



Welcome to agriculture

Reference Sheet for New Farm Producers

Did you know that as a farm producer you get access to a wide range of services and benefits, especially when you become a member of the Union des producteurs agricoles (UPA)?

Find all the information you need on this web page made for new farmers: https://www.upa.qc.ca/en/new-farmers

The UPA is a network of entrepreneurs just like you. We offer:

- A network that is open to all
- An organization that respects and defends
 ALL farmers—no matter how big or small their operation
 is, what they produce, where they operate, how much
 income they generate, etc.
- A wide range of services specializing in agriculture
- A community that is actively building agriculture and private forestry for the Quebec of tomorrow
- A voice-your voice!

United in feeding Quebec and making it grow!

The UPA is an organization that is both by and for farm and forest producers. The UPA is the ideal setting for you to meet other producers, get assistance, access specialized resources, defend your interests, and much more.

Become a member today at no extra cost by filling out the membership form at fdu.upa.qc.ca or by contacting your regional federation.

To find out more about the UPA, its actions, and services, visit www.upa.qc.ca/en/producteur

UPA dues

As a producer recognized under the Farm Producers Act, you will be required to pay dues to the UPA. Because all producers, whether or not they are officially members of the UPA, benefit from the actions of the legally accredited organization and its achievements, these dues are mandatory for all (under the Rand formula, which underpins the province's union system). Your new status also gives you access to numerous assistance programs, special rates, and benefits that the UPA has secured over the years.

To learn about dues, payment, and the assessment credit program, visit

https://www.upa.qc.ca/en/farmer/resourcesservices-and-info/dues-service

Need help? Look no further. Contact us today!

Your regional federation and local syndicate

For general questions, issues, and business needs

Specialized services for farmers, regulations, land access, land-use planning, environment, relations with neighbours, labour, developing your business, health and safety, etc.

No matter what issue, question, or need you are facing, don't hesitate to contact your local syndicate or regional federation.

- abitibi-temiscamingue.upa.qc.ca
- bas-saint-laurent.upa.qc.ca
- capitale-nationale-cote-nord.upa.qc.ca
- centre-du-quebec.upa.qc.ca
- chaudiere-appalaches.upa.qc.ca
- estrie.upa.qc.ca
- gaspesielesiles.upa.qc.ca
- lanaudiere.upa.qc.ca
- mauricie.upa.qc.ca
- upamonteregie.ca
- outaouais-laurentides.upa.qc.ca
- saguenay-lac-saint-jean.upa.qc.ca

Your specialized federation or syndicate

Questions about production and marketing

The UPA includes specialized groups—federations and syndicates—which bring producers together by production type (grain, beef, produce, maple, etc.). The mission of these groups is to develop production through marketing, production techniques, disease and parasite management, improvements, product quality, traceability, promotion, research, etc.

To learn more, visit the website for your specialized group:

www.upa.qc.ca/en/producteur/a-propos/syndicats-et-groupes-affilies

Note: If no group exists for your production sector, contact your regional UPA federation.

What is the money collected by the upa used for?

The UPA's actions at a glance

The UPA is the official voice when it comes to representing your interests to political, governmental, regional, and municipal leaders, as well as agri-food sector stakeholders and others. We speak on behalf of all of agriculture.

The money paid by producers is redistributed among the organization's different bodies (i.e., local syndicates, regional federations, and the Confederation) according to needs reflected in the current financial plan, which is approved by delegates at the annual UPA General Congress.

To learn more about how the UPA is financed, visit https://www.upa.qc.ca/en/farmer/about/upa-financing-explanation.

Regional services specializing in agriculture

- ✓ Accounting and tax services
- Agricultural employment centres (CEAs)
- ✓ Agricultural training
- ✓ Advisory services

Protecting where our food comes from: the land

- ✓ About 2,000 applications per year processed by the Commission de la protection du territoire agricole du Québec
- Negotiating agreements to compensate landowners for infrastructure on their land
- Carrying out actions to promote land access

Collaboration to develop specific actions

- ✓ Organic agriculture
- ✓ Horticulture
- ✓ Local markets
- Regional product development

Defending rights and interests - locally, regionally, and provincially

- Conducting research and proposing solutions on issues that affect you (income security, farmland protection, assistance programs, etc.)
- Over ten briefs tabled each year regarding bills and in committees
- Funds for defending producers' interests



Farm producers

Assistance and referrals

- ✓ Business development
- ✓ Land-use planning
- On-farm prevention for health and safety, mental health
- ✔ Agricultural law and immigration law for foreign workers

Environment

- Awareness campaign on agri-environmental practices
- Coordination of funds for climate change adaptation, greenhouse gas reduction, etc.

Promoting the farming profession and local products

- Campaigns to publicize the farming profession and the importance of local farming
- ✓ Giving businesses visibility through the *Mangeons local* app

International development

- Supporting farmers' organizations in developing countries through UPA DI
- Collaboration with international organizations on issues including globalization

And there's more!

To find out more, visit www.upa.qc.ca

Did you know?

Quebec is the only province that offers income security measures specifically for businesses with incomes of \$100,000 or less.

Other commonly requested resources

Dues Service - Your UPA file

Contact your regional federation or call 1-855-534-7120

Farm Property Tax Credit Program -Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ)

1-866-822-2140

www.mapaq.gouv.qc.ca/fr/Productions/taxes

Government programs and financing

MAPAQ

1-888-222-6272

www.mapaq.gouv.qc.ca

La Financière agricole du Québec 1-800-749-3646

www.fadq.qc.ca/en/home

Advisory services - VIA Pôle d'expertise en services-conseils agricoles

450-679-0540, ext. 8932

www.vialepole.com