



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 25, 2026

Farmers Should Not Pay Twice as Canada–U.S. Trade Dispute Escalates

REGINA, Sask. — The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) is calling on the federal government to protect essential agricultural inputs and provide greater certainty as the Canada–United States trade dispute escalates.

New U.S. tariffs of 50 per cent took effect August 22 on selected Canadian goods, including natural honey and a limited range of agricultural and food products. Listed products are subject to the tariffs even when they comply with Canada–United States–Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) rules.

“For affected honey producers, the impact is immediate. A 50 per cent tariff effectively closes the U.S. market, while displaced sales could place downward pressure on Canadian prices,” said APAS President Bill Prybylski. “But the concern extends beyond honey. Continued uncertainty about markets, input costs and retaliation makes it increasingly difficult for farm businesses to plan, invest and manage risk.”

Canada plans to impose counter-tariffs beginning September 8. Agricultural equipment has been identified as a targeted sector, although the specific products and tariff rates have not been released. “Canada must defend its economic interests, but farmers should not be required to pay twice—first through lost export markets and then through higher production costs,” Prybylski said. “Agricultural machinery, replacement parts and essential inputs must be protected, particularly where Canadian alternatives are not readily available.”

APAS is asking the federal government to:

1. Consult agricultural organizations and exclude essential farm machinery, replacement parts and production inputs from counter-tariffs;
2. Provide targeted assistance and market-development support for honey producers and other affected agricultural sectors; and
3. Resume negotiations with the United States and defend predictable, rules-based agricultural trade under CUSMA.

“Most Saskatchewan agricultural products are not currently targeted, but producers understand how quickly a trade dispute can spread,” Prybylski added. “Both governments need to return to the table before further escalation increases costs for farmers, businesses and consumers.”

For more information, please contact:

APAS Communications

communications@apas.ca