

**WILD ROSE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS
POLICY MANUAL**

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AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

1

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Provincial Government to re-establish a Faculty of Agricultural Engineering at an Alberta University by the fall of 2006 and that sufficient funding be granted so as to allow the selected university to establish and administer such a program with the purpose of granting a degree in Agricultural Engineering.²⁰⁰⁵
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers supports the development of continued scientific capacity within Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for primary production.²⁰⁰⁶
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request that the Provincial and Federal Governments commit to Public Agricultural Research and Development including developing a co-ordinated roadmap for agricultural research and development.²⁰⁰⁶
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers continue to work with other interested parties to refine and promote the RIONAP proposal in order to assist in the improvement of the Government of Canada's approval process for new agricultural products.²⁰⁰⁶
5. Wild Rose Agriculture Producers endorses the CFA's effort to clarify Canadian product labeling so that the label does not mislead consumers and also protects Canadian producers from any liability that may result from foreign ingredients labeled as 'Made in Canada'.²⁰⁰⁸

ALBERTA YOUNG FARMERS FORUM

2

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the formation of the Alberta Young Farmers Forum.²⁰⁰⁵

ALTERNATE FUEL

3

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the federal and provincial government to have bio-diesel make up 10% of Canadian diesel supplies by the year 2010.²⁰⁰⁶
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers create a multi-organizational and government committee to study alternative uses of grains and oilseeds in Alberta for fuel, ethanol and bio-diesel, and create processing solutions and strategies.²⁰⁰⁶
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Government of Alberta to support the development and production of bio-diesel from canola oil and other crop oils as well as Animal Fat consistent with:
 - Bio-diesel having a positive energy balance of 3.2 to 1;
 - Bio-diesel having the necessary lubrication for the next generation of low-sulfur diesel fuels;
 - Bio-diesel being a cleaner burning fuel with decreased emissions of pollutants;
 - Bio-diesel being a renewable energy source;
 - Bio-diesel providing increased marketing opportunities for canola, including low grade canola;
 - Bio-diesel providing value-added outlet for by-products of the meat processing industry.²⁰⁰⁶
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Alberta Government to facilitate the building of bio-diesel plants that will be producer owned.²⁰⁰⁷

5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will investigate the possibilities of butanol made from agricultural products.²⁰⁰⁷

ANIMAL HEALTH**4**

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that the Alberta Department of Agriculture should have full diagnostic services available for the livestock producers of Alberta through the Provincial Animal Health Laboratories.¹⁹⁹⁷
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge both the Federal and Provincial governments to examine ways to encourage all producers to use best management practices in disposing of deceased animals in order to address animal health and environmental concerns.²⁰⁰⁴
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Provincial and Federal governments to allow testing for livestock over 30 months of age for BSE.²⁰⁰⁵

BIOTECHNOLOGY**5**

1. There is uncertainty concerning consumer acceptance of Genetically Modified Organisms and the products they constitute. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that open, consumer oriented scientific studies should be created that are geared towards proving the safety of these products in the human food chain. Furthermore, both the government and private industry should be responsible for carrying out these studies.²⁰⁰⁰
2. The Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB), which is part of the federal government, has established a committee to make recommendations to help industry develop a standard for the voluntary labeling of foods containing genetically modified ingredients. It is a large committee made up of farm, industry, consumer, and public interest groups. To develop this standard the committee must agree on a definition for "genetically modify". There are two definitions being considered. The one definition is quite broad and would include some products of conventional plant breeding. The other definition is narrow and would only include products developed by means of r-DNA technology. The narrow r-DNA definition is the accepted international definition of genetically modified organism and is the type of technology that is of concern to consumers and environmental groups in Europe, Japan and elsewhere. It would cause great confusion and be a significant international marketing problem if Canada adopted a definition for genetically modify that was not in harmony with the definition in the countries to which we are exporting our agriculture and food products. We would have a situation where we would be labeling food as genetically modified for the domestic Canadian market based on the Canadian definition and then attempting to market that same food in the international market as a non- GM product based on the international definition. Common sense indicates it would be a foolish move, create confusion and mistrust of our products in international markets and be a marketing disaster. There would also be no way to segregate the so-called GMOs under a broad definition. Therefore, Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will send a letter to the Canadian General Standards Board indicating support for the narrow r-DNA definition of "genetically modify". This means to change the heritable traits of a plant, animal or microorganism used as food or any ingredient in a food by means of recombinant DNA technology. Moreover, we seek to advance this position by either being directly involved on the CGSB committee or through CFA representation.²⁰⁰¹

(The following two policies are from CFA policies and reports)

3. Currently the draft standard [about genetically modified food put forward by the CGSB] proposes that no more than 5% adventitious materials may be present in a single ingredient

food in order for a negative labeling claim to be made. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support a tolerance level of “no more than 5% for adventitious materials.” ^{CFA}

4. The Canadian Government signed the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety under the UN Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) on April 19, 2001. To date ninety countries have signed the Protocol and two countries have ratified it. Canada indicated when signing the Protocol that it will not ratify the Protocol until the government receives clarification on a few outstanding issues. The CFA has been reviewing some of the documents that the Canadian government has drafted regarding compliance regimes within the protocol. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the work of the CFA in reviewing the documents and providing critiques for the government. ^{CFA}
5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the CFA in its call for the government to give groups more time to review and comment on such documents so that they may consult with their membership. ^{CFA}

CANADIAN GRAIN COMMISSION

6

1. The Federal Government through the Canadian Grain Commission is promoting a user pay policy for the funding of the CGC; however, the farmer is going to pay regardless of who sent the bill. Furthermore, all Canadians benefit from the export and domestic use of quality controlled grain. Thus, Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe in the presence of constant, sufficient funding for the Canadian Grain Commission. ¹⁹⁹⁹
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that the Canadian Grain Commission should be maintained regardless of the type of marketing system employed. This would help to ensure that our standards are upheld. Furthermore, Canadian producers should be informed of the importance of maintaining our quality.
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will lobby the Canadian Grain Commission to provide grain inspection services in the Peace River region of Alberta and B.C. without delay. ²⁰⁰¹
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the federal government to review and change the Canadian Grain Act regarding the Canadian Grain Commission's role and policy in licensing, bonding, and guaranteeing payment to producers when licensed and bonded grain merchants fail. ^{2003, 2004}
5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Canadian Grain Commission to implement the practice of having all grains purchased on an "As Dry Matter" basis in order to ensure that producers are being properly compensated for the actual product and weight that they are selling. ²⁰⁰⁴
6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal Government to provide additional funding and support for the Canadian Grain Commission in order that it may continue to enhance and protect the purity of Canada's grain export. ²⁰⁰⁵
7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Canadian Grain Commission to adopt falling numbers as part of the grading system. ²⁰⁰⁵
8. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers supports having the Western Standards Committee of the Canadian Grain Commission adopt instrumental analysis for measuring green seed in canola, as soon as the Oilseeds Sub-Committee successfully completes the current research and evaluation program on, 'Determination of % Green Seed in Canola Through Direct Comparison of Visual and Instrumental Analytical Techniques'. ²⁰⁰⁸
9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request that the Oilseeds Sub-Committee of the Western Standards Committee of the Canadian Grain Commission, draft an equitable canola pricing

system for farmers with due consideration to 'Dry Matter', and, '% Moisture', issues with the goal of farmers receiving equitable canola payments, for instance:

