

SADDLE HILLS COUNTY



POLICY TITLE <u>WEED CONTROL ON PRIVATE LAND</u>	POLICY NO. AG07	PAGE 1 OF 2
DEPARTMENT: <u>AGRICULTURE</u>		

COUNCIL RESOLUTION	DCS	DPW	CAO	CROSS REFERENCE	EFFECTIVE DATE
NO.: 13.11.01.05 DATE: March 14, 2000					January 11, 2005

POLICY:

Saddle Hills County will aggressively control weeds by implementing the Weed Control Act of Alberta.

OBJECTIVES:

The Weed Control program’s objectives are to:

1. eradicate restricted weeds, to control the spread and reproduction of noxious weeds and prevent spread or scattering of nuisance weeds;
2. protect the agricultural productivity of land;
3. prevent weed spread;
4. use extension as an effective tool for weed control.

SERVICE TOOLS:

1. Arrange area meetings to review the A.S.B. Weed Program and offer producers’ assistance in planning individual weed control programs.
2. Employ weed inspectors and roadside sprayers from May or June to the end of August. The duties will be set out in a well defined job description. Employees will be under direct supervision of the Ag. Fieldman.
3. Educate the farmers so they can prevent the initial establishment of weeds that might become a problem in the future.
4. The County will rent, to the resident farmers of Saddle Hills County, skid mount sprayers for patch control of restricted and noxious weeds.

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE:

1. **Chronic problem areas** will be handled in the following manner:
 - i) Severe problem areas that were found the previous season are issued a “Notice to Remedy Weed Problem” (Appendix C) in January or February with an expiry date of June 15th of the current year.
 - ii) Other problem areas that were found the previous season are sent “Letters of Notification” (Appendix D) in January or February outlining the problem weed and location it was found.
 - iii) In the spring the inspectors will inspect lands that were issued a “Notice to Remedy Weed Problem” and complete a Weed Inspection Report (Appendix E). Inspectors will contact these land owners personally to ask their intended control methods.

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POLICY – continued

- iv) Inspectors will inspect lands that were sent “Letters of Notification” and complete a Weed Inspection Report. Inspectors will contact landowners and ask about their intended weed control methods.
- v) Inspectors will inspect lands that were issued a “Notice to Remedy Weed Problem” on the expiry date of the notice to ensure control work has been completed.
- vi) If control work has not been completed the inspectors will notify the Ag. Fieldman and the control work will be completed at the land owner’s expense.

2. Weed problems will be handled in the following manner:

- i) Inspectors discover weed problems during routine summer inspections and/or by complaint.
- ii) Inspectors complete a Weed Inspection Report and a “Request to Remedy” (Appendix F) and deliver it where possible, or mail it.
- iii) Inspectors follow up on “Request to Remedy” to ensure control work is completed.
- iv) If control work is not completed then the Ag. Fieldman will issue a “Notice to Remedy”.
- v) Inspectors follow up on the “Notice to Remedy” to ensure the control work has been completed by deadline on the “Notice”. A notice can be appealed within the time specified in the notice or 10 days, whichever is less (minimum period can be one day).
- vi) If control work has not been completed the inspector will notify the Ag. Fieldman and control work will be completed at the landowner’s expense.

FINANCING:

- 1. Provincial grants will be utilized to assist with the hiring of seasonal employees.
- 2. The landowner will receive an invoice for any control work done on private lands. Unpaid charges for non-compliance will be added to the tax roll, after 30 days, as an additional tax against the land concerned, and collected in the same manner as taxes.