



Canadian Cattlemen's Association

News Release

Cattlemen Urge Governments to Consider Feed Supplies

June 28, 2010

Calgary, AB – Cattle producers could be facing a tough autumn if millions of acres of farmland remain unseeded due to recent wet conditions and flooding. The Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) is urging the federal and provincial governments to ensure crop insurance rules or any other government responses to the current conditions are not dissuading farmers from seeding late feed crops.

Reduced feed supplies in the fall could result in lower prices for calves. The CCA is asking provincial and federal governments to make the necessary adjustments to remove disincentives for producers to plant a late crop. Certain rules in crop insurance pertaining to the calculation of coverage levels need to be adjusted to ensure they do not act as a disincentive for farmers to seed a crop.

Getting a crop in that will be taken off as greenfeed will provide several benefits, including nutrient usage, moisture usage, feed for livestock, income for the producer and weed control.

Farmers may be waiting to see what crop insurance will deliver, or what potential rule changes or *ad-hoc* payments may be on the way. AgriRecovery has also been mentioned as something that will likely be triggered in response to the flooding across the Prairies.

"The key for now is getting crop into the ground without penalizing grain producers. A clear message from all governments should help to get seeders moving, and feed growing. This will be beneficial for crop producers and one of their most important customers, cattle producers," said CCA President Travis Toews.

For further information, contact:

Tracy Herbert

Communications Coordinator

Canadian Cattlemen's Association

403-275-8558 x 410 | herbert@cattle.ca

www.cattle.ca

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