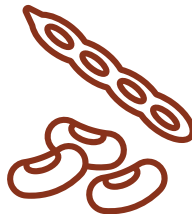


# Federal Fertilizer Emission Reduction Strategy



SARM represents its membership of rural municipal government in Saskatchewan and is the principal advocate in representing them before all levels of senior government. As the voice of rural Saskatchewan for over 100 years, SARM speaks strongly and clearly to represent rural Saskatchewan interests.

Saskatchewan is known worldwide as a consistent and reliable supplier of safe, high-quality grains, oilseeds, pulses, livestock, and agri-food products. In 2021, Saskatchewan agriculture exports were the largest on record, with total international sales of \$17.5 billion.



**This was put into jeopardy when the Federal Government signaled that it would require a reduction of nitrous oxide as a part of an emissions reduction strategy.**

This target of reduction in nutrients used to produce our food was done without consultation with the fertilizer industry or Canadian grain and oilseed farmers. There are many ways farmers can react to the potential economic impacts of reduced fertilizer use, including acceptance of lower productivity. This would be devastating, such that any plan to reduce carbon emissions would need to be done in a way that the future productivity of major crops is maintained.

A reduction in fertilizer use is contrary to the UN's goal of eliminating world hunger by 2030. The Federal government has set a target to increase Canadian agriculture exports from \$55 billion in 2015 to at least \$85 billion by 2025. This 55% increase is not attainable if the Federal Government reduces nitrogen fertilizer use by 30%.





Rather than the rigid reductions proposed, SARM supports the position taken by Fertilizer Canada for the Federal Government to work with industry, and grain, farmers alike to recognize steps that have already been taken, as well as workable solutions for the grain industry going forward.

SARM is supportive of biological and breeding technologies that improve a plant's nutrient efficiency and support the adoption of the 4R Nutrient Stewardship program:

- A focus on an absolute emissions reduction, rather than an intensity-based target, is misplaced and will likely cause severe economic harm.
- Using modeling software, we have estimated that a 30% absolute emission reduction for a farmer with 1,000 acres of canola and 1,000 acres of wheat would have their profit reduced by \$38,000 to \$40,500 annually.
- Across Western Canada, this would mean canola revenues would be reduced by up to \$441 million, while wheat revenue could experience a reduction of \$400 million.
- More emissions can be reduced through increased uptake of the 4R Nutrient Stewardship program while improving the competitiveness and profit of farmers.

SARM urges members of the federal government to recognize and reward the world-class agricultural practices in Saskatchewan, and for the current environmental practices already adopted by producers who are already among the most sustainable, technologically advanced, growers in the world. We also extend an invitation to come to rural Saskatchewan and see firsthand the innovative techniques already implemented which are leading the world in sustainable agriculture.

