



**Sustainable Canadian
Agricultural Partnership**

The 2025-26 Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador AgriRecovery Forage Assistance Initiative Program Guide

Application Deadline: March 2, 2026 – 4:30 pm NST

Applications and supporting documentation must be submitted by email to the Program Manager in Corner Brook at: AFAI@gov.nl.ca

Only completed applications will be considered for funding approval.

The Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands is committed to protecting personal information. The personal information requested is being collected in accordance with section 61(c) of the **Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015**, (ATIPPA, 2015) and will be used for the purpose of administering the Provincial Agrifoods Assistance Program. It will not be used for any other purposes unless authorized under the ATIPPA, 2015.

For further information please contact:

Program Manager
AgriRecovery Forage Assistance Initiative
Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands
AFAI@gov.nl.ca
(709) 637-2077



1. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- 1.1 The 2025-26 Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador AgriRecovery Forage Assistance Initiative will provide financial assistance to dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, and goat producers who experienced extraordinary costs to purchase and transport animal feed due to drought that occurred during the 2025 growing season.
- 1.2 AgriRecovery is a federal-provincial-territorial disaster relief framework to help agricultural producers with the extraordinary costs associated with recovering from disaster situations. AgriRecovery initiatives are cost-shared on a 60:40 basis between the federal government and participating provinces or territories, as outlined under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP).

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 Acceptable documentation means receipts and proof of payment demonstrating costs incurred in previous year and current year, which, in the Program Administrator's sole discretion, proves the validity of the information provided by the applicant.
- 2.2 Application form means the form that an eligible applicant, as described in Section 4 (Application Process) must complete to be considered for eligibility to the Program.
- 2.3 Beef cattle means bred cow, bred heifer, replacement heifer over one year old, steer between 1 year and 18 of months of age, calf, and bull.
- 2.4 Dairy cattle means lactating dairy cow, non-lactating dairy cow, and replacement heifer over one year old and calf.
- 2.5 Eligible livestock means beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, and goats.
- 2.6 Eligible applicant means a person or entity that has applied under the Program and meets the conditions set out in Section 3 (Eligibility).
- 2.7 Eligible costs means extraordinary costs incurred between August 15, 2025 and February 15, 2026 to purchase and transport feed for livestock to continue livestock production until June 15, 2026 that are considered to be directly related to drought that occurred during the 2025 growing season and were beyond normal operational costs incurred by the eligible applicant as outlined in section 6.1 supported by acceptable documentation.
- 2.8 Goats means doe, replacement doe over 1 year old, and buck.

2.9 Newfoundland and Labrador Minister means the Newfoundland and Labrador Minister of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands and his or her duly authorized representatives.

2.10 Payment means financial assistance paid to eligible applicants as stipulated in Section 6 (Payments).

2.11 Program means the 2025-26 Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador AgriRecovery Forage Assistance Initiative.

2.12 Program administrator is the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands.

2.13 Self transportation means the act of transporting feed by the eligible participant or their employee and through the use of their own vehicles/equipment.

2.14 Sheep means ewe, replacement ewe over 1 year old, and ram.

3. ELIGIBILITY:

3.1 An eligible applicant is an agricultural producer raising eligible livestock, who has been impacted by the drought in 2025, who has applied to the Program and:

- 3.1.1 is a taxable entity (e.g. individual, corporation or trust), limited partnership, commune, cooperative, or First Nation Band;
- 3.1.2 carried on a business of farming in Newfoundland and Labrador and reported farming income (or loss) to the Canada Revenue Agency for income tax purposes;
 - 3.1.2.1 for eligible applicants that are not required to file farm income tax, acceptable documentation that demonstrates the production and sale of agricultural commodities must be provided;
- 3.1.3 is not a government funded research station, agency or institution; and
- 3.1.4 owned or leased a minimum of 10 beef cattle and/or dairy cattle, and/or 30 sheep and/or goats for the production and sale of livestock or livestock products in Newfoundland and Labrador as of August 15, 2025. Inventory declarations of eligible livestock owned or leased are required from eligible applicants for:
 - 3.1.4.1 Eligible livestock on hand as of August 15, 2025; and
 - 3.1.4.2 Eligible livestock intended to keep on hand as of June 15, 2026.

