



WESTERN BARLEY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

A strong voice for a vibrant, market responsive barley industry in western Canada

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For Immediate Release

WBGA APPLAUDS GOVERNMENTS' QUICK EMERGENCY AID RESPONSE FOR FARMERS COPING WITH EXCESS MOISTURE AND FLOODING

Airdrie, AB - July 9, 2010: "The AgriRecovery relief package just announced by the Governments of Canada, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba is a positive move for prairie farmers in Western Canada" says Brian Otto, President of the Western Barley Growers Association (WBGA). "The WBGA would like to express our thanks to Federal Agriculture Minister Ritz and the Provincial Agriculture Ministers for moving so quickly to address the disaster created by the extreme wet weather this spring on the Prairies", says Otto.

On July 8, 2010 federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz announced the Governments are responding with the largest and fastest AgriRecovery relief package to date to make sure farmers can weather this storm. There will be up to \$450 million available to help farmers, with producers receiving \$30 per acre in assistance to adopt measures to protect, rehabilitate and manage affected cropland. "This spring has been especially difficult for our younger farmers just getting established in the business of farming and this will certainly help them to maintain their farms", notes Otto.

"The WBGA understands how difficult it is for our Federal and Provincial governments under the fiscal restraints they face today to come up with these significant funds for the relief program and we would like to thank them for putting farmers first in making a decision to act quickly and decisively," says Otto.

"This package will help to relieve the stress that farmers caught in the wet conditions have been under this spring".

Western Barley Growers Association is a strong voice for a vibrant, market responsive barley industry in western Canada.

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