Chair’s Message
Rick Toney

Welcome to the 2018 SCA Producer handbook. The SCA’s goal is to help all cattle producers succeed, we are committed to developing successful partnerships with industry leaders, researchers, other industry organizations and governments at all levels to reach this goal.

This booklet is designed to be a resource guide for beef producers looking for information on a wide variety of topics. Each year we focus on program material we think will be helpful to your operation. This booklet has information on the Canadian Agriculture Partnership and relevant programs for cattle producers.

Get Involved

I encourage all cattle producers to get involved with the SCA and be a strong voice for the industry. The SCA is always looking for great people who are passionate about the industry to join the board. If you are interested in becoming more involved with the organization please contact the office.

In closing, we are here to represent Saskatchewan cattle producers and welcome your input. You can contact your district representative through the SCA office to discuss industry related topics. If you have any questions please send us an email to info@saskbeef.com or call 306-585-2333.

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The Saskatchewan Cattlemen’s Association was established in 2009 with the mandate to provide a united voice for the province’s beef industry, with representation from all industry sectors and across all regions of the province. As a development commission, the SCA works to develop and promote the industry by investing levies collected through the sale of beef cattle in the province. Any Saskatchewan cattle producer who has paid levies within the last two years and has not received a refund is entitled to one vote and is eligible to hold office as a director for the Association.

The 2018 SCA Board
Back Row: (L-R) Levi Hull, Ryder Lee, Keith Day, Brad Welter, Mike Spratt. Middle Row: Kyle Hebert, Chad Ross, Roger Meyers, Dean Moore, Paula Larson, Bill Huber, Front Row: Garret Hill, Joe Jackson, Rick Toney, Arnold Balicki, Ryan Beierbach.

The SCA was established with 11 regional districts across the province. One director is elected from each district, with two directors appointed from the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) and the Saskatchewan Cattle Feeders Association (SCFA). The sixteen-member board also includes the immediate past chair of the SCA.
Working with Government
The SCA works diligently to lobby politicians and government on behalf of the industry. Some of the highlights of these efforts include the “Day on the Hill,” where our delegation had the opportunity to meet with several Members of Parliament and their staff including Lawerence MacAulay, the Minister of Agriculture.

Several of the directors take time each summer to meet with and tour various politicians around their operations. These tours are a great way to showcase the industry while having some time to discuss the issues facing ranchers.

Public Policy
The public consultations process is also an important component of our work. On several occasions, the SCA took strong positions on policy changes. These included; the proposed changes to the National Food Guide, proposed tax changes, the Canadian Agricultural Partnership and enhanced Saskatchewan Crop Insurance for the livestock industry.

It is important to the industry to have a united voice during these processes. It is also important for government to hear from individual producers as those are the stories that resonate with the policy makers. We have many other files we are working on with governments and industry partners to help strengthen the cattle business in the province.

Promoting the Industry
The SCA is building partnerships to help educate people about the different aspects of the industry as well as promoting beef to consumers.

The SCA is proud of the work we’ve done to develop the “Beef Month in #YQR” promotion. This is the first year for the initiative and it is successful. We also feel it is important to sponsor programs like Farm and Food Care’s Food Influencer Tour, Verified Beef Production Plus and we are especially proud to be the only funding partner of the Agri-Ed Program.

We also participate in programs to help producers learn about the latest trends, through our sponsorship of events like the Western Feedlot Management School and the Young Ranchman’s Show.

Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe and SCA Chair Rick Toney chat about the issues facing the cattle industry at the Legislature in Regina. SCA board members and staff meet regularly with various politicians to advocate on behalf of Saskatchewan cattle producers.
Each year SCA reviews more than 50 research proposals and dozens of sponsorship requests. The applications are prioritized based on the potential benefits to Saskatchewan cattle producers. Research, partner programs and event sponsorship funding is a major part of the SCA’s annual Budget. Nearly $750,000 was spent on significant research projects and consumer awareness programs in the past year. This spending is overseen by the SCA board of directors, who ensure producer check-off money is spent responsibly on effective projects that develop and promote the success of all production sectors of the industry.

As priorities change for beef producers, the SCA can adapt and communicate the shifting priorities to researchers and partners who are then able to develop projects and areas of research which hold promise, solve problems or have been overlooked in the past.

Dozens of projects, outlined on the next page, were approved on their ability to move the industry forward. These projects aim to increase economic sustainability, advance cattle genetics, improve animal health and nutrition, create insights on better water quality, improve forage production, reduce or eliminate of invasive species, and clarify the role of cattle in our ecosystem.

