



## 2009-2013 Growing Forward Stewardship Plans Program Integrated Crop Management Funding List

**Grant funding cost share of 50% of eligible expenses to complete the project  
(\$20,000.00 funding maximum)**

The Growing Forward Stewardship Plans Program Terms and Conditions govern the administration of the Stewardship Plans Program and should be reviewed prior to applying to the Stewardship Plans Program. Applicants must complete and submit a work plan and project application to Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development to be considered for funding. A grant agreement that outlines the terms and conditions of the grant must be entered into to be eligible to receive funding under the Stewardship Plans Program.

Activity Code	Project	Eligible Costs	Ineligible Costs
201	<p><b>Variable Rate Technology (VRT) for improved fertilizer &amp;/or pesticide application</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: Variable rate technology increases fertilizer nutrient efficiency and minimizes the loss of excess fertilizer nutrients from entering the environment and affecting water quality or contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. Variable rate technology reduces the amount of agrochemicals used in crop production and released into the environment.</p>	<p>Variable rate controllers Harvest yield mapping software GIS/VRT mapping and prescription software systems Variable rate sprayer nozzles</p> <p>Consultant fees for Variable Rate Technology one year ¼ section trial:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Collection of field information</li> <li>♦ Map development</li> <li>♦ Ground truthing</li> <li>♦ Analysis of field data</li> <li>♦ Prescription</li> <li>♦ VRT capable custom application services (if required for ¼ section trial of VRT)</li> </ul> <p>* 50% cost share will apply to the eligible components itemized on a dealer invoice.</p>	<p>Leased or rented equipment/hardware Complete sprayers, seeders or fertilizer applicators Global Positioning System (GPS) GPS subscription services Autosteer technology Extended warranties on purchased items Maintenance or replacement of equipment Computer hardware Laboratory analyses (soils, tissues, etc. not associated with a ¼ section trial project) Custom application services (not associated with a ¼ section trial project)</p>
202	<p><b>Improved Pest Management</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: Sprayer equipment modifications reduce the risk of movement of agrochemicals to non-target areas, providing greater protection of biodiversity, buffer zones and water quality. Improved crop and pest monitoring increases the efficacy of application and reduces the amount of agrochemicals released into the environment.</p>	<p>Sprayer shrouds and cones, spray curtains Low-drift nozzles, air induction tips Chemical injection on sprayer Chemical handling system with chemical jug rinse Sectional control operating system for sprayer Field history and production record keeping software</p> <p>* 50% cost share will apply to the eligible components itemized on a dealer invoice.</p>	<p>Custom application services and other consultant services Equipment for mechanical weed control and complete spray units Nozzle bodies, caps, screens and filters GPS units AutoSteer technology Tanks for non agricultural use Extended warranties on purchased items Maintenance or replacement of existing equipment Weather monitoring equipment Operator safety equipment Pumps and product transfer equipment Computer and other electronic hardware</p>



Activity Code	Project	Eligible Costs	Ineligible Costs
203	<p><b>Improved Seeding System</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: Modifications to existing seeding equipment resulting in a change in seeding system to improve soil conservation and soil moisture retention.</p>	<p>Coulters, openers, banders</p> <p>Sectional control operating systems</p>	<p>Maintenance or replacement of existing equipment</p>
204	<p><b>Safe Product Storage</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: Improved storage and handling of agricultural products increases farm safety and decreases the risk of product spills causing negative impact to water quality and the environment.</p>	<p><b>Petroleum storage –</b> <b>Petroleum storage projects should be aligned with the Alberta Fire Code</b></p> <p>Pesticide storage – develop a properly secured storage area with spill containment</p> <p>Contractor costs for earthwork</p> <p>Construction materials</p> <p>Applicant's equipment use at custom rates</p> <p>In-kind labour (at set program rates)</p>	<p>Dry fertilizer storage</p> <p>Household waste septic systems</p> <p>Slip Tanks</p>
205	<p><b>Shelterbelt Establishment</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: Establishment of permanent shelterbelts prevents soil erosion by protecting fields from wind.</p>	<p>First-year establishment costs, such as site preparation, planting, weed control and temporary fencing</p> <p>Tree and shrub purchases<sup>1</sup></p> <p>Plastic mulch</p> <p>Watering system components including (but not limited to): trickle or drip systems, delivery hose/pipe and emitters</p> <p>Applicant's equipment use at custom rates</p> <p>In-kind labour (at set program rates) for site preparation, planting and fencing</p>	<p>Maintenance and renovation costs incurred after first year of establishment</p> <p>Fencing of existing shelterbelts</p>
206	<p><b>Riparian Area Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Riparian restoration</li> <li>♦ Herbaceous buffer strips</li> <li>♦ Grassed waterways</li> </ul> <p>PURPOSE: Riparian function and conditions are enhanced through improved management of the riparian area.</p> <p>Buffer strips and grassed waterways protect surface water quality by filtering field runoff and preventing soil erosion.</p>	<p>Buffer strip establishment costs (minimum width of 10 metres)</p> <p>Purchase and planting of native trees and shrubs<sup>1, 2</sup> and/or native or non-invasive introduced species of grass and legumes<sup>3</sup></p> <p>Cultural weed control systems and mulch</p> <p>Seed and seeding operation for revegetation</p> <p>Applicant's equipment use at custom rates</p> <p>In-kind labour (at set program rates)</p>	<p>Pasture or forage establishment or renovation outside of riparian areas</p>

<sup>1</sup> Trees and shrubs are available free of charge for agroforestry, conservation or reclamation purposes for agricultural holdings of 2 hectares (5 acres) or more from the AAFC-AESB Prairie Shelterbelt Program. For more information contact the AAFC Shelterbelt Centre toll free at 1-866-766-2284 or direct 1-403-695-2284.

