



# MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW NO. 16

*"A Great Place to Live, Work and Play"*

## REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

9:30 AM

Meeting Room  
FCSS Building

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#1	CALL TO ORDER		
#2	ADOPTION OF AGENDA		
#3	MINUTES	3.1	Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes held May 30, 2018 – to be adopted
			3
		3.2	Business Arising from the Minutes
#4	DELEGATIONS	4.1	
#5	OLD BUSINESS	5.1	
#6	NEW BUSINESS	6.1	
#7	STAFF REPORT & ASB MEMBERS BUSINESS & REPORTS	7.1	Staff Report
			6
#8	CORRESPONDENCE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alberta Crop Conditions- July 03, 2018</li><li>• Alberta Crop Conditions- June 25, 2018</li><li>• Alberta Crop Conditions- June 19, 2018</li><li>• Alberta Crop Conditions- June 12, 2018</li><li>• Alberta Crop Conditions- June 05, 2018</li><li>• Alberta Crop Conditions- May 29, 2018</li><li>• Atco to pay for lost revenues</li><li>• Pest Insider- June 2018</li><li>• MD Smokey River letter to Minister MacAulay regarding GE Alfalfa</li><li>• Back Forty- June 2018</li><li>• Alberta Farm Animal Care Insights</li></ul>

- New Barley survey power strategies to harvest more feed value
- Energy Efficient Technology at your fingertips
- Municipalities on the front line in Clubroot
- Final long form AgriProfits promotional video and final social clip
- Flowering Rush recently found for sale in Alberta
- Flea Beetles and Cutworms
- Gray Willow Leaf Beetle
- Range & Pasture Weekly Weed Update- June 04, 2018
- Range & Pasture Weekly Weed Update -June 11, 2018
- Range & Pasture Weekly Weed Update- June 18, 2018
- Range & Pasture Weekly Weed Update -June 25, 2018
- Red Turnip Beetle
- Forage Facts- June 2018
- Flea Beetles
- Alberta Crop Report
- There's A wealth of weather data at ACIS
- Herbicides Residues – Sprayer Cleanout
- Blue-Green Algae
- Wheat Reclassification- August 01, 2018
- Footprints- Self Guided Tours
- Herbicide Resistance
- Moisture Situation- June 26, 2018

#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, May 30, 2018**

**#1  
CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Allen Perkins called the meeting to order at 9:29 a.m.

**PRESENT**

A.S.B. Member – Chair	Allen Perkins
A.S.B. Member - Vice Chair	Warren Wohlgemuth
A.S.B. Member – Councillor	Bill Smith
A.S.B. Member - Councillor	Dale Smith
A.S.B. Member	Larry Smith
A.S.B. Member	Stephen Lewis

**ATTENDING**

Manager, Agriculture Services	Quentin Bochar
Assistant Manager, Agriculture Services	Dave Berry
Recording Secretary	Kristin King

**ABSENT**

A.S.B. Member	Richard Brochu
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**#2  
AGENDA**

MOTION: 18.05.18 Moved by: Dale Smith  
That the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**#3.1 REGULAR ASB  
MEETING**

MOTION: 18.05.19 Moved by: Stephen Lewis  
That the minutes of the April 26, 2018 Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting to be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**#3.2  
BUSINESS ARISING  
FROM MINUTES**

**3.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**#4.0  
DELEGATIONS**

**4.1 DELEGATIONS**

**#5  
OLD BUSINESS**

**5.1 OLD BUSINESS**

**#6  
NEW BUSINESS**

**6.1 2018 AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD SUMMER TOUR**

**NEW BUSINESS**

MOTION: 18.05.20 Moved by: Warren Wohlgemuth  
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the 2018 Agricultural Service Board Summer Tour Event Summary as information.

CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION: 18.05.21** Moved by: Warren Wohlgemuth  
That the Agricultural Service Board decide which members will be attending the upcoming Agricultural Service Board Summer Tour being hosted by Strathcona County July 10 - 13, 2018 to let Agriculture staff know by June 15, 2015.

CARRIED

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

**7.1 STAFF REPORT & ASB MEMBERS BUSINESS & REPORTS**

**COUNCILLOR BILL SMITH** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities

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**COUNCILLOR DALE SMITH** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities

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**VICE CHAIR WARREN WOHLGEMUTH** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities

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**CHAIR ALLEN PERKINS** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities

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**MEMBER LARRY SMITH** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities

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**MEMBER STEPHEN LEWIS** updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities

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Councillor Dale Smith vacated the meeting at 10:45 am

Councillor Dale Smith re-entered the meeting at 10:46 am

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

**MOTION: 18.05.22** Moved by: Dale Smith  
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Manager’s report and ASB members reports as information.

CARRIED

**#8 CORRESPONDENCE**

**8.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE LISTING**

**MOTION: 18.05.23** Moved by: Warren Wohlgemuth



That the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence as presented.

CARRIED

#9  
IN CAMERA

**9.0 IN CAMERA**

#10  
ADJOURNMENT

**10.0 ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: 18.05.24 Moved by: Larry Smith

That the Agricultural Service Board Meeting adjourn at 10:50 a.m.

CARRIED

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Agricultural Service Board Chair

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Manager, Agricultural Services



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

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SUBJECT: **Manager's Report and ASB Member's Report**  
SUBMISSION TO: AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD      REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION  
MEETING DATE: July 18, 2018      CAO:      MANAGER: QFB  
DEPARTMENT: AGRICULTURE      GM:      PRESENTER: QFB  
STRATEGIC PLAN: Level of Service

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RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

**Provincial** (cite) – N/A

**Council Bylaw/Policy** (cite) – N/A

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RECOMMENDED ACTION:

**MOTION: That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Manager's report and ASB members reports as information.**

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BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Manager's report contains information pertaining to the departments operations for the time period from the previous meeting to time of writing of the agenda.

The ASB Member's report contains information pertaining to the members activities for the time period from the previous meeting to the current meeting.

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BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Having the ASB vote in favour of the Ag Department Staff report, will allow the ASB to be kept updated on the Ag Department activities.

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DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended motion.

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ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

**Alternative #1:** The ASB may choose to not accept this report as information.

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion.

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STAFFING IMPLICATION:

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

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**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:**

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

**INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT**

Inform

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL**

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

**PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC**

Inform - We will keep you informed.

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**FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:**

There are no follow up actions to the recommended motion.

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**ATTACHMENT(S):**

- Copy of the Manager/Staff Report from the Agriculture Services Department

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

**For the Period: May 30, 2018 – July 9, 2018**

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

Weeds	73
Pests	21
Trees	5
Workshops	10
Rentals	196
Equipment Purchasing	10
Extension	30
Employment	3
Miscellaneous	94
<b>TOTAL ENQUIRIES</b>	<b>442</b>

**MEETINGS / CONFERENCES / TRAINING**

Manager Agriculture Services

- May 30 – Meeting in Grande Cache with Grande Cache Environmental Awareness Committee
- June 11 – Valleyview ratepayers BBQ
- June 12, 2018 – Tansy Clean-up Project Presentation – City of Grande Prairie
- June 12 – Tansy Island project meeting with County GP in Grande Prairie
- June 26 – Hosted Cows and Fish seminar with PCBFA in Valleyview

Asst. Manager Agriculture Services

- May 30 – Meeting in Grande Cache with Grande Cache Environmental Awareness Committee
- June 4-5 - Essential Skills for Supervisors Grande Prairie
- June 11 – Valleyview ratepayers BBQ
- June 12 – Tansy Island project meeting with County GP in Grande Prairie
- June 12, 2018 – Tansy Clean-up Project Presentation – City of Grande Prairie
- June 14-15 Essential Skills for Supervisors Grande Prairie
- June 20-21 – Leadership for Safety Excellence Valleyview
- June 26 – Hosted Cows and Fish seminar with PCBFA in Valleyview
- July 6-7 Alberta Trappers Assn Rendezvous Westlock
- July 10 – Interview Ag Supervisor Trainee temp position
- July 16 – Grovedale Ratepayers BBQ

Agriculture Supervisor Trainee Agriculture Services

- June 4, 2018 – FileHold Training – Valleyview

- June 7, 2018 – Meeting with Grande Cache Weed Inspector – Grande Cache
- June 7, 2018 – Classroom Agriculture Program Presentation (2) – Grande Cache
- June 11, 2018 – Ratepayers Barbeque – Valleyview
- June 12, 2018 – Tansy Clean-up Project Presentation – City of Grande Prairie
- June 12, 2018 – Tansy Clean-up Project preliminary meeting – County of Grande Prairie
- June 28, 2018 – Clubroot information presentation for Atco - Valleyview
- July 10, 2018 – Interview: Agriculture Supervisor Trainee Temp Position - Valleyview

### **STAFFING**

Ag Services is still advertising for the Ag. Supervisor Trainee position, interviews are being held. Administrative Assistant position is in the review stage, to decide whom the offer will be made to.

### **RESOURCES, EQUIPMENT, AND FACILITIES**

All 2018 Capital Purchases for the Ag Department have ordered and delivered, AG18001 (Rear Blade) is awaiting delivery.

### **BUDGET**

Budget for 2019 and 2020-2021 is currently under process.

### **EXTENSION EVENTS**

SARDA and PCBFA have been conducting a number of Extension events in partnership with Ag Services and Ag Services has been posting the information to our web page, Facebook, and Twitter accounts.

Please see following list of events (year):

<b>Date</b>	<b>Workshop</b>	<b>Location</b>
January 18, 2018	<a href="#"><u>2018 Peace Agronomy Update</u></a>	Dunvegan Motor Inn
January 23, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Clubroot Information Session</u></a>	DeBolt Pioneer Centre
January 23, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Clubroot Information Session</u></a>	Valleyview Memorial Hall
January 25, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Living With Wildlife</u></a>	DeBolt Pioneer Centre
January 30 – February 2, 2018	<a href="#"><u>FarmTech 2018</u></a>	Edmonton Expo Centre
February 9, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Local Vegetable Markets</u></a>	Sunset House Hall

February 10, 2018	<a href="#">Winter Watering Systems Tour</a>	Wanham
February 20, 2018	<a href="#">SARDA AGM and Extension Event</a>	Falher
February 21-23, 2018	<a href="#">Alberta Beef Industry Conference</a>	Sheraton Red Deer Hotel
February 22, 2018	<a href="#">Hemp Fiber Marketing Info Session</a>	Manning Legion Hall
February 23, 2018	<a href="#">PCBFA Annual General Meeting</a>	TBA
February 28, 2018	<a href="#">Including Sainfoin in Your Pastures</a>	Grimshaw Legion Hall
February 28, 2018	<a href="#">5% Rule on Farm Profitability</a>	Rycroft
March 12, 2018	<a href="#">Crunching Numbers on Biocontrols in Bedding Plant Production</a>	Webinar
March 14, 2018	<a href="#">EFP &amp; Growing Forward 2 Openhouse Workshop</a>	PCBFA Office, High Prairie
March 14, 2018	<a href="#">PRFSA Production and Marketing Seminar</a>	Rycroft Ag. Center
March 14-15, 2018	<a href="#">2018 Livestock Car Conference</a>	Olds, Alberta
March 15, 2018	<a href="#">Forage Seed Agronomy Update</a>	Rycroft Ag. Center
March 15, 2018	<a href="#">Building for the Bumbles Workshop</a>	ENTREC Center, Grande Prairie
March 20, 2019	<a href="#">Buttercup/Burdock Workshop</a>	Little Smoky Community Hall
March 21, 2018	<a href="#">Buttercup/Burdock Workshop</a>	Grovedale Public Services Building
March 26-27, 2018	<a href="#">Advancing Women in Agriculture Conference</a>	Hyatt Regency Calgary, Alberta
March 28, 2018	No Fear Farm Finance	Webinar
March 28, 2018	Species Selection: The First Step to Producing Good Quality Silage	Webinar
March 28, 2018	<a href="#">AgSafe Workshop</a>	Falher, Alberta

March 29, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Tools for Building Soil Health: Livestock and Crop Integration</u></a>	St. Isidore, Alberta
April 3, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Shelterbelt Workshop – Cancelled</u></a>	<del>Grovedale Public Services Building</del>
April 4, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Shelterbelt Workshop – Cancelled</u></a>	<del>DeBolt Public Services Building</del>
April 5, 2018	<del>Moisture Testing, Harvesting and Storing Good Quality Silage</del>	Webinar
April 11, 2018	<del>Comparing Costs: How Can Silage Fit into Your Budget?</del>	Webinar
April 16-17, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Ag Drone School</u></a>	Grande Prairie, Alberta
April 17, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Industrial Hemp Production Workshop</u></a>	Triangle Hall, Alberta
April 17, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Shelterbelt Workshop</u></a>	<del>Debolt Public Services Building</del>
April 18, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Shelterbelt Workshop</u></a>	<del>Grovedale Public Service Building</del>
April 18, 2018	<del>The Do's and Don'ts of Feeding Silage to Livestock</del>	Webinar
April 24, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Soil Information Viewer – Steps to Becoming an Expert</u></a>	Webinar
May 25, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance – AGM</u></a>	Peace River, Alberta
June 5, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Septic Sense Workshop</u></a>	Valleyview Memorial Hall
June 6, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Working Well Workshop</u></a>	Valleyview Memorial Hall
June 26, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Crops, Creeks &amp; Sloughs: Managing Riparian Areas</u></a>	Valleyview Memorial Hall
July 19, 2018	<a href="#"><u>SARDA's Summer Field School</u></a>	Falher, Alberta
July 24, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Morning Coffee &amp; Plot Tour</u></a>	High Prairie, Alberta
August 2, 2018	<a href="#"><u>Field Day at the Research Farm</u></a>	Fairview, Alberta

August 7 – 9, 2018	<a href="#">2018 International Clubroot Workshop</a>	Edmonton, Alberta
August 9, 2018	<a href="#">Peace County Cocktail Cover Crop Tour</a>	Fairview, Alberta
August 13, 2018	<a href="#">Healthy Soil, Healthy Profits: Making Your Soil Work for You</a>	Teepee Creek, Alberta
August 14, 2018	<a href="#">Healthy Soil, Healthy Profits: Making Your Soil Work for you</a>	High Prairie, Alberta
August 15, 2018	<a href="#">SARDA Crop Walk</a>	MD of Smoky River, Alberta
November 15-16, 2018	<a href="#">2018 Green Industry Show and Conference</a>	Edmonton, Alberta

## **PROGRAMS**

### ➤ **VETERINARY SERVICES INCORPORATED**

No (0) new cards have been issued.

### ➤ **PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROL**

To date, 80 wolves have been presented for payment. Total 2018 incentive expenditures: \$24,000.00

YEAR	WOLVES	AMOUNT
2017	99	\$ 29,700.00
2018	80	\$ 24,000.00
<b>Total</b>	179	\$ 53,700.00

### **WOLF PREDATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

There has been 3 new requests for assistance with verified wolf predation. There has been zero wolves removed.

Problem Wildlife Officer has been requested to come out and visit some farm/ranch operations, and has provided advice and information to the ratepayers. Have also had discussions with another 0 individuals regarding wolves.

### **COYOTE PREDATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

There has been 4 new requests for assistance with verified coyote predation. There has been 0 coyotes removed.

Problem Wildlife Officer has been requested to come out and visit some farm/ranch operations, and has provided advice and information to the ratepayers.



OTHER PREDATORS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

There have been 3 new requests for assistance with other predator problems (bears). There has been 0 pests removed.

OTHER PROBLEM WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

There have been 6 new requests for assistance with other problem wildlife species problems (Skunks). There has been 0 pests removed.

Problem Wildlife Officer has been requested to come out and visit some farm/ranch operations or acreages, and has provided advice and information to the ratepayers. One complaint required assistance with the use of the trap.

There have been 0 new requests for assistance with other problem wildlife species problems (Ravens). There has been 0 pests removed.

There have been 0 new requests for assistance with other problem wildlife species problems (Magpies). There has been 0 pests removed.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION AND AGRICULTURE FLOODING PREVENTION PROGRAM

There has been 40 new requests for assistance with beaver caused flooding issues (infrastructure). There has been 70 beavers removed to date

WILD BOAR BOUNTY

There have been 0 sets of Wild Boar ears turned in. Total 2018 incentive expenditures \$0.00.

➤ **RENTAL EQUIPMENT**

Loc	Equipment	Equipment Number	S/N	Total Days	Cost/Day	Total Charges
VV	1000 Earth Mover	SOIL3100		0	\$ 150.00	\$ -
CC	1000 Earth Mover	SOIL3101		0	\$ 150.00	\$ -
GD	900 Earth Mover	SOIL3070		0	\$ 150.00	\$ -
GD	425 Earth Mover	SOIL3072		0	\$ 100.00	\$ -
VV	12' Pull-Type Blade	SOIL3099	12502	10	\$ 50.00	\$ 500.00
VV	Vee-Ditcher	VDIT3210	12502	2	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
VV	Field Sprayer	ASB0004/SPRY3123	1400151	4	\$ 50.00	\$ 200.00
CC	Field Sprayer	SPRY3076		1	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
GD	Field Sprayer	SPRY3121		1	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
VV	Boomless Sprayer - 300 Gal	SPRY3124	33262	7	\$ 50.00	\$ 140.00
VV	Estate Sprayer - Pull Type	SPRY3007/3127/3128		1	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
CC	Estate Sprayer - Pull Type	SPRY3008		1	\$ 20.00	\$ -
GD	Estate Sprayer - Pull Type	SPRY3206		0	\$ 20.00	\$ -
VV	Estate Sprayer - 3 pt hitch	SPRY3129	312101212	3	\$ 20.00	\$ 60.00
VV	Water Tank and Trailer	TRL18		1	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
GD	Water Tank and Trailer	TRL8		2	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
VV	Quad Wick Applicator	SPRY3211		0	\$ 10.00	\$ -
CC	Quad Wick Applicator	SPRY3212		0	\$ 10.00	\$ -
GD	Quad Wick Applicator	SPRY3213		0	\$ 10.00	\$ -
VV	Quad Mount Sprayers	SPRY3010		4	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00
CC	Quad Mount Sprayers	SPRY3011		0	\$ 10.00	\$ -
GD	Quad Mount Sprayers	SPRY3012		0	\$ 10.00	\$ -
VV	Backpack Sprayers	SPRY3083		0	FREE	\$ -
CC	Backpack Sprayers	SPRY3084		0	FREE	\$ -
GD	Backpack Sprayers	SPRY3085		0	FREE	\$ -
VV	Hand Wick Applicator	MISCR98		0	FREE	\$ -
VV	Granular Pesticide Bait Applicator	PEAC3207		0	\$ 30.00	\$ -
VV	Manure Spreader	MANU3209	02104185UMLS75	5	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,000.00
VV	Fertilizer Spreader	FERT001	AG3W53000FV001001	17	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,700.00
VV	50' Heavy Harrow c/w Granular Applicator	HARR3113	245514031	15	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,250.00
GD	33' Heavy Harrow c/w Granular Applicator	HARR3082		3	\$ 150.00	\$ 450.00
VV	30' Land Roller	ASB0005		14	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,800.00
GD	30' Land Roller	ROLL0001	12-1374	1	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
VV	14' Heavy Disc	ASB0001	AGCW08420EX035270	10	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,500.00
GD	14' Heavy Disc	DISC1	AGCW084EX035262	4	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,000.00
VV	Cattle Squeeze	SQUE3099		2	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
CC	Cattle Squeeze	SQUE3097		0	\$ 25.00	\$ -
GD	Cattle Squeeze	SQUE3098		1	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
VV	Loading Chute with 4 Panels	CHUT3115		10	\$ 25.00	\$ 250.00
CC	Loading Chute with 4 Panels	CHUT3097		7	\$ 25.00	\$ 175.00
GD	Loading Chute with 4 Panels	CHUT3096		1	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
VV	Panel Trailer with 20 Panels + 1 Gate	TRL6	5PTBF1627E1019676	7	\$ 25.00	\$ 175.00
GD	Panel Trailer with 20 Panels + 1 Gate	PANL3046/T69		0	\$ 25.00	\$ -
VV	Tag Reader	GALA3117/3118		0	FREE	\$ -
VV	Burdizzo Clamps	MISCR98		0	FREE	\$ -
VV	Dehorner	MISCR98		0	FREE	\$ -
VV	Truck Mount Seeder	SEED3073		1	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
VV	Quad Mount Seeder	SEED3074		4	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00
VV	Hand Seeder	MISCR98		0	FREE	\$ -
VV	Post Pounder	ASB0002		6.5	\$ 125.00	\$ 812.50
CC	Post Pounder	POST3126		9	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,125.00
GD	Post Pounder	ASB0003		3	\$ 125.00	\$ 375.00
VV	Bale Wagon	ASB0007		2	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00
VV	No Till Drill	ASB0008		0	\$ 150.00	\$ -
VV	Grain Vacuum	ASB0011		37	\$ 50.00	\$ 1,850.00
VV	Bin Crane	CRAN2123	09 1473	2	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
VV	Water Pump and Pipe - Alberta Ag.	PUMPR99		0	\$ 200.00	\$ -
VV	Survey Equipment	SURV3091		0	\$ 10.00	\$ -
VV	Metal Detector	METL3081		0	\$ 10.00	\$ -
VV	Hay Sampler, Measuring Wheel, Bin Probe	MISCR98		10	FREE	\$ -
VV	Rodent Traps	MISCR98		17	\$ 10.00	\$ 170.00
VV	Barbeque	TRL19		3	\$ 100.00	\$ 300.00
VV	Picnic Tables	PICTABLES		2	\$ 10.00	\$ 320.00
VV	Bag Roller	ASB0006		1	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
VV	Scare Cannons	MISCR98		0	FREE	\$ -
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>				<b>231.5</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>19,462.50</b>

CROOKED CREEK TOTALS	18	\$	1,350.00
GROVEDALE TOTALS	16	\$	1,928.00
VALLEYVIEW TOTALS	157.5	\$	15,937.50

RENTALS

Quite busy, the new bale hauler is in Grovedale. New wash unit, Field Sprayer with boom, Field sprayer boomless, and loading chute are in Valleyview.

➤ VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

The program has sprayed approximately 265 Km of Greenview roads. The areas to be sprayed this year are Wards 1, 2, 6, and 7. The crew have been working in Ward 6 mainly.

The program has sprayed approximately 11 Km of shoulder on Greenview roads for grass control, in a cooperative venture with the Operations Department.

SPOT SPRAYING / ATV / UTV

The program has sprayed approximately 10 Ha requiring approximately 20 hours of spray time (mainly landfill and transfer station sites).

