

Pest Biosecurity Program Update

2026

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SARM Plant Health Technical Advisor



Overview

- Plant Health Technical Advisors (PHTAs)
- Gopher Control Program update (GCP)
- Rat Control Program update (RCP)
- Contact Us



Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP) 2023 - 2028

\$3.9 million per year for five years in the Pest Biosecurity Program

Pest Biosecurity Program is delivered and administered by SARM and includes:

- Plant Health Network
- Gopher Control Program
- Rat Control Program
- Beaver Control Program
- Invasive Plant Control Program

Gopher Control Program (GCP)



Last year, over \$898K was paid in rebates to 1,359 claims

2026 and 2027 S-CAP funding reduced to \$656,450 per year

- With EU Strychnine available expect GCP claims will be reduced

***Strychnine is not eligible to claim under the GCP*

July 31 claim deadline & rebates for:

- Health Canada registered gopher control products used between January 1 - July 31 each program year
 - **NEW:** copy of licence required when **restricted-use products** are claimed
- cost of materials to build raptor platforms and nest boxes to attract natural predators

Rat Control Program (RCP)

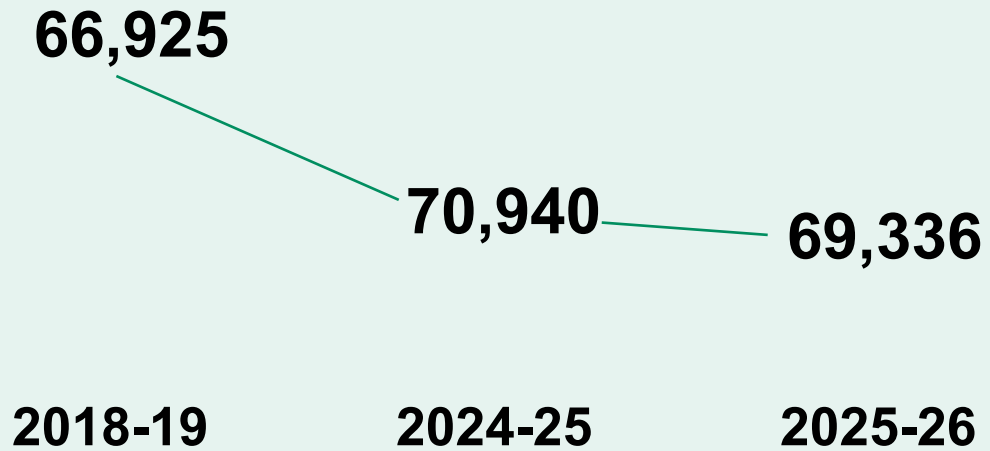
\$1.2 M each year (April 2023 to March 2028)

- track sites monitored and infestation levels
 - stability when planning rat control management
 - budgeting for rat control on a long-term basis
 - support standardized methods and record keeping
 - printed resources free to easily order online
 - technical support through the Rat Control Technical Advisors
-
- free in-person and online training for PCOs
 - Winter workshops are being planned

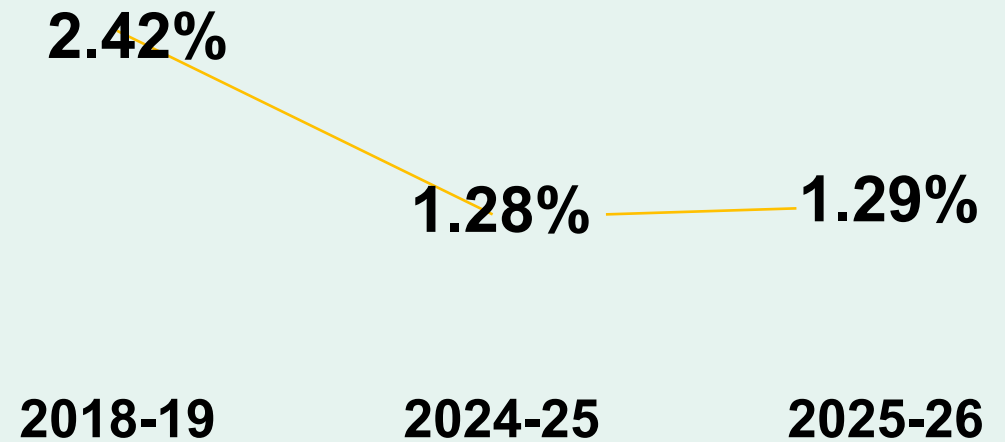


Rat Control Program (2018 vs 2025)