The consumer and producer outreach programs supported by the association are designed to educate consumers on the health and nutrition benefits of beef, the ability of producers to provide safe and environmentally sustainable products and to help producers adopt innovative production methods.

**Leveraging your levy**
Funds from the SCA are often a “jumping-off” point for researchers and other partners. The SCA’s support for the projects is often combined with money from other funders to ensure the maximum return. As a result, for every check-off dollar invested by SCA nearly $14.00 is invested by other funders.

**Advocating throughout the industry**
There are multiple groups in the province who provide services to and advocate for agricultural producers, while developing innovative research and outreach strategies. Members of the SCA Board offer advice and sit on the governing boards for many of these groups. Some of these include Saskatchewan Forage Council, Verified Beef Production Plus, Beef Cattle Research Council, South of the Divide Conservation Action Program (SODCAP), Prairie Conservation Action Plan, Farm and Food Care, and Agriculture in the Classroom. Members also play an integral role in the development of the new Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence.

**Promoting and Developing**

**The Beef Industry In Saskatchewan**
SCA Year in Review

The following is a recap of the research projects and partnership priorities that received SCA attention and funding.

**Sponsorships**
- Vetavision
- Agribition - Platinum sponsor.
- Feedlot School
- Native Prairie Restoration Workshop
- Canadian Young Farmers and Saskatchewan Young Ag conference
- Beef Expo in Saskatoon
- 4-H Beef Symposium
- SSGA AGM
- AgriEd Showcase
- Saskatchewan Pasture Tour
- Workhorse
- DoMoreAg.
- Plant Science Undergraduate awards
- Steaks and Stems Yorkton
- U of S Beef Club
- Cattlewomen’s Golf
- SaskMan Cattlemen’s Golf
- College of Pharmacy & Nutrition
- Young Ranchman’s Swift Current
- Young Cattlemen’s Council
- Saskatchewan Vet Med Preceptorship Program

**Consumer Outreach:**
- Beef Month in YQR
- Homestyles in Saskatoon
- Canadian Ag Literacy Month classroom visits.
- Regina Home Show
- Regina Catholic Schools cooking competition
- Yorkton Harvest Throwdown Cooking competition
- Share the Warmth Regina
- Saskatchewan Home Ec Teachers Association
- Food Farms
- Student Leadership Conference
- Chef Series at Taste of Saskatchewan
- Food Influencer Tours
- Teachers Tour
- Ag Month in Saskatchewan

**Other Media & Public Outreach:**
- CJME Ads during Gormley show
- Wheatland Café with CJ Katz on CTV
- Global TV Farm Focus
- Earned Media (radio, print, TV)
- 360 Video at a feedlot, grazing videos

**Notable Events:**
- Soil Health and Grazing conference.
- Canadian Beef Industry Conference
- Verified Beef Production Plus area meetings
- Saskatchewan Beef Industry Conference
- Alberta Beef Industry Conference
- Manitoba and Alberta Beef Producers and Beef Farmers of Ontario AGMs
- International Beef Welfare Symposium and UCVM Beef Welfare conference
- SVMA AGM - not easy to get to stay.
- Action Canada Tour
- Dairy Farmers AGM
- Forage Crops Advisory Meeting
- Western Canadian Conference on Soil Health and Grazing
- College of Engineering research summit
- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation AGM

**Partnerships:**
- Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence Farm and Food Care sponsorship and board member - now chair Arnold Balicki.
- Ag in the Classroom sponsorship and board member - Harold Martens.
- Prairie Conservation Action Plan support and director - Garret Hill
- South of the Divide Conservation Action Program support and director - Keith Day
- Canada Beef funding and director - Chad Ross.
- And nominated two marketing board members Mike Guest and Hubert Lau.
- Saskatchewan Forage Council support and board member - Garret Hill
- Beef Cattle Research Council 3 delegates now include Chair Ryan Beierbach
- Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef participation - Harold Martens and now director Ryan Beierbach
- Canadian Cattlemen’s Association funding and four directors
- VBP+ Verified Beef Production Plus funding and working together
- AgWest Bio
- Joint Research Funding Call with Alberta Beef Producers
- National Cattle Feeders
- Saskatchewan Agricultural Development Fund
- Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef – on committees
- Livestock Marketers of Saskatchewan
- Agriculture Development Fund
- Saskatchewan Forage Network
SCA Year in Review - continued

