



Photo credit: Greg Becker

2008 Crop Insurance program announced

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Now that the 2008 Crop Insurance program has been announced, Saskatchewan producers are encouraged to begin making their insurance selections for the upcoming crop year.

Crop Insurance is introducing some new program features this year, including a new Enhanced Irrigation Pilot to better recognize the unique risks associated with irrigated crop production, and alfalfa seed yield-loss insurance based on individual experience with alfalfa seed production to better reflect the individual production average on the customer's farm.

Several key programs have also been continued for 2008, including the Contract and Variable Price Options which provide customers with the opportunity to receive a better insured price, and the Crop Averaging Program which allows customers increased coverage by "basketing" their crops. The Gopher Damage Feature has become a permanent part of the multi-peril program, meaning gophers will continue to be included as an insurable cause of loss under the establishment and yield-loss components.

As a Crop Insurance customer, you can expect to receive your 2008 information package in the mail soon. These packages contain all the information required to make your 2008 insurance decisions, including all insurance selection forms, and a copy of the new "Complete Guide to Understanding Crop Insurance."

This year, Crop Insurance has combined all the program information found in our previous brochures into a single, easy-to-read guide designed to help you navigate the crop insurance program throughout the year. The guide also includes additional information

applicable to the program, such as copies of the 2008 terms and conditions, crop codes and maps, and examples of how to fulfill your obligations as a contract holder, like completing your Seeded Acreage Report or reviewing your Statement of Insurance.

Detailed program information is also available at www.saskcropinsurance.com. The Crop Insurance website provides access to a number of online tools to help you plan your farm management strategy in the year ahead, including: "what if" coverage cost calculators; current and historical claim statistics for our multi-peril and weather-based programs; insurable crop and weather station maps; a calendar listing all 2008 deadlines; downloadable Crop Insurance forms; and much more.

Customers are reminded that the deadline to apply for, reinstate, cancel or make changes to your 2008 contract of insurance is March 31. Your contract is continuous, and the selections you made in 2007 will remain the same for 2008 unless you make changes.

If you have outstanding 2007 premiums, please contact your local customer service office before March 31 to discuss the payment options available to you. Any contract with outstanding premiums will not be eligible for continued coverage if the amount owing is not paid by the sales deadline.

If you are enrolling in Crop Insurance for the first time, you are encouraged to contact your local customer service office as soon as possible to make an appointment. New applicants must apply for a contract of insurance in person. Current customers who have questions about the program or would like assistance in making changes to their contract are also welcome to set up an appointment with staff.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Crop Insurance toll-free at 1-888-935-0000.

LEARN MORE ABOUT AGRINVEST AND AGRISTABILITY

AgriInvest and AgriStability Information Sessions

These sessions will explore the new suite of business risk management programs.

Topics include:

- how the new programs can work for you;
- tips on how to complete the 2007 Harmonized form.

All session times are from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

- **March 3, 2008**
 - Humboldt – Bella Vista Inn
 - Raymore – Elks Hall
- **March 5, 2008**
 - Saskatoon – Ramada Inn
- **March 6, 2008**
 - Moose Jaw – Heritage Inn
- **March 18, 2008**
 - Shaunavon – Legion Hall
 - Maple Creek – Legion Hall
- **March 19, 2008**
 - Assiniboia – Prince of Wales Complex
 - Swift Current – Days Inn

Arrange your AgriInvest and AgriStability Individual Producer Appointment.

Our program representatives are available to meet individually with producers.

To register for an individual meeting, contact AAFC at 1-866-367-8506.

All appointments are held between 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- **March 3 and 4, 2008**
 - Humboldt – Court House
 - Raymore – Crop Insurance Customer Service Office
- **March 5 and 6, 2008**
 - Saskatoon – Saskatchewan Agriculture Regional Office
 - Moose Jaw – Crop Insurance Customer Service Office
- **March 17 and 18, 2008**
 - Maple Creek – Saskatchewan Environment Building
 - Shaunavon – Crop Insurance Customer Service Office
- **March 19 and 20**
 - Swift Current – Saskatchewan Agriculture Regional Office
 - Assiniboia – Crop Insurance Customer Service Office

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Call 1-866-367-8506 or visit www.agr.gc.ca/agriinvest or www.agr.gc.ca/agristability