BRUSH SPRAYING

The program has sprayed approximately 3 Ha of brush.

PESTICIDE CONTAINER STORAGE

Empty jugs have been hauled in from some of the satellite bins to the FSO yard, the Clean Farms contractor will shred and haul away the containers in early September.

FENCELINE AND PRIVATE LAND SPRAY PROGRAMS

23 agreements have been signed to date for 2018.

SPRAY EXEMPTION AGREEMENTS

Deadline of April 27, 2018. For 2018 there are 147 Agreements signed at this time.

BUTTERCUP/BURDOCK INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Four (4) agreements has been signed to date for 2018.

WEED CONTROL

White Zone

#	Re-Inspections	Weeds Present	Personal Contact	Phone Calls	Weed Alerts	Weed Warnings	Notices	Enforce
874	8	111	66	6	48	1	1	0

Greenzone

#	Re-Inspections	Weeds Present	Personal Contact	Phone Calls	Weed Alerts	Weed Warnings	Notices	Enforce
694	28	162	5	8	84	1	30	0

Town	#	Weeds Present	Personal Contact	Weed Letters
Valleyview				

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Fox Creek				
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➤ AGRICULTURAL PESTS

Greenview will continue to conduct enhanced monitoring for Clubroot, now that it has been confirmed within the municipal boundaries. An electronic map for 2017 has been posted showing the affected townships currently working on having a map that will show quarter sections.

➤ SEED CLEANING PLANT

Agreement with Valleyview Seed Cleaning Coop and Greenview is in place, trying to get time to advertise for bids for equipment.

# Alberta Crop Report



## Crop Conditions as of July 3, 2018 (Abbreviated Report)

The province endured some erratic weather this past week ranging from strong winds, a little hail, some cooler than normal temperatures and random rainfall. At this time there is standing water in some fields while others are parched.

Recent rainfalls have contributed to an overall increase in surface soil moisture rated as good or better, moving from 67.3 to 68.3 per cent (See Table 2). Having said that, sub surface soil moisture levels are still low in the majority of the province (See Map). The importance of sub surface soil moisture is increasing with advancing crop stages; more rain is critical to maintain active crop growth and to achieve desired yield potential.

Crop conditions improved in the South and Central regions while the Northeast, Northwest and Peace Regions showed a decline over last week. All of the area crop condition ratings are currently higher than the five year average, particularly Peace and Northeast (See Table 1).

Haying has now begun across all areas of the province. Very few dryland hay yields have been reported, however they are expected to be low in all regions. Pasture conditions have been sustained in areas where rain was received, but all areas could pretty much use rain.

**Table 1: Regional Crop Condition Ratings as of July 3, 2018**

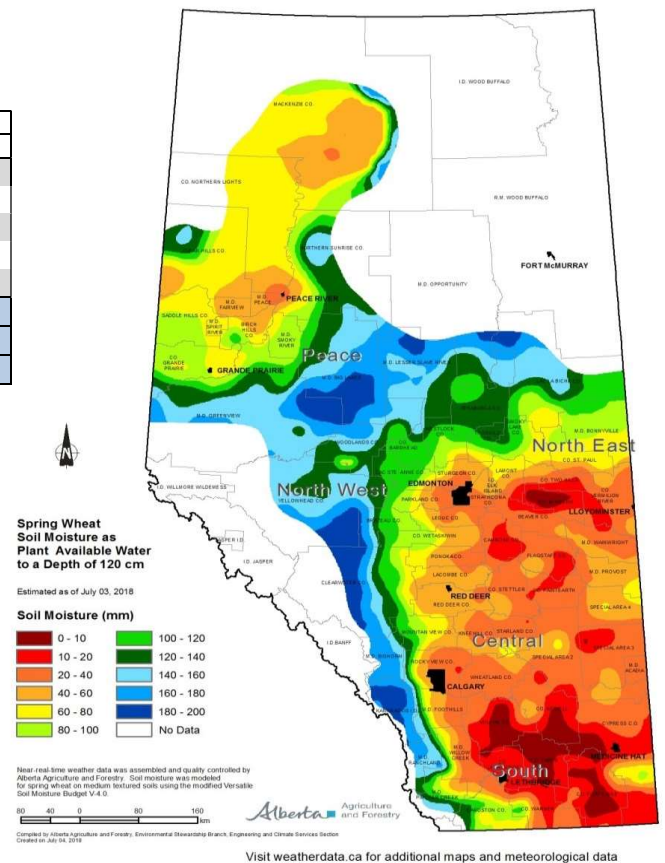
	% Rated in Good or Excellent Condition					Average
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	
Spr. Wheat	72.7%	69.4%	87.8%	78.2%	90.4%	<b>79.2%</b>
Barley	72.5%	70.5%	85.0%	77.5%	90.0%	<b>75.8%</b>
Oats	74.7%	70.7%	85.8%	78.2%	90.0%	<b>80.5%</b>
Canola	70.7%	67.1%	86.5%	66.0%	82.4%	<b>76.2%</b>
Dry Peas	77.3%	75.9%	93.5%	89.2%	86.2%	<b>82.1%</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>72.7%</b>	<b>69.3%</b>	<b>87.2%</b>	<b>73.2%</b>	<b>85.9%</b>	<b>77.8%</b>
Last Week	71.0%	63.7%	88.1%	80.7%	88.4%	<b>76.9%</b>
5 Year Ave	71.8%	65.2%	74.9%	70.2%	67.0%	<b>70.2%</b>

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

**Table 2: Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of July 3, 2018**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	8.8%	32.3%	53.4%	5.4%	0.2%
Central	3.5%	30.9%	58.6%	6.9%	0.1%
N East	3.1%	24.0%	24.9%	45.5%	2.5%
N West	8.6%	34.3%	30.0%	26.2%	0.9%
Peace	0%	5.4%	65.3%	22.0%	7.3%
<b>Average</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>46.6%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
Last Week	4.0%	28.6%	44.6%	21.1%	1.6%
Last Year	2.0%	18.7%	38.1%	28.3%	12.9%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey



Our thanks to Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen, staff of AFSC and the Alberta Ag-Info Centre for their partnership and contribution to the Alberta Crop Reporting Program. The precipitation map is compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Environmental Stewardship Branch, Engineering and Climate Services Section.



## REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS:

*The 2018 Alberta Crop Report Series continues to provide summaries for the following five regions:*

### **Region One: Southern (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)**

- Cooler temperatures and windy conditions were experienced across the region this past week with many areas receiving showers or rainfall and even a bit of hail.
- Spring cereals are in the late booting and early heading stages.
- Crop condition ratings of good or excellent showed a slight increase from 71.0 to 72.7 per cent.
- Surface soil moisture with a rating of good or higher is at 59.0 per cent.
- Subsurface soil moisture with a rating of good and above is at 51.4 per cent.
- Pasture ratings showed moderate improvement from 55.7 to 59.1 per cent rated as good or better, while tame hay conditions remained the same.

### **Region Two: Central (Rimbey, Airdrie, Coronation, Oyen)**

- Spotty rains throughout and predominant wind have left parts of the region dry.
- Spring cereals are in the booting stage with some starting to head, especially in the east.
- Crop condition ratings of good or excellent moved from 63.7 to 69.3 per cent, with canola slightly behind.
- Surface soil moisture with a rating of good or higher is at 65.6 per cent.
- Subsurface soil moisture with a rating of good or higher is at 60.5 per cent.
- Pasture still needs moisture even though ratings moved from 56.8 to 60.0 per cent good or excellent. Tame hay conditions are showing a decline from 54.6 to 52.7 per cent.

### **Region Three: North East (Smoky Lake, Vermilion, Camrose, Provost)**

- Dry conditions continued over large areas with some receiving some rain and some not.
- Spring wheat is in the late booting stage while other spring cereals are in late stem elongation stage.
- Crop condition ratings of good or excellent declined from 88.1 to 87.2 per cent.
- Surface soil moisture with a rating of good or higher is at 72.9 per cent.
- Subsurface soil moisture with a rating of good and above is at 81.2 per cent.
- Pasture ratings slipped from 68.5 to 66.2 per cent good or excellent. Tame hay conditions dropped as well from 70.2 to 65.4 per cent.

### **Region Four: North West (Barrhead, Edmonton, Leduc, Drayton Valley, Athabasca)**

- Rainfall was spotty and varied. More rainfall needed for crop progression.
- Wheat is heading, other cereals are booting and canola has started to bloom.
- Crop condition ratings of good or excellent dropped from 80.7 to 73.2 per cent.
- Surface soil moisture with a rating of good or higher is at 57.1 per cent.
- Subsurface soil moisture with a rating of good and above is at 63.6 per cent.
- Pastures are still struggling with ratings up from 30.8 to 38.3 per cent good or excellent. Tame hay was 31.1 and is now 37.2 per cent rated good or excellent.

### **Region Five: Peace River (Fairview, Falher, Grande Prairie, Valleyview)**

- Quite a bit of rain across the region this past week. So much so, that the east and north have reported standing water and yellowed crops.
- All cereals are in the booting stage.
- Crop condition ratings of good or excellent fell from 88.4 to 85.9 per cent.
- Surface soil moisture with a rating of good or higher is at 94.6 per cent.
- Subsurface soil moisture with a rating of good and above is at 85.4 per cent.
- Pasture has increased to 80.8 from 79.2 per cent and tame hay was 81.5 and is now 82.7 per cent good or excellent.

Agriculture Financial Services Corporation  
Business Risk Management Products Unit  
Lacombe, Alberta  
July 6, 2018

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# Alberta Crop Report



## Crop Conditions as of June 26, 2018

Weather conditions over the past week have varied greatly across Alberta in both temperatures and precipitation reported. Recent showers brought relief to crop advancement after a hot dry spell, but many areas remain dry (**See Table 2 and Map**). Simply put, many saw substantial rain and while others did not. Currently soil moisture reserves are slowly rebounding with recent rains, but still remain below normal across roughly 70 per cent of Alberta.

All regions are reporting a decline in crop conditions from the previous week with overall condition ratings now at 76.9 percent good or excellent as compared to last week's 80.9 percent. Despite the challenging seeding season, crop conditions in the North East, North West and Peace are still higher than the five year average of 75.2, 69.5 and 67.3 per cent respectively (**See Table 1**). Canola emergence is especially spotty in fields due to either very dry or overly wet seeding conditions affecting germination. Producers are nearing the end of spraying season, however insect control, particularly in Central and North East regions, for wireworms, flea beetles and cutworms is ongoing.

Provincially the pasture and tame hay rating show some strong variances by region. Dryland and irrigated haying is underway in many areas. As a result of the poor spring moisture, yields are expected to be below normal.

**Table 1: Regional Crop Condition Ratings as of June 26, 2018**

	% Rated Good or Excellent Condition					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Average
Spring Wheat	71.0%	64.1%	89.0%	87.9%	92.7%	<b>79.3%</b>
Durum	68.8%	75.2%	-	-	-	<b>69.7%</b>
Winter Wheat	75.4%	44.4%	82.5%	-	-	<b>72.6%</b>
Barley	72.2%	66.2%	86.2%	86.8%	92.3%	<b>75.5%</b>
Oats	74.7%	67.9%	87.3%	87.5%	92.3%	<b>83.2%</b>
Canola	69.4%	59.3%	86.9%	71.9%	84.8%	<b>75.8%</b>
Dry Peas	75.6%	69.4%	95.0%	87.7%	89.4%	<b>80.9%</b>
Lentils	66.0%	74.2%	-	-	-	<b>67.3%</b>
Chickpeas	67.0%	94.0%	-	-	-	<b>68.0%</b>
Mustard	58.1%	49.6%	-	-	-	<b>55.3%</b>
Flax	65.0%	68.5%	90.0%	-	-	<b>69.6%</b>
Dry Beans	79.8%	-	-	-	-	<b>79.8%</b>
Potatoes	82.6%	53.3%	-	80.0%	-	<b>80.8%</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>71.0%</b>	<b>63.7%</b>	<b>88.1%</b>	<b>80.7%</b>	<b>88.4%</b>	<b>76.9%</b>
<b>Last Week</b>	<b>72.6%</b>	<b>69.9%</b>	<b>90.5%</b>	<b>84.9%</b>	<b>91.3%</b>	<b>80.9%</b>
<b>5 Year Ave</b>	<b>74.3%</b>	<b>65.2%</b>	<b>75.2%</b>	<b>69.5%</b>	<b>67.3%</b>	<b>71.0%</b>

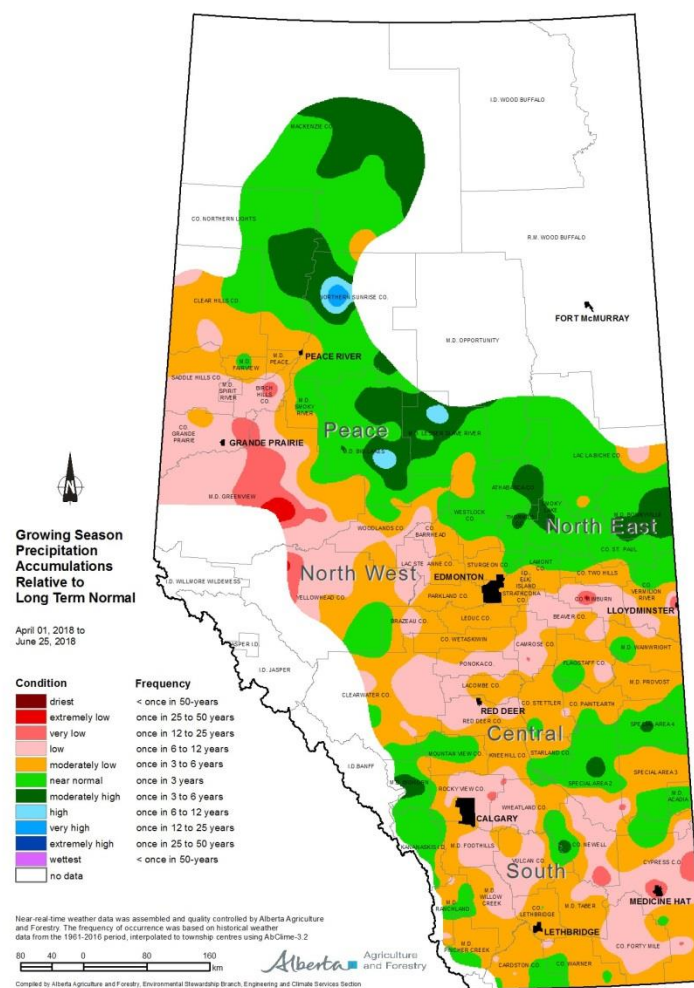
Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey  
5-year average refers to 2013-2017

**Table 2: Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of June 26, 2018**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	8.8%	36.2%	49.1%	5.8%	0.2%
Central	4.3%	38.1%	48.9%	8.3%	0.3%
N East	0.8%	21.1%	25.7%	50.1%	2.4%
N West	2.9%	32.5%	41.1%	22.6%	0.9%
Peace	0%	6.5%	65.5%	21.6%	6.4%
<b>Average</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>28.6%</b>	<b>44.6%</b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
<b>Last Week</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>23.5%</b>	<b>47.5%</b>	<b>24.6%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
<b>Last Year</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>39.0%</b>	<b>28.4%</b>	<b>14.0%</b>

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Our thanks to Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen, staff of AFSC and the Alberta Ag-Info Centre for their partnership and contribution to the Alberta Crop Reporting Program. The precipitation map is compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Environmental Stewardship Branch, Engineering and Climate Services Section.



Near-real-time weather data was assembled and quality controlled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. The frequency of occurrence was based on historical weather data from the 1951-2016 period, interpolated to township centres using AbClimate-3.2  
Compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Environmental Stewardship Branch, Engineering and Climate Services Section  
Created on June 28, 2018

Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

## **REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS:**

*The 2018 Alberta Crop Report Series continues to provide summaries for the following five regions:*

### **Region One: Southern (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)**

- The hot weather in the weeks start was soon replaced by cooler conditions with varying rainfall.
- Crop growing conditions moved from 72.6 per cent down to 71 per cent rated as good or excellent.
- Oilseeds and pulses in the early flowering stage, spring cereals in the early booting stage, and winter cereals are in the late head to early flowering stages.
- Sub-surface soil moisture has decreased 3.6 points with 49.1 per cent now rated as good or better.
- Haying has recently begun, with early estimations of dryland tame hay yields below normal.

### **Region Two: Central (Rimbey, Airdrie, Coronation, Oyen)**

- The region experienced warmer temperatures and quite a variance of welcomed rainfall.
- Crop growing conditions moved from 69.9 per cent to 63.7 per cent rated good or excellent.
- Oilseeds & pulses are late rosette to early flowering stages, spring cereals are in the stem elongation stage, winter cereals are early flowering stage.
- Sub-surface soil moisture has decreased 7 points with 58.9 percent now rated as good or better.
- Haying is now underway. Yields are expected to be below normal with good quality.

### **Region Three: North East (Smoky Lake, Vermilion, Camrose, Provost)**

- Heavy thunder storms produced localized hail in the Counties of Lamont and St. Paul, with sporadic precipitation leaving some areas dry.
- Crop growing conditions moved from 90.5 per cent to 88.1 per cent rated good or excellent.
- Oilseeds and pulses are in the later rosette stages, spring cereals are still tillering, with spring wheat slightly ahead in the boot stage and winter cereals are late stages of head emergence.
- Sub-surface soil moisture has decreased 0.6 points with 87.7 percent now rated as good or better.
- Yields are expected below average, however very little haying has been done to date.

### **Region Four: North West (Barrhead, Edmonton, Leduc, Drayton Valley, Athabasca)**

- Showers that have passed have been spotty and variable. Athabasca and Thorhild Counties had hail.
- Crop growing conditions moved from 84.9 per cent to 80.7 per cent rated good or excellent.
- Canola staging is in the mid rosette stage with peas in the late rosette stage, spring cereals are tillering with spring wheat slightly further advanced into the boot stage.
- Sub-surface soil moisture has decreased 14.2 points with 72.2 percent now rated as good or better.
- Some producers are turning cattle into tame hay or clipping heads in hopes of getting more rain and a higher second cut yield. Very little haying done to date.

### **Region Five: Peace River (Fairview, Falher, Grande Prairie, Valleyview)**

- M.D. of Peace and Mackenzie County received too much rain while other parts of the region remain dry. Grande Prairie and M.D. of Greenview suffered some hail damage.
- Crop growing conditions moved from 91.3 per cent to 88.4 per cent rated good or excellent.
- Oilseed and pulses are in the early rosette stage with spring cereals in the mid-tillering stage.
- Sub-surface soil moisture has decreased 1.3 points with 84.3 percent now rated as good or better.
- Haying has just begun in the region but no yields are estimated at this time.

Agriculture Financial Services Corporation  
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June 28, 2018

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# Alberta Crop Report



## Crop Conditions as of June 19, 2018 (Abbreviated Report)

Over the past week, there were some welcome rain showers in the western parts of the province, bringing sufficient moisture to support the active growth of both annual and perennial crops. While many areas in the west of the Southern and Central Regions received at least 30 mm of rain, rainfall for the west parts of the Peace and the North West Regions ranged between 5 to 20 mm. For the North East and eastern parts of the Southern Regions precipitation was less than 1 mm.

Provincially, crop growing conditions improved by two per cent from a week ago and are now rated as 81 per cent good to excellent, compared with the 5-year average (2013-2017) of 73 per cent (see Table 1). About 84 per cent of spring wheat, 80 per cent of barley, 87 per cent of oats, 78 per cent of canola and 82 per cent of dry peas are in good to excellent condition.

Across the province, soil moisture reserves are variable, from dry conditions in a large part of the Southern and Central Regions to areas in the North West and Peace Regions reporting sufficient soil moisture (see the map). More moisture is still needed across the province to maintain soil moisture and the active growth for crops and forages. Over the past week, soil moisture reserves improved in the Southern Region, but deteriorated somewhat in the other regions. Provincially, surface moisture was rated as three per cent poor, 23 per cent fair, 47 per cent good, 25 per cent excellent and two per cent excessive (see Table 2). Sub-surface soil moisture conditions have similar ratings.

Haying has begun in the province. Provincially, pasture conditions are rated as four per cent poor, 29 per cent fair, 57 per cent good and 10 per cent excellent, with similar ratings for tame hay conditions.

**Table 1: Regional Crop Condition Ratings as of June 19, 2018**

	Per cent rated in Good to Excellent Condition					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	74.2%	73.8%	92.3%	90.0%	93.8%	83.6%
Barley	76.4%	73.4%	90.0%	89.5%	94.2%	80.4%
Oats	79.6%	72.4%	91.4%	90.0%	94.2%	86.7%
Canola	67.0%	62.1%	88.4%	78.6%	89.2%	78.1%
Dry Peas	73.4%	75.6%	95.8%	90.0%	90.8%	81.7%
Major Crops	72.6%	69.9%	90.5%	84.9%	91.3%	80.9%
Last year	87.7%	89.3%	86.2%	64.0%	64.7%	81.6%
5-year average	73.6%	67.6%	80.4%	69.3%	66.7%	72.6%

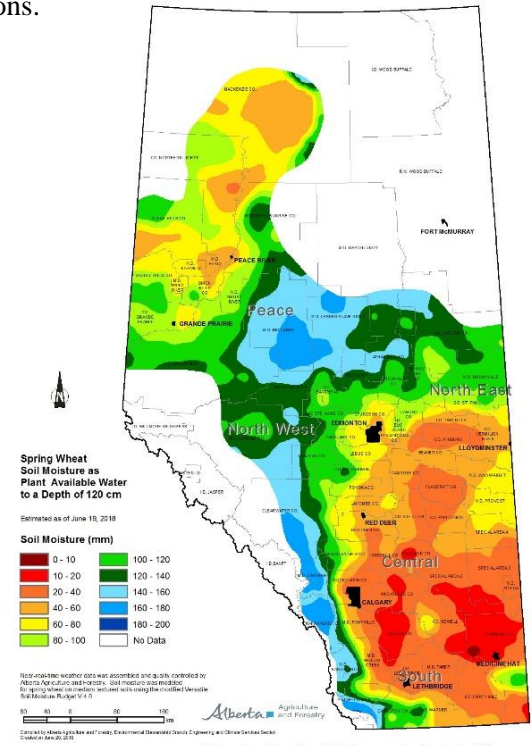
Table Sources: AF / AFSC Crop Reporting Survey  
5-year average refers to 2013-2017.