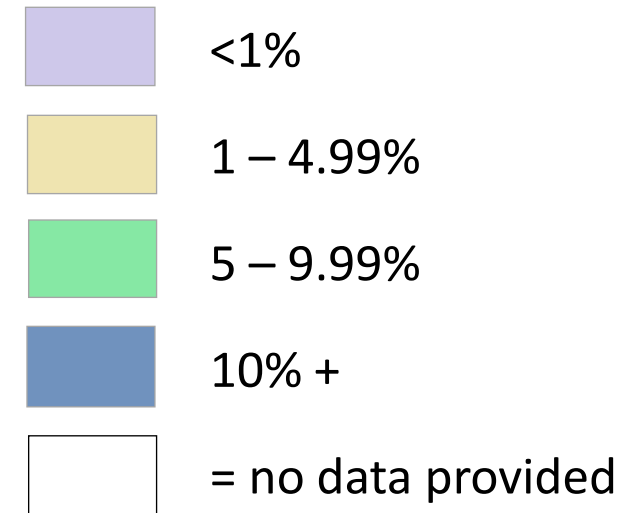
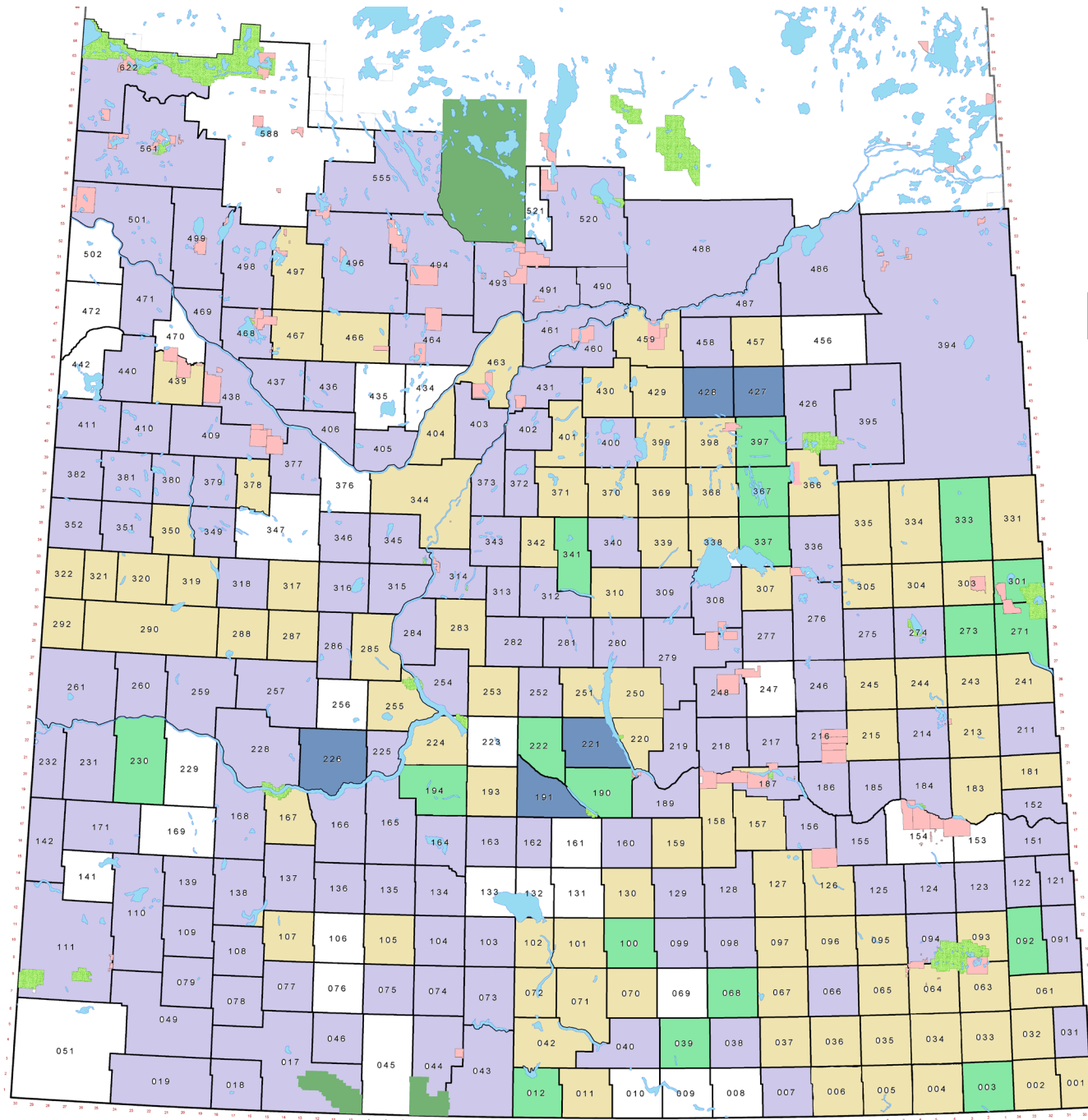
Farm Sites Inspected Occupied & Vacant



