



# Growing Forward

## Wildlife Damage Compensation Program

Canada 



Government of  
Saskatchewan

**SCIC**  
SASKATCHEWAN CROP  
INSURANCE CORPORATION



# Overview

- Available to all producers who suffer crop or livestock losses due to wildlife
- SCIC administers the program on behalf of both levels of government
- Both levels of government cost share the first 80 per cent; the province tops up to 100 per cent
- Producers do not have to be an SCIC customer
- Compensation is paid at 100 per cent without any cost of premium to participate



# Crop Damage Compensation

- 100 per cent compensation for damage caused by white-tailed deer, mule deer, antelope, elk, bears, moose, bison, wild boars, ducks, geese, beavers, blackbirds, gophers and sandhill cranes or any wild animal that has not been held in captivity
- Available on claims \$150 and over
- Initial payments are made at 75 per cent of crop prices determined by a September survey



# Crop Damage Compensation

- Compensation for flood damage to seeded crop and tame forage due to beaver structures
- Compensation available for excreta contaminated grain
- A handling allowance is available to producers who submit a receipt
- For Crop Insurance customers, wildlife losses do not affect long-term individual yields



# Crop Damage Compensation

- Eligible crops:
  - All seeded commercial crops, including those not insured with SCIC
  - Stacked hay, silage and bales
  - Market gardens, tree nurseries, sod farms, honey and leaf cutter bees, including their structures
  - Crops used for alternative feeding systems



# Crop Damage Compensation

- Compensation not paid on:
  - Volunteer crops
  - Crops planted too late in the season to produce a normal yield
  - Crops seeded on land considered unsuitable for crop production
  - Crops left out where harvest was generally completed in the area



# Crop Damage Compensation

- Prevention measures available to producers may include:
    - Working with SCIC to protect stacked feed, silage, sod farms, market gardens and bales from big game animals
    - Work with SCIC to protect bee structures
    - Harvest annual crops that are not part of an alternative feeding system in early fall
    - Use scare cannons to control waterfowl damage
- (Not following preventative measures may limit claims)



- Lure crops
- Waterfowl feeding stations
- Intercept feeding for forage
- Fencing
  - Must first contact SCIC so an adjuster can visit farm and make recommendations
  - Producer can receive funding to offset materials
  - Basic fence specifications must be met for each operation
  - Refusing a fence as a recommended prevention method may deny future compensation



# Crop Damage Compensation

- Filing a claim
  - Contact your local SCIC office prior to harvesting a damaged crop
  - Compensation is provided on a spot-loss basis
  - The entire damaged portion must not be harvested prior to inspection and be standing or in swaths
  - As soon as damage is detected in stacked hay, sod farms, tree nurseries, market gardens and bee structures, notify SCIC



# Crop Damage Compensation

- Filing a claim
  - Compensation will be paid on damage to hay stacks if all reasonable prevention measures have been taken
  - Hay must be put into stacks
  - Unstacked hay left in fields will receive compensation only if it is part of an alternative feeding system



# Crop Damage Compensation

- Compensation for Alternative Feeding Systems:
  - SCIC recognizes the producers are choosing to find more economical ways to feed their cattle.
  - Alternative systems help with manure management and the health of livestock.
  - These are well managed feeding systems where the feed source is left in the field for livestock to consume
    - Examples: swath, bale and corn grazing



# Crop Damage Compensation

- SCIC criteria for alternative grazing systems are as follows:
  - Fences are in place to confine the livestock; movement of livestock through feed must be controlled
  - Feed is to be suitable for livestock
  - A plan is needed to ensure the livestock are making full use of the feed (no excessive waste)
  - Livestock are to be rotated through the field
  - Livestock should have access to water/snow, shelters, windbreaks and fences



- **Producer Obligations**
  - Contact SCIC as soon as damage occurs and prior to livestock consuming feed
  - Monitor wildlife numbers
- **Claims**
  - Evidence is required to show feed was intended for livestock consumption



# Predation Compensation

- 100 per cent compensation for death of livestock fowl or specialty animals due to predation
- Carcass must be found or other evidence of an attack in order to be eligible for compensation
- Injured livestock can receive 80 per cent of animal's value to cover veterinary costs
- If predation is expected, but can't be confirmed, 50 per cent compensation is provided



# Predation Compensation

- Eligible predators include: coyotes, bears, cougars, lynx, foxes, wolves, eagles or any other wild animal that causes injury or death
- Minimum values are:
  - \$400 for beef calves
  - \$150 for foals
  - \$60 for lambs
  - \$60 for goat kids



# Predation Compensation

- Compensation for other species will be determined using market sales data
- Registered livestock, fowl and specialty animals are compensated at 1.5 times the commercial value. Proof of registration is required.

# Predation Compensation



- Eligible species:
  - Cattle, sheep, goats, bison, horses, hogs (excluding wild boar), elk, fallow deer, llamas, donkeys
  - Ostriches, emus, ducks, geese, chickens and turkeys
  - Other less common species



# Predation Compensation

- Producer Obligations
  - Contact SCIC as soon as a predator attack is discovered
  - Use recommended prevention programs to protect livestock from predators
  - Retain receipts for veterinary costs and drug expenses
  - Keep a carcass or evidence of an attack
  - Provide evidence of purebred livestock and poultry value



# Predation Compensation

- Preserve all evidence of an attack (two-thirds of a carcass should be present)
- Evidence is required to indicate the animal was alive prior to the attack
- Claims will not be paid if:
  - There is insufficient evidence to support a predator attack
  - Evidence is inconclusive
  - There is no carcass or evidence of a predator



# Prevention

- Prevention
  - Use of properly trained guardian dogs
    - SCIC can provide \$100 to offset the costs of purchasing a livestock guardian dog
  - Fencing that is effective and specific to livestock/fowl operation
  - Fence Patrol



# Prevention

- Record keeping/monitoring of livestock or fowl on a daily basis
- Protected birthing area
- Appropriate dead stock management
- Use of llamas and donkeys as guardian animals
- Paddock or field size suitable to number of guardian animals
- Noise, light and other deterrents
- Night confinement close to residence

## – Predation Specialists

- In consultation with the producer, an adjuster can recommend a predation specialist be sent to the producer's operation (who will take steps to eliminate the predator problem)
- Producers can contact any SCIC office to reach a predation specialist
- Producers are expected to implement predator control measures as recommended by the predation specialist and follow good livestock husbandry practices



Thank you for your time!  
Questions?