**Table 2: Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of June 19, 2018**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	6.2%	37.5%	49.0%	6.0%	1.4%
Central	2.7%	30.7%	60.0%	6.5%	0.1%
North East	0.8%	15.5%	26.9%	55.1%	1.7%
North West	0.7%	10.0%	41.8%	46.6%	0.9%
Peace	0.0%	6.5%	66.0%	21.6%	5.8%
Average	2.6%	23.5%	47.5%	24.6%	1.7%
Last week	2.5%	18.4%	49.7%	27.9%	1.5%
Last year	0.8%	6.7%	45.3%	33.3%	13.8%

Table Sources: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Our thanks to Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen, staff of AFSC and the Alberta Ag-Info Centre for their partnership and contribution to the Alberta Crop Reporting Program. The precipitation map is compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Environmental Stewardship Branch, Engineering and Climate Services Section.



## **REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS:**

*The 2018 Alberta Crop Report Series continues to provide summaries for the following five regions:*

### **Region One: Southern (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)**

- Rainfall was variable in the region, ranging from widely scattered showers in the eastern parts, with less than 5 mm of precipitation, to more than 40 mm in some fields in the western parts. The recent showers have improved soil moisture ratings and crop growing conditions. However, more rain is still needed in the region.
- Crop growing conditions improved from a week ago to 73 per cent good to excellent. About 74 per cent of spring wheat, 76 per cent of barley, 80 per cent of oats, 67 per cent of canola and 73 per cent of dry peas are in good to excellent condition, which is slightly lower than the 5-year averages. Most cereals are in the elongation stage.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture are rated as 55 and 53 per cent good to excellent, respectively.
- Producers have started haying with less than average yields expected. Pasture conditions are now reported as 39 per cent poor to fair, 54 per cent good and seven per cent excellent, with similar ratings reported for tame hay.

### **Region Two: Central (Rimbey, Airdrie, Coronation, Oyen)**

- Showers over the past week have provided sufficient moisture to most areas, resulting in good growing conditions throughout the region. However, there are some places where crop development is behind.
- Regionally, about 74 per cent of spring wheat, 73 per cent of barley, 72 per cent of oats and 76 per cent of dry peas are in good to excellent condition, which is higher than the 5-year averages. However, the exception is canola, which is lower than the 5-year averages and rated as 62 per cent. While most spring wheat are at the beginning of the elongation stage of development, barley and oats are still in the tillering stage.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture are now rated as 67 and 65 per cent good to excellent, respectively.
- Most hay and pasture fields are not showing signs of stress. Pasture conditions (tame hay ratings shown in brackets) are reported as 5 (8) per cent poor, 38 (42) per cent fair, 54 (46) per cent good and 3 (4) per cent excellent.

### **Region Three: North East (Smoky Lake, Vermilion, Camrose, Provost)**

- Recent rain showers over previous weeks have improved crop growing conditions, but more rain is needed soon to maintain favourable soil moisture reserves. Most cereals are in the tillering stage of crop development.
- Regionally, about 92 per cent of wheat, 90 per cent of barley, 91 per cent of oats, 88 per cent of canola and 96 per cent of dry peas are in good to excellent condition, significantly higher than the 5-year averages.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture conditions are rated as 82 and 87 per cent good to excellent, respectively, with almost two per cent excessive for both.
- Pasture conditions are reported as 19 per cent fair, 60 per cent good and 21 per cent excellent. For tame hay though, the rating is reported as two per cent poor, 20 per cent fair, 62 per cent good and 16 per cent excellent.

### **Region Four: North West (Barrhead, Edmonton, Leduc, Drayton Valley, Athabasca)**

- Last week rain showers helped to improve moisture conditions for crops and forages. The warmer temperature was favourable for crop progress. Most cereals are in the tillering stage of crop development.
- About 90 per cent of spring wheat, barley, oats and dry peas and 79 per cent of canola are in good to excellent condition, which is significantly higher than the 5-year averages.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture conditions are rated as 88 and 85 per cent good to excellent, respectively, with almost one excessive for both.
- Pasture and tame hay conditions are rated as 39 per cent fair, 58 per cent good and three per cent excellent.

### **Region Five: Peace River (Fairview, Falher, Grande Prairie, Valleyview)**

- Last week scattered precipitations was beneficial for crops in most parts of the region. However, some areas received excessive rain, resulting in flooding. Cereals are mostly in the beginning of the tillering stage of development.
- Regionally, about 94 per cent of spring wheat, barley and oats, 89 per cent of canola and 91 per cent of dry peas are in good to excellent condition, which is significantly higher than the 5-year averages.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture are reported as 88 and 79 per cent good to excellent, with six and four per cent excessive, respectively.
- Pasture conditions are rated as 22 per cent fair, 66 per cent good and 12 per cent excellent, with similar ratings reported for tame hay.

**Alberta Agriculture and Forestry  
Economics and Competitiveness Branch  
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June 22, 2018**

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# Alberta Crop Report



## Crop Conditions as June 12, 2018

Over the past week, most areas of the province received timely rains, with the highest rainfall accumulations since the beginning of June seen in the North East Region, and the lowest in the western parts of the Southern and Central Regions (see the Map). This weather system was also responsible for hail and strong winds, in different parts of the province.

Provincially, crop growing conditions are 79 per cent good to excellent, compared to the 5-year average (2013-2017) of 72 per cent and the long term average (2004-2017) of 74 per cent. Growing condition ratings were above average in all regions, with exception of the Southern Region, which only received localized showers over the last week. About 86 per cent of spring wheat, 82 per cent of barley, 86 per cent of oats, 73 per cent of canola, 80 per cent of dry peas, 73 per cent of potatoes, 78 per cent of sugar beets and 80 per cent of dry beans are in good to excellent condition (see Table 1).

Showers last week improved soil moisture, pasture and tame hay growing conditions in all region, with the exception of the Southern Region. Provincially, surface soil moisture (sub-surface soil moisture ratings shown in brackets) is rated at 3 (4) per cent poor, 18 (21) per cent fair, 50 (46) per cent good and 28 (28) per cent excellent, with one (one) per cent excessive (See Table 2). While provincial pasture and tame hay condition ratings are in line with the 5-year averages, in the Southern Region these are a bit lower. Pasture conditions (tame hay conditions are in brackets) for the province are reported as 5 (5) per cent poor, 26 (29) per cent fair, 59 (58) per cent good and 10 (8) per cent excellent.

Table 1: Regional Crop Condition Ratings as of June 12, 2018

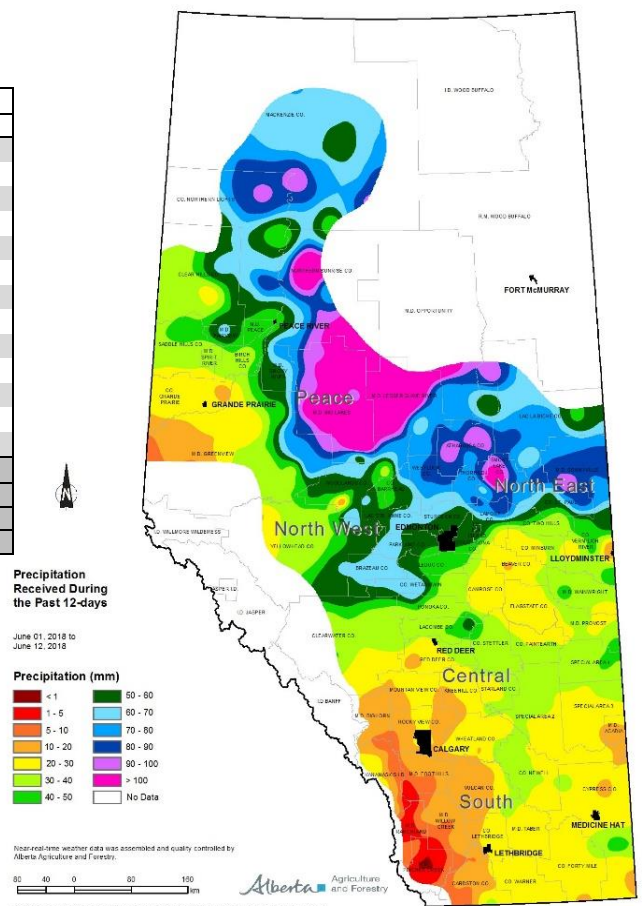
	Per cent rated in Good to Excellent Condition					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	72.4%	85.4%	92.7%	89.1%	91.9%	85.5%
Durum Wheat	69.9%	77.6%	---	---	---	71.0%
Winter Wheat	73.3%	49.3%	82.5%	---	---	71.2%
Barley	74.1%	84.1%	90.8%	77.5%	94.2%	82.1%
Oats	78.7%	82.5%	93.8%	78.6%	93.8%	86.3%
Fall Rye	75.0%	51.8%	95.0%	---	---	73.9%
Spring Triticale	78.0%	81.0%	---	---	---	79.5%
Canola	65.4%	71.2%	83.5%	49.1%	85.0%	73.4%
Dry Peas	72.6%	74.1%	96.9%	83.8%	86.9%	80.2%
Lentils	63.0%	83.6%	---	---	---	66.2%
Chickpeas	63.4%	89.0%	---	---	---	64.4%
Mustard	56.3%	57.4%	---	---	---	56.7%
Flax	65.0%	76.5%	95.0%	---	---	71.8%
All Crops	70.5%	79.3%	88.8%	69.0%	88.1%	79.1%
Last year	87.8%	83.5%	83.8%	63.3%	63.7%	80.0%
5-year average	79.0%	65.6%	77.3%	65.0%	66.3%	72.4%
Long term average	79.5%	73.1%	72.0%	67.3%	69.5%	73.5%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey  
5-year average refers to 2013-2017. Long-term average refers to 2004-2017

Table 2: Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of June 12, 2018

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	7.5%	39.6%	45.2%	6.0%	1.8%
Central	1.3%	16.1%	67.3%	14.9%	0.3%
N East	0.0%	7.2%	33.1%	57.5%	2.3%
N West	0.0%	6.4%	40.0%	52.5%	1.1%
Peace	0.0%	6.5%	68.5%	23.2%	1.8%
Average	2.5%	18.4%	49.7%	27.9%	1.5%
Last week	5.2%	22.4%	54.1%	16.6%	1.8%
Last year	0.9%	6.9%	42.2%	36.3%	13.7%

Table Sources: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey



Our thanks to Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen, staff of AFSC and the Alberta Ag-Info Centre for their partnership and contribution to the Alberta Crop Reporting Program. The precipitation map is compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Environmental Stewardship Branch, Engineering and Climate Services Section.



## **REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS:**

*The 2018 Alberta Crop Report Series continues to provide summaries for the following five regions:*

### **Region One: Southern (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)**

- Precipitation was variable in the region, from localized rainfall with less than 5 mm of rain in the western parts, to precipitation of 10- 20 mm in the eastern and central parts. More moisture is still needed, as soil moisture, pasture and tame hay condition ratings have dropped from the previous week. Also, some uneven germination of oilseeds has been reported, due to a lack of moisture. Post-emergence spraying is well underway and 40 per cent complete. Gopher infestations is a concern in some areas.
- Spring seeded crops are mostly in the ending stage of tillering, while fall seeded crops are in the booting stage of development. About 52 per cent of canola, 64 per cent of dry peas and 63 per cent of lentils are in the 4-6 leaf/node stage.
- Regionally, about 65 per cent of crops are in good condition, with another six per cent rated as excellent.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay conditions shown in brackets) are reported as 9 (5) per cent poor, 31 (36) per cent fair, 52 (54) per cent good and 8 (5) per cent excellent.

### **Region Two: Central (Rimbey, Airdrie, Coronation, Oyen)**

- Last week`s precipitation was timely for crops and in advancing hay and pasture growth. However, more rain is needed, especially, in the western parts of the region. About 40 per cent of post-emergence spraying is complete. Flea beetles, army cutworms, wireworms and gopher infestations are a concern in some areas.
- Spring seeded crops are mostly in the tillering stage, while fall seeded crops are at the end of the stem elongation stage of development. About 56 per cent of canola, 61 per cent of dry peas and 81 per cent of lentils are in the 4-6 leaf/node stage.
- Regionally, 72 per cent of crops are in good condition and another seven per cent rated as excellent.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay conditions shown in brackets) are reported as 6 (7) per cent poor, 26 (32) per cent fair, 65 (59) per cent good and 3 (2) per cent excellent.

### **Region Three: North East (Smoky Lake, Vermilion, Camrose, Provost)**

- After a spell of hot weather, recent showers was welcome in maintaining crop conditions, as well as sustaining pasture and hay growth. About 30 per cent of post-emergence spraying is complete. Army cutworms, wireworms and gopher infestations are a concern in some areas.
- While fall seeded crops have mostly started the booting stage of development, spring seeded crops are mainly starting the tillering stage. About 69 per cent of canola are in the 1-3 leaf/node and 82 per cent of dry peas are in the 4-6 leaf/node stage.
- Regionally, 76 per cent of all crops are in good condition and another 13 per cent rated as excellent.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay conditions shown in brackets) are reported as 1 (2) per cent poor, 17 (19) per cent fair, 63 (62) per cent good and 19 (17) per cent excellent.

### **Region Four: North West (Barrhead, Edmonton, Leduc, Drayton Valley, Athabasca)**

- Most parts of the region had more than two inches of rain, that improved crop growing conditions and was beneficial for pasture and hay fields. Post-emergence spraying is 39 per cent complete.
- Most spring cereals are in the seedling stage of development, while 70 per cent of canola are in the 1-3 leaf/node and 75 per cent of dry peas are in the 4-6 leaf/node stage.
- Regionally, 64 per cent of all crops are in good condition and another five per cent rated as excellent.
- Pasture and tame hay conditions are reported as 13 per cent poor, 37 per cent fair, 47 per cent good and three per cent excellent.

### **Region Five: Peace River (Fairview, Falher, Grande Prairie, Valleyview)**

- Showers this week provided much needed moisture that benefited even crop emergence and development. Post-emergence spraying is 34 per cent complete.
- Most cereals are in the seedling stage of development, with 84 per cent of canola and 78 per cent of dry peas in the 1-3 leaf/node stage.
- Regionally, 81 per cent of crops are in good condition and another eight per cent rated as excellent.
- Pasture and tame hay conditions are rated as 21 per cent fair, 67 per cent good and 12 per cent excellent.

**Alberta Agriculture and Forestry  
Economics and Competitiveness Branch  
Statistics and Data Development Section**

**June 15, 2018**

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# Alberta Crop Report



## Crop Conditions as of June 5, 2018 (Abbreviated Report)

Last week just about all agriculture lands across the province received decent rain, with most areas receiving over 10mm. Three major areas received over 20 mm including western Peace, the land base along the Saskatchewan border stretching from Cold Lake down to the U.S. border and a large area west of highway 2 between Edson and Calgary.

Seeding is 99 per cent complete in the province, with only small acres of feed crops left to be seeded (**See Table 1**). Regionally, major crop emergence percentages are as follows: South (79), Central (84), Northeast (83), Northwest (81), and Peace (79). Recent pest infestations of flea beetles and cut worms have led to the reseeded of some fields.

Last week's poor and fair surface soil moisture ratings have decreased and we are seeing an improvement in soil moisture conditions (**See Table 2**). The South, Central and the northern portion of the Peace Region still require significant rainfall to sustain crops through the growing season (**See Map**).

Pasture and tame hay have benefited from recent rain. While improvements have been noted, more rain will be needed soon to continue this pattern. Provincially, pasture conditions (tame hay conditions are reported in brackets) are reported as 8 (7) per cent poor, 26 (28) per cent fair, 57 (57) per cent good, and 9 (8) per cent excellent.

**Table 1: Seeding Progress as of June 5, 2018**

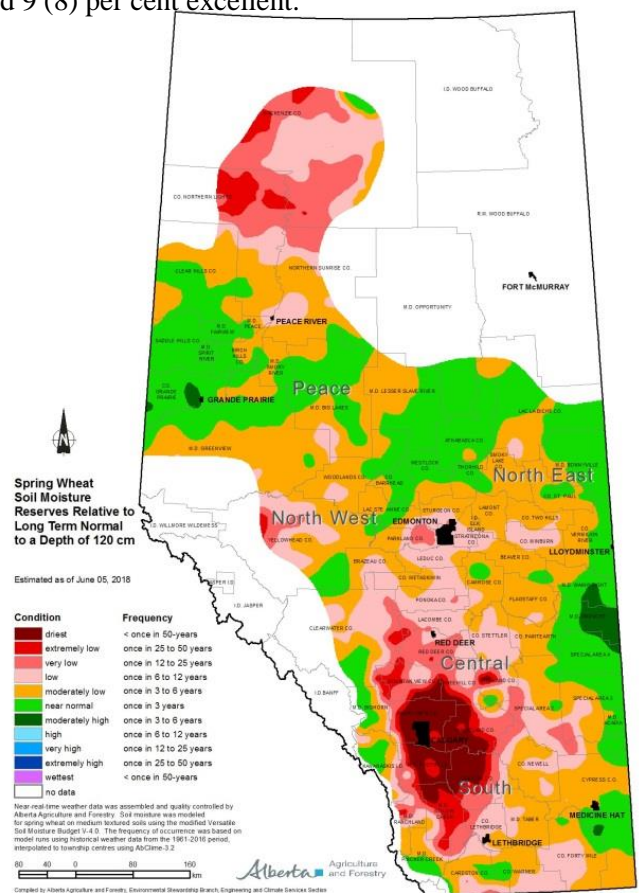
	% Seeded					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Average
<b>Spr. Wheat</b>	98.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.7%
<b>Barley</b>	98.6%	99.6%	95.0%	96.2%	98.8%	98.0%
<b>Oats</b>	99.5%	99.5%	96.4%	99.0%	98.5%	98.3%
<b>Canola</b>	99.8%	99.9%	99.8%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%
<b>Dry Peas</b>	99.8%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%
<b>Average</b>	<b>99.2%</b>	<b>99.9%</b>	<b>99.2%</b>	<b>99.4%</b>	<b>99.9%</b>	<b>99.5%</b>
<b>Last Week</b>	<b>96.0%</b>	<b>95.4%</b>	<b>94.0%</b>	<b>97.4%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>	<b>95.4%</b>
<b>5 Year Ave</b>	<b>99.8%</b>	<b>99.4%</b>	<b>97.1%</b>	<b>97.3%</b>	<b>94.0%</b>	<b>97.8%</b>

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

**Table 2: Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of June 5, 2018**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
<b>South</b>	7.9%	32.3%	51.8%	5.2%	2.8%
<b>Central</b>	6.7%	29.3%	59.7%	3.9%	0.3%
<b>N East</b>	1.9%	12.2%	54.5%	29.8%	1.7%
<b>N West</b>	8.2%	22.1%	33.1%	34.5%	2.0%
<b>Peace</b>	0%	8.5%	65.8%	23.6%	2.1%
<b>Average</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>22.4%</b>	<b>54.1%</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
<b>Last Week</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>27.7%</b>	<b>39.6%</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>
<b>Last Year</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>	<b>40.2%</b>	<b>37.0%</b>	<b>13.5%</b>

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey



Our thanks to Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen, staff of AFSC and the Alberta Ag-Info Centre for their partnership and contribution to the Alberta Crop Reporting Program.

The precipitation map is compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Environmental Stewardship Branch, Engineering and Climate Services Section.

## **REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS:**

*The 2018 Alberta Crop Report Series continues to provide summaries for the following five regions:*

### **Region One: Southern (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)**

- Seeding progress is complete with small pockets of acres unseeded due to standing water.
- Emergence of crops is nearly 80 per cent with spraying in full swing and evidence of cut worms and flea beetles in some counties.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture is comparable at over 56 per cent rated good or excellent.
- Pasture and tame hay welcomed recent rain. Dryland hay is showing signs of drought and potential for early maturity. First cut irrigated alfalfa hay is underway.

### **Region Two: Central (Rimbey, Airdrie, Coronation, Oyen)**

- Seeding is complete except for some feed acres in the western area of the region.
- Much cooler weather and varying levels of rain in region. Pockets of frost damage resulted in a handful of acres reseeded.
- Spotty emergence due to poor surface soil moisture was improved by recent rains. Post-emergent spraying is well under way with signs of cut worms and flea beetles.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture averages are rated 64 per cent good or excellent.
- Areas that did receive rainfall have seen improved pasture and tame hay conditions while it may have come too late for some fields which are already starting to bloom or head.

### **Region Three: North East (Smoky Lake, Vermilion, Camrose, Provost)**

- Seeding is complete and the recent moisture has aided germination on later seeded fields.
- Emergence of earlier seeded crops is nearly at 100 per cent while later seeded feed crops are at varying stages. Spraying is now general throughout the region. Signs of flea beetles reported in Lamont County.
- Rain in the past week has helped to replenish surface moisture. Surface and sub-surface soil moisture average rated at 87 per cent good or excellent.
- Pasture and tame hay growth has received just enough moisture to keep advancing.

### **Region Four: North West (Barrhead, Edmonton, Leduc, Drayton Valley, Athabasca)**

- Seeding progress is complete with small pockets of acres unseeded due to standing water.
- Recent rain amounts varied widely across the region. Localized reports of hail in Athabasca and Thorhild counties caused minimal damage given the crop stage.
- Recent moisture helped germination of shallow seeded crops. Post emergent spraying is underway with signs of grasshoppers and flea beetles in some crops, resulting in reseeding.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture disparity is evident at 70 and 86 per cent respectively.
- Prolonged dry conditions adversely impacted pasture and tame hay. More rain is still needed.

### **Region Five: Peace River (Fairview, Falher, Grande Prairie, Valleyview)**

- Now that seeding is complete, recent precipitation has helped even out germination and crop development is progressing.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture disparity is evident at 91 and 80 per cent respectively.
- The majority of pasture and tame hay acres are currently rated as good or excellent.

**Agriculture Financial Services Corporation  
Business Risk Management Products Unit  
Lacombe, Alberta  
June 8, 2018**

**Z. Sangster & J. Sanden, Product Coordinators  
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# Alberta Crop Report



## Crop Conditions as of May 29, 2018

Dry weather conditions helped producers catch up with late seeding and contributed to quick germination and emergence. Recent hot and windy weather lead to the increased drying of both surface soil moisture (**See Table 2**) and sub-surface soil moisture (**See Map**). The forecasted cooler temperatures and scattered showers throughout the province are anticipated to aid overall crop growing conditions.

Provincially, seeding progress is nearing completion at 95 per cent which has passed the 5 year average (**See Table 1**). Approximately 57 per cent of the crops have now emerged with a small number of fall seeded crops being reseeded. For the most part, crops have caught up to normal. Across the province there are low spots with standing water that will not be seeded, but current estimates are that approximately 2 per cent of acres are anticipated to be left unseeded.

