

POLICY MANUAL

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	Fusarium Graminearum Policy	September 11, 2024	C24-231

PURPOSE:

Fusarium graminearum is a serious disease that may be introduced into an area via feed grain, seed, grass hay or straw. This fungus causes Fusarium Head Blight in cereal grains, which contributes to losses in yield and quality. Starland County recognizes the need to prevent the introduction or establishment of this disease.

PROCEDURE:

This policy shall be reviewed annually.

The following guidelines are to be considered and implemented by the Agricultural Fieldman and staff to ensure that we reduce the prevalence and prevent the establishment of this disease:

1. Producers in Starland County should test their seed grain prior to cleaning for the presence of Fusarium graminearum infected seed. Any grain found to contain Fusarium graminearum should not be used for seed.
2. Producers will be encouraged to treat their seed, follow proper crop rotations, and use complementary agronomic practices to reduce or prevent the establishment of Fusarium graminearum.
3. Producers in Starland County will be encouraged to access seed, feed grain and forage from Fusarium free areas. Producers will be encouraged to insist on having a Fusarium test performed at the source prior to purchase.

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4. The Starland County Agricultural Services Department will conduct random sampling of fields for the presence of Fusarium graminearum within the County. Samples found to contain Fusarium will be dealt with in accordance with the Agricultural Pests Act of Alberta.

5. The Starland County ASB will work with our stationary and portable seed plants and ask for assistance to ensure that producers conduct seed tests prior to cleaning their seed.

6. The Starland County ASB will provide current information about Fusarium graminearum management to our producers through newsletters, the county website, local newspapers and informational workshops which outline best management practices aimed at preventing the introduction or establishment of this disease.

Additional information on **Fusarium graminearum** , FHB and the Alberta **Fusarium graminearum** Management Plan can be found at www.alberta.ca/alberta-fusarium-graminearum-management-plan.aspx

POLICY AMENDMENTS/REVIEW: