

Charron, Suzanne

From: Donihee, Lauren <lauren.donihee@agr.gc.ca>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 10:38 AM
To: Hameed, Qamer
Subject: FW: Best Number to Call

From: Daniel Kelter <dkelter@fertilizercanada.ca>
Sent: September 25, 2021 12:24 PM
To: Donihee, Lauren <lauren.donihee@AGR.GC.CA>
Subject: RE: Best Number to Call

Hi Lauren,

No worries about the Saturday email, was expecting we would get at least one! That timing remains the plan. We would very much welcome the opportunity to discuss the report in more depth with AAFC, whenever is convenient for the department.

I think the additional communications that will be released with the report highlight, explicitly, that we want to work with all governments to ensure that the approach taken in Europe is not duplicated in Canada. We also intend to make clear that this is a model of what would happen if the EU option was applied in Canada – but not that the Government has expressly stated its intent to adopt this model (although in all honesty, there has been mention of this as a possibility in closed-door meetings with us). Overall, we are taking a positive and co-operative tone in any of our communication products.

Regarding the report and consultation thus far, I think there has been mixed messages from the department on how the target would be reached.

- Prior to the release of the 30% on-farm emissions target our industry was not consulted on the initiative, nor the exact target, even though we have been actively working in this field for the last ten years and had asked AAFC for co-operation on this exact issue a number of times. This obviously gives pause about how seriously the department has taken 4R Nutrient Stewardship thus far. In addition, given that no initial economic modeling was done, we hope that the report is useful to AAFC in understanding a potential impact of the target so we can continue to work together in defining it.
- From the beginning, other officials in the department have made comments in meetings with Fertilizer Canada about the European Union as a potential model on this issue, given that they've worked on their green agriculture package for a number of years and had tackled the target. In addition to these comments, the department is actively working on arranging conferences with the EU to discuss fertilizer emissions.
- There has been a number of opportunities for the department to indicate that they view 4Rs as a key component of this initiative – whether through direct engagement with our industry and stakeholders, or through speeches and comments from the Minister – and many have not been taken. The only time the Minister has publicly mentioned the 4R program was in the On-Farm Climate Action Fund, in English only, and we were not given advance notice of the application opening or invited to participate in the press conference or comment on the program.
 - During the press conference for the On-Farm Climate Action Fund the Minister stated that one of the funded activities would “**reduce the need for synthetic fertilizers**”
 - In the actual form for the On-Farm Climate Action Fund it states that applicants will receive money for “**Nitrogen Management relating primarily to optimizing and reducing the use of synthetic fertilizer application;**”

- On the CAPI "The Big Forum Webinar Series", DM Chris Forbes said "...we are starting with engagement with producers, Fertilizer Canada, and the science community about how we can best meet this target. I would say the imperative is to find a way to do both - **reduce fertilizer use** without impairing the competitiveness of the sector."

Fertilizer Canada has expressed to the department the need for this target to have an intensity-based approach and that 4R Nutrient Stewardship must be the foundation to a holistic approach to achieving on-farm emissions reductions.

We want to continue to work closely with your department and provide you with all the information necessary to make evidence-based decisions on the ERI.

Again, we would be very happy to discuss the report as well as any of the above with your team.



Daniel Kelter
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The Government of Canada has set a national emission reduction target for fertilizer of 30% below 2020 levels. Fertilizer Canada is working diligently to ensure that 4R Nutrient Stewardship is at the core of any plan to reduce emissions so that our farmers can continue to grow crop exports and strengthen food security. For more information on Fertilizer Canada's response, visit our [dedicated landing page](#).

From: Donihee, Lauren <lauren.donihee@AGR.GC.CA>
Sent: September 25, 2021 9:12 AM
To: Daniel Kelter <dkelter@fertilizercanada.ca>
Subject: RE: Best Number to Call

Hi Daniel,

Sorry for the Saturday email. I wanted to reiterate our appreciation at getting an advanced copy of the report, and confirm that the plan is still to release around 10 – 10:30 Monday.

We've had a chance to review, and must admit we were surprised to see the scenarios focus on a reduction in fertilizer application rate, as we've been clear throughout informal engagement that is not our intent, but rather that we want to work together to determine a realistic path forward in coordination with stakeholders (for example, implementing beneficial management practices). We are worried that this report takes us farther away from achieving that end, and has the potential to take the conversation in a less constructive direction.

We would welcome the opportunity to have a more in depth discussion on the study as soon as we've had a chance to fully digest.

Have a good weekend, and we'll talk soon!

