

The KAP Alert

September 5, 2008

Farm Flooding Is An Emergency

September 5, 2008 News Release

Farmland, pastures, and homes are being flooded throughout much of the northern Inter-lake and other areas, and Keystone Agricultural Producers is calling on governments to declare a disaster so that farmers and residents can access additional assistance.

"Farmers here are losing everything," says KAP President Ian Wishart. "Farmers are struggling to find enough hay and feed for their livestock, and the fields that were supposed to grow the crop of a lifetime are drowning. Urgent assistance is needed, and we have to get this moving by declaring it a disaster area."

Wishart will be touring the flood-stricken Inter-lake area next week and meeting with affected producers. KAP is recommending that federal and provincial governments continue pursuing AgriRecovery, a disaster assistance program under the new Business Risk Management suite, to provide assistance to producers. A

federal election call must not delay this process as it needs to move ahead as quickly as possible for producers.

In the meantime, KAP is encouraging any farmers across the province who have extra feed or hay stores or unharvested cereals to contact MAFRI GO Centres or the Manitoba Cattle Producers Association so that they can be connected with those in need.

"Farmers have a history of coming together to support one another," says Wishart. "Those producers in the flooded areas need our help and KAP is encouraging everyone to do whatever they can to lend a hand."

The provincial government currently has an online program to match those who have hay with those who need it, at <http://web2.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/haysearch/index.php>.

KAP Welcomes New Communications Officer

KAP is pleased to welcome Kristen Lucyshyn as its new Communications Officer. In this role, Lucyshyn will manage media relations, special events planning, internal and external publications, and a range of other duties.

Lucyshyn is a graduate of Red River College's Creative Communications program, and has a Bachelor of Arts in political sciences. She most recently held a position with the Dauphin & District Chamber of Commerce. Her voice will also be familiar to many producers, as she has also been the producer and reporter for a daily farm radio show with 730 CKDM in Dauphin.

KAP continues to put a high priority on communicating clearly and effectively with its members,

the media, and other stakeholders. Lucyshyn's range of experience and expertise will provide direction in meeting these goals, and she is a welcome addition to the KAP team.

KAP Activities & Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 4:

VP Robert McLean attended a provincial consultation on proposed changes to the Animal Care Act. President Ian Wishart attended a special event at the Food Development Centre in Portage la Prairie, where Minister Wowchuk announced a new program for food processors.

Friday, September 5:

KAP's management team met in Winnipeg. Communications Officer Kristen Lucyshyn participated in a CFA conference call on the recently-announced changes to the Green Shift. VP McLean participated in a CFA Food Safety Committee conference call.

CFA President Steps Down

Bob Friesen officially resigned from his position as President of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) this week to pursue a career in federal politics, and announced his intent to run as a Liberal candidate in the next federal election.

A former turkey and hog farmer from Manitoba, Friesen was first elected as CFA President in 1999, having served as Second Vice-President and on the Board of Directors for years prior.

The leadership duties of the CFA will be shared in the interim by Vice Presidents Pellerin and Bonnett until elections for all three executive officer positions are held at the CFA Annual General Meeting in February 2009.

Farmer Appreciation Day

The Manitoba Farm & Rural Stress Line is hosting their first annual Farmer Appreciation Day on October 20 to celebrate agricultural producers and their contributions to putting food on the tables of Manitobans.

The BBQ will take place October 20, 2008 at 9 am, in conjunction with the Fall Sale at Fraser Auction Service, Hwy 1 & 10 North of Brandon. With the help of volunteers, free locally produced food and beverages will be served.

For more information, contact the MFRSL at 1-866-367-3276.

Livestock & The Environment Open House

The National Centre for Livestock and the Environment is holding an Open House from 1:00 to 5:30 pm on Thursday September 25 at the University of Manitoba Glenlea Research Station to celebrate the progression from the infrastructure building phase to the active research phase of the National Centre.

The Open House will feature examples of collaborative multi-disciplinary research projects supported by our state-of-the-art research facilities and dynamic research team. There will be guided farm and field tours at 1:30 pm and 4:00 pm.

Contact Christine Rawluk for more information at (204) 474-8127.

Member Benefits Corner

This is the second week that free market updates are being provided by ProFarmer Canada exclusively to KAP members via email. If you'd like to continue to receive a 4-week free trial, simply send an e-mail with your phone number to kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca or call Mike directly at (204) 654-4290.

KAP members receive the weekly product at the group rate of only \$120/year and 10% off his more specialized daily product, where members receive information 2 or more times per day.

Mike Jubinville follows the markets extensively, he talks and exchanges e-mails with industry people on a daily basis, as well as farmers across Western Canada and industry professionals around the world to make sure current and relevant marketing information is made available to you. He's there to help you be more profitable!

All About Member Benefits

KAP is pleased to offer a comprehensive member benefits program with special pricing on a wide range of products. For more information, visit our member benefits web page, or call us toll-free at 1-866-527-0123.