



NEWS RELEASE

Relief for Beef Producers Not Included In Initial AgriRecovery Package

July 12, 2010 (WINNIPEG, MB) – The Manitoba Cattle Producers Association is encouraged by the announcement made by the provincial and federal governments last week to provide \$450 million in AgriRecovery programming in order to deliver much needed assistance to those farmers facing extreme moisture and flooding conditions in the prairie provinces. The MCPA however expresses disappointment the relief package does not adequately address the needs of beef producers also adversely affected by flooding.

“While we acknowledge and appreciate the timely response from governments in the announcement of this much needed programming, we remain deeply concerned for our cattle producers in the province of Manitoba”, says Major Jay Fox, President of the MCPA. “This program offers some relief for those grain producers with damaged cropland, but many of our producers are also going through a terrible time and suffering through extreme weather and flooding conditions on their pasture and hay land.”

“We applaud the announcement of this relief package,” echoed MCPA District 13 Director, Kim Crandall, “but we look forward to the same kind of help for our cattle guys.”

MCPA will be closely monitoring the situation over the next few weeks and have committed to regular communication with Manitoba’s Minister of Agriculture, during this period. “We need to be prepared to act at the right time to also meet the needs of our producers”, said Fox. “We are working very hard to ensure our cattle producers are not left out and are actively developing a recourse for our beef producers that is simple, timely and fair.”

MCPA continues to tirelessly work on behalf of their producers. “We persist in conveying to government the problematic areas within current programming that do not adequately support or provide sustainability for the beef industry in our province,” states Sheila Mowat, General Manager of MCPA. “And we insist on advocating and moving forward additional BRM programs that have been developed and are much needed for the cattle producers of Manitoba, such as the Hay and Pasture Insurance and Cattle Insurance programs.”

The Manitoba Cattle Producers Association is the exclusive voice of the cattle industry in Manitoba through communication, advocacy, research and education within industry and to government, consumers and others, to improve prosperity and ensure a sustainable future. The Association represents 10,000 cattle producers across the province.

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For Further Information Contact:

Major Jay Fox
President, MCPA
Phone: 204.447.0120

Sheila Mowat
General Manager, MCPA
Phone: 204.772.4542