projects may assist in developing the supply chain for on or off-farm processing, direct assistance for developing a processed product will not be eligible.

Proposed projects should be new or incremental projects, rather than part of the normal business of a company or projects that are already well developed within a sector. Projects should actively involve or engage multiple primary producers.

Distributors, processors, industry associations and other members of the value chain can be collaborators on a project, but only farmers or groups of farmers can be the applicants.

This activity has two specific focus areas for funding: project development and project implementation.

**Project development** includes:

- feasibility studies
- business planning
- market assessment

**Project implementation** includes:

- project design and management
- organizational development and formation
- promotion of participation in the supply chain

- development and implementation of production and quality control protocols
- product promotion, branding and test marketing
- pilot of start up operations of a distribution network or marketing alliance

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 and a total funding cap of \$50,000 for this activity.

Project development has a \$5,000 limit as part of this cap.

### Eligible costs

For project development

- feasibility studies
- business planning
- market research

For project implementation

- consulting, professional service, project management, technical services and facilitation services
- audit and certification costs
- legal fees and organization registration and formation costs
- sample testing and test interpretation
- market and economic research and analysis
- travel, meeting and accommodation
- incremental wages for project delivery
- communications and promotion, including incremental costs for developing and implementing online and social media platforms

## Ineligible costs

- in-kind contributions, such as wages, salaries or equipment use
- normal, current, or ongoing operation or maintenance costs
- capital costs for buildings, equipment and related infrastructure

## Application Assessment

A competitive application process will fund projects, which will create and build opportunities for:

- aggregating products to supply the needs of buyers, processors and export markets
- developing supplies of crops and livestock for niche and identity preserved markets
- building producer participation in marketing alliances and distribution networks

- introducing or expanding capacity for minimal processing of raw product to meet the product specifications of buyers, processors, and exporters, e.g., sizing, sorting, cleaning and grading of harvested crops, live animals, and animal products such as milk, eggs, honey and bulk, custom processed meat

Applications will be assessed and rated by technical reviewers based on:

- capacity of proponents, soundness of the project, and likelihood of success
- potential economic value
- degree to which the project allows producers new and enhanced opportunities to move away from commodity markets and participate in distribution and marketing alliances

Farmers may be required to provide subsequent reporting on the project as prescribed by Manitoba Agriculture and described in a funding decision letter.

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## SECTION 7

# Assurance: Beneficial Management Practices

Environmental farm planning helps improve the value and health of Manitoba farms. The continued adoption of environmental farm planning will enhance Canada's reputation as a supplier of safe, high-quality foods that are produced in an environmentally responsible manner.

Ag Action Manitoba will help farmers implement and adopt beneficial management practices (BMPs) on their farm identified in their **Environmental Farm Plan**. The BMPs eligible for cost shared funding to farmers are:

- **resource management planning**
- **establishment of a cover crop**
- **increasing frequency of perennials within annual crop rotations**
- **perennial cover for sensitive lands**
- **improved pasture and forage quality**
- **intercropping**
- **liquid manure storage odour reduction**
- **barn odour reduction**
- **farmyard runoff control**
- **relocation of confined livestock areas**
- **managing livestock access to riparian areas**
- **sub-surface drainage water management**
- **utilization of drainage water**
- **pesticide storage**
- **secondary containment for liquid fertilizer storage**

More detailed information on each BMP is provided in the next sections.

## Environmental Farm Plans

Environmental Farm Plans (EFP) are designed to address priority issues and help farmers:

- identify existing environmental assets on their farm
- raise awareness of environmental risks on their farm
- identify actions to reduce risks
- improve environmental sustainability
- improve production efficiency on the farm

## How to get an EFP on your farm

- The process includes completion of an EFP workbook, facilitated workshops and a workbook review.
- The EFP program is administered and delivered by Manitoba Agriculture and EFP reviews are completed by a third party. In Manitoba, the review is done through the Keystone Agricultural Producers and is confidential.
- An EFP will need to be reviewed every five years to remain valid.

For more information, or to register for an EFP workshop, contact your local **Manitoba Agriculture** office.

The BMPs are further grouped into categories:

- resource efficiency planning
- soil improvement and greenhouse gas reduction
- manure and livestock management
- drainage water management
- hazardous products management

Each of the categories will receive a percentage of the total available program funds. This ensures each category of BMPs receives funding during each call for applications.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

Cost share ratios for each BMP will vary from 50:50 and 25:75, government to applicant. Each individual BMP has a different funding cap.

The total maximum amount payable to one farm operation is \$60,000 (not including BMP: Barn Odour Reduction and BMP: Managing Livestock Access to Riparian Areas) over the term of the Ag Action Manitoba program. Farmers may apply and receive funding for more than one BMP over the term of Ag Action Manitoba.

For an individual, partnership or corporation to qualify for separate funding caps under the Ag Action Manitoba program, the individual, partnership or corporation must each qualify separately as eligible applicants. This means that they must each have a unique GST business number and must have a valid Statement of Completion for an Environmental Farm Plan.

Only one application per BMP on the same parcel of land and/or for a single project where there may be common components across multiple applications, will be eligible for funding.

### Requirements for eligibility

Farmers:

- must have a valid Statement of Completion for an EFP

- must own, rent, lease, manage or otherwise control agricultural land used to produce agricultural products
- must own or control land where the project will be located (or have permission from the land owner to execute the project)
- can be from inside or outside of Manitoba, as long as the activities related to the application occur in Manitoba or have a positive outcome for Manitoba
- must have a valid EFP from their province of residence, if from outside of Manitoba
- must have a **Manitoba Premises Identification Number** (only required for livestock producers)

### Additional requirements are identified for each specific BMP.

Successful applicants are responsible for:

- identifying, obtaining and complying with any necessary licenses, permits and approvals (municipal, provincial, federal, etc.), before starting the project
- incorporating any relevant and required mitigation measures for the project
- ensuring that insurance requirements have been met regarding the changes implemented.

A final inspection or other proof of completion may be required to confirm that the changes implemented were in accordance with the project proposal.

For BMPs occurring within a yard site, the project must take place on an existing farmyard. Development of new farm yards are not eligible.

All invoices must be in the name of the applicant or else funding caps may be combined. It is up to the applicant to show evidence of independent operations.

### Eligible and ineligible costs

- eligible and ineligible costs are specific to each BMP

## **BMP: Resource Management Planning (101)**

This BMP supports comprehensive planning of the management of a farm's resources to mitigate risks to air, land and water.

Input from a knowledgeable professional helps a farmer to face complex, multi-variable production limitations that also pose environmental risks. Supported with the right expertise and data, farmers are encouraged to integrate, rather than compartmentalize, the opportunities and challenges in their operations. Benefits can accrue for both farmers and society as a whole.

For instance, in optimizing nutrient management, the focus should not be entirely on fertilizer use if there are overriding production limitations associated with soil quality and excess water. Before a producer can be expected to adopt a more expensive, advanced level of management, alternatives must be presented and critically assessed during a thorough planning phase.

For example, controlled or conservation drainage offers potential for climate change adaptation. However, the practice involves higher capital investment and more intensive management. As retro-fitting a sub-surface drainage network is not practical, including control structures as a design consideration is critical for its potential adoption.

### **Cost share ratio and funding cap**

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 and a funding cap of \$15,000 for this beneficial management practice.

### **Eligible costs**

- consultant fees
- sample collection
- data analysis and interpretation
- preparation of written plans including descriptions and analysis, test reports, input prescriptions, step-by-step instructions, calculations, contour maps, soil polygon delineations and other elements
- designs that can include engineering schematics and calculations

### **Ineligible costs**

- consultant fees paid to the applicant's own consulting company (e.g., an individual who owns a farm and a consulting company)
- personal labour and personal equipment use

### **Project components**

- Conceptually, this category enables intelligence gathering to support decision-making. Therefore, any information process or product is eligible, provided it is directly relevant to the applicant's operation (e.g., resources, production systems and environmental risks).
- Applicants will be offered the following menu of plans to pursue, sorted by resource component.

