Farmers committed to environmental stewardship



ALBERTA ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLAN



The Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) is a free, confidential, and voluntary selfassessment tool that allows agricultural producers to evaluate their current farm practices. On completion, each producer has an action plan to address areas of environmental risk.

The Alberta Environmental Farm Plan (AEFP) program began in 2003 and has been delivered by the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA) since 2013.

- Since 2009, just shy of 2,000,000 acres of Alberta agricultural land has been covered by an EFP
- Approximately 13,000 Alberta producers have contacted AEFP about the program (24% of registered Alberta farms¹)
- Over 8,000 producers have completed their EFPs and received letters of completion

Alberta Producers Contacted EFP²



- Contacted and Completed an EFP
- Contacted EFP

Yet to Contact

- The Potato Growers of Alberta was the first agricultural industry group to require its members to complete an EFP
- Lakeland College was the first Alberta post-secondary institution to complete an EFP

Benefits

- Access to funds, e.g. Growing Forward 2 program
- Increased operational efficiency
- Reduced farm costs (inputs) resulting in increased profit
- Expanding markets: many major purchasers require producers to have an EFP
- Reduction of risk, leading to better production and leaving a healthy farm for the next generation

Resources

- Workbook that walks producers through a self-assessment of their farming practices
- Over 50 trained EFP technicians available—each producer is paired with an EFP technician to assist with the development and implementation of their plan
- Links to online technical information and videos that demonstrate ways to reduce potential environmental risks on farms

For more information visit: www.albertaefp.com

Alberta Environmental Farm Plan <u>info@albertaefp.com</u> ARECA 780-612-9712

¹ Statistics Canada 2011 Farm Environmental Management Survey

² Statistics Canada 2006 Number of Farms

