



# Wildlife**D**amage

## Crop Compensation and Prevention

# The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program

The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program is available for all Saskatchewan producers who suffer crop or livestock losses due to wildlife. The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) administers this program, but affected producers do not have to be a Crop Insurance customer to receive compensation through the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program. Producers can receive up to 100 per cent compensation without any cost or premium to participate. The first 80 per cent of program funding is cost-shared by federal and provincial governments; the provincial government contributes the remaining amount. The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program is comprised of: crop damage compensation, predation compensation and prevention.

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# Crop Damage Compensation

## *THE WILDLIFE DAMAGE COMPENSATION PROGRAM PROVIDES:*

- 100 per cent compensation on damage caused by white-tailed deer, mule deer, antelope, elk, bears, moose, bison, wild boars, ducks, geese, blackbirds, sandhill cranes, gophers, beavers or other non-domestic species.
- Compensation for flood damage to seeded crop and tame forage due to beaver structures.
- Compensation on claims \$150 and over.
- Final compensation values are based on a six-month average price survey conducted from September to February. Initial payments are made at 75 per cent of crop prices determined by a survey conducted in September.

The crop grade at the time of harvest is used to determine compensation rates.

Compensation for the cleaning of excreta contaminated grain is set yearly based on a summary of licensed primary elevator cleaning charges. SCIC staff must identify excreta contamination while crops are still in the field. A handling allowance is available to producers who submit a receipt for cleaning their excreta-contaminated grain. This allowance is paid at 100 per cent and rates may vary yearly. For Crop Insurance customers, excreta compensation is not deducted from subsequent yield-loss claims.

For Crop Insurance customers, wildlife losses do not affect long-term individual yields. A customer's yield before wildlife damage will be used to calculate their long-term yield.

Compensation is not paid on:

- Volunteer crops
- Crops planted too late in the season to produce a normal yield
- Crops seeded on land considered unsuitable for crop production
- Crops left out where harvest was generally completed in the area
- Acres of damaged crop harvested prior to inspection

### *ELIGIBLE CROPS*

Crops eligible for compensation include:

- All seeded commercial crops, including crops not currently insured by SCIC
- Stacked hay, silage and bales
- Market gardens, tree nurseries, sod farms, honey and leaf cutter bees, including their structures
- Crops used for alternative feeding systems

### *PRODUCER OBLIGATIONS*

To control and limit wildlife damage, producers must implement reasonable prevention measures.

These include:

- Use of scare cannons to prevent waterfowl damage
- Working with their rural municipality to eliminate the beaver problem
- Working with SCIC to protect stacked feed, silage, sod farms, market gardens and bales from big game animals
- Working with the Saskatchewan Beekeepers Association and SCIC to protect bee structures

If recommended preventative measures are not followed, SCIC may limit or deny claims.

The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program will not continually pay compensation for the same loss. If the producer cannot demonstrate they implemented prevention and/or control methods, they may not be eligible for compensation in future years.

## **CLAIMS**

**Contact your local customer service office prior to harvesting or feeding and grazing any damaged crop so that it can be assessed.** Compensation is provided on a spot-loss basis; compensation will be based on the yield loss of the crop in the damaged area. If you must harvest, feed or graze before an adjuster can inspect the crop, the entire damaged area plus a representative portion of the undamaged crop must be left for inspection. Annual crops should be standing or left in swaths. Anytime harvest is not generally completed in an area, the grain crop losses are covered until June 10 of the following year. If you have not made every effort to complete harvest of annual crops in a timely fashion, compensation may not be paid. **Grain crop claims will not be paid after November 15 if harvest was generally completed in the area. This does not apply to alternative feeding systems.**

If you are unable to harvest, feed or graze and further damage occurs after inspection, call your customer service office for a reassessment.

### ***Hay, Stacked Forage, Sod Farms, Nurseries, Market Gardens, Bee Structures***

Compensation is not retroactive; it is paid from the date the damage is reported.

Notify SCIC as soon as damage is detected in stacked hay, sod farms, tree nurseries, market gardens and bee structures. You will be compensated for damage to hay stacks if all reasonable prevention measures have been taken.

In order to receive compensation, hay must be put into stacks.

Producers will not be compensated for unstacked hay left in fields unless it is part of an alternative feeding system.

## *HONEY BEE COMPENSATION*

The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program will pay for losses to honey bees due to bears. Since 2010, SCIC began administrating compensation for materials to construct and power electric bee-yard fences.

SCIC will cover 80 per cent of the material cost for constructing bee-yard fences, to a maximum of \$3,000 annually. This is a one time payment. Subsequent claims on the same bee yard will not be paid if no fence has been constructed.

Compensation is applied for through the Saskatchewan Beekeepers Association (SBA). The form (available online at [saskbeekeepers.com](http://saskbeekeepers.com)) and original receipts must be submitted to the SBA Bear Fence Program Coordinator. Once compiled, the forms are sent to SCIC for processing.

## Prevention Management

### *FENCING*

Temporary fencing is available from SCIC to protect feed sources. Producers can also receive compensation for steps taken to prevent wildlife damage to feed supplies. Fencing for grain bag storage is not eligible. Funding can be acquired for:

- Fencing around feed yards
- Electric fencing to protect bee structures
- Fencing to protect nurseries and market gardens

## *OTHER PREVENTION MEASURES*

SCIC may recommend other measures to protect feed supplies. Those could include:

- Lure crops
- Establishing waterfowl feeding stations
- Intercept feeding for forage
- Scare cannons

## *FENCING COMPENSATION*

- To qualify, a producer must first contact a customer service office and explain the wildlife problem.
- An adjuster will visit the farm and make recommendations.
- If the adjuster recommends establishing a fence around a feed supply, the producer can receive funding to offset the material costs. This funding eligibility is based on the current claim and the potential for future damage. Labour costs are not eligible.
- SCIC will compensate 80 per cent of the electric fencing costs to protect bee structures from bears.
- The producer will have to meet the basic fence specifications. There are size/criteria required for each type of operation. Criteria are available from any SCIC office.
- The customer is responsible for the purchase of fencing supplies.
- Fence packages for nurseries and market gardens are unique and producers requiring fencing should contact a customer service office for more details.
- Verification that the producer has met the fencing requirements will have to occur before payment is issued.