AIR	LAND	WATER
<p><b>4R Nutrient Stewardship plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>targeting nitrogen (nitrous oxide emissions)</li> <li>elements based on the 4Rs:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Right Source - Enhanced Efficiency Fertilizers</li> <li>Right Rate - N sufficiency assessment and variable rate prescriptions</li> <li>Right Time - split applications</li> <li>Right Place - delineation of soil management units</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Carbon management plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fuel efficiency strategy</li> <li>carbon sequestration strategy</li> </ul> <p><b>Grazing management plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>planned grazing to increase pasture productivity and forage quality, increase animal performance, and reduce methane emissions and sequestered carbon</li> </ul> <p><b>Ammonia reduction strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>feed formulation to optimize protein supply and reduce excreted N</li> </ul>	<p><b>Productivity and land use assessment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>delineation of parcels of varying productivity (Ag Capability ratings)</li> <li>identification of parcels to be set aside from intensive production due to inherent limitations (i.e., areas of poor reliability due to excess moisture, salinity or other)</li> </ul> <p><b>Landscape restoration plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>remediation of tillage erosion on sloping landscapes</li> <li>potential links to surface drainage</li> </ul> <p><b>Alternative cropping plan for strategic landscape locations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>perennial crops to address soil quality and carbon</li> <li>cover crops to address water problems</li> </ul>	<p><b>Excess water assessment and surface drainage design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>delineation of water accumulation and movement on a farm</li> <li>erosion control measures</li> <li>alternative surface inlets</li> </ul> <p><b>Excess water assessment and sub-surface drainage design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>controlled drainage</li> <li>sub-irrigation</li> <li>bioreactors</li> <li>detailed soil and hydrogeological site investigations</li> </ul> <p><b>Water retention design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>capture of excess water drained by surface or sub-surface flow</li> </ul> <p><b>Drainage water utilization design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>addition of irrigation to a water capture project</li> </ul> <p><b>4R Nutrient Stewardship plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>targeting phosphorus (transfer to surface water)</li> </ul>

## BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

1. What environmental risks have you identified on your farm? Are there links between those risks?
2. What practice changes are you considering? Are those changes linked in any ways?
3. What plans will you develop to potentially undertake those changes?
4. How would planning efforts benefit from professional input?

## AIR

### 4R Nutrient Stewardship plan

1. Estimate the number of acres to be assessed (total and broken down by each of the 4Rs, avoiding multi-counting).
2. According to each of the 4Rs, describe current fertilization practices used on your farm and how the plan will examine potential improvements.
3. What strategies will be investigated to reduce nitrous oxide emissions or increase N-use efficiency?

### Carbon management plan

1. Describe or, if possible, estimate current fuel consumption (e.g., gallons/acre, litres of propane).
2. Explain the calculations that you will make in assessing fuel use and potential for improved efficiency.
3. What strategies will be investigated to improve fuel efficiency or reduce emissions from fuel use?
4. What strategies will be investigated to build soil carbon?
5. How many acres will be assessed?

## Grazing management plan

1. How many acres will be assessed?
2. Describe the land to be assessed.
3. Explain how the plan will examine changes to grazing management that may generate environmental improvements and other benefits.

## Ammonia reduction strategy

1. What sources of feed will you consider for enhancing formulations on your farm?
2. What proportion of your herd will be considered for alternative feed formulations?

## LAND

### Productivity and land use assessment

1. Briefly describe the methods of parcel or zone delineation that will be used.
2. Estimate the number of parcels or zones (high, medium and low productivity) that will be delineated.
3. Describe the climate-landscape-soil regime in which your farm operates.

### Landscape restoration plan

1. Provide a conceptual description and evidence of the damage to your land caused by erosion. Include type (tillage, wind and water), locations (landscape position and fields), extent (number of acres) and severity (estimated soil loss or qualitative description).
2. Identify the strategies that will be investigated to remediate eroded areas.

## Alternative cropping plan for strategic landscape locations

1. Describe your current crop rotation(s) and what new one(s) will be examined.
2. How many acres will be assessed for an alternative cropping plan?
3. How many, and which years in the rotation, will be under consideration for cover crops or other alternative cropping scenarios?

## WATER

### Excess water assessment and surface drainage design

1. Estimate the numbers of acres to be assessed, including areas already drained and new areas that could be drained.
2. Estimate the number of in-field and edge-of-field drains to be assessed.
3. What is the current surface drainage system? What changes will be examined and what are the potential environmental and other benefits?

### Excess water assessment and sub-surface drainage design

1. Estimate the numbers of acres to be assessed, including areas already drained and new areas that could be drained.
2. Describe the fields that will be assessed in terms of soils, landscape and moisture conditions.
3. What particular practices will be assessed for potential adoption with environmental and other benefits?

### Water retention design

1. Estimate the target volume of drainage water to be retained and the capacity of a retention structure.
2. Conceptually, describe the design of the retention structure and how water will be directed into it.

### Drainage water utilization design

1. Estimate the target volume of drainage water to be recycled via an irrigation.
2. Estimate the number of acres to be irrigated with drainage water.
3. Describe the irrigation system, including the connection to stored drainage water.
4. Describe the crop rotation that will benefit from the recycling of the water.

## 4R Nutrient Stewardship plan

1. Estimate the numbers of acres to be assessed (total and breakdown by each of the 4Rs, avoiding multi-counting).
2. According to each of the 4Rs, (most importantly Time and Place) describe current fertilization practices used on your farm and how the plan will examine possible improvements.
3. What strategies will be investigated to reduce phosphorus losses or increase P-use efficiency?

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- **4R Nutrient Stewardship**
- Manitoba Agriculture
  - **Nutrient Management**
  - **Soil Management**
  - **Water Management**
- **The Agricultural BMP Handbook for Minnesota**
- **[www.transformingdrainage.org](http://www.transformingdrainage.org)**

## Additional information

- Draw from the plan menu as appropriate. If multiple plans are proposed, describe how they are interrelated.
- Data collected and the contents of plans will vary by climate-soil-landscape setting, production limitation, environmental risk and corresponding corrective practice.
- The strength of an application and, if approved, completed plans will be assessed based on an applicant's ability to clearly link multiple site and operation-specific risks leading to an appropriately multi-variate, comprehensive resource management plan.
- Links between risks, practices and resources must be established genuinely with a sound basis, not forced or presented with generic language.
- Outline the level and type of expertise needed for each plan to be developed.

## BMP: Establishment of a Cover Crop (201)

Cover crops protect soil, air and water by capturing nutrients, reducing soil erosion and runoff, increasing water uptake, and sequestering carbon in soil.

The purpose of this BMP is to use cover cropping as a means to target carbon loss, soil organic matter loss, erosion and nutrient loss, and to take up excess moisture. Priority will be given to projects that follow low residue crops and/or target areas of excess moisture.

Farmers may be required to direct seed their following crop into the cover crop stand.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 25 per cent government, 75 per cent applicant. This BMP has a funding cap of \$10,000.

### Eligible costs

- seed, equipment use and labour costs for seed-bed preparation and seeding limited to a maximum of 160 acres per applicant per year
- options such as winter cover crops, relay crops, green fallow crops and biennial green manures, cover crop mixtures for grazing
- cover crop mixture must have a minimum of 3 species with varying growth habits and be chosen to target the risk being mitigated (e.g., erosion protection, water uptake, etc.)
- supplied seed compensated based on average seed costs
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the **Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide**)

### Ineligible costs

- seeding of cash crops (e.g., winter wheat)

### Notes

- Brassica species are not recommended in cover crop mixtures, especially if the current crop rotation includes other Brassica species as the main crop.

### BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- What cover crop species have you selected for your mixture and why were these particular species chosen?
- How will you establish your cover crop (e.g., in-season, post-harvest, planted vs. broadcast)?
- How many acres of cover crop will be seeded?
- What was the previous crop? What will be seeded following the cover crop?
- How will the cover crop be terminated?
- How will implementing this BMP change your current farm practice?
- If relevant, attach a drawing or aerial photo that highlights any sensitive areas that are being improved by the establishment of cover crops.

### Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- North Dakota State University: **Selecting a Cover Crop**
- University of Manitoba - Natural Systems Agriculture: **Cover Crops and Green Manures**

## **BMP: Increasing Frequency of Perennials within Annual Crop Rotations (202)**

Increasing the use of perennials will add diversity to annual crop rotations with the goal of protecting and building soil organic matter, reducing erosion, and improving soil structure and water infiltration. Flowering perennials also provide forage for pollinators and increase biodiversity.

### **Cost share ratio and funding cap**

There is a cost share ratio of 25 per cent government, 75 per cent applicant. This BMP has a funding cap of \$10,000.

### **Eligible costs**

- seed, equipment use and labour costs for seed-bed preparation and seeding
- equipment modification for seeding perennial legumes with an annual crop
- inoculants and fertilizer if required to establish the perennial crop
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the **Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide**)

### **Ineligible costs**

- annual crop seed (e.g., nurse crop)

### **Notes**

- The objective of this BMP is to target carbon loss, GHG reduction, soil organic matter (SOM) loss, erosion, and nutrient loss. Priority will be given to projects that meet these objectives.
- Seed mixtures must not contain potentially invasive species.

### **BMP specific questions**

The following information will be required in the application:

- What perennial species have you selected and why?
- How will you establish your perennial crop?
- How long do you intend to leave your perennial stand before terminating it and seeding annuals?
- What is the number of acres of perennials seeded?
- What is the current crop rotation?
- How will implementing this BMP change your current farm practice?
- If relevant, attach a drawing or aerial photo that identifies the field(s) on which this project will take place.

