



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW NO. 16

"A Great Place to Live, Work and Play"

REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 14, 2016

10:00 AM

Council Chambers
Administration Building

#1	CALL TO ORDER	-
#2	ADOPTION OF AGENDA	1
#3	MINUTES	3
	3.1 Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes held November 25, 2015 – to be adopted	
	3.2 Business Arising from the Minutes	
#4	DELEGATIONS	4.1
#5	OLD BUSINESS	5.1 Veterinary Equipment
#6	NEW BUSINESS	6.1 Request for Decision: 2016 Grant Requests
		7
	6.2 Request for Decision: Alberta Invasive Species Council Grant	43
	6.3 Request for Decision: Peace Country Beef & Forage Association Grant	46
	6.4 Request for Decision: Smoky Applied Research & Demonstration Association Grant	51
	6.5 Request for Decision: Farm Safety Centre Grant	54
	6.6 Resolution: Agricultural Plastics Recycling, MD124	57
	6.7 Resolution: Species at Risk Act (SARA)	67
	6.8 Resolution: Proactive Vegetation Management	72
	6.9 Resolution: Agricultural Opportunity Fund for Agricultural Research and Forage Associations	76

		6.10 Resolution: Climate Stations	78
		6.11 Resolution: Compensation for Coyote Predation	81
		6.12 Resolution: Hay Insurance Program	84
		6.13 Resolution: Reinstate Funding for BSE	88
#7	STAFF REPORT & ASB MEMBERS BUSINESS & REPORTS	7.1 Department Activity Report	97
#8	CORRESPONDENCE	8.1 Forage Facts – December 2015	102
		8.2 Forage Facts – January 2016	106
		8.3 SARDA Back Forty – December 2015	110
		8.4 Alberta Beef Industry Conference	133
		8.5 Composting Fastest and Cheapest Way to Deal with Deadstock	138
		8.6 Who Got the Black Eye?	141
		8.7 Korea's Temporary Ban on Canadian Beef Lifted	142
		8.8 2016 Alberta Soil Science Workshop	144
		8.9 Cutting Edge Expo	145
		8.10 High Quality Forage for Growing & Finishing Cattle	146
		8.11 Cocktail Cover Crop Selection Workshop	147
		8.12 Livestock Tax Deferral Program	148
		8.13 Calendar Updates – January, February and March	150
#9	IN CAMERA	N/A	-
#10	ADJOURNMENT		-

**Minutes of a
REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW NO. 16**
M.D. Administration Building
Valleyview, Alberta on Wednesday, November 25, 2015

#1 CALL TO ORDER	Councillor Bill Smith called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.	
PRESENT	A.S.B. Member – Councillor A.S.B. Member A.S.B. Member A.S.B. Member	Bill Smith Larry Smith Jonas Ljunggren Laurie Mitchell
ATTENDING	Manager, Agriculture Services Assistant Manager, Agriculture Services Recording Secretary	Quentin Bochar Dave Berry Kristin King
ABSENT	Communications Officer Chair Vice Chair A.S.B. Member – Councillor	Diane Carter Roland Cailliau Allen Perkins Dale Smith
#2 AGENDA	MOTION: 15.11.61 Moved by: Laurie Mitchell That the Agenda be adopted with the following additions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6.2 Greenview Veterinary Clinic CARRIED	
#3.1 REGULAR ASB MEETING	MOTION: 15.11.62 Moved by: Larry Smith That the minutes of the October 28, 2015 Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting be adopted as presented. CARRIED	
#3.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	3.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES 3.2a VSI AGM MINUTES – NOVEMBER 6, 2015 3.2b VSI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 6, 2015 MOTION: 15.11.63 Moved by: Jonas Ljunggren That the Minutes of the VSI AGM Meeting Minutes and the VSI Board of Directors Meeting Minutes be accepted as information. CARRIED	
#4 DELEGATIONS	4.1	

**#5
OLD BUSINESS**

5.0 OLD BUSINESS

**#6
NEW BUSINESS**

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 ORIENTATION MANUAL FOR ASB MEMBERS

MOTION: 15.11.64 Moved by: Laurie Mitchell
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Orientation Manual for ASB Members as information.

CARRIED

Councillor Bill Smith calls a recess at 10:24am

Councillor Bill Smith reconvenes the meeting at 10:28am

6.2 GREENVIEW VETERINARY CLINIC

MOTION: 15.11.65 Moved by: Jonas Ljunggren
That the Agricultural Service Board directs Administration to re-negotiate the agreement between Greenview and Peace River Veterinary Clinic Ltd. regarding disposal of assets listed in Schedule "A" of Memorandum of Agreement for the lease of veterinary equipment.

CARRIED

**#7 STAFF REPORT & ASB
MEMBERS BUSINESS &
REPORTS**

MOTION: 15.11.66 Moved by: Laurie Mitchell
That the Agriculture Service Board accept the Staff Report as information.

CARRIED

MEMBER LAURIE MITCHELL:

- No Report

MEMBER LARRY SMITH:

- No Report

MEMBER JONAS LJUNGGREN:

- Attended Regional ASB Meeting in Guy

COUNCILLOR BILL SMITH:

- Attended Rural Crime Watch Meeting

MOTION: 15.11.67 Moved by: Larry Smith
That the Agriculture Service Board accept the members reports as information.
CARRIED

**#8
CORRESPONDENCE**

**8.1 PEACE COUNTRY BEEF & FORAGE ASSOCIATION (PCBFA) – FORAGE FACTS,
NOVEMBER**

8.2 SARDA 2015 BROCHURE

8.3 ALBERTA CROP CONDITIONS – NOVEMBER 3, 2015

8.4 ALBERTA SURFACE RIGHTS FEDERATION

8.5 CCA WELCOMES NEW LIBERAL CABINET

8.6 FALL STRIPE RUST UPDATE

8.7 GE ALFALFA POSITIONS

8.8 JIMSON WEED UPDATE

8.9 SHELTERBELT WORKSHOP

8.10 SUSTAINABLE FARM FAMILIES – SHORT INTRODUCTION

8.11 WHAT DOES THE IARC REPORT REALLY MEAN?

8.12 CALENDAR UPDATES –SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

8.13 FARM AND RANCH PROPOSED LEGISLATION CHANGES

**CORRESPONDENCE
LISTING**

MOTION: 15.11.68 Moved by: Jonas Ljunggren
That the Agriculture Service Board accept the correspondence listing as
presented.

CARRIED

**#9
IN CAMERA**

9 IN CAMERA

**#10
ADJOURNMENT**

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: 15.11.69 Moved by: Laurie Mitchell
That this meeting adjourn at 11:19 a.m.

CARRIED

Agricultural Service Board Chair

Manager, Agricultural Services

UNADOPTED



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT: **2016 Grant Requests**
SUBMISSION TO: AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MEETING DATE: January 14, 2016
DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY SERVICES/AGRICULTURE
FILE NO./LEGAL: File Number, Legal or N/A.
STRATEGIC PLAN:

REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION
CAO: INT MANAGER: QFB
GM: INT PRESENTER: QFB
LEGAL/ POLICY REVIEW: INT
FINANCIAL REVIEW:

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) – N/A

Council Bylaw / Policy (cite) – N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That Agricultural Service Board authorize funding to the grant recipients in the amounts indicated on the 2016 Approved Grant Listing as approved by the ASB, with funds to come from the 2016 Agriculture Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

During Greenview Budget 2015 deliberations it was decided that agriculture type grant applications would be forwarded to Greenview Agriculture Service Board (ASB). The grant applications have been submitted, and received by Agriculture Services Administration. The grant applications will be reviewed and decided upon by the ASB.

OPTIONS – BENEFITS / DISADVANTAGES:

Options – Agriculture Service Board has the option to deny the approval of the 2016 Approved Grant Listing as presented or make alterations accordingly.

Benefits – The benefit of approving the 2016 Approved Grant Listing as presented is that the grant recipients may be provided with funding in a timely manner.

Disadvantages – The disadvantage of denying the revised grant listing as presented is that Agriculture Service Board may need to review all the grant applications again.

COSTS / SOURCE OF FUNDING:

The disadvantage of denying the revised grant listing as presented is that Council may need to review all the grant applications again.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 2016 Approved Grant Listing



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
OF GREENVIEW No. 16

RECEIVED

OCT 15 2015

VALLEYVIEW

GRANT APPLICATION

Organization Information:

Name of Organization:

Prairie Rose 4-H Light Horse and Hound Club

Address of Organization:

Box 94 Little Smoky AB T0H 3Z0

Contact Name and Phone Number:

Hope Kristensen 780-524-4045

Position of Contact Person:

Club General Leader

Purpose of organization:

The Programs and Projects members take part in during their time in 4-H helps them become assertive and confident leaders who are able to make decisions and facilitate change. In 4-H members learn to take responsibility, establish goals for themselves and others, plan large projects/events and work towards a greater purpose - making the youth of today great leaders of tomorrow.

What act are you registered under? Alberta Societys Act Registration No. 108238130 RR0001
through 4-H Foundation

Grant Information:

Total Amount Requested

\$14275.00

Operating

Capital

Proposed Project: We are asking for assistance in covering some of our operating expenses of facility Rentals and Instructors Fees.

The Prairie Rose 4-H Light Horse and Hound has 28 members so far this year. We have 21 riders in our equine (horse) projects and 13 members in canine projects. The Kids decided to add an archery project which 11 Kids signed up for and we are waiting on proposals from our 2 senior members for their creative options projects.

Operating costs are the costs of day-to-day operations.

Capital costs are costs more than \$2,500, which is not consumed in one year and/or those costs, which add value to property owned and operated by the organization.

FORM A **must** be filled out with **all** grant applications. Fill out FORM B for any capital requests.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

Additional Information:

Have you previously applied for grant from the M. D. of Greenview?

Yes ☒ No ☐

List the last two grants your organization has received from the M.D. of Greenview

1. Amount \$ 5000 Year 2015

Purpose: Pay instructors + rental on facilities used for instruction + club activities

2. Amount \$ 10444 Year 2014

Purpose: Pay instructors + Rental on facilities. used for instruction + club activities

Have you provided the M.D. of Greenview with a final completion report for grant funds received?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, why has the report not been filed?

Have you applied for grant funds from sources **other** than the M.D. of Greenview?

Yes ☐ No ☒

Have you received grant funds from sources **other** than the M.D. of Greenview?

If yes; who, purpose and amount?

\$ No, but are there other options?

Have you performed any **other** fund raising projects? If yes; what and how much was raised?

Yes! Bottle Drives, Saddle Stands, MD + Provincial Highway Clean up, Working gates at the Rodeo, Bartending, Working Door at the Ladies Conspiel, for a total of ~~6133~~ \$5303.33. We also do community Service Acts such as a food Drive in the fall. This Coming Year we will also be helping to spruce up the Rodeo Grounds with a paint job!



Municipal District of Greenview #16
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By signing this application, I/we concur with the following statements:

- The organization applying for the grants is registered with Corporate Registries or under the Societies Act;
- The grant application is complete and includes all supporting documentation, including most recent financial statement (based on legislative requirements of our organization), balance sheet, current bank balances and current year detailed operating budget or completed Form "A".
- The grant shall be used for only those purposes for which the application was made;
- If the original grant application or purposes for which the grant requested have been varied by the M.D. of Greenview Council, the grant will be used for those varied purposes only;
- The organization will provide a written report to the M.D. of Greenview within 90 days of completion of the grant expenditure providing details of expenses, success of project and significance to the ratepayers of the municipality; failure to provide such a report will result in no further grant funding being considered until the final report is filed and grant expenditure verified;
- The organization agrees to submit to an evaluation of the project related to the grant, and;
- The organization will return any unused portion of the grant funds to the Municipal District of Greenview #16 or to request approval from the Municipality to use the funds for an optional project.

Applicant Information:

Name Hope Kristensen

Signature Hope Kristensen

Address Box 94 Little Smoky AB T0H 3Z0

Telephone Number 780-524-4045 - 780-524-8967

Date Oct 14 / 2015

APPLICATION FOR GRANT FORM A - OPERATING

REVENUE		Previous Year Actual 20	Current Year Estimates 20	Next Year Proposal 20
1.	Fees			
2.	Memberships			
3.	Other income (please list)			
4.	Grants (please list)			
5.	Donations (please list)			
6.	Interest Earned			
7.	Miscellaneous Income			
	TOTAL REVENUE			
	(add up items 1-7)			
EXPENSES				
8.	Honourariums/Wages/Benefits			
9.	Travel Expenses			
10.	Professional Development			
11.	Conferences			
12.	Cleaning & Maintenance			
13.	Licensing Fees			
14.	Office Supplies			
15.	Utilities (phone, power, etc.)			
16.	Rent			
17.	Bank/Accounting Charges			
18.	Advertising			
19.	Miscellaneous			
20.	Capital Purchases (please list)			
	TOTAL EXPENSES			
	(add up lines 8-20)			
	NET BALANCE			
	(subtract Total Expenses from Total Revenue)			

Cash on Hand \$ 0
 Current Account Balance \$ 3171.59
 Savings Account Balance \$ 3076.44

Operating Loans \$ 0
 Other Loans \$ 0
 Accounts Payable \$ 0

Accounts Receivable \$ 0
 Inventory to Dec 31, 20 \$ 0
 Buildings \$ 0
 Furniture/Fixtures \$ 0
 Land \$ 0
 Equipment \$ 0



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APPLICATION FOR GRANT
FORM B - CAPITAL

Purpose for Grant (please provide full description and detailed project budget);

Estimated Completion Date;

Quotes for Project (minimum of three quotes if available. Attach additional quotes if required):

1. _____

Amount \$ _____

2. _____

Amount \$ _____

3. _____

Amount \$ _____

*Please submit your organization's most recent financial statement (based on your organizations legislated requirements) with the grant application.

Statement of Receipts and Payments

Name of 4-H club	2015	club year
Prairie Rose 4H Light Horse and Hound Club		

Club Receipts	Amount	Club Payments	Amount
MD Grant	5000	Valleyview Ag Plex Rental	1548.17
		Laura Kiepal - Equine Instruction	3225
		Lois Eford - Canine Instruction	1380
Total Receipts	5000	Total Payments	6153.17
Add balance in bank at beginning of club year	4324.76	Add balance in bank at end of club year	3171.59
Total receipts and beginning bank balance	9324.76	Total payments and ending bank balance	9324.76

Treasurer's Signature

Date _____

I have examined the financial record of the above club and find this Statment of Receipts and Payments is properly drawn up and presents a correct view of the financial standing of the club.

Reviewer's signature

Date _____

Statement of Receipts and Payments

Name of 4-H club Prairie Rose Light Horse 4H Club
 For the 2015 club year

Club Receipts	Amount	Club Payments	Amount
Registration Fees	880	District Speak Offs	499.92
Bonspiel	500	District 4H	455
Saddle Stands	210	Year End Awards	2642.84
MD Garbage Cleanup	1000	4H Foundation Dues	850
Bottle Drive	720.65	IGA	182.86
Wedding Bar	454	Tammy Ochs Wildarc Ventures	134.5
Highway Cleanup	1300		
Provincial Highway Clean Up	75		
Rodeo Gate	1043.7		
Total Receipts	6183.35	Total Payments	4765.12
Add balance in bank at beginning of club year	1658.21	Add balance in bank at end of club year	3076.44
Total receipts and beginning bank balance	7841.56	Total payments and ending bank balance	7841.56

Treasurer's Signature _____ Date _____

I have examined the financial record of the above club and find this Statment of Receipts and Payments is properly drawn up and presents a correct view of the financial standing of the club.

Reviewer's signature _____ Date _____

Budget Worksheet

Club Name	Prairie Rose 4-H Light Horse and Hound Club	year 2015/16
Projects	45 projects with 28 members	
Expected Expenses		Amount
Equine Instructor Volunteers but requires fuel for vehicle \$100/month		2400
Clinicians		2100
Arena Rental 30 weeks 5.5hours/week@\$15.00/hour		2475
Arena Rental Assessments, Fun rides and Achievement Day 10 days @8 hours@ \$15/hour		1200
Arena Lighting		250
Hall Rental Canine (30 weeks @\$50 each)		1500
Canine Instructor 30 weeks @\$20/Hour/dog for 11 children (two cleavers for free)		6600
Archery instructor donating time but requires fuel \$100/month		1200
Hall Rental (10Meetings) @ \$50 night		500
Achievement Day Judges		600
Project Costs		18825
Public Speaking Judges Awards		200
Hall Rental Public Speaking (4 hrs) @\$24/hr		100
Leader Training/ Trainer training		500
Awards Night Hall Rental (2:00-9:00)7 hours		100
Awards Night Meal (potluck - Club meat & Potatoes only)		250
Awards Year End (\$100 gift per child) and small gifts for instructors and leaders as thank y		3000
Hi Point Awards and Plaques		300
4H Fees		2080
Bylaw requirement of \$1000 Carry Forward		1000
Total expected expenses		26355
Income Sources		Amount
Registration Fees		2080
Bottle Drive spring		1000
Highway Cleanup both Provincial and MD		2200
Fundraising - bottle drive, Rodeo		5500
Hi Point Donations		300
Carry Forward		1000
MD Grant		14275
Total expected Income		26355
Defecit	0	

Budget Worksheet

Club Name	Prairie Rose 4-H Light Horse and Hound Club	year 16/17
Projects	50 projects with 30 members	

Expected Expenses	Amount
Equine Instructor Volunteers but requires fuel for vehicle \$100/month	2400
Clinicians	2100
Arena Rental 30 weeks 5.5hours/week@\$15.00/hour	2475
Arena Rental Assessments, Fun rides and Achievement Day 10 days @8 hours@ \$15/hc	1200
Arena Lighting	250
Hall Rental Canine (30 weeks @\$50 each)	1500
Canine Instructor 30 weeks @\$20/Hour/dog for 11 children (two cleavers for free)	6600
Archery instructor donating time but requires fuel \$100/month	1200
Hall Rental (10Meetings) @ \$50 night	500
Achievement Day Judges	600
Project Costs	18825
Public Speaking Judges Awards	200
Hall Rental Public Speaking (4 hrs) @\$24/hr	100
Awards Night Hall Rental (2:00-9:00)7 hours	100
Awards Night Meal (potluck - Club meat & Potatoes only)	300
Awards Year End (\$100 gift per child) and small gifts for instructors and leaders as than	3000
Hi Point Awards and Plaques	500
4H Fees	2080
Bylaw requirement of \$1000 Carry Forward	1000
Total expected expenses	26105

Income Sources	Amount
Registration Fees	2080
Bottle Drive spring	1200
Highway Cleanup both Provincial and MD	3000
Fundraising - bar tending, Rodeo, saddle stand making, selling other winter projects	5000
Hi Point Donations	500
Carry Forward	1000
MD Grant	13325
Total expected Income	26105

Defecit 0



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
OF GREENVIEW No. 16
RECEIVED

OCT 08 2015

VALLEYVIEW

Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

GRANT APPLICATION

Organization Information:

Name of Organization: Valleyview + District 4-H Council
Address of Organization: Box 1967 Valleyview AB T0H 3N0
Contact Name and Phone Number: Alyssa Ford 780 552-6924
Position of Contact Person: Treasurer

Purpose of organization:
To enable youth of our community to participate in 4-H and experience all the opportunities 4-H can offer.

What act are you registered under? _____ Registration No. _____

Grant Information:

Total Amount Requested \$ 1,000.00
Operating _____ Capital _____

Proposed Project: 2015-16 Achievement Days

- No dates have been set yet, but they are normally in May-June 2016

Operating costs are the costs of day-to-day operations.

Capital costs are costs more than \$2,500, which is not consumed in one year and/or those costs, which add value to property owned and operated by the organization.

FORM A **must** be filled out with **all** grant applications. Fill out FORM B for any capital requests.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
 Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
 Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

Additional Information:

Have you previously applied for grant from the M. D. of Greenview?

Yes



No



List the last two grants your organization has received from the M.D. of Greenview

1. Amount \$ 1000 Year 2014

Purpose: Assist in advertising + printing costs for Achievement days.

2. Amount \$ 500 Year 2013

Purpose: Assist in advertising + printing costs for Achievement days.

Have you provided the M.D. of Greenview with a final completion report for grant funds received?

Yes



No



If no, why has the report not been filed?

Have you applied for grant funds from sources **other** than the M.D. of Greenview?

Yes



No



Have you received grant funds from sources **other** than the M.D. of Greenview?

If yes; who, purpose and amount?

The Alberta 4-H Foundation provides us with funding for day to day operations, clinics + communication events.

Have you performed any **other** fund raising projects? If yes; what and how much was raised?

Each club within the district contributes funds. They pay a fee for the amount of members in their club. Each club also fundraises for their club expenses.

Annual meeting is set for Oct 21/15. Once the budget is approved, a copy will be submitted.

Thank you!



Municipal District of Greenview #16
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Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

By signing this application, I/we concur with the following statements:

- The organization applying for the grants is registered with Corporate Registries or under the Societies Act;
- The grant application is complete and includes all supporting documentation, including most recent financial statement (based on legislative requirements of our organization), balance sheet, current bank balances and current year detailed operating budget or completed Form "A".
- The grant shall be used for only those purposes for which the application was made;
- If the original grant application or purposes for which the grant requested have been varied by the M.D. of Greenview Council, the grant will be used for those varied purposes only;
- The organization will provide a written report to the M.D. of Greenview within 90 days of completion of the grant expenditure providing details of expenses, success of project and significance to the ratepayers of the municipality; failure to provide such a report will result in no further grant funding being considered until the final report is filed and grant expenditure verified;
- The organization agrees to submit to an evaluation of the project related to the grant, and;
- The organization will return any unused portion of the grant funds to the Municipal District of Greenview #16 or to request approval from the Municipality to use the funds for an optional project.

Applicant Information:

Name:

Alyssa Ford

Signature:

[Signature]

Address:

Box 1967 Valleyview AB T0H 3N0

Telephone Number:

780 552-6924

Date:

Oct 7/15

Valleyview & District 4-H Council
Income Statement 2014/2015

Opening Balance:	October 21, 2014		\$3,856.33
<u>INCOME</u>			
District			
	Provincial Grants - programming	\$0.00	
	Provincial Grants - non specific	\$0.00	
	District Dues (\$10.00 x 70)	\$700.00	
	Regional Dues (\$22.50 x 70)	\$1,575.00	
	Rent Refund	\$78.75	
	Bank Interest	\$30.81	<u>\$2,384.56</u>
Public Speaking			
	Public Speaking Sponsors (\$50 x 5)	\$300.00	
	Provincial Grants (Alta Link)	\$625.00	<u>\$925.00</u>
District Funds Sharing			
	Provincial Grant - non specific	\$0.00	
	MD Grant - Advertising	\$442.00	
	Provincial Grants - programming	\$0.00	<u>\$442.00</u>
Beef			
	MD Grant - Advertising	\$558.00	
	Ag Plex Clean up	\$0.00	
	Steers (\$25 x 37)	\$925.00	
	Awards Sponsors (\$50 x 23) 3 donated gifts	\$1,150.00	
	Annual plaque	\$0.00	
	4-H Supper Sponsors	\$1,300.00	
	Thank you Banners	\$142.40	
	Outstanding Steer Invoice	-\$3,467.00	
	Steers	\$148,453.25	
			<u>\$149,061.65</u>
			<u>\$152,813.21</u>
			<u>\$152,813.21</u>

EXPENSES

District

Regional Dues (\$22.50 x 71)	\$1,597.50	
Fun Day	\$0.00	
Administration	\$197.67	
2 Clinics (Beef Info & Grooming/Showmanship)	\$408.11	
Supplies (Seacan supplies & Projector screen)	\$303.01	
Meeting Rent	\$157.50	<u>\$2,663.79</u>

Public Speaking

Advertising / Rent	\$0.00	
Awards (\$50 x 6)	\$46.58	
Thankyou's (\$15 x 9 judges)	\$0.00	
Annual Engraving	\$47.51	
Supplies	\$0.00	<u>\$94.09</u>

District Funds Sharing

Da-She-Be 4H Multit Club	\$198.90	
Wildrose 4H Multi Club	\$141.44	
Prairie Rose 4H Light Horse	\$101.66	<u>\$442.00</u>
(funds divided between other projects)		

Beef

Rent	\$607.50	
4-H Supper (meat \$418)	\$696.04	
Awards (\$50 x 23) -3 prizes donated	\$1,371.76	
Annual Trophy Engraving	\$84.89	
Annual Plaque Purchase	\$0.00	
Thank You's Other (\$13.40 x 25)	\$334.95	
Thank You Banners - Buyers	\$0.00	
Brand Inspector (\$1/steer + gst)	\$48.56	
Judges (travel costs)	\$0.00	
Clean-up	\$0.00	
Advertising	\$647.43	
Misc. (plastic & tape for photo spot)	\$40.72	
Steers	\$148,453.25	
		<u>\$152,285.10</u>
		<u>\$155,484.98</u>

\$155,484.98

Difference

-\$2,671.77**Closing Balance:****October 21, 2015****\$1,184.56**

Treasurer

Alyssa Ford

1184.56



Municipal District of Greenview #16
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Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
OF GREENVIEW No. 16
RECEIVED

OCT 15 2015

VALLEYVIEW

GRANT APPLICATION

Organization Information:

Name of Organization:

Wildrose 4-H Multi Club

Address of Organization:

Box 1686, Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0

Contact Name and Phone Number:

Kristen Mason (780) 524-9716

Position of Contact Person:

Assistant General Leader

Purpose of organization:

4-H is a club designed for youth between the ages of 9-21 and teaches leadership skills, project organization, responsibility and fund-raising skills

What act are you registered under? Alberta Societies Act Registration No. 108238130RR0001

Grant Information:

Total Amount Requested

Operating

\$1500.00 - \$1700.00

Capital

Proposed Project:

The Wildrose 4-H Club requires a small shed in which to store our supplies. As our club has grown, both in members and in project types, our supplies have also increased. At present, the supplies are housed by different family members. This makes it difficult to keep track of them, especially as our membership changes yearly. A shed would enable us to maintain club property much more efficiently.

Operating costs are the costs of day-to-day operations.

Capital costs are costs more than \$2,500, which is not consumed in one year and/or those costs, which add value to property owned and operated by the organization.

FORM A **must** be filled out with **all** grant applications. Fill out FORM B for any capital requests.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

Additional Information:

Have you previously applied for grant from the M. D. of Greenview?

Yes _____ No ☒

List the last two grants your organization has received from the M.D. of Greenview

1. Amount \$ ☒ _____ Year _____

Purpose: ☒ _____

2. Amount \$ ☒ _____ Year _____

Purpose: ☒ _____

Have you provided the M.D. of Greenview with a final completion report for grant funds received?

Yes _____ No _____

If no, why has the report not been filed?

☒ _____

Have you applied for grant funds from sources **other** than the M.D. of Greenview?

Yes _____ No ☒

Have you received grant funds from sources **other** than the M.D. of Greenview?

If yes; who, purpose and amount?

☒ _____

Have you performed any **other** fund raising projects? If yes; what and how much was raised?

Our club is just beginning for this year and so have not started fund-raising. In past years we typically raised around \$1500.00 which maintains current equipment and aids in operating costs.



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Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

By signing this application, I/we concur with the following statements:

- The organization applying for the grants is registered with Corporate Registries or under the Societies Act;
- The grant application is complete and includes all supporting documentation, including most recent financial statement (based on legislative requirements of our organization), balance sheet, current bank balances and current year detailed operating budget or completed Form "A".
- The grant shall be used for only those purposes for which the application was made;
- If the original grant application or purposes for which the grant requested have been varied by the M.D. of Greenview Council, the grant will be used for those varied purposes only;
- The organization will provide a written report to the M.D. of Greenview within 90 days of completion of the grant expenditure providing details of expenses, success of project and significance to the ratepayers of the municipality; failure to provide such a report will result in no further grant funding being considered until the final report is filed and grant expenditure verified;
- The organization agrees to submit to an evaluation of the project related to the grant, and;
- The organization will return any unused portion of the grant funds to the Municipal District of Greenview #16 or to request approval from the Municipality to use the funds for an optional project.

Applicant Information:

Name

Wildrose 4-H Multi Club

Signature

Kirsten Mason

Address

Box 1686, Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0

Telephone Number

(780) 524-9716

Date

October 14, 2015



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

APPLICATION FOR GRANT FORM A - OPERATING

REVENUE		Previous Year Actual 20	Current Year Estimates 20	Next Year Proposal 20
1.	Fees	/		
2.	Memberships	/		
3.	Other income (please list)-Fundraised	\$2536.00	1500.00	1500.00
4.	Grants (please list)	/		
5.	Donations (please list)	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00
6.	Interest Earned	/		
7.	Miscellaneous Income	/		
	TOTAL REVENUE (add up items 1-7)	3696.00	2600.00	2600.00
EXPENSES				
8.	Honourariums/Wages/Benefits	/		
9.	Travel Expenses	/		
10.	Professional Development	/		
11.	Conferences	/		
12.	Cleaning & Maintenance	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
13.	Licensing Fees	/		
14.	Office Supplies	100.00	300.00	300.00
15.	Utilities (phone, power, etc.)	/		
16.	Rent	100.00	200.00	200.00
17.	Bank/Accounting Charges	40.00	40.00	40.00
18.	Advertising	181.00	181.00	181.00
19.	Miscellaneous	2258.00	1780.00	1780.00
20.	Capital Purchases (please list)	/		
	TOTAL EXPENSES (add up lines 8-20)	2754.00	2576.00	2576.00
	NET BALANCE (subtract Total Expenses from Total Revenue)	942.00	24.00	24.00

Cash on Hand \$ 16.85
Current Account Balance \$1544.10
Savings Account Balance \$ /

Operating Loans \$ /
Other Loans \$ /
Accounts Payable \$ /295.00

Accounts Receivable \$ /
Inventory to Dec 31, 2014 \$ /
Buildings \$ /
Furniture/Fixtures \$ 20.00
Land \$ /
Equipment \$ 1800.00

*Please submit your organization's most recent financial statement (based on your organizations legislated requirements) with the grant application.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

APPLICATION FOR GRANT
FORM B - CAPITAL

Purpose for Grant (please provide full description and detailed project budget);

We have as a club collected many required supplies over the years. At present, it is difficult to maintain tracks of where these supplies are because of revolving membership. It is also often difficult to gain access to these items as they are not in 1 location. We'd like to invest in this capital purchase in order to create greater financial efficiency.

Estimated Completion Date;

Before winter - ASAP

Quotes for Project (minimum of three quotes if available. Attach additional quotes if required):

1. 8x12 Pine Storage Shed - Costco

Amount \$ 1999.99

2. 8x12 Handi-Home Shed - Home Depot

Amount \$ 1689.⁰⁰

3. Duramax Woodside Vinyl Shed 10'x8 - Canadian Tire

Amount \$ 999.99

*Please submit your organization's most recent financial statement (based on your organizations legislated requirements) with the grant application.