Lauren

From: Daniel Kelter <dkelter@fertilizercanada.ca>
Sent: September 24, 2021 11:15 AM

ADM Opening Remarks

Enhancing Canada Europe Collaboration: Sustainable Agriculture Webinar Series

Context: *This is the third of the webinar series organized by the Embassies in Spain, the Netherlands and Switzerland. You will be providing the opening remarks on the last webinar.*

The objective of this series is to enhance collaboration between Europe and Canada. The topic of the third webinar is livestock and precision farming and it will include the promotion of Canadian solutions to Europeans via trade diversification, CETA and inclusive trade.

ADM Remarks

Hello everyone, I am very happy to be here and introduce today's webinar on livestock and precision farming. If there is one good thing to come out of the pandemic, it might be in the new way we share information and feel comfortable connecting online, allowing us to collaborate across the globe easily. This webinar series has been an excellent initiative and I hope that all participants have enjoyed taking part in this series so far, I know the trade commissioners really appreciate these opportunities to connect and be of service in helping find new opportunities and explaining the lay of the land in their markets.

By the end of today's webinar, this series will have addressed **three interesting** areas in the agriculture sector (including Agriculture Technologies and Robotics; soil stimulation and crop protection; and today's topic - **livestock and precision farming**) where great efforts are being made in Canada and Europe to achieve environmental, social and economic sustainability.

Today we will be listening to speakers on both sides of the Atlantic who will present innovative solutions and opportunities to increase commercial relations, business expansion and technology collaboration for the global livestock industry to ensure the sector remains competitive and strives to be environmentally sustainable.

I want to highlight that Canada and Europe share very similar views and priorities when it comes to sustainability and environmental stewardship.

My role today, other than welcoming you, is to share the position that the Government of Canada, how we are committed to making our agriculture sector more sustainable and explain what that means in a bit more detail and how it related to the EU market.

One common misconception about farming in North America can be about factory farming, when in fact, Canada's agriculture sector is mostly composed of family farms. There are 180,000 family farms who share a strong commitment to sustainable growth and conservation, and who want to pass those farms on to future generations in better condition than they themselves received them.

The Canadian government wants to support the Canadian ag sector in this endeavor and has recently announced the development of an **Agri-environmental strategy**. One key element of focus is Canada's 2030 climate goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40 to 45% below 2005 levels by 2030, working towards Canada's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050.

Also in Canada's **Strengthened Climate Plan**, announced recently, there is a target of reducing emissions from fertilizers by 30% by 2030 – very closely aligned with the fertilizer reduction target in the EU's Farm to Fork strategy.

We look forward to working closely with the EU as they continue to develop the initiatives that will implement the ambitions of the Farm to Fork Strategy.

Ensuring that our agriculture sectors contribute to climate change mitigation efforts will have lasting positive impacts on future generations. We must seek to integrate economic, social and environmental considerations in making our food systems healthier and more resilient.

From a trade perspective, the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) provides the basis for a deepened trade relationship between Canada and the EU. This ambitious agreement upholds and promotes the values that Canada shares with the EU including liberalized inclusive trade. It also includes clear commitments to uphold Canada's and Europe's high standards towards food safety and sustainability.

The benefits of CETA have been significant since its entry into force – the previous two webinars have shown that there is tremendous potential for growth in our bilateral agri-food relationship.

Let me pick on Spain, since this particular webinar has been organized by our Embassy in Madrid, and to give you an example in the meat sector. We are very excited to have Canadian AAA beef in Spain and we are equally excited to have delicious Spanish jamón in Canada. I'll note, both exchanged with a 0% tariff, making it more affordable for Spaniards and Canadians alike to enjoy these delicacies at a lower price point than other countries of import while ensuring the producers involved are still paid their fair share.

Through this series of webinars, I hope you continue to learn that there are opportunities in many areas: controlled agriculture (vertical farming, hydroponics), automation, robotics, sensing & monitoring, Artificial Intelligence, farm management, CO2 technologies, plant proteins, block chain, soil stimulation, crop and plant protection, livestock... and more! I encourage you to consider Canada if you are planning to expand to North America or develop R&D in these fields.

Canada and Europe are very diverse and we both consider diversity to be a key driver of innovation and a critical component of being successful on a global scale.

On a final note I would like to thank all the speakers and audience for their participation. My sincere appreciation and thanks to the Canadian Embassies in Madrid, The Hague and Bern for organizing these wonderful webinars.

Thank you everyone

BACKGROUND BRIEF

ISSUE

BACKGROUND

CURRENT STATUS

AAFC has taken the first steps of the [redacted] and [redacted] and undertaken a number of initiatives, such as: *a webinar series* partnering with an EU [redacted]

environmental think tank on sustainability/environment priorities in agriculture in Canada and the EU; key sustainability and food safety messages for use by embassies and others abroad; fact sheets on Canadian agriculture; and more.

