Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs



Investigator Training 2019

Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program



Segment Outline

- Brief background
- Biosecurity on Farm
- Application form
- Documenting evidence through photographs
- Assessing reasonable care
- Predator identification
- Q & A

OWDCP Background

- The OWDCP is part of *CAP*, a five-year, \$3 billion federal-provincial-territorial funding program launched in 2018.
- In 2017 program updates were launched as a result of a third party review and stakeholder consultations.
- In 2018, OMAFRA evaluated the program to ensure it was delivering services to owners in an effective, efficient, & transparent manner.
 - Changes made as a result of consultation with producers, investigators, predation experts and commodity organizations

- Program continues to pay 100% of fair market value, including premiums, where reasonable evidence substantiates predation.
- List of eligible livestock/poultry and wildlife species remain the same as amended in 2011.
- Standardized pricing model will continue to be used to assign value.
- Investigators continue to play a key role in collecting & documenting evidence of predation

Valuing Livestock Losses

- A standardized pricing table is used to assign value. The tables are reviewed regularly & updated.
- The standardized pricing tables are comprised of industry-recognized market data.
- The pricing tables can be found at <u>www.ontario.ca/predation</u>

Weaning calculation for Calves:

- Steer/bull calves assumed to weigh 560 lbs at weaning and heifer calves assumed to weigh 530 lbs.
- Newborn calves & calves up to 1 month of age are compensated at 75% of weaning weight using the "500 lbs to 599 lbs" pricing category with the value increasing 5%/month.

Weaning calculation for Lambs

- Lambs are assumed to weigh 80 lbs at weaning.
- Newborn lambs up to 1 week of age are compensated at 45% of the weaning weight using the "80 lbs to 94 lbs" pricing category with the value increasing 5% per week until the 12th week of age.

Other Livestock

- Alpaca, Bison, Deer, Donkey, Elk, Horse, Llama, Mule, and Ostrich will have a prorated value assigned in 1st year of life.
- Young animals in their 1st month of life will be compensated at 45% of FMV
- Increase 5% per month until reaching full value at 1 year old (12th month)

Bee Damage

- Bee investigator determines FMV of damaged beehive, bee colony or beehiverelated equipment
- Max. compensation for bee colony is \$250.
- Max. compensation for beehive-related equipment is \$100.

Pregnant Animals

- Pregnant animals are compensated at 1.5 times the FMV set out in standardized pricing tables.
 - Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Alpaca, Bison, Deer, Donkey, Elk, Fisher, Fox, Horse, Llama, Lynx, Marten, Mink and Raccoon

The owner <u>must</u> provide an ultrasound report or breeding records.

Purebred Animals

- Registered, purebred cattle are compensated at 1.5 times the FMV set out in the standardized tables
- Registered, purebred sheep or goats are compensated at 2 times the FMV in the standardized tables.

Owner <u>must</u> provide registration documentation and evidence of an ID tag or tattoo that matches the documentation.

• Parental registration documents accepted if documents demonstrate a genetic link between animal and parents.

Sufficient Evidence Standards

 The program is moving away from the "three pillars of evidence" and will be requiring investigators to document both primary and secondary evidence.

Primary Evidence:

- Full / partial carcass required
- Animal was healthy & alive prior to attack
- Predatory attack occurred (i.e. blood, signs of tissue damage / struggle)

Sufficient Evidence Standards

Secondary Evidence:

- Scat, tracks, etc.
- Herd behaviour
- Client predation history
- Detail on factors that have impacted evidence (i.e. weather events)

Secondary evidence <u>supports</u> decision making.

Secondary evidence on its own <u>cannot</u> be used to demonstrate predation.

 Applications have been adjusted to capture program updates and primary and secondary evidence.

 Provide detailed explanations. Information is used to evaluate claims, reach decisions, and to support future audits of the program.

Application Assessment

- Applications are received within required timelines.
- If the application is incomplete or missing information, OMAFRA will contact the Municipality to request that the information be provided within 15 business days.
- If the information is not provided to OMAFRA within this period, the application may be deemed ineligible and will not be assessed.

Application Assessment

- Applicant (Owner) meets all eligibility requirements:
 - Valid Farm Business Registration Number (FBRN) from the current or previous year, or an exemption (Religious, Gross Farm Income or First Nations exemption);
 - Valid Premises Identification (PID) Number for the farm property where the damage or kill occurred;
 - The application is for an eligible livestock, poultry species and wildlife predator species;
 - In compliance with and remain in compliance with all federal, provincial, and municipal laws.
- Applications that do not meet basic program eligibility requirements (i.e. valid FBRN or photos) will be deemed ineligible and will not be assessed.

Application Assessment Cont'd.

- Sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the reported kill or injury was the result of predation.
- Available primary & secondary evidence must be captured through photographic and written evidence:
 - Secondary evidence is intended to support decision-making, particularly in difficult cases where primary evidence may be inconclusive.
 - Secondary evidence on its own cannot be used to demonstrate predation.

OMAFRA provides notification to owner & municipality of results, including any compensation value assigned & whether applicant is eligible to appeal.

Appeal Requests

- If an owner does not agree with the outcome of their application and is eligible to appeal, they may request, in writing, a review of the decision.
- The scope of review is limited to the specific issue(s) brought forward by the applicant.
- All appeals to flow through the Business Risk Management Review Committee (BRMRC).

Appeal Requests

Eligible for Appeal:

- Applications declined due to insufficient evidence;
- Application of a premium;
- Incorrect information;
- Insufficient reasonable care;
- Standardized pricing that was not accurately applied.

Ineligible for Appeal:

- Application was incomplete (i.e. no photos / description not provided etc.);
- Basic eligibility criteria was not met (i.e. FBRN, PID).

Appeal Process

- The Business Risk Management Review Committee (BRMRC) is an agency of OMAFRA and is responsible for hearing review requests.
- A specialized roster member of the BRMRC will review the appeal and provide a recommendation to the OMAFRA Program Director who will make a final decision.
- Specialized roster members will be knowledgeable in livestock production and predation.
- Livestock owner receives copy of BRMRC recommendation and final decision.