Pasture and tame hay growing conditions have started declining and would benefit from rain. Provincially, pasture conditions (tame hay conditions are reported in brackets) are reported as 9 (8) per cent poor, 30 (32) per cent fair, 57 (56) per cent good, 4 (4) per cent excellent.

**Table 1: Seeding Progress as of May 29, 2018**

	% Seeded					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Average
<b>Spr. Wheat</b>	96.1%	97.7%	98.5%	99.4%	96.4%	<b>97.5%</b>
<b>Durum</b>	94.5%	98.4%	---	---	---	<b>95.1%</b>
<b>Barley</b>	93.2%	88.6%	79.2%	90.1%	93.1%	<b>88.6%</b>
<b>Oats</b>	92.7%	77.2%	81.8%	95.4%	91.2%	<b>86.9%</b>
<b>Canola</b>	97.1%	97.8%	94.0%	98.3%	94.6%	<b>96.0%</b>
<b>Dry Peas</b>	99.4%	99.3%	100%	100%	95.1%	<b>98.7%</b>
<b>Lentils</b>	99.3%	100%	---	---	---	<b>99.4%</b>
<b>Chickpeas</b>	99.2%	100%	---	---	---	<b>99.2%</b>
<b>Mustard</b>	98.0%	95.2%	---	---	---	<b>97.1%</b>
<b>Flax</b>	91.4%	91.0%	100%	---	---	<b>92.7%</b>
<b>Dry Beans</b>	84.0%	---	---	---	---	<b>84.0%</b>
<b>Potatoes</b>	100.0%	98.3%	---	85%	---	<b>98.6%</b>
<b>Corn</b>	99.2%	97.9%	75.0%	---	---	<b>90.7%</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>96.0%</b>	<b>95.4%</b>	<b>94.0%</b>	<b>97.4%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>	<b>95.4%</b>
<b>Last Week</b>	<b>77.1%</b>	<b>69.4%</b>	<b>62.9%</b>	<b>62.7%</b>	<b>60.0%</b>	<b>67.4%</b>
<b>5 Year Ave</b>	<b>98.1%</b>	<b>95.5%</b>	<b>89.5%</b>	<b>91.5%</b>	<b>89.7%</b>	<b>93.5%</b>

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey  
5-year average refers to 2013-2017

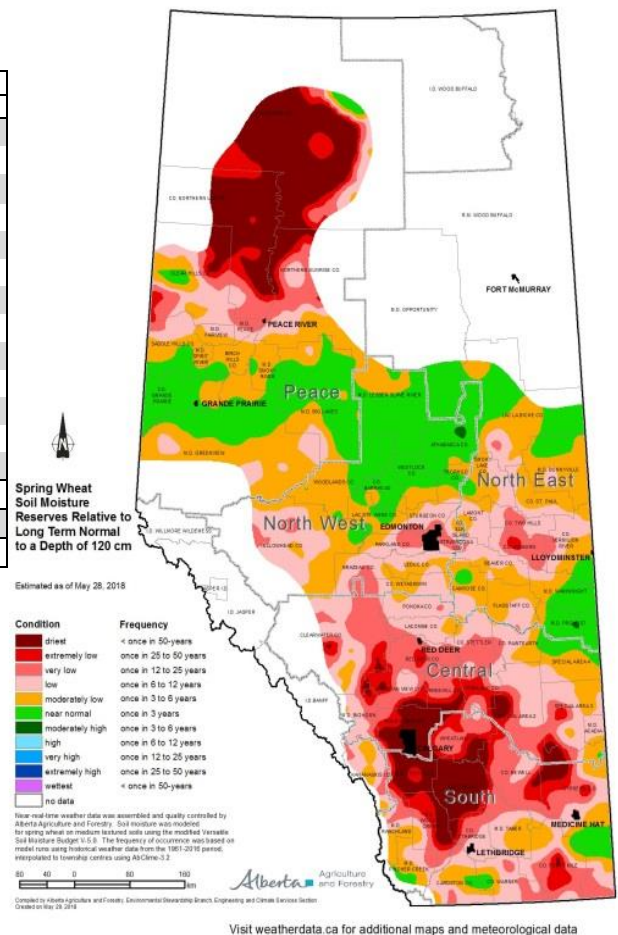
**Table 2: Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of May 29, 2018**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
<b>South</b>	14.5%	30.3%	45.6%	4.8%	0.4%
<b>Central</b>	20.7%	36.7%	39.0%	4.3%	0.6%
<b>N East</b>	3.5%	19.8%	37.7%	53.5%	1.9%
<b>N West</b>	3.6%	18.2%	30.6%	51.8%	1.4%
<b>Peace</b>	7.7%	28.8%	38.4%	25.6%	1.2%
<b>Average</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>27.7%</b>	<b>39.6%</b>	<b>24.4%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<b>Last Week</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>21.7%</b>	<b>41.8%</b>	<b>27.4%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Our thanks to Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen, staff of AFSC and the Alberta Ag-Info Centre for their partnership and contribution to the Alberta Crop Reporting Program.

The precipitation map is compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Environmental Stewardship Branch, Engineering and Climate Services Section.





## **REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS:**

*The 2018 Alberta Crop Report Series continues to provide summaries for the following five regions:*

### **Region One: Southern (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)**

- Some sporadic rainfall in the SW corner of the region, however most areas need rainfall to support crop establishment. Fast spring runoff resulted in low sub-surface soil moisture.
- Later seeded dryland pulses and shallow seeded crops are struggling to germinate.
- Irrigation application is well underway in many parts of the region.
- Crops are 96 per cent seeded, at 60 percent emergence and post emergent spraying has begun.
- Pasture and tame hay are starting to show signs of heat stress which may impact yield potential in many areas of the region. Rain is needed to support continued pasture growth; 59 per cent of pasture and tame hay rated as good with 7 per cent rated in excellent condition.

### **Region Two: Central (Rimbey, Airdrie, Coronation, Oyen)**

- Heat and wind are drying up soil moisture. There has been enough moisture for germination and emergence, but additional moisture needed soon to support crop growth.
- Crops are 95 per cent seeded, at 59 per cent emergence and post emergent spraying has begun.
- Pasture and tame hay conditions are starting to decline because of dry conditions; 47 per cent rated as good and only approximately 1 per cent rated as excellent. Some areas are seeing the grasses go to seed already which will reduce yields.

### **Region Three: North East (Smoky Lake, Vermilion, Camrose, Provost)**

- Scattered showers throughout the NE portion of this region supported crop emergence. Other areas of the region have seen hot and windy weather drying up surface soil moisture.
- Crops are 94 per cent seeded, at 51 per cent emergence and post emergent spraying has begun.
- Signs of weeds and pests that are over the threshold: dandelions, grasshoppers, and flea beetles.
- Pasture and tame hay crops had a good start, but will need moisture soon to support continued growth. Currently 62 per cent are rated as good and less than 1 per cent rated as excellent.

### **Region Four: North West (Barrhead, Edmonton, Leduc, Drayton Valley, Athabasca)**

- Dry hot conditions are reducing surface moisture and seeing some canola emergence that is uneven in many areas due to the varying moisture. Shallow and broadcast seeded crops do not have enough moisture to germinate yet.
- Crops are 97 per cent seeded, at 52 per cent emergence, and post emergence spraying to start soon.
- Some producers are starting to spray for flea beetles.
- Pasture and tame hay are rated at 45 per cent good with none as excellent. Growth has been delayed due to lack of moisture.

### **Region Five: Peace River (Fairview, Falher, Grande Prairie, Valleyview)**

- Despite sporadic showers throughout the region, warm and windy weather continues to dry out soil.
- Crops are 95 per cent seeded, at 63 per cent emergence and post emergent spraying has begun.
- Pasture and tame hay conditions are rated as 76 per cent good or excellent.

**Agriculture Financial Services Corporation  
Business Risk Management Products Unit  
Lacombe, Alberta  
June 1, 2018**

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# ATCO to pay for lost canola revenues

By **Jeremy Simes**

Published: June 14, 2018



By taking extensive notes, hundreds of photos, hours of video, as well as relying on expert opinion from plant pathologist Ieuan Evans, the Welshes illustrated that ATCO entered their land with dirty vehicles, failed to control weeds, and likely introduced volunteer canola. **File photo** A four-year-old order that recently came to light, compensating farmers for potential canola losses, sets a precedent and could have far-reaching effects.

A farm couple's efforts at documentation paid off as ATCO Energy was ordered to pay Roger and Debora Welsh for the potential disease pollution and loss of revenue and costs of mitigation of clubroot infection on their farm near Vegreville, Alta.

The 2014 decision, that surfaced last week during public accounts hearings, potentially paves the road to producer compensation when companies put farms at risk.

The Alberta utility company has been ordered to pay the farmers for future canola revenue losses, after a surface rights court found ATCO Energy failed to meet standards to protect the farm from clubroot.

The decision has ramifications for other producers in similar circumstances who sign new surface rights agreements with businesses.

“This decision does set a precedent,” said Alberta farmers’ advocate Peter Dobbie.

According to court documents, the Welshes were forced to turn some cropland into pasture because ATCO failed to meet clubroot prevention measures it was told to follow. The company was granted access to the Welshes land near Vegreville, Alta., to construct a power line in 2013.

By taking extensive notes, hundreds of photos, hours of video, as well as relying on expert opinion from plant pathologist Ieuan Evans, the Welshes illustrated that ATCO entered their land with dirty vehicles, failed to control weeds, and likely introduced volunteer canola.

“The Welshes went to extraordinary efforts in gathering evidence. The data they had was key,” said Michael B. Niven, a lawyer with Calgary-based Carscallen LLP, who took the case. Lawyer Christy Lee was also on the case.

Based on those facts, the surface rights board determined the Welshes’ farm could have potentially been infected with clubroot. As well, it said ATCO should pay them for essentially losing out on future canola revenue from about 18 cropland acres, because their mitigation plan was to turn that land into pasture to reduce the risk of spreading clubroot.

“The panel does not view the issue as one of compensation for clubroot contamination per se, but rather as a matter of compensation for the cost of mitigation,” the court decision said.

The affected acres included two right of entries on which ATCO operated, as well as two buffer zones around those areas.

In total, ATCO was ordered to pay the Welshes \$5,466 annually to cover the loss of canola revenue for those acres.

The ruling said canola was a major source of revenue for Welshes, and that clubroot would have a significant financial impact on them.

The canola compensation could continue indefinitely, though ATCO could argue later this year that it should no longer be required to pay. Alberta law states that compensation can be renegotiated every five years if changes occur, though this doesn’t apply to freehold mineral rights holders.

If ATCO wants to renegotiate, Niven said he will go back to court to fight them on that.

As well, the Welshes were awarded about \$165,000 to cover legal, personal and consulting costs.

“This whole process was a huge emotional drain on the Welshes,” Niven said, “and it’s not often you get clients as committed and as organized as they are.”

The case may be helpful to landowners who find themselves dealing with companies wanting to access their land, said Dobbie.

While getting legal advice is recommended if seeking a similar claim, he said farmers can use this court decision to their advantage, as long as they can prove that they've had clubroot mitigation strategies in place and that the company was made aware of them. That way, they can argue the company should pay for lost crop revenue because, as part of their mitigation strategy, they would have to turn some productive cropland into pasture.

"If a landowner is seriously concerned and is prepared to put the time and energy into negotiating for compensation for a disease mitigation strategy, I think this case is important," Dobbie said.

"They can point to the case and say, it's reasonable for me to do that (turn affected cropland into pasture) and for you to pay me the compensation."

While it appears difficult to get compensation for lost revenue after a lease agreement has been signed, it's something farmers could try to appeal during compensation renegotiations, Dobbie said.

"The onus is on the landowner to prove to the surface rights board that there is an increase in adverse effect. The more evidence, the better."

He added companies have generally improved how they access land since the Welsh decision. This includes less ground disturbance and using rig mats along the right of way.

"Steps are being taken," he said. "There's no doubt in my mind that there will be operators that are clear and organized, while others don't do it all the time."



## Modernized rules to increase farm worker protection

*Media Release, June 27, 2018*

New rules to improve health and safety for farm and ranch workers have been finalized through strong collaboration between the agricultural sector and the Alberta government.



Ministers Carlier and Gray meet with agricultural stakeholders to talk about new safety rules for waged, non-family farms. L-R: Minister Carlier, Dennis Steinwand, vice-chair of Alberta Chicken Producers, Albert Kamps, Minister Gray, Kent Erickson and Charlie Christie, chair, Alberta Beef Producers.

On Dec. 1, waged, non-family farm and ranch workers will have similar rights and protections as other workers across Canada. These new changes address workplace hazards, safety training and maintenance of equipment.

“Our government has the backs of working people and we value the contributions of Alberta’s farm and ranch communities. We have worked collaboratively with farmers, ranchers and workers to make changes that ensure workers in Alberta benefit from the same protections as workers in other provinces.”

*Christina Gray, Minister of Labour*

Prior to the *Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act*, Alberta was the only province without comprehensive health and safety laws for farm and ranch workers.

“All workers have a right to return home safely each day. I am confident the new rules will ensure farm and ranch workers are better protected just like their peers in other provinces. I want to thank Alberta producers for their hard work and for helping find the right balance.”

*Oneil Carlier, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry*

Since the government introduced changes to include farms and ranches in workplace health and safety laws in 2016, more than 1,860 agriculture workers have had their workers’ compensation claims accepted. This protection provides workers with the supports they need, when they need them, should injury occur.

“As an organization that has seen health and safety laws successfully protect workers in other provinces, these new changes are a huge step forward for Alberta’s agriculture workers. Occupational Health and Safety in concert with employment standards and labour relations are the foundation of a strong health and safety culture on farms and ranches that benefit workers, their families and society as a whole.”

*Devin Yeager, union labour relations officer, United Food and Commercial Workers*

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Family members and volunteers will remain exempt from the OHS rules. Neighbours can still provide support to neighbours and kids can still do chores on the farm as they have always done.

The new rules were created through extensive consultation with industry stakeholders over the past two years. Industry representatives, including the AgCoalition, an industry-led organization comprised of representatives from across the agriculture sector, played an essential role in helping government come to consensus on many of these changes. The rules reflect the need to protect health and safety while preserving the unique way of life on farms and ranches.

“Farmers and ranchers in Alberta value health and safety to protect everyone on their work sites and often go above and beyond standard practices. The AgCoalition worked closely with the government to provide grassroots feedback from its membership to ensure the proposed rules reflect the commitment to safety and take into account the unique practicalities of agriculture work. We will continue to work with our farm and ranch members to help them implement these rules and continue to build on the strong culture of farm safety.”

*Albert Kamps, chair, AgCoalition*

The AgCoalition created an industry-led non-government organization called AgSafe to work alongside farmers and ranchers as an independent health and safety association. AgSafe will develop programming and additional resources to help farmers and ranchers implement the new rules.

“AgSafe's goal is to help farmers and ranchers establish practical safety management programs that are aligned with the scope of their operations. AgSafe continues to make good progress working alongside members of Alberta's agricultural industry to strengthen the safety cultures on farms and ranches.”

*Kent Erickson, chair, AgSafe Alberta and member of the Alberta Wheat Commission*

The government will provide \$6 million over three years for a farm health and safety producer grant program. Set to launch this fall, it will provide up to \$10,000 per recipient to help Alberta farmers and ranchers with waged non-family workers implement health and safety practices and procedures that make their work sites safe for their workers, their families and themselves.

The Alberta government will also provide support materials including booklets, webinars and updated web content. The OHS Contact Centre is also available to support Albertans with any questions or concerns and can be reached at 1-866-415-8690.

History of OHS rules on farms and ranches:

- **Jan. 1, 2016:** *J Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act* came into effect extending the broad protections of the *OHS Act* and regulation to waged, non-family workers and entitling them to workers' compensation in the event of injury.
  - **May 2016:** Four technical working groups formed to look at the OHS code and make recommendations for how the code should apply to farms and ranches.
  - **Oct. 26, 2017 to Feb. 26, 2018:** Government sought feedback on OHS recommendations. The original deadline of Jan. 15 was extended to give Albertans more time to share their thoughts.
  - **December 2017:** Minister Carlier spoke with agriculture producers and commodity groups on the technical working group recommendations.
  - **June 1, 2018:** Updated *OHS Act* and regulation went into effect giving all workers in provincially regulated industries (including waged, non-family farm and ranch workers) more rights and protections.
  - **Dec. 1, 2018:** Technical rules for workplace health and safety, developed in collaboration with farmers and ranchers and with the consensus of the
-

AgCoalition, will go into effect on farms and ranches, including some provisions unique to the agriculture sector.

Information on the changes is available at Alberta.ca. For new updates, please sign up for [AgSafe's newsletter](#).

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# THE PEST INSIDER

June 2018

## New Rodenticides

Racumin Foam, a new rodenticide, contains coumatetralyl 0.4 per cent w/w foam. It replaces the tracking powder, which is no longer available.

Foam is placed in areas of rodent activity such as holes, cavities in walls and pipe-works. The water-based poison is then transferred to the rodent's coat as it brushes past and then it is ingested during grooming. Racumin Foam is more easily controlled and easier to use than tracking powders.

In 2018, Rodilon, a difethialone-based rodenticide, has become popular in Europe due to the 25 ppm or fewer ruling for rodenticide concentrations. Currently, Canada has no 25 ppm restriction on baits.

All Rodilon formulations contain Bitrex human taste deterrent. Many anticoagulant baits are manufactured at .005 per cent (50 ppm). Presently soft pac baits of Brodifacoum and Difethialone are manufactured at .0025 per cent. Currently, we don't employ any of these second generation rodenticides chemicals in our Rat Control Program.

*The trouble with the rat race is that even if you win, you're still a rat.*

*- Lily Tomlin*



Rodenticide Spray Foam



New 25ppm Rodilon soft bait

## In This Issue

- New Rodenticides
- New Zealand's Predator Free 2050
- Strychnine registration
- Wild Boar Pilot Project Update
- Eradicating rats with Sex



Endangered New Zealand Kakapo Parrot

## New Zealand’s Predator Free 2050

New Zealand has launched “Predator-Free 2050,” an ambitious plan to save the country’s birds from invasive predators in 30 years.

New Zealand is a prime example of invasive species destroying their native bird populations. Its early history had only bats for land animals and all local birds could roam free from predators. Today, many of its birds are in danger of extinction because of invasive predators settlers brought to the island. Many bird species now can only survive in off-shore islands where these invasive predators have been eradicated.

Rats, possums, stoats, ferrets and feral cats have been the culprits in destroying the native birds. These five predators are the target of New Zealand’s war on predators. In the past, 60 per cent of the vertebrates that have disappeared from the planet are from islands and most often, invasive species are the cause.

The flightless kakapo a giant parrot will become extinct if predators are not eradicated. Only on a few isolated islands that either have all predators eradicated or have no predators there is the Kakapo surviving.

To become predator-free, New Zealand is going to have to take some extreme measures. On small islands, invasive predators can be successfully eradicated, but to tackle the mainland will be a challenge.

One of the methods being considered is CRISPR, which edits genes. This gene drive tool allows scientists to introduce a gene that prevents reproduction in a pest population such that the pests could be eradicated in 15 generations.

Aerial drops of 1080 poison baits, or Brodifacoum anticoagulant poison, which has freed many islands around the world from rats, could be part of their program. Self-setting traps like the A-24 or traps that spray 100 stoats with toxins before having to be reset will be employed. Traps with super lure chemicals using pheromones to entice the species are also being used. These super tools likely won’t be enough unless human enthusiasm is marshalled in to have volunteers monitor invasive species, set and check traps, and get involved in community projects to support the eradication efforts.

Read more: [“New Zealand’s War on Rats Could Change the World”](#) from *The Atlantic*.

## Strychnine registration

The registration of strychnine use for pest and nuisance control have been under review by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA).

PMRA’s recommendation of deregistration of strychnine for RGS control is out and available on line at [here](#) .

After the PMRA report is public for a 90-day review period during which public comments will be accepted, the final report will be published in November.



2 % LSC recommended deregistered



## Wild Boar Pilot Project Update

In May we had an opportunity to conduct field trials in the County of Lac Ste. Anne. An area was monitored with cameras set over bait. Once the wild boar started coming for the bait we set up a corral trap. We monitored the site as the wild boar approached and eventually entered the trap to access the bait. So far at this site, we have captured eight wild boar.

We are monitoring and mapping wild boar at large throughout the province.

If your municipality receives a wild boar sighting or property damage complaint, please call:

310-FARM (3276) to report it.



Wild boar caught in trap

## Eradicating rats with Sex

CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats) is a revolutionary technique that allows scientists to edit genes with precision and ease. This technology called gene drives uses genetic engineering to make a population of rats rapidly eradicate themselves.

A scientist only has to genetically modify one or two rats in a local population. Genetically modifying one male rat so that he and his offspring could only produce males would eliminate a population of rats within 15 generations, about two years. Rat control by sex would eliminate the rat using his most advantageous trait — reproduction — with the rats seeking out other rats and doing the control for us. Within a short period of time, the whole population would be male and thus eliminated.

# Provincial Rat and Pest Update

## Training

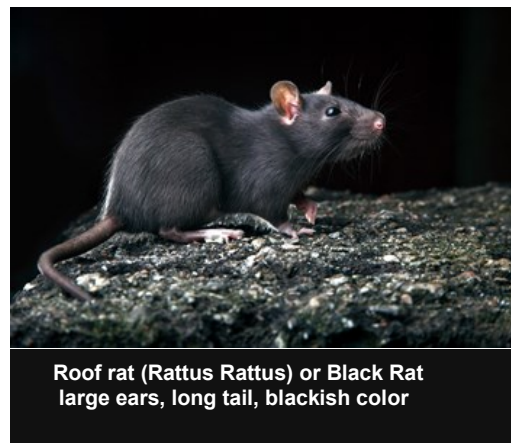
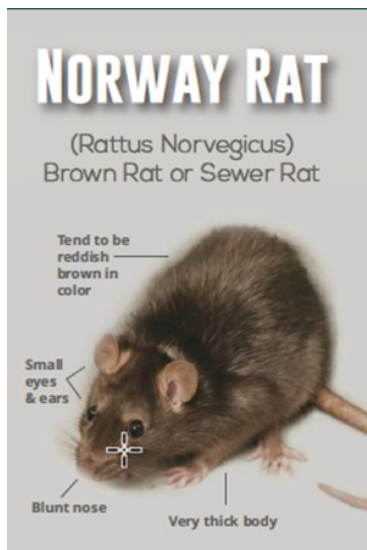
Our biannual Provincial Form 7 training is scheduled this year for Oct. 17 and 18. It is facilitated by the Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen and will be held in the Edmonton area. Further info will be made available later. If your Form 7 expires this year or next, please plan on attending.