At the EU-Canada Leaders' Summit on June 15, 2021, the Prime Minister of Canada and President of the EU announced a collaborative project with the European Commission. The project will consist of *a series of joint events to promote sustainability, environmental stewardship and climate actions in agriculture, within the framework of the Agriculture Dialogue under CETA*. This project [REDACTED] and will involve a series of closed workshops with stakeholders, farmers, NGOs, government representatives and others, building into a final high-level wrap up event involving senior-level participation. Likely topics (subject to change) are: **soil health, fertilizer reduction in agriculture, GHG reduction in livestock production, sustainable crop protection and organic agriculture**. The first workshop on soil health is anticipated to take place in the fall, with the final event held by the end of 2022.

[REDACTED]

Prepared by: Mariah Johnson

MAS/EMEA

Date: June 15, 2021

Q2: How is the sector expected to reduce their fertilizer GHG emissions by 30% without reducing their application rates or capping its use?

A: Fertilizer use plays a major role in the agriculture sector's success and has contributed to record harvests in the last decade. However, emissions associated with synthetic nitrogen fertilizer use have also grown significantly. It's important to recognize that our approach is focused on reducing fertilizer emissions, and not a blanket mandatory reduction in fertilizer application rates. We have already set an emissions reduction target of 30% below 2020 levels by 2030 and will work we are working closely with industry to understand the challenges ahead as well as set the conditions farmers need to succeed.

We are striving to meet this target through voluntary measures – this includes adopting new products and using beneficial management practices. Our major investments in science and innovation have proven efficiency gains are possible and they will result in both economic benefits for farmers and environmental benefits for society.

Supporting sustainable agriculture is our number one priority. That is why we are looking at all solutions for reducing fertilizer emissions while investing in programs to help achieve this goal. This includes the \$165 million Agricultural Clean Technology Program, the \$185 million Agriculture Climate Solutions – Living Labs Initiative, and the \$200 million On-Farm Climate Action Fund.

We remain committed to working with the sector to find ways to improve fertilizer use so that nutrients support crop yields instead of being lost to the atmosphere and waterways.

Q3: Why isn't Canada a co-chair for the Global Methane Pledge and can you explain why you chose to be a follower rather than a leader when it comes to reducing global methane emissions?

A: Our goal is for Canada to be a world leader in sustainable agriculture and the way forward is collaboration. We need to take action now to help ensure a prosperous future. Our farmers, foresters, and ranchers are key partners in helping to reduce global methane emissions by 30% below 2020 levels by 2030. By confirming our support for the Global Methane Pledge, we are leading by example and showing the world we are taking domestic action to achieve the target.

Our government's vision for agricultural sustainability means working hand-in-hand with industry. Many of these great stewards of the land are already leading the charge to reduce GHG emissions, sequester carbon and improve operations. We are supporting their drive by continuing to invest in new programs to help farmers adopt new, beneficial management practices and clean technologies to boost productivity and lower emissions – including from methane.

Sean Meagher

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Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

From: Mackay, Kylee <kylee.mackay@AGR.GC.CA>

Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 10:13 AM

To: Tuck, David <david.tuck@AGR.GC.CA>; Meagher, Sean <sean.meagher2@agr.gc.ca>

Subject: Enviro Qs and As for today

Hi friends,

Requesting some help for the FPT Qs and As. Mary is saying:

Charron, Suzanne

From: Donihee, Lauren
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 11:31 AM
To: Rosser, Tom; Boucher, Donald; Kim, Natasha; Dila, Mary
Cc: Hameed, Qamer; Girard-Mahan, Danielle; Akhtar, Sarah; Parry, Matt; Norris, Kevin; Doire, Nicolas; Richer, Dominique; Lefebvre, Alexandre; Jahan, Faiza; Keating, Alexa
Subject: RE: Fertilizer Canada planning a news release on emissions reduction target on Monday
Attachments: Final MNP Report.pdf; Addendum - Case Studies.pdf; Addendum - Provincial Effects.pdf

I just received the attached from Fertilizer Canada – they asked that it not be shared outside of AAFC. I haven't had an opportunity to review but in the interest of time, thought it best to share with all those implicated asap.

Lauren

From: Rosser, Tom <tom.rosser@AGR.GC.CA>
Sent: September 23, 2021 2:27 PM
To: Boucher, Donald <donald.boucher@AGR.GC.CA>; Kim, Natasha <natasha.kim@AGR.GC.CA>; Dila, Mary <mary.dila@AGR.GC.CA>
Cc: Hameed, Qamer <qamer.hameed@AGR.GC.CA>; Donihee, Lauren <lauren.donihee@AGR.GC.CA>; Girard-Mahan, Danielle <danielle.girard-mahan@agr.gc.ca>; Akhtar, Sarah <sarah.akhtar@agr.gc.ca>; Parry, Matt <matt.parry@AGR.GC.CA>; Norris, Kevin <kevin.norris@AGR.GC.CA>; Doire, Nicolas <nicolas.doire@AGR.GC.CA>; Richer, Dominique <dominique.richer@AGR.GC.CA>; Lefebvre, Alexandre <alexandre.lefebvre@agr.gc.ca>; Jahan, Faiza <faiza.jahan@AGR.GC.CA>
Subject: RE: Fertilizer Canada planning a news release on emissions reduction target on Monday

Probably not a bad idea for flag for DMO/MINO. Doesn't much matter to me but would suggest doing so through PAB channels.