Payment Process

- OMAFRA provides a decision letter to owner.
 - If compensation is declined (\$0), Municipality receives a copy of decision letter via email. If an owner does not agree with the decline → may appeal.
- If no appeal, OMAFRA reimburses Municipality within 20 business days
 - Municipalities are informed of all application results at this time & begin the process of issuing payment to owner.
- On appeal, owner & Municipality notified of decision & compensation after appeal has been decided.

Owner Responsibilities

- Demonstrate reasonable care to prevent predation.
- Notify municipality or OMAFRA within 48 hours of discovering injury / death of livestock
 - In a territory without municipal organization, owner notifies OMAFRA.
- Seek veterinary care or other treatment for an injured animal.
 - If the animal is in distress & suffering, the producer may euthanize it before the investigator arrives without affecting program eligibility.
- Preserve the site & carcass(es) until the investigator arrives.
 - Strongly suggested that producers take clear photographs & notes of the carcass & kill site which can be submitted as additional evidence

Owner Responsibilities

- Dispose of all deadstock →Ontario Regulation 106/09 of the *Nutrient Management Act, 2002.*
- Submit a Reasonable Care Plan after 5th application within 1 calendar year (Jan 1 to Dec 31) if intending to submit another application.
- Submit any additional evidence (i.e. photos, breeding records, registration documents etc.) to the investigator within 7 business days of investigation.
- Review applications completed by the Investigator for accuracy & sign the application form prior to submission.

Investigator Responsibilities

- Carry out a full and impartial investigation within 72 hours of receiving the notification.
- Take 3-6 colour photos per eligible kill/injury incurred & document all information to complete the application.
- Provide a completed application to the owner & municipality within 7 business days of the investigation.
 - Application updates include new mandatory fields to better collect primary & secondary predation evidence

OMAFRA Responsibilities

- Administration of the program & financial accountability to federal government.
- Appoint investigators for territories without a municipal organization.
- Post & update the standardized pricing table
- Review applications to determine eligibility & assigning values based on the evidence provided.
- Decline or deem applications ineligible if they do not meet the criteria in the program guidelines.

OMAFRA Responsibilities

- Provide owner and municipality with a written decision within 30 business days of receiving a complete application.
- Receive owners' requests for appeal, determining eligibility for appeal & notifying the Program Director & BRMRC panel member of all eligible requests for review.
 - Notify the owner of the recommendation from the reviewer & final decision.
- Reimburse municipalities.

Municipal Responsibilities

- Appoint Investigators
- Notify an Investigator immediately after owner reports an attack.
- Review & submit completed applications.
 - Application updates include new mandatory fields (primary & secondary evidence)
- Submit additional owner evidence to OMAFRA.
- Pay an owner's approved application.
- Provide Statement of Farm Support Payments (AGR -1) to owners who receive compensation.
- Pay and reimburse Investigators.

Timelines

- Owner informs municipality within 48 hours of discovery
- Municipality must immediately inform investigator.
- Investigator is required to conduct investigation within 72 hours of being notified.
- Investigator must submit a completed application to the municipality within 7 business days of conducting the investigation.
- The owner can submit additional evidence to the municipality within 7 business days of the investigation.

Timelines

- Municipality must submit complete application & any additional evidence to OMAFRA within 7 business days of the investigation.
- OMAFRA will review the application.
- Compensation will be assigned & owner will be informed of the decision within 30 business days of submitting a complete application.
- Owner has 20 business days to appeal the outcome.
- If no appeal is requested within 20 business days of the decision letter being issued, OMAFRA will notify the municipality.

Biosecurity





- Investigators who travel to various livestock farms should be mindful of the potential to spread disease
- Utilize best management practices in the next few slides to minimize the risk of spreading disease



- Drive slowly (30 km/hr max.) up the driveway & close all windows to avoid contamination
- 2. Park vehicle in an appropriate / designated area
 - Not adjacent to livestock housing facilities & animal traffic areas.
 - Not underneath ventilation exhausts
 & inlets.
 - Has no visible contamination (manure) on the ground.
 - Does not interfere with vehicle & material flow







- If the owner is present, determine if there are operation-specific biosecurity protocols that need to be followed
- 4. If the owner/operator is not present, confirm, document & respect any signs, posted protocol, &/or barriers at the facility.
- Ask if the farm has a visitor log book & sign in.



6. Wear boots that are clean of any visible contamination or wear disposable boot covers



-Consider bringing & wearing disposable gloves:

- -Touching or rolling carcasses over
- -Collecting 'pieces' of carcasses for photos
- -Collecting poultry to take a 'group shot'
- -Trying to find blood around grass / terrain -Etc.



-Germicidal hand lotion

-Spray bottle of disinfectant solutions



Boot Washing

1) Boots should be washed before arriving on site, in case water is not available.

2) Upon arrival, check boots for visible contamination. If contaminated, they should be re-washed

3) Disinfectant should be a broad spectrum bactericidal/ viricidal disinfectant

Biosecurity

Boots should always be washed before leaving the site:

- Acquire water from operator or from your vehicle
- Follow label directions for washing with disinfectant or detergent solution.
- Rinse off loose mud & organic matter with water. Soaking for 5-10 minutes will help loosen dirt compacted into deep treads.
- Scrub boots, especially the soles, with brush and disinfectant or detergent
- Rinse boots with water



- If not possible to wash boots before leaving the site, change into another set of footwear & place contaminated boots in a plastic bag / washable sealable container.
- Boots must be washed before using them on another farm visit.
Some Personal Safety Tips

- Let someone know where you will be travelling & when you will be expected back
- Provide your cell # to municipality
- Back into a parking spot with nose of vehicle facing out for easy exit,
- Keep keys and cell phone in pocket
- Ask your municipality to look into a conflict resolution / personal safety course for you

Application Form



http://shaunthesheep.wikia.com/wiki/Bitzer

Application Form



Ministry of Agriculture, ntario Food and Rural Affairs

Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program Application Form

Instructions

- Applications need to be printed and signed by the Owner, Municipal Investigator & Municipal Officer.
- Application form is available online ontario.ca/predation

the program guidelines that were supplied b ultry from eligible wildlife. FRA within 7 business days of initial
ultry from eligible wildlife. FRA within 7 business days of initial
FRA within 7 business days of initial
al (#) Incomplete englishing may lead be
ble for processing.
ligibilityRequirements
Owner Legal First Name*
Rural Route PO Box
City/Town*
Province* Postal Code
OR I confirm the applicant does have a CRA Number.
OR I confirm the applicant does n have a FBRN.
OR I confirm the applicant does n have a PID.

Note: For more information about CRA, FBRN and PID and potential exemptions, see top of page 2.

Step 1 – Owner Information

Owner Legal First Name*

Step 1 – Owner Identification & Basic Eligibility Requirements

Owner (Applicant) Information

Owner Legal Last Name*

Owner Business Address

Unit No	Street No *	Rural Route	PO B	ох
Street Name *		City/Town*		
Telephone *	Email		Province*	Postal Code*

Step 1 – Owner Information

Eligibility Requirements

Canada Revenue Agency Number (CRA) ¹	OR	l confirm the applicant does not have a CRA Number.
Farm Business Registration Number (FBRN) ²	OR	l confirm the applicant does not have a FBRN.
Premises Identification Number (PID) ³	OR	I confirm the applicant does not have a PID.

Eligibility Exemptions and Alternatives

CRA: In the absence of a CRA Number, the applicant will provide their SIN number to the Municipality and/or OMAFRA when requested. For more information go to: <u>www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes/business-number.html</u> or call: 1-800-959-5525.

FBRN: In the absence of a FBRN Number, the applicant must qualify for an exemption and will provide documented proof. For more information about FBRN: visit <u>www.farmbusreg.com</u> or call Agricorp : 1-888-247-4999.

PID: To obtain a new PID or re-validate an existing PID visit: <u>www.ontariopid.com</u> or call Agricorp: 1-888-247-4999.

Step 1 – Owner Information

- Without complete information in Step 1 → applications are ineligible under the program & will not be processed.
- Ministry staff will contact the municipality to get the information before the application is processed, which may result in a delay to the processing timelines.
- Farm Business Name or owner name should match how the FBRN is registered.

Step 2 – Investigator Information

Step 2 – Investigator Info	rmation	
Represented Municipality *	Last Name *	First Name *
Telephone *	Email *	Mobile

Step 3 – Description of Damages

Step 3 – Description of Damages

Injury or Kill Date (yyyy/mm/dd) *

Indicate the type(s) of damage(s) *

Death of livestock or poultry

Injury of livestock or poultry

Note: If this application includes a claim for veterinary costs related to predation, provide proof of payment (i.e. veterinarian invoice / receipt referencing the livestock being claimed).



Both death and injury of livestock or poultry

Ensure Animal Well-Being

- Producers should immediately seek veterinary care or other treatment to prevent further suffering.
- If the animal is in distress and suffering, the producer may euthanize it before the investigator arrives without affecting program eligibility.

Ensure Animal Well-Being

- Vet costs are eligible up to Fair Market Value. All receipts & invoices along with any medications needing to be purchased should be saved & submitted with the application.
- Producers can treat an animal with their on-farm medication "inventory". Need proof that a vet directed its use as treatment for the injury & have a receipt for when the medication was purchased.

Step 3 – Injured Animals



Step 4 – Description of Livestock



 Weight & age is important to know, especially in the case of young stock in order to assign value

Step 4 – Description of Livestock - Premiums

Step 4 – Description of Live	estock & Signs of Predation	
Animal 1		
Premium(s): * Documents require	ed to substantiate premium	
Not Pregn	ant Registered	Poultry breeding stock

- If a premium box is selected, producers are required to submit documentation within 7 days
- Ideally collect the documentation during your visit to the farm
- Without proper documentation, the producer will receive FMV applicable to the class of animal



Pregnancy Premiums

	Cattle	Fox
	Sheep	Horse
	Goats	Llama
1.5 times the	Alpaca	Lynx
Fair Market	Bison	Marten
Value	Deer	Mink
	Donkey	Raccoon
	Elk	
	Fisher	(excludes: ostrich, emu, rhea, poultry, mules, and rabbits)



- Pregnant heifers will be valued as pregnant cows
- Pregnant ewe lambs valued as pregnant ewes
- Pregnant goat kids valued as pregnant does

Require	Required Pregnancy Documentation			
CATTLE	 ID (animal or group) Insemination date (if applicable) Date exposed to bull Estimated calving date Confirmation of pregnancy date 			
SHEEP / GOATS	 ID (animal or group) # of ewe / does (if applicable) Ram / buck ID (animal or group) Dates rams / bucks went in and came out Estimated lambing / kidding date 			
OTHER LIVESTOCK	 ID (animal or group) Number of females (if applicable) Sire ID (animal or group) Dates sires went in and came out Estimated birthing date 			

Pregnancy Scanning Records



NAM	ME					DATE COLO 1.09
	COW ID	FRESH	HEAT	BRED	PREGNANT	COMMENTS
1	BEADDK				67	heavy in calf.
2	#56				6-7	
3	3500				6-7	
4	GERT				DRen	10
5	3A				7	heaviest in calf
6	UZ				7	
7	130				6-7	
8	KITKA	2			6-7	
9	Mana	(30)			6	
10	80				6	not as big
11	77				FREN	
12						
13				A		
14						2
15						

Breeding records

Evenues 150 175 300 Oct 15, Oct 31, March 11 10 265 10 2016 2016 Mar 27, 10 2016 Mar 27, 10 1- older 400 10 rams - Sept 28, Oct 31, Feb 22 -> eves 400 Pen A 2016 2016 Mar 27,2	Group/Ewe ID	# Ewes	Ram ID .	Date Rams In	Date Rams Out	Est. Lambing Date
enes 400 10 rams - Sept 28, Oct 31, Feb 22 > enes 400 Pen A 2016 2016 Mar 27,2	Enerambs	150	175 300	Oct 15, 2016	Oct 31, 2016	March 11 - Mar 27, 2
eves The Pen A 2016 2016 Mar 27,2	en 1-older	400	10 rams-	Sept 28,	Oct 31,	Feb 22 >
	enes	100	Pen A rams	2016	2016	Mar 27,20
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Breeding records