- 2.1 A farmer delivering canola of 6 % moisture is not compensated for the additional dry matter value of the canola, whereas;
 - 2.2 A farmer delivering canola of 13% moisture is penalized for delivering tough canola.²⁰⁰⁸
10. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Government of Canada to reconsider the legislative changes to the inward inspection and bonding components of the Canada grains act until producers have had sufficient time to evaluate the additional costs being downloaded on those producers and until viable alternatives have been proposed.²⁰⁰⁸
 11. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Canadian Grain Commission to extensively consult with the Canadian grain producers on the bonding issue and only remove the bonding requirement with the strong support of the majority of grain producers.²⁰⁰⁸
 12. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal government to keep the Canadian Grain Commission bonding process in place until a suitable alternative is found.²⁰⁰⁹

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD (CWB)

7

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the concept of a delegate body system in regard to Bill C-4, which amended the Canadian Wheat Board Act. The delegate body of the CWB would act as a representative of the producers in the election of the producer Board of Directors of the CWB. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that the delegate body would also provide the means for the CWB to have regular communication with the farm community.¹⁹⁹⁸
2. With the Board of Directors now in place, we request a geographic distribution of directors both appointed and elected. Moreover, we believe that the candidates need to be residents of the district or area in which they are seeking election.¹⁹⁹⁸
3. We believe that it is important to keep the role of the CWB separate from the politics that surround the issue of its function.²⁰⁰⁰
4. In association with fellow prairie producer organizations, we support the goal to create a commercial, accountable, and suitable grain handling and transportation system for the future. We also believe that the CWB must be a key participant in such a system.²⁰⁰⁰
5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the democratically elected Board of Directors of the CWB. It is their role to determine the marketing operations of the Board.¹⁹⁹⁹
6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will continue to support a single desk for selling both wheat and barley unless or until producers of either crop vote in a plebiscite for an open market in each commodity.^{1997, 2007}
7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that neither the government nor the courts, nor even a marketing panel should decide the future of grain marketing. We recommend that the future of grain marketing in western Canada be decided by a plebiscite of the producers of that grain.¹⁹⁹⁹
8. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers recommend that the Canadian Wheat Board broaden their policies in order to become as flexible, progressive and innovative as the producer must be, in order to stay in business.²⁰⁰⁰
9. We do not support the concept of any Capital Fund which would reduce the financial commitment that the Federal Government presently has to the CWB.¹⁹⁹⁷

10. We support the Canadian Wheat Board in its request to participate in CFA as an Associate Member, provided CWB can fit CFA criteria for such membership. ²⁰⁰¹
11. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Agricultural Financial Services Corporation to include the recent United States Trade Tariff of 14 per cent on Wheat in the 2003 Spring Price Endorsement Program for Wheat.
12. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Government of Canada to fully compensate farmers for the loss of financial guarantees on CWB payments and borrowings which the Government of Canada has agreed to eliminate in the WTO framework agreement of July 2004. ²⁰⁰⁵
13. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Government of Canada to achieve this goal by fully funding a contingency fund to backstop the CWB initial and adjustment payments to farmers, and by fully funding a capital fund that would be necessary to allow the CWB to achieve an acceptable bond rating. ²⁰⁰⁵
14. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the CWB Board of Directors to create a new and permanent section in the CWB Annual Report, or a special report, where the CWB can report annually on all producer payout options and the contingency fund activity in a clear, accessible manner. ²⁰⁰⁷
15. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers requests that the CWB Board of Directors ensure that the fees of the producer payment options programs reflect the true administrative cost of these programs. ²⁰⁰⁷
16. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal Government and the federal opposition parties to amend the CWB act to give the CWB Board of Directors and the Federal Government equal power in, hiring and firing the President, selecting and terminating appointed Directors, determining the question and process for plebiscites on extensions and exclusions to the CWB marketing powers, and determining the process for CWB Director elections. Furthermore, all sections pertaining to the so-called “gag order” must be ratified by Parliament within a specified period of time. ²⁰⁰⁷
17. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Government of Alberta to refrain from using taxpayers dollars for the “Choice Matters” campaign. ²⁰⁰⁷
18. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the federal government not to use the recent federal election results on the prairies as a mandate to change the Canadian Wheat Board Act without conducting a separate eligible producer plebiscite on the question of the CWB monopoly on wheat or barley. ²⁰⁰⁹

CHEMICALS

8

1. We urge the chemical companies through the Crop Protection Institute of Canada, to cease advertising on radio and television. ²⁰⁰⁷
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers requests that the Federal Government approve the usage of two percent (2%) strychnine on farms for Richardson ground squirrel control. ²⁰⁰⁷

ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

9

1. Too much emphasis is being placed on representation by population, while not enough on the difficulty of serving large geographical areas. As the difficulty in serving an electoral

division increases, effective representation decreases. WRAP supports effective representation, which takes into account the needs of the more sparsely populated rural constituencies. ¹⁹⁹⁷

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

10

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will lobby our governments to insure that agricultural practices that remove carbon from the environment be recognized by present and future environmental agreements, such as the Kyoto Agreement, and that agricultural producers receive the credit for carrying on such practices. ²⁰⁰¹
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Provincial Government to initiate a study to determine the ground water reserves of Alberta. ²⁰⁰³
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the provincial government to continue to fund permanent water development projects. ²⁰⁰²
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the provincial government to extend the deadline for registration of water wells and dugouts. ²⁰⁰³
5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage Alberta Agriculture to make available through municipal districts and counties effective gopher poison under special permit by March 1, 2002 and subsequent years. ²⁰⁰²
6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers requests that the Provincial and Federal Governments extend for five years the Canadian Alberta Farm Stewardship Program that is to be terminated March 31, 2008. ²⁰⁰⁷
7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers requests that the Pest Management Regulatory Agency allow the present OUI program to run parallel with the new Growers Own Import Program on a world wide basis. ²⁰⁰⁷
8. Wild Rose Agriculture Producers recommends that recycling deposits be administrated on:
A - Chemical containers and that the provincial and federal governments institute a deposit that is 100% refundable when the empty is returned and the amount be in the order of \$1 per litre, and the hidden recycling tax be removed.
B - Petroleum containers (all sizes) and that the provincial and federal governments institute a deposit that is 100% refundable when the empty is returned, and that the present "recycling tax" be removed. ²⁰⁰⁸
9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urges the Government of Alberta to reinstate the funding for the duck lure program in Alberta. ²⁰⁰⁹

