

BRAZEAU COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

DATE: October 19, 2022
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Brazeau County Administration Building
Drayton Valley, Alberta
EOC Room

7) Old Business

- b) Resolution Discussion - Supporting documentation (**Pages 1 to 4**)
 - d) Herbicide Rebate Report and 2023 request (**Pages 4 to 7**)
 - e) 2023 Agricultural Research Funding (**Pages 8 to 9**)
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Decanting of Herbicides

WHEREAS: Landowners are required to control Prohibited noxious and Noxious weeds on their property.

WHEREAS: Landowners that are deemed acreage owners have limited access to herbicides that are effective for controlling weeds on the Weed Control Act.

WHEREAS: Alberta has a certification program for rural acreage owners to educate them on proper application of herbicides. This certification enables them to access a broader range of herbicides, but they must be transported in a mixed state.

WHEREAS: Transportation of herbicides in a mixed state is a risk to the environment. It is safer to transport concentrated product in small volumes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) permit decanting of herbicides for the purpose of sale of small amounts to small landholders.

FURTHER THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta Environment and Parks permit the sale of small amounts of herbicide to small landholders for the control of Prohibited noxious and Noxious weeds.

SPONSORED BY: Parkland County

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

CARRIED:

DEFEATED:

STATUS: Federal and Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Pest Management Regulatory Agency and Alberta Environment and Parks

BACKGROUND:

The Pest Control Products Act prohibits the decanting of herbicides. The Environment Protection and Enhanced Act restricts the pesticides that small landholders can purchase.

Many small landholders take part in agricultural activities on their property, yet they are restricted access any Agricultural products unless they take the Alberta Rural Acreage Owner Pesticide Certificate Program.

Alberta has the Rural Acreage Owner Pesticide Certificate Program whereby small landholders are trained in the proper use and handling of pesticides. They can obtain herbicides that they would otherwise be restricted on purchasing but they must be sold or given out in a mixed state i.e., Put in a

sprayer with water. This is a greater environmental and safety risk, transporting herbicide in a mixed state than concentrate in an appropriate, secured container. There are products that when mixed, begin to lose their efficacy.

If vendors were allowed to sell herbicides to landowners that have their Rural Acreage Owner Pesticide Certificate, it can be a financial burden on those landowners to buy by the full case e.g., Range and Pasture products and then a problem to have to store large amounts of concentrate for extended periods of time.

The chemistry in the pesticide market, especially herbicides, has brought about many different formulations and new products that are conducive for the small acreage market. Formulations that are minimal risk to the environment, low use rates and easy to transport – dry products, smaller case sizes.

RESOLUTION X-23
CAMPAIGN TO RAISE AWARENESS ON THE DISPARITY BETWEEN CONSUMER
PRICING AND PRODUCER REVENUE

WHEREAS: Prices for consumer products such as fuel and groceries have increased significantly in the last four years.

WHEREAS: Agricultural inputs necessary for the production of crops have increased in cost between 150% and 200%.

WHEREAS: The costs of diesel fuel necessary for transportation and logistics for the movement of consumer goods have risen significantly and is a cost that is transferred on to the consumer.

WHEREAS: The same costs of diesel fuel that are necessary for agricultural production and transport of agricultural products is borne by the producer and is not able to be transferred down the chain.

WHEREAS: The cost of groceries for Canadians has risen 10.8 per cent in the past year, according to Statistics Canada.

WHEREAS: There is a lack of awareness over how much commodity prices actually affect the costs of consumer products relative to all costs associated with food products at the grocery shelf.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST that the Government of Alberta develop a communication plan to promote awareness for Albertans regarding the disparity between the prices that agricultural producers receive for their products and the prices consumers pay at the grocery store.

SPONSORED BY: Leduc County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development

BACKGROUND

The rising costs of items such as groceries and fuel have become a significant concern for consumers in Alberta and across Canada over the past few years. Rising inflation costs in recent months have resulted in a 10.8 per cent increase in the cost of groceries for Albertans. Global situations such as the world's recovery from COVID, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and herbicide production issues have also had an effect on commodity pricing and the cost of associated consumer goods.

In the last four years (Jan. 2018 through Feb. 2022), the average price of selected foods in Canada has risen 114 per cent ([Statistics Canada](#)). In the same time frame, regular gasoline costs increased by 130 per cent. Although fuel costs have declined somewhat in the past month, prices are still relatively high.

Producers are also affected by the costs of inputs. Fertilizer, herbicide purchases, new equipment, and even parts for equipment have either been in short supply and have risen considerably in price. Based on farm input cost information collected by the provincial government ([Government of Alberta](#)), fertilizer increases from 2021 to 2022 were between 150 per cent and 200 per cent, depending on the product. Herbicides such as glyphosate increased by 150% and saw significant supply issues throughout the summer season. Although producers could expect to see higher prices for their crops in the fall, the costs to produce them have increased more significantly, especially fuel and crop inputs. This will effect producer margins in times of average yields. If producers are fortunate enough to collect higher than average yields, they may be able to benefit from a stronger commodity price.

The price increase that producers receive for their commodities in relation to the cost increase that consumers bear for the finished product in the store are usually not equal. The Canadian Dairy Commission pricing increase of 2.5 per cent on the regulated farm price of milk took effect on September 1, 2022. Although the in-store cost of milk is still fluctuating, the per cent increase is more than the increase received by the producer. Processor costs have increased by more than 12 per cent since August 2021, adversely affecting the cost of milk.

