



Meeting the Reality of Sustainable Sourcing

The EFP is a self-administered whole farm risk assessment tool that demonstrates a producer's commitment to environmental farming.

EFP content continually evolves to meet emerging market demand and complement programs and standards developed by major agricultural industry groups. Changes are made in consultation with these groups and tested by producers. For example, we are adding a Species at Risk module to help meet global demand for sustainable sourcing.

The EFP is now in an online format, which makes the process faster, increases confidentiality and avoids duplication of effort. There are online resources and 60+ EFP technicians in Alberta to provide assistance.

We are also working with people from EFP programs across Canada with a long term goal of developing Canadian standards to increase global sales of Canadian food products.



The Alberta Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) is a program operated by the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA) on behalf of the Government of Alberta.

“We sell into a global marketplace and those companies demand (an environmental) commitment.”
– Terence Hochstein, Potato Growers of Alberta

Farmers Committed to Environmental Stewardship

Over 9,000 Alberta producers have demonstrated their commitment to environmental stewardship by completing an EFP. Many more will want to complete one to meet the rising demand for sustainably sourced food products.

Reasons to Complete an EFP

- An EFP helps you identify and address environmental risks in your operation. Addressing these risks increases your operational efficiency and reduces farm costs
- Completing an EFP makes you eligible for funding under the Growing Forward program
- An EFP can help you meet the growing demand for sustainably sourced products
- Protecting water, air and soil quality helps sustain production of crops and livestock over time
- Using good environmental practices leaves a healthy and productive farm for the next generation

“We did an Environmental Farm plan when they first came out and when we make ranch changes today, we still go back and reference that workbook.”

— Sean McGrath, Vermilion Farmer

How it Works

There is no cost for registering or completing an EFP and confidentiality is guaranteed.

After registering, you will gain access to the online EFP workbook and can start working on your plan. You will be assigned to a trained EFP technician near your farm who can assist you if needed. An EFP can be completed in less than a week. It will then be reviewed; if everything's done, you will receive an EFP Letter of Completion, your 'passport' for entering many national and world markets.

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