### **Reference materials**

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- University of Manitoba - Natural Systems Agriculture: **Perennial Crops in Rotation**

## BMP: Perennial Cover for Sensitive Lands (203)

Perennial cover on sensitive lands will minimize erosion and salinization, and help to sequester carbon in soil.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 and a funding cap of \$10,000 for this BMP.

### Eligible costs

- seed, equipment use and labour costs for seed-bed preparation and seeding, limited to a maximum of 40 acres per project (typically per quarter section)
- inoculants and fertilizer if required to establish the perennial crop
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the [Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide](#))

### Ineligible costs

- annual crop seed (ex: nurse crop)

### Notes

- The objective of this BMP is to protect soil vulnerable to erosion and salinization. By establishing a perennial crop where the growth of annuals is otherwise poor, there should also be an increase in carbon sequestration and SOM. An added benefit of flowering perennial cover is increased biodiversity and pollinator habitat.
- The intention is to maintain permanent perennial cover on sensitive land; therefore, the land should not be converted from perennial forages to annual crops as the environmental benefits would not be upheld.
- Seed mixtures must not contain potentially invasive species.

### BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- What perennial species have you selected and why were these particular species chosen?
- Do you intend to leave the perennial permanently or will you terminate the stand in the future?
- What is the number of acres of perennials seeded?
- What crops have been growing in the project area in the last 5 years?
- How will implementing this BMP change your current farm practice?
- Attach a diagram or aerial photograph that identifies the field(s) on which this project will take place. Identify areas of risk (i.e. sensitive areas) and indicate where the perennial will be seeded.

### Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- Manitoba Agriculture: [Soil Management Guide](#) - Soil Salinity and Soil Erosion chapters
- North Dakota State University: [Managing Saline Soils in North Dakota](#)

## BMP: Improved Pasture and Forage Quality (301)

The intent of this BMP is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase soil carbon and improve animal performance. Improving pasture productivity and forage quality serves to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in several ways:

- Improved management of forage lands can increase the rate of carbon sequestration, where carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is removed from the atmosphere and stored in the soil.
- Reduced nitrogen fertilizer application rates on perennial forages that contain legume species will reduce the production of nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O).
- Improved forage quality enables cattle to digest feed more efficiently, resulting in reduced enteric methane production and improved animal performance.

The benefits of improved pasture and forage quality include:

- improved productivity and economic gains
- higher carrying capacity of pastures
- improved soil and water quality
- improved water holding capacity of soils
- reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- enhanced soil carbon sequestration as a result of improved pasture productivity
- improved habitat for pollinators

Funding is intended to support practices that increase perennial legume prevalence and forage species diversity in pastures and improve grazing management to boost pasture productivity and quality.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 25 per cent government, 75 per cent applicant. This BMP has a funding cap of \$10,000.

### Eligible costs

- perennial forage establishment for improved pasture quality (seed, weed control, equipment use and labour costs)
- permanent or alternative fencing to improve grazing strategies (fencing material and labour costs)
- alternative watering systems (system components, labour, installation)
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the **Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide**)

### Ineligible costs

- perimeter fencing for riparian grazing management (possibly eligible under Managing Livestock Access to Riparian Areas)

### BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- What are the current barriers you face to improving forage quality?
- What grazing and/or feed management practices will be implemented to improve your forage and pasture quality and/or productivity?
- How do you expect carrying capacity of your grazing land to change as a result of this project?

- Include a pasture diagram that includes all relevant features. This may include:
  - perimeter fences
  - cross fences
  - paddocks
  - watering sites
  - trees or bush areas
  - surface waters (e.g., creeks, rivers, lakes, ponds, wetlands)

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

Manitoba Agriculture

- **Pasture Management**
- **Forage Production and Management**
- **Livestock Production**

- Field Crop Production Guide (2001 edition) - Forage Establishment (pp. 78-83) (copies can be made available - please contact Manitoba Agriculture at 1-844-769-6224)

Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association

- **Pasture Rejuvenation Methods**
- **Pasture Planner: A guide for developing your grazing system**

Manitoba Beef and Forage Initiatives

- **Planned Grazing Demonstration**
- **Rotational Grazing to Improve Pasture Productivity**
- **Low Cost Methods to Improve Pasture Production**

Alberta Agriculture

- **Alberta Forage Manual**

## BMP: Intercropping (302)

Intercropping (growing two or more crop types together) enables more efficient crop utilization of water, nutrients and sunlight, compared to monocropping (growing a single crop alone), and could also provide benefits related to reduced weeds, pests and diseases. Higher nutrient use efficiency reduces the risk of nutrient loss. Intercropping with legumes reduces nitrogen fertilizer requirements and the associated nitrous oxide emissions.

The benefits of intercropping may include:

- greater and more efficient capture of available resources (water, nutrients, light) compared to monocropping
- higher overall yields compared to monocropping
- reduced nitrogen fertilizer costs when adding a legume to what would otherwise have been a non-legume monocrop
- increased suppression of weeds (reduced nutrients, water and sunlight available for weed growth)
- increased resilience to crop pests and diseases
- increased adaptability of the crop to adverse weather conditions (e.g., stressful conditions for one crop may favour the other)
- reduced risk of nutrient loss to the environment

The intent of this BMP is to promote intercropping legume crops with non-legume crops to reduce N fertilizer rates, and to promote other annual intercropping mixtures with clear environmental benefits.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost of 50:50 and a funding cap of \$10,000 for this BMP.

### Eligible costs

- seed separating equipment to separate seed harvested from an intercropping mix
- equipment modification to enable seeding intercrops in a single pass

### Ineligible costs

- personal labour
- field work costs
- seed, fertilizers and pesticide costs

### BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- What environmental risks will intercropping address on your farm?
- How will intercropping affect nitrogen fertilizer management on your farm?
- By what amount (in lb/ac or kg/ha) do you expect nitrogen rates to decrease (or increase) due to intercropping?
- How many acres do you plan to intercrop and what crops are you growing together?
- If you were not intercropping, what would you normally be growing in this rotation instead?
- Include a diagram to illustrate how intercropping reduces environmental risks on your farm. (e.g., areas affected by erosion, areas affected by salinity).

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

### **Westman Agriculture Diversification Organization (WADO) 2016 Annual Report**

- Responses of Pea and Canola Intercrops to Nitrogen and Phosphorous Applications (year 1 of 2 interim report) (pp. 80-88)

### **Manitoba Pulse and Soybean Growers**

- Pulse Beat Newsletter (**fall/winter No. 76, 2015**)
  - On-farm evaluation of peola intercropping (pp. 56-57)
- Pulse Beat Newsletter (**fall/winter No. 73, 2014**)
  - Intercropping pea and canola: An Opportunity for Enhanced Profitability (pp. 37-39)
- Pulse Beat Newsletter (**fall/winter No. 79, 2016**) -
  - On-farm evaluation of peola - an intercrop of peas and canola (p.30)

## **BMP: Liquid Manure Storage Odour Reduction (403)**

Odours are one of the main causes of conflict between livestock producers and their neighbours. Liquid manure storage covers effectively control odour from the storage by creating a physical barrier between the manure surface and the air, thus reducing gas and odour emissions.

This BMP is only available to applicants with existing livestock operations.

### **Cost share ratio and funding cap**

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 and a funding cap of \$50,000 for this BMP.

Engineering has a funding cap of \$5,000.

### **Eligible costs**

- synthetic manure storage covers
- engineering design work for installation of the cover

### **Ineligible costs**

- straw covers
- enzymes, feed or pit additives
- personal labour and personal equipment use

### **BMP specific questions**

The following information will be required in the application:

- What is the distance to the nearest residence from the liquid manure storage facility (excluding any residences on your operation)?
- How many residences are within a one kilometre radius of the storage? Include an aerial photograph of the operation and residences, if helpful.
- Has there ever been a complaint registered with the rural municipality or Manitoba Farm Industry Board about odours from your operation?
- What is the storage type (circular, single earthen, multi-earthen)?
- Provide manure storage dimensions (radius, height, width, depth, surface area and number of cells).
- Which components (or cells) of the storage will be covered? What is the capacity (in imperial gallons) of the area you will cover?

### **Reference materials**

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- University of Minnesota Extension: **Preparing an odor management plan**

## BMP: Barn Odour Reduction (404)

Odours are one of the main causes of conflict between livestock producers and their neighbours. Scrubbers and biofilters that treat the air being exhausted from a livestock barn are promising technologies for reducing odours from the barn. All air exhausted from the barn should pass through the scrubber or biofilter, requiring the ventilation system to be directly connected.

This BMP is only available to applicants that have new operations with conditional use approval or an application for conditional use approval in the system.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 25 per cent government and 75 per cent applicant. There is a funding cap of \$100,000.

Engineering has a funding cap of \$5,000.

