

Saving Alberta farmers time and money

Changes to Agriculture Financial Services Corporation's (AFSC) AgriStability program will reduce paperwork and lower costs for producers.

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Farmers are vital to Alberta's economy, providing essential food resources and driving rural prosperity, yet they often face burdensome paperwork and high accounting fees that hinder their productivity. Governments are making changes to the AgriStability program to address these challenges.

A new option to align AgriStability reporting with tax filing in 2025 will result in less paperwork, reduce accounting fees, and make enrolment and participation in the program much easier. An accelerated deadline to submit program forms to AFSC will lead to earlier payments. Enrolling in AgriStability can also provide producers access to other credit options like the federal Advance Payments Program, which offers low-cost cash advances.

“We value the dedication and adaptability of our province’s farmers. These changes to the AgriStability program will better respond to each producer’s unique situation, making the program more predictable, timely and simpler to access, which is what producers have been asking for.”

RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation

AgriStability is an individual, whole-farm, margin-based program that helps producers who experience margin declines greater than 30 per cent due to production loss, adverse market conditions and increased costs. In 2023, AgriStability also increased compensation for margin declines exceeding 30 per cent, offering 80 cents per dollar of decline, up from the previous rate of 70 cents.

Producers rely on business risk management programs to offset the financial impact of many challenges. AgriStability provides income stabilization

protection to help producers manage large margin declines that threaten their farm's viability.

“Farmers can often face uncertainty, and programs like AgriStability help them to protect their operations. To make things a little bit easier, we've made changes to the AgriStability program that will reduce paperwork, so our farmers can get the support they need, faster, and continue producing top-quality products.”

Lawrence MacAulay, federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Risk management is critical in farming and each producer needs to examine their situation and the tools available before making decisions. AFSC has a robust suite of lending, business risk management and insurance options that producers can access.

“Through our risk management programs, AFSC plays an important role in sustaining the agriculture industry. By making enrolment and participation in the AgriStability program easier it allows us to support Alberta producers more effectively.”

Darryl Kay, CEO, Agriculture Financial Services Corporation

Quick facts

- AgriStability protects Canadian producers against large declines in farming margins for reasons such as production loss, increased costs and market conditions.
 - AgriStability is one of the business risk management programs under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership.
- For more than 80 years, AFSC, a provincial Crown corporation, has provided loans, crop insurance and farm income disaster assistance programs to farmers, agribusinesses and other small businesses.
- AFSC provides leading, innovative, client-focused financial and risk-management solutions to grow agriculture in Alberta.

- The deadline to apply for 2025 program coverage is April 30, 2025.