Group/Ewe ID	# Ewes	Ram ID .	Date Rams In	Date Rams Out	Est. Lambing Date
Ewenbs	150	175 300	. Oct 15, 2016	Oct 31, 2016	March 11 - Mar 27, 2
en 1- older	400	10 rams-	Sept 28,	Oct 31,	Feb 22 ->
chies		rams	2016	2016	11103 21,20
					X

Registered Animals

Species	Compensation Rate	Required Documentation
CATTLE	1.5 times the FMV	 Registered purebred documentation Evidence of an ID tag or tattoo that matches papers Parental registration documents are accepted - genetic link needs to be demonstrated between predated calf & registered parents
SHEEP/ GOATS	2 times the FMV	 Registered purebred documentation Evidence of an ID tag or tattoo that matches papers Parental registration documents are accepted - genetic link needs to be demonstrated between predated calf & registered parents

Registration Documents





Step 4 - Premiums



Poultry breeding stock

Breeding Poultry

Breeding stock values are factored into standardized valuation tables found at <u>www.Ontario.ca/predation</u>

Required Documentation

- Sales receipts demonstrating the majority of the flock was sold to breeders
- Proof of pedigree from a breeder company to support grandparent, great-grandparent, foundation and pedigree stock claims.

Step 4 – Evidence of Predation

Evidence Of Predation: *Provide Photos To Support Your Descriptions.			
Is there evidence that the animal was alive prior to the attack? (Newborns: no hoof membrane, ID tag, cleanliness, etc.) Explanation Required.	\bigcirc	Yes	O No
Are there signs of bleeding and/ or hemorrhaging present? (Pooling blood, blood trails, etc.) Explanation Required.	0	Yes	O No
Are there signs of claw and/ or puncture wounds visible on the carcass? Explanation Required.	0	Yes	O No
Were there any other signs of predation? Explanation Required.	\bigcirc	Yes	O No

Applications will be deemed incomplete & returned to the municipality to complete, if the section shown here is not filled out.

Step 4 – Evidence of Predation

Evidence Of Predation: *Provide Photos To Support Your Descriptions.		
Is there evidence that the animal was alive prior to the attack? (Newborns: no hoof membrane, ID tag, cleanliness, etc.) Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
Α.		
Are there signs of bleeding and/ or hemorrhaging present? (Pooling blood, blood trails, etc.) Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
Are there signs of claw and/ or puncture wounds visible on the carcass? Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
Were there any other signs of predation? Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No

Step 4 – Evidence of Predation

A. Describe in detail any evidence that animal was alive prior to the attack.

Example – young animal:

- Hoof membrane worn
- Manure or dirt on the hooves
- Animal having identification markers (ID tag, tattoo, ear notch, leg band, etc.)
- Young animals licked or dried off
- Umbilical cord dried (this may be a poor indication if animal is very young)
- Milk in stomach
- Castration / tail docking bands present (if applicable)







1/2 hour old

5 hours old





1/2 hour old

5 hours old -umbilical cord still not dry -animal not dry yet...











Photo Credit: Anita O'Brien



Lungs

Not necessary but if you are comfortable, or perhaps the producer is:

- Lungs of live newborns are spongy, lightpink to orange in colour & float in water
- Lungs of stillborn animals are hard, purplish-red in colour, and will not float
A. Describe in detail any evidence that animal was alive prior to the attack.

Example – **older animal**:

 Older animal appeared to be healthy & alive before the attack as seen by the bleeding (animals bleed during & shortly after death when attacked)

In the event of little carcass left -

- Producer saw the animal the day before (week before, etc.) and said it appeared to be healthy
- Producer did not notice any animals that appeared sick in the herd or flock at last check which occurred _____

Evidence Of Predation: *Provide Photos To Support Your Descriptions.		
Is there evidence that the animal was alive prior to the attack? (Newborns: no hoof membrane, ID tag, cleanliness, etc.) Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
Α.		
Are there signs of bleeding and/ or hemorrhaging present? (Pooling blood, blood trails, etc.) Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
B.		
Are there signs of claw and/ or puncture wounds visible on the carcass? Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
Were there any other signs of predation? Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No

- B. Signs of bleeding and / or hemorrhaging. Examples:
 - Blood on the body
 - Pooling Blood
 - Blood Trails
 - Hemorrhaging on carcass
 - Bleeding from eyeballs, mouth, anus (raven attacks)
 - Etc.

Β.

NOTE: If there is no blood – describe <u>why</u> there is no blood...

- -Weather
- -Timing (i.e. 48 hrs)
- -Mostly consumed
- -Etc.

Evidence Of Predation: *Provide Photos To Support Your Descriptions.		
Is there evidence that the animal was alive prior to the attack? (Newborns: no hoof membrane, ID tag, cleanliness, etc.) Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
Α.		
Are there signs of bleeding and/ or hemorrhaging present? (Pooling blood, blood trails, etc.) Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
B.		
Are there signs of claw and/ or puncture wounds visible on the carcass? Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
C.		
Were there any other signs of predation? Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No

- C. Signs of claw and/or puncture wounds visible on the carcass?
 - Scratches
 - Claw marks
 - Puncture woods from beaks or teeth
 - Marks from pecking
 - Torn out wool / hair
 - Etc.

Evidence Of Predation: *Provide Photos To Support Your Descriptions.		
Is there evidence that the animal was alive prior to the attack? (Newborns: no hoof membrane, ID tag, cleanliness, etc.) Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
Α.		
Are there signs of bleeding and/ or hemorrhaging present? (Pooling blood, blood trails, etc.) Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
B.		
Are there signs of claw and/ or puncture wounds visible on the carcass? Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
C.		
Were there any other signs of predation? Explanation Required.	O Yes	O No
D.		

- D. Describe in detail any other signs of predation. Examples:
 - Signs of a struggle
 - Drag marks on the ground
 - Broken vegetation
 - Other parts or pieces of the carcass found around the bigger area
 - Surrounding area
 - Predator tracks, scat, fur
 - Hole in the fence / evidence of predator getting into the field
 - Etc.