Consultations:
Food Policy Consult
Crop Insurance development.
Saskatchewan Climate plan consultations.
Front of Package labels
Strychnine ban proposal
Trespass laws in Saskatchewan
Listock Growth Forum (ILO)
TB Case
Agricultural Implements Act changes
Statements of Provincial Interest consultations
CPTPP advocacy
Income Deferral changes
CFIA transparency consult
Federal Budget 2019 submission
Temporary Foreign Workers Program Consult
Animal Protection Act changes
Landowner survey for wildlife federation

Advocacy Events and Industry Outreach:
SK Party Economic Caucus
MLA Beef on a Bun at the Legislature
LFCE Visioning
John Barlow meeting at CWA
Western Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners
Saskatchewan Party BBQ and Annual Premier’s dinner.
Federal Minister of Agriculture hosting at Saskatoon
Ottawa Fly In Days
An Sci 301 - interacting with U of S students.
Ag Month events.
MLA/MP summer meetings
Presentation to Economic Caucus Committee
Beef Business Inserts

Industry Leadership:
Beef Value Chain Round Table
Cattle Health Surveillance system
Satellite for forage insurance project.
NCBA - Cattle Industry Convention - Many state cattle association meetings
Trade Minister Champagne meeting in Regina
Levy refund requester visits
Canadian Cattlemen’s Association meetings
Rural internet advocacy
Nebraska Cattlemen meetings
Media Training for the board
Livestock Development Committee
Workplace Safety tools project in development with SCFA and LMS

Pacific Northwest Economic Region participation - Joe Jackson
Saskatchewan Beef Industry Chair Advisory Committee
U of S researchers coordination and liason meetings
Agriculture Development Fund research projects
Beef Cattle Research Council National Tech Transfer plan
John Weekes trade advisory funding

Research Commitments:
Preparing for Emerging Viral Disease focus on Bovine Respiratory viruses.
Evaluation of New triticale varieties & backgrounding
Performance of new forage legume varieties
Defining practices - forage corn production
Field comparison of intranasal VS injectable vaccination
Optimizing rumina fermentation
Effect of ergot on beef bull fertility
Selection of clonal propagated alfalfa & sainfoin plants
The ecomonics of forage backgrounding systems
Pen surface performance SK feedlot
Improved manure uses for feedlots
Solute & moisture fluxes below small watersheds
Increasing yield threshold & enhancing nutritive value of barley
Development of vaccines for Mycoplasma bovis
Evaluating benefits of genomic selection programs
Evaluating steam-flaking to improve feed efficiency Fungal suppression to control Leafy Spurge
Evaluation of forage Galega as a forage legume
Beef management practices for residue & fertility
Alternate trace mineral supplementation strategies
Enhanced vaccine for nasal administration in livestock.
Mycoplasma bovis antimirobial resistance
Dugout Management for improved water quality
The forage - efficient beef-cow
Forage recovery following the Oct 2017 Burstall fires
Support of Forage Agronomy researcher at WBDC
Effects of annual& perennial forage systems
Use of high-moisture corn & the corn stover for grazing
Barley forage Co-op at Melfort
Butyrate for feedlot cattle
Respiratory probiotics for feedlot cattle
Seed Treatments for plains fescue
Facilitating forage initiatives
Forage variety demonstration trials
The SCA staff want to keep you informed and up to date with the industry. We use many different ways to communicate with producers, industry partners and people in your communities. We regularly send out information using newsletters, emails, social media, and regular mail.

We regularly update followers on Facebook and Twitter as well as our website www.saskbeef.com.

The next time you are online look for the SCA.

Go to www.facebook.com. Click the sign up box, enter your name, phone number, and a password.

Once you have signed up you will need to confirm your email or phone number through a verification code and instructions to complete your registration.

Go to twitter.com, Click the sign up box, enter your name, phone number, and a password.

You will receive a verification code and instructions to complete your registration.

You may also choose to create a unique user name.

www.facebook.com/saskbeef

@SaskCattlemens

Sign up for the SCA electronic newsletter by emailing info@saskbeef.com
The SCA is currently updating the data base and we need your help by confirming your contact information. Simply take a few minutes to fill out the attached form.

Once you have filled out your contact information you may scan or take a photo of it and email to info@saskbeef.com.

Or call the SCA office at **306-585-2333** with your contact information

*Stay tuned and stay in touch with the SCA.*

Name

Address

Town

Province

Postal Code

Phone Number

Email

Facebook / Twitter
The Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) is a five-year, $388 million investment by federal and provincial governments in strategic initiatives for Saskatchewan agriculture. Through this partnership, producers have access to a suite of programs and funding.