FARM INCOME

11

1. Due mainly to the subsidies of the US and the European Union, farm incomes in Canada are being drastically reduced. This is allowable under the WTO Agreement, of which the Federal Government is a signatory. Thus, Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that it is the responsibility of the Federal Government to provide financial compensation to offset the drastic reduction of farm income. ¹⁹⁹⁹
2. Farmers should not use 15% of gross farm receipts as a proxy for calculating net farm income when allocating self-employment earnings against EI benefits arising from off-farm employment. Unlike other self-employed people who can calculate self-employment earnings based on net income, farmers should not need to automatically deduct from their

EI benefit 15% of gross farm receipts regardless of the actual income earned from the farm operation. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has suggested that 5% would be more appropriate. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers, too, suggest using 5% in the calculation of gross farm receipts as a proxy for net farm income.²⁰⁰⁰

3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Provincial and Federal governments to promote programs to assist young farmers with start up costs in farming; for example low or no interest loans, interest forgiveness or grants.²⁰⁰³
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Alberta Government to investigate and implement a noncountervailable program covering cost of production.²⁰⁰²
5. Agricultural producers in general are prone to experiencing low prices for various commodities. The Provincial Government should recognize the need for both short-term and long-term strategies to address this concern. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that the government should provide aid to farmers during times of low commodity prices.¹⁹⁹⁷
6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers petition the Alberta Government and the Agricultural Financial Services Corporation to reconsider the July 31st, 2002 price adjustment that was determined for Wheat acres insured under the variable price option.²⁰⁰³
7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request that local offices of Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) add the job titles of Agricultural Assistant and Farm Assistant, to the General Occupations List (a compilation of jobs for which there is a short supply of suitable candidates) and the HRDC assesses and allocate Occupational and Educational and Training Factors to the job titles.²⁰⁰²
8. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby our Federal government to increase our NISA contributions and the government matching contributions on behalf of our provincial government, from a 3% program to a 6% program.²⁰⁰²
9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby our Federal Government to allow farmers to receive tax credits for the dollars they are investing in research through the Western Grains Research Foundation and their commodity organizations.²⁰⁰²
10. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the concept of a Sectoral Council for agriculture in the area of human resources for Canada.²⁰⁰⁴
11. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the federal government to contribute to research funding foundations such as the Western Grain Research Foundation the value that farmers have contributed to the nation by early action practices that have sequestered or reduced emissions of carbon.²⁰⁰⁴
12. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers and the Canadian Federation of Agriculture consider producer owned, and producer compensated food reserves: government owned food reserves: and acreage set aside as part of the mechanism to increase profitability in primary agriculture.²⁰⁰⁶
13. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Alberta Government to establish a policy that would provide compensation for crop loss or inconvenience to renters/occupants of land where energy development occurs.²⁰⁰⁷
14. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal/Provincial Governments to maintain funding to the Environmental Farm Plan Company and the Canada Alberta Farm Stewardship Program at current levels.²⁰⁰⁷

FARM INCOME CRISIS

12

1. It is imperative that the Alberta Government addresses rising farm input cost and lower commodity prices, which have led to a farm income crisis. ²⁰⁰¹
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producer ask the Alberta Government to implement a program whereby if the grasshopper forecast done by Alberta Agriculture indicates a severe outbreak is possible in any certain municipal districts counties and special areas, that, at the request of the municipality, a cost shared program of grid based grasshopper control be implemented, by the use of a bait based system The aim of such a program is to reduce the overall numbers of grasshoppers in a affected area. ²⁰⁰³
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers calls upon the federal and provincial governments to introduce a disaster aid program for farmers, ranchers and agri-business who have been impacted by severe weather conditions. ²⁰⁰³

FARM LOANS

13

1. With regards to interest rates on existing farm loans, we believe that Agricultural Financial Services Corporation should keep interest rates substantially below 9%. ¹⁹⁹⁷
2. The Province should help in redefining and thereby decreasing the 20% down payment necessary for a beginning farm loan. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers also believe that the interest rate on beginning farm loans should be kept to a minimum. ¹⁹⁹⁹

FARM MACHINERY

14

1. Major farm machinery companies are proposing that their dealers sign exclusive contracts compelling them to sell only one line of machinery. We believe that the Province of Alberta needs to do whatever is necessary to ensure that farm machinery dealers have the freedom to sell more than one line of machinery. ²⁰⁰³
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers endorses the equipment dealers and manufacturers submission to the Federal Minister of Finance seeking changes to the capital cost allowance rates for farm equipment. ²⁰⁰⁷
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request that the Alberta Government reactivate funding for the Prairie Agricultural Machine Institute combine testing program at Humbolt, Saskatchewan. ²⁰⁰⁷

FOOD SAFETY

15

1. Worldwide, there is a growing problem concerning food safety. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers continues to work with appropriate agencies such as Alberta Environment and the Pembina Institute to ensure the safety of land farming (i.e. the practice of spreading municipal and oilfield wastes on farmland). ¹⁹⁹⁸
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the development of On Farm Food Safety Programs provided that such programs are: ²⁰⁰⁴
 - Producer-led, national and accessible
 - Commodity specific
 - HACCP-based and auditable
 - Consistent, modular and expandable
 - Recognized in Canada

- Internationally accepted
 - Affordable
3. That both levels of Government streamline inspection and certification of such facilities while at the same time ensuring that the Canadian reputation of the highest quality of food safety be maintained.²⁰⁰⁵
 4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request U of A Centre of Prions and Protein Folding Diseases give priority to the evaluation of Mark Purdey's theory on BSE.²⁰⁰⁵
 5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the federal government to allow abattoirs to voluntarily test for BSE.²⁰⁰⁸
 6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Government of Canada to pass legislation which would provide protection and limit liability that could be incurred through On Farm Food Safety traceability programs.²⁰⁰⁹
 7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the federal government to aid in creating a mechanism to recover costs from the marketplace related to the implementation and execution of on farm food safety programs for primary producers who operate within Best Management Practices.²⁰⁰⁹

GENERAL FARM ORGANIZATION ISSUES

16

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request that a permanent check-off for a general farm organization be implemented in Alberta.^{2003, 2005}
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers continue to strive for a producer check-off based on an additional license plate fee.²⁰⁰⁴

GRAIN HANDLING & TRANSPORTATION

17

1. Within the scope of options discussed in the Grain Handling & Transportation Review headed by Arthur Kroeger, Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the position paper put forward by Wild Rose Agricultural Producers, KAP (Keystone Agricultural Producers) and SARM (Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities). We support the position that the Board of Directors of Wild Rose Agricultural Producers be given some flexibility to continue to negotiate the best possible deal on behalf of producers as it relates to the grain handling and transportation review.²⁰⁰⁰
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers does not support the adoption of Kroeger recommendations regarding grain handling and transport.²⁰⁰³
3. There is increasing pressures being placed on our rural roads as a result of elevator consolidation and rail line abandonment. The Grain Handling and Transportation Review Report submitted by Justice Estey contains, within Recommendation 11, the suggestion to divert some of the considerable federal fuel tax to the construction, maintenance and repair of municipal grid roads, and secondary provincial highways. WRAP believes that continuous and sufficient pool of funds should be created immediately for the maintenance and construction of roads throughout rural Alberta.²⁰⁰⁰
4. We believe that it is the producer who should have the overriding voice in how the grain handling and transportation system should work since it is his product being marketed.¹⁹⁹⁹
5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers deem it essential that revenue cap remain in place until a

time when there is a truly competitive industry in the transportation sector.