Step 5 – A. Description of Predator



More on identifying predator species at the end of this presentation...

Step 5 – A. Description of Predator

Eligible Wildlife Species for Damage to Livestock & Poultry

- Bear
- Bobcat
- Cougar
- Coyote
- Crow
- Eagle
- Elk
- Fisher
- Fox

- Hawk
- Lynx
- Mink
- Raccoon
- Raven
- Vulture
- Weasel
- Wolf

Step 5 – A. Description of Predator

Eligible Wildlife Species for Damage to Beehives, Bee Colonies and/or Beehive-related Equipment

- Bear
- Skunk
- Raccoon
- Deer

Step 5 – Site Evidence

Step 5 – Description of Predator & Site Evidence

B. PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENTS AND ATTACK SITE. INCLUDE ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION SUCH AS WEATHER, CONDITIONS AND/OR BEHAVIOURS EXHIBITED BY THE HERD OR FLOCK AFTER THE ATTACK.

Β.

C. PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE EVIDENCE LEFT BY THE PREDATOR. DESCRIBE HOW PHOTOS SUPPORT EVIDENCE OF PREDATION.

С.

B. Description of the events & attack site. (weather, conditions) Examples:

Note weather conditions

- +30 degrees Celsius not a lot of the carcass left due to decomposition
- Rain events for days which washed away the blood on the carcass and around the site
- Snowed, so snow covered up blood
- Etc.



Step 5 – Site Evidence

B. Description of the events & attack site. (behaviours of herd / flock) Examples:

Note behaviour exhibited by the herd / flock

- Pacing the fence line
- Mother is frantic
- Mother has swollen udder
- Balling / bellowing
- Separated from herd / flock
- Spooked
- Not wanting to go to pasture
- Etc.

- C. Description of the evidence left by the predator. Describe how photos support evidence of predation:
 - Predator tracks, scat, fur, predator sightings, holes under fence, etc.
 - Ensure photos match descriptions of your report.



Example - Ineffective Description

Description – Species

Coyote

Description of the supporting evidence.

Coyote had been seen in Area.

the life mean laboration of the second strength and the second strength

Describe evidence left by the predator (e.g. tracks, droppings etc.)

Example – Effective Description

Step 4 – Description of Predator

Predator Species (See Program Guidelines for eligible predator list) Coyotes

Describe evidence left by the predator (e.g. tracks, droppings etc.)

Foot prints (tracks) on the road, along side the pasture. look consistent with coyote prints.

Foot prints (tracks) within fencing and flock of sheep.

Farmer stated he observed 4 coyotes within the last few weeks.

Kill site- lots of blood, and other bodily fluids, drag marks. evidence there was a struggle and animal was pulled apart. Intestines within the drag marks, the organs were strung out over 60 feet to where the carcase lays.

Chew marks on the organs.

Chew marks within the rib cage, and the inside is pulled out of the animal.

Example – sufficient evidence of predation









- 3-6 clear digital colour photos per individual livestock or poultry. For poultry, a group shot is preferred so the number of birds being claimed can be confirmed.
- Colour & high quality
- If there are multiple animals, label each photo to correspond to each carcass e.g., lamb #1, lamb #2.
- Photos should match the description
- Photos of reasonable care measures are encouraged
- If the owner has additional photos, submit them as additional evidence to support the application.

<u>Required:</u>

- 1. A close up photo of injuries and/or wounds sustained
- 2. A photo of the entire animal showing all injuries and/ or wounds sustained.
- 3. Photos of the location where the incident occurred, including any evidence of a predatory struggle

<u>Recommended:</u>

- Photo of ear tag(s), tattoo(s) or other forms of identification such as paint brands or ear notches, if available. (May not be available on young animals or carcasses which have ears eaten off)
- 2. Photo of the hooves, if it is a young animal, if available.
- 3. Photos of any other relevant items from the site, (entry point of predator, damage to the fence, and photos of weather conditions, etc.)







- IF more than one carcass label the photos so it is clear which carcass is which
- In the case of poultry, take a group shot once the individual birds & scene have been photographed so it is clear how many carcasses there are.
- Can use something to show scale in the photo (ruler, pen, etc.) to depict injuries, tracks, etc.
- Could date stamp photo
- It is critical that photos match the descriptions in the application form. 100



Owner photos (strongly recommended)

- Owners can provide timely photos
- Clearly label as "owner's photos."
- Submit additional photos & evidence provided by the owner within 7 business days



Low Quality Photographs









Quality Photographs



Step 6: Reasonable Care

Step 6 – Reasonable Care			
A. Overview			
Herd / Flock Size:			
Overall Health Condition:	Healthy, no concerns Diseased Sick		
	Other (Explain)		
	Compost Incineration Burial		
Deadstock Disposal:	O Disposal vessel O Off-site disposal (licensed disposal/collector)		
	Other (Explain)		

Step 6: Reasonable Care

B. Predation Prevention			
INSPECTION FREQUENCY			
O Multipletimes daily	At least once daily	O A few times per week	O Weekly
Other (Explain)			



B. Predation Prevention					
FENCIN	G:				
O Pr	resent		Not Present		
Conditi	ion				
O Ve	erygood	O Good	Fair	O Poor	Very Poor
Describe fencing type : (e.g. electric fencing)					

Predator Deterrent Fencing

- Modified net-wire fence \rightarrow Gold Standard
- Galvanized 12.5 gauge high-tensile mesh wire with 15 cm by 15cm spacing's.
- Can add electric strands to the top of the fence to make the overall height 1.70 meters.


Electric Fencing

- Electric fences can be effective; however some coyotes have learned how to get through.
- Perimeter fences should be at least 5 strands of electric with alternative live and ground wires;
 - Alberta 9 wire Anti-Coyote Fence:
 9 wire fence constructed using
 12.5 gauge high-tensile, smooth
 wire



Typical beef scenario – 1 strand

Electric Net Fencing

- Available in two different heights.
- Fence can be moved to different locations and fields.
- Coyotes may learn to jump the electric net fences.



Other Types of Fence: Page Wire / Barbed Wire





Livestock Guardian Animals

B. Predation Prevention

LIVESTOCK GUARDIAN ANIMAL(S):

Present

Not Present

Describe type: (e.g. dog, donkey, llama)

Items to note:

- Type of guardian animals
- Number of guardian animals





Livestock Guardian Dog (LDG)

- Most popular choice.
- A good LGD will stay with the flock, not harm the livestock & be aggressive towards predators.
- Male & female dogs effective.
- Many different breeds of LGD's





Assessing Effectiveness of Guardian Animals

Llama

- Alert & may alarm call, may position themselves between flock / herd & predator.
- May run or walk toward predator chase, kick or paw.
- Herd livestock away.
- Terrain needs to be clear of brush and livestock contained in a smaller paddock.
- May become aggressive with the flock / herd.



Assessing Effectiveness of Guardian Animals

Donkeys

 Use sight & sound to identify predators – will bray & try to chase predator out of the field or may strike out with hooves.

Effective When:

- 1 donkey, over 44" high
- Small flocks & herds <100
- Flat land with no trees in small paddocks
- May have to be removed at lambing / calving time



Step 6: Reasonable Care

B. Predation Prevention

The owner has taken reasonable measures to prevent predation.

The owner has not taken reasonable measures to prevent predation.

Comments (if applicable)

Figure 1. Use of different predation prevention methods by 181 survey respondents. Respondents were able to choose more than one option. (Nixon, 2013)









Other Management Practices



A COMPUTERISED varying flash with 2 colours meaning predators are less likely to get used to. Nine LED bulbs projecting at 360 degrees can be seen

over 1 kilometre.

Set where stock are sleeping or near poultry pens, Foxlights appears as if someone is patrolling with a flash light which keeps predators away with their natural fear of man.

function in any location, shaded or not, and through all weather conditions

Easy set up on a steel fence post, hung from a tree or on an existing fence.

Easy to relocate with stock going to fresh pastures. Foxlights is very compatible with all guard and domestic animal

A COMPUTERISED varying flash with 3 colours meaning predators are less likely to adapt to. Nine LED bulbs projecting at 360 degrees can be seen

Set where stock are sleeping or near poultry pens, Foxlights appears as if someone is patrolling with a flash light which keeps predators away with their natural fear of man

A solar panel collecting energy stored in Z AA rechargeable batteries. The life of these batteries should be 3 years. A USB port allows charging from mains if required

Solar lights requires good sunlight and may not be suited for forested or shaded areas. We recommend a Easy set up on a steel fence post, hung from a tree or on

an existing fence.

Easy to relocate with stock going to fresh pastures. Foxlights is very compatible with all guard and domestic animals



- Ontario hunting restrictions must be considered.
- Target problem predators.
- Under section 31 of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act
 - Anyone who believes that wildlife is damaging or is about to damage their property, may, on their own land, harass or kill the offending wildlife.
 - One cannot simply shoot wildlife because it is there
 - The threat must either be happening, or about to happen
 - Hunting license is not required to protect one's property, you must have a firearm's license
- May use an agent to harass, capture or kill the wildlife under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act





- Target problem predators.
- A tool that was approved as of January 1, 2016 is the relaxing cable restraint for use by trained trappers and producers on their own property to address problem coyotes and wolves.
- Certain seasonal and geographic restrictions apply to the use of this tool.



C. Reasonable Care Plan

Note: Upon submitting five applications in one calendar year (i.e. January 1st to December 31st), an Owner must complete and submit a Reasonable Care Plan form provided by OMAFRA in order to remain eligible for program compensation.

Once a plan has been submitted, the Owner may be required to demonstrate that the plan has been implemented. Failure to submit a Reasonable Care Plan, after one has been requested, or to demonstrate that a plan has been implemented may result in the Owner's subsequent application being deemed ineligible. For Reasonable Care Plan template:

www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/predation/reasonable_care.pdf

Step 7 – Municipal Investigator Declaration and Signature

Step 7 - Municipal or Territorial Investigator Declaration and Signature

I hereby certify that the information I have provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that a copy of the completed application has been provided to the owner. I also understand that submitting false or misleading information in this application form could result in the denial of the claim. I further understand that any payment the Municipality I work for receives from OMAFRA under the Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program as a result of false or misleading information I have submitted, may have to be repaid by the municipality I work for to OMAFRA.

Investigator Name (print)

Signature

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)

Forward completed applications and all supporting documents to your local Municipal Clerk within seven (7) business days of the initial investigation. If the damage occurred in an unincorporated township (a territory without Municipal organization as defined in Section 2 of the Northern Services Board Act.), completed applications and all supporting documentation should be submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs at: wildlife.damage@ontario.ca

 Forward application form & all supporting documents to local Municipal Clerk within 7 business days

Step 8 – Owner Declaration and Signature

Step 8 – Owner Declaration and Signature (To be completed by Owner)

Additional Evidence

I wish to apply. I have <u>NO</u> additional evidence and/or documentation to provide:

By checking this box, I as the Owner, wish to apply to the OWDCP and agree with the evidence gathered and reported by the Municipal or Territorial Investigator in this application. (I have no further information to provide)

I wish to apply. I have additional evidence and/or documentation to provide:

By checking this box, I as the Owner, wish to apply to the OWDCP, and provide additional evidence to support the application and, as reported by the Municipal or Territorial Investigator, will provide additional evidence (see program guidelines) to the Municipality/ Territorial Investigator within seven business days. I further understand that if I do not submit the additional evidence within seven business days, the Program Administrator will not consider it.

- The owner needs to provide additional evidence to the municipality within 7 business days of the investigation.
- Ideally collect this information when you are on-farm.

Step 8 – Owner Declaration and Signature

Step 8 – Owner Declaration and Signature (To be completed by Owner)

BY SIGNING BELOW, I CERTIFY THAT I AM AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THIS APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT AS WELL AS BIND THE APPLICANT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF OWDCP, AS SET OUT IN THE OWDCP PROGRAM GUIDELINES.

Owner Last Name (print) *	Owner First Name (print) *	
Signature*	Date(yyyy/mm/c	ld)*

 The owner <u>needs</u> to review the completed application form – it is their compensation

 The owner must also sign the application, which binds them to the terms and conditions of the program.

Submit Application to Municipality

Ensure:

- All sections of the application have been completed
- The application has been signed by the owner & you (the investigator)
- All required supporting documentation, including photographs, are included
- The additional evidence/ documentation was provided by the owner within 7 business days of the investigation.

Step 9 - Submitting this Program Application

Step 9 - Submitting this Program Application (To be completed by Municipal Official)

Municipal Declaration and Signature

I hereby certify that the information I have provided in this application form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that submitting false or misleading information in this application form could result in the denial of the claim. I further understand that any payment the Municipality that I work for receives from OMAFRA under the OWDCP, as a result of false or misleading information I have submitted may have to be repaid by the Municipality I work for to OMAFRA. Finally, I accept that a set administrative allowance per application will be provided by OMAFRA to assist with application processing costs.

Municipality*

Unit No.	Street No.	Street Name		Rural Route	PO Box
City			Province ON	Postal Code	
Phone		Email			
Municipal O	official First and La	ast Name (print)			Position
Signature *		Date (yy)	/y/mm/dd)*		

Upon Decision:

Owner receives a written decision letter within 30 business days of receiving a complete application

Municipality receives decision letter only when it's a \$0 dollar claim. I.e. the claim was completely declined.

Please contact your municipality if you wish to receive notifications on the OMAFRA decision from your investigations via email.

Investigation



www.tenor.com

Determine Cause of Death

Keep in mind that time passage between the actual kill & your investigation can cloud the true cause of death

Evidence of predation disappears rapidly

- Carcasses deteriorate quickly in warm weather
- Scavenging will begin fairly quickly
- Inclement weather removes signs of evidence
- Normal livestock movement tramples evidence

Respond to calls as quickly as possible

• The time lines in the Program are maximums

- Examine the attack & kill site if the carcass was moved by producer, or was dragged away
- It may be necessary to examine a large area to find attack site & predator sign if animals were wounded but not killed

2. Inspection of carcass

Examine for general damage, bleeding, claw marks / puncture wounds & hemorrhage

- Only "live" animals can bleed, & / or bruise – can occur for a brief time after death
- Examine head & neck area for sheep & goats
- Also examine hindquarters & tail in cattle
- Can skin-out blood may not be evident on the hair or wool





3. Look for signs of struggle

- Broken foliage, trampled grass, tufts of wool or hair & drag trail of blood are good evidence of predation
- May not be present when very small, or young animals are killed
 - Also, predators may carry prey from kill site

4. Look for predator sign around carcass

• Scat, tracks, fur, etc.

- Do not automatically constitute evidence of predation, but do indicate what predatory species are in the area
- Will help substantiate predation claim when direct evidence of predation exists



5. Consider age & condition of dead animal

- Very young animals can be carried away or quickly consumed
 - Physical evidence of a young animal's existence is needed to establish a claim
- Need to determine if born alive
- Evaluate the age of the animal, should match with what the producer tells you
- Evaluate that the animal looks healthy & not sick
 Adapted from: Anita O'Brien, Investigator Training

5. Consider age & condition of dead animal

- Decomposition does not occur at the same rate in all parts of the body
 - Side exposed to sun will decompose faster than the side nearest ground
- Carcass will distend (if abdomen & dig. tract not punctured) from gases formed during decomposition

6. Observe behaviour of herd or flock

- Herds and flocks become alert, nervous & flighty when they are repeatedly harassed or preyed upon.
- Agitated and stressed behavior, including mothers that urgently call and search for their young, is strong, indirect evidence of predation













Adapted from: Anita O'Brien, Investigator Training



Predator Identification



Identify the Predator

In Ontario most livestock predation is attributed to:

Predate	ors – OWDCP	
Predator	# of head approved	
Coyote	1429	
Raccoon	136	
Wolf	115	
Mink	70	
Raven	40	
Bear	33	
Fox	27	
Weasel	27	
Vulture	6	
Crow	5	
Unknown	1	

OWDCP Stats Apr 2017 – Mar 2018

Domestic Dogs

- Dog attacks often typified by many dead & wounded animals
- Attacks are usually prolonged & often occur near building sites
- Dogs normally chase and bite any part of their prey -> much mutilation
- Attacks from dogs with "developed" kill behaviour, difficult to distinguish from coyote
| | Dog (domestic and feral) | | |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sheep | Prefer to attack adult sheep. Often
involves death and injury of many
sheep. Mutilation normal, with dead
and injured sheep present. Bites and
tears can occur anywhere on body. | | |
| Calves | Uncommon. May attack one or two.
Bites anywhere on head and body.
Generally do not feed. | | |
| Cows | Uncommon; packs of dogs may | Poultry | Usually kill many birds per attack.
Unconfined birds most vulnerable. |
| | results from being chased,
especially during severe winter
weather. | Coyote Predat
Agriculture, Fo | ion of Livestock, 1998, Alberta
od and Rural Development |
| | | | 145 |



Domestic dogs do not qualify under the OWDCP

Protection of Livestock and Poultry from Dogs Act R.S.O. 1990, c. L.24 www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90l24

Adapted from: Anita O'Brien, Investigator Training

Coyote



	Coyote			
Sheep	Prefer to attack lambs, but will also kill evves. Typical bite on neck behind jaw. Usually kill one sheep per attack. Feeding normally begins through flank area. Normally return			
	to feed on carcass and kill again once predation starts.	Poultry	Usually take one bird per attack. Poultry are packed off and consumed elsewhere. Normally only	
Calves	Normally attack one calf, usually newborn. Bites and feeding at flank. May be bites on the back, neck and legs, especially on older calves.		feathers found where feeding occurred. Return repeatedly to take additional birds. Unconfined birds very vulnerable. Proper confinement will prevent poultry predation.	
	Usually return to consume carcass.			
Cows	Attacks on healthy cows are uncommon. May be attacked and fed on while calving or injured and unable to stand.	Coyote Predation of Livestock, 1998, Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development		
			140	



Sheep:

- About 70% of sheep kills are by throat attack
- Very young lambs are often bitten on top of head or over shoulders
 - Relative size difference

Cattle:

- Young calves often killed with little sign of struggle, & often flank attacks
- Older calves show more injury to hindquarters and flank
- Mature cattle are often distracted from front & attacked from rear



- Killing & feeding behavior varies among individuals
 - o Not all coyotes feed on carcass
- Feeding on carcass typically starts on abdomen eating most viscera except for stomach contents of older animals
 - o Can also start on front leg, or ribcage
 - o Most often hindquarters eaten first and work forward, towards head.