For a full list of programs offered & more information contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre
1-866-457-2377
saskatchewan.ca/cap

Agri-Environmental Technical Services Resource

The Ministry of Agriculture has partnered with the Watershed Stewardship Associations and community groups to provide education and technical expertise for producers. Watershed technicians will provide services which focus on addressing environmental issues where action by all producers in an area can have a measurable impact. Agri-Environmental technicians are available to provide producer level support for the Farm Stewardship Program and Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program.

The Ministry of Agriculture has program specialists available across the province. Call or visit the one closest to home.
You must have a PID number to apply for any program administered by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. This applies to livestock producers who own, lease or rent property where livestock and poultry are grown, bred, kept, raised, displayed, assembled or disposed of. PID is mandatory and it is an important part of a livestock traceability system. It links livestock to a geographic location and registration is free.

PID was established to:

- plan for, control and prevent the spread of livestock diseases.
- use as an early warning system during disasters like floods & fire.
- be a management tool.

If you want to know the true value of the premises identification system, look no further than our neighbours to the west. During the 2017 wildfires in British Columbia, the Premises Identification (PID) system allowed those producers who were registered access to the land and animals.
Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP)
Applicants: Agricultural producers, Rural Municipalities

FRWIP provides rebates to develop secure and sustainable agricultural water sources, such as wells, dugouts and pipelines. FRWIP provides 50 per cent cost-share to a maximum rebate of $50,000 per eligible applicant. Producers must complete the Rebate Eligibility Checklist and submit it along with their Rebate Application to make a claim for funding. The program also includes pre-approval of rural well decommissioning, which is funded at 90 per cent to a maximum payment of $10,000 per project.

Irrigation Programming
Applicants: Agricultural Producers

Irrigation programming supports sustainable agriculture water management and adaptation to climate change by expanding irrigation development and improving irrigation efficiencies. Irrigation programming includes two streams:

- Irrigation Development Program: supports infrastructure development to create a secure water supply to the edge of irrigable land parcels and increase irrigation capacity by a minimum of 10 acres. Funding is available at 67 per cent cost share to a maximum of $1,320 per irrigable acre developed or to a maximum of $300,000 per applicant.

- Irrigation Environmental Efficiency Program: supports improved energy and water efficiencies for producers by converting low efficiency or high pressure irrigation systems to high efficiency, low pressure irrigation systems. Funding is available at 30 per cent cost share to a maximum program payment of $50,000 per eligible applicant.

Call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre 1-866-457-2377
WELL DECOMMISSIONING PROTECTS EVERYONE

Unused wells that aren’t properly protected are a hazard to humans, animals and groundwater.

Have your unused well decommissioned.

Visit online
saskatchewan.ca/cap
Farm Stewardship Program (FSP)
Applicants: Agricultural producers

FSP provides Saskatchewan producers funding to implement beneficial management practices (BMPs) in three priority areas - water, climate change and biodiversity. Each BMP has its own funding limits and eligibility requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficial Management Practice (BMP)</th>
<th>Funding level</th>
<th>Funding per applicant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drainage Stewardship BMP</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Solutions BMP</td>
<td>Up to 75 %</td>
<td>Up to $50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasive Plant Biocontrol &amp; Targeted Grazing BMP</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock Stewardship Suite of BMPs</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Rangeland Grazing Management BMP</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Native Forage BMP</td>
<td>90 %</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Tame Forage BMP</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riparian Grazing Management BMP</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Producer Water Management BMP</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variable Rate Mapping (Rebate)</td>
<td>30 %</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disease Surveillance and Management Surveillance Program

A variety of disease surveillance and management activities are being funded in Saskatchewan to improve and protect the health of Saskatchewan’s livestock populations. Initiatives include surveillance for Anthrax, Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED), Swine Influenza, antimicrobial resistance, Johne’s disease in beef and dairy cattle, Bovine Viral Diarrhea and diseases of wildlife that impact livestock, including rabies, avian influenza, and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).
Assurance Systems-Producer Rebate  
**Applicants:** Agricultural Producers

The Assurance System Producer Rebate provides support to increase producer participation in biosecurity and animal welfare initiatives. There are two streams:
- Livestock Stream: Approved eligible equipment costs are funded 50 per cent to a maximum of $15,000.
- Plant Biosecurity Stream: Approved eligible costs are funded at 50 per cent to a maximum rebate of $5,000.

Producers must receive the industry training and an assessment completed by an approved assessor in the applicable application category: biosecurity and/or animal welfare.

Verified Beef Production Plus (VBP+) connects sustainability and the beef industry in Canada and enhances consumer confidence in our beef. Registered VBP+ beef cattle operations prove how Canadian beef is sustainable, safe, and wholesome.