Don't forget the about the Rat Control quizzes on Alberta's Rat Control Program page. They are fun to see how much you know about rats. At a recent staff meeting, only one staffer got 100 per cent out of the group of 20 who attended. See how you score!

[Click here to take the quiz](#)

## Confirmed Rats

This year we have had three small Norway Rat infestations found in the Rat Control Zone. Two infestations in Provost and one in Special Areas 3. The Provost infestations are eliminated and Jory is working the one in Sibbald. There have been seven single rats confirmed within the province scattered throughout. One Norway found in Fort McMurray was suspected to be a pet or feeder rat and four of the other confirmed rats were roof rats.



## Contact Us

**310-RATS (7287)**

**OR**

**310-FARM (3276)**

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**Rat and Pest Specialist**

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# Municipal District of Smoky River No. 130

P.O. Box 210 FALHER, ALBERTA T0H 1M0

Phone: (780) 837-2221

Fax: (780) 837-2453

June 13, 2018

The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay  
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food  
1341 Baseline Road  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0C5

Dear Honourable Minister:

**SUBJECT: Restriction of Genetically Engineered Alfalfa**

The Council for the Municipal District of Smoky River No. 130 at their regular meeting today reviewed a letter dated May 15, 2018 which was sent to you by County of Northern Lights, signed by Reeve Terry Ungarian.

Council for the M.D. of Smoky River wish to offer our support to the positions and concerns raised by the County of Northern Lights. In our opinion market acceptance and the benefits to producers must be considered fully prior to the approval of products like GE Alfalfa. Allowing these products to be sold and having them potentially contaminate and reduce the salability of other farm products does not help our producers in their attempt to remain sustainable and economically viable.

Feel free to contact myself or our Agricultural Fieldman Normand Boulet, CCA at 780-837-2221 [asb@mdsmokyriver.com](mailto:asb@mdsmokyriver.com) should you have any questions or concerns in this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Brochu, Reeve  
M.D. of Smoky River No. 130  
780-837-0522  
[rbrochu@mdsmokyriver.com](mailto:rbrochu@mdsmokyriver.com)

cc: MP Chris Warkentin  
MP Arnold Viersen  
Peace Region Counties and M.D.'s



From left to right:  
 Dave Cloutier, Joseph Sylvain, Robyn Simonieau,  
 Josh Sylvain, Tyler Yoder and Suzanne Boulet



**SARDA**

**BACK FORTY**

**Mission:** To Facilitate the transfer of unbiased ideas and information between research institutions, industry and agriuctlural producers.

**SUMMER ISSUE** **June, 2018**

**IN THIS ISSUE**



**The Summer Crew**

*by SARDA staff*

SARDA has a busy summer planned. With approximately 75 trials, 3500 plots in Smoky River, Spirit River and Greenview, pest monitoring , and several extension events planned, the students we hire for the summer period are a welcome addition. You may recognize some faces from previous years in the photo above. The students have provided the following information .

Hi, my name's Suzanne Boulet. I'm the daughter of Norm and Rita Boulet. I just graduated from a Creative Writing program at Capilano University in Vancouver, and I'm really excited to apply those skills to writing articles and managing SARDA's social media. I'll

also be helping Shelleen with organizing events. You'll probably see me around with a camera, taking pictures of everything I can!

Hello, again my name is Joseph Sylvain and this is my second year working with the SARDA team but my first as a summer student for them. I grew up on a farm right around Girouxville and my parents are Jean and Valerie Sylvain. I'm currently going into my third year of my bachelor of arts degree in business at Trinity Western University located in Langley BC. My hobbies include gardening, fishing and playing all types of sports. I'm looking forward to the summer ahead as a chance to further my understanding about agriculture

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This publication made possible in part by:



*Continued from page 1*

with the knowledgeable staff at SARDA as this is an area where I hope to work in the future. I hope we all have a great year!

Hello again, my name is Dave Cloutier, eldest son of Jean Cloutier and Suzelle Brault. I have two younger brothers and also have a dog named Nova. I have a Bachelor's degree in Sciences with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry from Campus Saint-Jean/University of Alberta. I completed one year in the Nursing program at Grande Prairie Regional College and have three more years to finish it. In my free time I like any activities that has to do with the outdoors like fishing, camping, biking, hiking, playing sports and of course studying since I have to prepare for a practicum this upcoming fall for nursing. I have been working for SARDA for the past couple years and this year makes my

third year working for them. As always, I enjoy working with SARDA because of the work we do as well as for the team I am working with. In my time working for SARDA, it is the first time we have more summer students that are boys instead of girls which is surely going to affect the dynamic. I am still looking forward a great but busy summer and hope everyone has a great season because I certainly will!

Hello, my name is Robyn Simoneau and I am a fifth year summer student for SARDA. My parents are Charles and Michelle Simoneau who farm south of Guy. This will be my last summer at SARDA as I will be graduating from the University of Alberta this fall with a combined degree in bachelor of arts (drama) and bachelor of education (secondary). After that I will be teaching drama, French, and social studies at Peace River High School in Peace River. Happy farming everyone!

Hello. My name is Josh Sylvain and this is my first year working for SARDA. I enjoy working with these the amazing people and learning about crop research. My parents are Jean and Valerie Sylvain. I live on a grain farm just west of Girouxville. This will also be my first year going to university. I will be taking business and human kinetics at Trinity Western near Langley in British Columbia. I hope you all have a great summer.

Hello my name is Tyler Yoder and this is my first year working at SARDA. I was raised in Spirit River and am the son of Calvin and Jeanne Yoder. I just finished my first year at GPRC in the Bachelor of Science program and am planning to transfer to U of A in the fall. During my spare time I like to spend it outside mowing grass. I am excited to work at SARDA and learn more about the research side of agriculture. I hope everyone has a great summer.



Amber Fennell-Drouin

### **Administrative Assistant**

Amber joined our SARDA crew in January, 2018. Her job is to support the staff and Board. With her assistance and support, phone calls are directed, training events are organized, minutes are prepared and filed, bills and staff are paid, training events are organized, etc. Welcome to our Crew.

Amber was born and raised in Sexsmith, AB and now resides in the Town of Falher with her

husband and her two children. Before working at SARDA she worked as a parts technician for about 8 years. During Amber's time as a parts technician she took part in the Parts Technician Apprenticeship program through GPRC where she met her husband. Amber soon went on to completing the apprenticeship and received her Red Seal in the trade. Amber and her family enjoy the outdoors so in the summer you will often find her spending time with her family camping out at the lake.



## What's new at SARDA?

by Khalil Ahmed



Khalil Ahmed  
Research Coordinator

Every season brings new production challenges for farmers and SARDA Ag Research always keeps those new issues at top priority. This year we are conducting over seventy research trials at six different locations in the M.D of Smoky River, M.D of Greenview and Rycroft area. Like every year, we are running our variety testing program. Fababeans, wheat, barley, oats, flax, yellow pea, green pea canola and silages are included in our research program. Following are the latest highlights of our research trials:

### SARDA Local Wheat and Peas Variety Trials:

In response to producers' requests, last year SARDA Ag Research started local wheat and peas variety trials that were tested at three locations in the MD of Smoky River, Big Lakes County, and MD of Spirit River. A huge amount of interest was observed among the farming community and many people visited our research plots throughout the season. We also received many phone calls from farmers requesting the results so they could make an informed decision for a wheat variety to choose for next season. Wheat variety results were very popular and numerous hits were observed on the SARDA's website and social media.

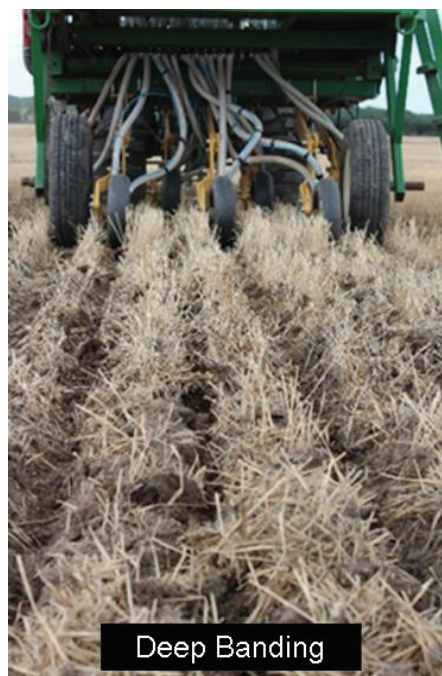
### Wheat Protein Studies:

Producers often ask how to increase protein as they receive premium pay for higher protein content in wheat. Urea, ESN and UAN fertilizers are the major elements to maximize the protein content in wheat. This study is aimed to identify the nitrogen fertilizers combination for maximizing the protein content in spring

### Deep Banding of Crop-Inputs:

This project will evaluate the potential of periodic deep banding of immobile nutrients to improve the efficiency inputs and sustainability of production on direct seeded fields. SARDA is partnering with Farming Smarter and InnoTech Alberta, to conduct this research at different growing conditions across Alberta (Falher, Vegreville, and Lethbridge).

One time deep banding (5-6") of P, K and Cu at 3X rates will be compared to their annual shallow banding (<2") at 1X rate and a check rate based on soil tests. Canola, pea and wheat will be grown each year in a pea - wheat- canola rotation. Relatively immobile nutrient are accumulating near the soil surface due to adoption of zero-tillage and shallow banding. The study hopes to provide an economically and agronomically viable solution to achieve potential yields and increased return on investment.



Research plots are open to public!

Maps available on our website ([www.sarda.ca](http://www.sarda.ca))



Continued from page 3



Faba bean

### Fababeans Trials:

We have been doing four different types of research studies on fababeans that includes herbicide damage, fungicide application against chocolate spot disease, and nutrient response in fababeans. This study is aimed to generate basic agronomic information about growing fabas in the Peace region.

### Hail Simulated Trials:

Since 2016 SARDA has been doing hail simulated studies on canola, wheat, and peas. Crops are being damaged at various growth stages with a rotating chain header passing over them. Last year, we observed that after receiving simulated hail damage at the early stage canola has a high tendency to regrow and no adverse effects were observed on yield. Results of this study will be very useful for hail insurance providers and provide information on the efficacy of plant protection products for hail recovery

### Soybean:

Soybeans are mostly growing in irrigated areas located in the southern part of the Province but due to the recent development of shorter season varieties, they might be suitable to grow in Peace Region of Alberta.

This year SARDA is testing and generating basic agronomic information for new soybean varieties. We are hoping that

this new varieties will perform very well to fit into our crop rotations.



Soybean seedlings

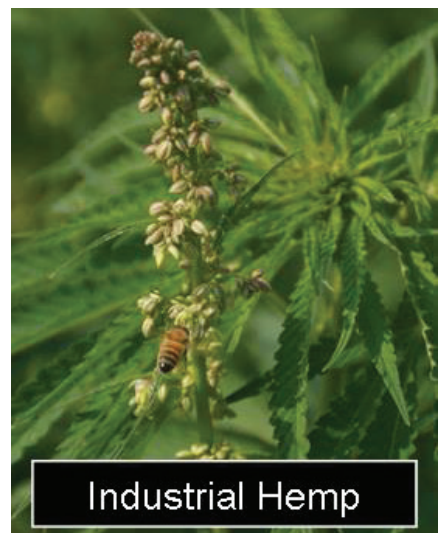
### Hemp Trials:

Alberta is always looking to bring new crops into rotations and hemp is a promising option for it.

Since 2014, SARDA has been conducting research on hemp and this will be continued this year as well. Two types of hemp varieties, grain and dual purpose (Fiber and Seed) will be tested and agronomic performance will be recorded.



Hail Simulator Machine



Industrial Hemp



**Quinoa Trials:**

Quinoa is considered the most nutritious “super food crop” with diverse uses in the food and feed industries. Quinoa seeds are gluten-free and hold a niche market globally. Producers are always looking at bringing new crops into rotation in the prairies and quinoa is a promising option for them. SARDA’s research is pivotal to generate basic agronomic information on quinoa in the Peace Region.



fit the crops they grow into their crop rotations.

**Crop Sequence Trial to Manage FHB:**

Addition of non-host crops in the rotation is the best strategy to manage fusarium head blight (FHB) in cereals. This year Prairie wide research is being conducted to determine the impact of preceding crop choices on FHB. SARDA has a site in the Peace Region that includes the crop sequence of cereals, flax, pulses, canola and corn.

**Novel Crop Sequence Trials:**

The addition of high value special crops in rotations is a sustainable strategy to diversify agriculture in the Peace.

This year we are starting a new research trail that includes the crop sequence of cereals, flax, pulses, canola, quinoa and hemp.

This study will help producers to make decisions on where to

The outcomes of this research will help producers to plan the best crop sequence decisions that minimize FHB in cereals.

**“Conservation will ultimately boil down to rewarding the private landowner who conserves the public interest.”**

**-Aldo Leopold, 1934**



ALUS seeks new participants for 2018!  
Are you a farmer or rancher with some marginal or ecologically sensitive acres?  
ALUS can help you establish wetlands, native prairie, pollinator habitat and other projects on your land.

Even better, ALUS pays you annually to keep these projects in prime working order.

Your ALUS projects will produce cleaner air, cleaner water and more biodiversity, benefiting both your farm and your community.

Across Canada, more than 700 agricultural producers have already enrolled over 18,000 acres in the ALUS program.

Join us!

**ALUS.ca**

For more information, contact your ALUS Program Coordinator:  
Becky Devaleriola  
Northern Sunrise County  
T: 780 322-3831  
E: [ALUS@northernsunrise.com](mailto:ALUS@northernsunrise.com)

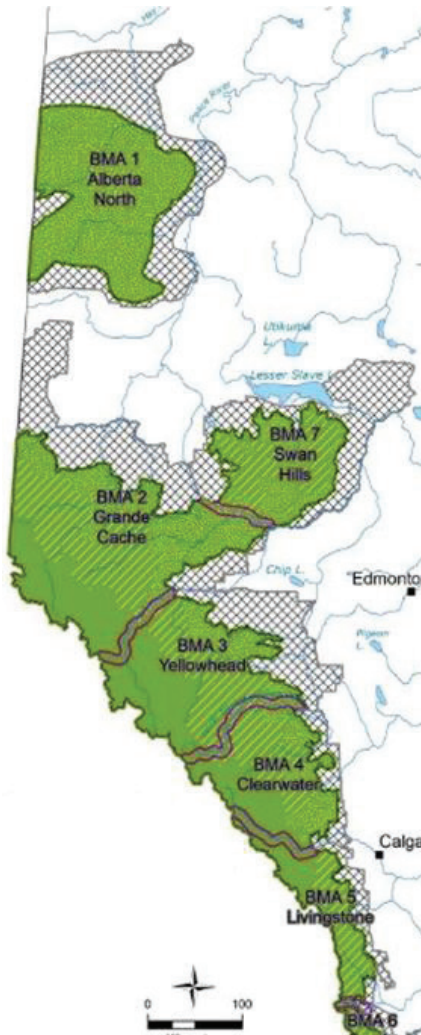


**NORTHERN SUNRISE COUNTY**



## What's all the buzz about bears in the Peace Region?

by Courtney Hughes, Alberta Environment and Parks



Collaboration is critical if we are to fill knowledge gaps and proactively address stewardship needs for grizzly bears in the Peace Region. Working together for grizzly bears has been the motto of the Northwest Grizzly Bear Team, led by Alberta Environment and Parks' (AEP) Peace Region staff in collaboration with industry, non-profit organizations and the public at large. In operation since 2014, this team has worked together to help fill knowledge

gaps of grizzly bears in Bear Management Area 1 (BMA1) through two separate Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) grants and in-kind support from AEP and Alberta Conservation Association. This work has included using spatially explicit capture-recapture (SECR) techniques to estimate grizzly bear population densities (how many) and distribution (where they are) across BMA1, the GrizzTracker citizen science program, and educational outreach.

SECR techniques are non-invasive, meaning they don't require us to capture the bear itself so there is no stress on the bear. Additionally, SECR techniques are useful for collecting population information from elusive animals like grizzlies, particularly when they roam through difficult and vast habitats like the boreal. Barbed wire wrapped around trees

to create hair snag sites were used across BMA1 to collect bear hair for genetic analysis. A total of 4208 hair samples were collected throughout the 2017 field season, which amounted to roughly 5 km of barbed wire was installed, sampled, and removed! We also had 43 trail cameras from ACA and AEP at sites to confirm grizzly bear presence, and collected 16 scat samples. A total of 1401 site visits with 172 helicopter flight hours, and more than 2000km on an ATV were logged throughout this seas! Project results will be available in late 2018 - early 2019, and will be posted on [www.grizztracker.ca](http://www.grizztracker.ca).

GrizzTracker is our citizen science platform, which refers to engaging volunteers, such as industry and forestry personnel, recreationalists, or general public, in the scientific data collection process. This approach has been used to collect information about Monarch butterflies, songbirds,







moose, frogs, and more. Using GrizzTracker, grizzly bear sightings are systematically collected and reported using a smartphone application for iPhone or Android, with results to be shared on [www.grizztracker.ca](http://www.grizztracker.ca) website. To date, GrizzTracker has received over 200 registered users since inception, with more than 370 trips averaging roughly 1550 hours of observation since April 1, 2017. Participation has included staff from AEP, CNRL, DMI, Canfor, ATCO, ACA, Tolko, and Boucher Bros Lumber Ltd. Wil in the early stages of implementation, this work is a testament to the value of this tool and our collaborators across BMA1, and by standardizing how people report sightings and collecting observer effort,

the app provides valuable insight towards grizzly bear use of human-dominated landscapes. Visit our blog for more stories on our important collaborative work in the Peace Region: [www.grizztracker.ca/wp/](http://www.grizztracker.ca/wp/).

Our Alberta BearSmart educational outreach has included over 7000 people between March 2017 – June 1 2018. This has included one-on-one discussions, school presentations, wildlife staff presentations, special events and workshops such as the Annual Weed Inspector workshop in Rycroft on May 24, 2018. Alberta BearSmart aims to promote bear safety and general awareness, and deliver conflict prevention strategies to people that live,

work and recreate in bear country. Alberta BearSmart’s three main goals are to (1) keep people safe, (2) help bear populations survive, and (3) reduce property damage, livestock loss or other negative interactions with bears. Providing educational experiences such as what bear spray is and how to use it can help shift attitudes and perceptions from reactive to more proactive, and highlight the necessity of and preventative strategies to reduce conflict. For more information on being BearSmart, visit <http://aep.alberta.ca/recreation-public-use/alberta-bear-smart/bears-agricultural-producers.aspx> or <http://aep.alberta.ca/recreation-public-use/alberta-bear-smart/bear-smart-communities/default.aspx>.

Lastly, we have a wonderful short documentary showcasing the important collaborative work we are doing in the Peace Region. View it on YouTube, and please consider sharing! <https://youtu.be/Gn-bQXUcN6c>

If you have any questions ore requests for information contact [courtney.hughes@gov.ab.ca](mailto:courtney.hughes@gov.ab.ca) or call 780-946-7619.

## Do you Receive the Back Forty?



Rural Farm mailboxes in the MD’s of Smoky River and Greenview, Big Lakes County and Northern Sunrise County 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.



## MPWA Projects with the Agricultural Community

*by Adam Norris*

So what is the Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance up to and which of those things are of interest to the agricultural community? Well in March 2018 the Board of Directors approved the first Integrated Watershed Management Plan for the Peace and Slave Watersheds. High level planning is often not of interest to the average bear, but this work lays out direction that MPWA is following and recommending for others in the Watershed.

For instance, we are working with the Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer Management Association and Alberta Environment and Parks to create a, a Source Water Protection Plan for the Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer. Yes another plan, but one that has very real and simple actions to protect the ground water in the Grimshaw area. We will be looking for input in autumn of 2018 and intend to finalize things during the winter.

Improved Livestock Crossing and Streambank Stabilization and Extension are 2 projects taken on by the same project team using Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program funding. Agroforestry Woodlot Extension Society, Alberta Conservation Association, Cows and Fish and County of Grande Prairie are working with us to improve flood and drought resiliency and water quality. Making better crossings



and restoring eroding streams are the on-the-ground work.

**The Issues:** moving livestock, water quality declines and riparian impacts (affects ability of stream to buffer flood and drought).