6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers realize that elevator consolidation and rail line abandonment has a dramatic impact on the social and economic fabric of rural Albertans, and that the needs of the agricultural community should be considered before any decisions are made. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers understand that modifications had to be made, but we believe that every consideration possible be given to ensure that all producers receive reasonable access to grain handling and transportation systems.
7. We recommend that participants in the grain handling and transportation system take individual responsibility for any costs, losses and penalties when they are at fault, causing the grain handling system to fail. ¹⁹⁹⁸
8. In terms of labor disputes, Wild Rose Agricultural Producers recommend that an arbitration committee composed of representatives of labor, industry, and government should take action when it becomes clear that a new contract cannot be achieved before the existing one expires.
9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers strongly encourage all those interested parties involved in grain handling and transportation to quickly resolve their differences and introduce a system that encourages competition, cost effectiveness and improved service and maximize financial returns to producers. ²⁰⁰¹
10. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request the Minister of Agriculture Food and Rural Development alter Alberta Agriculture's Fusarium policy to a 0% tolerance of Fusarium infected grain, feed, and bedding being brought into Alberta. ²⁰⁰³
11. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request of the Canadian Grain Commission, that producer car users facilities not be considered an elevator even if a defunct elevator is being used to load cars, and thence do not have to be licensed as an elevator. ²⁰⁰²
12. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Canadian government to ensure that farmers are charged rail freight based on net weight only when cleaned on the prairies. ²⁰⁰⁷

GRAIN QUALITY AND INSPECTION

18

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers oppose the introduction of glyphosate tolerant wheat into Canada until farmers are assured that the commodity has consumer confidence, customer acceptance and segregation concerns are satisfied. ²⁰⁰²
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the Western Grain Research Foundation's proposal to increase their check-off on wheat and barley by approximately \$0.10 per tonne. ²⁰⁰⁵
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers re-affirm that neither the Government nor the Courts, nor even a marketing panel should decide the future of grain marketing in Western Canada and that it only be decided by a plebiscite of the actual producers of that grain without ballot weighting. ²⁰⁰⁶
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urges the Canadian Government to ensure that all protein testers in grain elevators be monitored by weights and measures. 2007
5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Government of Alberta to work with the counties and municipalities of Alberta, and the Alberta Canola Producer's Commission, and the Canola Council of Canada to implement uniform regulations to prevent the contamination and spread of clubroot in Alberta. ²⁰⁰⁸

6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers continue to support, along with other participants in the Seed Sector Review, the tier one registration system which requires merit assessment of proposed lines and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this issue be brought forward to CFA for their support.²⁰⁰⁸

GUN CONTROL**19**

1. The Federal Gun Control Bill, Bill C-68, fails to recognize that the criminal use of firearms (primarily hand guns and restricted weapons) could have been controlled by the enforcement of present legislation. This law makes criminals out of otherwise law-abiding citizens who do not register their long guns in protest. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers oppose the Federal Gun Control Law.¹⁹⁹⁹

HUNTING REGULATIONS**20**

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that hunting regulations should include the mandatory requirement of wearing blaze orange clothing while hunting.

INDEPENDENT PRODUCER COMMISSION**21**

1. The Alberta Grain Commission was originally established in 1972 with a mandate to develop policy recommendations for the Minister of Agriculture. The Alberta Grain Commission has identified as one of its mandates the promotion of policies set out by the Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development. Furthermore, the Alberta Grain Commission acts, in part, as a public relations arm of the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development. WRAP is of the opinion that the Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development should regularly review the mandate of the Alberta Grain Commission, and, if necessary, use the funds to develop an independent producer commission whose members would be selected by producers.²⁰⁰⁰

INPUT COSTS**22**

1. We request our provincial government to reinstate the farm fertilizer rebate program to offset the increases we are seeing in the price of nitrogen fertilizer due to high natural gas prices.^{2001, 2005}
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that the Federal Government should monitor the existence of mergers that would affect the price of fertilizer.¹⁹⁹⁷
3. The high cost of farm fuel and the high cost of fertilizer as a result of high natural gas prices have created a hardship for farmers at a time of low commodity prices. At the same time the province has reaped great financial benefits from these high prices. Therefore, some of the windfall benefit from these high prices should be used to lower energy related costs to farmers.²⁰⁰¹
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe in the maintenance of the 9 cents per liter marked fuel program for primary producers.¹⁹⁹⁸
5. The deregulation of the power industry has apparently caused a dramatic rise in the cost of electricity. As electricity represents a significant input cost to a number of agricultural producers, Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will lobby the provincial government to shield agricultural electrical users from the rising electrical costs.²⁰⁰¹

6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers investigate the feasibility of developing a province-wide database on oil and gas leases to include initial and rental compensation payments. This data base would serve as a reference resource for land owners in dealing with oil and gas companies.²⁰⁰³
7. Wild Rose support and endorse the following Resolution passed in 2003 by the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties supported by the Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops:
 - i. WHEREAS the Province of Alberta deregulated the electrical and natural gas industries in 2001;
 - ii. AND WHEREAS the Province's goal is to develop a competitive, efficient deregulated utility industry to ensure Albertans have dependable and affordable energy;
 - iii. AND WHEREAS Alberta's farmers, businesses, industry, residents and not-for-profit groups have faced hardships through higher annual energy costs, inconsistent provincial rebate programs, unfair and inefficient billing procedures and uncertainty in market supplies and contracts;
 - iv. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties request that the Government of Alberta abandon and reverse the process of deregulation of utilities.²⁰⁰⁴
8. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request that the Alberta Public Utilities Board review the Service Charge of electrical Power Bills.²⁰⁰⁴
9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Federal Government to maintain the Own-Use Import legislation.²⁰⁰⁶
10. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Provincial Government to initiate a rebate program on fertilizer and fuel used in the agricultural sector.²⁰⁰⁶
11. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers approach the Canadian Federation of Agriculture to have the federal government investigate the pricing practices of farm input manufacturers And be it further resolved that if the marketplace and prices are being manipulated, the Federal Government modify the Competition Act to ensure fairer pricing.²⁰⁰⁹

