Emergency Preparedness & Agriculture

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Outline

• Risks to Agriculture
• Individual Preparedness
• Agriculture and your Municipal Emergency Plan
Farms in Alberta (north)
Farms in Alberta (central)
Farms in Alberta (south)
Risks to Agriculture

- Risks to Agriculture and its stakeholders
  - Day-to-Day emergencies and situations
  - Plant Health Issues – Insects and Diseases (Potato Cyst Nematode, Club Root, Stem Rust)
  - Animal Health Issues – Diseases (Foot and Mouth Disease, Avian Influenza)
  - The consequences of other hazards on agriculture and agricultural stakeholders:
    - Wildfires
    - Flooding
    - Winter storms
    - Tornados
Day-to-Day Emergencies
Lessons from Day-to-Day Events

• Truck accidents
  – Hauling livestock
  – Hauling bee hives

• Fires (barns or storage)
  – Quick evacuation of animals
  – Clean up of debris

• Barn collapses
  – Assessment of safety for entry
  – Injured and trapped animals/birds
  – Clean up
Plant Pest or Disease Events
Lessons from Plant Pest/Disease Events

• Municipality has a major role
  – Surveillance for pests
  – Enforcement of control measures
  – Provide information and recommendations to farmers on disease prevention and control
  – Conduct field surveys and maintain records of infestations

• Provide support and resources to Ag Fieldmen in carrying out duties
Lessons from Disease Events

• Bovine spongiform encephalopathy - BSE (cattle) 2003
• H1N1 Influenza (pigs) 2009
• Salmonella Enteritidis (poultry) 2010-2011
  – Better notification
  – Disposal of animal carcasses
  – Control of movement around infected farm
Control of Movement - Disease (10km)
Natural Disasters - Flooding
Lessons from Flooding Events

• Flood Response Issues – access, protection of homes/buildings/pens
• Pumping equipment is available
  – From Water Pumping Program
• Clean-up of fields, pens, and yards
• Recovery options and programs
  – Insurance (Home, crop, animal)
  – Disaster Recovery Program
  – AgriRecovery Program
Natural Disasters - Wildfires
Lessons from Wild Fire Events
(Forest and Grass)

• Role played by ASB’s
  – Lesser Slave River – access to evacuation zone for food/water
  – Checking up on herds/animals left behind.
  – Providing agricultural expertise to fire chief/DEM, elected officials
  – Evacuation orders by the municipality

• Insurable losses vs non-insurable losses

• Animal welfare and Evacuation (less than 1 hour)

• Premise Identification – risk locations/emergency contact info
Where to start??

- Individual Farm and Acreage Preparedness
- Municipal Emergency Response
Individual Farm and acreage Preparedness (1)
## Individual Farm and acreage Preparedness (2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Know the Risks</th>
<th>Make a Plan</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flooding</td>
<td>Evacuate – Family and animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fires</td>
<td>Evacuate – Family, but not animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highways – Railways</td>
<td>Shelter in Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pipelines – Well heads</td>
<td>Ride it out – <em>power outage, severe weather</em></td>
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</tbody>
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## Individual Farm and acreage Preparedness (3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respond</th>
<th>Recovery</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Friends and Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key documents</td>
<td>Insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals</td>
<td>Provincial programs (Disaster Recovery, AgriRecovery)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where to ??</td>
<td>Non-Government organizations – Red Cross, Salvation Army, AFAC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Suggested Municipal Preparations (1)

• First Responders and Animals

• Emergency Carcass Disposal Planning Guide and Workbook

• Agriculture Emergency Guide for Municipalities – (in draft)

• What about companion animals (large)?
Suggested Municipal Preparations (2)

• First Responders and Animals
  – Training
  – Equipment – Own, Mutual aid, Contract
  – Expertise – Local Veterinarians, AFAC contact line, etc
  – Contact information – Apiaries, Trucking, SPCA, Auction marts

• Livestock and Companion animals
  – Pets
  – Horses
  – Livestock
Suggested Municipal Preparations (3)

• Agriculture input into Municipal Emergency Plan
  – Common sense
  – Relationships
  – Draft Planning Guide
  – Recovery Assistance options for farmers

• Emergency Waste/Carcass Disposal
  – Issues – smell, predators, volume
  – Local vs Distant
  – Approvals and authorities
  – Guide and Workbook
Summary

- Risks everywhere

- Individual Farms and Acreages need to be better prepared for emergencies

- Municipal role is growing for different types of emergency response