Provincial Infestation Rate by Percentage



2025 Provincial Infestation Rate holds steady at 1.29%



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DEADLINE: December 31, 2026

Submit by the above deadline by email to Annette Ellert, Agriculture Program Administrator at aellert@sarm.ca

PART 1 - APPLICANT INFORMATION

RM/First Nation: _____ No.: _____

PART 2 – PEST CONTROL OFFICER/PESTICIDE APPLICATOR INFORMATION

Copies of licences must be included and valid for the period of service in 2026

RM or First Nation Appointed/Authorized Pest Control Officer: _____

Pesticide Applicator Name: _____

Include copies of licences: **Applicator A-** _____ **S-** _____

Structural ☐ **Rat Control** ☐

PART 3 – FIELD INSPECTIONS

Occupied Sites Inspected: _____ Total Active Infestations: _____

Vacant Sites Inspected: _____ Total of All Inspections 2026: _____

Total Sites Inspected 2026: _____

PART 4 – FINANCIAL VERIFICATION – ATTACH VALID INVOICES FOR AMOUNTS CLAIMED BELOW

Cost of Bait Free to Ratepayers or First Nation Community members in 2026 <i>Federal and provincial taxes & fees are not eligible.</i>	☐	Invoices Attached
PCO/Pesticide Applicator Expenses <i>Federal and provincial taxes & fees are not eligible to claim.</i>	☐	Invoices Attached
Total		

PART 5 – CERTIFICATION

I/We certify, by signing this form, that the base level of service outlined in the RCP Program Guidelines and The Plant Health Act have been met for the 2026-2027 program year in the municipality indicated at the top of this form. I/We understand any personal information in this claim is collected under the authority of and is protected by and subject to the provisions of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act) and the Federal Privacy Act. The ministry may share this information with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and other third parties for the administration of the Sustainable CAP programming, for policy and program development and evaluation and for research and statistical purposes.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____, by _____

(Administrator or Land Manager Name)

(Administrator or Land Manager Signature)

FOR SARM USE ONLY

REBATE PAID _____
DATE: _____

AUTHORIZED BY SARM: _____

Rat Control Program Claim Requirements

VERIFY yearly PCO appointment

- **CARRY a copy of official Ministry acknowledgement letter**

New

VALID Pesticide Applicator & Service Licences

PROVIDE a copy of each with claim:

- Pesticide **Applicator** Licences
- Pesticide **Service** Licence
 - Independent contractor – your Service licence
 - Work for a company – the company's Service licence
 - RM employee – exempt through RM – no Service licence required

Ministry of Agriculture Pesticide Licensing: PL@gov.sk.ca



Issued under the provisions of *The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act* and *The Pest Control Products Regulations* to:

First Last Name
Valid from June 20, 2026 to June 20, 2027

Category(ies) of Licence	Training Expiry Date
Aerial	June 03, 2030

This is to certify that **APPLICATOR NAME** is licensed under the provisions of *The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act* and *The Pest Control Products Regulations* to apply or use pesticides within the scope of the *Licensed Category(ies)* as noted above.