Wildrose 4-H Multiclub - Treasurer's Report

October 14, 2015

June 17, 2015 closing balance \$1,308.14

Deposits:

Award Sponsors:	\$1,040.00
<u>Total deposits</u>	<u>\$1,040.00</u>

Expenses

Kristen Mason	\$ 350.37
Postage and judges gifts	
House of Treasures	\$ 346.29
Award plaques	
Shauna Roberts	\$ 252.00
Bowling	
Rexall drug store	\$ 9.45
Receipt book	
Canada Post	\$ 8.93
Stamps	
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 967.04</u>

Cash on Hand: \$16.85

<u>June 17, 2015 closing balance</u>	<u>\$1,308.14</u>
<u>Deposits</u>	<u>\$1,040.00</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 967.04</u>
<u>October 14, 2015 closing balance</u>	<u>\$1,381.10</u>

Wildrose 4-H MultiClub - Treasurer's Report

June 17, 2015

Deposits:

Kendra Elzinga	\$115.50
sweatshirts	
Ed Johnston	\$160.00
club fees and cookbooks	
MD of Greenview	\$1000.00
roadside cleanup	
4-H foundation	\$ 75.00
direct deposit	
<u>Total Deposits</u>	<u>\$1,350.50</u>

Expenses

Kristen Mason	\$175.63
Buyer's Gifts and scrapbooks	
Picture Perfect Solutions	\$181.13
Achievement Day posters	
Shauna Roberts	\$ 84.00
Subway sandwiches	
Nancy MacLellan	\$ 92.02
Buyer's gifts, shipping, food for public speaking	
Valleyview Home Hardware	\$ 25.00
gloves for Highway clean up	
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$557.78</u>

Cash On Hand: \$35.00

<u>May 13, 2015 closing balance:</u>	<u>\$ 515.42</u>
<u>Deposits</u>	<u>\$1,350.50</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 557.78</u>
<u>June 17, 2015 closing balance</u>	<u>\$1,308.14</u>



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

GRANT APPLICATION

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
OF GREENVIEW No. 16
RECEIVED

OCT 15 2015

2:20 PM *[Signature]*

VALLEYVIEW

Organization Information:

Name of Organization:

LITTLE SMOKEY SPURS 4H CLUB

Address of Organization:

BOX 93 LITTLE SMOKEY, AB T0H 3Z0

Contact Name and Phone Number:

RANDI SEELY 780-524-9740

Position of Contact Person:

GENERAL LEADER

Purpose of organization:

4H HORSE & ARCHERY CLUB

What act are you registered under? ALBERTA SOCIETY'S ACT Registration No. 108238130 KR0001

Grant Information:

Total Amount Requested

\$3,400

Operating

\$12,462.69

Capital

Proposed Project:

We are having multi-project 4H club
projects included

HORSEMANSHIP PROJECT

ENGLISH PROJECT

RODEO PROJECT

PACK HORSE PROJECT

ARCHERY PROJECT

Operating costs are the costs of day-to-day operations.

Capital costs are costs more than \$2,500, which is not consumed in one year and/or those costs, which add value to property owned and operated by the organization.

FORM A **must** be filled out with **all** grant applications. Fill out FORM B for any capital requests.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

APPLICATION FOR GRANT
FORM B - CAPITAL

Purpose for Grant (please provide full description and detailed project budget);

We are looking to acquire this grant to purchase start up equipment for our new 4H club Little Smoky Spurs attached is proposed budget also equipment list with prices included

Estimated Completion Date: END OF 4H YEAR JUNE 2016

Quotes for Project (minimum of three quotes if available. Attach additional quotes if required):

1. _____

Amount \$ _____

2. _____

Amount \$ _____

3. _____

Amount \$ _____

*Please submit your organization's most recent financial statement (based on your organizations legislated requirements) with the grant application.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

APPLICATION FOR GRANT FORM A - OPERATING

REVENUE		Previous Year Actual 20	Current Year Estimates 2015	Next Year Proposal 20
1.	Fees		\$1200	
2.	Memberships			
3.	Other income (please list)			
4.	Grants (please list)			
5.	Donations (please list)			
6.	Interest Earned			
7.	Miscellaneous Income			
	TOTAL REVENUE (add up items 1-7)			
EXPENSES				
8.	Honourariums/Wages/Benefits			
9.	Travel Expenses			
10.	Professional Development			
11.	Conferences			
12.	Cleaning & Maintenance			
13.	Licensing Fees			
14.	Office Supplies		\$200	
15.	Utilities (phone, power, etc.)			
16.	Rent		\$2200	
17.	Bank/Accounting Charges			
18.	Advertising			
19.	Miscellaneous			
20.	Capital Purchases (please list)		LISTED ON SEPARATE SHEET	
	TOTAL EXPENSES (add up lines 8-20)			
	NET BALANCE (subtract Total Expenses from Total Revenue)			

Cash on Hand \$ 0
Current Account Balance \$ 0
Savings Account Balance \$ 0

Accounts Receivable \$ 0
Inventory to Dec 31, 20__ \$
Buildings \$
Furniture/Fixtures \$
Land \$
Equipment \$

Operating Loans \$
Other Loans \$
Accounts Payable \$

*Please submit your organization's most recent financial statement (based on your organizations legislated requirements) with the grant application.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

Additional Information:

Have you previously applied for grant from the M. D. of Greenview?

Yes

☐

No

☒

List the last two grants your organization has received from the M.D. of Greenview

1. Amount \$ _____ Year _____

Purpose: _____

2. Amount \$ _____ Year _____

Purpose: _____

Have you provided the M.D. of Greenview with a final completion report for grant funds received?

Yes

☐

No

☒

If no, why has the report not been filed?

Have you applied for grant funds from sources **other** than the M.D. of Greenview?

Yes

☐

No

☒

Have you received grant funds from sources **other** than the M.D. of Greenview?

If yes; who, purpose and amount?

Have you performed any **other** fund raising projects? If yes; what and how much was raised?

NO AS WE ARE JUST STARTING THIS CLUB

Little Smoky Spurs 4H Club
2015/2016 year Budget

Expected Expenses	Amount
Arena Fees @\$25/hr	\$ 2,200.00
Clinician @ \$150/student	\$ 1,200.00
Public Speaking Judges Awards	\$ 200.00
Awards Night Meal	\$ 250.00
Year End Awards	\$ 1,900.00
Hi Point Awards and Plaques	\$ 300.00
Achivement Day Judges	\$ 600.00
Capital Equiptment	\$ 12,462.69
Total	\$ 19,112.69
4H Albert and District fees \$92.50x12	\$ 1,110.00

Little Smoky Spurs 4H Club Capital Equipment list

Equipment	units	Price	Total
Pylons	20	\$ 5.00	\$ 100.00
Polls	20	\$ 24.99	\$ 499.80
Roping Dumbies	4	\$ 49.95	\$ 199.80
Jump Standard Tracks	1	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
measure standard	1	\$ 39.95	\$ 39.95
Heal-O-Matic Bones	2	\$ 469.95	\$ 939.90
Heal-O-Matic-Ground Driver Trainer	1	\$ 3,795.00	\$ 3,795.00
packing rope	4	\$ 29.95	\$ 119.80
pack scale	1	\$ 50.95	\$ 50.95
Pannier pack system	1	\$ 349.95	\$ 349.95
Post for standards	10	\$ 18.95	\$ 189.50
Jump Blocks	3	\$ 89.99	\$ 269.97
dessage letter cones	1	\$ 49.95	\$ 49.95
Materials For Storage Shed	1	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Recurve Bows	6	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Target Stands	6	\$ 69.99	\$ 418.14
Targets	6	\$ 199.99	\$ 1,199.94
Arrows/doz	6	\$ 29.99	\$ 179.94
	Total		\$ 12,462.69



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
OF GREENVIEW No. 16
RECEIVED

OCT 30 2015

VALLEYVIEW

GRANT APPLICATION

Organization Information:

Name of Organization: Peace Region Beef Promotional Society
Address of Organization: Box 2292, Dawson Creek BC V1G 4L1
Contact Name and Phone Number: Chris Haddow 250-786-5048 or 250-784-4490
Position of Contact Person: Congress Coordinator
Purpose of organization: The objective of the society is to promote the beef industry in the Peace Region. This is done thru the Peace Country Beef Congress. The congress showcases both commercial & purebred cattle from the Peace Region emphasizing on youth involvement. The congress will be held in Dawson Creek BC - Jan 8th & 9th, 2016.
What act are you registered under? Societies act Registration No. 885492520 RT0001

Grant Information:

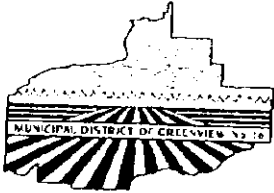
Total Amount Requested 5000.00
Operating _____ Capital _____

Proposed Project: The funds are being requested to aide with the organizing, advertizing & coordinating of the up & coming congress. The congress will be held on Jan 8th & 9th 2016 at the Lakota Centre in Dawson Creek BC. The event allows both commercial & purebred producers to come together. It is a great opportunity for producers in the region to network with each other. It also brings local 4-H & other youths together to meet & learn together.

Operating costs are the costs of day-to-day operations.

Capital costs are costs more than \$2,500, which is not consumed in one year and/or those costs, which add value to property owned and operated by the organization.

FORM A must be filled out with all grant applications. Fill out FORM B for any capital requests.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

Additional Information:

Have you previously applied for grant from the M. D. of Greenview?

Yes ☒ No ☐

List the last two grants your organization has received from the M.D. of Greenview

1. Amount \$ 5000.00 Year 2014

Purpose: Operation of Beef Congress

2. Amount \$ 5000.00 Year 2013

Purpose: Operation of Beef Congress

Have you provided the M.D. of Greenview with a final completion report for grant funds received?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, why has the report not been filed?

Completion report not requested on operating grants
Follow up on Sponsorship class winners provided

Have you applied for grant funds from sources other than the M.D. of Greenview?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Have you received grant funds from sources other than the M.D. of Greenview?

If yes; who, purpose and amount?

General sponsorship requests have been sent
to many businesses in the Peace Region

Have you performed any other fund raising projects? If yes; what and how much was raised?

no.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

APPLICATION FOR GRANT FORM A - OPERATING

REVENUE		Previous Year Actual 2015	Current Year Estimates 2016	Next Year Proposal 2017
1.	Fees			
2.	Memberships <i>entrances</i>	7865.00	7000.00	
3.	Other income (please list)			
	<i>trade fair booths</i>	14,652.00	12,000.00	
	<i>banquet</i>	1500.00	1500.00	
	<i>raffle</i>	3960.00	—	
4.	Grants (please list)			
	<i>Silent auction</i>	590.00	—	
5.	Donations (please list)			
	<i>Sponsors</i>	36,595.00	30,000.00	
6.	Interest Earned			
7.	Miscellaneous Income			
	TOTAL REVENUE (add up items 1-7)	65,162.00	50,500.00	
EXPENSES				
8.	Honourariums/Wages/Benefits	7875.00	10,000.00	
9.	Travel Expenses	1866.00	2500.00	
10.	Professional Development <i>judge</i>	1867.00	5000.00	
11.	Conferences <i>banquet</i>	9517.00	10000.00	
12.	Cleaning & Maintenance			
13.	Licensing Fees - <i>insurance</i>	750.00	800.00	
14.	Office Supplies	945.00	10000.00	
15.	Utilities (phone, power, etc.)			
16.	Rent	1100.00	1575.00	
17.	Bank/Accounting Charges			
18.	Advertising	13,413.00	15,000.00	
19.	Miscellaneous <i>trade show</i>	15,299.00	15,000.00	
	<i>payments - prize raffle</i>	9350.00	7500.00	
20.	Capital Purchases (please list)			
	<i>website design</i>	1702.00	3000.00	
	TOTAL EXPENSES (add up lines 8-20)	63,684.00	55,175.00	
	NET BALANCE (subtract Total Expenses from Total Revenue)	1478.00	<4675.00>	

Cash on Hand \$ _____
Current Account Balance \$ _____
Savings Account Balance \$ _____

Operating Loans \$ _____
Other Loans \$ _____
Accounts Payable \$ _____

Accounts Receivable \$ _____
Inventory to Dec 31, 2015 \$ _____
Buildings \$ _____
Furniture/Fixtures \$ _____
Land \$ _____
Equipment \$ _____

*Please submit your organization's most recent financial statement (based on your organizations legislated requirements) with the grant application.



Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079 Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0
Phone: (780) 524-7600 Fax: (780) 524-4307

By signing this application, I/we concur with the following statements:

- The organization applying for the grants is registered with Corporate Registries or under the Societies Act;
- The grant application is complete and includes all supporting documentation, including most recent financial statement (based on legislative requirements of our organization), balance sheet, current bank balances and current year detailed operating budget or completed Form "A".
- The grant shall be used for only those purposes for which the application was made;
- If the original grant application or purposes for which the grant requested have been varied by the M.D. of Greenview Council, the grant will be used for those varied purposes only;
- The organization will provide a written report to the M.D. of Greenview within 90 days of completion of the grant expenditure providing details of expenses, success of project and significance to the ratepayers of the municipality; failure to provide such a report will result in no further grant funding being considered until the final report is filed and grant expenditure verified;
- The organization agrees to submit to an evaluation of the project related to the grant, and;
- The organization will return any unused portion of the grant funds to the Municipal District of Greenview #16 or to request approval from the Municipality to use the funds for an optional project.

Applicant Information:

Name Chris Haddow - Coordinator

Signature CRHaddow

Address Box 2292 Dawson Creek BC V1G 4L1

Telephone Number 250-786-5048 cell - 250-784-4490

Date Oct 29/15

email: pcbeefcongress@gmail.com



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT: **Alberta Invasive Species Council Grant**
SUBMISSION TO: AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MEETING DATE: January 14, 2016
DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY SERVICES/AGRICULTURE
FILE NO./LEGAL: File Number, Legal or N/A.
STRATEGIC PLAN:

REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION
CAO: INT MANAGER: QFB
GM: INT PRESENTER: QFB
LEGAL/ POLICY REVIEW: INT
FINANCIAL REVIEW:

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) – N/A.

Council Bylaw / Policy (cite) – N/A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agriculture Service Board approve Administration's recommendation of the 2016 grant to Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) in the amount of \$5,000.00 with funds to come from the 2016 Agriculture Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC), formerly called the Alberta Invasive Plants Council (AIPC), is a not-for-profit association of volunteer professionals from federal, provincial, municipal governments, industry and non-government organizations. Members contribute knowledge and expertise to promote awareness, prevention, detection, and management of invasive alien species. The AISC has worked diligently to promote awareness and understanding of invasive species, and one very important function is to develop, maintain and distribute educational materials, which are available for use by municipalities at no charge. Greenview has worked collaboratively with the AISC in the past and has benefitted from working collaboratively through workshops and other events. This amount previously granted to AISC in 2015 was \$5,000.00, and the requested amount for 2016 is \$5,000.00.

OPTIONS – BENEFITS / DISADVANTAGES:

Options – Greenview Agriculture Service Board may or may not elect to accept the recommendation from Administration.

Benefits – Greenview has benefitted from collaboration with AISC and has obtained assistance from AISC in many workshops and other events.

Disadvantages - Greenview, would not be collaborating with a valued partner group to the possible detriment of the residents of Greenview.

COSTS / SOURCE OF FUNDING:

With funds to come from the 2016 Agriculture Operating Budget. The amount budgeted was \$5,000.00.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- AISC Invoice



INVOICE

DATE: January 13, 2016
INVOICE # 2016001

Alberta Invasive Species Council
 17507 Fort Road N.W.
 Edmonton AB T5Y 6H3
 Phone: (587) 999-0954
 Email: info@abinvasives.ca

BILL TO: Quentin Bochar
 MD of Greenvue
 Box 1079
 Valleyview AB
 T0H 3N0

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Alberta Invasive Species Council	
2016 Sponsorship	\$ 5,000.00
Thank you for your support!	
Make cheques payable to:	SUBTOTAL \$5,000.00
Alberta Invasive Species Council	TAX RATE 0.00%
	SALES TAX 0.00
GST # 847825924	OTHER 0.00
	TOTAL \$5,000.00



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT: **Peace Country Beef & Forage Association Grant**
SUBMISSION TO: AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MEETING DATE: January 14, 2016
DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY SERVICES/AGRICULTURE
FILE NO./LEGAL: File Number, Legal or N/A.
STRATEGIC PLAN:

REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION
CAO: INT MANAGER: QFB
GM: INT PRESENTER: QFB
LEGAL/ POLICY REVIEW: INT
FINANCIAL REVIEW:

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) – N/A.

Council Bylaw / Policy (cite) – N/A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agriculture Service Board approve Administration's recommendation of the 2016 grant to Peace Country Beef & Forage Association (PCBFA) in the amount of \$30,000.00 with funds to come from the 2016 Agriculture Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Peace Country Beef and Forage Association (PCBFA) is one of the applied research and development organizations that Greenview has collaborated with for many years. Through the ASB Strategic Business Plan (activity 10.2.2), Greenview has committed to provide financial support to PCBFA to conduct Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture projects on behalf of the Municipality. This amount previously granted to PCBFA in 2015 was \$20,000.00, and the requested amount for 2016 is \$30,000.00.

OPTIONS – BENEFITS / DISADVANTAGES:

Options – Greenview Agriculture Service Board may or may not elect to accept the recommendation from Administration.

Benefits – Greenview has benefitted from collaboration with PCBFA and has obtained assistance from PCBFA in many workshops and other events.

Disadvantages - Greenview, would not be collaborating with a valued producer member driven group to the possible detriment of the residents of Greenview.

COSTS / SOURCE OF FUNDING:

With funds to come from the 2016 Agriculture Operating Budget. The amount budgeted was \$30,000.00.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- PCBFA Invoice



Peace Country Beef & Forage Association

Rm.134 Animal Science Building,
GPRC – Fairview Campus
Box 3000 Fairview, Alberta
Phone: 780-835-6799
Fax: 780-835-6626

High Prairie Provincial Building
AFSC Office
Box 2803, High Prairie, AB
Phone: 780-523-4033
Fax: 780-523-6569

September 17, 2015

Agriculture Service Board Members
MD of Greenview
Box 1079, Valleyview, Alberta
T0H 3N0

Dear Agriculture Service Board Members:

The Peace Country Beef and Forage Association (PCBFA) is a non-profit, unbiased producer based research organization that specializes in agriculture research pertaining to beef and forage development. The Peace Country Beef & Forage Association has been actively operating across the Peace Country for over 30 years out of offices in Fairview and Alberta. We believe that the sustainability of rural communities in the Peace River region will be dependent upon a strong agricultural economy with livestock production as its foundation.

The PCBFA runs under the direction of ten producers from across the Peace Country and 4 full time staff members. We currently have approximately 160 members and reach all communities in the Alberta Peace Region stretching from High Prairie to the BC border and Valleyview to Manning. Our goal is to improve the profitability and sustainability of the forage / beef industry in the Peace Region through the transfer of leading edge forage and beef technology to producers, students, and industry representatives through innovative extension activities and applied research. With the assistance of local producers we establish on-farm demonstrations and applied research trials which are of great importance for collecting local Peace Country data; the PCBFA then transfers the information to producers through articles, field days and workshops.

This year the PCBFA carried out a number of projects and workshops within your municipality. Please find attached an outline of the various workshops and projects that we have held in the 2015 year, as well as a list that are planned for the remainder of 2015 and into 2016. In order to carry out the projects we need to secure the matching funds to apply against our provincial grants. Our major funding bodies are the Agriculture Opportunities Fund (AOF) and ASB Environmental Stream Programs which require matching dollars. In 2015, PCBFA received funding from the Alberta Crop Industry Development Fund (ACIDF) to conduct a farm-scale applied research project on methods for pasture rejuvenation; one of the sites for the project is located in the MD of Greenview, near Grovedale on Bill Smith's farm. PCBFA was very pleased to receive

this funding, as it is a very competitive system that these funds are allocated through, and the completion of this project will strengthen our ability to receive funding to do local, Peace Country based research moving forward.

The M.D. of Greenview has supported us in the past with in-kind donations and financial assistance. For the April 2015-March 2016 year, we are requesting a contribution of \$30,000 to assist PCBFA in serving your municipality. This funding will be used as matching for our AOF core funding.

2015 has been a very strong year for PCBFA so far, with excellent attendance at workshops and engagement through projects. It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to work with the great staff and the agriculture residents of the MD of Greenview and surrounding area. We appreciate the support you have given us in the past and look forward to continuing to work together in 2016. If you would like an estimated budget of our program one can be provided for you.

Should you have any questions or concerns please contact me at your earliest convenience (780) 523-4033 office or (780) 536-7373 cell. Thank you for your consideration of this matter and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Monika Benoit", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Monika Benoit
Manager
Peace Country Beef and Forage Association

PCBFA Extension & Projects in the MD of Greenview

Current Projects

Project 1: Perennial Forage Demonstration Plots: site seeded

Project 2: Cover crop mixtures for grain, forage, and soil improvement

Project 3: Seeding rate of corn for grazing

Project 4: Herbicide trails on corn

Project 5: Pasture Rejuvenation Project

Proposed Projects for 2016

Project 1: Perennial Forage Demonstration Plots: re-seeding in Spring 2016

Project 2: Continuation of cover crop mixtures for grain, forage and soil improvement

Project 3: Mob Grazing Demonstrations and Observations

Project 4: Pasture Rejuvenation Project

Workshops: January 2015-September 2015

Workshop 1: Dugout Workshop (Valleyview)

Workshop 2: Environmental Farm Plan, Growing Forward 2 Information Session (Debolt)

Workshop 4: How To Have More Grass, More Profit and a Better Quality of Life- with Don Campbell (Grovedale)

Proposed Workshops for 2015-2016

Workshop 1: Ration Balancing Workshop (Valleyview)

Workshop 2: Dugout Workshop (Grovedale)

Workshop 3: Growing Forward 2 Information Session

Workshop 4: Young Farmer Workshop- Succession Planning

Other Extension

We work with a number of producers doing feed testing and ration balancing programs, and we receive calls to answer general production and industry questions on a regular basis.

Publication 1: Forage Facts Newsletter- sent monthly to all members

Publication 2: Forage Country Magazine- mailed to all farm addresses in the MD of Greenview biannually

Publication 3: Annual Report- available to all members as of the AGM in February each year

Other Communication:

- PCBFA website: www.peacecountrybeef.ca
- PCBFA Facebook Page
- PCBFA Twitter Accounts



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT:	Smoky Applied Research & Demonstration Association Grant		
SUBMISSION TO:	AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD	REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION	
MEETING DATE:	January 14, 2016	CAO: INT	MANAGER: QFB
DEPARTMENT:	COMMUNITY SERVICES/AGRICULTURE	GM: INT	PRESENTER: QFB
FILE NO./LEGAL:	File Number, Legal or N/A.	LEGAL/ POLICY REVIEW: INT	
STRATEGIC PLAN:		FINANCIAL REVIEW:	

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) – N/A.

Council Bylaw / Policy (cite) – N/A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agriculture Service Board approve Administration's recommendation of the 2016 grant to Smoky Applied Research & Demonstration Association (SARDA) in the amount of \$60,000.00 with funds to come from the 2016 Agriculture Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Smoky Applied Research & Demonstration Association (SARDA) is one of the applied research and development organizations that Greenview has collaborated with for many years. Through the ASB Strategic Business Plan (activity 10.2.2), Greenview has committed to provide financial support to SARDA to conduct Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture projects on behalf of the Municipality. This amount previously granted to SARDA in 2015 was \$30,000.00, and the requested amount for 2016 is \$60,000.00.

OPTIONS – BENEFITS / DISADVANTAGES:

Options – Greenview Agriculture Service Board may or may not elect to accept the recommendation from Administration.

Benefits – Greenview has benefitted from collaboration with SARDA and has obtained assistance from SARDA in many workshops and other events.

Disadvantages - Greenview, would not be collaborating with a valued producer member driven group to the possible detriment of the residents of Greenview.

COSTS / SOURCE OF FUNDING:

With funds to come from the 2016 Agriculture Operating Budget. The amount budgeted was \$60,000.00.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- SARDA Letter/Invoice

Quentin Bochar
Box 1079, Valleyview,
AB T0H 3N0

October 20, 2015

RE: Funding Increase Request 2016 to 2019

Dear Quentin,

SARDA Board is requesting for more funds from our municipal partners to help us accommodate the rising cost due to inflation and our increasing size of operation. Current funding from the MD's and Counties has not changed for the last 8 years. Also the funding from the Alberta Opportunity Fund (AOF) has not changed for more than 10 years and is unlikely to change.

The operating costs of SARDA have increased considerably due to cost of living, increased staff and cost of other items. Additional funds are needed to retain the regular staff, to hire adequate summer staff, and cover the other operating costs of SARDA. Without additional funding, the ability of SARDA to effectively maintain the expected service level would be unattainable.

SARDA provides a valuable service to ratepayers in its coverage area by local testing of varieties and other applied research, pest monitoring, water testing, publishing newsletters and annual report, annual field school, and many technology transfer activities that benefit the ratepayers. Estimated benefits to agriculture producers and related industry exceed \$11 million per year of economic return by modest calculations.

The SARDA boards request for increased funding to the municipal districts and counties (Table 1) is to provide continued services to the rate payers in your area.

Table 1. The current and requested annual funding amounts from the four local governments to SARDA.

Name	Current contribution	2016	2017	2018
Big Lakes County	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$70000	\$80000
MD of Greenview	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$70000	\$80000
Northern Sunrise County	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$70000	\$80000
MD of Smoky River	\$30,000*	\$60,000	\$70000	\$80000
Total - Cash	\$120,000	\$240,000	\$280,000	\$320,000
*MD of Smoky River in-kind	\$15,000			

* Use of chemical storage shed, wash bay, secured compound for parking of vehicles and some mechanical repair.

Please contact the undersigned or SARDA manager (Vance Yaremko) for any additional information to process this request. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Regards,



Charlie Turcotte
Chairman, SARDA Board
Tel: (780) 837 1084



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT: **Alberta Farm Safety Centre Grant**
SUBMISSION TO: AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MEETING DATE: January 14, 2016
DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY SERVICES/AGRICULTURE
FILE NO./LEGAL: File Number, Legal or N/A.
STRATEGIC PLAN:

REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION
CAO: INT MANAGER: QFB
GM: INT PRESENTER: QFB
LEGAL/ POLICY REVIEW: INT
FINANCIAL REVIEW:

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) – N/A.

Council Bylaw / Policy (cite) – N/A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That the Agriculture Service Board approve Administration's recommendation of the 2016 grant to Alberta Farm Safety Centre (FSC) in the amount of \$3,500.00 with funds to come from the 2016 Agriculture Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Municipal Districts and Counties across the province have, over the past number of years become important partners, helping fund program delivery to children within their boundaries. In 2013 a total of 987 students in 7 schools within the M.D. of Greenview received Safety Smarts presentations. The FSC **2016 request**, based on 2015 delivery to 383 children, is **\$1340.50** based upon \$3.50/child reached in the Greenview area. This amount previously granted to FSC in 2015 was \$3486.00, and the requested amount for 2016 is \$1340.50.

OPTIONS – BENEFITS / DISADVANTAGES:

Options – Greenview Agriculture Service Board may or may not elect to accept the recommendation from Administration.

Benefits – Greenview has benefitted from collaboration with FSC and the Safety Smarts program has a successful 17 year history, with a team of dedicated regional based instructors delivering hands-on, interactive safety presentations into individual school classrooms; now reaching more than 50,000 rural school children across Alberta each year, making this a very worthwhile program.

Disadvantages - Greenview, would not be collaborating with a valued partner group to the possible detriment of the residents of Greenview and Communities within Greenview.

COSTS / SOURCE OF FUNDING:

With funds to come from the 2016 Agriculture Operating Budget. The amount budgeted was \$3,500.00.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- FSC Invoice



265 East 400 South – Box 291 – Raymond – Alberta – T0K 2S0 – Tel: 403 752-4585 – Fax: 403 752-3643
Email: safetyctr@abfarmsafety.com Website: abfarmsafety.com

INVOICE

January 13, 2016

2016 Contribution

In support of in-school farm safety presentations for elementary aged children within the MD of Greenview

TO: MD of Greenview

AMOUNT: \$ 1340.50

383 students received presentations during 2015

\$3.50/child = \$1340.50

This contribution is gratefully acknowledged and is extremely important to ensuring the continuation other funding sources, both corporate and government.

AGRICULTURAL PLASTICS RECYCLING

- WHEREAS:** 56% of farms in Alberta use one or more types of agricultural plastics (baler twine, net wrap, silage plastic, grain bags, bale bags/tubes);
- WHEREAS:** The disposal and/or recycling of agricultural plastics is not consistent across the province;
- WHEREAS:** Agricultural plastics are either burned on farm or sent to the landfill;
- WHEREAS:** Agricultural plastics users are concerned with how they deal with agricultural plastics and feel it is important to be able to recycle agricultural plastics;
- WHEREAS:** The Government of Saskatchewan, in partnership with a number of stakeholders, has been running a successful pilot program for managing the recycling of agricultural plastics;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That the Ministry of Environment and Parks and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry research, develop, and implement an agricultural plastics recycling program modelled after the pilot program in the Province of Saskatchewan.

SPONSORED BY: **Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124**

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Environment and Parks
 Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

BACKGROUND

The disposal of these materials has been a concern of the Agricultural Service Boards for a number of years. Resolutions dealing with the disposal/recycling of agricultural plastics, directly and indirectly, have been presented, and passed at the Agricultural Service Board conference in 2002, 2006, 2011, 2012, and 2015. There is still no province wide agricultural plastics recycling program.

It is clear that there is interest, from continuous resolutions from Agricultural Service Boards, in having some sort of recycling program available to Alberta's producers. According to the Government of Alberta's Agricultural Plastics Recycling – Agricultural Producer's Survey Final Report, producers are also interested in disposing of their agricultural plastics in an environmentally responsible way (see attached document, titled Key Takeaways).

Surveys indicate that the most common ways of disposing of agricultural plastics, in Alberta, are to burn the product on farm, or send it away to be buried in a landfill. Both of these options are known to have negative effects on the environment. Agricultural plastics, especially grain bags take up a significant amount of space. Using up valuable landfill space is not a long term solution. Some may not see the effects of burning plastics immediately, but it is known that this practice is harmful to the environment over time. Toxins from burning plastics are deposited on the land and into the air and water.

Introducing a program for recycling agricultural plastics in Alberta would benefit the entire province. Implementing a program at a provincial level, rather than municipal would provide consistent service for all of Alberta's producers. It would reduce the negative environmental impacts from improper disposal of large amounts of plastic, reduce the amount of space used in landfills, increase the profile of Alberta's producers as being "sustainable", and possibly improve the aesthetics by reducing the amount of white plastic blowing around rural areas.

