

Canada-Québec INITIATIVE to help mitigate the impacts of excess rainfall in Québec in 2023 in certain regions and agricultural productions (Excess rainfall Agri-Recovery)

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Initiative is to provide financial assistance to agricultural businesses specializing in strawberry, raspberry, potato and field vegetable crops, which suffered damage resulting in exceptional additional expenses during the 2023 growing season due to excess rainfall.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The business must:

- be a farm business registered with the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ) and have an agricultural operator-type ministerial identification number (NIM);
- have its main operating site in one of the following regions: Montérégie, Capitale-Nationale, Laurentides, Montréal-Laval-Lanaudière, Chaudière-Appalaches, Mauricie, Estrie, Centre-du-Québec, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, Outaouais, Bas-Saint-Laurent, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, and Côte-Nord;
- have produced on a minimum of 0.5 hectares a category of eligible crops during the 2023 growing season:
 - berries (strawberries and raspberries);
 - field vegetables (including potatoes).
- demonstrate an increase in eligible expenses for the 2023 growing season compared with eligible expenses for the 2022 growing season, after indexing by 6% and subtracting the applicable deductible.

HOW TO APPLY

Before registering:

Businesses participating in the Agri-stabilité, AgriQuébec Plus, AgriInvest and AgriQuébec programs must have submitted their financial data for the program year covering the 2023 growing season to the FADQ.

Businesses that are not FADQ clients must first contact their regional service center to open their client file and activate their online file.

When registering:

Businesses must complete the registration form, which will only be available in their online file.

It will also be required to submit certain supporting documents, in particular for fixed-price work expenses, or to submit financial statements (T2042 or equivalent) if the business does not participate in the AGRI programs. These documents must be uploaded directly to the form.

The availability of the registration form will be announced on the FADQ website.

The deadline for submitting forms is February 17, 2025.

The file of each registered business will be analyzed to determine its eligibility and the amount of financial assistance to be granted.

ELIGIBLE PRODUCTS

Eligible agricultural products are those in the following categories:

Strawberries and Raspberries Category;

Strawberries under plasticulture in planting, strawberries under plasticulture in production, strawberries in braided rows in planting, strawberries in braided rows in production, raspberries in planting, 1st harvest raspberries, 2nd harvest raspberries, 3rd harvest raspberries or more.

Field Vegetables Category;

Potatoes, eggplant, other field vegetables, beet, broccoli, carrots, celery, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, pumpkin, field cucumber, squash, spinach, broad beans, herbs, herbs, spices and medicinal plants, hops, field lettuce, sweet corn, melons, turnips, rutabagas, onions, green onions, parsnips, leeks, peppers, peppers (red, green or sweet), radishes, rhubarb, field tomatoes.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Eligible expenses must be incurred between June 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023, and include:

- fertilizer and pesticide purchases;
- replacement of containers (only for the Strawberry and Raspberry crop category);
- labour costs;
- contract work costs related to excess rainfall, such as culvert repairs, ridging, drainage work, ditch cleaning, levelling, soil decompaction, etc.

CALCULATING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance is determined for each eligible crop category by first calculating the difference between the eligible expense rates (total eligible expenses / eligible hectare) for 2023 and 2022, after indexing by 6% to account for inflation. A deductible specific to each crop category is then deducted, and the result is 70% compensable up to the maximum assistance amount for the crop category.

The amount of assistance must reach \$75 to receive a payment and is limited to \$350,000 per company. Table 1 shows the deductibles, and maximum assistance amounts by eligible crop category,

Table 1: Deductibles and maximum assistance

Crop category	Applicable deductible	Maximum financial assistance
Berries (strawberries- raspberries)	\$2,346/hectare	\$3,613/hectare
Field vegetables	\$587hectare	\$904/hectare

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENT

Financial assistance is paid in a single instalment, following analysis

of the file by the FADQ. Businesses will receive a letter informing them of the outcome of the analysis of their file, whether or not financial assistance is granted.

For more information on the Canada-Québec Initiative to mitigate the impact of excess rainfall in Québec in 2023 on certain regions and agricultural productions, visit our website at: fadq.qc.ca/initiative-exces-pluie-2023.

This summary does not take precedence over the provisions of the Canada-Québec Initiative to mitigate the impacts of excess rainfall in Québec in 2023 on certain regions and agricultural productions.

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