

# 2023 Drought support for livestock producers

## Fact Sheet

### Overview

Many Alberta livestock producers are facing extraordinary costs due to this year's drought and extremely hot conditions.

The governments of Alberta and Canada are partnering on the 2023 Canada-Alberta Drought Livestock Assistance response, a \$165 million initiative to support livestock producers facing extraordinary costs due to this year's dry conditions. The funding for this joint AgriRecovery response is cost-shared 60-40 through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, with the federal government providing \$99 million and Alberta providing \$66 million.

The funding will help impacted producers cover losses incurred to manage and maintain breeding animals. Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) will administer the initiative and eligible livestock producers can get more information and apply online starting on October 30 at [AFSC.ca](http://AFSC.ca). Applications remain open until January 15, 2024.

### Calculation

Benefits will be based on a feed-need calculation for feed costs resulting from lost grazing days for eligible female breeding animals on hand as of December 31, 2023. Eligible producers in drought regions could access up to \$150 per head for eligible animals.

#### Total extra feed cost per head

Number of extraordinary feed days above minimum	X	Feed pounds per day required (based on animal type and class)	X	\$0.137 feed costs per pound
<b>= TOTAL EXTRA FEED COST PER HEAD</b> (to pre-set maximum determined by type of livestock)				

#### Payment

Total extra feed cost per head (to maximum)	X	Total number of eligible animals
<b>= MAXIMUM PAYMENT</b>		

### Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the initiative participants must:

- Be at least 18 years of age and either a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada and resident in Alberta; or be a corporation whose majority of voting shareholders reside in Alberta.
- Report farm income and expenses in Alberta for income tax purposes. Applicants who are not required to file farm income tax must provide documentation that demonstrates the production and sale of agricultural commodities.
- Be responsible for feeding and primary care of eligible animals located in Alberta. Landlords in a cow/calf share arrangement are not considered eligible applicants in respect to those animals.
- Have more than 21 days between Jun. 1 and Oct. 31, 2023 where you altered your usual grazing practices due to drought conditions.
- Apply as specified in the program Terms and Conditions.
- Reside or graze animals in the eligible drought areas (see map on AFSC website)

Animals must be breeding animals:

- Females that have been bred between January 1 and December 31, 2023.
- Grazing animals, limited to cattle, bison, horses, water buffalo, elk, yak, musk ox, deer, llamas, sheep, goats, alpacas, and homestead grazing pigs (limited to Kunekune pigs).

### How to apply

Producers can apply for this initiative through AFSC Connect. Please see [AFSC.ca/AgriRecovery](http://AFSC.ca/AgriRecovery) for details.