Conditions of Licence

- This licence becomes invalid if the **training expiry date** occurs prior to the licence expiry date.
- This licence belongs to the individual named above and is non-transferable.
- This licence must be associated with a valid *Pesticide Service Licence* unless exempt pursuant to Section 16(6) of the *Pest Control Product Regulations*.


Minister of Saskatchewan Agriculture



Pesticide **Service** Licence

- Licence number **S-000000**
- Licence dates - Valid “from and to”
- *Independent contractor – **your** Service licence*
- *Work for a company – the **company’s** Service licence*
- *RM employee – **exempt** through RM – no Service licence required*

Pesticide **Applicator** Licence

- Licence number **A-000000**
- Name & Licence dates:
 - Valid “from and to”
- Category:
 - Structural or Rat Control



Issued under the provisions of *The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act* and *The Pest Control Products Regulations* to:

Company Name
Valid from April 21, 2026 to December 31, 2026

Licensed category(ies): Aerial

Outlet Locations: Leask

This is to certify that **COMPANY NAME** is licensed under the provisions of *The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act* and *The Pest Control Products Regulations* to carry on a business involving the use of pesticides within the scope of the *Licensed Category(ies)* as noted above.

Conditions of Licence

- This Service Licence is only valid to provide pesticide services in the *Licensed Category(ies)* noted above, as long as there is a minimum of one licensed applicator for that/those *Licensed Category(ies)*.


Minister of Saskatchewan Agriculture



[Ministry of Agriculture Pesticide Licensing Program](#): 306-787-4662 or PL@gov.sk.ca

Rat Infestation Report

RM of _____ No. _____ Date: _____

Name of Owner/Occupant: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Land Location: Qtr _____ Sec _____ Twp _____ Rge _____ West of _____
Qtr _____ Sec _____ Twp _____ Rge _____ West of _____
Qtr _____ Sec _____ Twp _____ Rge _____ West of _____

This was inspection number

1 2 3 4 5 (in this year)

All lands owned/controlled by above named owner _____

Type of Operation: ☐ Agricultural
☐ Residential
☐ Industrial
☐ Waste Disposal Site
☐ Other

Type of Contact: ☐ Personal
☐ Telephone
☐ No Contact

Comments: _____

Progress Since Last Visit: _____

Rodenticides Issued ☐ Or Recommended ☐ Or Placed By Occupant ☐

Fee For Service

Formulation	Product Name	(packet size)	x	(no. of packets)	=	Quantity	Cost	Service Fee	Paid
• Meal/Pellets (packets)	_____	_____	x	_____	=	_____	_____	_____	Y N
(packets)	_____	_____	x	_____	=	_____	_____	_____	
• Meal/Pellets (bulk)	_____	_____	x	_____	=	_____	_____	_____	
• Water Soluble	_____	_____	x	_____	=	_____	_____	_____	
• Parafinized blocks	_____	_____	x	_____	=	_____	_____	_____	
• Other	_____	_____	x	_____	=	_____	_____	_____	

I certify that I have received instructions from a Pest Control Officer, appointed under *The Pest Control Act*, in the proper and safe handling of the above rodenticides, fully realizing the dangers and implications which may result from careless handling of same; and I authorize the Pest Control Officer to place rodenticides as required on the property described above;

Total _____ + _____ = _____

Signature of Occupant _____
(or Reeve/Administrator)

PCO Signature _____

Forms to download for standardized reporting

PCO Inspection Report

RM of _____ No. _____

For Month of _____, 20 _____

	Date (Day)	Name (Occupant, company or site)	Vacant or Occupied	Location (Twp-Range)	Comments – If necessary (Cooperation, progress, recommendations)	Infestation Index 0 – Rat free 1 – Infested 2 – Preventative Baiting	Rodenticides Issued by PCO		
							Martian Dry Bait (kg)	Product (kg)	Product (kg)
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16									
17									
18									
Total									

Signature of PCO _____

Signature of RM Official _____



WARNING

Rat Poison
Do Not Handle
POISON CONTROL CENTRE
1-866-454-1212

This bait station contains:

Rodenticide Active Ingredient	P.C.P. Number	Dry Bait	Liquid Bait
☐ Chlorophacinone (Rozol)	_____	_____	_____
☐ Diphacinone (Ramik, Diphacin)	_____	_____	_____
☐ Bromadiolone (Bromone, Maki)	_____	_____	_____
☐ Brodifacoum (Ratak, Talon)	_____	_____	_____
☐ Other (Warfarin)	_____	_____	_____

PRECAUTIONS

All of these products may be harmful or fatal if swallowed. Keep away from humans, fowl, livestock, pets, and wildlife. Wash hands after handling bait. Keep out of lakes, streams, or ponds. Do not store near food or feed. Not to be used in areas where food may be exposed.

FIRST AID

The contents are anti-coagulant chemicals when, if accidentally eaten, may reduce the clotting ability of the blood and internal hemorrhage may result. If ingestion is suspected, insert a finger into the throat of the patient to cause vomiting. Call a physician immediately and give the name of the poison and its PCP number as noted above.

IMPORTANT — RAT POISONS ALONE WILL NOT RID YOUR PROPERTY OF RATS. CLEANLINESS, HARBOURAGE REMOVAL AND BUILDING MAINTENANCE MUST ALSO BE PRACTICED.

For further information, contact:

Pest Control Officer _____

RM: _____ Telephone No. _____

Inspection Dates _____

Provided by: Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture



Your
PCO
Called



eraticate

Instructions

Your PCO is

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____



POISON

POISON CONTROL CENTRE

1 866 454 1212

RAT BAIT DO NOT TOUCH

PCO training opportunities through the years



- ▶ Navigating Conflict (2022 & 2025)
- ▶ Role of the Appointed Pest Control Officer
- ▶ Pesticide Licensing Program
- ▶ Pesticide Education Program
 - *Applicator Training & Recertification*
- ▶ Overview of *The Plant Health Act* and *The Plant Health Regulations*
 - *what it means for PCOs*
- ▶ Field Safety: Emergency First Aid and Overview
- ▶ Understanding product labels
- ▶ Pesticides & the Environment
- ▶ Rodent identification
- ▶ Integrated pest management
- ▶ Richardson Ground Squirrels and strychnine alternatives
- ▶ Pest control product compliance & Provincial Regulations on Pesticide Storage

Share your thoughts and training requests!

How can you support your RM?



- **Appointed Pest Control Officer**
 - *Carry a copy* of the official appointment acknowledgement letter/email from the Ministry
- **Pesticide Applicator & Service Licences**
 - *Provide a copy* of current valid licence(s) to your RM
- **Check all required sites within an RM**
 - Check the Farm Site Census document on the RCP website
- **Provide RM with clear and detailed invoice and receipts**
 - Support your Administrators by submitting timely, detailed and accurate expenses
- **Reach out to the RCTAs for support**
- **Stay updated through training opportunities**
 - Share ideas for future workshops and webinars with RCTAs and PHTAs

Rat Control Technical Advisors

Division 1, 2 & 3 - **Ashley Zaremba**

Division 4, 5 & 6 - **Colette Melnychuk**

Plant Health Technical Advisors

Division 1 - **Marieve Elliott**

Division 2 - **Joanne Kwasnicki**

Division 3 - **Betty Johnson**

Division 4 - **Katey Makohoniuk**

Division 5 - **Chelsea Neuberger**

Division 6 - **Colleen Fennig**

Thank you!