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix 1 for a list of eligible tree and shrub species for establishment in riparian areas.

<sup>3</sup> Rebates on forage seed for conservation purposes are available through Duck's Unlimited Canada - Forage Incentive Program. For more information, please call 1-866-301-3825 ext. 1872



Activity Code	Project	Eligible Costs	Ineligible Costs
207	<p><b>Riparian Health Assessment</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: Assessing riparian condition to gather baseline data on the state of riparian health to improve management and sustainability of riparian sites.</p>	<p>Health Assessment or Inventory of riparian areas surrounding lakes, wetlands, rivers or streams by a qualified professional</p> <p>Expenses relating to data collection, analysis and reporting</p>	
<p><i>For Riparian Health Assessment information and questions pertaining to riparian health and management please go to: <a href="http://www.cowsandfish.org">www.cowsandfish.org</a> or call 403-381-5538.</i></p>			
208	<p><b>Native upland range establishment or restoration</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: Native upland ranges are preserved and maintained in good health and the number of hectares of native range is expanded in the province.</p>	<p>Purchase and planting of native species of forages, shrubs and trees<sup>4</sup></p>	
209	<p><b>Wetland Restoration</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: Restoration of natural wetlands increases the quantity and quality of on-farm water resources and provides wildlife habitat</p>	<p>Cost-share funding will cover 50% of the restoration costs of up to five wetlands per operation (to a maximum of \$500.00 per wetland).</p>	
<p><i>For more information or assistance with a project of this nature, contact Duck's Unlimited Canada at 1-866-479-DUCK(3825) or visit <a href="http://www.ducks.ca">www.ducks.ca</a></i></p>			
210	<p><b>Innovative Integrated Crop Management</b></p> <p>Consideration will be given to projects that provide innovative solutions in integrated crop management. These projects must meet the objectives of Growing Forward Stewardship Plans Program and significantly improve the environmental performance of an operation.</p> <p>Projects of this nature will be assessed on an individual basis by a technical review panel and must have technical merit.</p> <p>Established Growing Forward Stewardship Plans Program cost share guidelines, funding caps and ineligible items will remain in effect for these projects.</p> <p>Typical Growing Forward Stewardship Plans Program approval timelines will not apply for considered projects of this nature.</p>		
<p><b>Note:</b> Applicant's equipment use will be calculated using the <i>ARD Farm Operation Cost Guide</i> (current year) or the <i>Alberta Road Builders and Heavy Construction Equipment Rates</i> guide.</p> <p>Applicant's in-kind labour will be calculated at a rate of \$25.00 per hour.</p>			

<sup>4</sup> Rebates on forage seed for conservation purposes are available through Duck's Unlimited Canada - Forage Incentive Program. For more information, please call 1-866-301-3825 ext. 1872

<sup>5</sup> Producers interested in improving irrigation water efficiency may be eligible for funding through the Alberta Irrigation Efficiency Program. For more information contact Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development at 1-780-427-2181.



## APPENDIX 1: TREE SPECIES FOR RIPARIAN AREAS

Source: AAFC-AESB Shelterbelt Centre

### Acceptable species

- Trembling Aspen
- Buffalo Berry
- Chokecherry
- Plains Cottonwood
- Red-Osier Dogwood
- Red Elder (central Alberta and Cypress Hills)
- Arnold Hawthorn (different species but similar adaptation and function)
- Manitoba Maple (natural riparian species and quite widespread, but introduced in Alberta)
- Bur Oak (common floodplain species on the Great Plains, but not native to Alberta)
- Poplar (Assiniboine)
- CanAm
- Manitou
- Walker
- Pincherry (found naturally except in the dry mixed grasslands between Lethbridge and Provost)
- Rose Hedge (common "wild rose")
- Western Snowberry
- Colorado Spruce (Rocky Mountains region, associated with aspen and cottonwood)
- White Spruce (Aspen Parkland region associated with Aspen, balsam poplar, dogwood, buckbush)
- Willow:
  - o Acute (riparian-suited, but non-native)
  - o Peachleaf (native species)
  - o Silverleaf (riparian-suited, but non-native)
  - o Wolf (native species)

### Unacceptable species

- Green Ash (not uncommon in Saskatchewan in association with cottonwoods, elms, Manitoba maples, chokecherry, Saskatoon)
- Caragana
- Siberian Crabapple
- Siberian Larch (non-native; larch not a component of prairie riparian communities; tamarack may be, in northern locales)
- Villosa Lilac
- Scots Pine (not a native species; generally occurring on drained uplands)
- Sea Buckthorn (not native; aggressive spreader in sandy sites)
- Russian Olive (especially invasive in the South Saskatchewan River Basin)