



British Columbia BSE Surveillance Top-Up 2009 Program



Program Description and Instructions

The objectives of BSE surveillance are:

1. To continue to evaluate the prevalence of BSE and confirm the extremely low level of the disease in Canada.
2. To monitor the effectiveness of various BSE disease control measures currently in place over time.
3. To maintain confidence amongst domestic and international consumers in the safety of our beef products through the quality of results of our surveillance program.

The purpose of the top-up program is to assist British Columbia and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) attain the required level of BSE surveillance, nationally and for British Columbia, specifically.

This program is a top-up to money received from the CFIA to reimburse a portion of disposal costs for carcasses, when samples are submitted to the National BSE Surveillance Program.

The program will provide a payment of \$100 per eligible animal. Eligible animals are dairy or beef animals accepted for payment under the CFIA National BSE Surveillance Program.

The program will pay on a maximum of 525 dairy animals and 1,575 beef animals during the 2008 calendar year. If the program administration receives more applications than the maximum number of animals in each category, payments will be made based on the date the application is received.

The BC Agriculture Council administers the program with guidance provided by a committee of dairy and beef producers and government representatives.

Instructions:

Complete the form below and mail or fax to the BC ARDCorp at the following address:

BC Agricultural Research & Development Corporation
#230 - 32160 South Fraser Way,
Abbotsford, BC V2T 1W5
Tel. 604.854.4483 or toll free at 1.866.522.3447.
Fax 604.854.4485

To qualify for a payment producers must provide a copy of the CFIA cheque stub or CFIA application indicating participation in the National BSE Surveillance Program.

Eligibility:

An eligible producer is one who:

- Was in lawful possession of the animal(s) presented for sampling
- Under the Income Tax Act (Canada) or the British Columbia Company Act would be liable to pay BC income tax or corporate tax or claim losses from income from production of cattle in British Columbia.

Eligible animals:

- Animals that have qualified for the CFIA BSE Surveillance Program



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Program Payments:

Producers are eligible for a payment of \$100 per animal accepted by CFIA for the National BSE Surveillance Program.

Questions and Answers:

1. What is the purpose of the top-up program?

The purpose of the top-up program is to assist British Columbia and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) obtain the required level of BSE surveillance, nationally and for British Columbia, specifically.

2. Why is British Columbia supporting the enhanced BSE surveillance of dairy and beef cattle?

British Columbia is supporting the program to encourage both beef and dairy producers to provide samples for BSE testing. The program will support the requirement for samples from dairy and beef and meet the regional distribution requirements of CFIA.

3. How do I apply for the program?

Beef and dairy producers can apply to the program by completing the short application form and providing the program administration a copy of the cheque stub or CFIA application provided by CFIA indicating participation in the National BSE Surveillance Program.

Application forms are available at: BC ARDCorp, #230- 32160 South Fraser Way Abbotsford, BC V2T 1W5 Telephone 604.854.4483 or toll free at 1.866.522.3447 and the form can also be downloaded from our website at www.ardcorp.ca

4. Who is eligible to apply for the program?

The program is available to British Columbia taxpayers or equivalent corporate entities who were in lawful possession of the animal at the time of sampling. The cheque stub or CFIA application from CFIA for participating in the National BSE Surveillance program will confirm eligibility.

5. What animals qualify for the program?

Eligible animals are dairy and beef animals over the age of 30 months and were accepted for payment under the National BSE Surveillance Program.

6. What documentation is required to receive a payment under the program?

Producers must complete a short application form and provide a copy of the CFIA cheque stub or CFIA application indicating participation in the National BSE Surveillance program.



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7. How is the program funded, managed, and administered?

The British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Lands funds the multi year program. It is administered by the British Columbia Agriculture Council under the direction of a committee of beef and dairy producers and government representatives.

8. How many samples will be accepted in 2008 and why are there maximums for the numbers of dairy and beef cattle which qualify for the program?

The program will fund 2100 animals in the 2008 calendar year. The management committee has determined the program will pay for 525 dairy animals and 1575 beef animals. The respective dairy and beef numbers represents the percentage of the total cattle herd in British Columbia and meets the regional distribution requirements established by CFIA.

9. What is the deadline for applying to the program?

The deadline for application is January 31, 2010 The program will accept any samples taken in the calendar year 2009. Payments will be on a first come first served basis based on the date the application is received by the administration.

10. Where can I find more information on the National BSE Surveillance program?

More information is available at:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/disemala/bseesb/surv/surve.shtml>