4. APPLICATION PROCESS:

4.1 Eligible applicants are required to sign and submit an application form, and to submit the required supporting information requested on that form including acceptable documentation such as financial statements (tax filings or satisfactory equivalent) for 2024 and receipts showing forage/feed purchased in 2024 along with invoices and proof of payment for forage/feed purchased in 2025-26.

4.2 No more than one application may be made per eligible applicant.

4.3 A completed application form must be received by the program administrator by **March 2, 2026**.

4.4 Application forms that are mailed will be accepted as being received on time if the postmark indicates a date that is on or before the specified deadline in Section 4.3.

Applications may be delivered by either:

Email: AFAI@gov.nl.ca

In person or mail to:

NL Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands
192 Wheelers Rd.
Corner Brook, NL A2H 0J4

4.5 The program administrator may reject any application form that is inaccurate or incomplete.

5. SIGNATURES:

5.1 Designates are not permitted to sign the application form or other program documentation on behalf of an individual, unless they are an attorney under a duly authorized power of attorney or an executor/executrix for that individual, proof of which is to be provided with the signed applications.

5.2 In the case of corporations, partnerships (registered or non-registered), and cooperatives, non-profit organizations, and communes, the application form and other documentation must be signed by a properly authorized person with signing authority on behalf of the corporation, partnership, cooperative, non-profit organization or commune. If the person who signs is not properly authorized to do so, that person will be deemed to have submitted the application in their personal capacity and will be responsible for all amounts paid to them or for any overpayments owed by them under this Program. Proof of authorization may be required by the program administrator.

5.3 Eligible applicants must sign a declaration confirming that they have met the conditions of the program.

6. PAYMENTS:

6.1 Eligible costs due to drought that occurred during the 2025 growing season that can be claimed under this initiative include:

- a) Purchase of replacement forage/feed for eligible livestock; and
- b) Transportation of replacement forage/feed for eligible livestock.

6.2 Payments for eligible costs will be made based on the following conditions:

6.2.1 Eligible costs were incurred between August 15, 2025 and February 15, 2026.

6.2.2 Eligible costs for eligible livestock will be assessed based on acceptable documentation and on the feed required to continue livestock production until June 15, 2026 and the following total feed consumption rates per head per day:

Eligible Livestock Type	Eligible Livestock by Class	Pounds per Day
Beef Cattle	Bred Cow	35
	Bred Heifer	30
	Replacement Heifer / Steer	25
	Calf	25
	Bull	50
Dairy Cattle	Lactating	64
	Non-Lactating	35
	Calf	25
	Replacement Heifer	25
Sheep and Goats	Ewe / Replacement Ewe	5
	Ram	10
	Doe / Replacement Doe	5
	Buck	7

6.2.3 Eligible applicants' eligible costs must exceed the following minimum thresholds in order to receive a payment:

- a) A minimum of \$193/head of eligible costs for dairy cattle;
- b) A minimum of \$101/head of eligible costs for beef cattle; and
- c) A minimum of \$20/head of eligible costs for sheep and goats.

6.2.4 Eligible costs will be paid up to a maximum of 70%, supported by acceptable documentation less the applicable minimum threshold.

6.2.5 Payments will be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Payment} = (\text{Eligible costs for eligible livestock} \times 70\% - \text{per head threshold})$$

6.2.6 Self transportation costs including fuel, ferry costs, and labour are eligible for reimbursement where the applicant can provide fuel receipts, ferry receipts, and proof of payment for fuel and ferry costs aligned with the location where replacement feed was purchased and the applicant's farm location, as well as proof of third party labour payment, if applicable. These items may be submitted as legible digital scans of the original documents. Please note that reimbursement for self transportation costs will be capped at a rate comparable to third party transportation as deemed appropriate by the program administrator.

6.2.7 Payments may be adjusted if total eligible costs under the program exceed the program's budget.

6.2.8 For greater clarity, ineligible costs include:

- a) Income or production losses;
- b) Routine feed purchases as experienced in normal years;
- c) Capital purchases;
- d) Irrigation infrastructure or re-establishing forage fields; and
- e) Livestock purchases.

