

## Agricultural Crown Lands

### **POLICY TITLE**     **Five-Year Lease Extension**

**BRANCH**                     **Land Use and Ecosystems Resilience**  
**DIVISION**                 **Agriculture Production and Resilience**  
**Policy Number**           **ACL 23-05**  
**Effective Date**           **January 1, 2024, until rescinded or amended**  
**ADM/Director**           **Patti Rothenburger/Andrea McLean**

**Approved By**

  
April 2, 2024 - Original signed by  
Brenda DeSerranno, Deputy Minister-MB Agriculture

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### **Policy Objective**

Establish requirements to approve five-year lease extensions on **modern leases** with submission, review and approval of a **Forage Management Plan (FMP)**. A forage management plan outlines practices that support sustainable management of forage leases and improved forage productivity. The five-year extension is an incentive to develop and implement strong forage management practices that support forage production for economic and environmental sustainability.

### **Relevant Legislation, Regulation, and Agreements:**

Section 6.2 of the Agricultural Crown Lands Leases and Permits Regulation, M.R. 99/2023 outlines provisions for extending a modern lease by five years including

- applying for the extension;
- FMP requirements; and
- restrictions on granting an extension.

The Agrologists Act, C.C.S.M. c. A50

- The Act establishes the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists and specifies requirements to be a member and professional agrologist. Professional agrologists are required to hold specific education in the field of agriculture and are required to maintain standards of professionalism satisfactory to the institute.

### **Policy**

- 1) An agrologist approved FMP as outlined in Section 6.2(2)b of the regulation must be submitted with an application in a format acceptable to the Director, and clearly identify
  - a) the relevant lease or leases;
  - b) the parcels under each lease;

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- c) the type of livestock;
  - d) the number of grazing days or tonnes of hay; and
  - e) the period for which the FMP is active.
- 2) Amendments to the FMP may be acceptable to the Director and must be signed and dated by an agrologist registered with the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists under The Agrologists Act at the time of the amendment. Amendments must support sustainable management, preservation, and enhancement of forage capacity.
  - 3) A FMP may encompass multiple leases. Any lease included in a FMP is eligible for the lease extension provided the relevant elements of the FMP are carried out on the parcels of the lease in a manner acceptable to the director.
  - 4) A FMP must be signed by an agrologist registered with the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists:
    - a) the date of the agrologist's signature will act as the date it was prepared as outlined in Section 6.2(2)c of the regulation; and
    - b) a holder that is an agrologist as defined by the regulation may sign their own FMP.
  - 5) The Director may request evidence in the form of production records, invoices, or other documents in support of the FMP in determining that the holder was in substantial compliance with the FMP for the required time period. Approval of the extension may be dependant on submission of satisfactory information.
  - 6) For purposes of calculating annual rental fees, forage capacity for the five-year extension period, if approved, will not change from the initial forage capacity set out in the lease.
  - 7) FMPs do not permit lease holders to violate the regulation or lease contract.