

The extreme heat and lack of precipitation in Manitoba is of great concern for many grain and cattle producers. As the conditions persist, crops will continue to deteriorate. The AgrilInsurance program provides flexibility for producers to put their crop to alternate use during the growing season. Alternate use means a change to the use of a crop from what was originally intended when planting in the spring. For example, if you indicated on your Seeded Acreage Report that you were growing oats for grain but choose to cut it for greenfeed instead, this would be considered alternate use.

If you are considering putting your crop to an alternate use (silage, greenfeed, grazing) for your own use or someone else's, contact MASC **immediately** by phone or email. Please have the legal land descriptions and number of acres you plan to put to an alternate use available.

What will MASC do once I've contacted my service centre?

In most cases, MASC will register a claim and an adjustor will attend your farm to complete an appraisal prior to you putting the crop to an alternate use. If an adjustor cannot appraise the crop before you want to put it to an alternate use, you will be asked to leave representative strips. *The strips must be at least 10 feet wide and the full length of the field. One strip must be left for every 40 acres.* The best situation is for the adjustor and producer to agree on where the strips should be left to be most representative of the field. The appraised yield will be used to calculate claims and future coverage.

How does the appraisal process work?

The appraisal determined by the adjustor will be used to finalize the insurance claim and will be included when calculating your future coverage. For example, if the appraisal is 20 bushels per acre and you elect to cut it for feed, MASC will count these 20 bushels per acre as if it were harvested for grain, pending the adjustment factor to in-field appraisals (see below). The proceeds from alternate use production (i.e. greenfeed or silage sales) are not part of your crop claim calculation. The assessment can also be helpful in determining the value of the crop if it will be used for an alternate use for your operation or to sell.

How will claims work for those who want to turn the small grain cereal crops to greenfeed, silage, or grazing?

For oats, barley, triticale, fall rye, and all wheat types, MASC will apply a quality adjustment factor to in-field appraisals that would reflect the expectation of poor quality (e.g. Sample on Account of Lightweight) resulting from the dry conditions. Appraisals will be reduced by 40 per cent for claim purposes based on the relative difference in value between poor quality production and the guaranteed grade over the past five years.

How is my future coverage affected?

The full yield appraisal, prior to any quality adjustment, is used in the calculation for future coverage.

Why is grain corn not included in the list of crops with a special adjustment?

MASC is monitoring the grain corn crop closely. Based on the current stage of growth, an accurate appraisal and determination of quality is difficult at this time.

What if I decide to combine my production after having an appraisal?

The actual yield and quality from the harvested production will be used for claim calculation purposes through a post-harvest claim.

Do I still qualify for the quality adjustment factor if I have already put my cereal crop to an alternate use?

Yes, MASC will identify these claims and apply the quality adjustment factor.

If I have feed to sell, how can I market it?

If producers have greenfeed, hay, straw, or pastureland available or are looking to purchase greenfeed, hay, straw, or pastureland, they can use ARD's online resource to buy or sell - [Manitoba Hay Listing Service \(gov.mb.ca\)](http://Manitoba Hay Listing Service (gov.mb.ca)).

For more information on Managing Dry Conditions for Crops and Livestock, visit: <https://gov.mb.ca/agriculture/dry.html>.

Always contact MASC before putting your crop to an alternate use.