REFERENCES:

- CleanFARMS Inc. Saskatchewan Agricultural Plastic Packaging Study of Potential Collection and Processing Option Draft Report. Retrieved September 8th, 2015 from <http://www.cleanfarms.ca/sites/default/files/Clean%20Farms%20DRAFT%20Report%20%20Saskatchewan%20120413.pdf>
- Government of Alberta. *Agricultural Plastics Recycling Agricultural Producers Survey Final Report*. Retrieved September 8, 2015 from [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/com14387/\\$file/Plastics_Recycling_Agricultural_Producers_Survey_Final_Report.pdf?OpenElement](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/com14387/$file/Plastics_Recycling_Agricultural_Producers_Survey_Final_Report.pdf?OpenElement)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. The majority (56%) of farms in Alberta use one or more types of agricultural plastics. Usage is relatively equal amongst most regions – South (60%), Central (59%), Northeast (58%) and Northwest (52%) – but significantly lower in the Peace region (44%).
2. A best estimate of the total amounts of agricultural plastics eligible for recycling in the past 12 months would be in the ballpark of 3,000 metric tonnes. The amounts (by weight) of plastic grain bags or tubes, baling twine and silage pit or pile covers are roughly equal: 969 tonnes, 857 tonnes and 1,066 tonnes, respectively. One should keep in mind that agricultural plastics usage can vary dramatically from year to year, thus data based on a one year timeframe should be interpreted with caution.
3. Seven-in-ten Alberta farmers expect their usage of agricultural plastics to remain the same over the next three years, while just one-in-ten anticipate an increase.
4. Baling twine is by far the most commonly used type of agricultural plastic among all agricultural plastics users (i.e. crops, livestock or mixed); 90% reported using plastic baling twine in the past 12 months.
5. Burning is a common practice for managing agricultural plastic at end-of-life, while sending plastics to a landfill site is also a frequently used practice. From the Municipal Waste Authority survey, we know a relatively small percentage of plastic is diverted for recycling as among the 71% of authorities that accept plastic, 84% say they have buried one or more types of agricultural plastics in their landfill while 33% say they have shipped any type of plastic to a recycler.
6. Incidence of recycling agricultural plastics among producers is low. Overall, 17% of agricultural plastics users sent one or more types of plastics for recycling in the past 12 months.
7. There is strong consensus among agricultural plastics users that it is important to be able to recycle their agricultural plastics. A clear majority, however, feel it is difficult to do so and are dissatisfied with their current access to agricultural plastics recycling.
8. The most frequent difficulty identified with regards to recycling agricultural plastics is by far “no recyclers nearby” (43%). For producers who had not recycled or tried to recycle agricultural plastics in the past, just under half (46%) said “more recycling or collection facilities” would encourage them to do so. Increasing convenience and/or ease of recycling is also important.
9. Various environmentally-related motivators emerge as the key reasons for recycling or trying to recycle agricultural plastics. These include, among others, “to re-use or recycle” (19%), “environmental concerns” (16%), “plastics do not degrade easily” (6%) and “air pollution” (5%).

Executive Summary

1.0 Introduction

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment provided funding to CleanFARMS to undertake this work entitled 'Saskatchewan Agricultural Plastic Packaging – Study of Potential Collection and Processing Options' (the Study). 2cg Inc., in association with Sheri Praski Environmental Consulting, was retained to undertake this Study. The Study was supported in-kind by CleanFARMS and with oversight from the Saskatchewan Agricultural Stewardship Council (SASC), a subcommittee of the CleanFARMS Board.

The Ministry has indicated they are seeking the development of a regulation (target launch date of June 2014) that would require Stewards in Saskatchewan to establish a stewardship program. This program would include collection/processing programs for four designated products (Grain Bags, Bale Wrap/Silage Film, Twine and Net Wrap). For the purpose of this Study, 'Stewards' are defined as the first seller of the designated products into the province of Saskatchewan.

Table 1 presents a brief summary of agricultural plastics use and management.

Table 1 Overview of Agricultural Plastic Use and Management

Agricultural Plastic	Plastic Resin	Use	Management
Grain Bags	LDPE	Used to store grain	Stored on farm Burned on farm Landfilled off farm Recycled
Twine	PP	Used for baling hay and straw	Stored on farm Burned on farm Landfilled off farm Recycled
Bale wrap	LLDPE	Used to wrap hay	Stored on farm Burned on farm Landfilled off farm
Silage wrap	LDPE	Used to store silage	Stored on farm Burned on farm Landfilled off farm Could be recycled with grain bags
Net wrap	HDPE or PP	Used to wrap hay and straw	Stored on farm Burned on farm Landfilled off farm

Ultimately any collection and processing option must be convenient for the farmer, cost effective and demonstrate environmental benefit. As well it will be imperative that Stewards work cooperatively and collaboratively with the agricultural community to develop practical solutions.

This Study includes a review of current Stewardship programs for non agricultural waste materials such as beverage containers and the two pilot scale programs operating in Saskatchewan for the diversion and recycling of agricultural plastics.

The focus of this Study includes the development of collection and processing options to recover these agricultural plastic packaging materials and a cost analysis of these options.

2.0 Current Pilot Programs

The Moose Jaw River Watershed Stewards Inc. (MJRWS) launched a pilot program to collect and recycle grain bags and bale twine in March 2010. It is set to conclude in March 2014.

The non profit agriculture organization Provincial Council of Agriculture Development and Diversification (ADD) Boards for Saskatchewan Inc. (PCAB) launched a province wide pilot program to collect grain bags and twine since March, 2011.

The data from the MJRWS and PCAB programs were extrapolated, annualized and summarized as depicted in Table 2.

Table 2 Extrapolated and Annualized Cost Estimates for the Pilot Programs

Program	Recovered	Cost	Revenue	Net Cost	Depots	Depot Costs	Recycling Costs
	kg/year	\$/year	\$/year	\$/year	#	\$/year	\$/kg
MJRWS	83,000	\$73,000	\$5,000	\$68,000	3	\$22,667	\$0.82
PCAB	148,000	\$141,300	\$5,000	\$136,300	11	\$12,391	\$0.92

Based on available information it is estimated that on average a pilot depot costs \$12,000-\$23,000 to operate; that agricultural plastics cost between \$0.82-\$0.92/kg to recycle and that the revenue for agricultural plastics is \$0.04-0.06/kg (i.e. \$40-\$50/tonne). A relevant lesson is that more depots may increase the overall recovery but not necessarily the amount of agricultural plastics recovered (i.e. MJRWS sites collected 28,000kg/depot; PCAB depots collected 13,500kg/depot).

3.0 Cost Analysis of Collection, Consolidation and Transfer and Processing Options

The diversion of agricultural plastics (grain bags, twine, bale and silage film and netwrap) from Saskatchewan must follow a series of steps, similar to that depicted in Figure 1.

There are four key steps:

- Generation;
- Collection;
- Consolidation and transfer; and
- Processing.

A network of consolidation depots would be set up to receive agricultural plastics. Farmers could deliver their agricultural plastics to these depots or a network of service providers could be deployed to undertake this work. The depots would transfer agricultural plastics to processors for recycling.

There are two options for the collection of agricultural plastics that were investigated and costed:

- Option 1. Farmer Delivers Agricultural Plastic Waste to Consolidation Depot; and
- Option 2. On Farm Collection by Service Provider and Delivery to Consolidation Depot.

The following general assumptions were used:

- Consolidation depots located at public sector (default) or private sector locations;
- Staffed consolidation depots receive a minimum of **50** tonnes/year of agricultural plastics;
- Service providers can collect a minimum of **180** tonnes/year of agricultural plastics and take them to unstaffed consolidation depots;
- Grain bags arrive at consolidation depots rolled;
- Baling can be made available (if required) for twine and net wrap;
- Agricultural plastics are transferred to processors that offer the highest revenue for agricultural plastics; and
- Costing models were developed for each model to help estimate capital and operating costs.

3.1 Option 1. Farmer Collects and Delivers to Consolidation Depot

In this option the farmer is responsible for collecting and delivering agricultural plastics from their farm to a consolidation depot operated by an Industry Stewardship Organization.

A template consolidation depot was developed and would consist of the following:

- Land for storage and loading (ca. 1 acre) at an existing public site;
- Roller and trailer;
- Loading ramp to accommodate van trailers;
- Full-time or Part-time operator (i.e. on-site staff);
- Site management; and
- Access to Bobcat (or similar) for loading trailers.

A model was developed to help estimate consolidation depot costs. It assumed that a consolidation depot would receive a minimum of 50 tonnes/year of agricultural plastics.

Two Scenarios based on facility operating times and staffing level were tested.

Scenario 1-Low	6 months per year with part time on site personnel during business hours (ca. 16 hours/month).
Scenario 2-High	12 months per year with part time on site personnel during business hours (ca. 80 hours/month).

Table 3 provides some detail on estimated annual consolidation depot operating costs.

Table 3 Overview of Consolidation Depot Operating Costs

Cost Items	Scenario 1-Low	Scenario 2-High
Capital	\$2,100	\$2,100
Land leasing	\$3,000	\$6,000
Management time	\$2,000	\$3,900
Staff time	\$2,400	\$24,000
Maintenance	\$1,000	\$1,000
Insurance	\$1,000	\$1,000
Other	\$1,000	\$1,000
Standby Time	\$900	\$900
Bobcat rental	\$1,000	\$1,000
Bags	\$800	\$800
Baling Cost	\$600	\$600
Transportation	\$5,700	\$5,700
	\$21,500	\$48,000
Revenue	\$6,300	\$6,300

If one assumes agricultural production spans the width of the province (about 600 km) wide and that it extends north from the US border about 700 km to Meadow Lake then it would take 42 consolidation depots to provide coverage so that each farm would not need to travel more than 50 km to access a consolidation depot.

3.2 Option 2. On Farm Collection by Service Provider and Delivery to Consolidation Depot

In this option a service provider hired by an Industry Stewardship Organization would come to the farm and collect agricultural plastics and deliver them to a consolidation depot. There would be no out-of-pocket costs for this service for the farmer.

A template service provider system was developed and would consist of the following:

- Flat bed work truck, trailer and roller;
- Access to baler (if required);
- Operator(s) (one or two);
- Cell phone and GPS;
- Fuel for travel to and from the sites; and
- Hotel and accommodations for operators while collecting from a geographic area.

A model was developed to help estimate on farm collection costs with the following assumptions:

- Service providers would be on the road from October through March to coincide with grain bag extraction;
- Each service provider could collect 10 grain bags or equivalent agricultural plastics each day;
- Costs were based on the collection of grain bags;
- There would be one consolidation depot per service provider; and
- The consolidation depots would be unstaffed and used only by service providers.

Two Scenarios based on the number of operators was tested.

Scenario 1-Low	Collection service provided for 6 months with one full time operator per service provider.
Scenario 2-High	Collection service provided for 6 months with two full time operators per service provider.

Table 4 provides some detail on estimated operating costs.

Table 4 Estimate of Collection by Service Provider Costs

Cost Items	Scenario 1-Low	Scenario 2-High
	\$/year	
Capital	\$12,000	\$12,000
Management time	\$0	\$0
Staff time	\$32,000	\$64,000
Mileage	\$33,000	\$33,000
Daily expenses	\$20,000	\$40,000
Other	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total	\$98,000	\$150,000

It was estimated that up to 10 service providers would be required to cover the province.

3.3 Summary of Costs

Table 5 presents a summary of the cost/kg to operate a consolidation depot or a service provider.

Table 5 Summary of Costs

	Description	Low	High	Comments
		\$/kg		
Option 1	Farmer Delivers Agricultural Plastic Waste to Consolidation Depot	\$0.28	\$0.77	50 tonnes per staffed consolidation depot
Option 2	On Farm Collection by Service Provider and Delivery to Consolidation Depot	\$0.66	\$0.95	180 tonnes per service provider to unstaffed consolidation depot

For Option 1 it will cost an estimated \$16,000-\$42,000/year to operate a staffed consolidation depot. Table 6 shows the estimated overall system costs based on current assumptions and 42 consolidation depots. It includes the costs to operate consolidation

depots (net annual operating costs) as well as program administration and education and awareness costs.

Table 6 Summary of Total System Costs- Option 1

Consolidation Depots	Scenario 1-Low	Scenario 2-High
42		
Net Annual Operating Costs	\$639,000	\$1,752,000
Administrative Costs	\$190,000	\$190,000
Subtotal	\$829,000	\$1,942,000
Education and Awareness Cost	\$42,000	\$98,000
Total Cost	\$871,000	\$2,040,000

For Option 2 it will cost \$100,000-\$150,000/year/service provider to collect agricultural plastics directly from the farm. Table 7 shows the estimated overall system costs based on current assumptions and 10 service providers. It includes the costs for a network of service providers (net annual operating costs) as well as program administration and education and awareness costs.

Table 7. Summary of Total System Costs- Option 2

Service Providers	Scenario 1-Low	Scenario 2-High
	On Farm Service Provider Collection	
10	#/day	
Net Annual On Farm Operating Costs	\$980,000	\$1,500,000
Net Annual Consolidation Depot Operating Costs	\$191,000	\$191,000
Total Annual Cost	\$1,171,000	\$1,691,000
Administrative Costs	\$190,000	\$190,000
Subtotal	\$1,361,000	\$1,881,000
Education and Awareness Cost	\$69,000	\$95,000
Total Cost	\$1,430,000	\$1,976,000

4.0 Methods to Facilitate the Capture of Agricultural Plastics

Financial incentives can be used to stimulate the capture rate of agricultural plastics. These incentives will need to be over and above the costs of recycling these plastics.

There are a number of financial incentives that could be implemented.

4.1 Bounty Based

A service provider financial incentive (bounty) could be developed whereby a collector of agricultural plastics would be financially rewarded (on a per kg or per unit basis) for agricultural plastics that it is able to collect from farms.

4.2 Deposit Return

A deposit return system could be used to encourage farmers to divert agricultural plastics. This would include the addition of a deposit fee placed on agricultural plastics at the point of purchase. To be clear this deposit return would be over and above the fees required to finance the agricultural plastic recycling program. With the return of those items the deposit would be returned.

This may further stimulate the ability of an entrepreneur (i.e. service provider) to set up a business to collect agricultural plastics and work out with the farmer a fair approach on how to split up the deposit for recycling agricultural plastics.

5.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

General Conclusions

- The provision of consolidation depots where farmers deliver their own agricultural plastics are less expensive (Option 1) than where a service provider collects agricultural plastics (Option 2);
- Public sites such as municipal/regional landfills that already handle wastes appear to be the best candidates for consolidation depots;
- Private sites such as agricultural equipment and supply retail stores, grain elevators, etc are less feasible for consolidation depots because of possible conflicts with their operation including vectors and odour; and
- The two agricultural plastic recycling pilot programs provide a good starting point for a province wide program and current depots, infrastructure and systems should be incorporated where practical.

General Recommendations

- Start with a voluntary program;
- Use PCAB/MJWRS consolidation depots sites as starting point and ensure that all have loading ramps;
- Assess current consolidation depots to ensure they achieve a critical mass of a minimum van trailer load and consolidate as necessary;
- Identify other high agricultural plastic generation areas and develop consolidation depots around these areas;
- Provision in the program plan for undertaking a pilot using Option 2 (i.e. service provider) in part of the province once consolidation depots are operational; and
- Encourage private sector to set up service delivery programs to collect agricultural plastics from farmers. This could be coupled with financial incentives.

SPECIES AT RISK ACT (SARA)

- WHEREAS:** The federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) and the designated independent committee for habitat protection legislation will have long lasting negative economic impact on agriculture, industry, rural development, and land use in Alberta and is of great concern to rural municipalities and elected officials;
- WHEREAS:** Agriculture, industry, species at risk and rural development can co-exist;
- WHEREAS:** Rural municipalities are firm supporters of the goals of the *Species at Risk Act*;
- WHEREAS:** All municipalities, industry and agricultural producers are affected by the above, leading to a shift in the social and economic balance between urban and municipalities in the Province.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

AAAF and AAMDC facilitate a round table discussion with representation from the Federal Environment Minister, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and the Minister of Environment and Parks to rebuild the current *Species at Risk Act* to improve it in a way that seeks a balanced and cooperative approach (economic, environmental, and social) to species protection that focuses on ecosystem protection; limiting impact on agriculture, industry, rural development, and land use in Alberta.

SPONSORED BY: County of Warner No. 5/County of Forty Mile No. 8

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Alberta Environment and Parks
Environment Canada

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Agricultural Service Board has no active resolutions directly related to this issue

AAMDC Background: Resolution ID 4-14-S Year: 2014 Fall Convention

Title: SPECIES AT RISK ACT (SARA) Sponsor: McKenzie County

Vote results: 3/5 Majority required (carried) endorsed by Northern District

Current Status: Incomplete

Preamble

WHEREAS the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA) and embedded habitat protection legislation will have long lasting negative effect on rural municipalities in Alberta by limiting the ability of people and our province to grow and prosper; and

SPECIFIC LEGISLATION LINKAGES

- **SPECIES AT RISK ACT (SARA) setting the stage**
- **(From Wikipedia)**

The **Species at Risk Act (SARA)** is a piece of Canadian federal legislation which became law in Canada on December 12, 2002. It is designed to meet one of Canada's key commitments under the International Convention on Biological Diversity. The goal of the Act is to protect endangered or threatened organisms and their habitats. It also manages species which are not yet threatened, but whose existence or habitat is in jeopardy.

SARA defines a method to determine the steps that need to be taken in order to help protect existing relatively healthy environments, as well as recover threatened habitats. It identifies ways in which governments, organizations, and individuals can work together to preserve species at risk and establishes penalties for failure to obey the law.

The Act designates [COSEWIC](#), an independent committee of wildlife experts and scientists, to identify threatened species and assess their conservation status. COSEWIC then issues a report to the government, and the Minister of the Environment evaluates the committee's recommendations when considering the addition of a species to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk.

- **Alberta Government by Alberta's Endangered Species Conservation Committee (current list attached)**

Member Background:

1. The Species at Risk Act (SARA), while important in principal; the current wording and application limits rural communities and our province to grow and prosper and does not take into account the impact on agriculture, industry, rural development and land use in Alberta.

2. SARA will not do what is intended to do for the species it wants to protect nor the Rural Municipal economy.
3. Repeal current SARA provisions and rebuild with an approach to species protection that seeks a balanced and cooperative approach (economic, environmental, and social); agriculture, industry, species at risk and development can co-exist
4. The habitat protection position of SARA is problematic; however, we believe these problems can be addressed.
5. SARA removes development control away from municipalities and does not allow them to perform the core responsibility of balancing the public interest as it relates to land use.
6. Negative effect on future growth - long lasting negative economic impact on agriculture, industry, rural development and land use in Alberta.
7. Rural municipalities are committed to a healthy, sustainable environment. We firmly believe that endangered species can co-exist successfully with agriculture, industry, rural development and land use; it isn't an "either/or"
8. Endangered / Species at Risk Species is affecting agriculture and industry in the grassland and farming communities. Milk River Watershed, including Fish in the Milk River and tributaries ~ list attached.
9. Protecting biodiversity and protection for endangered species and their habitats are important. Governments, organizations, industry and individuals can work together to preserve species at risk that is enforced by legislation.
10. The goals and intent of SARA can be achieved by repealing the current SARA provisions and rebuilding the legislation in a way that seeks a balanced and cooperative approach (economic, environmental, and social) to species protection that focuses on ecosystem protection; limiting impact on agriculture, industry, development and rural municipal land use in Alberta.

(HISTORY OF THE ISSUE)

Other stakeholders with a vested interest:

Province wide impacts for municipalities

1998 Agricultural Service Board Resolutions

Resolution #1

Endangered species legislation

Be it resolved - That the Government of Canada reject proposals for federal endangered species legislation and ensure that future efforts to protect Canada's endangered species and their habitats focus on cooperative, compensatory, voluntary programs driven by local officials and private landholders and not through mandatory, restrictive and unenforceable federal legislation.

Response - Alberta Environmental Protection. As this resolution is directed strictly to the Government of Canada, a departmental response is unnecessary.

Environment Canada. The federal government remains committed to protecting endangered species. Minister Stewart is aware that private property owners and farmers in particular have raised concerns regarding the legislation that was before the House in April 1997. She also appreciates the agricultural community's cooperative, voluntary approach to conservation activities. Environment Canada officials are reviewing the legislation with the intent of ensuring that landowners are not unfairly penalized. The review also seeks to ensure that the voluntary efforts of landowners to protect and conserve endangered species are recognized and encouraged.

Programs and policies must be developed to support and reinforce the stewardship of our lands, the conservation of species and the protection of species at risk. To this end, work has started on the issue of stewardship to complement legislation, and we will hold workshops this summer. Representatives of the provincial and territorial governments will be well informed of the plans.

I am confident that the legislation that emerges from the current review will foster the cooperation and partnership required to protect Canada's species at risk. Please be assured that your comments will be taken into account as we prepare for the re-introduction of federal endangered species legislation.

1998 Agricultural Service Board Resolutions

Resolution #2

The Canada Endangered Species Protection Act

Be it resolved - The Provincial Government of Alberta actively lobby the Federal Government of Canada to ensure that the Canada Endangered Species Protection Act does not unduly inhibit the ability of individuals involved in the agricultural industry and others to carry on their normal business activities.

Response - Alberta Environment. The Government of Alberta is actively lobbying the federal government to ensure that federal endangered species legislation is consistent with the National Accord for the

Protection of Species at Risk and its supporting framework. The National Accord is the umbrella agreement under which all provinces, territories and the federal government agreed to cooperatively establish national endangered species programs and legislation. Based on the principles of cooperation, education, awareness, and partnerships, it encourages a cooperative approach to endangered species conservation by governments, private organizations, industry and citizens. We are also lobbying the federal government to abandon its confrontational approach respecting civil remedies which will avoid costly and time consuming delays in resource and land management decisions, and better respect the rights of individuals.

PROACTIVE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ON ALBERTA PROVINCIAL HIGHWAYS

WHEREAS: The Government of Alberta's strategy to realize savings over the next 3 years by reducing the summer maintenance budget by \$27.8 million in 2015 alone is showing signs that the right-of -ways of Alberta's highways cannot be sustained at that level;

WHEREAS: Invasive plants cause significant changes to ecosystems that result in economic harm to our agricultural and recreational sectors. Highway corridors facilitate the spread not just locally, but internationally as well that impacts our neighbor's;

WHEREAS: Provincially, reductions were made that specifically state only 1 shoulder cut per year, no full width mowing, on all highways as well as no scheduled weed spraying, only reactive spot spraying after receiving a weed notice from a municipality;

WHEREAS: The most cost-effective strategy against invasive species is preventing them from establishing rather than relying on a municipality to hopefully identify an infestation and react by issuing a notice. Allowing other undesirable plants growing increases the risk to human health (poisonous plants) and public safety as well by reduced visibility along the shoulders of the road when wildlife are crossing or grazing;

WHEREAS: Alberta Transportation in the past had the option of signing Service Agreements with each municipality to do invasive plant control, but that option is no longer available in some districts due to some of the highway maintenance contracts;

WHEREAS: With 31,000 kilometers of highway in the province the land base in which it is responsible for weed control within its right-of-way's is regulated by the Weed Control Act which requires attention and sufficient funds to be able to abide by its own legislation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

The Government of Alberta restores funding levels to Alberta Transportation for summer maintenance programs for vegetation management (weed control and mowing).

FURTHER THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST:

Alberta Transportation gives the option in all districts of the province to enter into Service Agreements with municipalities for weed control as the prime contractor, but if highway

maintenance contracts do not allow for that then the Government of Alberta reopen those contracts to allow municipalities to become prime contractors.

SPONSORED BY: County of Paintearth No. 18

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Transportation
Alberta Environment and Parks

Background

In 2006 a resolution was passed “**Resolution #10 - Weed Control Along Primary and Secondary Highways**” that requested “the Provincial Government allocate sufficient funds to control the weeds and undesirable vegetation along their primary and secondary highways within the Province”. At that time Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation indicated that they placed a “high priority on weed control within all highway rights-of-way”. The department also stated that in 1999 a process was initiated “to involve the Fieldmen more directly in the weed control programs by allowing them, in urgent situations, to order work directly from highway maintenance contractors or to undertake weed control using their own forces. This process has been quite successful on a provincial basis”.

In 2010 a resolution was passed “**Resolution #4 - Alberta Transportation Roadside Weed Control**” that requested “Alberta Transportation review their current weed control program to ensure the effectiveness of the program and give consideration to an increase in the current width of ditch that is sprayed as well as implementing a monitoring and assessment program to ensure that severe populations are dealt with proactively not reactively.” Alberta Transportations (AT) response indicated that it was working with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development to increase the effectiveness of its weed control program and the knowledge of the field staff. It also indicated that is establishing standards for a province-wide integrated invasive species management program. The information gathered by the maintenance contract inspectors and other Alberta Transportation staff will be incorporated into Alberta's Pest Surveillance System as well as Alberta Transportation's internal tracking systems, which will allow effective herbicide application and rotation.

Today there is no consistency in regards to how weed control work is done. Individual highway maintenance contractors have their own way of dealing with weed control and mowing. Some municipalities are indicating they have service agreements in place with AT others are saying that service agreements are “sort of” in place in that those agreements are in reality with the contractor and others are told no service agreements are allowed and the municipality would have to be a sub-contractor. In the County of Paintearth No. 18 we previously had Service Agreements with AT, but after a new maintenance contractor was awarded our district Service Agreements were no longer allowed and meeting with the maintenance contractor were told that any work the municipality wanted to do would have to be as a sub-contractor through them.

Most municipalities would prefer to be the prime contractor of any weed control work that they agree to do rather than being required to be a sub-contractor for the highway maintenance contractor. Some districts require the municipality to be the sub-contractor, which adds another cost (usually in the form of an Administration Fee by the contractor) to the province which is not needed, and some municipalities by policy are not allowed to be sub-contractors.

Attached to this background is a memo from the Alberta Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction Association that stated what specific changes would occur for the 2015/16 Highway Maintenance Budget. In that memo it stated weed notices would be required to do any weed control work. Some areas of the Province were told in order to get weed control work done a weed notice would need to be issued while others were told that was not required? Enforcement on the Weed Act is dealt with in different ways across the province, but in general enforcement depends on the seriousness of the infestation and should not require a notice for every occurrence.

In 2005/06 \$2.9 million was spent on weed control and in 2004/05 another \$4 million on mowing according to AT. If we were to assume a 2% inflation increase to those budgets each year the estimated weed control budget would have been \$3.53 million and \$4.97 million for mowing in 2015 before the cuts.

Weed populations that are not addressed early will require costly ongoing control efforts. For example, spotted knapweed was introduced to Montana in the 1920s, and by 1988, had infested more than 4.7 million acres. The economic impact is approximately \$42 million annually. Development and implementation of roadside management plans requires stable funding to keep costs down over time. If we continue to reduce the amount of vegetation control work within them what will the final price be for that and how will that impact our neighbours who may not have some of these invasive plants that our Province does? In 2015 “**Resolution 14- Additional Funding for Municipalities dealing with Prohibited Noxious Weeds that come from Outside the Province of Alberta**” was passed just for that reason.

Right-of-ways are a pathway for invasive plants to spread to our agricultural, forestry, water bodies, and recreational lands. The impacts of invasive plants to all natural resource sectors of the economy are being felt across the nation. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) estimates that of the 485 invasive plant species in Canada, invasive plants in crops and pastures alone cost approximately \$2.2 billion every year. The CFIA classifies 94 invasive species as agricultural or forest pests and estimates that these regulated species cost the Canadian economy \$7.5 billion annually. The recreational economic impact is harder to quantify, but Canadians spend approximately \$11 billion on nature-related activities in a single year. Invasive plants have the potential to endanger the value of Canada’s protected areas by compromising their natural integrity and diminishing their quality.

A consistent province-wide invasive plant management budget is needed for Alberta’s highways.

AGRICULTURAL OPPORTUNITY FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND FORAGE ASSOCIATIONS

WHEREAS: The continuing staffing decline in both provincial and federal government employees has resulted in the Agricultural Research and Forage Associations becoming the primary source of unbiased information for agricultural producers throughout the Province;

WHEREAS: Many Research and Forage Associations lack adequate staff to assist with important government initiatives such as pest monitoring without jeopardizing research integrity;

WHEREAS: Many of the Agricultural Research and Forage Associations are unable to enact long term research and demonstration programs or develop a capital asset replacement strategy at the current levels of funding provided by the Province;

WHEREAS: Many Research and Forage Associations expend a large portion of staff resources seeking funding vs performing program operations;

WHEREAS: In March 2014, Agriculture Minister Verlyn Olson announced that the Agricultural Opportunity Fund grant amount had been increased by \$2.5 million and Research and Forage Associations could proceed with program expansion;

WHEREAS: In January 2015 the \$2.5 million increase in funding was suddenly revoked.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta Agriculture and Forestry reinstate the 2014 Agricultural Opportunity Fund increase that was allocated for the Agricultural Research and Forage Associations.

SPONSORED BY: Municipal District of Greenview No. 16

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: _____

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

Background information

"We need to ensure this province's rural and resource communities have the tools they need to keep contributing to the prosperity of Alberta." A quote from Premier Notley's election platform

ARAs and FAs are one of the essential tools used by our agricultural producers. If we can provide unbiased data that assists an agricultural producer increase his yield by 5% and reduce his inputs by 5% his net profitability can increase by up to 60%. If that same producer can improve his marketing skills and increase his returns at the elevator by 5% he can double his profit. With today's tight margins, 5% is a BIG deal even though it is so small you cannot see a visual difference in the field.

The Agricultural Opportunity Fund was created in 2002 to provide program funding for both Research and Forage Associations. Prior to its inception, the Government of Alberta provided core funding to Research and Forage Associations. In 2007 a resolution was put forward at the Agricultural Service Board conference requesting that Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development establish a consistent level of core funding to Agricultural Research and Forage Associations. They responded that AOF is program based and as such does not provide core funding but encouraged delivery of programs that were consistent with the goals of AOF. Starting in the 2006/2007 year, "AOF provided 3 year funding to ARAs and FAs who delivered the programs as described in their application." Alberta Agriculture and Food (AF) continue to support provincial coordination and collaboration of ARAs and FAs by funding the Agriculture Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA). AF provided \$1.5 million to ARECA in September 2006 to distribute to their members for improvements to the capital infrastructure of each association. In addition, program funding flows to ARAs and FAs through the Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Program (AESAP). In September 2006, \$700,000 was made available to ARECA to manage through an application process for additional environmentally sustainable agriculture programs".

For ARAs and FAs to provide quality data and service they need to hire and retain highly qualified staff. Attracting employees to rural Alberta and retaining them requires an assurance of full-time employment and a competitive salary. With government grants being one of the main sources of revenue, it is imperative that they are reflective of rising costs.

CLIMATE STATIONS

- WHEREAS:** Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) crop insurance and farm income disaster assistance is based on the data collected from the nearest approved weather station;
- WHEREAS:** The locations of the weather stations that Agro Climatic Information Service (ACIS) collects data from are not consistently located geographically or reflecting microclimate areas;
- WHEREAS:** Producers are dealing with microclimates that AFSC insurance programs do not have accurate information on;
- WHEREAS:** Producers are situated too far from a weather station for the data to be precise when dealing with AFSC crop insurance and farm income disaster assistance;
- WHEREAS:** The adjusters doing the investigation are not left with the final say on the relevancy of the data of the nearest weather station.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta Agriculture and Forestry increase the amount of weather stations in a geographically consistent manner in the agricultural areas to ensure accuracy of weather data used by Agriculture Financial Services Corporation and other departments.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and Agriculture Financial Services Corporation give authority to the adjusters to modify the data when the adjuster is of the opinion that the claimant is in a microclimate that is different from the closest weather station for the crop insurance and farm income disaster assistance claim purposes until all additional weather stations are operational.

SPONSORED BY: Northern Sunrise County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

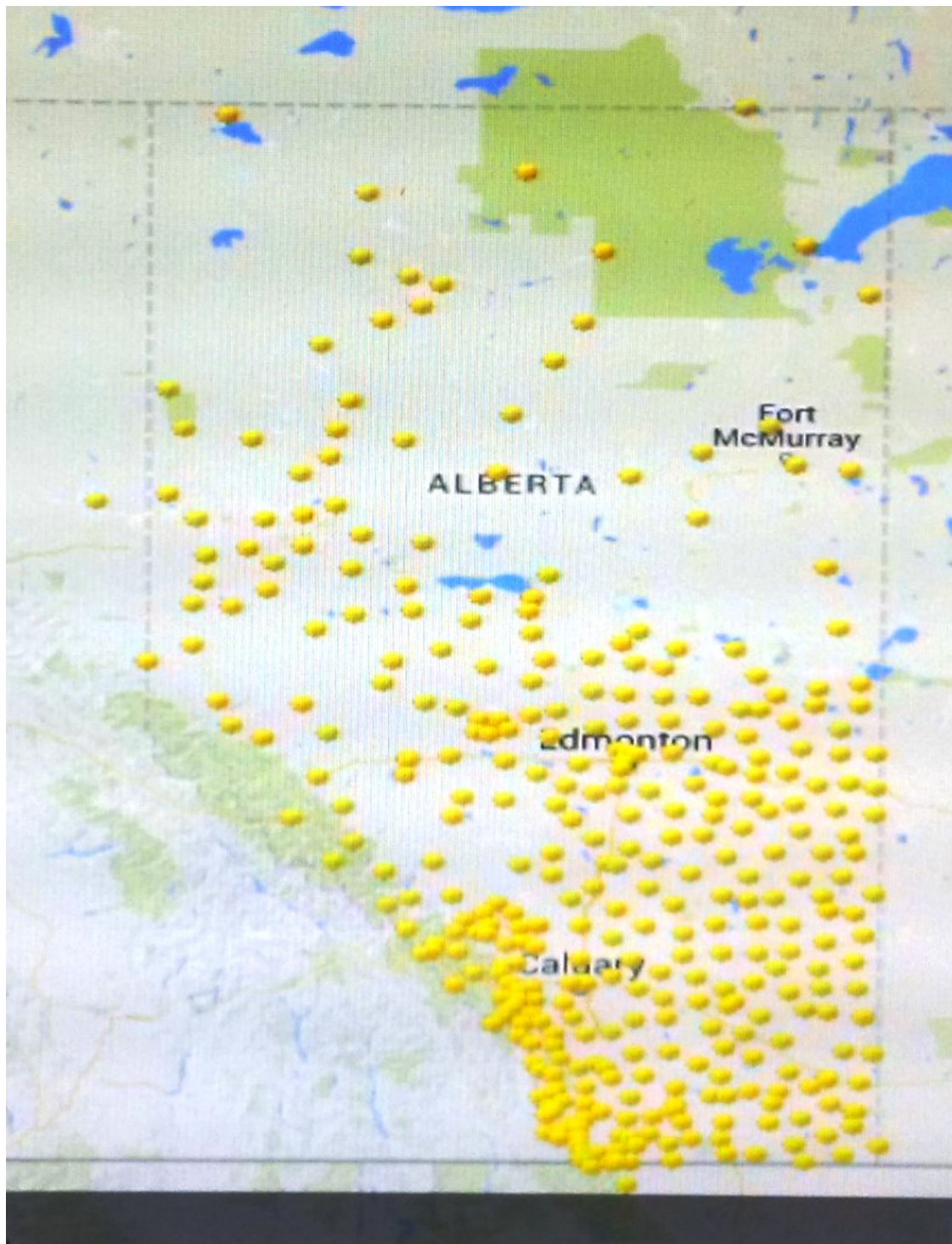
DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: _____

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Agriculture Financial Services Corporation

Background information

Locations of ACIS weather stations across the province



Provincial Location of Weather Station

Area	South	Central	North East	North West	Peace	Total
Wether Stations (WS)	83	38	45	34	34	234
Cultivated Land Acres	7,610,573	5,830,737	4,034,758	2,811,511	3,708,794	23,996,373
Provincial % of Cult. Acres	32%	24%	17%	12%	15%	100%
Cult. Acres / Station	91,694	153,440	89,661	82,692	109,082	102,549
Agricultural land Acres	19,369,995	10,954,021	7,995,296	5,318,152	6,725,414	50,362,878
Provincial % of Ag land Acres	38%	22%	16%	11%	13%	100%
Ag Acres / Stations	233,373	288,264	177,673	156,416	197,806	215,226
All land acres	25,055,278	18,660,622	14,899,059	20,982,978	58,811,214	163,546,203
Provincial % of Acres	15%	11%	9%	13%	36%	85%
Acres /Stations	301,871	491,069	331,090	617,146	1,729,742	698,915
% Provincial station total	35%	16%	19%	15%	15%	100%
Average distance between WS	< 20	30	37	37	>37	27
Average longest distance to WS (km)	25	25	25	25	>30	21
Longest distance to WS (km)	37	37	>50	>50	>50	26

Calculation based on data from the AFSC website info and 2011 agricultural data from Stats Canada

Distance observations using AFSC map and attached legend

COMPENSATION FOR COYOTE DEPREDATION

WHEREAS: Coyotes are currently regulated under the *Alberta Agricultural Pest Act* and Alberta is the only province in Canada to not include coyotes as part of the predatory compensation program;

WHEREAS: Wildlife predator compensation is paid for livestock depredation by wolves, grizzly bears, black bears, cougars and eagles;

WHEREAS: Coyotes also cause considerable damage to livestock resulting in 65% of Alberta's beef producers having an economic impact from coyote damage;

WHEREAS: Adding coyotes to the Alberta Wildlife Regulation would allow producers to claim compensation for livestock depredation caused by this species.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Minister of Environment and Parks add coyotes to the compensation list as a predator under the Alberta Wildlife Regulation paying the same level of compensation for depredation that is paid for livestock death and injury from wolves, grizzly bears, black bears, cougars and eagles.

SPONSORED BY: County of Northern Lights

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: _____

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Environment and Parks

Background information:

Currently coyotes are listed under the Agricultural Pest Act which offers producers assistance through Form 7 and 8 under the Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation, also listing them under the Wildlife Act would allow livestock producers to seek out compensation for death or injury to livestock caused by coyotes. Alberta is the only province to not include coyotes as part of the predatory compensation program. The report "Impact of Wildlife to Beef Producers in Alberta", by the Miistakis Institute in 2015, showed that 65% of Alberta beef producers are impacted by coyote predation. And in Saskatchewan over the last 3 years coyotes depredation accounted for 80-88% of claims for livestock losses. Table 1a-c offers a look at predator claims from 1975-1981^{1, 2} and Table 2: Predators Compensation Programs in Western Canada offers a comparison between Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

Table 1a. Damage claims for predator inflicted losses of Alberta livestock.

Species	1975**	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	TOTAL
Coyote	221	160	198	274	214	315	295	1677
Wolf	106	79	139	94	91	93	86	688
Bear	79	42	90	56	59	40	63	429
Others*	35	48	40	40	52	58	62	335
TOTAL	441	329	467	464	416	506	506	3129

* Includes feral dogs, cougar, mink, weasel, hawks, owls, etc.

** Includes retroactive claims for 1973 and 1974.

Table 1b. Alberta predator loss indemnity program 1973-80.**

Species	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Swine	Poultry	TOTAL
Coyotes	66	795	8,142	86	4,213	13,302
Bears	371	1,026	165	158	283	2,003
Wolves	689	1,277	188	28	62	2,244
Others*	51	113	462	39	8,383	9,048
TOTAL	1,177	3,211	8,957	311	12,941	26,597

* Includes feral dogs, cougar, mink, weasel, hawks, owls, etc.

** Includes only those losses validated by Gov't investigators.

Table 1c. Compensation for predator inflicted livestock losses (\$,000) in Alberta

Species	1975**	1976	1977	1978	1979***	1980	1981	TOTAL
Coyote	39.5	36.9	41.2	80	107.3	138.3	123.4	566.6
Wolf	43.3	29.8	45.2	52.4	85.1	49.1	56.7	361.6
Bear	24.4	25.3	44.4	32.1	58.2	40.7	43.4	268.5
Others*	6	5	8.2	13	20.1	32.3	28.7	113.3
TOTAL	113.2	97	139	177.5	270.7	260.4	252.2	1,310.00

* Includes feral dogs, cougar, mink, weasel, hawks, owls, etc.

** Includes retroactive payment for 1973 and 1974 loss claims.

*** Adjustment for increased livestock market values.

A comparison of the predator compensation programs in Western Canada is shown in Table 1 (from Tracey Lee. A Review of Compensation Programs for Livestock in Southwestern Alberta. 2011.).

¹ Gurba, Joseph. Compensation for Vertebrate Pest Damage. 1982 <<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/vpc10/18/>>

² It is estimated that several times the amount of predator loss of livestock goes undetected or cannot be proven and validated to the satisfaction of government officers (Gurba, 93))

Table 2: Comparison of Predator Compensation Programs

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	Saskatchewan
Who runs the program	Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development	Business Risk Management Branch, BC Ministry of Agriculture	Manitoba Agriculture Services Corporation	Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation
Funding	Alberta Conservation Association through a levy on hunting and angling licenses	60% Federal Government, 40% Provincial Government	60% Federal Government, 40% Provincial Government	60% Federal Government, 40% Provincial Government, up to 80% of livestock value. Beyond 80% is covered by the province.
Compensation for livestock predation	100% value (minimum for cattle is \$400)	75% value (minimum \$300)	80% value	100% value (minimum for cattle \$400)
Compensation for suspected predation	50% value	None	40% value	50% value
Compensation for livestock injury	100% animal value for veterinary costs	75% animal value for veterinary costs	80% animal value for veterinary costs	80% animal value for veterinary costs
Value based on	Highest of the Can Fax price for the week before, the week of, and week after the loss. For calves producers can choose to wait for the Can Fax October price for fall weight 550 lbs.	Can Fax price at time of loss (minimum for calf \$400).	Can Fax price at time of loss.	Highest of the market sales for the week before, the week of, and week after the loss (minimum for calf is \$400).
Eligible livestock	Cattle, sheep, goats, swine, bison	Cattle	Cattle, horse, sheep, hogs, wild boars, goats, elk, fallow deer, bison, llamas, donkeys, ostriches, emus and other ratites	Cattle, sheep, goats, bison, horses, hogs (excluding wild boar), elk, fallow deer, llamas, donkey, ostrich, emu, ducks, geese, chickens, turkeys
Eligible predator	Bear, cougar, eagle, wolf	Bear, coyote, cougar, wolf	Bear, cougar, coyote, fox, wolf	Coyote, cougar, lynx, fox, wolf, eagle, birds of prey, scavenging birds, raccoon, skunk, badger, mink, weasel, any other wild animal that causes injury or death to eligible livestock.

HAY INSURANCE PROGRAM

- WHEREAS:** Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) crop insurance and farm income disaster assistance is based on the annual yields by crop type;
- WHEREAS:** Currently, there is no adjustment for hay quality;
- WHEREAS:** Moisture Deficiency Insurance (MDI) is an area-based program which provides coverage on pasture using precipitation information from weather stations and spring soil moisture estimates to reflect moisture conditions across the province;
- WHEREAS:** Feed barley is used as the proxy crop for hay to determine the Variable Price Benefit (VPB) trigger;
- WHEREAS:** The Fall Market Price of feed barley reported for the Edmonton Region must increase by at least 10 per cent above the production insurance spring price for barley, for the VPB to trigger;
- WHEREAS:** The indemnities are paid using the increased price up to a maximum increase of 50 per cent, and producers are absorbing additional costs over 50%;
- WHEREAS:** Producers are left absorbing the cost of feed supplements when it comes to poor hay and pasture quality as well as the trucking cost when it comes to purchasing hay during the droughts and other agricultural disasters.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta Agriculture and Forestry update the Hay and Pasture Insurance Program to accurately cover the impact of the market fluctuation on hay production for livestock producers based on hay commodities. Amendments need to include removing the 50% price cap on the VPB, assistance to cover the cost of feed supplements due to poor quality as well as trucking costs due to insufficient quantity of feed.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and Agriculture Financial Services Corporation give authority to the adjusters to modify the amount when the adjuster is of the opinion that the livestock producer is facing additional expenditures that are directly linked to poor hay and pasture yields.

SPONSORED BY: Northern Sunrise County

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: _____

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Agriculture Financial Services Corporation

Background information

Data collected from Northern Sunrise County producers

Some producers suffered from lack of precipitation and an increase pressure from flea beetles, cutworms, and grasshoppers which left them experiencing an increase of expenditures with less than average to no yield production to offset those cost. Grasshoppers in those specific areas averaged 3 times above the economic threshold indicated and as high as 5 times, even after control measures were implemented. Hay yield averages are down by 73% from last year and cattle producers are anticipating selling more than 24% of their breeding stock. Cost of hay increased up to four fold while the pasture sustained around 50% of the average grazing period or herd size in affected areas.

Excerpt from the AFSC website.

Overview

AFSC offers insurance for both dryland and irrigated hay and provides a production guarantee based on the average of historical yields and coverage option selected. When hay production (harvested and appraised) falls below the guarantee, and the loss is due to an insured peril, the shortfall amount will be paid at the selected price option.

Hay Insurance does not compensate for quality loss. The Variable Price Benefit (VPB) is included with Hay Insurance and is triggered when the fall market price for barley increases by at least 10 per cent above the spring insurance price for barley and the client suffers a production loss. For details on VPB, see page 4.

Moisture Deficiency Endorsement (MDE) is an option available for purchase with Hay insurance. See MDE information starting on page 8.

Designated Perils

Only yield losses due to the following designated perils are covered under Hay Insurance policies:

- drought on dryland crops
- excessive moisture
- flood
- fire by lightning (in field only, not stacked, baled or in yard)
- frost
- hail
- insect infestations
- plant disease
- Richardson ground squirrel (gopher)
- snow
- waterfowl and wildlife
- wind
- winterkill

Winterkill Provision

Clients must have an active insurance policy for the acres that are damaged in the year the claim is requested and must have insured these acres in the previous year. Acres cannot have more than five years of production for alfalfa and legumes, and no more than eight years of production for grass.

Price

Hay insurance offers four prices based on forecasted market prices for the year that allow clients to customize their insurance.

Variable Price Benefit (VPB)

Hay Insurance includes VPB. This feature compensates the client when the client has a production shortfall below their insurance coverage and the price of feed barley increases by at least ten per cent during the growing season. As hay is a difficult commodity to price accurately, feed barley is used as the proxy crop for hay to determine the VPB trigger. The Fall Market Price of feed barley reported for the Edmonton Region must increase by at least 10 per cent above the production insurance spring price for barley, for the VPB to trigger. This is calculated by averaging the weekly feed barley price for the Edmonton Region reported by Alberta Canola Producers Commission during the month of October, expressed in \$/kg. The indemnities are paid using the increased price up to a maximum increase of 50 per cent.

Premium and Cost Sharing

Federal and provincial governments support AgrilInsurance programs, including Hay Insurance, by paying all administration expenses and sharing premium costs with clients. Premium rates are set annually based on historical losses and reflect the likelihood of future production losses. Premium rates vary by crop type, Risk Area, and coverage option. The client's premium is calculated by multiplying the dollar coverage by the client's share of the premium rate and applying any applicable premium adjustments.

Indemnity

To qualify, total production for all hay types must fall below the total coverage. There is no adjustment for hay quality. An indemnity is calculated separately for dryland and irrigated hay and losses are not offset for claim calculations.

Pasture Insurance

Overview

Moisture Deficiency Insurance (MDI) is an area-based program which provides coverage on pasture. This program uses precipitation information from weather stations and spring soil moisture estimates to reflect moisture conditions across the province. MDI losses are paid when accumulated precipitation at a selected weather station(s) in a given year falls below the normal expected precipitation for that weather station according to Payment Schedule A and B (page 18). MDI is not based on actual pasture production and conditions on insured fields may not reflect conditions at selected weather stations.

Designated Perils

Lack of moisture at the selected weather station(s) is the only peril insured.

Prices

MDI has four prices based upon a forecast of hay market prices for the year, allowing clients to customize their insurance.

Variable Price Benefit (VPB)

The VPB is automatically included in MDI and increases the dollar coverage if there has been a significant increase in the cost of replacement feed during the growing season. However, MDI only pays if the measured precipitation at the selected weather station(s) for the current year is less than the long term average. Feed barley is used as the proxy crop for MDI to determine the VPB trigger as pasture is a difficult commodity to price accurately.

REINSTATE PROVINCIAL FUNDING FOR THE CANADA AND ALBERTA BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (BSE) SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS: Since 2007, Canada has been recognized by the OIE (World Organization for Animal Health) as a controlled BSE risk country

WHEREAS: Canada may be at risk of losing its status as a controlled BSE risk country due to tested numbers not meeting the 30,000 animal annual requirement set by OIE

WHEREAS: If Canada does not meet these requirements, we may fall into the negligible BSE risk category where OIE and trading partners may close borders to Canadian cattle. International perception on the change in risk status may negatively impact our sound beef export market.

WHEREAS: By reinstating Provincial funding, it will encourage more producers to participate in the BSE program realizing our target

WHEREAS: On September 15, 2011 the province decided to discontinue the \$150 incentive given to producers to allow sampling their animals and for maintaining control of the carcass pending test results

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta Agriculture and Forestry reinstate the \$150.00 incentive given to producers for participating in the BSE program.

SPONSORED BY: M.D. of Bonnyville

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

Background

Current Program:

Reimbursement for Producers

Eligible producers are reimbursed \$75 for each eligible animal. Reimbursement to producers under the CABSESP is performed to offset the costs to have an animal assessed for eligibility, sampled if eligible, and to retain control of the carcass until a negative BSE test result is available.

Overview of the Canada and Alberta BSE Surveillance Program

History

In 2004, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) announced that Canada required increasing its testing for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in order to meet national and international animal health standards, to assure food safety and to guarantee market access for our cattle and meat products in international markets.

On September 10, 2004, CFIA and Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) jointly announced the creation of the Canada and Alberta BSE Surveillance Program (CABSESP) which focuses on animal surveillance categories with higher-risk to be more likely affected by the disease. This program rapidly became the pillar for BSE surveillance in Alberta and a role model for the rest of Canada and the world.

During the Fall of 2007, the Food Safety and Animal Health Division (FSAHD) of Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) initiated a review of the CABSESP. Three main objectives were identified: 1) to detect gaps and inefficiencies within the administration and in the delivery of the program; 2) to improve the quality, accuracy and auditability of data, and 3) to adapt to the new guidelines established by the World Animal Health Organization (OIE) on BSE surveillance. A number of issues were detected and solutions were proposed to increase the administrative efficiency, reduce internal costs and expedite the data flow process. As a result, a series of internal changes were performed and a new program conditions document was produced defining new eligibility criteria for the CABSESP. A Veterinary Certification Program was also created to improve the quality and accuracy of data, as well as to assure that the program conditions were properly delivered.

On July 1, 2008 the new program conditions came into effect clearly defining the eligibility of producers, cattle and samples. Sampling on provincial abattoirs was eliminated. The biggest change after July 1, 2008 is represented by targeting high risk individuals, those animals whose age ranges from 30 to 107 months, which, according to science-based risk assessments, are the most likely to develop BSE.

After July 1, 2008, age verification became a challenge for certified veterinarians, since age verification by dentition was a requirement for animals from 30 to 59 months of age and proper documentation/records to verify age was a requirement for eligibility on animals 60 to 107 months. It was estimated that these changes would result in a reduction in sampling numbers of about 50%, without affecting the number of OIE points produced by Alberta, and creating significant savings for taxpayers. However, analysis conducted by the CABSESP revealed that sampling numbers were reduced more than expected. As a result, a series of surveys were conducted by the CABSESP to determine the contributing factors of this reduction. One of the major issues was the lack of proper farm records to age verify animals from 60 to 107 months, but other factors such as reduced cattle inventories, increased cull cow market prices and animals remaining longer in pasture, were also contributing factors.

Recent Changes to the CABSESP

As of November 1, 2012, the Canada and Alberta BSE Surveillance Program (CABSESP) is once again accepting all high risk cattle (down, diseased, dying or dead) older than 30 months, without any upper age limit. Also, the restriction for possession of animals for at least 30 days has been eliminated. Therefore, the CABSESP now accepts animals *30 months of age and older that are legally possessed by Alberta's farmers* falling into any of the high risk categories. The other eligibility criteria for the high risk categories remain the same.

On May 2012, the CABSESP started sampling in rendering facilities using CFIA inspectors.

On September 15, 2011 the province decided to discontinue the \$150 incentive given to producers to allow sampling their animals and for maintaining control of the carcass pending test results. Alberta producers are now receiving \$75 from the federal government (CFIA). The province continues administering the program and testing samples for BSE in the TSE Edmonton laboratory.

During early spring 2011, group cases were defined as three or more animals dying over a period of 30 days due to obvious causes, or management-associated reasons. Also, assessment for eligibility and sample collection was allowed for veterinarians on cattle owned by relatives or by business associates. Excluded in this rule are the spouse, independently of the form of cattle's ownership, as well as minor children whose parents are either the collecting veterinarian, or the spouse.

Other changes to the CABSESP as of December 2009 included accepting neurological animals of any age that are older than 30 months, post calving and post surgical cases without waiting period and, dead cases when the postmortem is not feasible to perform due to the carcass being frozen-solid, decomposed or scavenged. These cases require a good history and a brainstem sample that is in good condition and meets the eligibility criteria.

On January 26, 2009 the CABSESP-program conditions were changed to allow certified veterinarians to determine age on eligible animals using dentition in those cases where there were no farm records available. The CABSESP developed a dentition guideline to be used in those cases when there are no accurate farm records, ear tags, or tattoos to confirm age.

The World Animal Health (OIE) Point System

The changes to the CABSESP respond to the need for Canada to meet the OIE requirements in BSE surveillance and to improve and increase its efficiency. The OIE implemented a point system to assess the quality of BSE surveillance conducted by member countries. In this manner, and together with testing a significant yearly number, each country also needs to earn certain number of points over a period of time. Each collected sample is assigned a point value based on the subpopulation (category) where the sampled animal came from, its age and the animal's history and clinical data. For example, a 4-year old animal exhibiting neurological signs consistent with BSE would be assigned the highest value (1.741 points); while healthy yearlings sampled at routine slaughter are much less valuable from a BSE surveillance perspective with a value of no more than 0.01 points. Since samples from a clinical suspect animal are worth more than samples from healthy animals, or those dead of unknown causes, the quality and detail of the clinical history/signs and the determination of the real age is extremely important.

Clinical Information

To accomplish the OIE requirements in terms of more and better clinical data, two steps have been performed: 1) creation of new BSE Applications Forms that reflect the changes to the program and, 2) creation of the Veterinary Certification Program. The new forms request detailed animal information, means by which age verification is assessed and more intensive and detailed clinical and postmortem information. The use of digital pictures is recommended for veterinarians to back up their assessments, specially in those cases where there is some doubt on the diagnosis. In face of these requirements, only licensed veterinarians are allowed to participate in the program when farm visits are required.

Veterinarians In the Program

The CABSESP is executed through a network of certified veterinarians licensed in Alberta, who visit the farm on the producer's request, examine the animals to determine its eligibility, perform a clinical examination on live animals, a postmortem on dead cases (with the exceptions described previously), and determine the eligibility of the animal for the program. If eligible, the brainstem is collected and delivered, together with the appropriate information to the laboratory. Collection and delivery of the sample has to be done as soon as possible, avoiding accumulation of samples for more than 2 days in the spring/summer/fall seasons, or for more than a week during winter time. The veterinarian is also responsible for communicating the laboratory results to the producer within 24 hours of receiving them, to allow for proper disposal of the carcass.

The program offers reimbursements to: 1) producers for their participation in the program by holding and securing the carcasses pending test results; and, 2) veterinarians for delivery of professional services, sample collection, delivery and provision of meaningful clinical and surveillance information. Samples are to be submitted either to the CFIA-Lethbridge laboratory, if the farm is located south of Innisfield, or to the ARD-Edmonton laboratory, if the farm is located north of Innisfield.

These practitioners visit the farm at the producer's request,

- Veterinarians currently participating in the program: 277
 - Veterinary clinics participating in the program: 150
 - Total veterinarians certified since 2008: 515
- For more information, please visit the BSE web page from the CFIA.

The Veterinary Certification Program

The Veterinary Certification Program was created by the administration of the CABSESP in May 2008 to improve the knowledge and understanding of veterinarians in the program and to implement a consistent approach for eligibility among veterinarians in the province. The veterinary community responded to this proposal by registering almost 300 large and mixed animal practitioners licensed in Alberta. Twelve certification sessions were delivered by the CABSESP during the summer of 2008 in different cities of the province. The certification sessions involve general information on BSE, detailed explanation on the OIE point system, a deep description of the CABSESP's program conditions, understanding the veterinarian's roles and responsibilities as described in the *Manual for Certified Veterinarians* and discussion of different case scenarios. Veterinarians are required to attend annual re-certification updates via teleconference or webinar to retain their certification status. Subsequent updates are performed every time

a change has implemented to the program, and this assures that certified veterinarians are current on the latest version of the program conditions.

The Investigations Branch of the Regulatory Services Division of ARD conducts regular audits and verification on producers and veterinarians to confirm or find more information on certain cases.

The Manual for Interpretation and Guidelines for Certified Veterinarians produced by the CABSESP is a reference document for certified veterinarians. Licensed veterinarians wishing to be certified may contact the CABSESP at 780-644-2148 to inquire for the date of the next certification session.

In 2013 the CABSESP in coordination with the University of Calgary-School of Veterinary Medicine, initiated an on-campus pre-certification session for third year veterinary students. In this session students attend the classroom component and a wet lab in a similar fashion as if they were participating in the regular certification sessions. When students graduate and receive a registration number for the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, they are allowed to apply to the CABSESP to become BSE certified.

Recommendations for Producers

Producers are asked to give certified veterinarians access to farm records if they need to verify the age, history and other relevant information. Also, personal and/or business information must be provided in the BSE application form in order to process payments. If a producer has a farm registered as a business, he/she must give the commercial name as it appears in the corporate registry list. If a producer is not frequently present on farm, he/she must give written authorization to one or more people who are frequently there, in order to sign on his/her behalf. For copies of the Letter of Authorization, please visit the Canada-Alberta BSE Surveillance Program.

If in partnership, partners must provide the name of the person who is to receive the cheques. Before signing either application form (Non submission form, General Information Form), the producer should read the CABSESP program conditions to make sure that he/she understands the eligibility criteria, rights and responsibilities.

One of the causes for payment delays to producers corresponds to the incomplete producer information on the BSE application form. This causes pre-verification personnel at the TSE Unit to initiate a chase for missing data, sometimes with negative results. BSE applications, where missing information is not collected within a 90-day period after being received at AARD, may be cancelled. It is recommended that producers provide complete information at the time of sampling to reduce delays and cancellation of BSE applications.

Producers who think they have an eligible animal are advised to call their local veterinary clinic and ask for a CABSESP's certified veterinarian. Also, producers who would like to get copies of the National BSE Surveillance program, or the CABSESP's program conditions, or to search the world wide web to locate the closest certified veterinarian.

Program Insights

- New graduates in veterinary medicine, as well as other veterinarians moving to Alberta are participating in two certification sessions scheduled each year.
- The TSE Unit is in charge of receiving application forms, entering data into the system, pre-verifying information, auditing, controlling and making sure that the forms are complete to trigger payments.

- Mapping and reporting is done with Cognos, a program that allows determination of sample distribution, follow trends in animal type, target animal category, exact location of farms, as well as performance of veterinarians in the CABSESP.
- The CABSESP team lead by Dr. Herman Ortega, received the Alberta Agriculture Performance of Excellence (AAPEX) Silver Award, which is one of the highest recognitions given by AARD for outstanding team work.
- The dynamics of the program allow participating veterinarians to provide input regarding specific conditions, to confirm or eliminate them as eligible and to tune in details of the program.
- The number of compliance issues and audits on veterinarians fell dramatically after the July 1st 2008's changes, demonstrating that these issues were clearly identified and that proper solutions were implemented.
- The application forms corresponding to samples tested in the ADRI lab in Lethbridge, are now being entered daily into the system by the TSE Unit in Edmonton.

BSE Enhanced Surveillance Program

Canada implemented a national bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) surveillance program in 1992. In 2003, the Government announced that the number of annual BSE samples tested through this program would be increased. The level and design of BSE testing in Canada has always been, and continues to be, in full accordance with the guidelines recommended by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

Surveillance is one of many BSE-related actions Canada has implemented to manage BSE. The program tests a sample of animals from the national cattle herd and focuses on higher-risk animals that are most likely to be affected by the disease. The surveillance program's objectives are to determine and monitor the level of BSE present in Canada and to confirm the effectiveness of the suite of measures Canada has implemented to protect human and animal health from the disease.

- Canada's Protocols for BSE Surveillance
- National BSE Surveillance Reimbursement Program
- BSE Surveillance: Maintaining confidence in Canadian beef

Sample Status and Testing Results

Updated monthly. Last updated 2015-07-31

No validated live animal test for BSE currently exists. Accordingly, testing for BSE can only be done on the brains of dead animals. Brain samples are screened using rapid tests that accurately and quickly detect a BSE positive sample nearly 100% of the time. Rapid tests can, in rare cases, react when a sample is not infected with BSE. These are known as "inconclusive" results. All samples that yield inconclusive results using a rapid test are sent to the CFIA Laboratory in Lethbridge, Alberta for confirmatory testing.

2015

Month	<u>Samples Tested</u>	<u>Negative</u>
July	1823	1823
June	2041	2041
May	1915	1915
April	3008	3008
March	2763	2763
February	2242	2241
January	2902	2902
Year to date	16694	16693

Previous Years

Year	<u>Samples Tested</u>	<u>Negative</u>
2014	27604	27604
2013	31021	31021
2012	27371	27371
2011	33458	33457

**M.D. of Greenview Agricultural Services
Department Activity Report**

For the Period: Nov 26, 2015 – Jan 14, 2016

ENQUIRIES – Manager, Asst. Manager, Administrative Assistant and Ag. Supervisor Trainee

Weeds	1
Pests	56
Trees	2
Workshops	0
Rentals	17
Equipment Purchasing	20
Extension	0
employment	1
VSI	11
Miscellaneous	45
TOTAL ENQUIRIES	72

MEETINGS / CONFERENCES / TRAINING

Manager

- Nov 30-Dec 4, 2015 – AAAF In Service Training, Edmonton
- Dec 10-11, 2015 – Ice Rescue Technician Training, Edmonton
- Jan 7-9, 2016 – Alberta Trapper Association Course, Standard Fur Management and Conservation Course – Trapper Gord

Asst. Manager Agriculture Services

- Nov 30-Dec 4, 2015 – AAAF In Service Training, Edmonton
- Dec 8-10, 2015 – Soil Health Conference
- Jan 7-9, 2016 – Alberta Trapper Association Course, Standard Fur Management and Conservation Course – Trapper Gord

Agriculture Supervisor Trainee Agriculture Services

- Nov 30-Dec 4, 2015 – AAAF In Service Training, Edmonton
- Dec 16, 2015 – Administration Workshop
- Dec 17, 2015 – Health and Safety Meeting - Building Inspections
- Jan 11, 2016 – Planning Meeting (SARDA) - Falher

STAFFING

All seasonal staff are finished as of Nov. 27, 2015.