INSURANCE**23**

1. It is important, for both the Agriculture Minister and the Producers, to have ongoing awareness of the level of effectiveness of the crop insurance program. Thus, Wild Rose Agricultural Producers suggest the implementation of annual reviews of the program in a manner such that at least some of the subsequent recommendations may be considered prior to an upcoming crop year.²⁰⁰⁰
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers, in conjunction with other general farm organizations across Canada, produce a comparison of crop insurance in the different provinces to identify the best program possible.²⁰⁰³
3. Request Agricultural Financial Services Corporation to actively market the Canada-Alberta Crop Insurance program for 2003, with marketing to include effective advertising, holding informative sessions for groups of farmers, and providing individual farmers with relevant data to enable them to make informed assessments regarding the benefits of Crop Insurance in their individual Risk Management Plans.²⁰⁰³

4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development to enact the recommendations of the Alberta Crop Insurance Review Committee done in 2000.²⁰⁰³
5. Because of the tough financial conditions due to the drought that Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the provincial government to reinstate the Crop Insurance premium reduction program that was dropped for the 2002 crop year.²⁰⁰³
6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers ensure that in cases where Agriculture Financial Services Corporation uses GPS technology to reduce the acres insured under a producers contract, where it can be shown that if the producer has not changed the configuration of the insured property, then AFSC be obliged to honor the original contract and acres insured, or, refund the portion of the producers premium overpaid and adjust the producers index of production accordingly.²⁰⁰³
7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Alberta Government to have Alberta Financial Services Corporation Crop Insurance apply the global positioning system acreage data beginning with the following years crop in order to have the insured and insurer working on the same acres.²⁰⁰³
8. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage AFSC, in co-operation with other appropriate stakeholders, to re-introduce a workable and effective pasture insurance program for the 2004 crop year.²⁰⁰⁴
9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the federal government to develop a biotechnology policy, which considers market and consumer acceptance before licensing transgenic wheat and other new transgenic crop introductions as part of the overall crop licensing procedure.²⁰⁰⁴
10. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers approach Agricultural Financial Services Corporation to verify if Oat Producers are being disadvantaged by Oats being tied to the Barley Complex in association with the Spring Price Endorsement Program, and if so to make immediate modifications. That is, if oats standing alone and priced out of Chicago would be beneficial to farmers, that Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby AFSC to modify the 2003 Spring Price Endorsement Program for Oats.²⁰⁰⁴
11. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Government of Alberta, through Alberta Financial Services Corporation, to clarify, promote, and strengthen the benefits of participating in crop insurance.²⁰⁰⁵
12. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Provincial Government to instruct Alberta Financial Services Corporation to maintain the 70% revenue coverage and drop the requirement for Revenue Insurance to be linked with the Spring Price Endorsement.²⁰⁰⁶
13. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers request the Canadian Government quickly create a cost of production protection program for Canadian crop production that would provide similar levels of support as is provided by the Loan Deficiency Program that exists for our U.S. competitors.²⁰⁰⁶
14. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge Alberta Financial Services Corporation to ensure that farmers and ranchers are paid for wildlife damage to harvested grains, crops, including hay and seed crops, pastures, fences and farm equipment.²⁰⁰⁶
15. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Alberta Government to implement a thirty percent (30%) premium discount on Alberta hail and crop insurance, all risk premiums along with the

producers share of any spring price endorsement payouts being increased from fifty percent (50%) to seventy percent (70%) for the 2007/2008 crop year. ²⁰⁰⁷

16. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage Alberta Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) to seriously consider administrating the individualized area-based insurance program developed by Wild Rose Agricultural Producers and partners through the Private Sector Risk Management Program. ²⁰⁰⁸
17. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers ask AFSC to drop the 150% cap on an individual's yield to truly reflect their average and after five years of recorded yields of a particular crop, the acreage limitations of that crop also be dropped. ²⁰⁰⁸
18. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers ask AFSC to treat hail loss of crops the same way as wild life losses are treated: that is the amount of loss be added back in when calculating coverage levels. ²⁰⁰⁸
19. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers contact Agricultural Financial Services Corporation to discuss the Agri-Stability Participant Declaration that farmers have to sign to ensure it is a form that is acceptable and fair to farmers. ²⁰⁰⁹

INTENSIVE LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS

24

1. The health of our air, water, soil, livestock, and people need to be considered when animals are confined, and manure disposed of. Furthermore, there is much confusion over the development of intensive livestock operations within our province. Local municipal bodies are presently required to set the regulations. Our provincial government should develop scientifically justifiable regulation to protect our environment and the community's quality of life, while facilitating the development of intensive livestock operations. ²⁰⁰¹
2. The Alberta government, together with municipalities, must establish strong guidelines for the establishment of large intensive livestock operations. ²⁰⁰¹
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers form a Confined Feeding Operations advisory group so that the board of directors can be informed and kept up to date on CFO issues. This advisory group be made up of Wild Rose Agricultural Producers members. A common voice must be brought forward to the Alberta government so that a balanced approach can be achieved in the growth of the Intensive Livestock Industry in Alberta. ²⁰⁰⁵
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers endorses the position of the Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) and Canadian Pork Council (CPC) to encourage the federal government of Canada to proceed quickly with the WTO challenge on the mandatory Country of Origin Labelling (COOL) in the U.S. ²⁰⁰⁹

PLANT BREEDERS' RIGHTS

25

1. The legislation enacting Plant Breeder's Rights was written to not only protect the plant breeders, but to also ensure the right of Canadian producers to reproduce seed grown on their own farm. The only purpose of developing terminator gene technology is to make it necessary to purchase new seed each year; thereby taking away Canadian producer's rights to reproduce their own seed. This terminator gene technology would not only be a continuous financial burden to Canadian growers, but it would be devastating to third world countries as well. Legislation should be put in place to ensure the right of Canadian Producers to reproduce their own seeds, grown on their own farm. ¹⁹⁹⁹

2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal Government to ensure that farmers rights to retain his produced seed grain and oilseed for his own use regardless of variety be recognized and that plant breeding science be returned to the public sector.²⁰⁰⁵

PROPERTY**26**

1. The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-food ensures that carbon credits are owned by the landowners.²⁰⁰³
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that the Government of Alberta needs to have its Occupiers Liability Act amended to hold the landowners of deeded lands harmless in respect of personal injury sustained by the public, and, in so doing, protect farmers from the potentially high cost of a lawsuit, and associated insurance. ²⁰⁰⁰
3. When hunters, snowmobiles, etc. trespass legal suits can result if one of them is injured on farm property and the property does not have NO TRESPASSING posted. We believe that trespassers should do so at their own risk. Therefore, farmers should not be required to post a no trespassing sign in order to be protected for liability.
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers investigate the premise of supporting the concept of the Alternative Land Use Service (ALUS) proposal by Keystone Agricultural Producers.