6.3 The information declared on the application form, the total eligible livestock, and the eligible costs identified by the eligible applicant will be subject to validation which will include a review of receipts or other acceptable documentation as requested by the program administrator. All documentation may be subject to third party audit following receipt of payment.

6.4 The program administrator has the sole discretion to determine eligibility of applicants; validity of information declared on the application form and to calculate payments.

6.5 Non-arm's length transactions or transactions with related parties will not be eligible for reimbursement. Non-arm's length parties are considered to be related by blood, adoption, or marriage; and/or related by blood, adoption, or marriage to directors, shareholders or partners of for-profit or not-for-profit entities. Furthermore, sole proprietors, agriculture businesses, partnerships, corporations, and cooperatives will be considered related if common ownership exists between parties i.e. common individuals, partners and/or shareholders and spouses, including common-law spouses, of individuals, partners, and/ or shareholders.

6.6 All payments are subject to the following conditions:

6.6.1 The maximum payment per applicant will be \$450,000.

6.6.2 Payments will only be made to an eligible applicant when the amount payable under the program exceeds \$1,000.

6.6.3 Payment will be reduced or cancelled if verification of information cannot be completed.

6.6.4 Accepting a payment by an eligible applicant indicates acceptance of the calculation of the payment.

6.6.5 Payments cannot be assigned or deferred to a subsequent tax year.

6.6.6 Tax information slips required under the *Income Tax Act* (R.S.C., 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.)) will be issued in the name of the eligible applicant.

6.6.7 Payments will be considered allowable income, for the purposes of the AgriStability program in the program year only.

6.6.8 Payments will not be considered allowable income for the calculation of reference margins under the AgriStability program.

6.6.9 Payments will not be considered allowable revenue for the purposes of the AgriInvest program.

7. TERMINATION OF THE PROGRAM:

7.1 The program may be terminated or amended by Newfoundland and Labrador or Canada at any time, without prior notice.

8. VERIFICATION AND DECLARATIONS:

8.1 The eligible applicant agrees to supply the program administrator, on request, with all documentation or information required to calculate a payment under the program.

8.2 Eligible applicant agrees to provide Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador with access to the eligible applicants' documents and premises for the purposes of audit and/or evaluation of the eligible applicants' participation in the program.

8.3 The program administrator may contract a third party to perform compliance audits on an eligible applicant.

8.4 The eligible applicant expressly authorizes the program administrator to obtain information from any provincial or federal government department, agency or third party for the purposes of verifying the contents of the application form or any other information provided by the eligible applicant under this program.

8.5 The eligible applicant consents to the program administrator releasing any information provided by the eligible applicant or obtained as outlined in Section 8.4 to any provincial or federal government department, agency or third party for the purposes of verifying information provided in the application form or determining the eligibility for the program.

9. WAIVER OF LIABILITY:

9.1 The eligible applicant acknowledges that Canada, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands are not liable to the eligible applicant, the eligible applicant's heirs, administrators and assigns for personal injury, property damage, or any other damage, injury, claim or loss whatsoever arising out of this program and the eligible applicant's participation in it.

10. REFUNDS/OVERPAYMENTS:

10.1 If it is determined by the program administrator that a payment to the eligible applicant under the program was in contravention of these terms and conditions, it will be considered as a debt owing by the eligible applicant if any of the reasons listed under sections 10.1.1 to 10.1.4 apply. The program administrator may subsequently require the eligible applicant to repay some or the entire overpayment back to the program. Until it is repaid, the amount of the payment or overpayment will be considered to be a debt owing by the eligible applicant to Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador.

10.1.1 The applicant was not an eligible applicant;

10.1.2 The applicant was overpaid by the program;

10.1.3 The applicant has not complied with the terms and conditions of the program; or

10.1.4 The applicant provided false or misleading information in the application form.

10.2 The eligible applicant agrees to refund any overpayments received from the program back to the program administrator within thirty (30) days of notice being provided to them by the program administrator. The eligible applicant's failure to refund such payment by that deadline may result in the debt for that amount being set off against money owed by the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador to the eligible applicant. Interest charges for unpaid amounts will be compounded monthly based on current bank lending rates and will be added to any debt not repaid by the prescribed deadline.

11. FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION:

11.1 Eligible applicants who provide false or misleading information to the program administrator for the purposes of the program forego all rights to payments, are liable to repay all payments they have received and may be subject to prosecution.

12. STACKING OF ASSISTANCE FOR APPLICANTS:

12.1 The eligible applicant agrees, on request by the program administrator, to disclose other sources of financial assistance from, but not limited to, the federal, provincial, or municipal governments in respect of the purpose of this program.

12.2 If payment is made under this program, the program administrator is subrogated to the eligible applicant's rights concerning payment from, but not limited to, the federal, provincial, or municipal governments in respect of the purpose of this program.

13. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES:

13.1 The eligible applicant represents and warrants that the person signing the application form and other program documents is duly authorized to bind the eligible applicant and, in the case of a partnership, bind the partners to these terms and conditions on the basis of joint and several liabilities.

14. REGISTRATION OF LOBBYISTS:

14.1 The eligible applicant acknowledges that a person lobbying, as defined in the Lobbying Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. 44 (4th Supp.)), and the provincial Lobbyists' Registration

Act, on behalf of eligible applicants must be registered pursuant to each of the respective Acts.

15. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

15.1 Eligible applicants acknowledge that individuals who are subject to the provisions of the *Conflict of Interest Act* (S.C. 2006, c. 9, s. 2), the Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons, the Ethics and Conflict of Interest Code for Senators, the Values and Ethics Code for the Public Sector or any other conflict of interest and/or values and ethics codes applicable within provincial or territorial governments or specific organizations, shall not derive any direct benefit resulting from an application unless the provision or receipt of such benefit is permitted in such legislation, policy or codes.

15.2 No member of Newfoundland and Labrador's House of Assembly is permitted to obtain any share or part of the 2025-26 Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador AgriRecovery Forage Assistance Initiative or be entitled to receive any financial benefit from this program.

Application Deadline

Applications and supporting documentation should be submitted by email to the AFAI program manager in Corner Brook at: AFAI@gov.nl.ca on or before 4:30 pm NST **March 2, 2026**.

For further information, please contact:

Program Manager

AgriRecovery Forage Assistance Initiative
Agricultural Business Development Division
Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands
P.O. Box 2006
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8
AFAI@gov.nl.ca
709-637-2077

APPENDIX 1 - EXAMPLES

Example 1 - Dairy:

Eligible Livestock Type	Eligible Livestock by Class	Number of Animals 2025
Dairy Cattle	Lactating	225
	Non-Lactating	47
	Replacement Heifer	100
	Calf	90
	Total	462

Forage/transportation purchases = \$300,000

Per-head threshold = \$193/head

Payment = (Eligible Costs for Eligible Livestock x 70% - per head threshold)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (300,000 \times 70\%) - (462 \times \$193) \\
 &= (210,000) - (89,166) \\
 &= \$120,834
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 2 - Beef:

Eligible Livestock Type	Eligible Livestock by Class	Number of Animals 2025
Beef Cattle	Bred Cow	24
	Bred Heifer	8
	Replacement Heifer	10
	Steer under 18 months old	12
	Calf	21
	Bull	1
	Total	76

Forage/transportation purchases = \$150,000

Per-head threshold = = \$101/head

Payment = (Eligible Costs for Eligible Livestock x 70% - per head threshold)

$$\begin{aligned} &= (150,000 \times 70\%) - (76 \times \$101) \\ &= (105,000) - (7,676) \\ &= \$97,324 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3 - Sheep:

Eligible Livestock Type	Eligible Livestock by Class	Number of Animals 2025
Sheep	Ewe / Replacement Ewe	25
	Ram	1
	Total	26

Forage/transportation purchases = \$50,000

Per-head threshold = = \$20/head

Payment = (Eligible Costs for Eligible Livestock x 70% - per head threshold)

$$\begin{aligned} &= (50,000 \times 70\%) - (26 \times \$20) \\ &= (35,000) - (520) \\ &= \$34,480 \end{aligned}$$