To find out more contact Verified Beef Production Plus  
**306-859-9110**  
or  
**SK@verifiedbeef.ca**

Agriculture Skills and Knowledge (ASK) Program  
**Applicants:** Agricultural Producers

ASK provides a rebate to help producers access training related to farm management with the intent of increasing profitability or mitigating risks. The program provides a 50 per cent rebate on a qualifying training activities to a maximum program payment of $2,500 per person per year.

Agriculture Scholarship  
**Applicants:** Grade 12 student or high school graduates within the past two years

For students excited to speak up and tell the story of agriculture, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture offers the Agriculture Student Scholarship. There is one winning scholarship valued at $4,000 and three runner-up scholarships valued at $2,000 each.
NEW Funding for Beef Producers in SK!

50% up to $15,000

Towards eligible cattle equipment:
- Squeeze Chutes, Alleyways, Loading Chutes
- Crowding Tubs, Bud Boxes, Calf Tip Tables
- Calving Cameras, Calf Catch Pens/Carts
- Cattle Scales & Feed Scales
- Segregation Pens
- Visit saskatchewan.ca/cap to learn more about what’s eligible and necessary application steps.

SIMPLE. PRACTICAL. TRUSTED.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

VBP+ connects your cattle to the Sustainable beef market.

VBP+ is an approved Certification Body for the Sustainable Beef Production Standards

VBP+ provides a base for retailers and foodservice to source cattle

VBP+ means your operation produces safe, sustainable and wholesome beef through:
- Proof of responsible management practices
- Maintaining a valid Vet-Client-Patient-Relationship
- Keeping records, completing education, and meeting outcomes
- Taking credit for what you do by authentic audit-style review

Verified Beef Production +
Consumers’ attitudes are changing, and the beef industry needs to change with them.

There’s no denying it: today’s consumers want more information about how their beef got to their local grocery store. And they don’t just want to know more, they want that information to be verified.

The majority of Canadians trust the producers who raise their beef - They also want to know that their beef comes from a sustainable source that treats its animals well.

Verification works for producers, retailers & consumers.

WHAT ABOUT THE DETAILS?

It’s as simple as getting some training and checking to see if your operation’s practices meet the expected outcomes, and having an auditor do an on-farm visit to verify what is done.

Find out more at verifiedbeef.ca

or contact Saskatchewan’s VBP+ Coordinator, Coy Schellenberg:

P: 306-859-9110
E: SK@verifiedbeef.ca

APPROVED CERTIFICATION BODY FOR SUSTAINABLE BEEF PRODUCTION.
The major change to the AgriStability Program, as a result of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, is to the Reference Margin Limit (RML). Producers are now guaranteed the Reference Margin Limit used in their program calculations will never be less than 70 per cent of their conventional reference margin. This change helps producers with a low cost expense structure, which would have resulted in in their low reference margin.

In addition, the Canadian Agricultural Partnership has fewer barriers to enter the Program, as the application process will be simplified involving fewer forms. New participants only need to submit the previous three years of historical financial information from the farm rather than five years of information, previously required. This simplified process will make it easier for new participants to join the Program.
Forage Insurance
SCIC’s forage program is for producers who grow forages for seed, sale or feed. Forage crops include tame hay, dehydrated alfalfa, sweetclover and greenfeed. Other options include establishment, restoration, diversification and timothy hay. Forage production should be reported by September 30 of each year. By reporting all of your production, whether insured or not, you are helping build your personal insurance coverage.

Corn Heat Unit Program
• Insures against a lack of corn heat units over the growing season
• Available across the province at 131 weather stations.
• Payments are triggered when accumulated heat units for the season fall below 95 per cent of normal at the selected station,
• Current results for heat units by weather station can be found online: https://www.saskcropinsurance.com/resources/statistics/corn-heat-unit-statistics

Forage Rainfall Insurance Program
• Fire insurance is now included under this program to offset the financial losses forage and livestock producers face from the impact of fire damaged pastures.
• Additional weighting options were added in 2018:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly Precipitation Weighting Options</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option 1</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 3</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 4</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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SCIC’s forage program is for producers who grow forages for seed, sale or feed. Forage crops include tame hay, dehydrated alfalfa, sweetclover and greenfeed. Other options include establishment, restoration, diversification and timothy hay. Forage production should be reported by September 30 of each year. By reporting all of your production, whether insured or not, you are helping build your personal insurance coverage.