RAILROADS**27**

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers insist that there should be a statutory review in which farmer's interests are considered and protected, prior to the removal of regulated caps on freight rates. ¹⁹⁹⁶
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will investigate the possibility of requesting a split of each Class 1 Canadian Railway CN/CP into a roadbed company and a rolling stock company under the anti-trust federal legislation. ²⁰⁰¹
3. Approximately one third of all rail lines operating in the Province of Alberta are provincially regulated. Any agreement and or recommendations by the Canadian Transportation Agency concerning running rights do not include provincially regulated rail lines. We therefore urge the Province of Alberta to examine and adopt policies that would encourage competition between and amongst both federally and provincially regulated rail lines. The Province of Alberta should also review the yet to be proclaimed Railway Act and regulations with a view to more closely reflecting the federal acts and regulations as it pertains to abandonment notification. ²⁰⁰¹
4. The Canadian Pacific branchline from Coalhurst to Turin has been abandoned and is not being maintained. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that where there are rail lines abandoned now and in the future, these right of ways should be returned to the quarter section and that the present owner of the property be given first right of refusal if the land is sold. ¹⁹⁹⁸
5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that governments should focus on providing the proper economic climate for abandoned rail lines to be purchased and operated. This may be one way of reducing detrimental impacts on the producer. ¹⁹⁹⁸
6. The federal government will be making a decision in the near future on the disposition of the 13,000 federally owned hopper car fleet. The ownership of the fleet by farmers will give them one of the major components in rail transportation, and increase their ability to participate in rate setting, car allocation, and other issues. We take the position that farmers should acquire ownership of the federal hopper car fleet and co-operate with other

organizations to accomplish this. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers also insist that hopper cars need to be owned and administered as a fleet and controlled by a structure that is representative and accountable to western grain farmers. ¹⁹⁹⁶

7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in its efforts to ensure that federally regulated rail lines remain responsible for fencing off private lands adjacent to rail lines. We also encourage the Province of Alberta to propose regulations that would make provincially regulated rail lines responsible for fencing private lands adjacent to rail lines. ²⁰⁰¹
8. Rail movement of grain from the Peace Country is seriously hampered by deterioration of tracks. Therefore, Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will write a letter to Rail Link requesting that the track be upgraded before something more serious than the two derailments of the past year occurs. ²⁰⁰¹
9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers actively continue supporting the Farmer Rail Car Coalition for Purchase of the Fleet of Rail Cars for the Movement of Grain. ²⁰⁰⁵
10. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Provincial and Federal Governments to implement a moratorium on rail line abandonment on the prairies – more specifically the longest and straightest line on the prairies, line 43:03 from Camrose to Alliance. ²⁰⁰⁷
11. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urges CN to meet its obligation to move in the Peace Region by supplying an adequate number of grain cars.
12. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Provincial and Federal government to undertake an independent study to determine the most efficient and effective way of restructuring rail transportation to ensure that the Peace River Areas of Alberta and British Columbia receive the optimum level of service. ²⁰⁰⁸

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

28

1. Farm incomes and rural development are intricately related. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that the federal and provincial governments should host rural development summits to discuss implementing effective policies that represent the unique needs of rural Alberta. These summits could include representatives of education, health, business, local government and agriculture. ²⁰⁰⁰
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that the Provincial Government should increase financial support for municipalities, targeting roads and infrastructure development, to offset costs downloaded by other levels of government. ¹⁹⁹⁹
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that it is in the Provincial Government's best interest to cooperate with interested groups, and to develop support for roads and infrastructure development in rural Alberta. Declining or stagnant farm incomes, elevator rationalization, consolidated transportation systems, detached or strained urban / rural relations etc. all have implications on the growth of rural Alberta and need to be monitored as well. ¹⁹⁹⁹
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal government for the following changes to taxation policy:
 - a. Bring back the full first-year depreciation rates on capital cost allowance for items used to grow food and produce.
 - b. Increase the deduction for small tools to \$1000 from the present \$200 and index it to inflation for future years

- c. Reinstate the five year block averaging provisions in the income tax for farmers.²⁰⁰³
5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal Government to reinstate the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration/Act - Rural Water Development Program (PFRA - RWDP) with it's historic function of assisting individual farmers in Alberta, both monetary and technically, with their water development projects.²⁰⁰³
6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the provincial government discontinue the current exemption policy for farm residences on the condition that farmland would no longer be taxed for educational purposes.²⁰⁰³
7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the provincial government to standardize, educate and promote the "flashing green light policy" for emergency responders.²⁰⁰²
8. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Official Languages Commission to change the delivery format of the secondary language of Environment Canada's radio weather broadcasts.²⁰⁰³
9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby Environment Canada to have only one language per weather channel frequency.²⁰⁰⁴
10. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers endorses the Canadian Federation of Agriculture's proposed Canadian Farm Bill.²⁰⁰⁷
11. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers along with the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan and Keystone Agricultural Producers will encourage the Western Producer to provide a regular forum for expressing agricultural policy.²⁰⁰⁷

SAFETY NETS 29

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will lobby for linkage between safety net programs that allow producers access to the maximum benefits from all the programs.²⁰⁰¹
2. If new Agricultural Policy Framework programs for Business Risk Management are not in place by February 1, 2003, then existing safety net programs need to stay into effect for 2003.²⁰⁰³
3. With Regards to the Net Income Stabilization Account
 - a. that the Federal Government and the National NISA Committee should not exclude freight and elevation expenses in the calculation of eligible net sales. The Net Income Stabilization Account (NISA) point of sale guidelines state that grain sales eligible for NISA are to be "net sales" after freight and elevation are deducted from gross grain sales delivered to the elevator.¹⁹⁹⁹
 - b. that the Provincial Government and the Department of Agriculture should ensure that NISA is de-coupled from FIDP.¹⁹⁹⁹
 - c. that the Government of Alberta and the Alberta Safety Net Coalition accept the position, regarding safety nets, of supporting 25,000 producers in Alberta who participate in NISA.¹⁹⁹⁸
 - d. that the Alberta Government needs to participate in a cooperative manner with their Federal Government counterparts in the NISA program.¹⁹⁹⁷
 - e. that the Provincial and Federal Government ensure the eligibility of harvested forage

