



Starland County, P.O. Box 249
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July 26, 2023

Re: Agricultural Disaster Declaration

During the July 26, 2023, Starland County Council Meeting, the Council passed a motion to declare a State of Agricultural Disaster.

This decision was based on the impacts that extreme heat and prolonged drought conditions have had on crops, forages, and pasture throughout Starland County. The County Council is aware of the hardships facing Starland County residents, and this decision is meant to raise awareness of the problems facing the agricultural industry both in our County and throughout the province of Alberta.

Low growing season moisture and intense heat during critical growing periods have further depleted initially low soil moisture reserves. This has led to severe impacts across all sectors of agricultural production. Livestock production has been and will continue to be significantly impacted by shortages of surface water, significant decreases in pasture growth, and reductions in forage production. When coupled with the reduction in annual crop production in our County and throughout western Canada, the high cost of livestock feed could lead to substantial reductions in livestock breeding herds.

This Council recognizes the recent actions that have been taken by government. AFSC has increased the Low Yield Allowance threshold for salvage crops, and this step will allow more producers to harvest what little crop is available as livestock feed. Starland County welcomes any opportunity to further assist supporting our producers through this difficult period.

For more information contact the Starland County Agricultural Services department at 403-772-3793 or email asb@starlandcounty.com.

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Agricultural Fieldman

Starland County