**A solution:** new livestock crossings that are affordable



**The Issues:** loss of land, loss of access, declining water quality, loss of flood and drought buffering.

**A solution:** work to restore stream function through inducing meandering

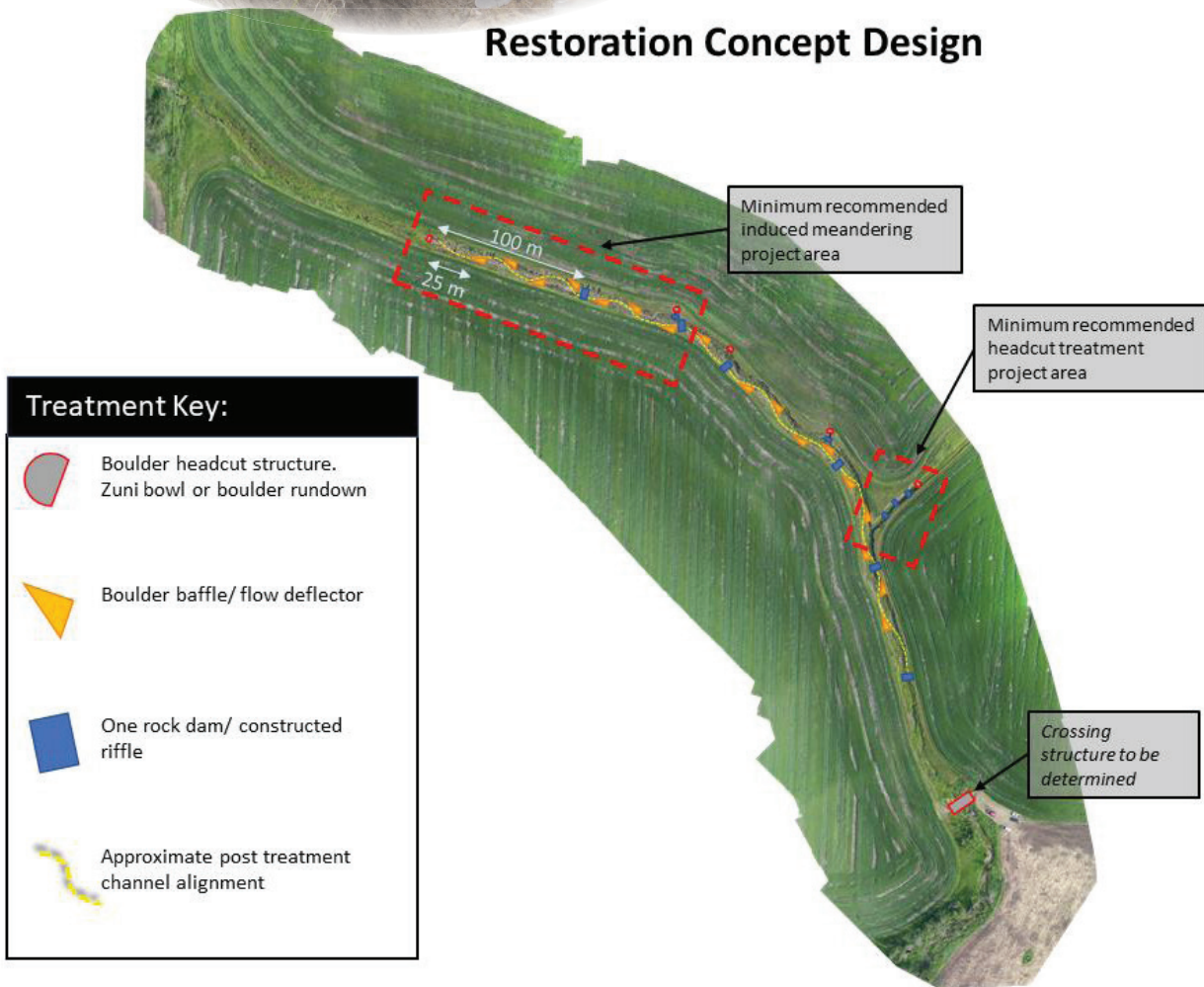
Both of these projects are trying something new or different and so we are learning. For example, the livestock require training to cross the structures. If you have ideas please share them with us. We will be hosting a workshop to do the restoration work in September of 2018. Likewise, we will be hosting a livestock crossing tour in October of 2018 – so please contact us if you are interested either of these things.

This is what an Integrated Watershed Management Plan looks like as it hits the ground.

Adam Norris  
mpwa.coordinator@telus.net  
780-324-3355



### Restoration Concept Design





## Webinars and How to Use Them

by Suzanne Boulet

When was the last time you attended a presentation? What about the time before that?

While SARDA does its best to bring new information to your doorstep, the reality is that long travel times and the rural nature of the Peace Region can make it difficult to entice presenters – a struggle shared by rural communities across Alberta. Even then, the date and timing of an event can mean that you can't even attend, busy with work as you are. But there's an easy way to distribute live information regardless of location: webinars.



### What is a webinar?

The word webinar is a portmanteau of “web” and “seminar.” It is a presentation shared over the internet with anyone who visits. It functions much like a physical seminar would: participants attend, a speaker presents, and the audience is allowed to ask questions that the speaker answers. A participant listens in through their computer, or (with certain webinar services) by a phone. Usually the webinar has

some sort of visual component, like a PowerPoint, that the speaker presents over. While watching, participants can type in a question that the presenter receives.

What makes webinars so useful is simply how accessible they are. There is an easy registration process, usually by downloading some sort of webinar access software, and then the participant can view the webinar (and any future webinars using that software). You access the webinar at the time and date specified, but many webinars are recorded for people to access after the event, though you lose the chance to ask questions.

### How to access a webinar

When a webinar is announced, a link will be provided to access the webinar. Different webinar services have different steps to ensuring that you can access the webinar: for example, some require certain software or a browser extension. The link will guide you through setting up the webinar's systems. Once you have the appropriate software, you can join the webinar at the specified time and date to listen in. To get the most out of the webinar, you will need a stable internet connection to ensure that the webinar loads smoothly and without interruption. Alternatively, you can phone in to some webinar services to

listen in while using your phone. Some services also provide a mobile app that you can use. The webinar services will have unique instructions on how to join a webinar the way you'd like to.

### What if I missed the webinar?

Most webinar hosts record the webinar for people to access after the webinar is finished. The recordings are then distributed by their platforms as a link. Some hosts upload to YouTube, while others stick with the software's own recording and playing. Unfortunately, some webinars aren't shared after the live session. Webinar providers will generally have a section on their website dedicated to links to their old webinars for the public to access.

### Some webinars to check out



Explore Local has many webinars about the food industry in Alberta, with topics such as marketing and information about regulations. You can find the webinars under the “Webinars” link of their homepage



# Agri-News

Agri-News announces webinars in its online newsletter. Recent topics include spring grazing management and learning about the Alberta Climate Information Service. Unfortunately, recordings of the webinars can be hard to find, though those who register before-hand get sent a link to the recording



Agriculture more than ever has a wide variety of webinars on agricultural topics, with past recordings uploaded to YouTube for easy access. You can visit their YouTube channel Ag More Than Ever for webinars and other videos, or visit their website to find webinars and content descriptions.



FARM MANAGEMENT CANADA  
GESTION AGRICOLE DU CANADA

### Farm Management Canada:

After filling out a simple registration form, you will have access to upcoming and past webinars of the Agriwebinar series. Visit [www.agriwebinar.com](http://www.agriwebinar.com).

**Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance**  
Diverse, Responsible, Connected

## An evening at the lake

July 5<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 9 at Figure 8 Lake

Join us for some conversation with Alberta Lake Management Society and Alberta Conservation Association about

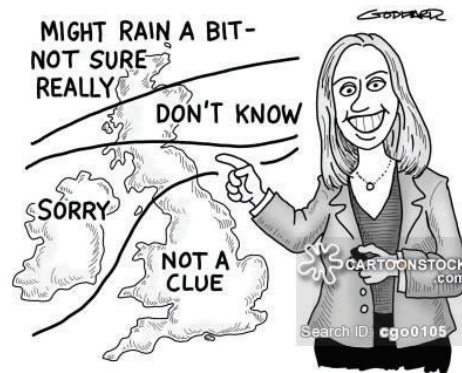
- Lake Ecology
- Lake Recreation
- Fisheries
- Lake stewardship
- Monitoring

# Build a Legacy!

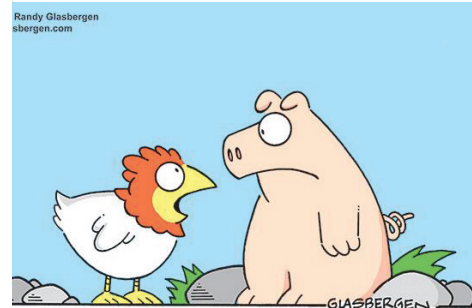
**Give a gift that benefits your Agricultural Community. SARDA Ag Research is a producer directed, not for profit organization whose vision is to own an Advanced Agricultural Resource Center of Excellence. Build your legacy. Call Vance at 780-837-2900. Tax deductible benefits available.**



SARDA requires pre-registration for ALL SARDA events.



Honest weather forecasting.



'm starting to believe in global warming. You smell like bacon.'

	Event Name	Location	Time	Date	Cost	Comments
	Riparian Management Course	Harmon Valley Hall, Nampa	8:30 am - 4:00 pm	June 15 & 16	\$20	Contact Becki at <a href="mailto:ALUS@northern-sunrise.net">ALUS@northern-sunrise.net</a> or 780-322-3831
	Pulse Agronomy School	Lakeland College, Vermillion	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	June 18	FREE	Contact Veronica Peterson at <a href="mailto:Veronica.Peterson@lakelandcollege.ca">Veronica.Peterson@lakelandcollege.ca</a> or 780-853-8738
	Ranching for Profit: An Intro & grazing Workshop with Dave Pratt	Brownvale Hall, Brownvale	9:30 am	June 19	\$40	Contact <a href="http://www.peacecountrybeef.ca">www.peacecountrybeef.ca</a> or 780-835-6799
	Ranching for Profit: An introduction with Dave Pratt	Dunvegan Provincial Park Visitors' Center	9:00 am	June 20	\$20	Contact <a href="http://www.peacecountrybeef.ca">www.peacecountrybeef.ca</a> or 780-835-6799
	Alberta Pulse breaks ground with first certified environmental product declaration	on your own computer	10:00 am	June 21	FREE	Register at <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5017517250333763841">https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5017517250333763841</a>
	More Grass, More Profit & a better quality of life	Hanson Ranch, Valleyview	9:30 am	June 23	\$40	Contact <a href="http://www.peacecountrybeef.ca">www.peacecountrybeef.ca</a> or 780-835-6799
	Crops, Cows, Creeks & Sloughs	Memorial Hall, Valleyview	9:30 am	June 26	\$10	Contact <a href="http://www.peacecountrybeef.ca">www.peacecountrybeef.ca</a> or 780-835-6799
	<b>canolaPALOOZA</b>	Lacomb Research & Development Center, Lacomb	9:30 am to 3:30 pm	June 27	FREE	For more information go to <a href="https://albertacanola.com/event/can-olapalooza/">https://albertacanola.com/event/can-olapalooza/</a>
	An Evening at the lake	Figure 8 Lake, Grimshaw	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	July 5	FREE	For more information go to <a href="http://www.mightypeacewatershedalliance.org">www.mightypeacewatershedalliance.org</a>
	Summer Field School	Donnelly Sportes	9:00 am to 3:30 pm	July 19	TBA	Visit <a href="http://www.sarda.ca">www.sarda.ca</a> or call 780-837-2900 for more information
	2018 International CLUB-ROOT Workshop	Edmonton	TBA	August 7-9	TBA	For more information go to <a href="https://albertacanola.com/event/2018-international-club-root-workshop/">https://albertacanola.com/event/2018-international-club-root-workshop/</a>



**NORTHERN SUNRISE COUNTY**







**Clover Seed Production**  
 PRFSA Annual Meeting, March 14<sup>th</sup> 2018  
 Calvin Yoder, Forage Seed Specialist, Spirit River

**Topics**

- Establishment
- Herbicides
  - Pre-seed
  - Seedling
  - Established
- Growth Regulators
- Desiccants



**Establishment**

- Plan ahead. Start with a clean field. Pre-harvest glyphosate the year prior to seeding
- Varieties
- Seed with wheat (not peas or canola)
- Broadcast with a light harrow pack
- Alsike seed at 1-3 lbs/acre. Red clover seed at 3-5 lbs/acre.
- Leave wheat stubble high at harvest
- Seed alone in summer is an option



**Red and Alsike Clover Tolerance to Pre-seed Herbicide Applications**

- Express SG+glyphosate on label for pre-seed applications. Currently applying to add sweet clover as well.
- Seedling Legumes have exhibited good tolerance to Roundup+Heat pre-seed.
- Pre-emergent applications are not advisable when seeding legumes if tank mixing with some broad-leaved herbicide.
- Conquer (carfentrazone+bromoxynil) + glyphosate????
- Conquer (pyraflufen+bromoxynil) + glyphosate???

**Minor Use Registrations for Herbicides on SEEDLING Clover**

**Alsike Clover**

- Basagran Forte
- Embutox
- Odyssey
- Tropotox Plus
- Achieve Liquid
- Assure II
- Poast Ultra
- Viper ADV\*
- Axial\*
- Puma Advance\*\*
- Horizon\*\*
- Solo

**Red Clover**

- Basagran Forte
- Embutox
- Odyssey
- MCPA amine
- Tropotox Plus
- Achieve Liquid
- Assure II
- Viper ADV\*
- Axial\*
- Poast Ultra\*\*
- Puma Advance\*\*
- Horizon\*\*
- Solo

**Sweet Clover**

- Achieve Liquid
- Poast Ultra
- Assure II
- Odyssey
- Viper ADV\*
- Basagran Forte\*\*
- Puma Advance\*\*
- Axial\*\*
- Horizon\*\*
- Solo

\*In the process of Minor Use Registration  
 \*\* Potential to register

**Herbicide Options For Clovers Seeded With Wheat**



**Herbicide Options For RED CLOVER Seeded With WHEAT**

**Broad-leaved Weed Herbicides**

- Basagran\*, Embutox\*, Tropotox Plus\*, MCPA amine\*

**Grassy Weed Herbicides**

- Achieve Liquid\*, Axial\*\*, Puma Advance, Horizon

\*Registered As A Minor Use \*\*Minor Use Submission

**Herbicide Options For ALSIKE CLOVER Seeded With WHEAT**

**Broad-leaved Weed Herbicides**

- Basagran\*, Embutox\*, Tropotox Plus\*, MCPA amine????
- Basagran and Embutox provide most consistent weed control and a wider range of weed control.

**Grassy Weed Herbicides**

- Achieve Liquid\*, Axial\*\*, Puma Advance, Horizon

\*Registered As A Minor Use \*\*Minor Use Submission



### Herbicide Options FOR SWEET CLOVER Seeded With WHEAT








**Broad-leaved Weed Herbicides**  
- Basagran or MCPA amine

**Grassy Weed Herbicides**  
- Achieve Liquid\*, Axial, Puma Advance, Horizon

\*Registered As A Minor Use



### Weed Seed Issues in Clover

<p><b>Canada Thistle</b></p> 	<p><b>Lamb's Quarters</b></p> 	<p><b>Canola</b></p> 
<p><b>Cleavers</b></p> 	<p><b>Night Flowering Catchfly</b></p> 	<p><b>Other Crops</b> - Timothy - Alfalfa</p>
<p><b>Stinkweed</b></p> 	<p><b>American Dragonhead</b></p> 	

### Herbicides on ESTABLISHED Clovers

#### Alsike Clover

- Basagran Forte\*
- Viper ADV\*
- Assure II\*
- Poast Ultra\*

#### Red Clover

- Basagran Forte\*
- Viper ADV\*
- MCPA amine\*
- Assure II\*
- Poast Ultra

#### Sweet Clover

- Basagran Forte\*
- Viper ADV
- Assure II\*
- Poast Ultra

Viper+AssureII Tank Mix ???

\*Registered As A Minor Use



### Arthropods in clovers

- Weevils - **PEA LEAF**, lesser clover leaf weevil, clover leaf, sweet clover, alfalfa, clover root curculio
- Cutworms - clover, army, pale western, redbacked, dingy, variegated, armyworm
- Aphids - pea, potato, yellow clover, sweet clover, clover
- Twospotted spider mite
- Thrips
- Plant bugs - lygus, alfalfa
- Clover seed chalcids
- Grasshoppers - Bruners, migratory, clearwinged, two-spotted, striped
- Leafhoppers - Aster, potato, various
- Spittlebugs (various)
- Foliage feeders - alfalfa caterpillar, alfalfa looper, green cloverworm, blister beetles, salt marsh caterpillar
- Wireworms



### Plant Growth Regulators on Clovers

- Trinexapac-ethyl (TE) applied at stem elongation increased red clover seed yields by up to 34% in Norway (Øverland and Aamald, 2007) .
- TE has increased red clover seed yield under Oregon, and New Zealand conditions by 9 to 16% (Anderson, et. al. 2015).
- Reduction of canopy height, increase in flowers and earlier maturity.
- Parlay (TE) registered in Canada on perennial ryegrass grown for seed production.

#### 2013, 2104 and 2015 Trials

- Alsike and red clover seed fields
- Small plot replicated (2m x 40 m and 4 reps)
- Conducted on 1<sup>st</sup> year stands
- 6 treatments
- Stages - Stem elongation (BBCH 32) and bud emergence (BBCH 50).
- Plant heights, flower counts, seed yield, 1000 kwts and germination.





Effects of Trinexapac-ethyl on Red Clover Seed Yields % of Check

Treatment (kg ai/ha)	Beaverlodge 2013	Girouxville 2013	Girouxville 2014	Girouxville 2015
0.140 Stem Elongation	+27	+18	0	+3
0.280 Stem Elongation	+10	+19	-31	+4
0.420 Stem Elongation	+38	+13	-36	+8
0.210 Stem Elongation+ 0.210 Bud		+12	-36	0
0.280 Bud	+17	+14	-21	+3

Red Clover – Girouxville 2014



Summary Trinexapac-ethyl on Clover Seed Crops

- Extremely dry conditions in 2 of 3 years
- Height reductions in most years
- Decrease in lodging in wet years
- Lower seed weights on red clover.
- Seed yields on RED CLOVER (low rate + early application)
  - 2013 Girouxville +18%
  - 2013 Beaverlodge +24%
  - 2014 Girouxville 0%
  - 2015 Girouxville +3%
- Seed yields on ALSIKE CLOVER (low rate+early application)
  - 2013 Falher -2%
  - 2014 Girouxville - 10%
  - 2015 Guy +9%
- Good responses on red clover to GR in wet years.
- Decrease in yield under stress conditions at higher rates in 2014.
- Should conduct an additional trial on red clover

Effects of Trinexapac-ethyl on Alsike Clover Seed Yields % of Check

Treatment kg ai/ha	Guy 2013	Girouxville 2014	Guy 2015
0.140 Stem Elongation	-2	-10	+9
0.280 Stem Elongation	0	-28	+8
0.420 Stem Elongation	-3	-45	+11
0.210 Stem Elongation+ 0.210 Bud	-16	-57	+2
0.280 Bud	-17	-46	+5

2017 TE + CCC on Red Clover (Guy, AB)

- Very strong and uniform stand.
- Underseeded with wheat in May 2016
- Plot size was 2 x 20 m, RCB with 4 reps.
- DATA COLLECTED: Plant height, lodging, flower count, seed yield, 1000 kwf and seed germination.
- TRTs applied on June 3 2017 at 2-3 node stage and 30 cm tall. Staging was a little on the late side.



Effect of TE and CCC on Red Clover Seed Crop, Guy 2017

Treatments kg ai/ha	Height cm	Lodging 0-10*	Flower Counts flowers per 1/4m2	Seed Yield kg/ha	Germ. %	Seed Wt. g/1000
TE 0.140	87.2	10	272	412 a	75.0	1.900
TE 0.280	83.9	10	306	398 a	72.0	1.736
TE 0.140+ CCC 0.588	87.4	10	274	372 ab	71.0	1.768
CCC 1.116	89.2	10	264	304 b	75.8	1.758
Check	90.1	10	244	294 b	68.3	1.758
CV%	3.5	0	12.3	9.7	6.2	3.1
LSD P=.05	NSD	NSD	NSD	65	NSD	NSD

\*(10 Is No Lodging)

Means followed by the same letter do not significantly differ (P=.05 Student-Newman-Keuls)





Harvest Management



Dessicant on Clover Trial-Methods

- Conducted in 2013, 2014 and 2015
- Alsike and red clover seed fields (3 site years for each crop)
- Small plot RCB (2m x 20 m and 4 reps)
- Conducted on 1<sup>st</sup> year stands
- 5 treatments applied when majority of heads were brown and seed had color change
- Water volume was 200 l/ha of water
- Trials were straight combined with Winter Steiger plot combine
- DATA COLLECTED; Forage moisture content , seed yield, 1000 swts and germination. Germinations again one year later.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years of trial were extremely dry conditions



Treatment	Active Ingredient	Formulation	AI Rate kg/ha	Product Rate L or g /acre
Heat+ Merge	safufenacil+ Merge	70% WG	0.050	28 g + 0.5 L
Heat+ Roundup Transorb+ Merge 1x	safufenacil+ glyphosate+ Merge	70%WG+ 540 g/l	0.050+ 0.895	28 g + 0.670 L + 0.5 L
Heat+ Roundup Transorb+ Merge 2x	safufenacil+ glyphosate+ Merge	70%WG+ 540 g/l	0.025+ 0.895	14 g + 0.670 L+ 0.5 L
Roundup Transorb	glyphosate	540 g/l	0.895	0.670 L
Reglone Ion	diquat	250 g/l	0.653	1 L
Check				

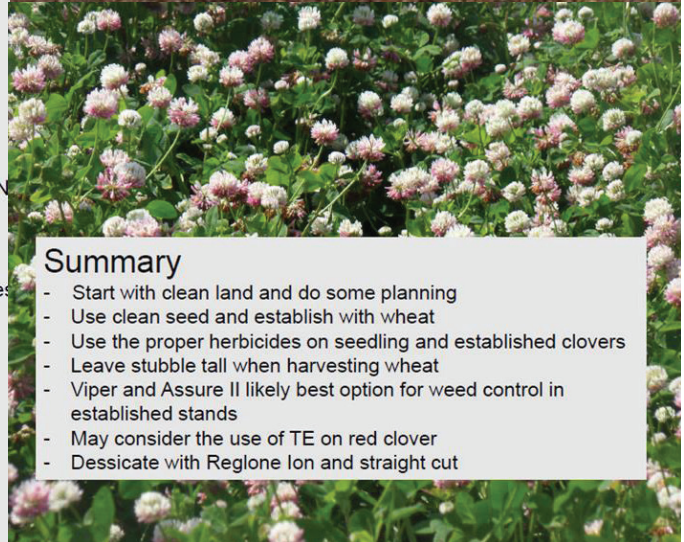


2013 Reglone on Alsike Clover



Summary of Dessicant Trial

- Reglone ION consistently reduced forage moisture content.
- Roundup alone or Roundup+Heat reduced forage moisture content at some locations but not nearly as quickly as Reglone ION
- Heat alone did not reduce forage moisture content.
- Increase in seed yield with Reglone ION at 1 of 6 sites (4 of 6 sites experienced very dry conditions)
- None of the treatments affected 1000 swt or germination.
- Reglone ION registered on red and alsike clover.



Summary

- Start with clean land and do some planning
- Use clean seed and establish with wheat
- Use the proper herbicides on seedling and established clovers
- Leave stubble tall when harvesting wheat
- Viper and Assure II likely best option for weed control in established stands
- May consider the use of TE on red clover
- Dessiccate with Reglone Ion and straight cut





# Energy Efficient Technology at Your Fingertips

by Amber Kenyon, Gateway Research Organization

Efficiency and sustainability. Two words that we have been hearing a lot of in the past couple of years. A quick look at Google Trends shows that these two words have followed the same interest lines throughout this year. This same Google Trends chart shows just how unique Alberta is when it comes to where our focus and priorities are. We are the only province, outside of the very Eastern part of Canada, which has more interest in the word efficiency than we do in the word sustainability. What if we could have the best of both worlds and have efficiency and sustainability tied together, to be able to achieve both simultaneously?