From: Boucher, Donald <donald.boucher@AGR.GC.CA>
Sent: September 23, 2021 2:13 PM
To: Rosser, Tom <tom.rosser@AGR.GC.CA>; Kim, Natasha <natasha.kim@AGR.GC.CA>; Dila, Mary <mary.dila@AGR.GC.CA>
Cc: Hameed, Qamer <qamer.hameed@AGR.GC.CA>; Donihee, Lauren <lauren.donihee@AGR.GC.CA>; Girard-Mahan, Danielle <danielle.girard-mahan@agr.gc.ca>; Akhtar, Sarah <sarah.akhtar@agr.gc.ca>; Parry, Matt <matt.parry@AGR.GC.CA>; Norris, Kevin <kevin.norris@AGR.GC.CA>; Doire, Nicolas <nicolas.doire@AGR.GC.CA>; Richer, Dominique <dominique.richer@AGR.GC.CA>; Lefebvre, Alexandre <alexandre.lefebvre@agr.gc.ca>; Jahan, Faiza <faiza.jahan@AGR.GC.CA>
Subject: Fertilizer Canada planning a news release on emissions reduction target on Monday

Colleagues,

See intel below (thank you very much to Lauren for flagging). May be worth flagging to DM/MinO (and potentially look to develop responsive media lines once we become aware of the content of the report?)

Donald

Daniel Kelter/Fertilizer Canada reached out just now as they wanted to give us a heads up on an economic study they contracted on the fertilizer emissions reduction initiative. They intend to go public with the results of this analysis on

Charron, Suzanne

From: Roberts, Mary Jane
Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 1:05 PM
To: Meagher, Sean; Norris, Kevin; Léger, Andréanne
Cc: Tuck, David
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW - Enviro Qs and As for today

Some comments for consideration:

- First paragraph – check the wording/grammar of the 2 highlighted sections to make sure they match (minor editorial comment)
- Fertilizers: adjusted wording to (1) not overstate how much we have been working with the sector to date vs will work with them going forward; and (2) remove wording that suggests farmers are not using fertilizers efficiently

Thanks,
MJ

From: Meagher, Sean <sean.meagher2@agr.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 11:59 AM
To: Norris, Kevin <kevin.norris@AGR.GC.CA>; Roberts, Mary Jane <maryjane.roberts2@AGR.GC.CA>; Léger, Andréanne <Andreanne.Leger@AGR.GC.CA>
Cc: Tuck, David <david.tuck@AGR.GC.CA>
Subject: FOR REVIEW - Enviro Qs and As for today

Hey everyone,

FOR REVIEW – Tough Questions the Minister could face from reporters – written based on how she would speak to the issue publicly.

Deadline: 2pm

Can you please review and let me know if you have any additions/adjustments?

Mary Jane on thread for fertilizer content.

Q1: Canada's agriculture sector is expected to fall short of achieving 40-45% GHG emissions reduction by 2030. Why is the Government setting unrealistic goals while expecting farmers to pick up the slack?

A: Farmers across Canada are already feeling the effects of climate change on their land and their businesses. Long-term sustainable agriculture means helping our producers be more resilient in the face of new climate realities. Our government's goal is to make sure we preserve our land and that our land remains fertile and productive for generations to come. Our Strengthened Climate Plan recognizes the potential of Canada's hardworking farmers and food processors have in reducing national GHG emissions, and outlines measures on how climate-smart agriculture will contribute to reducing emissions by 40-45% by 2030 and put our country on a path towards net-zero emissions by 2050. We will implement those measures while advancing new ones to reduce GHG emissions and meet our target.

Meeting our target also means helping farmers adopt new sustainable land management and other beneficial practices. Our commitment to invest \$550 million in agri-environmental initiatives will do just that. This includes the \$165 million Agricultural Clean Technology Program, the \$185 million Agriculture Climate Solutions – Living Labs Initiative, and the \$200 million On-Farm Climate Action Fund.

We'll need to make sure there are 2-3 tough Qs on environment in the Q&A (i.e. environmental targets and impacts it may have on sector, methane, fertilizer issue, etc.). Answer should be focusing on Min's language (i.e. this is exactly to ensure sustainability that we are taking these steps, farmers are among the first ones to be affected by climate change, etc.). Nothing too complicated, we probably have some lines on this already...

Could I ask you to provide me with some pointy Qs and As on this? In the Minister's voice.

PREPARED FOR THE