Wildlife Damage and Compensation Program
All producers, regardless if they are an SCIC customer, qualify for compensation for losses due to wildlife. Predation losses must be reported as soon as an attack is discovered. All evidence should be preserved, including pictures. Any veterinary receipts should be retained as well. Compensation is available for crop and predation losses, as well as for prevention measures. Losses to stacked forage or alternate feeding systems also qualify.

Changes to predation compensation rates for 2018:
Beef calf pricing is determined using market sales data the week before, the week of and the week after the loss. The producer will receive the highest of these values. If the value is lower than the set minimum the producer will receive the minimum amount. The minimum amount for beef calves is $1,150.
Western Livestock Price Insurance Program

The fall period is traditionally a time of year when calves are transitioned from pasture into feedlots. This aspect of Saskatchewan beef production can be protected using feeder price insurance. Producers, who purchased calf price insurance in the spring and moved their animals into feeder programs, can purchase feeder price insurance. There are a range of premiums and coverages to choose from.

Producers who purchased calf price insurance in the spring of 2018 will also be entering their settlement window during the September to December period. Depending on the market situation, these producers may be in a claim situation this fall.

Choosing the right option

Ensure your insurance coverage is reflective of the risks you face in your cattle operation by choosing the appropriate program. The calf program is designed for the cow-calf producer selling calves in the fall. The feeder program reflects the risk a producer backgrounding cattle faces. The fed program reflects the risks a feedlot, finishing cattle, would face.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cattle price insurance options</th>
<th>Calf</th>
<th>Feeder</th>
<th>Fed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class of Cattle</td>
<td>Unweaned Calves under one year of age</td>
<td>Weaned, or nearly weaned cattle being backgrounded and/or intended for grass</td>
<td>Finished cattle expected to grade A or better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forward Price Coverage</td>
<td>Based on a feeder price forecast with an adjustment for the price of barley and the price difference between feeder cattle (850 pounds) and calves</td>
<td>Based on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange’s Feeder Cattle Futures, currency and cash to futures basis</td>
<td>Based on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange’s Live Cattle Futures, currency and cash to futures basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settlement</td>
<td>Based on the average price of a 600 pound steer</td>
<td>Based on the average price of an 850 pound steer</td>
<td>Based on a finished animal at the Canfax fed cattle price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability</td>
<td>Purchase in the spring (Feb-May) for fall settlement</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Lengths</td>
<td>16-36 weeks</td>
<td>12-36 weeks</td>
<td>12-36 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.wlpip.ca
On December 1, 2018, Health Canada / CFIA will require all livestock producers to have a Veterinary-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR) before any drugs on the Federal Prescription Drug List can be prescribed.

The prescription drug list will include all medically important antibiotics. Veterinarians must follow the regulations set out by Health Canada/CFIA, and their provincial regulatory body. It is important for producers to work with their veterinarian to understand and maintain the relationship.

What medications REQUIRE a valid VCPR?
Prescription drugs are any drug with a Pr symbol on their label, and now includes most antimicrobials and controlled substances.

What medications DO NOT require a VCPR?
Most Vaccines and non-prescription medications can be sold without a VCPR if they are used according to label directions.

If you have livestock, you need a VCPR to access prescription medication, including antibiotics. Developing a herd health plan with your veterinarian is a good way to establish a proper VCPR. If you don't have a VCPR, or are unsure if you do, talk to your veterinarian to understand what is required to establish and maintain a VCPR.

Warning! Cull Cows & Bulls
Medication Withdrawal Period

You are likely aware that most cull cows and cull bulls sold at markets are purchased for immediate slaughter. You are also likely aware it is a violation to sell cattle for immediate slaughter that are still within a drug withdrawal period. Are you aware the withdrawal period for pour-on Ivermectins is 49 days? There is also a withholding period for vaccines. It is between 21 and 60 days depending on the type.

Be a proactive producer, check ALL treatment and vaccine labels, and never ship culls or any slaughter animals that are still under drug withdrawal restrictions.

For more information on herd health visit www.saskbeef.com
Vaccination Protocols

It may be old hat to many, but there are many cattle producers that do not vaccinate. Non-vaccinated herds represent the potential for catastrophic farm loss and the subsequent treatment and death loss of unsold offspring is monumental.

Vaccinations are the first line of defence to ensuring the health of the entire Canadian cattle herd. By developing a sound vaccination protocol, you will help minimize the need for antibiotics and will save you time and money in the long run.