- Kill patterns & injuries can be different when pups are being trained in mid to late summer
 Often more animals killed
 - Often more bite wounds on sides & flank from inexperienced pups

Coyote - bite over the head



Source: Anita O'Brien, Investigator Training







-Feeding pattern -Entry though stomach region & feeding toward chest area & into hip/ leg portion of carcass

-Bite to the throat with obvious bleeding

Adapted from: Anita O'Brien, Investigator Training



Coyote Attack









Source: Anita O'Brien, Investigator Training

	Wolf	
Sheep	Preference for adult sheep. May kill several at one attack. May have severe bites to head, neck, back or legs. May totally consume a carcass in one feeding.	
		Poultry Uncommon.
Calves	Small calves killed and completely consumed. Older calves and yearlings may be severely bitten on hindquarters, flank, face and shoulders. Missing tails. Feeding on hindquarters and internals through flank area. Usually return to consume carcass.	
Cows	Usually one attacked at a time. Bites to hindquarters and tail are common. Feeding on internals through flank and on hindquarters. Usually return to feed on carcass.	Coyote Predation of Livestock, 1998, Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
		157

Bear Kill

 "Bears generally leave the skeleton fairly intact, but often skin their prey and often peel the hide off intact. The hide is usually left like an inverted tube (i.e., inside out and pulled back to the head starting from the rear). "

-Dr Martin Obbard, Research Scientist , Ministry of Natural Resources, 2006

	Black Bear			
Sheep	Usually kill two or more; occasionally kill many in a confined situation. Usually bite head, neck, back or ribs. Internal hemorrhage, severed spine common. May carry carcass to bush. May return to feed. May eat udder.	Poultry	Occasionally will enter chicken coop and kill many birds.	
Calves	Generally take one calf. Bite and claw marks on neck and shoulders. May consume at first feeding, otherwise will return to feed.			
Cows	Occasionally kill yearling, adult or a covv-calf unit. Kill as above. Many clavv marks. May cover carcass. Will return to feed.	Coyote Predation of Livestock, 1998, Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development		

Bear Kill

The bear attack on this calf resulted in hemorrhaging in the tissue.

Typical Signs of a Bear Attack

- Claw marks and bite to back and/or base of head
- Investigation:
 - Realize bears often carry their prey into cover to feed. Where dead livestock is found is not necessarily where they were killed.
 - Look for excessive blood and drag marks.
 - <u>Caution</u> cows may be very aggressive long after calf has been killed.

Jeff Fabian MNR

Bear Damage

Source: Anita O'Brien, Investigator Training

- Raven predation is increasing in Ontario sheep & cattle
- Extremely smart birds learned behaviour
- Attack from the sky so limited / no reasonable care measures
- Peck out eyeballs, tongue, anus, top of head & sometimes back.
- Often times, the animal will still be alive. Depending on injuries – producer to euthanize.

Appearance – Raven vs. Crow

Raven

- Larger size (length to 70 cm, weight to 1,600 g)
- Wedge/diamond shaped tail in flight
- Throat hackles
- · Longer, more robust bill
- · Low, hoarse voice
- More solitary or observed in pairs/small family groups

Patrick Hubert, MNRF

POntario

Other Species

 Ravens & other new threats

- Black vulture
- Bald & golden eagles
- Black-billed magpie
- American crow
- Gulls??

Patrick Hubert, MNRF

Lots of other predators not mentioned...

Reference Material

Methods of Investigating Predation, 1997.

Alberta Agriculture.

Free digital copy:

http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$de partment/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex 44

METHODS OF INVESTIGATING PREDATION OF LIVESTOCK

Purchase the print version of Methods of Investigating Predation of Livestock for \$8 Buy it on-line www.rtw.ca/b680

Reference Material

Coyote Predation of Livestock, 1999. Alberta Agriculture Free digital copy: http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$de partment/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex 43

Coyote Predation of Livestock

- You are the 'boots on the ground'
- Complete your investigation by taking photos & documenting all relevant evidence. The more evidence / photos the better to tell the story of a predation event.
- Make sure the producer reviews your report & signs the application also collect any additional evidence from them.
- Submit to the municipality.

Program Resources

Resources available on ontario.ca/predation include:

- Investigator Tip Sheet
- Producer Tip Sheet
- Municipal Tip Sheet
- OWDCP Process Chart
- Standardized Valuation Table
- Predation prevention tips for producers
- Deadstock disposal regulations

http://inspectorgadget.wikia.com

Predation Related Resources

- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters https://www.ofah.org/fishing-hunting/wolf-coyote/resources/
- Ontario Fur Managers Federation <u>http://www.furmanagers.com/</u>
- MNRF <u>https://www.ontario.ca/page/wildlife-management</u>
 - For full details on the amendment to Ontario Regulation 667/98 of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 around the use of relaxing cable restraints please visit: www.ontario.ca/environmentalregistry and search ER# 012-4735
- OMAFRA
 - Predation Prevention http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/predation.htm
 - Deadstock Resource: <u>http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/deadstock/index.html</u>
- Ontario Sheep Farmers

www.ontariosheep.org/predation

National Farm Animal Care Council http://www.nfacc.ca/sheep-code#section5
http://www.nfacc.ca/sheep-code#section5
http://www.nfacc.ca/sheep-code#section5
http://www.nfacc.ca/sheep-code#section5
http://www.nfacc.ca/sheep-code#section5

Who to contact with Questions ?

General Inquiries: 1-877-424-1300 Agricultural Information Contact Center

By email to wildlife.damage@ontario.ca