Raising public awareness regarding pricing disparities could be done at multiple levels, but a coordinated effort would be beneficial to ensure consistency in messaging. A centralized communications plan would provide a consistent message across the province to provide information to all Albertans. The Government of Alberta would be particularly suited to develop a centralized communication plan that could be used by all stakeholders in the agricultural industry to provide a unified message to the public regarding the current situation within agriculture.

References

Statistics Canada <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/cv.action?pid=1810000201>

Alberta Government <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/0704-917x>

Dairy Processors Association of Canada <https://www.dpac-atlc.ca/statement-regarding-canadian-dairy-commission-announcement-on-september-1-2022-pricing-adjustment/>

BRAZEAU COUNTY		
REQUEST FOR ASB DECISION		
SUBJECT:	2023 Herbicide Rebate Program	
DATE TO ASB:	October 19, 2022	
SUBMITTED BY:	Amber Kynoch, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman	
ENDORSED BY:	Erin McAdam, Manager of Agricultural Services	
REVIEWED BY CAO:		

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

To recommend the allocation of \$50,000 to the Herbicide Rebate Program, with a 50% rebate rate for the 2023 season.

1. TOPIC DEFINED

Executive Summary

The Herbicide Rebate Program was adopted to encourage landowners to control noxious weeds and destroy prohibited noxious weeds, as listed on Alberta’s *Weed Control Regulation* AR 19/2010.

At the October 6, 2021 meeting ASB made the Motion to keep the \$50,000.00 Herbicide Rebate budget. That motion was rescinded in the December 15th, 2021 ASB meeting. In the November 18, 2021 during Councils Budget meeting motion 979/21-11-18 was made to add \$50,000 to the existing \$25,000 budgeted for the 2022 herbicide rebate budget.

118/21 Moved by C. Brooks to keep the budget at \$50,000.00 for the herbicide rebate program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

143/21 Moved by D. Ekstrom to rescind motion 116/21 from the October 6, 2021 meeting

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

979/21-11-18 Moved by D. Wiltse to add an extra \$50,000 to the \$25,000 budgeted for the budgetary consideration to the Herbicide rebate program.

IN FAVOR:

C. Brooks

R. Swap

B. Guyon

D. Ekstrom

D. Wiltse

OPPOSED

K. Westerlund

A. Heinrich

At the December 15th, 2021 meeting ASB made the recommendation to change the AG-3 policy replaced a cap of \$1,600 per participant to \$5000. After September 30 of each year, the ASB reviews applications that reach the maximum allowable amount and distributes the remaining funds.

144/21 Moved by M. Mueller to recommend to Council to remove the cap from the AG-3 Policy.

IN FAVOUR:

M. Mueller

D. Ekstrom

L. Seutter-Rosell

R. Swap

OPPOSED:

J. Bundt

A. Heinrich

CARRIED

The rebate percentage, total participants, and total rebate amount changed year to year as follows:

Year	Rebate Percentage	# Of Participants	Total Rebates	Budget Amounts
2011	20%	47	\$11,148	\$10,000
2012	20%	38	\$8,465	\$12,000
2013	20%	42	\$10,369	\$12,000
2014	20%	51	\$11,224	\$12,000
2015	20%	29	\$5,730	\$12,000
2016	20%	43	\$10,393	\$12,000
2017	30%	43	\$19,178	\$24,000
2018	30%	47	\$16,098	\$34,000
2019	60%	61	\$47,407	\$50,000
2020	60%	42	\$37,719	\$50,000
2021	50%	40	\$29,832	\$50,000
2022	50%	44*	*\$37,424	\$75,000

2022 Herbicide Rebate Participation

Participants	Acres	Total rebate amount	Remaining budget
44*	*	\$37,395.22	\$37,605.78

*Numbers are tentative until final inspections are completed.

Relevant Policy:

AG-3 Herbicide Rebate Program Policy

Weed Control Act SA 2008, c.W-5.1

Weed Control Regulation AR 19/2010

2. ANALYSIS OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

This program is encouraging people who have large weed problems that to do a form of control to meet the requirements of Legislation.

BRAZEAU COUNTY		
REQUEST FOR ASB DECISION		
SUBJECT:	2023 Agricultural Research Funding	
DATE TO ASB:	October 19, 2022	
SUBMITTED BY:	Amber Kynoch, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman	
ENDORSED BY:	Erin McAdam, Manager of Agricultural Services	
REVIEWED BY CAO:		

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

To recommend the allocation of \$15,000 to West Central Forage Association for research, \$10,000 to Breton Plots for research, and \$3500 to West Central forage for Education and outreach.

1. TOPIC DEFINED

Executive Summary

In 2022 Brazeau County allocated the above funding to Breton Plots and the West Central Forage for both Research and for Outreach.

119/21 Moved by C. Brooks to recommend allocating \$10,000 budget for Breton Plots.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

143/21 Moved by M. Mueller to recommend allocating \$15,000 budget to West Central Forage Association for Research.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

979/21-11-18 Moved by D. Wiltse to add an extra \$50,000 to the \$25,000 budgeted for the budgetary consideration to the Herbicide rebate program.

IN FAVOR:

M. Mueller

D. Wiltse

B. Guyon

D. Ekstrom

C. Brooks

OPPOSED

S. Wheale

CARRIED

144/21

Moved by M. Mueller to recommend to allocating \$3,500 budget for West Central Forage Association for Education and Outreach.

IN FAVOUR:

M. Mueller

D. Wiltse

B. Guyon

D. Ekstrom

C. Brooks

OPPOSED:

S. Wheale

CARRIED