- If a customer refuses a fence as a recommended prevention method, they may be denied future damage compensation.

## Alternative Feeding Systems

In these systems, the feed source is left in the field where managed livestock consume it as a fall/winter feed source. Provincial and federal governments recommend this practice because it offers environmental and financial benefits for producers. Swath, bale and corn grazing used as part of a well managed feeding system are eligible for compensation. Well-managed feeding systems are defined as follows:

- There must be fences in place to confine the livestock; the movement of livestock on the feed must be controlled.
- The feed must be suitable for livestock. It must be either baled hay, standing corn or a crop grown with the intention of swath grazing.
- There must be a plan in place to ensure livestock are making full use of feed and there is no excessive waste. The livestock also need to be rotated throughout the field, ensuring the nutrients are returned evenly to the land.
- The livestock must have access to water/snow and shelter/windbreaks.

### *PRODUCER OBLIGATIONS*

To control and limit wildlife damage, producers must implement reasonable prevention measures.

These include:

- Contacting SCIC as soon as damage occurs as well as prior to livestock consuming the feed so a yield assessment can be completed.
- Monitoring wildlife numbers as claims are based on a combination of wildlife consumption data and crop yield assessments.



## CLAIMS

In the case of alternative feeding systems, evidence is required to show the feed was intended for consumption by livestock. Contact SCIC as soon as you notice damage so an actual yield appraisal may be obtained. SCIC will determine the actual yield in an undamaged area of the field. Subsequent visits may be required.

## REMINDERS

- Call your customer service office as soon as you notice the damage.
- Offices check messages during harvest, so call before harvesting any of your damaged crop; checkstrips are inadequate.
- If harvest is generally complete in an area where an extension of insurance was not granted and overwinter damage occurs, claims may not qualify.

## Feral Wild Boar Control Program

Saskatchewan producers and landowners can access support for controlling feral wild boar. On behalf of the provincial and federal governments, through Growing Forward 2, Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) has assumed administration of the Feral Wild Boar Control Program.

How does it work?

- When a wild boar sighting occurs, contact SCIC as soon as possible.
- SCIC will review the information and determine next steps.
- Established teams around the province, made up of experienced hunters and trappers, have a response protocol to act on the complaint.
- When the control measures are determined, a hunt may be conducted.

# Customer Service Offices

## Assiniboia

Box 340  
401 1st Ave. W.  
Assiniboia, SK  
S0H 0B0  
1.888.935.0017

## Davidson

Box 339  
103 Lincoln St.  
Davidson, SK  
S0G 1A0  
1.888.935.0020

## Estevan

Box 1716  
#5-419 Kensington Ave.  
Estevan, SK  
S4A 1C8  
1.888.935.0002

## Humboldt

Box 660  
1710 8th Ave.  
Humboldt, SK  
S0K 2A0  
1.888.935.0026

## Kindersley

Box 1540  
409 Main St.  
Kindersley, SK  
S0L 1S0  
1.888.935.0021

## Leader

Box 387  
#5-111 1st Ave. W.  
Leader, SK  
S0N 1H0  
1.888.935.0011

## Moose Jaw

45 Thatcher Dr. E.  
Moose Jaw, SK  
S6J 1L8  
1.888.935.0012

## Moosomin

Box 889  
709 Carleton St.  
Moosomin, SK  
S0G 3N0  
1.888.935.0005

## North Battleford

Kramer Place  
#C101-1192 102nd St.  
North Battleford, SK  
S9A 1E9  
1.888.935.0028

## Preeceville

Box 800  
239 Hwy. Ave. E.  
Preeceville, SK  
S0A 3B0  
1.888.935.0015

## Prince Albert

Box 3003  
800 Central Ave.  
Prince Albert, SK  
S6V 6G1  
1.888.935.0018

## Raymore

Box 178  
113 Main St.  
Raymore, SK  
S0A 3J0  
1.888.935.0016

## Regina

515 Henderson Dr.  
Regina, SK  
S4N 5X1  
1.888.935.0001

## Rosetown

Box 1000  
124 2nd Ave W.  
Rosetown, SK  
S0L 2V0  
1.888.935.0019

## Saskatoon

3830 Thatcher Ave.  
Saskatoon, SK  
S7R 1A5  
1.888.935.0024

## Shaunavon

Box 1210  
55 3rd Ave. E.  
Shaunavon, SK  
S0N 2M0  
1.888.935.0010

## Swift Current

E.I. Wood Building  
Box 5000  
350 Cheadle St. W.  
Swift Current, SK  
S9H 4G3  
1.888.935.0007

## Tisdale

Box 310  
1105 99th St.  
Tisdale, SK  
S0E 1T0  
1.888.935.0014

## Turtleford

Box 400  
217A Main St.  
Turtleford, SK  
S0M 2Y0  
1.888.935.0030

## Weyburn

Box 2003  
#119-110 Souris Ave. N.E.  
Weyburn, SK  
S4H 2Z8  
1.888.935.0003

## Yorkton

38 5th Ave. N.  
Yorkton, SK  
S3N 0Y8  
1.888.935.0013

To register your claim, use our  
toll-free number: **1.888.935.0000**

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