and forage seeds for contribution to the NISA program.¹⁹⁹⁶

- f. that the Alberta and the Federal government should grant Alberta's cattle sector voluntary participation in the NISA program.²⁰⁰¹
 - g. the existing Net Income Stabilization Program (NISA) be maintained until appropriate changes can be made that are acceptable to producers.²⁰⁰³
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that the Provincial Government and the Department of Agriculture have negative margins included in the calculation of FIDP.¹⁹⁹⁹
 5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers along with the other farm organizations in the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Grain Growers of Canada, and now the Canadian Cattleman's Association continue to push for full negative margin coverage in the CAIS Program.²⁰⁰⁴
 6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal Government to make the CAIS Program producer deposits tax deductible.²⁰⁰⁴
 7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Federal Government to include deemed (i.e. letter of credit) deposits for the CAIS Program.²⁰⁰⁴
 8. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal and Provincial Governments to include machinery repairs as an eligible expense for calculating Production Margins for the CAIS Program.²⁰⁰⁴
 9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal and Provincial Governments to change to seven year averaging instead of five; for calculating Reference Margins in the CAIS Program.²⁰⁰⁴
 10. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal and Provincial Governments to allow all custom work to be eligible for both Income and Expenses in calculating Production Margins for the CAIS Program.²⁰⁰⁴
 11. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal and Provincial Governments to allow farmers to roll Fund II of their NISA Account into the CAIS Program as a tax exempt deposit.²⁰⁰⁴
 12. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Government of Alberta, through Alberta Financial Services Corporation, to clarify, promote, and strengthen the benefits of participating in the Canadian Agriculture Income Stabilization (CAIS) Program.²⁰⁰⁵
 13. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in taking the necessary steps with the federal government to ensure that the reference margin in the CAIS program, whatever the commodity produced, can be adjusted in order to reflect the prices of a normal market, that is, not impacted by international subsidy or market access constraints.²⁰⁰⁵
 14. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers work with other provincial farm organizations and the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in strongly encouraging Agriculture and Agri-food Canada (AAFC) to include producer input in Agriculture Policy Framework.²⁰⁰⁵
 15. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support and insist that Agriculture and Agri-food Canada assume the mandate of increased research and innovation as outlined in the Agriculture Policy Framework including production research.²⁰⁰⁵
 16. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers support the immediate elimination of the producer deposit requirement for the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS) program, retroactive

to the 2003 program year.²⁰⁰⁵

17. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Federal Government to change all CAIS reference margins from 2003 forward and that margin calculations be to a full accrual basis while retaining the cash basis for tax reporting.²⁰⁰⁶
18. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers ask the CAIS advisory committee members to investigate the impact and feasibility of calculating and adjusting commodity prices to allow payouts to reach sustainable levels.²⁰⁰⁶
19. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers continue to urge the Provincial and Federal Governments to make CAIS more responsive to the national farm crisis.²⁰⁰⁶
20. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Federal and Provincial governments to make changes to the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS) program utilizing significant producer input so the program is simple, easily understandable, transparent, bankable, and is of major positive economic impact to producers.²⁰⁰⁶
21. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers would like diversified farm units be allowed to break out the individual operations so to qualify for any subsidization that any particular operation may be eligible for.²⁰⁰⁸
22. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the provincial and federal governments to allow producers to opt into the AgriStability program, with no penalty, once that program guidelines are established. Further, that any time significant changes are made to the program in future, producers have the same opportunity to opt in.²⁰⁰⁸
23. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge both the Federal and Provincial Governments to adopt Policies and support programs that mirror (Grain floor pricing) the United States of America in order to avoid trade disputes as well as to ensure Canadian producers are not put in an economic disadvantage.²⁰⁰⁸

SURFACE RIGHTS

30

1. The Provincial Government, under the Surface Rights Act, has set up a provision to compensate landowners for lease rent where the operator has gone bankrupt or otherwise stopped paying rent. Furthermore, any monies collected currently go into general revenue. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe that compensation payments under Section 39 of the Surface Rights Act should not come out of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development's budget.¹⁹⁹⁹
2. When seismic activity is done, by drilling shot holes with subsequent detonation of dynamite, the open shot holes allow water from the surface to accumulate. WRAP believes that seismic holes should be sealed. Landowners need proper protection and the energy sector must be held accountable.¹⁹⁹⁷
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the provincial government to include inflation in their award calculations of the Alberta Surface Rights Board.²⁰⁰²
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers co-ordinate the formation of a group of organizations concerned with surface rights review.²⁰⁰²
5. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers seek changes to the Alberta Surface Rights Act whereby compensation for the acquisition of lands for class one pipelines can be by one lump sum payment or by an annual or periodic payment of equal or amounts over a period of time; and that such agreements between land owners and pipeline developers are able to be reviewed every five years over the life of these installations.^{2002, 2005}

6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Provincial Government to amend the Surface Rights Act for the purpose of creating more equitable compensation for landowners.²⁰⁰⁵
7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers take a more active role on surface rights issues.²⁰⁰⁶
8. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Alberta Government to separate the landowner from the Land Agent's Licensing Act by removing Section 1.C.II from the Act. Furthermore, the land owner shall also be able to access any expertise he deems applicable and as the proponent initiated the negotiations of the land, the proponent should be expected to pay for the cost of the advisors the land owner uses.²⁰⁰⁷
9. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urges the provincial government to amend the Surface Rights Act, to update those sections pertaining to entry fees, annual pipeline rentals, cumulative effects of having more than one facility on your land, and to ensure that reclamation liability is not downloaded to the land owner.²⁰⁰⁹
10. Whereas oil and gas producers are reluctant to tailor payments on adverse affect to specific and increased agricultural costs:
Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Surface Rights Board to re-examine the system that adverse affect is paid on.²⁰⁰⁹

TAXATION

31

1. The tax assessment proposal suggesting a change to market value is highly controversial. It could, quite conceivably, lead to much higher tax rates. We believe that tax assessment be based on the production value of the farmland. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers oppose any attempt to change the assessment of agricultural land from productive value to market value.¹⁹⁹⁷
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe in the elimination of taxes on farm fuels and natural gas in the production of fertilizer; as well as agricultural exemptions for both tire recycling fees and environmental taxes on oil, oil containers, and filters.¹⁹⁹⁸
3. Farmer-owned grain storage should not be taxed. Condo-owned storage at the initial grain terminal is farmer - owned. We believe that farmer-owned condo storage facilities should be exempt from municipal property taxation.¹⁹⁹⁶
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urges that Revenue Canada introduce a five-year block averaging provision for farmers filing farm income tax.¹⁹⁹⁹
5. Farmland is no longer an appropriate method of raising taxes for educational funding. We believe that the government does not need to collect education tax from land used for agricultural purposes.¹⁹⁹⁹
6. The Canadian Government committed Canada to a 6 percent cut in carbon emissions at Kyoto in relation to 1991 emissions. There is some action on receiving carbon credits on agricultural land. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourages the granting of credits rather than imposing a carbon tax.²⁰⁰⁰
7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby Canada Customs and Revenue Agency to index the Capital Gains Exemption to allow for inflation.²⁰⁰⁴
8. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers undertake a study to access the acceptability and merit of a consumer agricultural revenue deficiency fee.²⁰⁰⁶

