



NEWS RELEASE

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KAP Applauds AgriRecovery Assistance for Flooded Farmers

Winnipeg – Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) welcomes the provincial government's announcement of the 2011 Manitoba AgriRecovery Program for farmers affected by the 2011 flood. The AgriRecovery program is cost-shared on a 60/40 basis by the federal and Manitoba governments. KAP looks forward to an announcement from the federal government to approve the AgriRecovery program.

The dire situation caused by heavy rains and flooding is having a major impact on farmers across Manitoba and KAP thanks the province for this initiative to help farmers rebuild their operations.

"This announcement will help farmers restore their operations and move into 2012 and we are pleased the program has been rolled out quickly to offer support as soon as possible," said Doug Chorney, KAP President.

The \$194 million program is almost four times the amount of funding that crop and livestock producers received in 2010 throughout the entire year. This increase is a reflection of the broad impact the flood has had on many areas of the province.

"Another major improvement over last year's flood assistance is that there is no deductible on the per acre payment for unseeded acres," said Chorney. "KAP called for changes to AgriRecovery to ensure that deductibles are not applied on payments, and we're pleased the province has acknowledged this concern."

The payment amount for unseeded farmland remains at \$30 per acre, but with the zero deductible some farmers may get a significant increase in their payments as compared to benefits they received through 2010 assistance.

Another component of the compensation is the offer of \$15 per acre to plant green feed by July 22, 2011. KAP believes this is a step in the right direction to help get more funds flowing to farmers. KAP is also pleased that the assessment period to determine the number of flooded acres on land is extended to September 15, 2011. Applications can be submitted until September 30, 2011.

Farmers can access more information on the 2011 Manitoba AgriRecovery Program at www.gov.mb.ca or at their local GO offices.

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