### Eligible costs

- in-barn air quality treatment technologies: air scrubber infrastructure, in-barn ventilation modifications, and biofilters
- engineering design work for barn ventilation systems

### Ineligible costs

- ventilation modifications without air treatment
- biofilters that are not directly connected to barn exhaust system
- personal labour and personal equipment use

## BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- Do you have conditional use approval or have you applied for conditional use approval?
- How close is the nearest residence to your barn (excluding any residences on your operation)? Include an aerial photograph of the operation and residences, if helpful.
- How many residences are within a one kilometre radius of the barn?
- Has there ever been a complaint registered with the rural municipality or Manitoba Farm Industry Board about odours from your operation?
- Describe the manure collection (e.g., deep pit, partially slatted floor) and delivery system.
- How many barns are on site? How many barns will be treated? What are the dimensions of the barn(s) being treated (length, width)?
- How many animals are in the barn being treated?

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- University of Minnesota Extension: [Preparing an odor management plan](#)

## BMP: Farmyard Runoff Control (501)

Implementing runoff control measures helps to minimize the impact farmyard and/or livestock facilities have on surface and ground water quality, and protects water quality.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 and a funding cap of \$50,000 for this BMP.

### Eligible costs

- upstream diversion of runoff around farmyards: swales, dykes, etc.
- downstream protection from or containment systems for farmyard runoff (collection basins, retention ponds, etc.)
- construction of an impermeable base and other in-yard improvements to minimize risk of ground water contamination from livestock pens and confinement areas
- engineering design work and consultative fees (cap at \$5,000 as a standalone)
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the [Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide](#))

### Ineligible costs

- manure removal

### Notes

- Funding is provided to construct or improve runoff control for existing agriculture operations, farmyards and livestock facilities. New sites are not eligible for funding.
- If present, removal of manure packs at the project site is a condition of funding. Any manure accumulated in a confined livestock area (CLA) is required by law to be removed and properly stored, applied to land or otherwise disposed of at least once per year. Therefore costs associated with manure pack removal will not be eligible for cost share.
- Diversion of runoff not associated with farmyard and/or livestock facility protection for water quality purposes will not be considered for funding (e.g., field drainage).
- Construction of an impermeable base as a stand-alone practice is not eligible. The project must also involve upstream diversion and or downstream protection.
- Farmyard runoff projects usually modify an existing CLA and require surface drainage construction. Operations with 300 animal units or more and operations with the *capacity* to confine 300 animal units or more (even if that operation actually has fewer than 300 animal units) must obtain a permit to construct, modify or expand a confined livestock area from Manitoba Sustainable Development. This permit and subsequent construction will require engineering, which is an eligible cost under this BMP category and is a condition of funding in these situations.
- For surface drainage and collection basin construction, a minor works permit from Manitoba Sustainable Development is required.

- Collection basins must be managed appropriately, which may include emptying and utilizing the effluent within from time to time. They must be designed with long-term management in mind, including how they will be emptied, and at what frequency.
- All CLAs must be located at least 100 metres (328 feet) from any surface watercourse, sinkhole, spring or well and property boundaries. To construct or modify CLAs within this 100 metre (328 feet) setback, a variance must be obtained from Manitoba Sustainable Development and permission must be obtained from Manitoba Agriculture.
- The project will need to be verified by a final site inspection and the project must be deemed to be complete and functioning properly prior to any funds being reimbursed. Reimbursement will NOT be issued for partial project costs if the project is not completed in full.

## BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- Is the issue facing your farmyard due to run-on water, runoff water, or a combination of both?
- What modifications do you propose to reduce the farmyards impact on near-by or downstream water bodies or groundwater? How will the modifications fix the problem?
- Where runoff containment is necessary (e.g., collection basin), how do you plan on managing the effluent?
- Include a diagram or aerial photograph that:
  - Identifies the location of all relevant farm structures: buildings, fuel tanks, livestock facilities, fence lines, manure storages, pesticide storages, utilities (telephone, power, gas), roads, trails, field and pasture layouts, including fences and watering systems for livestock, etc.
  - Identifies the location of all wells, surface water bodies/water courses and any additional sources of water, and indicates the distance between all farm structures and identified sources of water
  - Shows direction of overland flow/runoff (i.e., slope) and drainage features (e.g., berms, collection basins, ditches, etc.)
- Please include any photographs of the project area.

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- Manitoba Sustainable Development
  - Under “Applications and Instructions” see:
    - ~ Construction Requirements for Confined Livestock Areas and Collection Basins
    - ~ **Obtaining a Permit to Construct, Modify or Expand a Confined Livestock Area**
    - ~ **Application for Permit to Construct, Modify or Expand a Confined Livestock Area**
  - Application for **Licence to Construct Water Control Works**
  - The Environment Act **Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation 42/98** (as amended by 133/08)
- Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food - **Holding Pond Site Selection and Design**
- Alberta Ag & Forestry - **Alberta Feedlot Management Guide: Facilities and Environment**
- Ohio State University - **Ohio Livestock and Wastewater Management Guide** - Chapter 5: Farmstead Runoff Control

## BMP: Relocation of Confined Livestock Areas (502)

Relocating confined livestock facilities away from water sources or groundwater can improve water quality by reducing transport of sediments, nutrients and pathogens to water sources. Nutrient use efficiency will increase as manure and livestock handling becomes manageable, and stream bank degradation and associated soil and vegetation loss will be reduced.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 and a funding cap of \$50,000 for this BMP.

### Eligible costs

- relocation of confined livestock facilities, such as corrals, paddocks and associated shelter/buildings, away from areas with a high risk of surface or ground water contamination
- new site construction, construction materials
- existing site decommissioning/remediation
- engineering design work (cap at \$5,000 as a standalone)
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the [Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide](#))

### Ineligible costs

- upgrades from old site and/or expansion of facilities or livestock capacity - the definition of 'upgrade' will be site-specific and at the discretion of the approval committee
- manure removal
- portable handling systems

### Notes

- Funding is provided to reduce or eliminate the impact of your livestock facilities on near-by or downstream water bodies, groundwater, major water body or aquifer. Funding is for existing agriculture operations, farmyards and livestock facilities. New sites are not eligible for funding.
- If present, removal of manure packs at the site to be decommissioned is a condition of funding. Any manure accumulated in a CLA is required by law to be removed and properly stored, applied to land or otherwise disposed of at least once per year. Therefore, costs associated with manure pack removal will not be eligible for cost share.
- Operations with 300 animal units or more and operations with the *capacity* to confine 300 animal units or more (even if that operation actually has fewer than 300 animal units) must obtain a permit to construct, modify or expand a confined livestock area from Manitoba Sustainable Development. This permit and subsequent construction will require engineering, which is an eligible cost under this BMP category and is a non-negotiable condition of funding in these situations.
- For surface drainage and collection basin construction, a minor works permit from Manitoba Sustainable Development is required.
- As a condition of funding, existing sites must be decommissioned from future livestock use in a manner acceptable to Manitoba Sustainable Development. This includes, but is not limited to, manure removal, disconnection and physical removal of all waterers and related electrical, and planting of a crop to utilize residual nutrients. Decommissioning must include all pens, fences and any other livestock confinement structures at the existing site.

- Decommissioned sites may be used for cropping, grazing or haying purposes, but cannot be used for confined feeding.
- Wooden handling facilities (chutes, alleys and small holding pens) may remain at the existing site for temporary use only (loading, sorting, vaccinating, etc.), if applicable.
- Buildings at the existing site may remain for storage or as workspace (equipment, vehicles, workshop, etc.) but cannot be used for shelter or confinement of livestock.
- Partial relocation will only be considered on a case by case basis. This may require additional follow up and discussion prior to project approval.
- If the new livestock confinement facilities are constructed to also facilitate expanded production, the eligible costs will be proportionally reduced to the amount required to implement the BMP for the existing level of production. Upgrades are not eligible - the definition of 'upgrade' will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be at the discretion of the approval committee.
- Costs associated with engineering design work will stand alone if the project does not proceed for economic, technical, or environmental reasons - see cost share and cap information above.
- All CLAs must be located at least 100 metres (328 feet) from any surface watercourse, sinkhole, spring or well and property boundaries. To construct a CLA within this 100 metre (328 feet) setback, a variance must be obtained from Manitoba Sustainable Development and permission must be obtained from Manitoba Agriculture.
- The project will need to be verified by a final site inspection and the project must be deemed to be complete and functioning properly prior to any funds being reimbursed. Reimbursement will NOT be issued for partial project costs if the project is not completed in full.

## BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- Have you considered farmyard runoff control to minimize the impact of your CLA on nearby water bodies? Why would these practices not provide desired results (ie: why is relocation your only option)?
- Describe your proposed site. Where are you going to move your CLA, what components will it have, what type of infrastructure needs to be built, modified, or moved, what are the new site conditions (soil type and texture, slope, shelter, layout, etc.) and why are these better than the existing site/how will it reduce your CLAs impact on near-by or downstream water bodies or groundwater?
- Operations with 300 animal units or more and operations with the *capacity* to confine 300 animal units or more (even if that operation actually has fewer than 300 animal units) must obtain a permit to construct, modify or expand a confined livestock area from Manitoba Sustainable Development. This permit and subsequent construction will require engineering, which is an eligible cost under this BMP category and is a condition of funding in these situations. Is your operation 300 animal units or greater? If so, will you speak to, or have you spoken to, an engineer or Manitoba Sustainable Development about your plan?
- Where runoff containment is necessary (e.g., collection basin), how do you plan on managing the effluent?
- What is your plan for the decommissioning and restoration of the old site?
- Include a diagram or aerial photograph that:
  - identifies the location of all relevant farm structures: buildings, fuel tanks, livestock facilities, fence lines, manure storages, pesticide storages, utilities (telephone, power, gas), roads, trails, field and pasture layouts, including fences and watering systems for livestock, etc.

- identifies the location of all wells, surface water bodies/water courses and any additional sources of water, AND indicate the distance between all farm structures and identified sources of water
- shows direction of overland flow/runoff (i.e., slope) and drainage features (e.g., berms, collection basins, ditches, etc.)
- Please include any photographs of the project area. Be sure to explain site conditions and provide diagrams/photos of both the old site and the new proposed site.

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- Manitoba Agriculture
  - **Sustainable livestock wintering: How can it work for you?**
  - Livestock Wintering: **Locating and managing your site to make it more sustainable**
- Manitoba Sustainable Development
  - **Construction Requirements for Confined Livestock Areas and Collection Basins**
- **Obtaining a Permit to Construct, Modify or Expand a Confined Livestock Area**
- **Application for Permit to Construct, Modify or Expand a Confined Livestock Area**
- **Application to REPAIR a Confined Livestock Area**
- Application for **Licence to Construct Water Control Works**
- The Environment Act **Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation 42/98** (as amended by 133/08)
- Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development:
  - **Wintering Sites and Livestock Corrals**
  - **Cattle Wintering Sites**
  - **Manure Management to Protect Water Quality**
  - **Alberta Feedlot Management Guide: Facilities and Environment**
- Former Canada Plan Service archive: **Farm Structures and Handling Facilities plans**
  - Or, see the **Plan Index** for archived plans

## BMP: Managing Livestock Access to Riparian Areas (503)

Effective management of both surface and ground water sources used for livestock production is essential for ensuring the health and longevity of both the livestock and their pastures.

Restricting direct access to surface water helps to minimize the impact livestock have on surface water quality and the riparian zone. Surface water can be contaminated and riparian areas damaged when livestock have unrestricted access. Adequately protected ground and surface water sources are essential to ensuring the health of livestock and ground water sources.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 and a funding cap of \$10,000 for this BMP.

### Eligible costs

- Water source development - **Wells**
  - drilling new or deepening existing wells, test hole drilling, screening, casing, well caps etc.
  - water pumps and required plumbing components
  - professional and contractor fees
- Water source development - **Dugouts**
  - constructing new or rehabilitating existing dugouts, test hole drilling, etc.
  - professional and contractor fees
- Alternative watering system equipment
  - solar, wind or grid powered systems
  - associated components and installation costs

- Permanent fencing to restrict livestock access to surface water and dugouts
  - construction materials
  - associated components and installation costs
- Permanent pipeline development
  - pipe, plumbing materials, trenching, earthworks, etc.
  - professional and contractor fees
- Watering system components\*
  - watering bowls, troughs or storage tanks
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the **Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide**)

\* Eligible as a part of a water source development project; items are not eligible as a stand-alone.

### Ineligible costs

- maintenance and operation expenses
- perimeter fencing for upland grazing management
- expenses related to removing or replacing existing fences or water infrastructure, such as storage tanks or water troughs
- portable livestock corral panels
- portable gas/diesel powered water pumps, generators, water meters
- materials and construction costs for pump houses
- aeration systems for dugouts, etc.
- shallow or above ground pipelines (e.g., pipelines that are above the frost line)
- hauling or pumping of water to fill empty dugouts
- temporary set up of watering systems

## Notes

- Conservation districts may offer complimentary programs such as abandoned well sealing and alternative watering systems. Please contact your local conservation district for more information.
- This BMP is not intended for yard site development.
- Wells must be drilled by a licensed well driller.
- Wells must be located at least 100 metres away from confined livestock areas.
- Exclusion fencing around dugout is mandatory (no direct watering from dugout).
- Eligible costs must be for permanent solutions only.
- Applicants must meet all regulatory requirements. This may include:
  - a Water Rights Licence from Manitoba Sustainable Development (required for all livestock operations extracting more than 25,000 litres (25 cubic metres or 5,499 Imperial gallons) per day). If developing a new water source for such an operation, a permit must be obtained prior to the commencement of development.
  - approvals from the rural municipality or Crown
  - any other standards or approvals as required by law

## BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- For riparian projects: What type and number of livestock will be excluded from surface water?
- For riparian projects: How will you manage the riparian vegetation (if present)?
- How far is the proposed fence from the water source (well, dugout or riparian area)? Are all dugouts fenced? Please include a map that clearly shows the waterbody and proposed fence.
- How will you manage the riparian vegetation (if present)?
- What are you going to use for a water source and system? What is the location and capacity of the new water source and fence lines?
- You must include a diagram or aerial photograph that explains what your project will include. Be sure that your diagram(s):
  - identifies the location of all wells, surface water bodies/water courses and any additional sources of water, and indicates the distance between all farm structures and identified sources of water
  - clearly shows the waterbody and proposed fence line
  - identifies the location of all relevant farm structures: buildings, fuel tanks, livestock facilities, fence lines, manure storages, pesticide storages, utilities (telephone, power, gas), roads, trails, field and pasture layouts, including fences and watering systems for livestock, etc.
  - shows direction of overland flow/runoff (i.e., slope) and drainage features (e.g., berms, collection basins, ditches, etc.)
- Photos can also be very helpful. If you have pictures of the project area, please include them.
- Have you included at least one official quote for contracted items (e.g., engineering, earthworks, building erection, etc.), with all specifications, materials and labour itemized in the budget section?

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- Manitoba Sustainable Development: **The Role and Importance of Riparian Areas in Manitoba**
- Manitoba Sustainable Development: **Licensing, Regulation and Policy** (Water Use Licensing)
- **Manitoba Conservation Districts Association**

## BMP: Sub-Surface Drainage Water Management (601)

This BMP encourages producers to consider advanced levels of water management, going beyond the objective of simply removing excess water as quickly and as much as possible. In the case of sub-surface drainage, for example, designing a tile drain network that includes water management zones, made possible by installation of control structures, enables a grower to hold back drainage water for use by a crop later in a dry growing season. This category also supports the capture of sub-surface drainage water in a retention structure, rather than immediate discharge into a surface drainage network. Potential co-benefits of enhanced on-farm water management include mitigated downstream risks associated with water quantity (e.g., flood damage to infrastructure or drowning of crops) and quality (e.g., nutrient transfer to surface waters).

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 and a funding cap of \$50,000 for this BMP.

### Eligible costs

- control structures (e.g., in-line or end-of-pipe and lift stations), enabling the establishment of water management zones as part of a controlled (conservation) sub-surface drainage
- water retention structures capturing sub-surface drainage water
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the **Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide**)

### Ineligible costs

- retention structures that only capture surface water

### Notes

- This category will not fund the installation of conventional tile drainage networks (i.e., free-flowing with no water management zones enabled by control structures).
- Proponent must have a Licence to Construct Water Control Works before construction begins.
- Design-focused costs (e.g., site investigation by specialized consultants, design plans by tile installers, construction designs for retention structures) are eligible for 50 per cent cost share via the Resource Management Planning BMP category.
- Information expectations for proposals include site characteristics, cropping system and rotation, drainage design (if available), drainage coefficient and estimated amounts of released drainage water versus retained drainage water.
- Final reporting expectations include design specifics as part of the service provider's as-installed report. The service provider could be a professional consultant or installation company.

## BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- What is your current water management strategy?
- What is the number of acres impacted by the project?
- How prepared is your farm to contend with variability in moisture levels?
- What is the current impact of your agricultural operation on nearby or downstream water bodies or groundwater?
- Does your operation currently rely exclusively on surface drainage? Would it benefit from investment in sub-surface drainage?
- Are you installing a control structure as part of a sub-surface network? If so, how many control structures?
- Will a storage structure be built? If so, how many acre-feet of water will be stored?
- Please include a site plan that shows the network of tile drainage pipes installed (spacing/depth/distance to ditches/control structures, pipe diameter, etc.). If a storage structure is also being built, please include the drawing and dimensions.

