

11 Farm Registration

Resource Kit for Nova Scotia Farmers

Farmers in Nova Scotia can register their farms with the Department of Agriculture. This registration allows the Department of Agriculture and other government bodies manage access to programs and collect information used to develop agricultural policy.

Most farms eligible to file a farm tax return with the Canada Revenue Agency may register. The two main exceptions are:

- Christmas tree farms, unless the farm also produces other agricultural products;
- Horse farms, unless the farm is a horse breeding operation.

Farmers need to register to access government agriculture programs. Examples of programs that require farm registration include Farm License Plates, Fuel Tax Exemption, Livestock Herd Health, on farm and post farm programs and Business Risk Management Programs (Agri-Suites). Registered farms receive a discount on some Department of Agriculture laboratory analyses. However, registration is voluntary and you are not required to register if you do not wish to take advantage of these programs and services.

Your registration is valid for one year covering the period of April 1 of that year to March 31 of the following year. You must renew your registration each year.

The registration fee is based on your gross farm income and ranges from \$75 to \$975. The registration fee is

remitted to the Federation of Agriculture (NSFA) to provide funding for its services. The NSFA is a member-based organization with an elected

REGISTRATION FEES	
Gross Farm Income	Fee
\$10,000 or less	\$75
\$10,000 - \$24,999	\$140
\$25,000 - \$49,999	\$275
\$50,000 - \$99,999	\$350
\$100,000 - \$249,999	\$430
\$250,000 - \$499,999	\$620
\$500,000 - \$999,999	\$675
\$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999	\$750
Over \$2,000,000	\$975

executive and full-time staff in its office in Truro. The NSFA is the recognized voice of agriculture in Nova Scotia and plays a strong role in public policy. Registrants must indicate on Section 5 of the Farm Registration Form whether they wish to be a member of the NSFA. There is no additional charge for your NSFA membership and a portion of the registration fee will be returned to your local County Federation to support their work. If farm registrants choose not to be a member, their contact information will not be provided to the NSFA.

For further information on NSFA membership and benefits, please contact:

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture
332 Willow Street, Suite 201, Truro, NS, B2N 5A5
Tel: (902) 893-2293; Fax: (902) 893-7063; e-mail: info@nsfa-fane.ca
Web: www.nsfa-fane.ca

A registration form can be obtained from the Registrar of Farms or downloaded from the Access Nova Scotia website:
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/pdf/ans-farm-registration-application.pdf>
You can also obtain an application form by calling Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations at (902) 424-5200 or 1-800-670-4357 (toll-free).

You can submit the application and pay online with your credit card at www.nsbr.ca You may also submit the completed form to the Registrar of Farms, PO Box 1529, Halifax, NS, B3J 2Y4. You will receive a wallet-sized registration card approximately 14 business days after your registration application is processed.

For more information on registering your farm or programs available to Nova Scotia farmers, contact the Programs & Business Risk Management Division of the Department of Agriculture at 176 College Road, Truro, NS, B2N 5E3. Tel: (902) 893-6510, e-mail: prm@gov.ns.ca or visit: www.gov.ns.ca/agri/prm.

Beginning farmers should note that one of the eligibility requirements for the Farm Investment Fund is a gross farm income of at least \$10,000. However, this requirement is waived for farmers who have been registered for five years or less. If you plan to develop your farm business slowly, you may want to delay registering your farm to ensure you have attained a gross

income of \$10,000 within the five year window. For more information on the other eligibility requirements for the Farm Investment Fund and other programs, see Programs for Farmers fact sheet.

[Based on an existing fact sheet prepared by the Programs & Business Risk Management Division and revised by Rebecca Sooksom, New Entrant Resource Coordinator, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, with the assistance of the Programs & Business Risk Management Division and the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, July 2010.]