1. (The following is all taken from the CFA Trade policy statement and Message From the President on trade policy) Primary agriculture is not just another industrial sector. Unlike other primary industries, agriculture is not carried out by large corporations. It is done by a large number of individual farms. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers shares the belief with the CFA that trade policies must reflect the requirements arising from the unique characteristics of this sector. ^{CFA}
2. In regards to World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations:
 - a. We agree with the CFA that Canada must approach the next round of the trade negotiations in a thoughtful manner. A new agreement which just continues the existing formula of reduction of protection and support, without correcting the inequalities of the current agreement, will not necessarily be beneficial to Canadian farmers. In fact, such an agreement may just exacerbate current inequalities. ^{CFA}
 - b. There are different views between [agricultural] sectors on some negotiating issues . . . due to the different structure and marketing interests of the various sectors. Despite these differences there is a great deal of consensus on what should be Canada's negotiating goals . . . [Therefore,] the development of Canada's negotiating mandate should be an incremental process. The initial mandate should focus on our overall goals and those specifics where there is [strong] consensus. There should be ongoing evaluation, analysis and consultation to refine and expand the mandate on a timely basis as the negotiations develop. ^{CFA}
 - c. Canada should not only defend its right to enable producers to establish and maintain effective marketing structures, but seek allies and vigorously pursue WTO rules that clearly confirm the right of countries to grant producer supported marketing bodies the power to regulate the volume of domestic product markets, to operate a central desk selling agency and pool returns in a fashion that does not distort international trade. ^{CFA}
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Health Canada to remove their ban on Japanese beef providing that the Japanese beef industry fits into the criteria as spelled out by the minimum BSE regulation as a step towards opening doors for Canadian beef exports. ²⁰⁰⁵
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the CFA, the Government of Canada, and the WTO negotiators that under no circumstances should the Government of Canada trade away, or compromise the right of farmers to determine their own marketing structures such as the CWB and supply management boards. ²⁰⁰⁵
5. Whereas the tariff on our Canadian hard red spring wheat by the USA has put a stop on the wheat being exported to the USA by the CWB. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Alberta and Federal Governments to lobby the USA Government to end the 14% trade tariff on Canadian hard red spring wheat. ²⁰⁰⁵
6. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Federal Government to assist in covering the costs associated with instigating or defending anti-dumping trade actions. ²⁰⁰⁶
7. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers asks the Alberta Government to strongly oppose notices in the United States Federal Register that would, if implemented, impair the market opportunities and access for Alberta sugar thick beet juice given to Canada upon implementation of WTO and NAFTA agreements. Furthermore, Wild Rose Agricultural

Producers strongly urges the Alberta Government to vigorously pursue through the Alberta office in Washington D.C any new market opportunities and access which may arise as the final implementation of NAFTA sweetener agreements between Mexico and the U.S reach final implementation as of January, 1, 2008.²⁰⁰⁷

VALUE ADDED**33**

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby both the provincial and federal governments to increase Canadian owned slaughter capacity by encouraging new facilities and the expansion of existing facilities.²⁰⁰⁵
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Federal Government to assist with the development of alternate disposal methods of slaughter house animal wastes.²⁰⁰⁵
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Provincial and Federal government that beef packers should not feed, own or control cattle except in the 14 day period before slaughter including exemptions for co-operatives and packers with less than 2% of the national slaughter.²⁰⁰⁵
4. Whereas cattle producers were once able to have rendering plants pick up dead carcasses at the farm at no charge, and; Whereas the new rendering charge is a financial hardship to producers, therefore; Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourage the Provincial Government to assist with the added costs producers now face with rendering.²⁰⁰⁵

VEHICLES & LICENSES**34**

1. Prairie farmers have lost the Crow Benefit and rail branch lines are continuously being abandoned. At the same time, large inland terminals are built forcing farmers to haul their produce farther. We believe that the Alberta Government should maintain the present schedule for licensing and insuring farm vehicles as it is at present, allowing farmers to haul their own products to market.²⁰⁰¹
2. Highway safety is a concern of all responsible citizens of Alberta. Larger farm vehicles are being used to haul farmer's produce to market, but those vehicles travel much less than commercial vehicles. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers encourages the existence of a program of reduced inspection of farm vehicles over 24,300 kg.¹⁹⁹⁸
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers believe the government should keep marked fuel and farm insurance and licenses available for farmers when hauling farmer-owned products. We also accept the concept of safety inspections at extended time intervals that are pro-rated to kilometers traveled.¹⁹⁹⁸
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby the Alberta Government to enforce regulations concerning off highway vehicles such as snowmobiles and all terrain vehicles. Furthermore, Wild Rose Agricultural Producers will work with snowmobile and ATV associations to encourage their safe use and respect for private property rights.²⁰⁰⁷

WATER USAGE**35**

1. Useable water should not be used by the petroleum and natural gas industry for injections for oil and gas recovery.²⁰⁰²

1. Alberta's agricultural production depends on the availability of water and markets. Alberta has abundant water available in many areas. Agricultural productions from nations, which compete in our domestic markets, are also dependent on reliable water. Even though our governments deny the possibility, the potential export of water remains a frequent topic in the media. Furthermore, our members encourage the commodity groups, with which they are involved, to provide input to Wild Rose Agricultural Producers on the potential economic benefits to farmers and the Alberta economy, that will accrue as a result of producing food and products for domestic and export markets, rather than exporting the water itself.²⁰⁰⁰
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers accept the following water policy and lobby the federal government to adopt it as well:

Water is a key Canadian resource. The sound management of Canada's water is essential to the health and economic well being of Canadians. The sound management of our water resource is also essential to the sustainability and growth of Canadian agriculture.

Canada must retain the sovereign right to decide whether or not it will allow water within its jurisdiction to be exploited and the pace and manner of any exploitation. When negotiating international agreements, the Canadian government must do everything necessary to insure that Canada retains sole control of the development and use of its water resource, including the right to decide if water is to be exported and the volume and timing of any exportation. A specific exemption from any trade agreements, if required, should be pursued.²⁰⁰⁵

1. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers lobby our provincial Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development to cover our costs of a full membership in the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.²⁰⁰²
2. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers' membership fee be increased to \$140.00 + GST for a one year membership and to a total of \$340.00 + GST for a three year membership with \$10 from each membership being designated specifically for regional activities.²⁰⁰⁸
3. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers organization consider hiring a "policy researcher" whose role it will be to generate information and data on the impact of current policy and to help the board formulate new policy proposals.²⁰⁰⁶
4. Wild Rose Agricultural Producers urge the Provincial government to give the discretion to producers to forward check-off dollars to farm organizations of choice.²⁰⁰⁶