With the cost share programs in place by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, this becomes entirely realistic. The first funding program that we will look at is the Farm Energy and Agri-Processing Program (FEAP). FEAP shares costs with both producers and agri-processors on energy efficient investments. The Program is designed to encourage energy management which will result in cost savings, energy conservation, and ultimately, reduced greenhouse gas emissions. Energy efficiency helps to create both economic

and environmental sustainability. This program offers financial support, subject to financial constraint, to applicants who incorporate high efficiency equipment that is identified in the applicable funding list in their construction and/or retrofitting projects. With costs being shared on things such as; insulation, submeters, energy assessments and audits, lighting, heating and refrigeration equipment, ventilation, cattle waterers and more, this is a great time to start your construction project or to consider retrofitting some of your old equipment with new models that will save you money.

The other program that is well worth mentioning is the On Farm Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Program. This program provides funding towards solar photovoltaics on Alberta farms which enables producers to conserve non-renewable fossil fuels and reduce carbon

emissions, ultimately reducing the environmental footprint of Alberta's agriculture industry. The Solar Photovoltaics Program addresses two important industry priorities; the first is improved environmental stewardship. When producers make investments in clean energy and reduced carbon emissions, they are recognized for their commitment to sustainable practices. The second priority that this program addresses is improved energy management. Producers who

**FARM ENERGY AND AGRI-PROCESSING (FEAP) PROGRAM**

FEAP is a combination of two discontinued GF2 programs:  
On-Farm Energy Management Program  
Accelerating Agricultural Innovation Program (Stream C)

**FARMS  
RANCHES  
AGRI-PROCESSORS  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES**

Ag-Info Centre: **310-FARM (3276)**  
agriculture.alberta.ca/feap

Canada Alberta Government



# ON-FARM SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAICS (OFSPV) PROGRAM

To be eligible for funding, a Photovoltaic system must be:

- Grid-tied, not off-grid
- Approved under Alberta's Micro-Generation Legislation
- Positioned to optimize sunshine and minimize shading
- Have manufacturer-warranties on: Solar modules, Racking, Inverters and/or Micro-Inverters, and
- Installed on a Site ID that has a Distribution Rate Class of Farm, Irrigation, Grain Drying, or equivalent

Retroactive projects that have been completed AFTER APRIL 15, 2017 are eligible. See website for more details!

Ag-Info Centre: 310-FARM (3276)  
[agriculture.alberta.ca/solar](http://agriculture.alberta.ca/solar)



investments.

As someone with solar panels installed on my home and in use on many parts of my farm, I can honestly say that this technology is one that I would not want to be without. The funding that is available through the On Farm Solar PV Program, makes a solar installation quite a reasonable investment for your farm. When the solar install follows the guidelines set out by the program \$0.75/W of costs can be shared for up to 35% of eligible expenses for systems that are below 100 kW. For systems between 100.01

kW and 150 kW the cost share is \$0.56/W up to 27% of eligible expenses.

With these funding programs in place, there is no better time than now to make our farms both efficient and sustainable. There are energy outreach officers in place throughout the province to answer questions and provide information to interested producers and agri-processors.

In the North-Western part of Alberta contact Amber Kenyon at (780)307-7849 or [groextension@telus.net](mailto:groextension@telus.net). For the Eastern section contact Lyle Lawrence at (780)581-8403 or [lyle.lawrence@lakelandcollege.ca](mailto:lyle.lawrence@lakelandcollege.ca), and in the South the energy outreach officer is Vern Steinborn at (403)894-0050 or [vern.steinborn@southgrow.com](mailto:vern.steinborn@southgrow.com)

install photovoltaic systems tend to take a renewed interest in their electricity usage; this leads to additional efficiency

for up to 35% of eligible expenses for systems that are below 100 kW. For systems between 100.01



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## Who is worried about what weeds?

Normand Boulet, CCA

Agricultural Fieldman, M.D. of Smoky River No. 130

The Peace Region Fieldmen's Association recently held an Inspector school to train the Weed & Pest Inspectors appointed throughout the Peace Region. Attendees were present from all 13 Peace Region Rural municipalities as well as Urban ones including Grande Prairie and High Prairie. Northern Sunrise County Fieldman Sebastien Dutrisc and I co-presented on the "scintillating" topic of the Weed Control and Agricultural Pests Acts. Of course legislation can be a rather dry topic, so Sebastien and I tried to spice it up involving the attendees in discussions including one on the invasive plants of most concern to the area, and that discussion if nothing else led to this article.

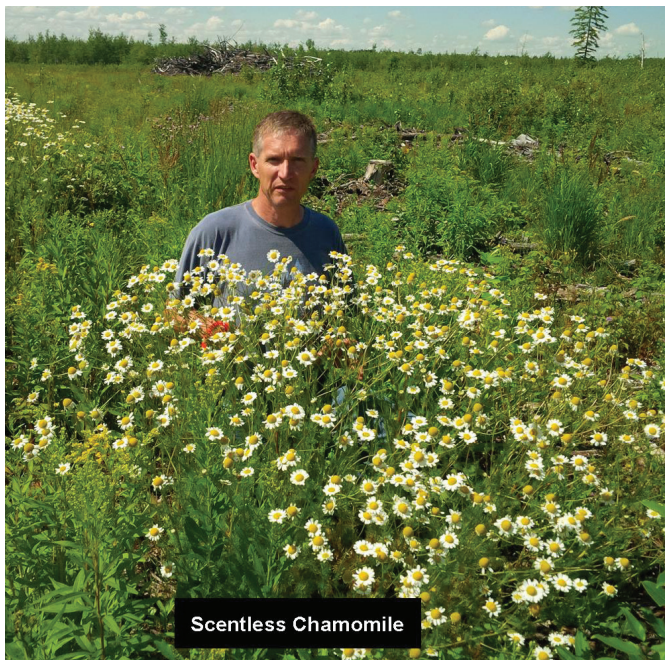
The Weed Control Act of Alberta (WCA) is considered to be enabling legislation, the Act is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, but the expectation is that the local municipality will look after things within their boundaries. The Act makes it a requirement for all Alberta municipalities to appoint inspectors (including towns, villages, cities, summer villages and of course, Counties and M.D.'s). The Act also allows a municipality to designate, by bylaw, plants which they deem of particular importance for control. The Minister of Agriculture has to approve the bylaw to ensure the designation is appropriate and enforceable.



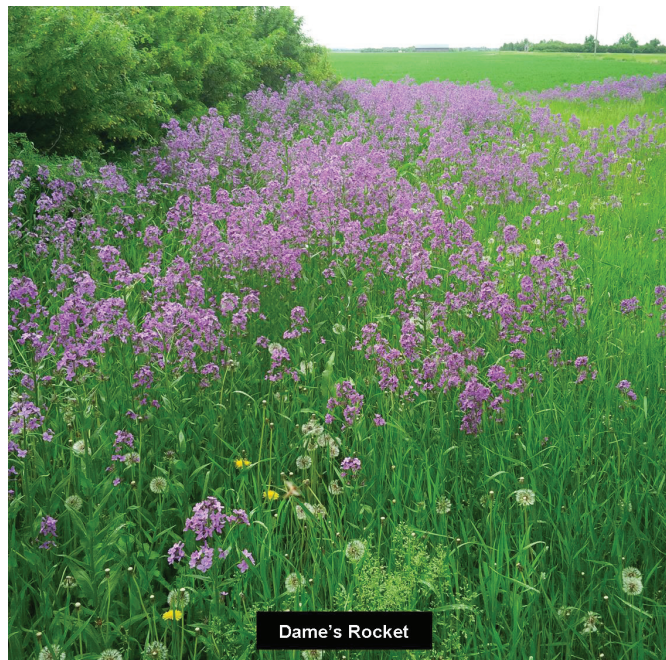
The WCA already designates 46 plants as Prohibited noxious weeds and a further 29 plants as Noxious. What's the difference? A Prohibited noxious (PN) weed is usually not present in the province, or present at low enough levels and of a significant enough concern that eradication is both possible and desired. Most have been shown to have extremely detrimental properties in other jurisdictions like B.C., Montana or even further afield. The majority of the weeds listed in the PN category for Alberta are not crop concerns, they are invasive plants which would have a devastating impact on the environment if they were allowed to establish. Many PN weeds would choke out

water ways, allow erosion of creek banks or replace native vegetation. Himalayan balsam and Purple loosestrife are 2 examples of PN weeds which have been found in the Peace Region. Under the WCA, an inspector **shall** issue a notice if he or she finds prohibited noxious weeds that have not been destroyed. In Northern Sunrise County and Saddle Hills County Scentsless chamomile has been designated as Prohibited noxious which means that if an inspector finds chamomile and steps to destroy the plant are not being taken, they are legally obligated to issue a notice. In the Peace Region Scentsless chamomile is considered public enemy no. 1 by most municipalities.





Scentless Chamomile



Dame's Rocket

In Smoky River for instance even though we have not designated it as PN, we treat it very similarly, doing our best to ensure no chamomile is allowed to set seed, requiring the picking and destruction of any chamomile in bloom.

Noxious weeds under the Act include commonly known plants like the aforementioned Scentless chamomile as well as Toadflax, Tansy, Ox-eye daisy, White cockle, Tall buttercup and Canada & Perennial Sow thistle, which would be the main weeds of concern in the Peace Region. These plants are usually too wide-spread to consider eradication as being possible, but controlling them to protect our environment

and our ability to grow crops is important. The landowner or occupant already have a legal obligation to destroy PN weeds and to control N, and the WCA states that an Inspector shall issue a notice if PN weeds are not being destroyed and may issue a notice to require a landowner or occupant to control Noxious weeds. It is this important difference, the word "may" which allows municipalities to prioritize their resources against specific weed species. Although an inspector may not stop to deal with every thistle plant he or she sees, in many municipalities one Scentless chamomile is too many and it requires immediate attention. Municipalities can designate plants into the

noxious category, in M.D. Smoky River as examples, Bull thistle, Stork's bill and Cypress spurge have all been designated as Noxious weeds in addition to the 29 already listed under the Act, because they are of concern and not present in high enough numbers that controlling them is not possible. If you'd like to know more about the weeds designated as PN or N in Alberta, the Alberta Invasive Species Council has excellent information at their website <https://abinvasives.ca/>, and if you are looking for information specific to your municipality, check out the Agricultural Services area of the municipality's website, or contact the Agricultural Fieldman for the municipality.

A banner for Alberta Canola Producers. It features a yellow four-petaled flower icon on the left. To the right of the icon, the text "ALBERTA CANOLA" is written in large, bold, black letters, with "PRODUCERS" in smaller letters below it. At the bottom of the banner, the website "www.albertacanola.com" is displayed in black text. The background of the banner is a blue sky with white clouds.





# Confined Space on the Farm

AgSafe Alberta

Farms have a variety of confined spaces that can become very dangerous work environments. Work done in confined spaces are said to be 150 times more dangerous than work done outside of this space. Most injuries caused in confined spaces are due to workers not knowing the hazards involved in working in these high risk environments.



Grain bins are considered confined space because they aren't meant for human occupancy and they can be difficult to get in and out of. If someone became engulfed in grain, rescue is extremely difficult.

A confined space can present itself in many shapes and sizes. It is a restricted space with limited access or a steep climb up a ladder to get out. It is also a space that can be compromised in air quality. An atmospheric deficient environment can be caused by oxygen levels too high or too low, a flammable environment, mists, fumes or dust. It can also be a space with potential for injury or illness within this space such as slippery conditions or uneven surfaces. Lastly, it can be a space that can produce harmful consequences like grain and fertilizer entrapment or engulfment or potential for drowning. Some examples of confined spaces that could be present on farms are grain bins, manure pits, seed carts,

well pit, manure evacuators, hoppers, fertilizer carts and sewers to name a few.

Confined spaces can also be very toxic. Decaying organic matter, fermenting legumes and grains off gas gases that can knock a person down quickly, even cause death within minutes. Many toxic gases are odourless and colorless so why take the chance assuming the air quality is adequate. For a nominal sum, you can purchase a gas monitoring hand held unit that tests air quality prior to entering this space. The dangers are real and we should treat them with the utmost respect.

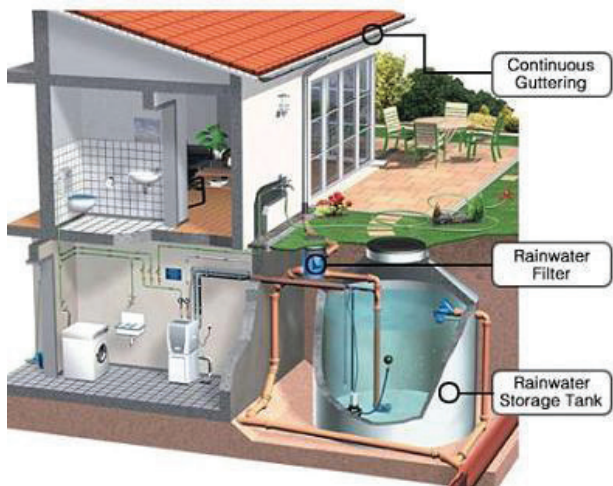
Often times producers find themselves working alone in a number of situations, but best practices advise to work in confined spaces with a spotter also known as a monitor. The role of a monitor is to be your lifeline. That person is to be in constant communication with you and monitor your state of response. If the work conditions change and air quality becomes compromised altering the communication link, your monitor should ask you to exit the confined space for your safety. On that note, if for some reason you have injured yourself, your monitor can call for help.

Tanks and vats are confined spaces. If a worker falls ill inside, rescue can be very difficult without proper rescue equipment available.




**ALBERTA PULSE GROWERS**

**www.pulse.ab.ca**



Bunkers, root cellars, and areas that have only one point of entry are confined spaces. Oxygen displacement and drowning can render a farm worker unconscious. Providing assistance is then difficult because other workers cannot enter to facilitate the rescue.



Wells, cisterns and other below ground structures are also confined spaces. Dangerous gases can collect or oxygen can be missing in these areas making them very dangerous.

Knowing that producers may have to enter these spaces to do maintenance work or repairs, how do we manage the risks and create a safer work environment? Allow me to point out a few easy steps to get you started. Creating a safety management system for your farm can be as simple or as complex as you wish it to be. Begin by walking around your farm and identifying potential confined spaces and write them down. Create awareness on the farm by posting signage saying do not enter, confined space. This allows workers and family members to spot danger. It also

allows the worker performing work to stop and think about what he is about to do.

Create a code of practice for confined space work. These best practices address such things as; identifying hazards associated with working in confined spaces, testing of air quality, having a qualified person with adequate training to perform the work, having an emergency response plan in place and having a designated person to monitor the worker while he or she is performing confined work. Share this code

of practice with everyone on the farm. It's knowledge everyone can benefit from.

Producers can incorporate safer practical on farm practices to help control hazards and help in the prevention of serious injury and death. Before entering any confined space, STOP-THINK-PREPARE.

For more information on the AgSafe Alberta Quick Start Guide: Confined Space Management visit [www.agsafeab.ca](http://www.agsafeab.ca) or contact an AgSafe Alberta Advisor.



# Summer Field School

## July 19, 2018



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**TOGETHER. SHAPING THE FUTURE.**

Research drives change and continuous improvement in how livestock are cared for. In Canada we have a strong contingent of dedicated researchers, providing a multidisciplinary approach to livestock welfare research. **INSIGHTS** provides information on livestock welfare and reports on research, initiatives and issues.

## **Incidence and Characterization of Feedlot Lambs and Ewe Flock Lameness**

*By Wiolene Nordi and Karen Schwartzkopf-Genswein*

Sheep production in Canada is increasing (one million head on 11,000 farms of which 2,000 farms are in Alberta), due to the growing demand for lamb meat by consumers over the last five years as a result of growing ethnic markets. Consequently, both ewe flocks and growing/finishing lamb feedlots have been increasing in number and size within Alberta to meet the demand for this growing market.

Lameness is a common cause of welfare and economic concern in most sheep producing countries. For example, prevalence of lameness in UK sheep farms has been reported to be between eight and 10 per cent with the main cause being, interdigital dermatitis, severe footrot, ovine digital dermatitis, and shelly hoof (Kaler and Green 2009\*). In Alberta, we see lame sheep on farms, feedlots, auctions and pasture. At one time, there was a provincial footrot eradication program. Veterinary inspections, foot trimming and foot-soaking were standard annual procedures for the 20,000 plus sheep that headed to B.C. forestry reserves. Despite all the effort, time and money, lame sheep are still common.



### *Healthy foot vs foot affected with foot rot*

Canadian sheep and lamb producers consider lameness a serious health and welfare issue, resulting in high culls rates of breeding stock, reduced ewe productivity, slow growth performance of feeder lambs, and high labor and treatment costs to manage these animals. Lameness has long contributed to reduced animal productivity. It is associated with pain and discomfort and results in modifications to the animal's gait; thus, reducing feed intake and increasing weight loss, labour and drug costs. One of the current challenges is accurately identifying lameness and making a correct diagnosis. At this time, very little has been published on the prevalence, risk factors, causative agents, and cost of lameness in Canadian sheep.



### *Lame feedlot sheep*

Consequently, a two year study (2018-2020) funded by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, the Alberta Lamb Producers, Van Raay Paskal Farms and Canada Gold Beef and co-lead by Dr. Karen Schwartzkopf-Genswein of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Dr. Doerte Döpfer from the University of Wisconsin is currently underway. The research team also includes Dr. Joyce Van Donkersgoed (Alberta Beef Health Solutions), Dr. Kathy Parker (Sheep Health Solutions), Dr. Sonia Marti (IRTA, Barcelona Spain) and Dr. Wiolene Nordi who is the postdoctoral fellow conducting the study. The main objectives of their research will be to 1) determine the relative occurrence of lameness in feedlot lambs and ewe flocks, 2) characterize the types of lameness observed, 3) identify causative agents associated with lameness, and 4) document the transmission rates of the most prevalent cause of infectious lameness in feedlot sheep.

Knowledge generated by this research team on the occurrence, types and causes of lameness will help improve how producers and veterinarians diagnose lameness to improve prevention, treatment and



control of the disease. This will benefit both animal health, welfare and production economics by providing sheep producers and small ruminant veterinarians with science-based information regarding disease diagnostics and animal management risk factors. This information is critical in mitigating the effects of lameness in the Alberta sheep industry. As well, it will help identify additional areas of research to help prevent the most common causes of lameness e.g. best management practices and new vaccines.

Research Team members needed:

## **YOU –THE PRODUCERS!**

**We invite you** to help us study this problem so that together we can learn how to minimize sheep lameness and improve animal welfare and productivity.

### **What we are asking:**

We are looking for producers who are willing to share information with us via mail, email, fax or text, in the event that they have a lameness case arise on their farm.

The information we would like you to collect includes animal identification, history of lameness for the animal and farm, diagnosis, treatment, results of treatment, photographs of lesion, comments such as severity of the lameness (ability to bear weight or not), recent weather events, and pen or pasture conditions (wet or dry).

Forms will be provided to facilitate recording and reporting cases of lameness.

For further information: [lucia.holtshausen@agr.gc.ca](mailto:lucia.holtshausen@agr.gc.ca) or 403-915-5864

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## **It's Time to Talk about Antimicrobials**

***By Dr. Darrell Dalton***

In 2014, the World Health Organization (WHO) recognized the increased development of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) as a global crisis. Dr Keiji Fukuda, Assistant Director-General of WHO stated, "Without urgent, coordinated action by many stakeholders, the world is headed for a post-antibiotic era, in which common infections and minor injuries which have been treatable for decades can once again kill." This will affect generations to come. Later that year, our federal Minister of Health demanded that an action plan be developed by Health Canada to address this issue in Canada.

As a result, Health Canada has stated that as of December 1, 2018, all antimicrobials (an agent that kills microorganisms or stops their growth) will be available by prescription only under veterinary oversight. The government recognizes the important and critical role that veterinarians play (by virtue of

their education, experience and accountability) in providing oversight of the use of antimicrobials. We know that 80% of all antimicrobials used are used in animal agriculture. Veterinarians are being given the great responsibility to be stewards of good antimicrobial use, and thus help in contributing to agriculture's efforts to help slow or reverse the trends of AMR.



AMR occurs when microorganisms (germs, bacteria, fungi) become resistant to the antimicrobials to which they are exposed. Those of us involved in animal agriculture recognize that the use of antimicrobials plays an important role in our ability to raise and sell healthy animals. We must accept our responsibilities for not contributing to increased AMR occurring. This is what the new regulations around prescribing and dispensing of antimicrobials is hoping to address.

So, what does this mean to the average producer? If you have been working routinely with a veterinarian, you should notice minor or no changes. If you have not been associated with a veterinarian, then you should develop a relationship with one so that if the need arises, you will be able to obtain prescriptions for medications that your animals need. There will be no alternate pathway to access these medications.



A prescription from a veterinarian will be required to obtain all antimicrobials. After December 1, 2018 you

will no longer be able to access any antimicrobial from a lay distributor, and will be required to have prescriptions dispensed (filled) either by a veterinarian or a pharmacist. By this date, all the labels for these products will indicate that they are by prescription only. In addition, on this date there will be no more claims for growth promotion on these products.

In addition, a veterinary prescription will be required prior to sale when an antimicrobial drug is mixed in livestock feeds. All approved in-feed drugs (including over-the-counter and prescription) are to be included in the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's Canadian Medicating Ingredient Brochure (CMIB) and can be mixed and sold by a feed mill. Medications to be mixed on farm will also require a prescription, and will only be sold by veterinarians or pharmacists.

Reduction of AMR is of importance to all of us. To accomplish this, it is going to take all of us working together. The use of antimicrobials in animals is a privilege that we must respect if we are going to maintain it.

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## **Use and Perceptions of On-Farm Emergency Slaughter for Dairy Cows in British Columbia**

*By Katie Koralesky and David Fraser*

On-farm emergency slaughter (OFES) is one end-of-life option for farm animals that cannot be transported humanely but are fit for human consumption. OFES – whereby veterinary inspection, stunning (using a firearm) and bleeding occur on the farm before the carcass is transported to a slaughterhouse for processing – is allowed in several Canadian provinces including Alberta. The stated goals of most OFES programs are to prevent undue suffering of an injured animal and to salvage meat.

In British Columbia, OFES is typically used for dairy cows, often in situations where there may be uncertainty over the diagnosis of the condition and prognosis for the cow. In British Columbia and elsewhere, OFES is a controversial practice that is used and supported by some farmers but not others. Therefore, we conducted two studies to first determine the types of injuries that lead to OFES, and second to identify perceptions and concerns about OFES. Study findings are highlighted below.

