

## ELIMINATION OF DYED FUEL

UFA is disappointed with the Alberta Government's recent decision not to move forward with our proposal to eliminate dyed fuel requirements. According to the Department of Finance, this decision was based on their interpretation of feedback gathered through the online consultation survey circulated to stakeholders in late summer 2025. UFA, along with several other affected stakeholders, has serious concerns about how this survey was communicated to Albertans. We believe the survey framed the issue inaccurately, misrepresented the true intent of the proposed change, and failed to outline the meaningful benefits it would bring to producers.

Despite this setback, UFA remains committed to advocating for a path forward. We continue to work closely with the Alberta Government and industry partners to advance recommendations that will streamline, modernize, and reduce regulatory burdens that impact our co-operative and our members' ability to operate effectively in 2026 and beyond.

Current requirements to dye off road and farm use diesel and gasoline are outdated and create ongoing economic, environmental, and competitive challenges. These regulations impose significant administrative costs on UFA. Eliminating the dyed fuel requirement would generate substantial cost savings for the co-operative and, ultimately, reduce costs for our membership.

## FEDERAL BUDGET CUTS TO AGRICULTURE RESEARCH

The closure of the Lacombe Research Centre represents a significant reduction in Canada's publicly funded agricultural research capacity, particularly for western livestock and forage systems. Its long term effects will be felt across innovation, producer support, regional competitiveness, and the resilience of the national research network. Although framed as a fiscal efficiency measure, the shutdown ultimately risks weakening Canada's ability to keep pace with evolving production demands, sustainability pressures, and market challenges in one of the country's most vital agricultural regions.

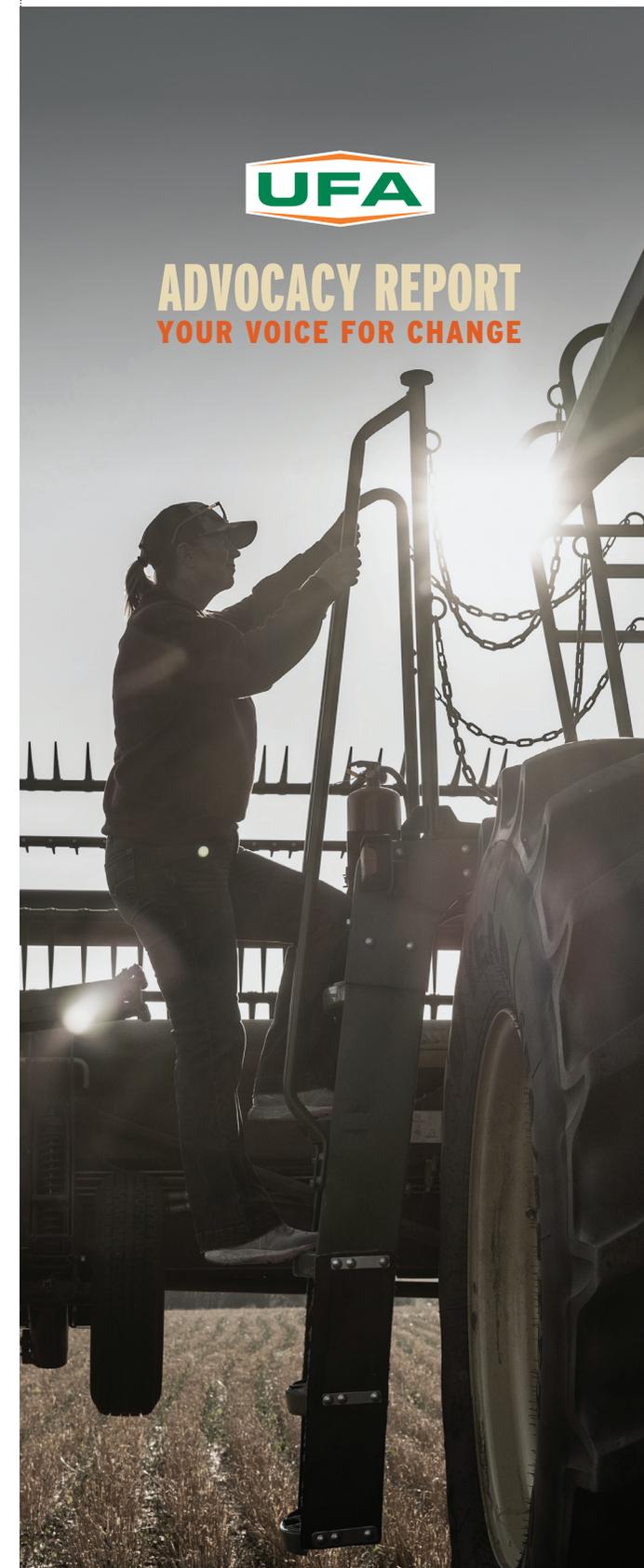
UFA urges the federal government to reconsider the Lacombe Research Center closure or at the very least work with stakeholders impacted to ensure that gaps are filled by other areas of funding and personnel.

## UFA PODCAST SERIES

UFA is now in its second season of "Digging In with UFA" Podcast series. This series is designed to help inform UFA members, other agriculture stakeholders and the general public to gain a better understanding on critical issues impacting the agriculture sector and UFA member's business operations.



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We encourage you to read on and learn how UFA is advocating with various levels of government. 

UFA IS ONE OF CANADA'S  
**LARGEST & MOST DYNAMIC**  
AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES

WITH OVER  
**120,000 MEMBERS.**

UFA is proud to stand with farmers, producers, and ranchers across Western Canada as one of the country's largest agricultural co-operatives, supported by more than 120,000 members. Every day, our network delivers the products, services and solutions that help keep your operations running, whether you're managing crops, caring for livestock or supporting your local community.