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- Manitoba Sustainable Development: Application for **Licence to Construct Water Control Works**
- Manitoba Agriculture
  - **Nutrient Management**
  - **Soil Management**
  - **Water Management**
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture: **The Agricultural BMP Handbook for Minnesota**
- **The Transforming Drainage Project**

## BMP: Utilization of Drainage Water (602)

Utilizing tile drainage water by recycling it back onto the land is an alternative to discharging it downstream. In order to recycle drainage water to enhance crop production, the water has to be captured and then applied to a field via pumping (conventional irrigation) or the flow has to be reversed into the ground (sub-irrigation). The ability to use captured drainage water to meet crop demand during dry periods represents an adaptation to anticipated volatility in water availability due to climate change. This practice also enables recovery of nutrients by the crop, which may increase yield and reduce nutrient loss from the fields.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 50:50 and a funding cap of \$15,000 for this BMP.

### Eligible costs

- irrigation-specific equipment: pivots, travelling gun, sub-irrigation
- pumps, hoses, pipes, filtration systems, generators or other power source
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the **Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide**)

### Ineligible costs

- conventional irrigation equipment used exclusively for non-drainage water

## Notes

- Funding will be based on the percentage of drained tile water recycled. For example, if you wanted to irrigate from a retention structure that had a total capture of 75 per cent surface water and 25 per cent tile drained water, only 25 per cent of the eligible costs would be eligible for funding.
- Proponent must have a Licence to Construct Water Control Works before construction begins and a Licence to Use Water for Irrigation Purposes (if needed).
- Design-focused costs (e.g., site investigation by specialized consultants, design plans by tile installers, construction designs for retention structures) are eligible through BMP 101: Resource Management Planning.
- Water retention structures and control structures are eligible through BMP 601: Sub-Surface Drainage Water Management.

## BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- What is your current water management strategy?
- How prepared is your farm currently to contend with variability in moisture levels?
- Could a portion of water demand on your farm based on crop rotation be met by recycling surface or sub-surface drainage water?
- How are you planning to irrigate? Describe the distribution system (pivot, lateral, drip irrigation, sub-irrigation, etc.).
- What is the amount of water per acre you will be applying?

- Will a storage structure be built? If so, how many acre-feet of water will be stored? How much of the water will be from drainage water? Is there another source of water being added to the storage structure? If so, what is the source of that water?
- Please include a site plan that indicates what area will be irrigated/sub-irrigated as well as the land dedicated to storing water (i.e., areal extent of the project).

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- Manitoba Sustainable Development
  - **Application for Licence to Construct Water Control Works**
  - **Application for Licence to Use Water for Irrigation Purposes**
- **The Transforming Drainage Project**

## BMP: Pesticide Storage (702)

Improper handling and storage of pesticides may negatively impact the environment by contaminating ground and surface water. It can also cause chronic or immediate health effects in humans or animals. By improving the storage and management of these products, their impacts on soil, water, and air quality are reduced and the potential risks to human and animal health are minimized.

Funding for pesticide storage solutions will be limited to existing farmyards.

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 25 per cent government and 75 per cent applicant. The funding cap is \$10,000 for this BMP.

### Eligible costs

- modification, construction or purchase of properly secured storage facilities, vessels, or storage units
- secondary containment systems for existing storage and handling facilities (modifications including earthworks and materials required for berms, dykes, spill or leak containment)
- specialized equipment or modifications for storage and handling (e.g., ventilation equipment, mixing, loading and cleanup systems, such as absorption pads and rinsate systems)
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the [Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide](#))

### Ineligible costs

- storage, handling or disposal of plastic materials such as empty pesticide containers
- cost of the operation and maintenance of installed equipment

## BMP specific questions

You will be asked to provide the following information as part of your application.

- Describe where you currently store your pesticides.
- Please explain in detail your plans for pesticide storage and why the change is required.
- Include a site plan for the proposed project. Also include a diagram or aerial photograph that:
  - identifies the location of all relevant farm structures: buildings, fuel tanks, livestock facilities, fence lines, manure storages, pesticide storages, utilities (telephone, power and gas), roads, trails, field and pasture layouts, including fences and watering systems for livestock, etc.
  - identifies the location of all wells, surface water bodies/water courses and any additional sources of water, and indicate the distance between all farm structures and identified sources of water
  - shows direction of overland flow or runoff (i.e., slope) and drainage features (e.g., berms, collection basins and ditches)
- Photos can also be very helpful. Please include pictures of the project area. Be sure to explain site conditions and provide diagrams and photos of both the old site and the new, proposed site.

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application, visit:

- Manitoba Agriculture: [Pesticide Safety](#)
- Canadian Agricultural Safety Association: [Guide to Pesticide Safety in Canada](#)
- British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture: [On-Farm Pesticide Storage and Handling Facility](#)
- Government of Ontario: [Farm Pesticide Storage Facility](#)

## BMP: Secondary Containment for Liquid Fertilizer Storage (703)

Building secondary containment for liquid fertilizer storage protects ground water, surface water and soil from environmental pollution if your liquid fertilizer tanks develop leaks. Monitoring the secondary containment area will allow detection of leakage and should prompt further inspection of tank, fittings, etc. to ensure the integrity of the storage container.

The benefits of secondary containment around liquid fertilizer storage tanks include:

- prevention of water and soil contamination by liquid fertilizer if storage tanks leak
- cost savings if leaks in liquid fertilizer tanks are detected early

### Cost share ratio and funding cap

There is a cost share ratio of 25 per cent government and 75 per cent applicant. The funding cap is \$10,000 for this BMP.

### Eligible costs

- construction of secondary containment structures around fertilizer storage tanks
- concrete, steel or wooden walls
- concrete floors
- plastic liners
- sand or gravel over liner
- sump pump and plumbing
- engineered designs
- personal labour (\$25 per hour) and personal equipment use (at set program rates outlined in the **Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide**)

### Ineligible costs

- clay berms

## Notes

- Secondary containment less than 110% of the volume of the largest tank will not be eligible for funding.

## BMP specific questions

The following information will be required in the application:

- What is the size of the storage you will be adding secondary containment to? What is the volume of secondary containment?
- Include a site plan for the proposed project. Also include a diagram or aerial photograph that:
  - identifies the location of all relevant farm structures: buildings, fuel tanks, livestock facilities, fence lines, manure storages, pesticide storages, utilities (telephone, power and gas), roads, trails, field and pasture layouts (including fences and watering systems for livestock, etc.)
  - identifies the location of all wells, surface water bodies/water courses and any additional sources of water, and indicate the distance between all farm structures and identified sources of water
  - shows direction of overland flow/runoff (i.e., slope) and drainage features (e.g., berms, collection basins and ditches)
- Photos can also be very helpful. If you have pictures of the project area, please include. Be sure to explain site conditions and provide diagrams/photos of both the old site and the new, proposed site.

## Reference materials

For more guidance in developing your application:

- Information on preventing catastrophic tank failure, see these publications from Purdue University
  - for **poly tanks**
  - for **fiberglass tanks**
- Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA): **Fertilizer Storage and Handling infosheet**

## Application Assessment

Project proposals for Assurance: Beneficial Management Practices will be assessed according to three main criteria:

### 1. Environmental Benefit Assessment Index:

The level to which the project addresses environment risk is determined using an environmental benefit assessment index (EBAI). The EBAI generates a rating of the environmental benefits that a specific land use change or other environmental practice would incur. Environmental benefit categories included in the program's index are weighted to appropriately stress the objectives of the program and take into account items such as water, air, soil nutrients and biodiversity.

### 2. Provincial Program Priorities:

Agriculture sustainability should promote a profitable and competitive agricultural sector, while reducing the impact of agricultural activities

on the environment. Benefits include the potential for farms to reduce the risk of nutrient loss to water, mitigate and adapt to climate change, and increase the level of carbon stored in the soil. Adoption of on-farm strategies that improve environmental stewardship can assist in mitigating potential nuisance complaints and enhance public trust of farming operations.

### 3. Project Planning:

Project planning proposals are scored on their ability to clearly show that the project design will result in the intended outcome. Projects must be adequately designed and applications must clearly identify locations, steps, process and intent, especially with respect to environmental benefit.

The costs must be properly itemized, specific and realistic. Projects should alleviate risks identified in the applicant's Environmental Farm Plan workbook.

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## SECTION 8

# How to Apply for Funding

Applications are available on the Manitoba Agriculture website. Go to [www.manitoba.ca/agriculture](http://www.manitoba.ca/agriculture) and click on Ag Action Manitoba.

Manitoba Agriculture will publish deadline dates through [newsletter](#), website and social media channels.

Applications must be submitted to the program administrator no later than the deadline.

Applications and required documentation can be submitted to your local **Manitoba Agriculture office** or emailed to **Manitoba Agriculture**.

One application must be submitted for each activity.

Applicants must acknowledge and agree to any terms and conditions contained in the application.

No one other than the applicant may sign the program application or other program documents.

Applicants must comply with all Manitoba and federal government laws and regulations applicable to their project and to their business or organization's operations. Applicants must also accept and agree to all of the terms and conditions of the program.

In the case of corporations, partnerships and other business organizations, a designated person with legal authorization must sign the application and other program documents. The program administrator may require proof of authorization.

The project duration for program activities may be single or multi-year. Multi-year projects can be up to three consecutive years.

Project activities must be completed on or before December 31, 2022 or no payment will be issued.

Funding for multi-year projects will be subject to the appropriation of funds by the Government of Canada and the Manitoba government.

Funding amounts received from all sources must be declared on the application. Failure to disclose all financial sources for a project may nullify the application.

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## SECTION 9

# Funding Decisions

The applicant will receive a funding decision letter from the program administrator. The funding decision letter may state that only part of the applicant's proposed project or activity is approved for program funding, or that only specific eligible costs are approved for program funding.

Successful applicants may be required to further enter into a contribution agreement with the Manitoba government, as deemed appropriate by the program administrator.

If work is started on a project before formal written approval of program funding is received, the applicant does so at their own risk. A project may not be approved for funding and/or may not be approved to receive all of the funding applied for. Even where a project is approved for funding, no approved eligible costs will be funded unless and until all agreements and documents required in connection with the applicant's participation in the program are received by the program administrator.

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## SECTION 10

# Appeals

The minister may establish an appeal body and a program appeal process.

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## SECTION 11

# Payments

Payments are issued in accordance with the funding decision letter or the terms of the contribution agreement.

When your project is complete, submit a final report, including itemized receipts or other acceptable proof of payments to:

Manitoba Agriculture  
Ag Action Manitoba Program Administrator  
810 Phillips Street, Portage la Prairie MB R1N 4A4

If the funds for any particular reporting period are not spent, the program administrator will adjust future payments, based on unexpended funds. This will not include the Training activity.

The applicant must incur, and have paid, all expenses associated with the project before they can be reimbursed.

The calculation of eligible costs will be based on the actual out-of-pocket cost to the applicant, less any rebates, discounts, incentives and credits, whether provided at the time of purchase or a later date.

Any payment to be made under this program is subject:

- to an appropriation of funds by the Parliament of Canada and Legislature of Manitoba in the fiscal year in which the payment is due
- to cancelled or reduced payments if departmental funding levels are changed by the Parliament of Canada or the Legislature of Manitoba

The program administrator does not assume any responsibility for the tax implications of financial support under the program. Any payments made under this program may have income tax implications for the applicant. The applicant is advised to consult their tax advisor as to the income tax consequences of participation in this program.

The funding decision letter or contribution agreement will detail program funding requirements, including the payment process, the budget, performance and financial reporting requirements.

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## SECTION 12

# Overpayments

The program administrator shall be entitled to demand immediate repayment from the applicant of the amount of any overpayment, and the applicant shall pay the amount demanded within 30 days of such demand. Any overpayment that is not paid in full, when due, shall be deemed to be a debt due and owing by the applicant to the Manitoba government.

The term overpayment means any one or more of the following:

- any amount of program funding provided to the applicant that exceeds the amount the applicant was entitled to receive
- any program funds used or applied for by the applicant on account of costs or expenses that are not eligible costs under the program
- any program funds advanced to the applicant that are not actually expended on account of eligible costs within the fiscal year for which such program funds were appropriated
- any program funds received contrary to these program terms and conditions, or that are otherwise returnable or repayable to the Manitoba government under these program terms and conditions, or the terms of a contribution agreement

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## SECTION 13

# Reporting and Project Communication

Any communication plans, products and activities developed by the applicant for the program must be submitted for approval by the program administrator.

Communications products and activities may include news releases, pamphlets, papers, posters, bulletins, newsletters and social media.

The program administrator will ensure that the Canadian Agricultural Partnership graphic standard is applied, and that Manitoba and Canada are identified equally.

The contribution agreement will detail the applicant's obligations with respect to communications, publications, advertising and news releases that refer to the project.

The Government of Canada and the Manitoba government may make public announcements or otherwise publicly release the applicant's name, the amount of funding received under the program, and the general nature of the project or activity.

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## SECTION 14

# Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Information/Protection of Privacy

The applicant's personal information is being collected under the authority of section 36(1) (b) of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA), as it is directly related to and necessary for the purpose of determining eligibility for the program.

The applicant's information will be disclosed to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), and the program administrator for program administration.

The applicant's personal information is protected under the privacy provisions of FIPPA. If you have questions concerning the collection, use or disclosure of applicant information, please contact Manitoba Agriculture at 204-945-3439.

The collection of personal information is limited to only as much personal information as is reasonably necessary to accomplish the purpose for which it is collected. Only those employees and agents who need to know the information to carry out the purpose for which it was collected, can use personal information.

The applicant's personal information will be used to verify eligibility for Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs, to contact you for further information or clarification, or to communicate any future programs that may be of interest.

By submitting an application under the program, the applicant has consented:

- to supply any other relevant and required documentation to confirm eligibility
- to participate in any surveys, focus groups, interviews or other methods of program evaluation
- to on-site requests to verify program eligibility and monitor the applicant's progress under the program
- to the public release by the Government of Canada or the Manitoba government of the applicant's name, the amount of funding received under the program, and the general nature of the project or activity that is receiving funding
- to authorize indirect collection of personal information from someone other than the applicant to verify program eligibility, or for verification or audit purposes
- to the applicant's information being used and disclosed for the purpose of analyzing program effectiveness

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## SECTION 15

# False or Misleading Information

An applicant who provides false or misleading information under the program:

- foregoes all rights to program payments and any other benefits under the program for which they would be otherwise eligible
- is liable to repay all program payments received
- may be subject to prosecution

The provision of false or misleading information under the program may be taken into account in determining eligibility for other Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs.

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## SECTION 16

# Right of Set-off

In addition to any rights of set-off the Manitoba government may have at law, the minister may set-off any amount payable to the applicant under the program against:

- any amount due and owing by the applicant under the program
- any amount due and owing by the applicant under any other Canadian Agricultural Partnership program

- any other amount due and owing by the applicant to the Government of Canada, the Manitoba government or a government agency

Amounts due and owing by the applicant under the program, may be taken into account in determining eligibility under other Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs.

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## SECTION 17

# Ownership of Intellectual Property

Ownership of intellectual property created by the applicant under the program shall vest in the applicant.

The contribution agreement may include additional terms regarding intellectual property.

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## SECTION 18

# Changes to the Program Terms and Conditions

The minister may revise, alter or amend these program terms and conditions at any time by posting the revised program terms and conditions on the Manitoba Agriculture website. The applicant is responsible to monitor the Manitoba Agriculture website for any such revisions, alterations or amendments.

Applications shall be administered and governed by the program terms and conditions posted on the Manitoba Agriculture website on the date the application is received.

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## SECTION 19

# No Liability of Governments, Indemnification by Applicant

The Government of Canada, the Manitoba government, and their respective ministers, officers, employees and agents shall not be liable for any injury to or loss or damage suffered by the applicant, the directors, officers, employees or agents of the applicant, or any other party, including, without limitation, any injury to persons (including death), damage to or loss or destruction of property, economic loss, consequential damages or infringement of rights caused by or related, either directly or indirectly, to the activities of the applicant under the program or the applicant's participation in the program.

The applicant shall, at all times during and following the applicant's participation in the program, be solely responsible for, and shall save harmless and indemnify the Government of Canada, the Manitoba government, and their respective ministers, officers, employees and agents from and against all claims, liabilities and demands with respect to any injury to persons (including, without limitation, death), damage to or loss or destruction of property, economic loss, consequential damages or infringement of rights caused by, or related, either directly or indirectly, to the activities of the applicant under the program or the applicant's participation in the program.

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## SECTION 20

# Liability Insurance

Applicants are encouraged to discuss insurance requirements that relate to their participation in this program, with a licensed insurance broker.

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## SECTION 21

# Conflict of Interest

No member of the House of Commons or of the Senate shall be allowed to derive any financial advantage under the program that would not be permitted under the Parliament of Canada Act.

No current or former federal public office holder to whom the Conflict of Interest Act, the Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons applies, shall derive any advantage or benefit from the program, unless the provision or receipt of such advantage or benefit is in compliance with such legislation, codes and policies.

No current or former Manitoba government employee shall be allowed to derive any financial advantage or benefit under the program, unless the provision or receipt of such advantage or benefit is in compliance with these program terms and conditions and all applicable conflict of interest policies.

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## SECTION 22

# Representations, Warranties, Obligations, Joint and Several Liability

The applicant's participation in the program does not create a partnership, agency, joint venture or similar relationship between the governments of Canada or Manitoba and the applicant, and the applicant will not represent itself as such, including in any agreement with a third party.

