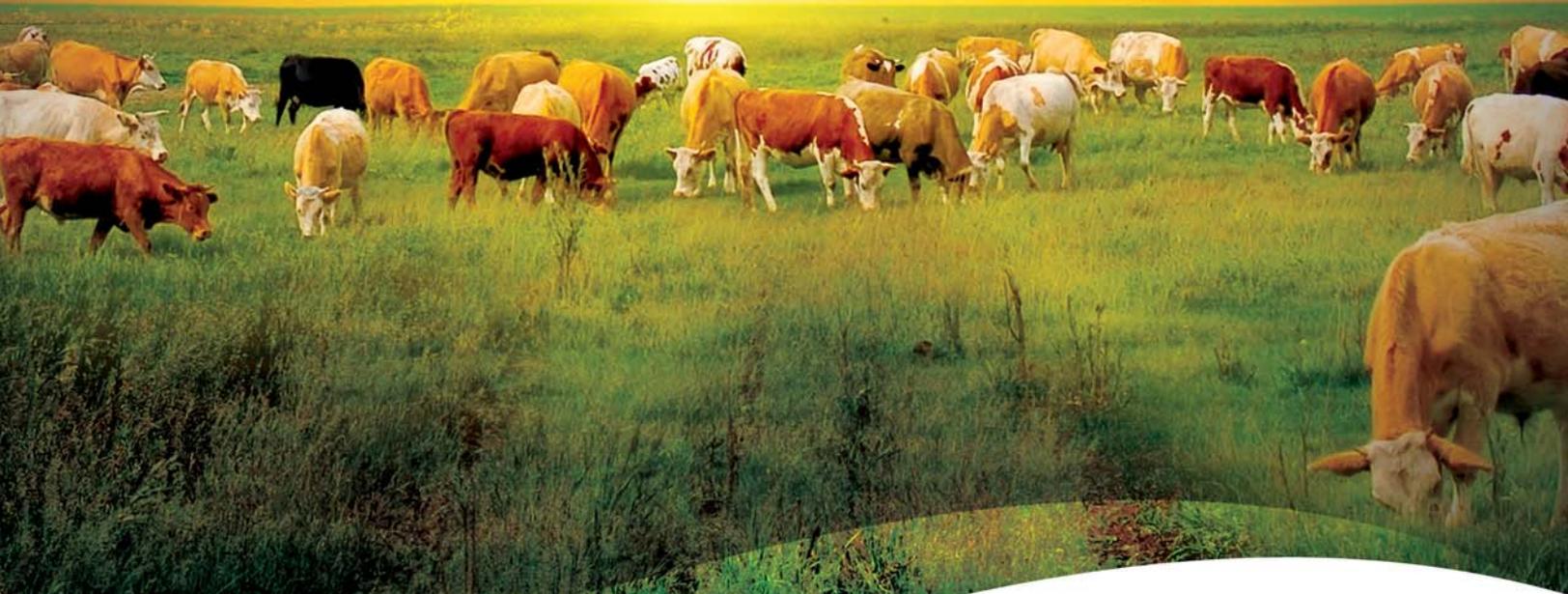




March 28, 2013

# NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY THE MANITOBA BEEF PRODUCERS



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## Flood Forecast and Issues for Producers

As expected, the provincial flood forecast is generally worse than it was last month, trending toward 2009 scenarios. According to the provincial flood outlook delivered live on March 26, 2013, depending on future weather and melt scenarios, the greatest risks lie on the Red River, north of Winnipeg, the Interlake and parts of northern Manitoba.

The anticipated risk on the Souris River is half of what it was in 2011. The outlook was generally optimistic about the Assiniboine. The Shellmouth Reservoir is being drawn down to historic lows but is still expected to top the spillway due to the amount of water expected from the west. Some flooding of agricultural land is expected.

The outlook noted that the Portage Diversion will be operated under the traditional operating rules. Lake Manitoba is expected to be lower than in 2011. During the live flood outlook it was mentioned that the province does not expect to need to operate the emergency outlet, but it is part of its contingency plan if required.

Major lake levels projected for 2013 versus 2011 conditions:

- Lake Dauphin: four feet below 2011 levels
- Lake Manitoba: four feet below 2011 levels
- Lake St. Martin: three feet below 2011 levels
- Lake Winnipeg: two feet below 2011 levels
- Lake Winnipegosis: two feet below levels

Whitewater Lake and North Shoal Lake could rise about 1.5 feet above current levels but these peaks will still be below the record peaks of 2011.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Read GM Cam Dahl's  
Latest Commentary:  
[Country-of-Origin  
Labelling: The Fight Goes  
On](#)

### Upcoming Events

**To March 30:** Visit MBP's booth in Thru the Farm Gate at the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, Brandon  
[www.brandonfairs.com](http://www.brandonfairs.com)

**April 6:** Watch MBP's Beef Expert Adriana Barros on Great Tastes of Manitoba, 6:30 p.m. on CTV!  
[www.foodmanitoba.ca](http://www.foodmanitoba.ca)

**April 16:** Manitoba Budget to be delivered.

**April 25:** Agriculture in the Classroom Manitoba's AGM and 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, 5 p.m., Western Canadian Aviation Museum, Winnipeg. [www.aipc.mb.ca](http://www.aipc.mb.ca)



## Flood situation continued

MBP Manitoba Beef Producers (MBP) is concerned about imminent issues related to the potential for flooding in 2013.

Immediate issues of concern to MBP (and to all Manitobans):

- Provisions for emergency movement of animals and feed
- Need to address feed and pasture shortages, which will be exacerbated by 2013 flood water
- Shellmouth Dam operations
- Operation of the Portage Diversion
- Emergency communications strategy during a 2013 flood event

The Government of Manitoba should work to proactively deal with these issues before a flood begins. MBP stands ready to work co-operatively with the province to facilitate preparation for a potential flood.

Many producers continue to struggle to recover from the 2011 flood and the impacts, and others have simply been forced to exit the industry. The impacts of 2013 flooding must be addressed before the arrival of flood water this spring. Thousands of acres of land remained flooded or unproductive as a result of the 2011 flood. Affected beef producers cannot be forgotten. They require compensation to alleviate the cost of accepting flood water in 2011 to help ensure that other parts of the province remained dry.

**MBP encourages producers to contact us with any questions or concerns about the flood situation. Call 1-800-772-0458 or email [info@mbbeef.ca](mailto:info@mbbeef.ca).**

## Useful links regarding flood information:

Flood forecasts and charts:

[www.gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/index.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/index.html)

Detailed info on daily flood reports, lake levels, flood forecast maps, etc.:

[www.gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/floodoutlook/floodresponse.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/floodoutlook/floodresponse.html)

**Changes to MASC Insurance:** Visit MASC's [website](#) for what's new in 2013 and 2014.



## MBP at the RMWF



Children and parents enjoy watching the calving video at the MBP booth.



MBP thanks Barb Jack and her family of Portage la Prairie for providing their cow-calf pair to be featured at Thru the Farm Gate. The Jack family is also showing at the fair. Thank you Jack Family!