



The Disaster Financial Assistance Program and Livestock Losses

On May 9, 2022 the Manitoba government announced Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) in relation to damages to infrastructure, private residences, farms or small businesses due to spring flooding. DFA will also assist with verified livestock losses. The following information has been provided by the provincial government and Manitoba Beef Producers to assist producers as they consider making a claim under the DFA program.

- DFA will provide assistance to farms that have experienced livestock losses as a result of spring flooding in 2022. To qualify for DFA, your farm must have yearly gross revenues of between \$10,000 and \$2 million and employ no more than 20 full time workers. It must be an owner-operated business and the owner-operator must be the day-to-day manager. The farm cannot be a hobby farm.
- In the DFA application form, producers should note the number and types of cattle lost, e.g. calves, fed steers, fed heifers, bulls, etc.
- Under the DFA program criteria, a veterinary certificate is required to verify that the losses were a direct result of the event. *This is non-negotiable.*
 - Note: The cost to obtain the veterinary certificate can be submitted as a DFA eligible cost
 - For losses that happened some time ago, the producer should contact their veterinarian, explain the situation, and obtain the needed certificate.
- Manitoba Beef Producers has helped develop a template that vets can use to support the producer's DFA application and this information is being circulated to them. In the veterinary certificate the cause of loss needs to be attributed to the '2022 spring flood' and the date of loss should be stated.
- Assistance for livestock losses will be calculated as follows:
 - Is based on the Wildlife Damage Compensation program for predation losses (MASC). See: https://www.masc.mb.ca/masc.nsf/fact_sheet_679_wildlife_damage_livestock.html
 - Will provide a price per pound for livestock losses. The price is based on the Canfax value on the date of loss (www.canfax.ca)
 - Different types of cattle are priced differently on Canfax, so therefore the farm will need to provide details on the type of livestock that were lost as well as the animal's weight.
 - For calf losses, the compensation will provide assistance based on a 500 lb. cow.
- Producers should also examine the DFA eligibility criteria related to infrastructure damage to determine if there are any other losses for which they may be eligible to seek compensation.
- You have 90 days from the announcement of a DFA program to submit an application form to Manitoba EMO. The application deadline for the spring 2022 DFA program is August 8, 2022.
- For complete program details and to download the DFA application form, go to: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/emo/dfa/farm.html>
- Frequently asked questions about DFA: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/emo/dfa/faq.html>
- To view a video on how to apply for DFA: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0S_STwXIP0
- For other inquiries contact Manitoba's Emergency Measures organization as follows:
 - Toll Free: 1-888-267-8298
 - Fax: (204) 945-4929
 - Email for Disaster Financial Assistance: dfa@gov.mb.ca