The individual(s) signing the application must indicate their official position with the applicant, or their relationship to the applicant. By signing and submitting an application, the individual(s) signing the application represent and warrant that:

- The execution and delivery of the application and such other agreements and documents required in connection with the applicant's participation in the program, are within the proper powers and capacities of the applicant. Also, they have been duly and validly authorized by the applicant, and constitute binding legal obligations of the applicant.
- The applicant has granted them all necessary authority to commit the applicant to the obligations and undertakings in the application, as well as such other agreements and documents that are required in connection with the applicant's participation in the program.

The applicant is solely responsible for:

- ensuring that activities under the program are completed and performed in compliance with all applicable laws
- obtaining all required environmental and other approvals, licences and permits (whether federal, provincial or municipal), with respect to the applicant's activities under the program

If the applicant is an unincorporated business or a partnership, all owners of the business and all partners of the partnership, as the case may be, will be jointly and severally liable for all the undertakings and obligations of the applicant, under the application and all other agreements and documents related to the program. If the applicant consists of more than one person, each person will be jointly and severally liable for all the undertakings and obligations of the applicant, under the application and all other agreements and documents related to the program.

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## SECTION 23

# Ministerial Discretion

Notwithstanding these program terms and conditions, the minister has the absolute discretion to determine any matter related to the program, including, without limitation, the amount of payments under the program.

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## SECTION 24

# Termination of the Program

The minister has the absolute discretion to terminate the program at any time.

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## SECTION 25

# Definitions

**Acre-feet:** a unit of volume indicating one acre worth of water that is one foot in-depth. 1 acre foot = 271,328 imperial gallons = 1.23 dam<sup>3</sup> = 43,560 cubic feet.

**Agri-business:** a person or entity involved in for-profit commercial activity in the agricultural sector, other than an agri-processor or a farmer.

**Agricultural Crown Land:** as identified under the Manitoba Crown Lands Act, lands owned and managed by the Manitoba government.

**Agricultural Land:** private land, leased agriculture Crown land, First Nation land or Association of Manitoba Community Pastures land and is used for agricultural crop production or pasture and which is located in Manitoba.

**Agri-processor:** a person or entity actively engaged in agri-food and agri-product processing.

**Applicant:** a person or entity who satisfies all the eligibility requirements set out in the terms and conditions and who submits an application under this program.

**Beneficial Management Practice (BMP):** a recognized agricultural management practice that mitigates or minimizes negative impacts and risk to the environment, by maintaining or improving soil, water and air quality and biodiversity; or improves adaptability and ensures the long-term health and sustainability of land-related resources used for agricultural production.

**Canadian Agricultural Partnership:** is a five-year agricultural policy framework by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments to encourage market development, innovation and research, environmental sustainability, value added processing, improved public trust and risk management across Canada's agriculture, agri-food and agri-product sectors.

**Contribution agreement:** the articles of agreement and annexes, as well as their amendments and the general terms and conditions applicable on the effective date of agreement.

**Farmer:** an individual grower, producer or rancher, partnership, corporation, co-operative or any other association of people who is actively engaged in farming.

**Funding decision letter:** a letter issued to applicants indicating an application decision and the next steps required for project implementation.

**Government funding:** any financial assistance in the form of provincial or federal grants, loans or other assistance.

**Industry organization:** a non-profit organization (e.g., a commodity organization) that is actively engaged in representing farmers, agri-processors, or agri-business members interests working to further the competitiveness of Manitoba's agriculture sector. Industry organizations must be a legally recognized entity, duly registered with the Manitoba Companies Office to carry on business in the province of Manitoba (where required by law).

**Industry service provider:** an individual, agri-business, organization that provide services to support the agricultural industry.

**In-kind contributions:** non-monetary goods and services that are not reimbursable by the program, but may be considered by the program administrator as part of the applicant's contribution requirement.

**Intellectual property:** all materials, concepts, know-hows, formulae, inventions, improvements, industrial designs, processes, patterns, machines, manufactures, compositions of matter, compilations of information, patents and patent applications, copyrights, trade secrets, technology, technical information, software, prototypes and specifications, including any right to apply for protections under statutory proceedings available for those purposes, provided they are capable of protection at law.

**Knowledge transfer:** the transfer of expertise, learning and skills between parties.

**Manitoba government employee:** any full-time, regular, part-time or term individual employed by the provincial government, including any special operating agency or Crown corporation.

**Manitoba government senior public servant:** the clerk of the executive council; a deputy minister or equivalent or an assistant deputy minister; a chairperson, president, vice-president, chief executive officer or deputy chief executive officer of a Crown agency; a person who is designated or who occupies a position that is designated under section 31.1 of The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Conflict of Interest Act; and includes a person who, on a temporary basis, occupies a position described here.

**Minister:** the Minister of Agriculture for the Manitoba government, including any person authorized to act on the minister's behalf.

**New and beginning farmer:** A primary crop or livestock producer(s) who are looking to establish a farm business or purchasing a business interest in an existing farm operation.

**Non-profit:** a type of organization that does not earn profits for its owners. All money earned by, or donated to, a non-profit organization is used to pursue the organization's objectives and support its operations.

**Person:** includes an individual, partnership, association or corporate body (entity).

**Program:** refers to the Ag Action Manitoba program.

**Program activity:** a specific action under the Ag Action Manitoba program where applicants can apply for funding. Activities may have one or several focus areas.

**Program administrator:** the Manitoba Agriculture, or where applicable, any person engaged by the Manitoba government, to carry out administrative activities in connection with the program.

**Project proponent:** can be any one or more of the individuals or groups described under program eligibility. Where several of the eligible groups are involved in a single proposal, one individual shall be assigned as project contact for the group.

**Terms and conditions:** the Ag Action Manitoba program rules that applicants accept and agree to follow as conditions under the funding. Terms and conditions can be revised, altered or amended from time to time.

**Young farmer:** an individual who is under 46 years of age, with demonstrated ownership in a business that is actively engaged in farming and under The Income Tax Act (Manitoba), and is liable to pay Manitoba income tax; or is a permanent resident of Manitoba and specifically exempted from paying income tax.

APPENDIX A

# Ag Action Manitoba Program for Farmers: Cost Share Overview

ACTIVITY	FOCUS AREA	ELIGIBLE APPLICANT	COST SHARE RATIO (GOVERNMENT: APPLICANT)	FUNDING CAP
Assurance	BMP: Resource Management Planning	Farmer	50:50	\$15,000
Assurance	BMP: Establishment of a Cover Crop	Farmer	25:75	\$10,000
Assurance	BMP: Increasing Frequency of Perennials within Annual Rotations	Farmer	25:75	\$10,000
Assurance	BMP: Perennial Cover for Sensitive Lands	Farmer	50:50	\$10,000
Assurance	BMP: Improved Pasture and Forage Quality	Farmer	25:75	\$10,000
Assurance	BMP: Intercropping	Farmer	50:50	\$10,000
Assurance	BMP: Liquid Manure Storage Odour Reduction	Farmer	50:50	\$50,000 Engineering has a stand alone cap of \$5,000
Assurance	BMP: Barn Odour Reduction	Farmer	25:75	\$100,000 Engineering has a stand alone cap of \$5,000
Assurance	BMP: Farmyard Runoff Control	Farmer	50:50	\$50,000
Assurance	BMP: Relocation of Confined Livestock Areas	Farmer	50:50	\$50,000

APPENDIX A

## Ag Action Manitoba Program for Farmers: Cost Share Overview (continued)

ACTIVITY	FOCUS AREA	ELIGIBLE APPLICANT	COST SHARE RATIO (GOVERNMENT: APPLICANT)	FUNDING CAP
<b>Assurance</b>	BMP: Managing Livestock Access to Riparian Areas	Farmer	50:50	\$10,000
<b>Assurance</b>	BMP: Sub-Surface Drainage Water Management	Farmer	50:50	\$50,000
<b>Assurance</b>	BMP: Utilization of Drainage Water	Farmer	50:50	\$15,000
<b>Assurance</b>	BMP: Pesticide Storage	Farmer	25:75	\$10,000
<b>Assurance</b>	BMP: Secondary Containment for Liquid Fertilizer Storage	Farmer	25:75	\$10,000
<b>Distribution and Marketing Alliances</b>	Project Development Project Implementation	Farmers	50:50	\$50,000 Project Development cap of \$5,000
<b>Training and Consulting</b>	Professional Consulting - Initial	Farmer	50:50	\$500
<b>Training and Consulting</b>	Professional Consulting - In-Depth	Farmer	50:50	\$2,500
<b>Training and Consulting</b>	Skills Training	Farmer	50:50	\$2,500





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## Contact us

- Go to [manitoba.ca/agriculture](http://manitoba.ca/agriculture)
- Toll free at 1-844-769-6224
- Email us at [agaction@gov.mb.ca](mailto:agaction@gov.mb.ca)
- Follow us on Twitter @MBGovAg
- Join the #AgActionMB conversation on social media
- Visit your local Manitoba Agriculture office