RESOURCES, EQUIPMENT, AND FACILITIES

- Spent the equivalent of 6 days gathering supplies and equipment for the Livestock Emergency Response Trailers, and putting the supplies and equipment into the trailers.

BUDGET

Operational and Capital budget will be presented to Council on January 12, 2016

EXTENSION EVENTS

Looking at doing a survey to see what kinds of programs and services rate payers would be and are interested in for Agriculture Services

PROGRAMS➤ VETERINARY SERVICES INCORPORATED

V.S.I. listing has been updated and submitted to Jim Henderson of VSI as well as most partnering vet clinics.

➤ PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROLWOLF BOUNTY

2015 bounty year, 98 wolves have been presented for payment. Total 2015 incentive expenditures: \$29,400.00.

2016 to date, 15 wolves have been presented for payment. Total 2016 incentive expenditures: \$4,500.00.

Year	Number of Wolves	Amount
2012	70	21,000.00
2013	53	15,900.00
2014	48	14,400.00
2015	98	29,400.00
2016	15	4,500.00
	284	85,200.00

COYOTE PREDATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

There has been 2 new requests for assistance with coyote predation.

WILD BOAR BOUNTY

There have been 0 sets of Wild Boar ears turned in. Total 2015 incentive expenditures \$0.00.

➤ RENTAL EQUIPMENT

2015 TOTALS

Type	Valleyview	Crooked Creek	Grovedale
Earth mover 1000	8	3	
Pull Blade	9		
V-Ditcher	2		
Field Sprayer	28	6	4
Boomless Sprayer	13		
Estate Spray pull	5	5	
Quad Sprayer	18		
Back Pack Sprayer	2		
Water Tank Trailer			3
Hand Wick Appl	1		
Granular Pest Appl	4		
Manure Spreader	13		
Fertilizer Spreader	11		
Heavy Harrow	22		3
Land Roller	20		
Heavy Disc	30		5
Cattle Squeeze	10	3	2
Cattle Chute	17	15	3
Panel trailer	11		1
Tag Reader	3		
Quad Seeder	9		
Post Pounder	42.5	40.5	35
Bin Crane	17		
Water Pump/Pipe	9		
Survey Equip	1		
Metal detector	7		
Hay sampler	14		
Rodent Traps	4		
BBQ	16		
Picnic Tables	27		
Totals	373.5	72.5	56

Currently only two rentals (Metal Detector) and (cattle chute) from Valleyview for the 2016 year.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

2200 Km has been sprayed.

SPOT SPRAYING

3.0 Ha has been sprayed by back pack sprayer.

ATV / UTV SPRAYING

82.0 Ha has been sprayed.

BRUSH SPRAYING

400.0 Km (2900 Ha) have been sprayed.

➤ PESTICIDE CONTAINER STORAGE

Empty jugs are being collected in Valleyview, and the satellite containers at the transfer station sites (Sweathouse, Puskwaskau, New Fish Creek, and Debolt). First week of September Clean Farms contractor came and shredded the jugs.

➤ FENCELINE AND PRIVATE LAND SPRAY PROGRAMS

Component of the spot spraying program

➤ SPRAY EXEMPTION AGREEMENTS

➤ Deadline of April 28, 2016. 0 agreements signed this year.

➤ WEED CONTROL

The weed inspection program in Greenview has seen the following:

- 6112 inspections
- 979 properties with weeds
- 5 Notices sent
- 0 Enforcements

The weed inspection program in the Towns has seen the following:

- 1014 inspections in Valleyview
- 886 inspections in Fox Creek

➤ AGRICULTURAL PESTS

Received a call to investigate a possible rat siting. Turned out to be a northern bush rat (pack rat) which are native to AB, so no provincial rat management plan needed to be activated.

Have received calls regarding grasshoppers, club root, and various tree pests.

Grasshopper surveys have been completed:

50 fields inspected across municipality:

Average Field: 7.4 grass hoppers per m²

Average Roadside: 4.2 grass hoppers per m²

➤ SEED CLEANING PLANT

Update – in the process of collecting documents for the lawyers to help facilitate the process for the board of the seed cleaning cooperative

➤ VETERINARY CLINIC

Update – in the process of determining how to deal with the equipment that Greenview owns in the Veterinary Clinic that Greenview owns.

Beef Cattle Code of Practice Pain Management Requirements

by Stacy Pritchard

Starting January 1, 2016 the way we manage pain in our livestock is going to see some changes. The latest edition of the *Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Beef Cattle* was published in 2013 by Agriculture Canada following the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) guidelines. The NFACC uses a Code development process when producing the Codes of Practice (other Codes have been produced for Dairy, Poultry, Sheep etc). All of the NFACC Codes of Practice are available on their website (www.nfacc.ca).

When developing these Codes of Practice, NFACC has several goals:

- ◆ Link Codes with science
- ◆ Ensure transparency in the process
- ◆ Include broad representation from stakeholders
- ◆ Contribute to improvements in farm animal care
- ◆ Identify research priorities and encourage work in these priority areas
- ◆ Write clearly to ensure ease of reading, understanding and implementation
- ◆ Provide a document that is useful for all stakeholders

The NFACC Codes of Practice were developed with the animal in mind, and is outcome-based whenever possible. The Code is intended to achieve a balance between the best interests of the cattle, producers and consumers. There 2 terms used in the Code that need to be understood in order for the Code to be interpreted appropriately:

Requirements

These are regulatory requirements or an expectation of industry that outline acceptable and unacceptable practices. Requirements are to be implemented by everyone responsible for farm animal care. Requirements may also be enforceable under federal and provincial regulation.

Recommended Practices

The Code Recommended Practices typically complement the Code's Requirements, as well as promote education and encourage adoption of practices for ongoing improvement of animal welfare. It is important to note that Recommended Practices are expected to enhance animal welfare, but if they are not being implemented, it doesn't mean that animal care standards are not being met.

The following are 2 examples of Requirements in the Beef Cattle Code of Practice

Disbudding & Dehorning

Dehorning must be performed only by competent personnel using proper, well-maintained tools and accepted techniques.

Seek guidance from your veterinarian on the availability and advisability of pain control for disbudding or dehorning beef cattle.

Disbud calves as early as practically possible, while horn development is still at the horn bud stage (typically 2-3 months).

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1st, 2016

Use pain control, in consultation with your veterinarian to mitigate pain associated with dehorning calves after horn bud attachment.

Castration

Dehorning must be performed only by competent personnel using proper, clean, well-maintained tools and accepted techniques.

Seek guidance from your veterinarian on the optimum method and timing of castration, as well as the availability and advisability of pain control for castrating beef cattle.

Castrate calves as young as practically possible.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2016

Use pain control, in consultation with your veterinarian, when castrating bulls older than 9 months of age.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018

Use pain control, in consultation with your veterinarian, when castrating bulls older than 6 months of age.



Calf with horn buds

www.agcanada.com

Pain Management Requirements Continued

As you can see, implementation of pain management and pain mitigation will become a requirement under the Code of Practice. This has several implications for beef producers, and below we will discuss some of the options available for pain mitigation during these procedures.

Dr. Cody Creelman from Veterinary Agri-Health says that the most effective and practical way to manage pain during surgical castration is to use a combination of local anesthetic (lidocaine) and non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (meloxicam). An epidural will provide immediate pain relief of the scrotal skin, and a testicular block to desensitize the testicular cords, while the meloxicam will provide pain relief for 3 days afterwards.



Banding a bull upon entry at a feedlot. www.producer.com

Pain management when banding bulls is more difficult to manage, due to the nature of the procedure. The Band is applied, and approximately 3-6 weeks later, the scrotum sloughs off. Determining the best timing for the administering of pain control is difficult. However, the administration of meloxicam when the band is applied can help with pain control at the time of band application.

Meloxicam as an oral formulation from Solvet is the only product in Canada with a label claim for controlling castration pain. Meloxicam can also be found in an injectable form – Metacam. Injectable analgesics like ketoprofen (Anafen) and flunixin meglumine (Banamine) and meloxicam are longer-acting than anesthetics, providing pain relief up to 3 days after castration. There are other analgesics on label for use in beef cattle, although few have claims for pain control following castration, but because of their ability to control pain and swelling for other conditions they may provide some relief following castration. When using an anesthetic, it should ideally be injected 5-20 min prior to the procedure, and can provide pain relief for several hours after the procedure.

Dehorning is becoming a practice that is performed less and less due to the inclusion of polled genetics. Veterinarians will often use a lidocaine block of the coronal nerve. Once the nerve block is performed, it should ideally be left for 10-15 min before the dehorning is performed.

The best case scenario for controlling pain during these procedures is to perform them at as early an age as possible.

So what exactly does this mean for producers?

A valid Veterinary-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR) is a good place to start. This basically means that you have a working relationship with a practicing veterinarian, who is familiar with your herd and can diagnose and treat any medical conditions that may arise. An examination of your cattle or herd is required to establish a VCPR, this relationship is necessary for a veterinarian to ethically dispense or prescribe medications or recommend treatment. With that said, to be in compliance with the Requirements of the Code of Practice, veterinarians do not need to do the castration or dehorning, so long as the procedure is completed by a properly trained person using accepted techniques. Dr. Creelman suggests that pain control be managed based on recommendation from each producer's vet. With an established VCPR, veterinarians are able to prescribe and dispense medication for pain control. Some veterinarians may make the choice to recommend and dispense lidocaine for pain management during these procedures, while others may not. This decision in the end comes down to individual veterinary practice's protocols as well as appropriate training and confidence in the producer.



Developing a VCPR with your local veterinarian is an important relationship for all producers.

www.cattlenetwork.com

The changes to the requirements in the Beef Cattle Code of Practice will impact all Canadian Producers. The best resource for the best way to manage pain on your operation is your local veterinarian. They will be best equipped to answer all of the questions specific to your operation.

Thanks to Dr. Cody Creelman of Veterinary Agri-Health for your help with this article.

Find us online!

www.peacecountrybeef.ca



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www.facebook.com/peacecountrybeef

Biosecurity: The What, The Why and The How

By: Carly Shaw

Biosecurity, what is it and why does it matter to us in the Peace Country you ask? Alberta Agriculture refers to biosecurity as “practices designed to prevent, reduce or eliminate the introduction and incidental spread of disease among livestock and poultry.” From this definition alone you can begin to understand the importance of implementing biosecurity practices on your farm. When we take biosecurity into consideration, we start to minimize the risks of diseases spreading on our farms, between our farms and between species by a great extent. This prevents massive disease outbreaks from occurring nationally or internationally and destroying the cattle markets. Some of the key points biosecurity can accomplish are outlined in the



When we take Biosecurity into consideration, we start to minimize the risks of diseases spreading on our farms.
www.albertawheat.com

that fit your farm's needs. The three pillars of biosecurity are Animal Health Management, Production Management and Access Management. Animal Health Management includes quarantining new stock, managing animal movement and vaccination programs. Production Management consists of controlling rodents, limiting exposure to wild birds/ wildlife, building and equipment maintenance. Access Management involves creating designated zones categorized by the amount of protection needed in them. There are 5 different zones which should be considered. The first is a controlled access zone which is limited to the producer and employees, typically a pasture or a barn and identified by a fence or sign. Second is a restricted access zone which should be identified at all entrances and exits with signage that could include “employees only”, “Biosecurity Standards in place” or “PPE required”. Third is a quarantine zone which is an area for new animals to reside in to check for diseases or for animals returning from an exhibition or show where it could have contracted a disease. Isolation is the fourth zone to be considered which is an area used for the separation of diseased animals. It is extremely important that post cleaning and disinfection protocols are strictly followed in this zone. Lastly the fifth zone is a public access zone which is an area that indicates that there are areas that are not for public access and generally have handwashing stations positioned strategically and frequently (The above information was collected from the AB.VMA's *Biosecurity in practice* book).

So now you may be wondering how you would begin to create a Biosecurity plan. The Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (AB.VMA) recommends in their book *Biosecurity in Practice* that you follow these 5 basic steps:

- ◆ Establish a Biosecurity team- What skills, knowledge and value each member bring
- ◆ Identify outcomes and goals- Why are we doing this? What will this program change?
- ◆ Perform a risk assessment- Identifying risks and the most practical and feasible ways to eliminate them
- ◆ Develop and implement protocols, best management practices and operations based on the three pillars of Biosecurity
- ◆ Measure, review, improve and train

If there is still more you would like to learn about Biosecurity feel free to contact one of our offices or talk to your local vet.

Documents referenced and available for more information:

Alberta Agriculture & Forestry, Government of Alberta. 'Biosecurity in Alberta.' Alberta Agriculture.

Alberta Veterinary Medical Association. 'Biosecurity in Practice'. 2011

Contact us for:

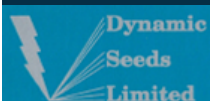
- Project Ideas
- Feed Testing

- Growing Forward 2 Assistance
- Ration Formulation Help

- Environmental Farm Plans
- Past Project Information

Upcoming Events!

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Event	Date & Time	Location
2015 Western Canadian Conference on Soil Health	Dec 8-10, 2015	Radisson Hotel Edmonton www.albertasoilhealth.ca
Peace Country Beef Congress	Jan 8-9, 2016	Dawson Creek
Peace Agronomy Update	Jan 12 or 13, 2016	Dunvegan Motor Inn Fairview
Holistic Management Course <i>with Don & Bev Campbell</i>	Jan 14, 15, 16 & Jan 21, 22, 23 Jan 28, 29, 30 & Feb 4, 5 6	Valleyview Ag Society Hall Demmitt Community Hall
Cost: \$1495 + tax per farm unit up to 4 people		
Winter Watering Systems Tour	Jan 30, 2016	Birch Hills County
Peace Country Beef Cattle Day	Feb 1, 2016	Dunvegan Motor Inn Fairview
Tactical Farming Conference	Feb 9 & 10, 2016	Deerfoot Casino Calgary
PCBFA AGM	Feb 26, 2016	Dunvegan Motor Inn Fairview
Peace Country Classic & Beef Market Outlook <i>with Anne Waskso</i>	March 11, 2016	Grande Prairie
Sprayer School <i>with Tom Wolf</i>	March 2016	County of Grande Prairie & MD of Peace
Succession Planning Workshop <i>with Merle Good</i>	March 30, 2016	TBA
PCBFA Tour to the Denver Stock Show!	January 2017	<i>More Details to Come!</i>

For more information, or to register for PCBFA events please call
Stacy or Kaitlin at 780-835-6799!

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Herd Management Software

Compiled by Carly Shaw

Herd Management Software allows producers to collect all of the important information for their operation into one place. Each software company offers a slightly different version of similar software with the common theme being that information is entered and stored to be viewed or manipulated later. Some of the common data points we see being collected by the various software are calving records and treatment records for animals. Many of the software options available can also sync to scaleheads for immediate entry of weights for ADG calculations.

Below we've compiled a collection of different herd management software options. This is definitely not an all-inclusive list, however it does provide us with some resources and an indication of what the different options are capable of. Herd Management Software is an eligible expense under the Food Safety System GF2 program (which is currently closed), so if you're interested be sure to contact us to get an application ready for the expected reopening of the program in April 2016.



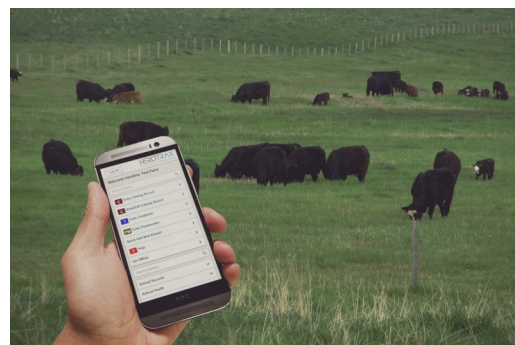
Beef Improvement Opportunities Track (BIO Track)

- BioTrack is web based, giving you a secure system to track animal information from birth until it leaves the farm.
- You can record birth/purchase info, health, movements, preg checks, breeding, expenses, weights, sales, deaths and visitors on/off your farm/ranch.
- BioTrack works on any computer, smartphone or tablet. It is a web-based software with no app.
- No requirements except it needs the ability to access the internet. Data can be entered without an internet connection and synced once you get back to an internet connection
- Pricing is reflective of herd size and the fee is on a per cow basis. All bulls, steers, calves are free.
- A 100 Cow herd would be looking at an annual subscription between \$525+ tax and \$729+tax
- <http://bridgingintelligence.com/beef-cattle-management-software-system/>



HerdTrax - Cattle Record Management

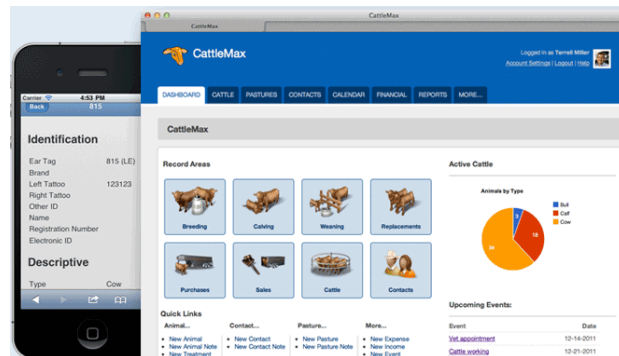
- Multi device support: desktop, smartphone, tablet
- Used for in-herd data analysis and decision support
- Delivered daily, weekly or monthly in PDF or Excel format
- Types of reports:
 - Calving snapshots
 - Treatments and postmortems
 - Animals on withdrawal listing
 - Process and protocol reminders
 - Daily herd activity notification
- Year End Herd Summary • Cow rank and indexing within herd
- Find Pricing for your operation on : <http://herdtrax.com/subscription.html>
- <http://herdtrax.com/>





Cattle Max Herd Management Software

- Cattle records easily accessible and quick to work with
- Maintain breeding and pregnancy details
- Complete medical treatment information
- Financial tracking to compliment production information
- \$36/month for unlimited number of animals
 - (Not eligible for GF2 funding, due to monthly subscription)
- <http://www.cattlemax.com/>



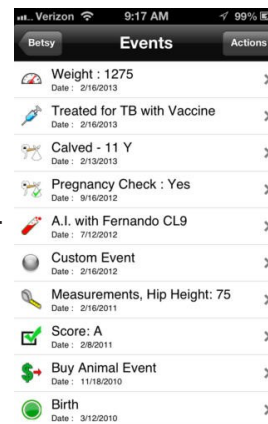
Cow Calf 5 (University of Nebraska)

- Display complete herd inventory from any production year
- Android & iOS apps available
- Unlimited number of herds supported with unlimited number of animals per herd
- Health records for both cows and calves
- Weaning and Yearling weights and adjustments
- Cow Weight and ADG
- \$500 one time fee with unlimited tech support and updates
- Check out more features on <http://www.cowcalf.com/general/features.asp>



Lion's Edge Ranch Manager or Cattle Manager

- Manage both Cow Calf and Purebred cattle records with Ranch Manager: Cattle Edition.
- Android & iOS apps available
- Historical Data produces a complete view of your cattle operation currently and for every year entered (including dead and unmanaged animals).
- Sort, filter, search, and navigate through Ranch Manager to retrieve and view data.
- Features and benefits include: rapid data entry, due date reports, income and expense recording, treating multiple animals at once with vaccinations, interface with wand readers, download weights from cattle scales, average daily gain, other weight and measurement information.
- \$149.99+up
- <http://www.lionedge.com/products/CattleSoftware.php>



BIXS 2.0 Beef InfoXchange System

BIXS 2.0 has undergone a few changes in the last year, with increased information on the advantages of participating. BIXS 2.0 automatically

syncs with your age verification so that information only needs to be entered once, and if we are also using a herd management software that is compatible with BIXS then that information is automatically transferred into the system so the data collected on-farm only needs to be entered once! The advantages to a producer enrolling in BIXS 2.0 include: Quality Management, Facilitating Trace Back, Increasing Consumer Confidence, Market Differentiation & Industry Collaboration.

Several herd management software platforms are already set up to work with BIXS 2.0, including CattleMax and bio-Track, with more planned to be added in the future. Visit www.bixs.cattle.ca for more details.

Find us online!

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www.facebook.com/peacecountrybeef

Monitoring Remote Livestock Watering Systems

By Stacy Pritchard

There has been a large uptake in the Peace of remote watering systems to keep livestock out of dugouts and riparian areas, but there are some drawbacks – reliability and confidence in the system being one of them. Well, what if we could monitor our watering systems without having to make a trip out every day to make sure our livestock still had water? A project conducted by the Alberta Agriculture & Forestry Farm Stewardship Centre has looked into just that kind of system.

The basis of the project was to assess existing alarm systems that could be modified to monitor remote livestock watering systems. The objectives of the project were to decrease the amount of physical visits producers would need to make to their watering system, as well as increase the confidence in remote watering systems to increase the adoption of remote livestock watering systems.

The basic alarm system was designed to monitor for low water levels and low battery level by using 3 different systems:

Line of site system using a beacon light

A beacon light activates when the watering system has an alarm situation. This is the lowest cost option of the 3 tested, however it does require a line of site to see the activated beacon. The beacon can be elevated on a post so it can be seen from a nearby road, so it is more of a drive-by check than actually going out into the field. This type of system is easy to design and install, and the wiring diagram and list of components is available from Alberta Agriculture & Forestry. Cost: \$350

Cellular system

Producers need a cellphone for this type of system. When there is an alarm, the producer would receive a text message, although it can be programmed to alert through telephone or email as well. This system was originally designed for use in the oilfield, and is quite expensive. This type of system also has many features that livestock producers would not need, and is limited to areas with good cell service. It also requires a large amount of power of its own, as well as cellular charges. Cost: \$6000 start up, plus monthly cell charges.

Satellite system

This system needs a smart phone to be effective and sends an email when the watering system has an alarm. It is pretty simple to set up, and less expensive than the cellular system. It also has lower power requirements, and has better service coverage than the cellular system. This system isn't as programmable as the cellular system and has fewer alerting options. This system also has monthly contract fees. Cost: \$1500-2000 start up, plus monthly cell/satellite charges.

The three systems were tested with producers, who reported having an increased confidence in their watering system. Having the alarm system also saved the producers time by not having to physically check their watering systems. One issue faced by all the alert systems was the low water level sensor in the winter was that the sensor could freeze into ice and the alert was not sent. So the recommendation is to still check watering systems regularly even if an alert system is installed.

This project is still continuing to do extension work and may do more demonstrations with producers to promote the technology with the final goal to be able to demonstrate to producers that there is technology available to make solar watering systems more reliable. Their hope is also to create awareness among the manufacturers of solar watering systems and alarm system companies that there is opportunity within agriculture to develop and market the technology. They are also looking for suggestions and feedback on these alerting systems. Any feedback can be directed to Ken Janzen with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (contact information below).

There are already some commercial systems available: CAP Solar out of Olds has a satellite monitoring system (www.capsolar.com) and BenTek Systems out of Calgary, also has both a satellite and a cellular system that were designed for the oilfield, but do work for this purpose (www.scadalink.com). Component lists and wiring diagram for the beacon light system are available from Ken Janzen at Alberta Agriculture & Forestry's Environmental Stewardship Division (ken.janzen@gov.ab.ca or 403-329-1212 ext 231).

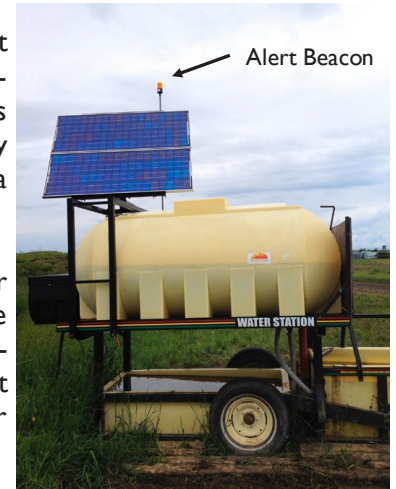
For more information on this project please check out the summary on the project at:

http://www.growingforward.alberta.ca/cs/idcplg?IdcService=GET_FILE&dDocName=AGUCMINT-520345&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased

Alert Monitors for Remote Livestock Watering Systems are now an eligible expense in the On-Farm Stewardship GF2 Program. We would be happy to help you fill out an application!

Contact us for:

- Project Ideas
- Growing Forward 2 Assistance
- Environmental Farm Plans
- Feed Testing
- Ration Formulation Help
- Past Project Information



Upcoming Events!

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Winter Watering Systems Tour

Warm Bus Tour & Learning Day

Join us to take a tour of some innovative winter watering systems & strategies.

Get tips on how to set up your own system and engage in discussion with other local producers!

And get an update on Growing Forward 2!

This event is Free to Attend!
Hot Lunch Included!



For more Information or to Register contact PCBFA
780-835-6799



Peace Country Beef Congress

January 8-9, 2016

Dawson Creek

Peace Agronomy Update

January 13, 2016

Dunvegan Inn & Suites, Fairview

Integrated Weed Management Systems

Rail Transportation

Agronomy—It's a Package Deal

Grain, Pulse & Oilseed Market Update

High Quality Forage for Growing & Finishing Cattle

February 1, 2016

Dunvegan Inn & Suites, Fairview

Dr. Anibal Pordomingo & Clayton Robins

Tactical Farming Conference

February 9&10, 2016

Deerfoot Casino, Calgary

Working Well Workshop

February 11, 2016

High Prairie

Peace Country Classic Beef Market Outlook with Anne Wasko

March 11, 2016

Evergreen Place, Grande Prairie

PCBFA 2016 Annual General Meeting

Dunvegan Inn & Suites, Fairview, AB

Friday, February 26, 2016

4:30pm Registration

5:00pm AGM

3 Board of Director Positions to be elected

6:00pm Supper

Guest Speaker



\$55/Person or \$75/Farm Pair

~Includes 2016 Annual Membership~

To RSVP call us at

780-835-6799 or 780-523-4033

A block of rooms has been held at the Dunvegan Inn & Suites
Call 1-800-546-8898 to book a room

For more information, or to register for events call Kaitlin at 780-835-6799!



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SARDA

Back Forty

Mission: To facilitate the transfer of unbiased ideas and information between research institutions, industry, and agricultural producers.

YEAR END ISSUE

DECEMBER 2015

IN THIS ISSUE



2015 Variety Testing Results from South Peace Region

Kabal S. Gill, SARDA

The objective is to determine relative performance of different varieties under local environmental conditions. As for any one year results, the 2015 data must be used cautiously, as these represent what happened at a specific location under this year's weather. Better comparisons can be made by combining this year's results with the long term results, which you can find in the **seed.ab.ca**, **Seed Guide** or **agric.gov.ab**.

The 2015 trials were conducted south of Donnelly (NE8-77-20W5 & NW9-77-20W5) and North of High Prairie (NW25-74-17W5). Rainfall in the growing season (May to Aug.) was 124 mm Donnelly and 174 mm at High Prairie site.

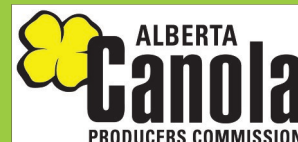
Interpreting the results

Included with each graph are the yields from each variety and the 2 statistical parameters, LSD and CV, of each trial to help with

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This publication made possible in part by:



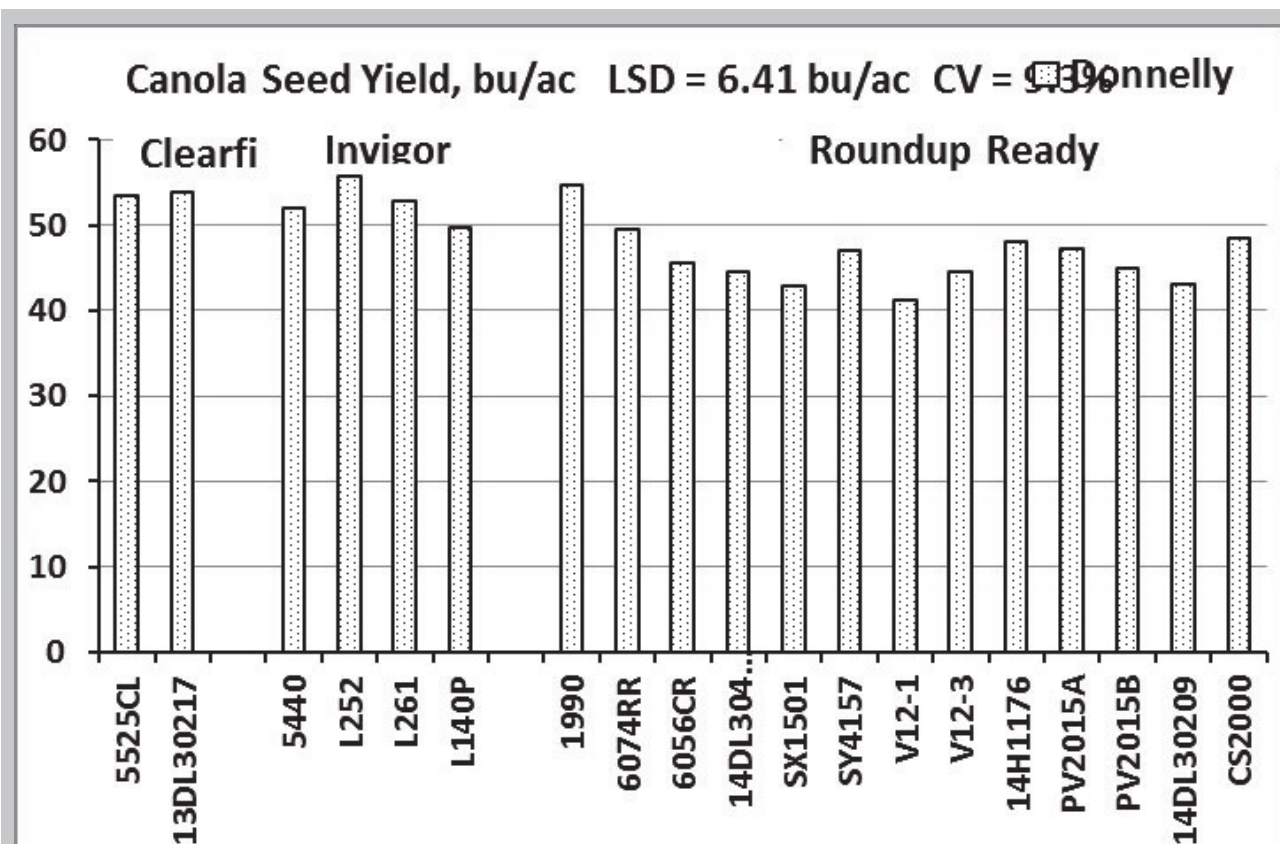
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interpretation of the results.

The LSD (Least Squares Difference) is a statistical measure to determine significant differences, in this

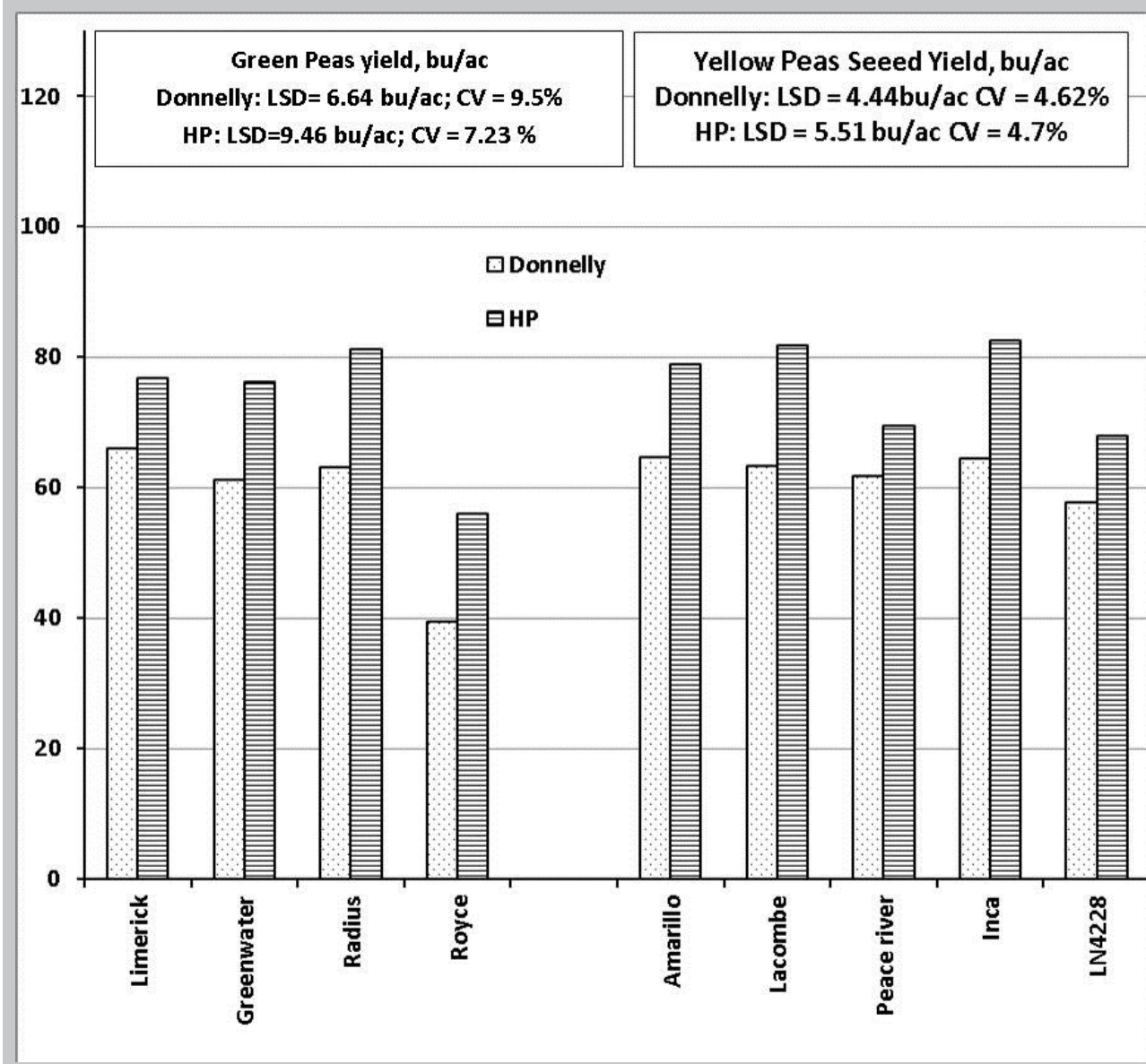
case yield, between varieties. If the LSD is 10, it requires a greater than 10 bushels per acre (bu/ac) difference for the one variety to be significantly different in yield than another. Differences in yield within 10

bu/ac are not significant and we cannot conclude that one is better than the other. For example, the canola results from Donnelly have LSD of 6.41 bu/ac. We can safely say that yield of L252 (55.55 bu/



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Give a gift that benefits the Agricultural Community by providing a piece of land or funds to assist with the purchase of land. SARDA is a producer directed, not for profit organization whose Vision is to own an advanced agriculture resource center of excellence. Build your legacy. Call Vance at 780-837-2900. Tax deductible benefits available.



ac) is significantly greater than of 6056CR (45.43 bu/ac), but not of 6074RR (49.50 bu/ac). We can only state that the L252 tended to outyield 6074RR, but not significantly.

The CV (Coefficient of Variation) indicates the degree of variation due to other factors. This indicates whether the data describes the genetic

yield expression, or is influenced by external forces, such as a low spot or weed patch that influenced the yield in one part of the trial and not another. Typically, data with CV's higher than 15 should be used with great caution and between 10 and 15 with some caution as they may be influenced by external forces. Lower than 10 CV indicate that

the results are more likely influenced by varieties and not outside forces.

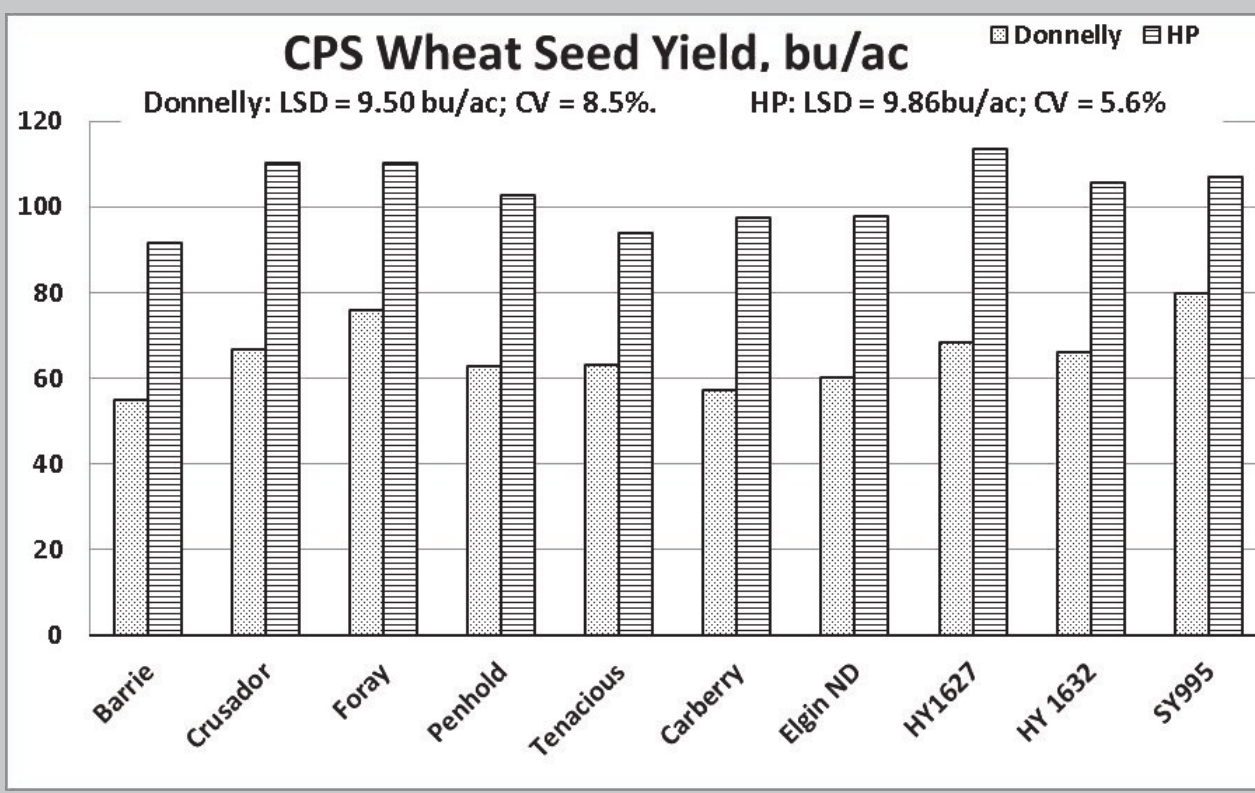
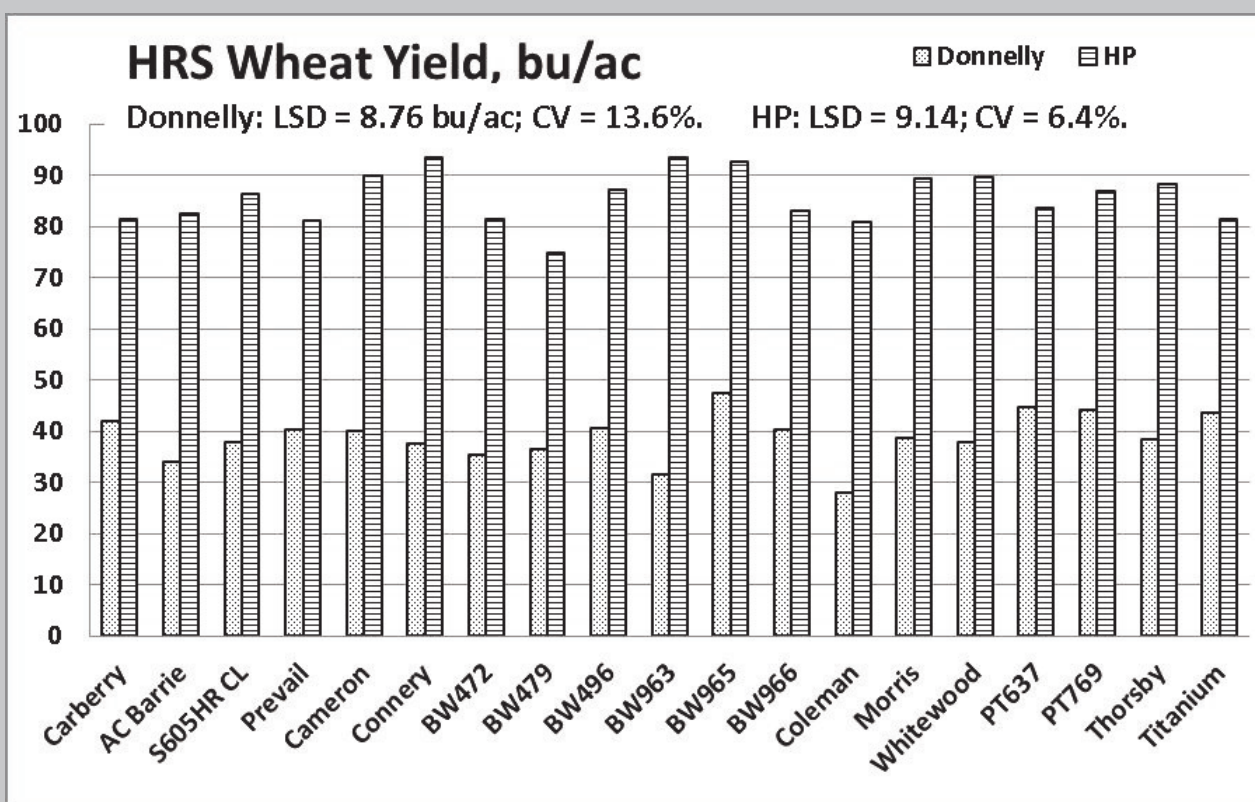
If you have any questions please contact Kabal S. Gill at research@sarda.ca.

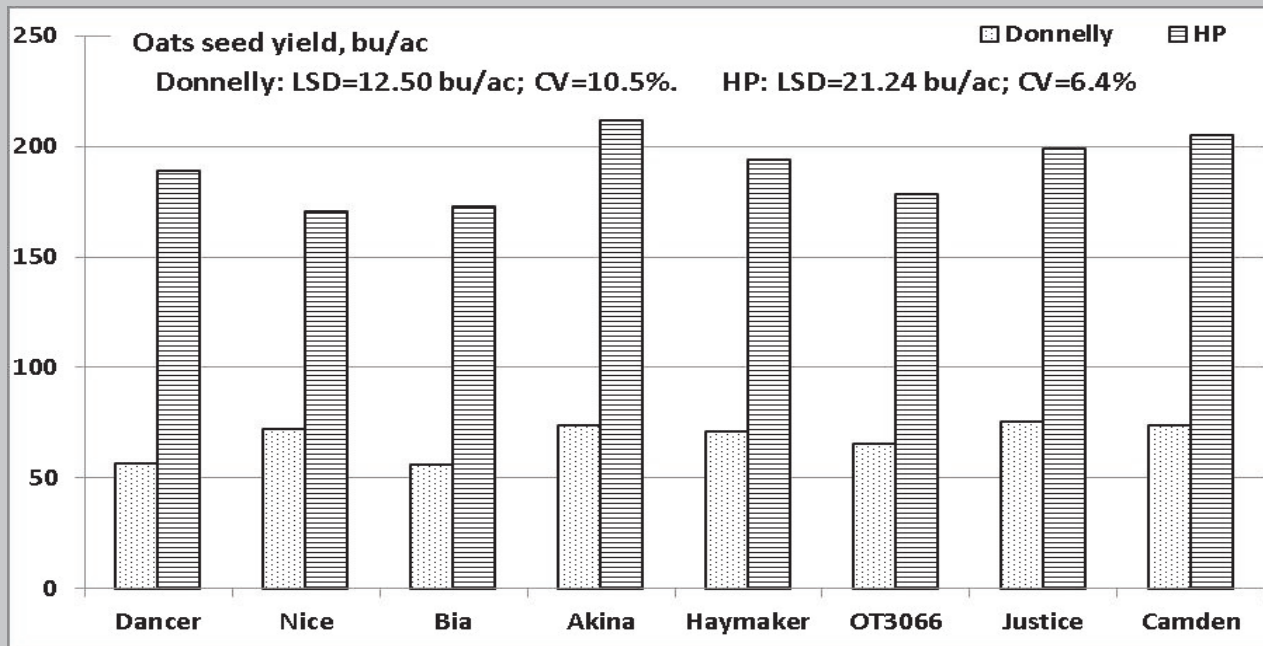
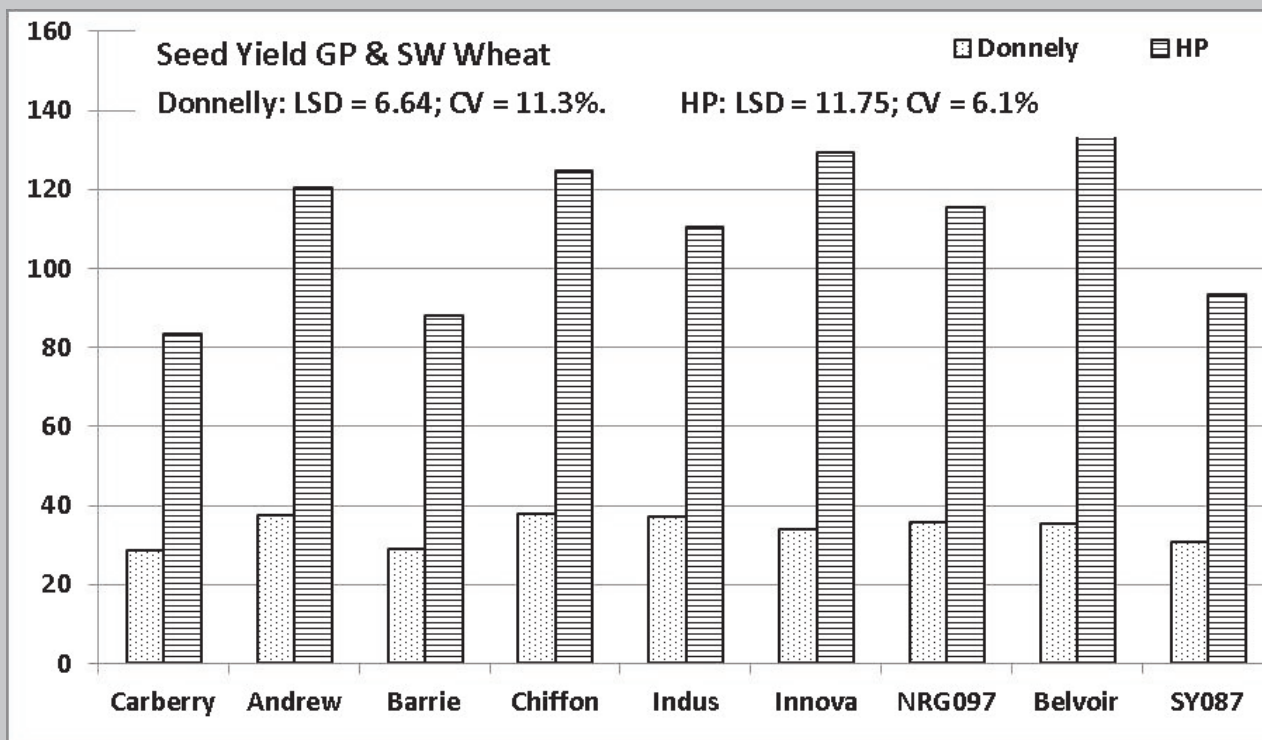
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Further Information

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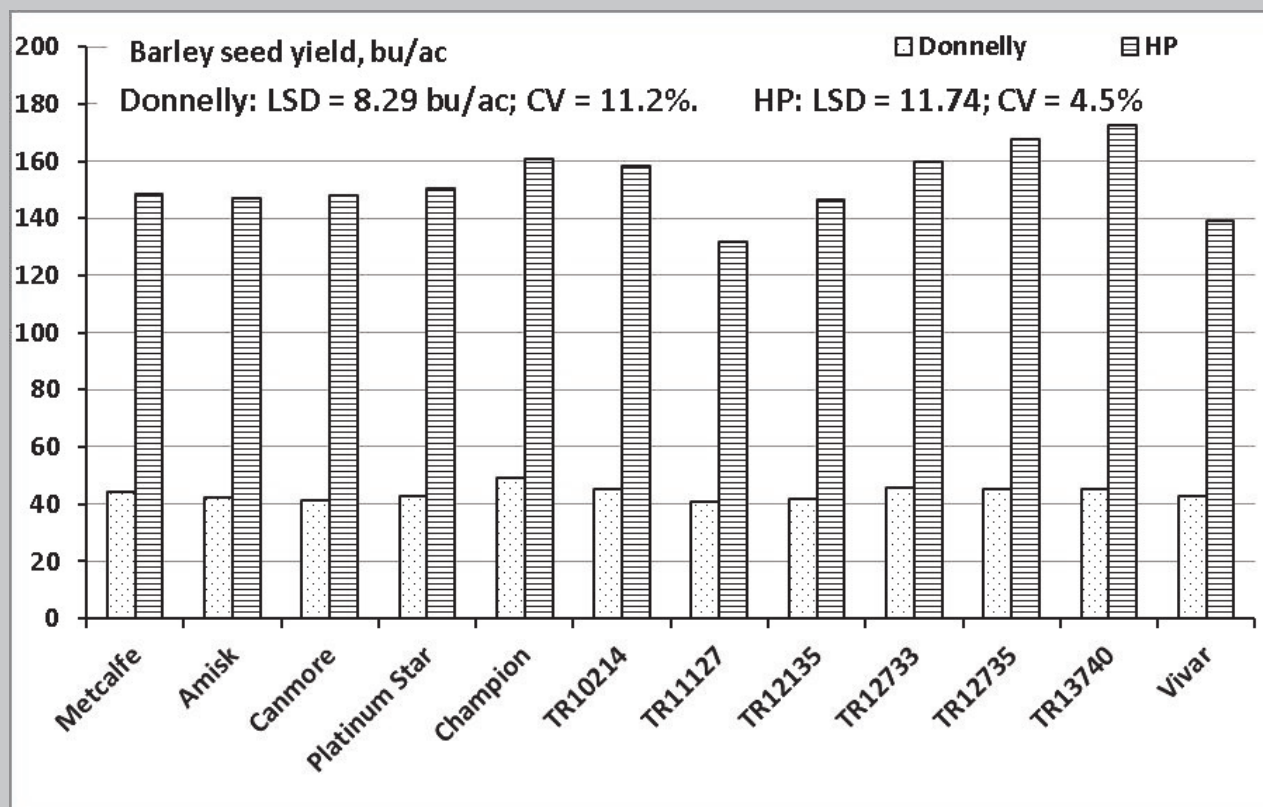




Rural Farm mailboxes in the MD's of Smoky River and Greenview, the County of Grande Prairie, Big Lakes County and Northern Sunrise County, all receive complementary issues of the Back Forty Newsletter. Request your mailbox be classified as **Farm** by talking to your local Post Mistress to ensure you receive your copy.

**Do you
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Back Forty?**

Continued from page 5



Concerned forage seed industry wants Western Canada to be a GM alfalfa-free zone

Current export markets could be increased and premiums for non-GM alfalfa hay and seed products could be the new norm

by: Heather Kerschbaumer, President of Forage Seed Canada, Vice-President of Organic Alberta, Director of Peace Region Forage Seed Association, Farmer, Mother, and Grandmother



The alfalfa seed and hay industry in Canada has a potential market-compromising threat lurking just across the US border. Genetically modified (GM) alfalfa is already being grown and sold south of the border, but so far, not seen in Western Canada. It was approved for sale in Canada in 2013, but it isn't being marketed here yet. Alfalfa is the very first perennial crop to be genetically modified, compared to other crops such as canola, corn, or soybeans, which are annuals. American

hay and alfalfa seed growers are suffering the consequences of contamination from the Roundup Ready gene transferring from GM alfalfa grow-zones to non-GM zones. Their overseas markets are being compromised and hay shipments rejected.

If we can keep GM alfalfa out of Western Canada (or all of Canada), we could gain access to markets that are being lost by the US. There are several countries, including China, Japan, and most of Europe, where there is an absolute zero tolerance for GM alfalfa, hay and seed. Testing is becoming more and more precise, down to .005% now.

The Imperial Valley, located in California are the only example of a GM Alfalfa free zone in the US. GM alfalfa is not allowed to be grown or marketed. They have agreements with Monsanto and

Forage Genetics International, owners and marketers of the Roundup Ready technology, that says so.

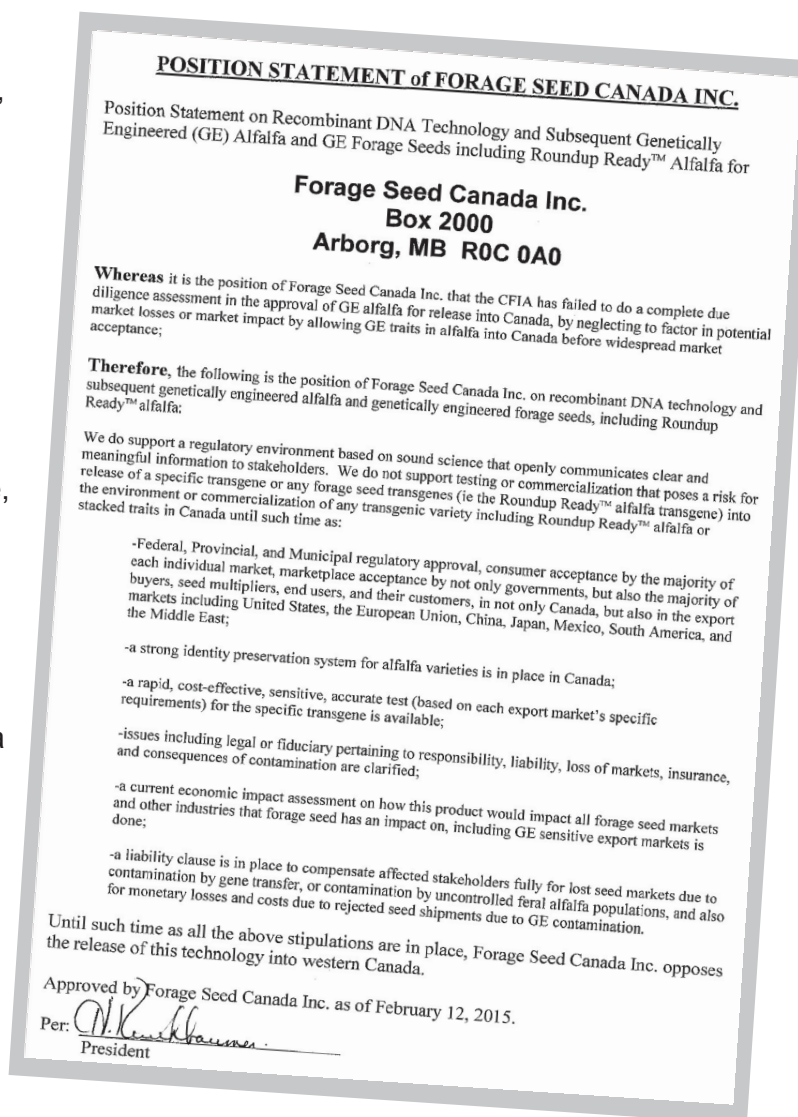
Forage Seed Canada, along with all the provincial forage seed associations, National Farmers' Union, all organic associations, all the hay exporting companies, the honey producers, the provincial forage associations, have taken the position that they are opposed to the

release of this technology until the international marketplace accepts it.

It seems like Roundup Ready GM alfalfa should be a good thing – after all, you can spray an alfalfa field with the herbicide Roundup to control all weeds in the field, and have a perfectly clean field.

However, when you think about it, there are very few growers of pure alfalfa stands, as almost all growers prefer a

mix of grasses and legumes fields, producing better quality hay. For seed growers, —again no weeds. BUT, if there is no market for the seed that is produced, or the hay going to market, or if some of the alfalfa in this GM field has bees or other pollinators that transfer pollen and nectar (and GM genes) to a neighbor's field, or to the wild alfalfa in the ditch or along a fence line a mile or two away,



Continued on page 7

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those GM genes may quickly spread to other areas.

Herbicide tolerant weeds, or superweeds, that are developing because of the continual use of similar herbicides is another negative consequence of GM alfalfa. GMO canola and the proposed GMO wheat. GM alfalfa would be disastrous to organic farms, since there is a zero tolerance and any trace would make certification extremely hard to maintain.

Once the technology starts to spread, there is no way to contain it. Pollinators fly, and genes move. There are no walls between fields, and alfalfa is everywhere- along bushlines, fencelines, pipelines, cutlines, ditches. And it isn't only alfalfa fields that will be affected, because any other crop with an alfalfa plant in it, such as other forage seed crops like fescues, brome-grasses, clovers, or timothy, could also be disqualified from export markets, if an alfalfa seed shows up on a seed test. The brunt of all the costs of testing, losses of markets due

to contamination, and liability issues will be carried by the contaminated parties (farmers), rather than the developers and marketers of this product.

Where is our government in all this? They (Health Canada and CFIA) have decided that it is safe and "substantially equivalent" to regular alfalfa. There has been no economic impact assessment done to show the costs to Canadian farmers.

A voluntary Best Management Practices (BMPs) was drawn up by the Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA) for the release of GM alfalfa into Eastern Canada. The CSTA is now working on another voluntary BMPs for Western Canada. The massive contamination that is hampering alfalfa exports in the US is proof that BMPs won't work. American growers who used to get a premium price for growing GM varieties of alfalfa are now being penalized. Having clean non-GM alfalfa seed and hay now commands a premium. BMPs didn't work in the US, and it is unlikely that they will work in Canada either.

The only way to maintain our markets, or gain new higher value alfalfa export markets, is to keep GM alfalfa out of Canada, or out of Western Canada, or out of Alberta, or at least out of the Peace River Region of Canada. That is what my goal is – that is why I continue to travel and give presentations about this serious situation.

More and more voices are joining together in opposition of this product, and if there is a way to make our Peace River Region a GM alfalfa-free zone, perhaps other areas will jump onto our bandwagon and figure out how to keep their areas free as well.

More Information

- <https://albertaviews.ab.ca/2014/09/24/a-line-in-the-dirt/>
- <http://www.albertafarmexpress.ca/2015/04/06/forage-seed-industry-wants-western-canada-to-be-a-gm-alfalfa-free-zone-2/>
- <http://www.wsj.com/articles/u-s-hay-exports-to-china-shrivel-up-1418598477>



FarmTech™

January 26-28, 2016



Farm and Workplace Legislation

Excerpts from November 23, 2015 issue of *Agri-News* and November 18 issue of *Alberta Canola Connections*

Bill 6, the *Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act*, has been introduced in the Alberta Legislature.



"Everyone deserves a safe, fair and healthy workplace. With this bill, workplace legislation will now extend to farms and ranches. The rules we implement must respect the unique qualities of the farm and ranch industry, and I look forward to working with industry members to develop rules that make sense."

- Lori Sigurdson, Minister of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour

If approved, the law would ensure that 60,000 farm and ranch workers in Alberta will have the same basic protections that other workers in the province have received for decades. As a start, Bill 6 – Enhanced Protection for

Farm and Ranch Workers Act will remove exemptions from existing workplace rules. Then, existing regulations and code will be amended in consultation with farmers, larger-scale producers, industry associations and the public.

The workplace legislation affected would include:

1. Occupational Health and Safety Act.
2. Worker's Compensation Act,
3. Employment Standards Code and
4. Labour Relations Code.

The Government of Alberta is looking for input on how to best implement the changes to meet the proposed timelines for Occupational Health and Safety, Labour Relations and Employment Standards legislation, as well as on what supports industry might need from government. "We know Alberta's farmers and ranchers are concerned about providing safe and fair workplaces, and I look forward to our discussions with them as we work out the details on the best way to do

it."

- Oneil Carlier, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry

Make informed decisions.

The following links will provide information from media releases, question and answer sheets. Also included is a link to read the act in its entirety.

Producers are encouraged to participate in the TownHall meetings and/or comment online at Farm and Ranch /

Get involved (<http://work.alberta.ca/farm-and-ranch-get-involved.html>)

- The new Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act (http://www.assembly.ab.ca/ISYS/LADDAR_files/docs/bills/bill/legislature_29/session_1/20150611_bill-006.pdf)
- Media Release November 17, 2015 (<http://alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=38853E7C1F49F-F880-84ED-FB41A569968F17BD>)
- Question and Answer Sheet (<http://work.alberta.ca/documents/farm-and-ranch-QAs.pdf>)

Alberta

AgriProfit\$ 2016

Sign-up for a customized business analysis of your farm to maximize profits and lower your costs.

AgriProfit\$ – your customized business analysis

Participation on the *AgriProfit\$* program will give you a customized business analysis of your farm, and your key enterprises, that you can use to help identify and manage costs towards increased profitability. Your farm information is confidential. Registration for the program opens November 1 and closes on January 15th of each year.

Understand your Business

An *AgriProfit\$* analysis helps measure your costs and includes valuable management information. The analysis will help you focus on things that matter and where you will get the biggest “bang for your buck”. Understanding your business is the foundation to growth and success.

When you agree to participate on the *AgriProfit\$* program, we will send you a

number of data collection forms to pull together the details of your farm. A farm visit will be arranged to help you complete the forms. Once all your data is collected and reviewed, you will receive your customized farm business analysis report.



An *AgriProfit\$* analysis:

- details your production costs and returns for your beef, forage, grazing, and crop productions on a per unit basis. (i.e: per cow, per lb. weaned, per bushel, per tonne.)
- provides the information needed to help assess practical, on farm management options.

- supports annual budgeting and strategic planning, which are more effective when you use your own costs.

Knowledge of your production costs is an important element in managing and controlling your business. There is no cost for the *AgriProfit\$* business analysis – your investment is time and the benefits are considerable.

The data from all participants is used to establish provincial benchmarks. This information is used as reference for producers and industry.

For more information, or to register for the program, contact the Economics Branch of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry at 780-415-2153 or the Ag-Info Centre at 780-310-FARM (3276).

More Information

Alberta Agriculture
www.1.agric.gov.ab.ca
Ag Info Call Centre
 310-Farm (3276)



AFSC's Peace River, Falher and High Prairie Branches Serve Area Small Business and Agriculture Producers

Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) is a provincial Crown corporation that works with Alberta's commercial enterprises and agriculture producers to help grow their business. With 46 offices located across the province, including ones in Peace River, Falher, Fairview and High Prairie, AFSC delivers income stabilization programs, provides insurance products and offers a range of lending products and services.

Lending Products and Services

A proud supporter of rural Alberta, AFSC strives to help grow and sustain small businesses across the province by offering loans to commercial and agri-businesses, as well as

lending products to agriculture producers and value-added enterprises. AFSC also offers loan guarantees services. Loan programs can be customized with flexible repayment options as well as long-term, fixed and renewable rates. Additional interest rate incentives are offered to qualifying clients, and all AFSC loans can be prepaid or paid in full at any time without penalty.

Income Stabilization Programs

AFSC is the delivery agent for the AgriStability program in Alberta. AgriStability directs government funds to those program participants who experience profit margin declines.

Insurance Products

AFSC offers a range of insurance programs that include production insurance for annual

crops, hay and honey; area-based insurance programs for silage and green feed, corn heat units, moisture deficiency and satellite yield; cattle and hog insurance programs; straight hail; and bee-overwintering.

Drop into one of our local offices for more information about these programs and services. We invite you to call one of our professional specialists who through their many years of experience in their fields of expertise can help you create a service solution tailored to your unique needs.

For your ease of reference we provide below each of these knowledgeable specialists contact information. Each stands ready to answer your questions and help your business be successful.

Jeannie Szpuniarski
Lending Specialist
Peace River, AB
780-617-7228

Lil Trudeau
Insurance Specialist
Falher, AB
780-837-2521











Michelle Simoneau
Lending Specialist
Falher/High Prairie, AB
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Anne Marie Johnson
Lending Specialist
Falher, AB
780-837-4627

Edith Kaut
Product Specialist - AgriStability
Fairview, AB
780-835-2295



Event Name	Location	Time	Date	Cost	Comments
 Western Canada Conference on Soil Health	Radisson Hotel, Edmonton	7 pm	Dec 8-10	\$275 for producers	Registrations now open! Click Here or phone 780-612-9712
 Peace Country Beef Congress	Dawson Creek	TBA	Jan 8-9	TBA	Contact Stacy Pritchard for more information. 780-835-6799
 Peace Agronomy Update	Dunvegan Motor Inn, Fairview	8:30	Jan 12 or 13 TBA	TBA	Visit www.sarda.ca for the latest information
 Agronomy Update	Sheraton Red Deer Hotel, Red Deer	7:45 am	Jan 19 & 20	\$145	Registrations now open! Phone 1-800-387-6030
 Holistic Management Courses	Valleyview	9:00—4:00	Jan 14-16 & Jan 21-23	\$1 495 + GST	Contact Stacy Pritchard for more information. 780-835-6799
	Demmit	9:00—4:00	Jan 28-30 & Feb 4-6		
 Farm Tech	Edmonton	7:30 am	Jan 26-28	\$370 (early bird)	Registrations Now Open! Click Here (farmtechconference.com)
 Winter Watering Systems Tour	Birch Hills County	TBA	Jan. 30	TBA	Contact Stacy Pritchard for more information. 780-835-6799
 Tactical Farming Conference	Deerfoot Inn and Casino, Calgary	7:30 am	Feb 10-11	\$250	Registrations Now Open! Click Here (www.tacticalfarming.ca)
 SARDA AGM	Falher Regional Recreational Complex, Falher	9:00 am	Feb 25	FREE	Please register at www.sarda.ca/events or phone 780-837-2900 ext. 3
 2016 Summer Field School	TBA	8:30 am	June 22	\$200	Registrations accepted online www.sarda.ca or phone 780-837-2900 ext 3



2015 Peace River Region Annual Canola Survey

Jennifer Otani

1. Beaverlodge Research Farm, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, P.O. Box 29, Beaverlodge AB, jennifer.otani@agr.gc.ca.
2. Saskatoon Research Centre, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, 107 Science Place, Saskatoon SK.
3. BC Pest Monitoring Contactor, Dawson Creek BC.
4. Canola Council of Canada, Beaverlodge AB

The 2015 Annual Peace Canola Survey was completed by Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada staff based at Beaverlodge¹, and Saskatoon². Samples were also kindly collected with help from the BC Pest Monitoring Contractor, Arlan Benn³, and Canola Council of Canada Student Assistant, Trina Drummond⁴.

Since 2003, the annual survey has been performed with the main objectives of (i) collecting insect pest data throughout the region and (ii) to detect introduction of the Cabbage seedpod weevil into the Peace River region. In 2015, a total of 162 canola fields were randomly selected. Fields were spaced approximately 10 km apart and surveying was performed through the main canola producing areas of the BC and Alberta Peace during early- to mid-flower stages. Unfortunately, fewer fields were sampled north of 57.3° in 2015

(i.e., near Manning, LaCrete, Fort Vermilion and High Level) owing to sparse and patchy canola fields that suffered from repeated frost events and severe drought. In 2015, sweep-net monitoring was performed in 162 commercial fields of *Brassica napus* (e.g., each field ≥80 acres in size) using 50 - 180° sweeps on the following dates in these areas:

- July 5 near Grimshaw, Manning, Hawk Hills, LaCrete.
- July 6 near Valleyview, Guy, Falher, Nampa, Peace River, Jean Cote, Girouxville.
- July 7 near DeBolt, Grande Prairie, Bezanson, Teepee Creek, Wanham, Rycroft, Sexsmith.
- July 8 near Fairview, Blue Sky, Berwyn, Tangent, Watino, Eaglesham, Ridge Valley, Kleskun Hills, Wembley, LaGlace, Dawson Creek, Rolla, Rose Prairie, Montney, Beaverlodge, Valhalla, Woking, Spirit River, Dunvegan, Hines Creek.
- July 9 near Rolla, Doe River,

Clayhurst, Farmington, Taylor, Baldonnel, Fort St. John, Golata Creek.

Sweep-net samples were frozen then processed to generate data for 16 species of arthropods. *Lygus* specimens were identified to all five instar stages. **The 2015 summary includes seven economically important pests of canola reported from 162 surveyed canola fields:**

1. **Lygus** (Miridae: *Lygus* spp.) were the most common insect pest observed in sweep-net samples collected in our 2015 surveying. *Lygus* populations of **≥5 adults plus nymphs per 10 sweeps were observed in 40.1% of fields surveyed** (Figure 1 and Table 1; N=162 fields). Densities of

More Information

Alberta Agriculture
www.1.agric.gov.ab.ca
 Ag Info Call Centre
 310-Farm (3276)

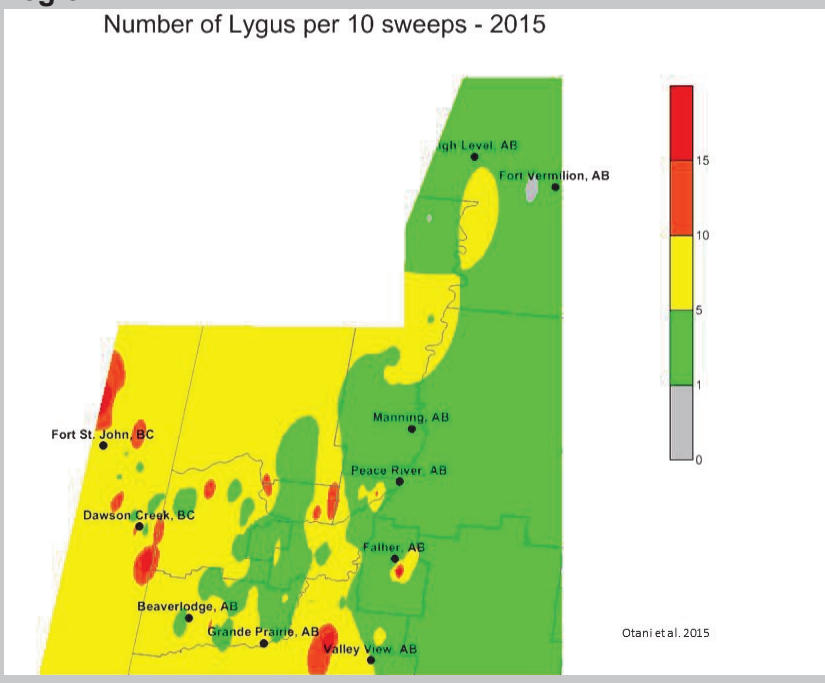


www.albertawheat.com

≥15 adults plus nymphs per 10 sweeps were recorded in 7.4% of fields surveyed (Figure 1 and Table 1).

There were zero *Lygus* present in only 2.5% of fields surveyed (Table 1) whereas 21.6% of the canola fields contained only adult *Lygus* versus 75.9% of the fields that were populated by both adults and nymphs (Table 2). Note that all nymphs collected during surveying were expected to have matured into new adults by the early pod stage. **Areas highlighted yellow, orange or red in Figure 1 may contend with *Lygus* with the continuation of dry, warm growing conditions typically favouring the development of *Lygus***

Figure 1. Contoured map reflecting *Lygus* densities (adults+nymphs) in sweep-net samples collected between July 5-9, 2015, in canola fields throughout the Peace River region.



nymphs to adults.

2. Grasshoppers were present in 35 of 162 canola fields surveyed. Late-instar

and adult stages of two-striped, clearwinged, lesser migratory, and red legged grasshoppers were present in the sweep-net samples (listed

Table 1.

Summary of *Lygus* densities occurring in surveyed fields in 2015.

Continued on page 16

Lygus bugs per 10 sweeps	Number of fields	Percent of fields sampled
≥15.0	12	7.4%
10.1-15.0	11	6.8%
5.1-10.0	42	25.9%
0.1-5.0	93	57.4%
0	4	2.5%
Sum	162	100%



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Table 2. Proportion of fields surveyed containing zero *Lygus*, only adults, only nymphs or adults plus nymphs in commercial fields of canola in 2015.

Continued from page 15

<i>Lygus</i> stages collected	Number of fields	Percent of fields sampled
No <i>Lygus</i>	4	2.5%
Adults only	35	21.6%
Nymphs only	0	0%
Adults + Nymphs	123	75.9%
Sum	162	100%

from most numerous to least) in canola growing near Valleyview, Eaglesham, Whitemud Creek, Manning, Bluesky, Blueberry Mountain, Peace River, Ridge Valley, DeBolt, Rose Prairie, Rycroft, Hotchkiss, Savannah, Berwyn, Bonanza, Farmington, Beaverlodge, Blue Hills, Teepee Creek, Sturgeon Lake, Wembley, LaGlace, Poplar Ridge, Bridgeview, Dixonville, Tangent, Fairview, and Royce.

Click [here](http://www.westernforum.org/Documents/IPMN%20Protocols/2010_Grasshopper%20protocol.pdf) (http://www.westernforum.org/Documents/IPMN%20Protocols/2010_Grasshopper%20protocol.pdf) to review the entire grasshopper protocol and biological descriptions. Additional information related to grasshoppers can be located on Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development's webpage located [here](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/) (<http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/>

[\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex3497](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex3497)) or the BC Ministry of Agriculture's webpage located [here](http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/grasshopper.htm) (<http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/grasshopper.htm>).

3. **Diamondback moth** (Plutellidae: *Plutella xylostella*) **were generally present in low numbers in the sweep-net samples** (N=162 fields) **in 2015**. Sweep-net monitoring is **NOT** recommended for this insect pest yet we collected a total of 672 specimens from 162 fields in 2015 compared to 230 specimens in the 206 fields in 2014 and 93.6% of the 672 specimens were DBM larvae. Sites with higher numbers of DBM included Valleyview, Farmington, Ridge Valley, Baldonnel, Donnelly, Fort St. John, Beaverlodge, Blue Hills, and DeBolt.

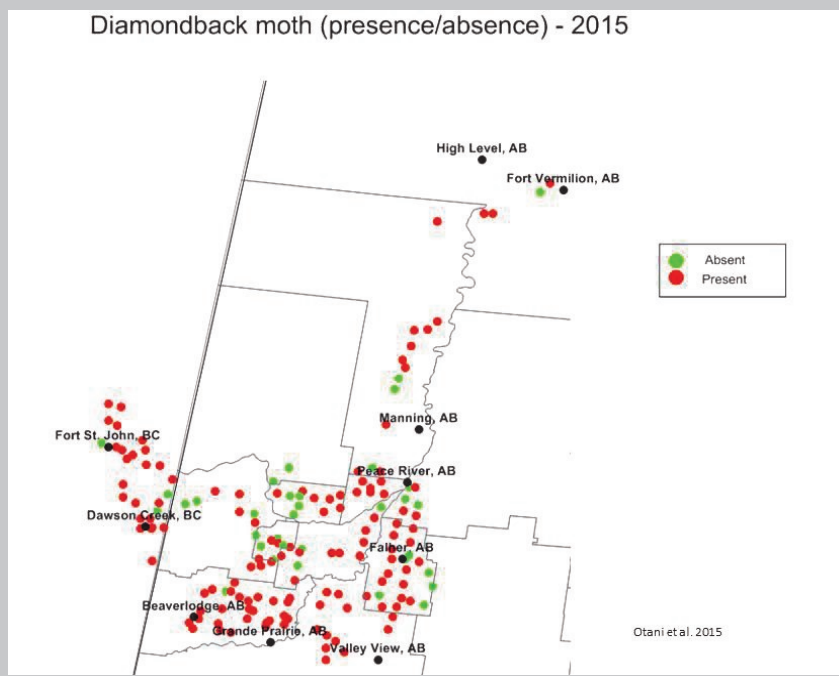
It's important to note that parasitoid wasps (e.g., *Diadegma* sp. and *Microplitis* sp.) were observed

throughout the region and the presence of these natural enemies of DBM is strongly suspected to be keeping DBM densities relatively low.

4. **Root maggot (*Delia* sp.)** adults were again prevalent in fields and were collected from 122 of the 162 sites surveyed throughout the Peace River region in 2015. Numbers collected by sweep-net surveying ranged from 0.2-5.6 *Delia* sp. flies per 10 sweeps versus 0.2-10 flies per 10 sweeps in 2014 but growers should note – root assessments, rather than sweep-net monitoring, is recommended to accurately assess densities of root maggots. More information related to root maggots in canola can be found by linking [here](http://www.prairiesoilsandcrops.ca/articles/volume-4-4-screen.pdf) (<http://www.prairiesoilsandcrops.ca/articles/volume-4-4-screen.pdf>).
5. Normally, the annual canola survey is conducted during the initial weeks of the **Bertha**

armyworm adult flight period so larval stages, if present, are typically very small and difficult to accurately detect and identify within the sweep-net samples. Even so, seven of 162 fields surveyed contained early instar larvae tentatively suspected as Bertha armyworm larvae (e.g., Hawk Hills, Blue Hills, Valleyview, Guy, LaGlance and Scotswood). It should also be noted that early instar larvae suspected as Salt Marsh Caterpillars were tentatively identified from three fields surveyed (e.g., Doe River, Clayhurst, Taylor).

Figure 2. Presence/absence map reflecting distribution of diamondback moth (adults, larvae, pupae) occurring in sweep-net samples collected in canola from July 5-9, 2015.



6. **Leafhoppers** were observed in 69 of 162 fields yet densities were consistently low in our canola sweep-net samples in 2015. The highest density was six per 50 sweeps in a canola field near Fort Vermilion and near Bezanson. More information related to leafhopper biology and monitoring can be found by linking [here \(http://www.westernforum.org/Documents/IPMN%20Protocols/2010_Leafhopper%20protocol.pdf\)](http://www.westernforum.org/Documents/IPMN%20Protocols/2010_Leafhopper%20protocol.pdf).
7. We are again happy to report that zero cabbage seedpod weevil (Curculionidae: Ceutorhynchus obstrictus) were observed in the 162

fields sampled in the Peace River region in 2015. Approximately nine small weevils measuring <4mm in length and <20 beetles measuring <5mm in length were retained from the survey samples for forwarding to the National Identification System (AAFC-Ottawa) for species confirmation.

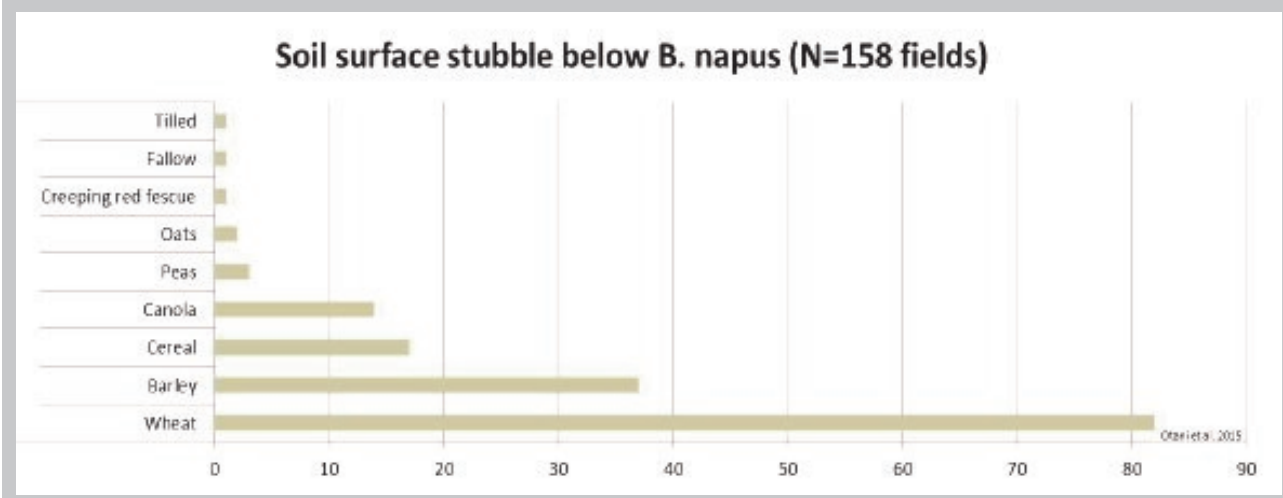
8. **Previous cropping data** was recorded by visually inspecting the soil surface of surveyed canola fields. Surface field trash was categorized then summarized in the figure below (Note: category “cereal” was used to describe fields where the

previous crop was either barley or wheat yet no seed was readily observed nor was the straw sufficiently intact to determine the presence/absence of auricles).

The most frequently observed soil surface stubble encountered beneath surveyed canola fields in 2015 was wheat stubble, followed by barley, residue that was characterized as “cereal”, canola, peas, oats with single fields of stubble remaining from creeping red fescue, left fallow, or tilled (N=158 fields).

Continued on page 18

Figure 3. Field surface condition or stubble type observed in canola fields surveyed in the Peace River region in 2015.



THANK YOU to the following hard working AAFC staff who surveyed†, processed‡, and mapped∞ this data: Owen Olfert2†∞, Ross Weiss2†∞, Shelby Dufton1†‡, Amanda Jorgensen1†‡, Holly Spence1†‡, Andras Szeitz1†‡, Jadin Chahade1†‡, and Kaitlin Freeman1†‡.

Finally, and MOST IMPORTANTLY, Thank you to our canola producers for allowing us to sample in their fields!

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From the Desk of Researcher” “International Year of Pulses 2016”

By Junejo N. SARDA

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) announced 2016 as the International Year of Pulses (IYP 2016). Pulses are Canada's fifth largest crop. Canada is the world's largest producer and exporter of pulses; pulses are grown in crop rotations on roughly 40% of the 20 million crop land of western Canada. In 2014, Canada pulse export valued \$3billion CDN (Agri-News, November, 2015).

Pulses are considered nutritious and part of healthy diet. Pulses are an excellent source of plant based protein, dietary fiber and other complex carbohydrates (Mitchell et. al. 2009).

Current research studies

stated that the use of pulses in diet can help to reduce and control cancer, heart disease, diabetes, cholesterol, anemia and obesity (WHO fact sheets, 2015).

Agriculture research

Pulses cultivation is one of the easiest ways towards sustainable agriculture due to its benefits. Crop rotation is a common farming practice, where different crops are grown in a particular sequence year after year. Common crop rotations include canola, wheat and pulses in Alberta.

- The outcomes of a research trial conducted by University of Alberta showed 11% increase in Barley yield and 5 to 7% increase in seed N

yield when grown as subsequent crop with peas, fababean and lentils (Can. J. Plant Sci. 2015).

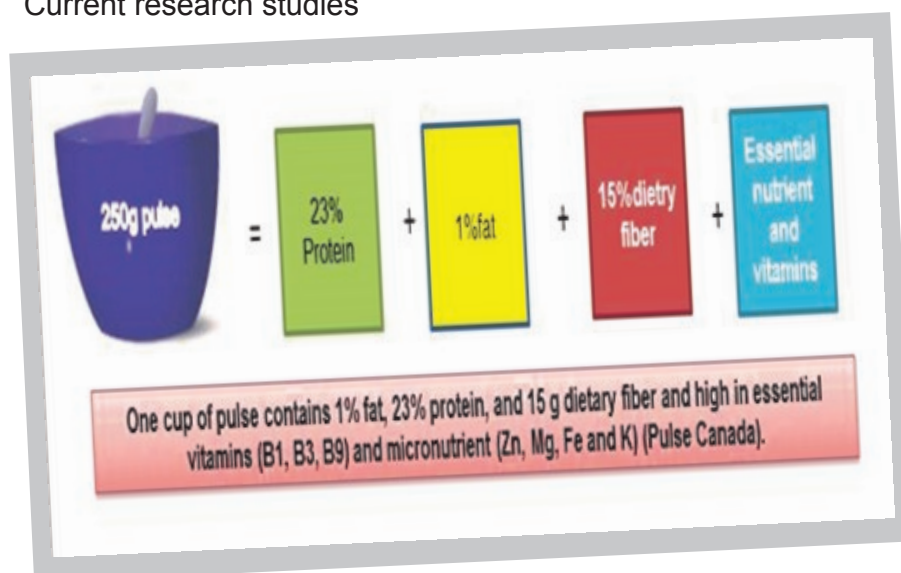
- In 2008 a research published in peer-reviewed Canadian Journal of Plant Science, concluded that pulse crops are well-suited to low moisture conditions.
- Pulses release organic compounds that affect soil microbe's population and produce different types of acids that can make soil nutrients more available to other crops. The diversity in soil micro-organism leads to improve plant growth and enhances the resistance of crops to stresses such as diseases and drought (Lupwayi and Kennedy, 2007).

Research by SARDA

Significantly higher yields of canola and wheat were obtained in a long and short term trials of crop rotation (2009-2015) at SARDA research plots when grown on peas and legumes stubble (Fig 1&2).

References

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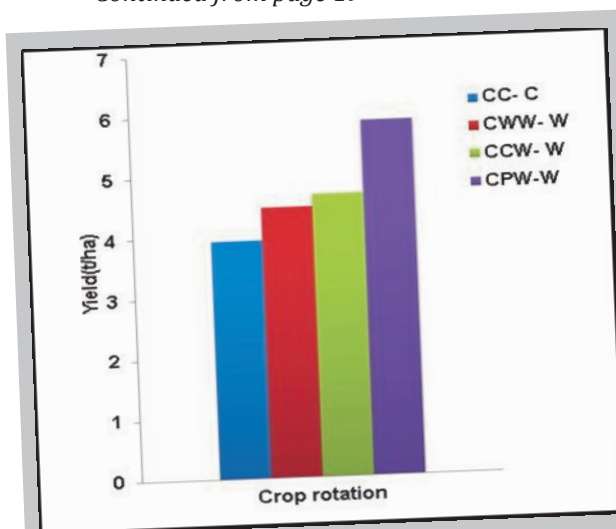


Fig 1. Canola yield (t/ha) 2015 in crop rotation trial at SARDA research plots. The symbol represents the crop rotation sequences C (Canola), W (Wheat), P (Peas).

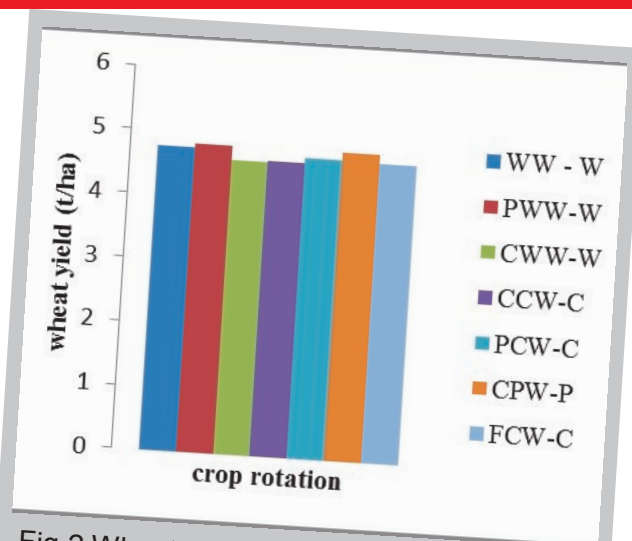


Fig 2. Wheat yield (t/ha) 2015 in crop rotation trial at SARDA research plots. Symbol represents the crop rotation sequences C (Canola), W (Wheat), P (peas), F (Fababean).

- Agri-News Canada, November, 2015
- Mitchell D, Lawrence F, Hartman T, Curran J. Consumption of dry beans, peas, and lentils could improve diet quality in the US population. J Am Diet Assoc. 2009. 109: 909-913.
- http://www.pulses.org/uploads/ck/files/infographic_healthy_outcomes
- Obesity and overweight, WHO

- Factsheet No.311 January 2015 <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs311/en/8> 'Obesity and overweight' WHO Factsheet No.311 January 2015 <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs311/en/9>
- Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), WHO Factsheet No.317 January 2015 <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs317/en/>
- Diabetes' WHO Factsheet No.312 January 2015 <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs312/en/>

www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs312/en/

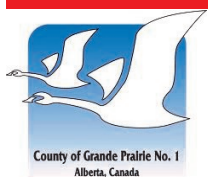
- 'Cancer' WHO Factsheet No.297 January 2015 <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs297/en/>
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- ♦ calculate expected total margins and probabilities based on your knowledge of soil and moisture conditions, along with long term yield and price expectations.
- ♦ create a "base" cropping plan, then compare it to other different scenarios.
- ♦ choose a plan that works for your operation by looking at forecasted margins and their probability of success.

FREE!



County of Grande Prairie Corner

By Sonja Ravens, Agricultural Fieldman

Well here we are, harvest done and Christmas on the way. It was a very busy year for the Ag Department, as we hosted the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Summer Tour in July, in addition to our regular programs. The successful tour, was enjoyed by all, and many found our area to be an oasis compared to much of the rest of the Province.

In spite of the Tour, we completed our seasonal work, thanks to the dedicated to the seasonal staff. Our roads were targeted and spot sprayed for a variety of weeds, all ditches were mowed at least once, with about 1/3 receiving a second pass. We participated in AB Ag pest surveys, including Bertha Army worm, wheat midge, and our regular round of inspections for Virulent Blackleg and Clubroot of canola.

We are committed to addressing weed issues on County property. The weed inspectors completed inspections on all county-owned properties (several hundred) this summer, in addition to their regular workload. Many of those inspected and treated, with the remainder scheduled for early 2016.

Problem wildlife staff removed approximately 200 dams that were threatening ag lands or infrastructure this summer.

They are now focusing on controlling coyotes and wolves.

The Rural Extension Program continues to offer support and projects to restore riparian function within the Beaverlodge watershed. Trees have been replanted, and we are attempting to establish willow growth to reduce erosion along the Beaverlodge river banks. A number of area producers are working with us on their land to improve riparian function.

Over the winter, the Ag Department will be reviewing all of our programs, looking for efficiencies and areas where we can improve our service. We are committed to delivering the best programs efficiently.

In 2016, we aim to control tansy in one target area. Tansy infests about 1 1/2 townships.

Landowners in the target area will be receiving a letter explaining the goals and plans, and offering herbicide control options along fence lines. In early 2016, an intensive program of targeted spot spraying will commence, which should control this invasive weed.

SARDA has helped us address the issue of many of our

rural citizens not receiving this newsletter. We have gone to an addressed newsletter with the county providing the labels each month. Your personal information has not been sent to SARDA. If there are individuals in our rural areas that are not getting this newsletter and would like to, please contact the Ag Department at 780-532-9727 and we will add you to our list.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and all the best for the coming year. May you enjoy all that this upcoming holiday season has to offer.



**Sonja Ravens,
Agricultural
Fieldman**

More Information

Sonja Ravens, AF

780-567-5585

sraven@countygp.ab.ca

Knock, knock?

Who's there?

Megan and chicken

**Megan and chicken
who?**

**He's Megan a list and
chicken it twice, he's
gonna find out who's
naughty and nice...**



On-farm Safety Training - a Great Winter Activity

November 23, 2015 issue of Agri-News

"It's the time of year when some farmers take a step back from their hectic physical farm work and make assessments for the future," says Kenda Lubeck, farm safety coordinator, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF). "Farming is a demanding and frequently hazardous occupation. Keeping safety top of mind is important for all farm owners and workers to make it home safely each evening. Be pro-active and use this winter to ensure next season's farm work is injury- and incident-free."

Now is the time to plan for training during the winter months. Some courses you might consider taking:

- **First aid** – this is a must for any farm. It is advisable for all workers to have some sort of first aid training, whether it be first aid on the farm, emergency first aid, standard first aid or higher. There are a few options to access training. St. John's Ambulance has a great program and they are available toll free at 1-800-665-7114.
- **Equipment operator's training** – this is particularly important for new and young farm workers. Equipment such as skid steers, loaders, and tractors are powerful and have the potential to severely injure workers. Check online or look for courses in your area.
- **Chemical-related courses** –

farmers working with pesticides, ammonia and in the presence of sour gas will benefit from courses such as pesticide applicators, Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) or H2S Alive. Check with your chemical supply dealer for pesticide applicator training in your area. WHMIS training can be accessed online, while H2S courses are available through safety companies who specialize in oilfield safety courses.

- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) training** – for those handling chemicals, respirator training will be beneficial. For anyone working from heights, a fall protection course is recommended.
- **Livestock safety** – virtually any course involving livestock includes aspects of safety. For those using horses to tend cattle, perhaps a horsemanship or ranch hand course will help. Others to consider are stockman courses and horse/livestock hauling. Check with local agricultural societies, livestock clubs and organizations for upcoming clinics.
- **Machinery maintenance** – well cared for machinery and equipment means increased safety during use. Take a quick course in how to care for and properly maintain your

equipment to decrease the risk of down-time due to machinery failure.

- **Fire extinguisher training** – there are many types of fire extinguishers, and they can be intimidating to operate. It is a good idea to take this training before you need it.
- **Safety systems training** – at the basic level, this type of training course will teach participants the value of a safety program and how to get started setting one up. There are many courses aimed at different industries; farmers should look for a generic course provided by a private consultant or a reputable post-secondary institution.

"Winter is a great time to pull out your farm safety plan – or develop one if you haven't already – and decide what kind of training program your family members and employees should take," says Lubeck "This can be formal training such as mentioned, or simply going over the plan you have in place along with any farm workplace protocols."

In addition to training, take into consideration protocols for:

- hazard assessment and control
- record keeping
- communications
- emergency situations

AF has recently developed FarmSafe Alberta – A Safety Planning Guide for Farms and Ranches.. This is a tool that

farmers can use to create and implement a health and safety management system specific to their farming operation. For more information on the guide, or how to set up a FarmSafe Alberta workshop in your area, contact

farm safety coordinator Laurel Aitken at 780-980-4230.

“Planning now for a safe and prosperous year ahead is a sound investment for the future,” says Lubeck.

More Information

Alberta Farm Safety Program
[http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/All/aet623](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/All/aet623)



Canola Crush Margins

By Neil Blue

September 14, 2015 issue of Agri-News

What is the crush margin and why is important to canola prices?

“The crush margin is a comparison of the buying price of canola to the selling price of the products of the canola crush, canola oil and canola meal,” says Neil Blue, crop market analyst, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Vermilion. “The actual crush margins are known only to the individual commercial businesses involved in the processing. They can reflect premiums or discounts for quality factors and be based on contracts entered into many months ago. From their crush margin, the crusher still has all of the costs of operation to cover.”

To calculate a “board” canola crush margin, the ICE Canada canola futures price is used and, since there is not a canola oil or canola meal futures market trading in Canada, the U.S. futures markets for soybean oil and soybean meal are used as a substitute, with an adjustment for average

component differences. “U.S. soybean oil trades in cents/pound and U.S. soybean meal trades in \$/2000 lb. ton, so adjustments are made to convert the products to \$/metric tonne. Although it no longer accurately reflects current canola seed content, canola is assumed to contain 40 per cent oil and 60 percent meal. Because the U.S. futures prices are used in the calculation, a currency adjustment is also made.”

The following is the board canola crush formula:

Canola Board Crush Margin (Can \$/tonne) = (BO X 22.046 X US\$/Cdn\$ X 0.40) + (SM X 1.1023 X US/Cdn \$ rate X 0.60 X 0.75)

- ICE Futures Canada Canola seed futures

“Keeping in mind that actual crusher margins do not necessarily match the calculated board crush margin, over the last 18 months, the canola board crush margin has dropped from \$200+/tonne in February 2014 to the current level of about \$50/tonne, even

though the Canadian dollar has weakened during that time,” says Blue.

“The implication, especially with the limited size of the 2015 Canadian canola crop, is that Canadian canola crushers will not be operating at full capacity this crop year. However, canola crush margins could improve! The Canadian dollar could remain low, U.S. meal prices could rebound after harvest, and vegetable oil values in general may improve. May through August rain in Malaysia and Indonesia, who are major producers of palm oil, has been just half of average. That could reduce palm oil production in a few months and support all vegetable oil prices.”

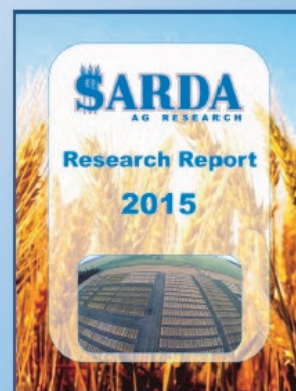
Canola meal and oil have well developed markets, and that will keep Canadian crushers keen to attract canola deliveries in competition with export demand. “You may expect stronger canola basis levels again this season after harvest selling pressure subsides.”



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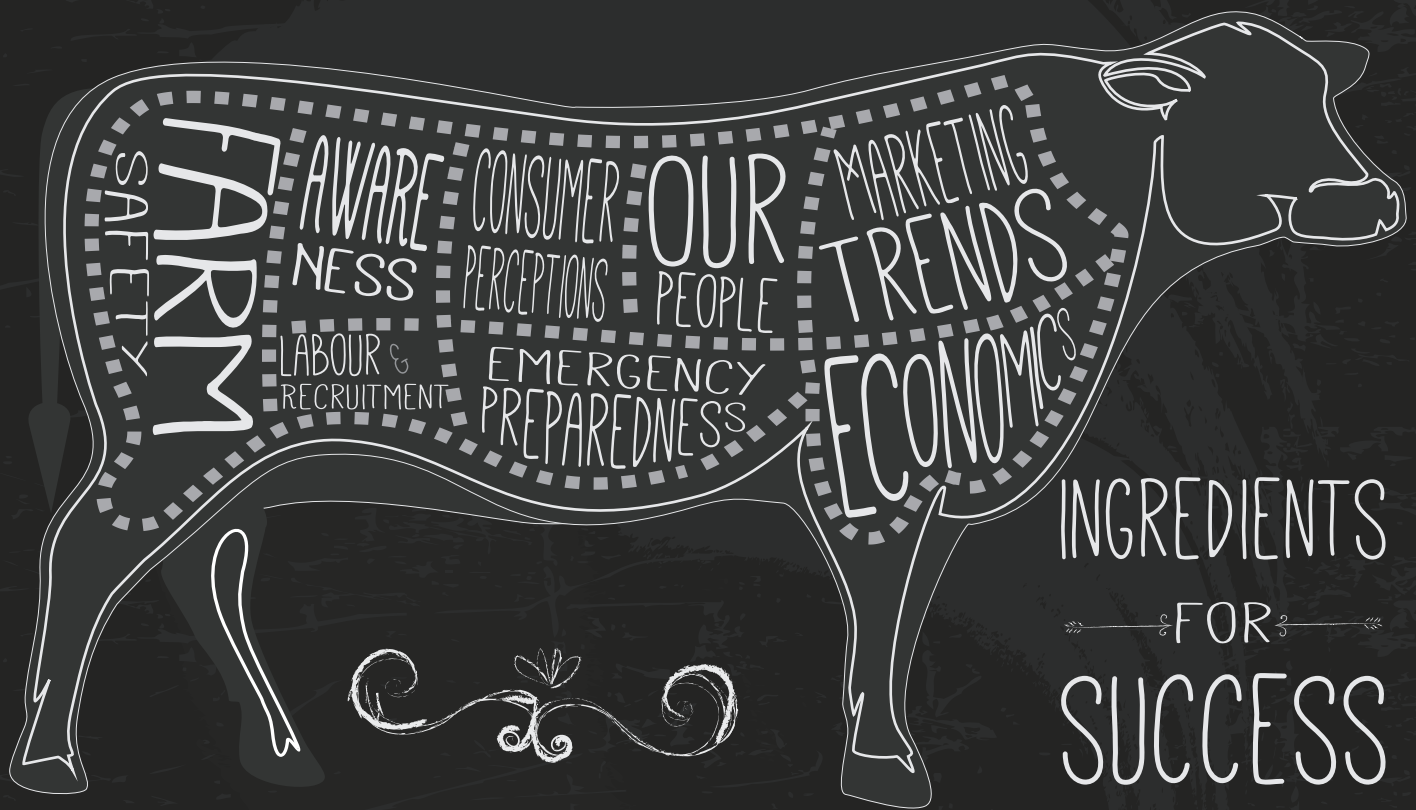
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SCHEDULE

February 17th, 2016

9am - 4pm	Recruitment & Retention Workshop
2pm - 4pm	Riding the Market Roller-coaster: Do you have what it takes?
2pm - 4pm	Equipment Safety
2pm - 4pm	Low Stress Cattle Handling
6:00pm	Western Saloon Reception & Dinner

February 18th, 2016

8:30am	Welcome
8:45am	Beef Producers in the Innovation Age: Practical Strategies for Success
9:45am	13 Ways to Kill your Beef Industry
10:30am	Coffee
11:15am	Investing In Prevention While Preparing for the Inevitable
12:00pm	Meat Industry Trends
12:45	Lunch
2:15pm	Losing Balance, Regaining Control: Alberta's Economy in 2016
3:00pm	Domestic & Global Market Update
5:30pm	Dennis Hull
6:15pm	Taste of Alberta & Live Auction

February 19th, 2016

9:00am	Weather Forecast
9:45am	Coffee
10:30am	Nutritional Advice - Is there a Solution to the Confusion?
11:30am	KNOW MEAT

TASTE OF ALBERTA AUCTION

If you would like to donate items for the silent and live auction, please bring them to the registration desk prior to Thursday.

We are restricting the live auction to a maximum of 20 items.

To find out how you can donate, please contact
Jennifer Brunette at 403-250-2509 or
jbrunette@cattlefeeders.ca

Pre Conference Workshops
February 17, 2016

9:00am – 4:00pm | Recruitment & Retention

This full day, instructive learning event has been created specifically for owners, managers, and supervisors. This session will help you:

- Find and keep qualified employees
- Make crucial HR management decisions
- Avoid common pitfalls
- Increase your understanding of the best approaches to recruitment and retention

2:00pm – 4:00pm | Riding the Market Rollercoaster: Do You have What it Takes?

Has market volatility kept you up at night? Are you concerned about your operation's ability to meet its financial obligations? Attend this workshop for a sneak preview of Lethbridge College's new Agriculture Business Risk Management (AgBRM). Learn how to assess your risk tolerance, measure risk versus reward, and see how this relates to your finances.

2:00pm – 4:00pm | Equipment Safety

Join Finning (Canada) for an interactive workshop focused on equipment use and maintenance. Topics discussed will include best practices related to equipment operation, hazard identification and control, as well as maintenance. We will also cover innovations in machine safety systems designed to reduce risk in your operation.

2:00pm – 4:00pm | Low Stress Cattle Handling

People's interaction with livestock has a powerful impact on animal health, performance, and subsequent handling ease. Now, more than ever, animal welfare is at the forefront of the industry due to its paramount importance with beef consumers. This workshop will explain how to reduce stress on animals and their handlers during several critical points in cow-calf, backgrounding, stocker and feedlot operations.

Conference Sessions
February 18, 2016

8:45am | Beef Producers in the Innovation Age: Practical Strategies for Success
Jim Bottomley | Entrepreneur, Consultant

We are entering a new economy, where nanoscience, bioscience, traceability, marketing possibilities, workforce management and collaboration between producers are evolving. Where are these trends headed? What could we do to be more successful?

9:45am | 13 Ways to Kill Your Beef Industry
Doug Griffiths | 13 Ways
Cathy Price | Acme School Career Connections

Success depends on a lot of factors, but the most significant factor is our attitude. The future of agriculture, and the future of youth in agriculture, requires new attitudes, new ways of thinking, and a new commitment by this generation to the next one. This session will show us where we are and where we can go.

11:15am | Investing in Prevention While Preparing for the Inevitable
Dr. Brian Evans | World Organisation for Animal Health

The meat sector operates in a reality of interdependence and convergence that requires constant threat awareness, vigilance, investments in biosecurity and public private partnerships in order to protect its economic prosperity.

Noon | Meat Industry Trends
Gary Haley | Vantage Foods Inc

Consumer preferences, retailer demands, and robust markets. Gary Haley will give his perspective on issues the processing industry is facing and discuss strategies to improve value-added efficiencies and profitability.

INGREDIENTS
—•—•—•—
SUCCESS

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Conference Sessions
February 18, 2016

**2:15pm | Losing Balance, Regaining Control:
Alberta's Economy in 2016**

Todd Hirsh | ATB Financial

It's been a challenging year for Alberta's economy, but is there a light at the end of the tunnel? The Canadian and global economies remain out of balance, weighing down confidence and commodity markets. Here in Alberta, economic stability was lost with a severe slump in oil prices – that's had a painful impact on employment for thousands of Albertans. When things are out of balance, regaining control is key. How and when might Alberta's economy get back on track?

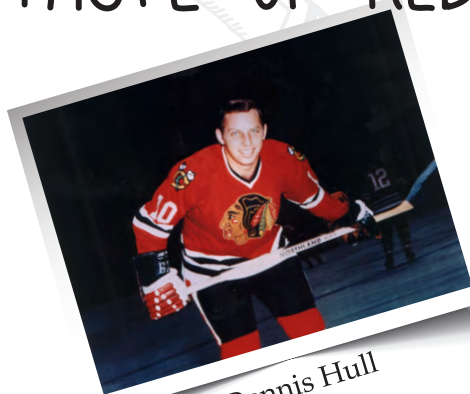
3:00pm | Cattle Market Update

Brian Perillat | Canfax

*Jerry Bouma | Toma & Bouma
Consultants*

This session will focus on the beef industry's supply, demand, and future price trends domestically and internationally as well as macro trends affecting the industry and how they will impact beef supply and cattle prices in the year ahead.

JOIN US FOR THE
TASTE OF ALBERTA



Dennis Hull

It was 30 years ago when a team of Canadian born NHLers took on a squad of Russia's hockey stars in an eight-game series that would change how the world looked at hockey and how the game would be played.

Canada won the Summit Series and Mr. Hull was a key player on Canada's victorious team.

Join us for a night of stories and good cheer with Mr. Hull.

Conference Sessions
February 19, 2016

9:00am | Weather Forecast

Art Douglas | Creighton University

The Alberta Beef Industry Conference is pleased to welcome back Art Douglas to discuss our upcoming weather forecast. This year's session will look at the impact of upcoming weather patterns and the effect it has on the agricultural community.

**10:30am | Nutritional Advice – Is there a
Solution to the Confusion?**

Dr. Joe Schwarcz | McGill University

Eating has become a confusing experience. Virtually every day brings news about some "miracle food" that we should be gulping down. It may be blueberries to prevent cancer, flaxseed against heart disease, soybeans for menopause or green coffee bean extract for weight loss. Then there are the worries: food additives, pesticide residues, GMOs, antibiotics, meat consumption. We need proper science to guide us through this nutritional maze.

11:30am | KNOW MEAT

Rob Saik | Agri-Trend

As the founder of the *KNOW GMO Movie* project, Rob has gained insights into the rural / urban divide. He is going to talk about the gap that exists between romantic and real agriculture and how we might create some bridges to help people understand the science side of our industry. Rob will share some video clips from their film project and shed light on how we might be able to get people to KNOW MEAT better.



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Pre-Conference Mini Sessions | February 17, 2016 | Session capped at 30 people | 2 Hour Session _____ \$25

Please Indicate session ☐ Riding the Market Rollercoaster ☐ Equipment Safety ☐ Low Stress Cattle Handling

Pre-Conference Full Day Session | February 17, 2016 | Session capped at 30 people | Full Day Session _____ \$75

Conference (February 18 & 19, 2016) early _____ \$425 late _____ \$495

Early Rates End January 15th.

Spouse's Name: _____ \$275

Young Producer's Name (Under 30 Only): _____ \$250

Yes, I would like to sponsor a student or young producer at the conference. _____ x250

Your company name will be displayed on the student or young producers name tag and recognition of your contribution will be noted during the conference.

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Composting fastest and cheapest way to deal with deadstock



By [Alexis Kienlen](#)

Reporter

Published: December 16, 2015

[Livestock](#), [News](#)

[Be the first to comment](#)



A good pile of compost breaks down quickly and doesn't smell. *Photo: Supplied*

One of the fastest and cheapest ways to dispose of deadstock is to compost them — and you can even do it in winter.

“As soon as your compost heats up to 40 C, it doesn't smell like a carcass anymore... it's not,” said Kim Stanford, a beef research scientist with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.

“Good mortality composting takes some time and effort, but really, it's something that you can adapt to most farms.”

When a compost pile is working properly, a dead cow of average feedlot weight can be broken down in about nine months, she said during a recent Beef Cattle Research Centre webinar.

The site should be accessible year round and close to compost amendments, such as straw, manure and sawdust. It shouldn't be close to wells or livestock pens, and be in a well-drained area with a catchment for run-off.

“The goal of composting is to maintain happy aerobic bacteria and fungi — those are the organisms that do the hard work of breaking down the carcasses,” said Stanford. “The secret to composting is to set up your piles well and if you do that properly, there are no worries and it just composts by itself.”

The compost pile should be six feet tall and constructed in layers over dead cattle laid on their sides (but not touching).

“Just use whatever you've got on hand,” said Stanford. “Composting is a really forgiving process and you can use things that are waste products that are on your farm,” she said.

Old straw, manure, sawdust, wood chips, and even spoiled silage can be used, but the amendments can't be too wet. The base layer should be as dry as possible.

For a compost to be active and work properly, it has to contain oxygen.

When building the compost, windrows need to be built so water runs off and doesn't pool on top of them. If the windrows are too small, they can dry out or get too wet when it rains. Compost needs to be turned — Stanford and her research team did that three times in a nine-month period. After nine months, the compost should look like dirt and have no smell. If the pile reached 55 C, pathogens are killed.

The piles can be started in winter as long as they are dry and warm manure is used to start the composting process.

There are other options for dealing with deadstock but all have drawbacks. Boneyards (or natural exposure) can lead to problems with disease, odour, flies, water contamination, and predation.

On-farm burial is also permitted, but the hole must be four feet deep and located 500 feet from a well and 350 from a barn or dwelling. Burial can also affect the water table, create odour, and get expensive as new sites are required.

Burning is illegal and incinerators able to handle cattle are rare and not legal in all areas. A biodigester is an option, but there are operational challenges and they are expensive.

About the author

[Alexis Kienlen](#)

Reporter



Alexis Kienlen lives in Edmonton and has been writing for Alberta Farmer since 2008. Originally from Saskatoon, she has also published two collections of poetry and a biography about a Sikh civil rights activist. Her freelance work has appeared in numerous publications across Canada.

Alexis Kienlen's recent articles

- [Living large — and eating only local — in a land of bounty](#) Dec. 22, 2015
- [International Year of Soils ends with a bang in Alberta](#) Dec. 21, 2015
- [Team Canada a hit with foreign wheat buyers](#) Dec. 21, 2015

[More Articles](#)



WHO GOT THE BLACK EYE?

I can't help but wonder if the scientists at the World Health Organization were surprised by public reaction to their linking processed meat and red meat to cancer.

Within hours the hashtags #FreeBacon, #Bacongeddon and JeSuis Bacon exploded to the top of the Twitterverse with negative tweets outnumbering the positives by seven to one.

German agriculture minister, Christian Schmidt immediately jumped to the defence of bratwurst, a favoured food that "no one should be afraid to eat every now and then."

Austrian agriculture minister, Andra Rupprechter posted a picture of himself eating cold cuts, and labelling the WHO report a farce.

Meat-loving South Africans who favour their beef cooked over an open barbecue didn't expect anything to change because of the WHO report.

Similar quotes piled on from Italy where processed meat is an important part of the Mediterranean diet.

Certainly this spontaneous reaction to the negative headlines is heartening to meat industry supporters. It wasn't a choreographed response to a carefully crafted campaign by some vegan activists. It was people reacting to a threat to their way of life.

Can you imagine a World Series baseball game with no hotdogs? Or breakfast at your favourite haunt with no bacon and eggs on the menu, or lunch without corned beef, ham or pastrami on rye? Obviously, a lot of people can't.

It makes you wonder who collected the black eye here, the meat industry or the scientific community?

The North American Meat Industry believes it's the latter. NAMI vice-president of scientific affairs, Dr. Betsy Booren had some of the harshest criticism of the WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).

She claims this expert panel showed a bias in classifying red and processed meat as cancer hazards when it ignored many of the studies that showed the health benefits of a balanced diet that includes meat.

The panel does seem to have a predilection for finding cancer wherever it looks; of the 985 agents it has examined so far, all but one product, a chemical in yoga pants, have been classified as theoretical hazards for cancer. Sunshine, alcohol, coffee and many of the things that give pleasure to life make that list along with red meat and bologna.

In this case the researchers reviewed 800 epidemiological studies and ended up focusing on a few cohort stud-

ies focused on colorectal cancer. Positive associations were reported in 12 of 18 studies. A statistical analysis of the data in 10 of them showed a 17 per cent higher risk of bowel cancer when patients ate 100 grams of red meat per day and an 18 per cent higher risk in those eating 50 grams of processed meat per day.

What's the risk that you will get colorectal cancer if you don't eat red and processed meat? About the same.

The Canadian Cattlemen's Association puts it at one per cent, based on the 100 grams per day example. To start with, Canadians eat about half that, closer to 50 grams of red meat per day on average. Then you mix in the low risk that you would ever get colorectal cancer. The American Society of Clinical Oncology estimates five per cent of those with an average risk of colorectal cancer actually get sick.

There is no discussion in the WHO report about what else these people consumed, whether they were young or old, healthy or run down. Just that they said they ate this amount of meat every day and had cancer of the bowel.

What about alcohol, or coffee, or sugar (another hazard)? The IARC attributes 34,000 cancer deaths per year to diets high in processed meat, and 600,000 to alcohol. So, one wonders, how many of those 34,000 also drank wine or beer with their meals?

How they came up with a correlation for a single ingredient in a diet and turned it into a cause of a particular cancer is a mystery.

The mystery is even deeper when it comes to red meat which is given a 2A rating as a cancer hazard, meaning there is limited evidence of it causing cancer in humans but sufficient evidence that it does in experimental animals. It's "a positive association" but they can't rule out chance, bias or confounding reasons for these observations. This is the basis of worldwide headlines stating red meat causes cancer?

Perhaps the fog will lift when they publish their full monograph, along with their methodology, next year.

The only real question for the meat industry is how the public will react to this announcement over time.

The first response has been favourable. Whether that will weaken when the anti-meat gang has a chance to mobilize their fear machine time will tell.

I remain hopeful that common sense will prevail.

The bacon-loving humour writer for the *Winnipeg Free Press*, Doug Speirs sums it up nicely: "So if you want to panic and get your knickers in a twist, sure, go ahead and go cold turkey on bacon. You won't live any longer, but it will definitely feel like it." ★

Korea's temporary ban on Canadian beef lifted

By [Staff](#)

Published: December 31, 2015

[Beef Cattle](#), [Livestock](#), [Markets](#)



(Photo courtesy Canada Beef Inc.)

South Korea's temporary ban on imports of Canadian beef and veal, imposed after Canada's discovery of a 19th case of BSE in February, has been lifted as of Wednesday.

Agriculture Minister Lawrence MacAulay and Trade Minister Chrystia Freeland announced the Korean government's decision Thursday.

South Korea had re-imposed its ban on Canadian beef after the discovery of Canada's Case 19 — an Alberta beef cow and the first case of BSE to be born in Canada after an “enhanced” federal feed ban took effect in 2007.

Case 19 didn't affect Canada's status as “controlled risk” for BSE, as per World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) standards for beef safety, but Korea and a handful of other countries put up temporary bans pending the results of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's BSE investigation.

South Korea had been Canada's fourth-biggest export market for beef in 2002, prior to the discovery of Canada's first domestic case of BSE — after which Korea closed its ports to Canadian product until 2012.

In 2014, South Korea was Canada's sixth biggest beef buyer, taking \$25.8 million in imports, which made Canada the fourth-biggest shipper of beef into the South Korean market after Australia, the U.S. and New Zealand.

"South Korea holds huge potential for beef and especially cuts and offals that are underutilized here at home," Canadian Cattlemen's Association president Dave Solverson said in the federal government's release Thursday.

"Korea is a market that will pay more for those select items and that helps to increase the overall value of the animal for producers."

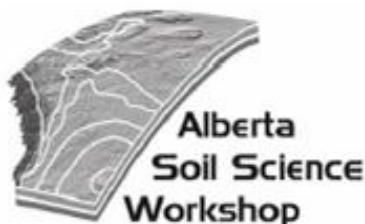
"South Korea is an important market for Canadian exporters and this positive development is a testament to our close commercial relationship," Freeland said in the same release, noting Jan. 1, 2016 marks the one-year anniversary for the Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement.

Combined with the free trade pact, Seoul's announcement "allows Canadian beef and veal exporters to begin the process of reclaiming a greater share of the important Korean market," Matt Gibney, chair of the beef, veal and lamb committee of the Canadian Meat Council, said in a separate release Thursday.

With 50 million "mostly middle-income" consumers, and beef and veal import demand worth US\$1.7 billion per year, the South Korean market is "highly coveted by all of the globe's major beef exporting nations," he said.

CMC executive director Jim Laws, in the same release, noted projections that South Korea will import over 400,000 tonnes of beef and veal during 2016.

"Successful completion of the technical discussions (to lift the ban) permits this country's packers and processors to not only renew, but also to further intensify our relationships with Korean importers and consumers," Laws said. — *AGCanada.com Network*



2016 ALBERTA SOIL SCIENCE WORKSHOP

Challenges and Opportunities in the Management of
Northern Soils

February 16-18th 2016

Venue:

Grande Prairie, Alberta at the Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre. Please contact the Pomeroy to book your room at 780-532-5221. To ensure that you receive the DISCOUNTED group room rate (\$139/night), please let them know you are an attendee of the Alberta Soil Science Workshop.

Registration:

Will be open in mid-November. Please visit www.soilsworkshop.ab.ca for the latest updates.

Travel to Grande Prairie: In order to reduce the number of individual travelers on the road, there will be bus transportation available to ALL attendees at a reduced rate (\$50 roundtrip from Calgary and \$40 from Edmonton).

Pre-workshop activity:

Presentation and review of the newly released reclamation criteria for Peatlands.

Call for Papers:

We are inviting title and abstract submissions for land reclamation, soil fertility, wetland and forest soils, land use and pedogenesis technical sessions. To submit a title, please visit www.soilsworkshop.ab.ca, download and complete a template and email to: soilsworkshop@gmail.com by January 15, 2016.

Plenary Speakers:

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Richard Kabzems (BC Ministry of Forests)
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- Combine & Header Optimization by Kris Swan & Stefan Caers,
Combine Optimization Specialists from John Deere
- Straight Cutting Canola – Why Genetics Matter by Bayer

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Dr. Pordomingo resides in La Pampa Argentina, and is a Senior Researcher with the National Institute of Agriculture Research of Argentina, and is the National Coordinator for the National Animal Production Program for the National Institute for Agriculture Technology.

His work and areas of expertise encompass; ruminant nutrition, feeds & feeding, and animal performance. As well as forage sequencing for finishing cattle, grazing strategies for optimal gain, and beef quality under various grazing systems.

Clayton Robins owns and operates a fourth-generation mixed family farm in Rivers, Manitoba, focusing on cow/calf, back-grounding, and custom grazing steers. He is also a former beef and forage researcher with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Clayton is a 2013 Nuffield Scholar Graduate, where he studied feeding energy-dense forages and their place in production systems in Canada.



Join us for a day during Anibal & Clayton's Alberta Tour!

Thursday, January 28 th -	Heritage Inn	- Brooks
Friday, January 29 th -	Smoky Lake Ag Complex	- Smoky Lake
Monday, February 1 st -	Dunvegan Motor Inn	- Fairview

- Cost: \$40/Person,
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- Registration at 9 am
- Lunch will be provided

Please contact your local Applied Research Association to register for an event near you!

Brooks: 403-652-4900

Smoky Lake: 780-826-7260 **Fairview:** 780-835-6799

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February 23rd, 2016
Rycroft Ag Society Hall
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Livestock Tax Deferral Provision

This program is a Federal Government program that allows farmers who sell part of their breeding herd due to drought or excess moisture and flood conditions in designated regions to defer apportion of sale proceeds to the following year (see definition of breeding herd (<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/l-3.3/page-116.html#docCont>)). Each year, a list of designated regions prescribed as drought and /or excess moisture and flood regions is announced by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

How the Provision Works

To defer income, the breeding herd must have been reduced by at least 15 per cent. Thirty per cent of income from net sales can be deferred if the breeding herd has been reduced by at least 15 per cent, but less than 30 percent. Where the herd has been reduced by 30 percent or more, 90 percent of income from net sales can be deferred.

Proceeds from deferred sales are included as income in the next tax year, when they may be partially offset by the cost of reacquiring breeding animals. In the case of consecutive years of drought or excess moisture and flood designation, producers may defer sales income to the first year in which the area is no longer designated.

For more details on the tax deferral provisions, see the Canada Revenue Agency's Tax Guide on Farming Income (<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/bsnss/sgmnts/frmng/menu-eng.html>)

How the Regions are Designated

Drought or excessive moisture and flood regions are designated on the advice of the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to the Minister of Finance. Canada Revenue Agency requires that designated areas have recognized geo-political boundaries (e.g. municipalities or counties) for administrative purposes.

Discussions with industry representatives in 1990 led to a decision that tax deferral would only be requested if the impact was significant. "Significant" was defined as forage yields of less than 50 percent of the long-term average, and an area that is large enough to have an impact on the industry. Impacts on individual municipalities would not result in a designation.

Livestock producers have also indicated a strong preference for designation to take place as early as possible to provide them with the information needed to make fall and winter management decisions.

A preliminary designation can usually be done in September if it appears that the criteria will be met. Since forage yield information is not final until later in the year, preliminary designation is made primarily on the basis of spring moisture and summer rainfall, supplemented with estimates of forage yield. Assessments of areas are reviewed in discussions with federal and provincial staff. Final decisions and any needed adjustments are made when all forage yield information is available, usually in December.

Only drought or excessive moisture and flood-induced impacts are considered in the designation of eligible areas for tax deferral.

For further information please contact the Minister's Office:

The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay

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Phone: 613.995.9325

January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 <i>Peace Country Beef Congress—Dawson Creek</i>	9 <i>Peace Country Beef Congress—Dawson Creek</i>
10 <i>Peace Country Beef Congress—Dawson Creek</i>	11	12 <i>Council Meeting</i>	13 <i>Peace Agronomy Update—Fairview</i>	14 <i>Holistic Management Course—Valleyview</i>	15 <i>Holistic Management Course—Valleyview</i>	16 <i>Holistic Management Course—Valleyview</i>
17	18 <i>ASB Conference—Edmonton</i>	19 <i>ASB Conference—Edmonton Cutting Edge Expo—Grande Prairie</i>	20 <i>ASB Conference—Edmonton</i>	21 <i>ASB Conference—Edmonton Holistic Management Course—Valleyview</i>	22 <i>Holistic Management Course—Valleyview</i>	23 <i>Holistic Management Course—Valleyview</i>
24	25 <i>FarmTech—Edmonton</i>	26 <i>Council Meeting FarmTech—Edmonton</i>	27 <i>ASB Meeting FarmTech—Edmonton</i>	28 <i>FarmTech—Edmonton</i>	29	30 <i>Winter Watering System Tour—Eaglesham Social Centre</i>
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February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Peace Country Beef Cattle Day—Fairview High Quality Forages—Fairview</i>	2	3 <i>Caring for your Green Zone—High Prairie</i>	4	5	6
7	8	9 <i>Council Meeting Tactical Farming conference—Calgary</i>	10 <i>Tactical Farming conference—Calgary</i>	11 <i>Working Well Workshop—High Prairie</i>	12	13
14	15	16 <i>Soil Science Workshop—Grande Prairie</i>	17 <i>Growing the North Conference—Grande Prairie Alberta Beef Industry Conference—Red Deer Soil Science Workshop—Grande Prairie</i>	18 <i>Growing the North Conference—Grande Prairie Alberta Beef Industry Conference—Red Deer Soil Science Workshop—Grande Prairie</i>	19 <i>Alberta Beef Industry Conference—Red Deer</i>	20
21	22	23 <i>Council Meeting Cocktail Cover Crop Selection Workshop—Rycroft</i>	24 <i>ASB Meeting</i>	25	26 <i>PCBFA AGM—Fairview</i>	27
28	29					

March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>FCC Ag Outlook 2016—Grande Prairie</i>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 <i>Council Meeting</i>	9	10 <i>Peace Country Classic Agri-Show— Grande Prairie</i>	11 <i>Peace Country Classic & Beef Market Outlook—Grande Prairie</i>	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 <i>Council Meeting</i>	23 <i>ASB Meeting</i>	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		