

Farm Stewardship Program

Weather Data Information Collection and Monitoring BMP

Intent of BMP: Weather data collection and monitoring assists producers with choosing appropriate or optimal weather conditions for timely application of pesticides to enhance pesticide performance and efficacy. Use of pesticides can be an integral part of integrated pest management practices to control crop pests: weeds, insects and disease. Weather data can provide producers with tools to determine their own on farm growing degree days (GDD) or Corn Heat units (CHU) allowing evaluation for potential new crops. Having on farm GGD data provides producers with more specific environmental information relating to their own location.

Weather collection data is not limited to rainfall and temperature but can include wind direction and speed (anemometer), relative humidity, soil moisture and solar radiation.

Funding Level: 50 per cent of eligible costs to a maximum rebate of \$1,000.

Application Type: **Rebate.**

Technical Resource: For more information on this BMP contact Program Design and Delivery Branch at 1-877-874-5365.

For technical assistance on using weather data as a tool for crop management contact a Ministry of Agriculture Regional Crop Specialist.

Eligibility:

- Must have an EFP.
- **Basic Eligibility Criteria.**

Project Costs: Eligible Costs:

- Weather monitoring equipment and associated installation costs.
 - Equipment must have internet connectivity and report weather data to central data collection systems.

Ineligible Costs:

- Applicant or employee labour.
- Weather stations without network connectivity.
- Internet connections for weather stations.
- Computers and computer hardware or software.
- General crop protection management plans such as consultations and planning for the application of chemical pesticide.
- Consulting services to develop integrated pest management plans to control invasive plants, insects and vertebrate pests.
- Used and leased items or equipment. To be eligible, new items or equipment MUST be purchased from a recognized dealer.