

Resources

Vist our website links for more information:
Scan the QR to our website to view:



- Minimum Certification Standards
- AISC's Weed Free Forage webpage
- AISC Weed Free Forage Program outline video
- NAISMA Weed Free Products webpage
- NAISMA Minimum Standards
- Weed species covered in the Weed Free Forage Program

How can I get inspected?

To have your forage certified as weed free, call the Greenview Agricultural Services Office at 780.524.7621 to have a Certified Weed Inspector come out and inspect your forage.



More information:

Please contact Greenview's Agricultural Services:



780.524.7621



www.mdgreenview.ab.ca



Municipal District of Greenview No.16



3602 - 45 Street
Box 1079, Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0

Agricultural Services

GREENVIEW WEED FREE FORAGE PROGRAM



Municipal District of
GREENVIEW

Greenview is one of 20 municipalities participating in the Alberta Certified Weed Free Forage Program, and we want to help you get certified!

What is the Weed Forage Program?

Certified Weed Free Forage is any forage product that was grown in fields that were inspected and found to be free of any viable seed or reproductive plant parts of any species identified in the North American Species Management Association's Weed Free Forage Minimum Certification Standards, the Alberta Weed Control Act, and Greenview's Designated Noxious Weeds Bylaw (22-894).

Greenview supports two programs, one is Alberta recognized and one is only Greenview recognized.

- Certified weed free forage products are becoming a more in demand product, especially for use in protected areas and parks.
- The Program offers a way for producers to certify their product as weed-free and to provide a premium product

Is your forage certified weed free?

Are you a forage producer interested in helping prevent the spread of invasive species? If so, read more about the Certified Weed Free Forage Program, how you can participate, and how the Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) will help you sell your forage!

Who can access the program?

Any producer with a forage crop can participate in this program. The entire parcel does NOT need to be weed free as our inspectors can designate areas as weed free, which then will be required to be harvested prior to the 'non-weed free' areas.

When can I have my forage certified as weed free?

To have your forage certified as weed free, call the Agricultural Services Office to set up an inspection time.

How is the forage certified as weed free?

Inspections are conducted by a Certified Weed Free Forage Inspector who walks through the field and forage storage area identifying all plant species present. Once the inspection is complete, producers have 10 days to cut the forage stand. If a crop is not cut within that timeline, a new inspection must be conducted.

Specialized twine (Provincially recognized program) or be tracked per field and a manifest produced (Greenview recognized only) must be utilized for marking bales as certified and must be transported separately from non-certified forage.

What is the cost?

- There is no cost for the inspection.
- Twine = \$25.88/Roll or \$51.76/Box

Price may change as per Greenview's Schedule of Fees Bylaw.

Why certify my forage as "Weed Free?"

Invasive species such as terrestrial invasive plants are detrimental to Alberta's environment and can cost an estimated \$1 billion each year. Invasive plants are detrimental to Alberta's economy and environment. They degrade natural areas, decrease biodiversity, and reduce food and habitat for wildlife. Contaminated hay is one method that invasive plants spread. Contaminated hay is one means by which invasive plants are spread. To address this, the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) has set industry guidelines and maintains minimum standards for Certified Weed Free products in Alberta, which are recognized across North America. As a participating county, we intend to promote this program to potential buyers and help producers certify and sell their Certified Weed Free Forage.

What is the benefit?

Certified Weed Free Forage is a value-added product, and producers with inventory of Certified Weed Free Forage can be listed on the Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) website. As demand for this product grows, being a supplier will not only help protect Alberta from the harmful impacts of invasive species, but their website will help you sell your Certified Weed Free Forage to potential buyers!

