

Producer access to 2 per cent liquid strychnine Stewardship Program

Emergency Use Registration

Alberta's agricultural producers will have access to one of the most effective tools to control Richardson's ground squirrel (RGS) through an Emergency Use Registration until November 2027.

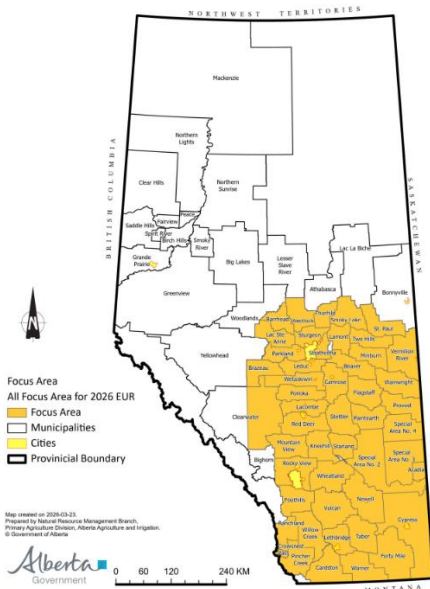
Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI) is working with the manufacturer to acquire the active ingredient and import it into Canada. Production and distribution of 2 per cent liquid strychnine and across Alberta will follow.

A limited supply of 2 per cent liquid strychnine should be available from late May to early June 2026.

Obtaining 2% liquid strychnine

Agricultural producers may only obtain 2% liquid strychnine from a municipality located in the approved Emergency Use Registration area.

Producers farming or ranching in multiple municipalities can purchase product from their home municipality.



Contact your local municipality for availability and purchasing details.

Purchase requirements

Producers must complete several requirements to purchase 2 per cent liquid strychnine:

- proof of completed training
- an integrated pest management and monitoring plan, including locations of severe infestations
- a signed declaration confirming compliance with label requirements

Municipal staff may be available to assist producers to interpret label and disposal requirements. Purchase will be limited to a maximum purchase of two cases (24 bottles of 250 ml) at one time.

Farmer and rancher applicator training

Compliance with product labels and use restrictions will be an eligibility requirement to gain access to strychnine for Richardson's ground squirrels.

A training program for applicators will be available online through the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM, or sarm.ca) starting May 4, 2026. The course will feature chapter-based modules and knowledge checks, with certificates issued upon completion.

Contact your local municipality if assistance is required to access the training.

Application timing

Use is only permitted during early spring (March 1 – June 15) before vegetation has emerged and in late summer (July 15 to September 1) after vegetation has died down. Spring is the best time to apply strychnine.

Long Term Outlook

AGI and Agricultural Service Boards will:

- support continued access where needed
- ensure protection of wildlife & species at risk
- maintain safe and responsible use.