As a co-op, our direction comes from you. Your experience, challenges and priorities shape the decisions we make. That's why advocating for farmers is one of our most important responsibilities. We work to ensure that government policies, regulations and funding programs consider the real world impacts on your farm, your bottom line and the rural communities you rely on.

Agriculture is changing quickly, Trading markets, weather, technology and rules are shifting faster than ever. It's important that UFA is at the table as governments make decisions, and even more important that your perspective is heard in those discussions. Through strong advocacy, meaningful partnerships and ongoing education and awareness efforts, we are here to carry the collective voice of farmers and agri businesses on the issues that matter today and into the future.



## CANADA MEXICO & US RELATIONS

Western Canada's agricultural economy relies on a strong, predictable CUSMA framework to support its export-driven sectors. Amid rising U.S. protectionism, coordinated dialogue, advocacy, and collaboration with like-minded partners are more important than ever to ensure agriculture remains competitive, resilient, and mutually beneficial across North America.

UFA's advocacy efforts will align closely with agricultural commodity groups and industry organizations to ensure that CUSMA negotiations deliver several key outcomes:

- Preservation of science based human, animal, and plant health measures, preventing arbitrary or politically motivated trade barriers.
- A strong and effective dispute settlement mechanism that upholds predictable and reliable market conditions.
- Expanded market access for priority Western Canadian commodities, including beef, grains, and oilseeds.
- Protection of Western Canadian agriculture from collateral damage related to trade disputes arising in other sectors.

Through coordinated advocacy and strategic partnerships, UFA will work to safeguard fair market access, uphold science based standards, and maintain the stability that Western Canada's agricultural economy relies on.

## PROPOSED CFIA TRACEABILITY REQUIREMENTS

United Farmers of Alberta Co-operative Ltd. (UFA) supports strong animal health and food safety systems, but shares industry-wide concerns that the proposed Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) livestock traceability amendments place unreasonable burdens on primary producers—especially small and medium operations—without sufficient support or transition planning.

Shortened reporting timelines and expanded movement reporting requirements would create disproportionate administrative and technological pressures. Many producers, including older farmers and those in rural areas with limited connectivity, may struggle to meet complex digital reporting expectations. Reducing ruminant movement reporting to seven days—down from the current 30–60 days, is operationally unrealistic for many UFA members and increases the risk of inadvertent non compliance. Extending mandatory reporting to group movements, such as community pastures, would further complicate record keeping during already demanding periods.

UFA appreciates the federal government's decision to pause implementation and urges a full reconsideration of the amendments. To protect producers while supporting effective traceability, UFA recommends:

- Longer, more flexible reporting windows.
- Reduced or exempted requirements for low risk and direct to consumer operations.
- Clear, accessible technical support, including non digital options.
- Ongoing, meaningful consultation with producers in rural and remote regions.
- Financial assistance to offset technology, training, and transition costs.

UFA remains committed to advocate for practical, achievable traceability solutions that strengthen food safety without jeopardizing farm viability.

## PMRA REFORM

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) plays a critical role in enabling Canadian producers to remain competitive while ensuring the safety of consumers and the environment. Any changes to PMRA's funding model or regulatory approach must be grounded in credible, science based decision making. To protect the integrity of the system, PMRA must remain focused on its core mandate—not the priorities of external organizations with narrow or ideological agendas.

For too long, science has been overshadowed by external pressure. This has slowed innovation, discouraged investment, and placed unnecessary strain on producers. Restoring science as the foundation of PMRA decisions is essential to maintaining Canada's credibility on the global stage and supporting the long term sustainability of Canadian agriculture.

Crop protection products are indispensable tools that allow farmers to produce safe, sustainable, and high quality food for a growing global population. The science supporting their responsible use is extensive, and producers rely on these tools to maintain yields, quality, and environmental stewardship.

UFA supports responsible and judicious use of crop protection tools. However, regulatory changes must not undermine farmers' ability to remain productive and competitive. PMRA must fully recognize the real world impacts of its decisions on farmers and rural communities when developing new policies.

To ensure PMRA can meet its responsibilities effectively and uphold science based regulation, increased and stable funding is essential. Additional resources will allow PMRA to:

- Accelerate product reviews to bring newer, safer, and more effective tools to market faster.
- Reduce the growing re evaluation backlog, driven by the volume and complexity of modern scientific data.
- Strengthen transparency and trust, providing clearer, more accessible information to producers and stakeholders.

## NEXT AGRICULTURE & POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Western provinces will be key in shaping the Next Agriculture Policy Framework (NPF) for 2028–2033, given their leadership in grain, oilseed, and livestock production and their heightened exposure to climate driven risks. As governments prepare to update priorities first established under SCAP, Western perspectives will carry significant weight, especially on issues tied to competitiveness, supply chain performance, and economic sustainability.

UFA is well positioned to influence this process. With deep producer relationships and a broad retail, input, and fuel distribution network, UFA has real insight on the day to day challenges affecting Western producers. These insights can help governments refine Business Risk Management tools and shape practical producer lead programs with a main focus on economic sustainability.

As an essential link in Western supply chains, UFA also provides visibility into transportation pressures, input availability, and cost of production challenges. This perspective supports NPF priorities related to supply chain reliability, regulatory modernization, and export competitiveness.

UFA's growing role in supporting technology adoption and sustainable production positions it as a valuable partner in designing innovation incentives and low carbon transition initiatives that are realistic for Prairie farms.

Through coordinated engagement with provincial and federal partners, UFA can help ensure the next policy framework reflects Western realities, strengthens competitiveness, and supports a resilient and sustainable agriculture sector across the Prairies.

Consultation has already begun and UFA urges members to participate in the online engagement which can be found at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Consultation on the 2026 Next Policy Framework.