Grain bag recycling... yes, it is happening ... and we need your help

CleanFARMS™
A greener alternative to agricultural waste management
where we are and how we got here
Hmmm...
Hmmm...
Hmmm...
2016

The Agricultural Packaging Product Waste Stewardship Regulations

– transition from gov’t funded to industry funded model
– user pays
– grain bags only

• Pilots: 973,088 kilograms
• Steward/first-sellers
Steward/first-seller feedback

- something has to be done & it has to be done right
- it has to be simple
Steward/first-seller feedback

- something has to be done & it has to be done right
- it has to be simple ... but it’s complicated

Silage or grain bag?
**Steward/first-seller feedback**

- Something has to be done & it has to be done right
- It has to be simple ... but it’s complicated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What’s in</th>
<th>What’s out</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• All grain bags</td>
<td>• Silage bags not used to store grain</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Silage bags used to store grain</td>
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Stakeholder engagement

- multi-stakeholder advisory committee
- Western Canadian outreach
- ‘non-core’ stakeholder engagement started
Stakeholder feedback

• something has to be done & it has to be done right
• it has to be simple ... we know it’s complicated
• first year has to be successful
what’s next?
Next steps to be managed (1):

1. Understanding the MOE directive
   - First sellers were required to submit a plan by Jan 31, 2017 (five worked with Cleanfarms to submit the plan)
   - MOE to approve plan
   - Cleanfarms is to operate in accordance with that plan
   - First sellers’ recruitment
Next steps to be managed (2):

2. Addressing the ‘non-program material’ challenge
   – Consideration of a ‘proof of purchase’ requirement
   – A proof of purchase has both pros and cons

3. Establishing the Environmental Handling Fee (EHF) – gov’t currently want input into the establishment of this fee if it is to be visible
Next steps to be managed (3):

4. Hiring a program coordinator in Saskatchewan (July)

5. Establishing standards for: (June)
   - Collection sites
   - Condition of grain bags

6. Development of 30 to 35 collection sites (now to Dec 31)

7. Establishment of a communications plan (after plan approval)
   - Needs to address EHF, awareness, promotion of environmentally sustainable farm practices through recycling.
Item 5 - Collection site requirements (1)

• Ability to offer free drop off of grain bag
  – loose or rolled
  – ability to bale or roll loose bags
  – reasonable opening hours

• Space & ability to load trucks
  – minimum of 15-18 MT at one time
  – a full truck load
  – loaded into a 40’ HC container (tightly rolled or baled)
  – ability to load
  – loading dock, forklift, enough space to accommodate a tractor-trailer, etc.
Item 5 - Collection site requirements (2)

- Quality control
  - vector control
  - storage: clean material & no standing water
  - contaminant-free material
    - inspection of material dropped off
    - rolling or re-rolling of material
    - farmer education/communication
Item 5 - Collection site requirements (3)

- Proof of Purchase checking - TBD
But what about 2018?

- First year has to be successful
- Grain bags returned are likely purchased in 2017
  - EHF starts in 2018
- Proof of Purchase checking in 2018 - TBD
  - No, checking begins in 2019
- ↑ service, access
  - request for government funding
Thank you