Vaccine programs used in breeding herds are primarily designed to prevent against diseases that cause reproductive losses from failure to conceive, embryonic death, abortion and stillbirths. Vaccinations also help protect the developing fetus and has the additional benefit of increasing antibodies in colostrum to protect the newborn calf. In calves, the vaccination program is primarily designed to prevent respiratory disease and soil born Clostridial diseases that cause sudden death.

Use the services of a veterinarian, who understands the predominant diseases in your area, to design a vaccination program tailored for the needs of your operation.

Vaccine protocols are a great way to work with a veterinarian and develop a herd health plan. Planning is essential and your veterinarian will help develop the protocol suited to your herd based upon the risks.

Vaccination provides priming of the immune system so that the animal is better able to respond should a disease outbreak occur. A vaccine is only effective if it is administered properly.

Vaccinations will also be more effective if steps are taken to ensure that the risk of disease is reduced by addressing management factors which may contribute to a disease occurrence.

Using a vaccine alone, and not changing any of the other factors, may lead to poor success.

Any improvements you can make to your herd health management will bolster the success of your disease control plan. Vaccines are a vital component of disease control programs and their success depends on appropriate timing, handling, administration and herd management.

There are a number of reasons to vaccinate your cattle including the control of:

• Respiratory diseases
• Reproductive disease in breeding animals
• Scours in calves
• Disease due to clostridium bacteria like Blackleg, Red water, and Tetanus
• Other diseases like Anthrax
Transporting cattle is likely the most visible aspect of beef cattle production. Often, the entire industry is painted with one brush when transport incidents and animal welfare are highlighted. Most incidents can be avoided with solid pre-transport decision making. Cattle should only be loaded for trips they will weather in the same condition they began.

**Is That Animal Fit for the Trip?**

If you are transporting livestock, you must be familiar with and follow Canada’s animal transport requirements. If you do not comply with the regulations, you may be prosecuted and fined. If your actions or neglect are considered animal abuse, you could also be charged and convicted under the Criminal Code of Canada and/or provincial regulations.

Compromised animals are fragile and cannot handle the stress of transportation very well. Depending on their condition, compromised animals fall into two categories - those that can’t be transported and those that can only be transported with special provisions.

It is your responsibility to determine which category your animals fall into. Never transport an animal unless you are sure it is healthy enough to handle the stress of transportation. If you are not sure, seek the advice of a veterinarian or contact the CFIA before preparing the animal for loading.

**Plan Ahead**

- Use loading and unloading facilities as well as containers and transport vehicles suitable to the animals being hauled.
- Provide adequate space and headroom for animals to stand in a natural position.
- Ensure there is feed, water and rest at required intervals.
- Allow for adequate ventilation for all animals.
- Provide non-slip, textured footing surfaces suitable to the loaded animals.
- Protect the animals from the weather.
- Provide immediate attention, including veterinary treatment, if an animal becomes unfit for transport during the trip.
Help Is Available

Ranching is an industry built on a foundation of hard work, resilience, and independence. These strengths can also be the industry’s weaknesses as they become barriers for speaking up and seeking help. Producers are especially vulnerable when it comes to mental health issues. Up to 58% of ranchers and farmers report stress, anxiety, depression, and emotional exhaustion. Yet many won’t seek help because of the stigmas around mental health.

If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, help is available.

Call the Farm Stress Line Toll Free
1-800-667-4442
24 hours per day - 7 days per week
Free and Confidential
There is no call display

The Farm Stress Line provides confidential crisis telephone counselling, support, information and referral services that respond to the needs of rural individuals, youth and families living on the farm or in a rural Saskatchewan community.

The Farm Stress Line may help by

- Clarifying the problem or concern.
- Working with you to find solutions
- Connecting you with the right organization, professional or program
- Listening and supporting in a safe, neutral & non-judgmental environment

The SCA is collaborating with The Do More Agriculture Foundation to build an online resource base for dealing with on farm stress.

Visit domore.ag/resources for more information.
Be proactive and prevent accidents

All farming accidents are preventable if you’re mindful of the dangers. Talk to your family and anyone else working on your farm about safety. Make sure they know how to avoid overhead power lines and what to do if an accident occurs.

Call Sask 1st Call at 1-866-828-4888.

Have you checked with SaskPower, SaskEnergy and SaskTel to find out the exact location of underground lines before you dig for any reason (e.g. fence posts, decks, etc.)?

Ask these simple questions before working around power, gas or telephone lines

1. Where are the overhead and underground lines?
2. Will my equipment or other objects come in contact with those lines?
3. Are my grain bins, barns, fuel tanks and other structures at least 15 metres (50 feet) away from overhead power lines and six metres (20 feet) away from pad-mounted transformers or underground cables?
4. Have I lowered large equipment like the grain auger, air seeder and air sprayer before moving it?
5. Is there someone nearby acting as a safety watch when I’m moving equipment machinery?
6. Do I have a plan in case there isn’t enough clearance when equipment under power lines?
7. Should I call SaskPower at 1-888-757-6937 to raise the wires?
8. Is my irrigation water directed away from the overhead lines?
9. Has my family devoted a day farm and ranch safety plans?
10. Are the dangerous machinery components, electrical boxes and wiring shielded and fitted with locks?
When it comes to preventing crime the RCMP has several pieces of advice including:

• Keep your house and yard well lit
• Always lock your buildings and vehicles
• Don’t leave tools and valuables in the open
• If you must leave machinery in the field park it where it can be seen from your home or a neighbour’s.
• Watch for strange vehicles and make note of the description

Rural Crime is a serious problem
You can be part of the solution

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Start a Rural Crime Watch Chapter

Rural Crime Watch is a part of the Community Based Policing program, and has already been proven successful. Statistics show the areas with an organized Rural Crime Watch chapter have a significant reduction in criminal activity. You are an extra set of eyes and ears for the police.

If you are interested in starting a Rural Crime Watch chapter in your area contact your local RCMP Detachment. A liaison officer from the Detachment area will be named to work with the group.
If possible use a camera or smartphone to take pictures or video of the people and vehicles involved. If you witness suspicious activity keep a record of the following:

**Date:**

**Time:**

**Location:**

**Any weapons:**

**Type of activity:**

**Suspect Vehicle:**

License #

Vehicle Model:

Colour:

Type:

Direction of Travel:

**Suspect Description:**

Age:

Height:

Build:

Ethnicity:

Complexion:

Eye Colour/Shape/Glasses:

Hair Colour:

Length/Style:

Mustache/Beard:

Accent:

Clothing:

Call 911 in an Emergency
Predator Control

Predator attacks can be a costly proposition and there are ways to help prevent the attacks.

Preventing Predator Attacks
- Maintain fencing that is effective and specific to your operation.
- Complete regular fence checks.
- Monitoring your livestock on a daily basis
- Provide birthing areas with predator protection
- Keep a properly trained guard dog or other protection animal.
- Have an appropriate management plan for disposing of dead stock.

Claims
The producer must contact SCIC as soon as a predator attack is apparent. An inspection is required before compensation is paid. Claim assessments are based on the evidence of the carcass, the attack/kill site and indicators of the presence of a predator.

Communication key to dealing with hunters

Land owners and leaseholders on most crown land have the right to control access for hunting. The hunter synopsis is clear that private lands must be respected. Experience shows the vast majority of hunters are respectful of landowners.

But bad experiences linger and occur across the province. The Ministry of Environment offers signs for posting land.

For those allowing hunting on your land, ensure you are clear what you do and do not allow. Over what time frame are you granting permission? What kind of access are you granting (driving, walking, ATV)? Who are you granting permission to (just the person you are speaking to, their hunting party)?

It’s important to be clear in all communications with hunters requesting access to your land. Talk about gates, about invasive species and about respect for the land. It’s better to have a discussion about these topics beforehand than an argument or legal battle after the fact.

Turn In Poachers

if you suspect illegal hunting or any fishing, wildlife or environmental resource violations, contact the 24 hour, seven day a week TIP service
All calls and submissions are confidential.

Toll-free -1-800-667-7561
Sasktel cell - #5555
Saskatchewan Cattlemen’s Association
306-585-2333

Agriculture Knowledge Centre
1-866-457-2377

Ag-Program Offices
Moose Jaw - 306-694-8999
North Battleford - 306-446-7479
Prince Albert - 306-961-6403
Swift Current - 306-778-8216
Tisdale - 306-878-8841
Watrous - 306-946-3214
Weyburn - 306-848-2847
Yorkton - 306-786-1529

Crop Insurance Customer Service
1-888-935-0000

AgriStability Call Centre
1-866-270-8450

Verified Beef Production Plus
306-859-9110

Farm Stress Line Toll Free
1-800-667-4442

Turn in Poachers
1-800-667-7561
Notes
The SCA values feedback from our members, and we want to make sure you’re getting the information you want and need. If you have a comment or suggestion on what you’d like to see in the pages of the handbook, please contact us at:

1-877-908-2333 (BEEF)

or email:

info@saskbeef.com

The Producer Handbook is also available in PDF form on our website simply visit

www.saskbeef.com

The Voice of the Cattle Industry