# Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards

## **Agricultural Service Board Grant Program**

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Grant Program promotes long-term sustainability of the agriculture industry and rural communities and the development and delivery of resource management programming. ASBs are responsible for implementing and enforcing legislative requirements under the *Agricultural Service Board Act*, the *Weed Control Act* (WCA), the *Agricultural Pests Act* (APA), the *Soil Conservation Act* (SCA) and assist with the control of animal disease under the *Animal Health Act* (AHA).



#### 2019-20 Annual Impacts

- \$11.4 million in annual grants awarded to 69 Agricultural Service Boards to support legislative requirements
- \$1.78 million in annual grants to 64
   Agricultural Service Boards for
   environmental programming
- ASBs work to protect 50.5 million acres of farmland, 62,000 farm operators and 43,000 farms from agricultural pests, weeds and soil erosion by enforcing the APA, WCA, and the SCA
- 220 full-time, 155 part-time and 434 seasonal employees supported.
- ABSs leveraged grant dollars at a 4:1 ratio (i.e. 80% municipal and 20% provincial funding). The accumulative economic output is valued at \$102.6 million annually.

#### **Market Access**

ASBs are key to Alberta's robust pest surveillance network that helps Albertans maintain market access by mitigating the risk of agricultural pest threats.

#### **Weed Control**

- 52,417 prohibited and noxious weed infestations (sites) were investigated and managed
- Over 103,172 kilometers of municipal roadways weeds controlled by Integrated Pest Management means including mechanical, chemical and cultural methods such as hand picking or biological control technologies



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• 100% of the 67 Seed Cleaning Plants
Operating in Alberta are inspected

#### **Partnerships in Action**

Together we can support our agriculture sector and meet the needs of our rural communities as they continue to evolve.

#### **Pest Management**

- 10,416 fields inspected for clubroot
- 2,373 fields inspected for virulent blackleg
- 1,062 fields inspected for Fusarium
- 2,761 pest insect surveys including Grasshopper, Wheat Midge, Bertha Armyworm and Diamond Back Moth



## **Environmental Protection and Soil Conservation**

- 325 Extension events delivered, engaging over 14,500 producers
- 703 Producers met with regarding their Environmental Farm Plan
- 988 Producers educated on the CAP programs
- 636 fields inspected for soil erosion issues

## Alberta Agriculture & Forestry ASB Key Contact Program

AF matches those interested with a key contact who are contacts for ASBs to provide general updates or topic specific updates, provide information on government programs and grants and take questions and concerns back to AF.

Key contacts work with ASBs and Agricultural Fieldmen to strengthen our existing partnerships and look for new ways to collaborate and share information.

#### **Agricultural Service Board Unit Contacts:**

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