For the first study, we examined 812 OFES veterinary inspection documents from August 2014 to December 2015. The most common injuries were leg injuries (35% of total cases) with rear leg problems outnumbering front leg problems by 3:1. Full and partial hip dislocations accounted for 20% of total cases. 61% of nerve injuries (11.5% of total cases) were classified as damage to the obturator nerve, and foot injuries and lameness (7% of total cases) were most common among cows aged 5 years and older. Some documents included information about the number of days elapsed between the injury and OFES; these

showed that OFES was sometimes done on the day of injury, but in other cases, several days passed before OFES was used.

To understand dairy industry professionals' perceptions of OFES, we conducted 25 individual and 3 group interviews with 40 participants (farmers, veterinarians and others). We spoke with participants who supported and used OFES and those who did not. These discussions revealed positive and negative perceptions of OFES influenced by participants' values, by how they perceived the operational legitimacy of OFES, and by concerns about social responsibility of the dairy sector.

Participants valued cow welfare, but some believed that OFES promoted fast decision-making for injured cows and was therefore positive for cow welfare, while others thought OFES prolonged animal suffering, for example if farmers waited for the veterinarian, transporter, or slaughterhouse to be available rather than doing prompt euthanasia. Participants also appreciated that OFES offered an opportunity to salvage meat from an animal they had raised and cared for.



Photo credit: [https://www.dairynz.co.nz/media/5789266/checklist\\_for\\_transporting\\_cows\\_dnz50\\_005\\_april\\_2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.dairynz.co.nz/media/5789266/checklist_for_transporting_cows_dnz50_005_april_2018_update.pdf)

Participants also questioned whether veterinarians may be put into a conflict between their duty to verify an animals' eligibility for OFES and their client's desire to use the program. Additionally, some participants felt that if veterinarians were not consulted first on the animals' eligibility for OFES, they may feel pressured to endorse the farmers' decision to proceed.

Finally, while some participants saw OFES as a positive opportunity to avoid the inhumane transport of cows to public auction, others saw it as a stop-gap rather than a satisfactory solution to compromised cow management. Some participants thought it better to proactively cull animals that are at risk of developing problems in the future, and to use prompt euthanasia for injured animals. Finally, participants also

expressed concern over food safety depending on hygiene at the site of slaughter.

We combined study findings and developed recommendations for the OFES program that retain its positive features and address valid concerns:

- 1) Clarification is needed on what conditions (e.g. fractures versus lameness) are allowable for OFES.
- 2) Precise timing parameters are needed to avoid inappropriate delays.
- 3) Veterinarians need training on how to verify animals' eligibility for OFES.
- 4) Veterinarians should be designated as the first point of contact in the OFES process.
- 5) Proactive culling should become the norm so that emergency procedures like OFES are needed less often; however, each farm should have an end-of-life decision-making protocol to use when necessary.
- 6) OFES needs to be conducted in a hygienic location with appropriate equipment.

*For further information please email Katie Koralesky at [katie.koralesky@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:katie.koralesky@alumni.ubc.ca). The University of British Columbia Animal Welfare Program is grateful to the study participants and the British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture for the provision of the documents. General funding for the Animal Welfare Program is provided by NSERC, the British Columbia Dairy Association, the Dairy Farmers of Canada and many others listed at <http://awp.landfood.ubc.ca/> Parts of this article are from: <https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2017-14320> and a UBC Dairy Education and Research Centre Research Report (Vol 18, No*





*For Immediate Release*

## **New barley survey powers strategies to harvest more feed value**

*June 13, 2018*

**CALGARY, AB**— New data and analysis from a survey of barley samples from across Alberta will help Canadian livestock producers and industry get more bang per bite from this important feed ingredient. The survey was led by

Canadian Bio-Systems Inc. (CBS Inc.) and the University of Manitoba, with sample collection assistance from the Alberta Barley Commission.

“Today we have an excellent opportunity to get more nutrition and benefits from feed barley,” says Dr. Anangelina Archile, CBS Inc. Technical Services Manager, who helped lead the survey initiative. “Because of the prominent role of this feed source, particularly in Western Canada, the improvements we make can have a very strong positive impact on the economics and competitiveness of livestock production in this region and other key areas. But to get the most out of feed barley, we first need to better understand its real-world nutritional profile at a deeper level. That’s what this new barley survey is all about.”

### **Deeper understanding of nutritional profile**

For the 2017-2018 barley survey, samples were collected by the Alberta Barley Commission from locations across Alberta after the completion of the 2017 harvesting season. All samples were then analyzed at the University of Manitoba’s Department of Animal Science. This process produced a wealth of data on a variety of parameters including starch, protein, non-starch polysaccharides (NSP) – both water soluble and insoluble – neutral detergent fibre (NDF) and phosphorus (phytate and non-phytate).

The results provide a deeper understanding of the nutritional profile of barley, piecing together a puzzle picture that can be maximized through dietary strategies including advanced feed technology options. On average, crude protein was 10.7 percent and varied considerably with a minimum value of 8.6 percent and a maximum value of 15.3 percent. Starch content on average was

53.2 percent and likewise showed substantial variability with a minimum value of 48.9 percent and a maximum value of 57.9 percent.

### **Supporting greater precision, bang per bite**

NSP on average was 17 percent, with 72.9 percent of that water insoluble and 27.1 water soluble. The NSP values, particularly the water soluble component, were much larger than the same component identified in surveys for wheat, with beta-glucan comprising the primary water soluble NSP for barley. “This is significant because we know that high dietary levels of beta-glucan can increase the viscosity of digesta within the intestinal tract of swine and poultry, negatively affecting the feed value of barley,” says Archile. “However, knowing this, producers can use feed technology, such as enzyme formulations customized for this purpose, to hydrolyze the beta-glucans and thereby greatly increase the nutrition and energy capture.”

NDF on average was 13.6 percent, which is somewhat lower than values commonly estimated, however this is still relatively high compared to the NDF of other feed crops such as wheat, which has an estimated NDF of around 9.31 percent, and corn, which has an estimated NDF at around 10.4 percent. “Barley has more hard-to-digest components, such as fibre, compared to other common feed ingredients,” says Archile. “The information we have uncovered will help us understand those components and how to mitigate or neutralize them as barriers to feed value. We have the tools and strategies today to accomplish this. The survey results help give us the blueprint of what we are dealing with. This will help our approaches be more precise and effective.”

## **Adding value to feed barley usage**

Another key finding is that 50 percent of barley phosphorus content is tied up within phytate molecules, which are indigestible. Producers commonly supplement diets with inorganic phosphorus -- a practice that can add substantial cost. However, advanced feed technology, such as certain phytase and multi-carbohydrase enzyme formulations, can breakdown these molecules and liberate the organic phosphorus. “This can instantly add value to feed barley and reduce cost by eliminating the need to supplement,” says Archile.

Further barley surveys are planned for additional years, says Archile. The new barley survey complements a CBS Inc. led Canada-wide and international wheat survey initiative now entering its fourth year. Both efforts are part of a broader CBS Inc. focus on supporting feed ingredients expertise. The surveys also help power CBS Inc.’s [iNSPect feed analysis app](#). This web and mobile interface allows users to input information on the type of diet they are feeding and receive instant analysis to support optimized feeding strategies. CBS Inc. is an innovation-focused company that researches, develops and manufactures a wide range of bio-based products used in feed, food and industrial applications, leveraging over 30 years of research and development. More information is available at [www.canadianbio.com](http://www.canadianbio.com).

*[Click here to view a more detailed summary including charts of the Barley Survey findings.](#)*



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# Municipalities on the front lines in clubroot war

Persuasion preferred, but no-grow orders are also being used

18



By **Alexis Kienlen**

*Reporter*

Published: June 4, 2018

**Canola, News**

**Be the first to comment**



Municipalities are working with producers to minimize the spread of clubroot, with some growers being asked to not grow canola for two years if the disease is found. *Photo: File*

Municipal officials across the province are increasingly on guard in the ongoing war to slow the relentless spread of clubroot.

It's been 15 years since the pernicious soil-borne disease was first found in a canola field near Edmonton. The confirmed tally last year was 2,744 fields — but the true number is almost certainly higher.

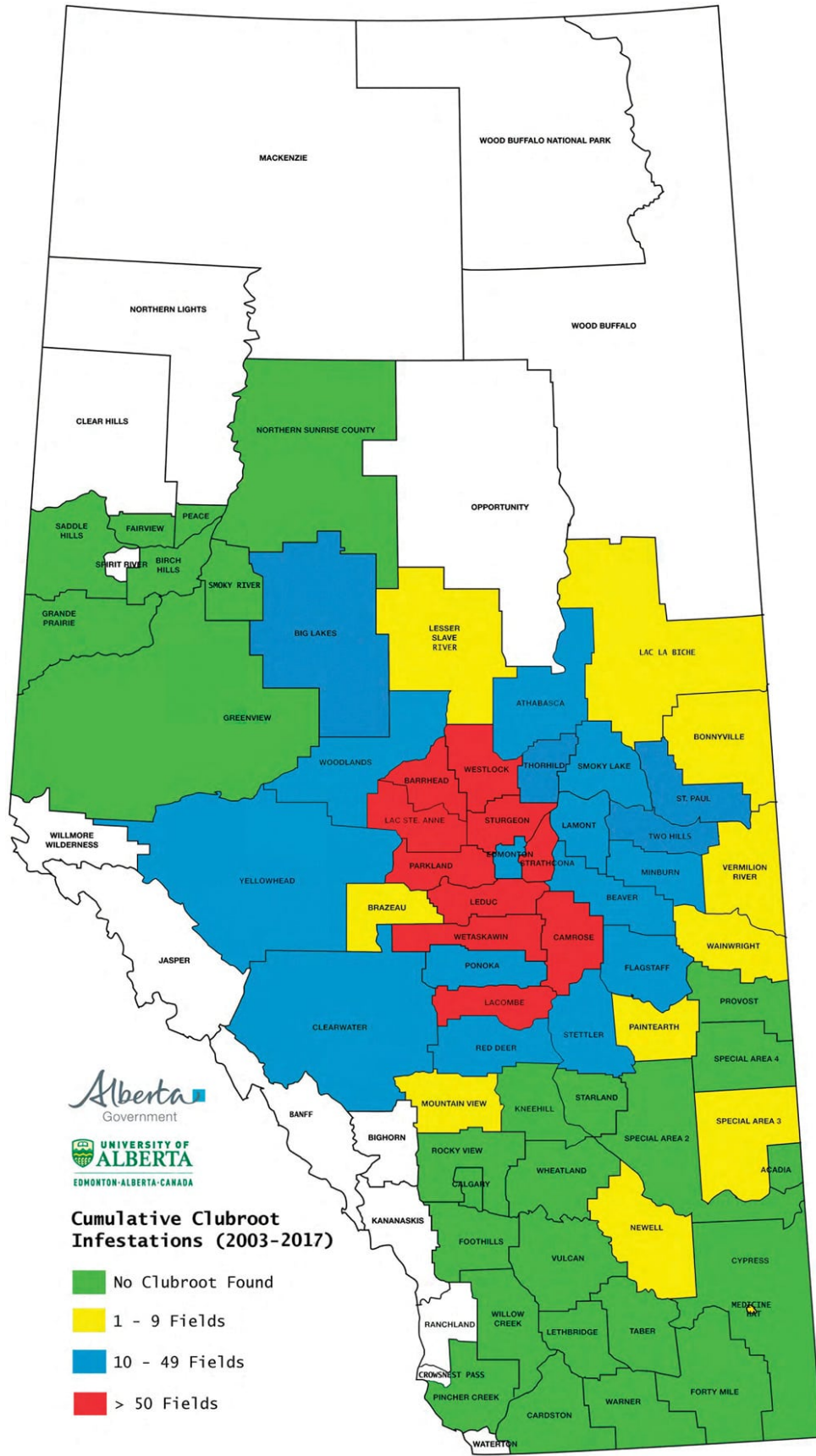
Still, municipalities aren't waving the white flag.

“As we find more clubroot, we increase the number of inspections. So on any given year, we can do between 80 to 200 inspections annually within the county,” said Dion Burlock, ag fieldman for Lacombe County, which has confirmed clubroot on 80 to 90 fields and inspects at least one field per township.

Once found, owners of the field are told no canola can be grown on them for two years, although county officials try to limit the hardship for producers, as canola is typically their most profitable crop by some distance.

“If it's found in an area less than 40 acres, we may place a growing restriction on that 40 acres. It allows us some flexibility to deal with the severity of the problem,” said Burlock.





**Cumulative Clubroot Infestations (2003-2017)**

- No Clubroot Found
- 1 - 9 Fields
- 10 - 49 Fields
- > 50 Fields

*As this map published this winter shows, there are still many counties where clubroot hasn't been found. But as the pathogen spreads and municipalities increase scrutiny, that's likely to change.*  
*photo: Alberta Agriculture/University of Alberta*

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In nearby Red Deer County, a team of officials visually inspect fields and send suspect samples away for lab analysis.

“If it’s under five per cent infestation, we provide information to the landowner and talk to them about a management plan and kind of leave it at that, let them manage it on their own,” said Cody McIntosh, the county’s agriculture manager. “If the management has been too intensively in canola, then we try to back off with issuing a pest notice and restricting the growth of canola for a period of about three to four years.”

Clubroot has been confirmed in 25 to 35 fields in the county.

“We only inspect a sample of our canola fields, so we know there’s some around. We treat most of our canola fields as though it’s suspect or it’s there,” said McIntosh. “We continue our education process, we talk to as many landowners as we can, and we want everyone aware of clubroot and how to manage for the disease because it’s

The County of St. Paul has a zero-tolerance policy for clubroot.

“We check every field for clubroot when it first flowers,” said Keith Kornelsen, ag fieldman for St. Paul. “If we find something that looks like clubroot, we’ll just pull about 25 plants at the entrance to the field.”

If any plants look suspect, they’re sent to the lab for analysis. If confirmed, the farmer is contacted and a pest notice is issued. The pest notice states no canola can be grown for three years and after that, it must be a resistant variety.

“We check all the fields. I think we miss a few fields because they’re hidden. We check over 600 fields a year, so we get most of them,” said Kornelsen. “We’ve had under 40 fields confirmed with clubroot.”

The different approaches stem from the fact that enforcement of the Agricultural Pests Act (which has covered clubroot since 2007) falls to municipalities and “everyone is handling it a little bit differently,” said Burlock.

Even in St. Paul — which last year sprayed down two quarters of canola after one producer grew the crop after being ordered not to — puts the emphasis on persuasion.

“We’re very open to discussing the issue with farmers and letting them know about the seriousness of it before it gets terrible,” said Kornelsen. “We try to have as much communication as possible to show that we’re not just making this up.”

Municipalities in Peace Country have banded together to form a common front after the region lost its clubroot-free status when the disease was found in Big Lakes County last year. Thirteen agriculture service boards from the municipalities have got together to establish some guidelines, said Sebastien Dutrisac, ag fieldman for North Sunrise County and vice-president of the Association of Agriculture Fieldmen.

“This gives us a bit more of a strong approach and a collaborative approach because when we talk to the producers, they know that 13 municipalities got together and they decided that this should be the best way to manage it, he said. “It gives them a little bit more of a backing and it’s not just a local issue. It’s a regional issue.”

Northern Sunrise County also has a zero-tolerance policy. As soon as it is found, a notice is issued and canola isn’t allowed to be grown on the field for four years. If the level of infestation is low, the county won’t issue a formal notice, but the producer must still agree not to grow cruciferous plants for four years.

“If they go back into a canola field and don’t respect the agreement, we will destroy the crop,” said Dutrisac. “That’s difficult to deliver as an inspector, but we’re trying to have a collaborative approach. We’re all in this together.”

Producers are concerned after clubroot was confirmed in two counties.

“The fact that they’re asking questions is a good thing, because they can take a proactive approach instead of a reactive one,” said Dutrisac. “It gives us a chance to promote better management practices as well as the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan.”

Growing resistant varieties is a cornerstone of that plan (which can be found by googling its name), but it’s not enough by itself.



At an Alberta Canola conference this winter, University of Alberta plant pathologist Stephen Strelkov — one of the world’s leading clubroot experts — said a failure to practise good stewardship of resistant varieties has led to new virulent strains. As of last year, more than 100 fields with new strains that defeated resistance had been confirmed in Alberta, Strelkov said.

“Resistance is vulnerable, and we need proper resistance stewardship,” he told conference attendees.

That stewardship centres on having longer rotations as well as rotating resistant varieties, so the same resistance gene isn’t being used all the time.

Researchers are also trying to develop additional management tools, such as the use of liming (which lowers pH and may be able to keep clubroot in check if it is discovered early and spore numbers are relatively low).

Farmers are also being urged to consider limited use of fumigants. Although expensive, using them around field entrances could reduce the odds of a vehicle or piece of equipment picking up spore-infested soil.

**From:** Pam Retzloff [<mailto:Pam.Retzloff@gov.ab.ca>]

**Sent:** Friday, June 08, 2018 9:28 AM

**Subject:** Final long form AgriProfit\$ promotional video and final social media clip

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### AgriProfit\$ Business Analysis and Research Program Video

Economics Section, Economics and Competitiveness, Agriculture and Forestry, has just released a new video showcasing the **AgriProfit\$** Program. This Program is designed to help producers gain insight into what is contributing to their total farm's performance. **AgriProfit\$** provides cost and return analysis by enterprise. In return for their participation, producers receive financial and production performance reports which aid in the identification of efficiencies and areas for improvements. The Program is free and individual information remains confidential. Aggregated results are published and used for benchmark comparisons.

Recently the **AgriProfit\$** Program completed technical enhancements to facilitate ease of use, improved result interpretation and system flexibility. Knowing their own cost of production on the farm is a starting point for profitability. Each year is different – dependent on the relationships between yield – price – costs and the producer's financial situation.

Economic Section is positioning itself to broaden the reach of **AgriProfit\$** to more cattle and crop producers. We ask for your assistance in sharing this video and helping to connect producers to this business application.

Check out this video to learn how the Program works and hear from some of the returning participants as to how the Program helped in their farm decisions and the difference it made to their business.

AgriProfit\$ Video: <https://youtu.be/X3oRZR5XiO4>

AgriProfit\$ Social Media Clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7NPj7P9qIQg>

AgriProfit\$ Website: [agriculture.alberta.ca/agriprofits](http://agriculture.alberta.ca/agriprofits)

**From:** Pam Retzloff [<mailto:Pam.Retzloff@gov.ab.ca>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 05, 2018 8:49 AM

**Subject:** Flowering rush recently found for sale in Alberta.

## FORWARDED ON BEHALF OF NICOLE KIMMEL

Thanks to the keen eye of Doug Macaulay on the weekend, we were able to swiftly confiscate 6 pots of Flowering Rush from a Canadian Tire store.

We have traced the plants back to the shipper and are now working with the neighbouring province to ensure no other shipments were made, as well as to ensure no other plants get shipped to another province instead. It was rapid response at its finest. Even had fish & wildlife officers ready if enforcement was needed.

As of today we have been assured that there was no other shipments to Alberta but I find that hard to believe we caught the only shipment. My luck isn't that good.

So in case your travels include a store, especially a Canadian tire (each does their own live plant order) that has a garden centre maybe just have a quick look. Attached are pictures from today's collection. "Marginal" plants indeed.

Sent from my iPhone  
Nicole Kimmel, AEP



FORWARDED ON BEHALF OF SHELLEY BARKLEY

# Nothing replaces boots in the field.

Alberta Insect Pest  
Monitoring Network



Morning

The Prairie Pest Monitoring Blog is all about Flea Beetles. Here is the link:

**[Insect of the Week \(May 28, 2018\) - Flea Beetles](#)**

We have had a couple reports on cutworm in southern

AB. [https://www.agric.gov.ab.ca/app68/listings/cutworm/cutworm\\_map.jsp](https://www.agric.gov.ab.ca/app68/listings/cutworm/cutworm_map.jsp)

If you do find cutworms, even if you don't have to spray for them...please use this handy tool to report them...

[https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$Department/pestmon.nsf/CutwormWebSubmission](https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$Department/pestmon.nsf/CutwormWebSubmission)

We have had some people tell us there is also come cutworm issues in the Oyen area, but these have not been reported.

To see current insect issues visit [agriculture.alberta.ca/bugs-pest](http://agriculture.alberta.ca/bugs-pest)

Alberta Insect Pest  
Monitoring Network



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6. Gray Willow Leaf Beetle

# Gray Willow Leaf Beetle

*Tricholochmaea decora*

## Hosts

Elm, Fruit trees, Poplar and Willow

## Appearance and Life Cycle



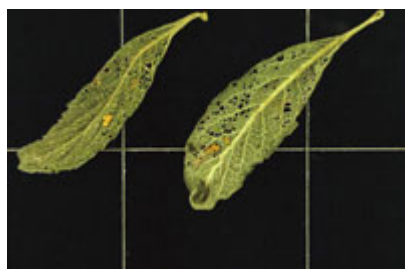
*Gray willow leaf beetles.*

*Photo credit: AAFC-Agroforestry Development Centre*

An insect that periodically becomes a destructive pest of poplar and willow in the prairies is the gray willow leaf beetle. The beetles are about 5 mm in length and are a greyish-brown colour. In early May, adults emerge from their overwintering sites and feed on the foliage of poplar and willow species. From early May to early June the

beetles migrate in large numbers, rarely feeding in one location for more than a week. Mating generally begins in late May, with egg laying occurring from June to early July. Small, round, yellowish-orange egg clusters of approximately 15 are deposited on the rough bark of the stems of native willow. Hatching of the larvae occurs within two weeks. The newly hatched larvae are creamy-yellow at first, later changing to almost black in colour. In late July or early August, the full grown larvae, measuring 8 mm in length, drop to the ground. The larvae tunnel into the soil transforming into pupae. The adults emerge in approximately two weeks and begin feeding on poplar foliage. The adults feed for a short time before overwintering in leaf and soil debris. There is only one generation a year of the gray willow leaf beetle.

## Damage



*Damage done by the gray willow leaf beetle.*

*Photo credit: AAFC- Agroforestry Development Centre*

The most serious damage occurs during migration, when masses of beetles skeletonize the leaves of host trees. Feeding by larvae also causes damage, turning the leaves a rusty-brown colour, giving them a scorched appearance.

## Control

Chemical control of the gray willow leaf beetle is rarely required due to natural mortality from parasites which attack the larval stage. If a severe outbreak does occur, spray with carbaryl at the first sign of damage.

Date modified:

2014-07-30

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**Range & Pasture Weekly Weed Update**  
**Week of June 4, 2018**

Hi,

I hope you are doing well. It is that time of year again, time for the “Range & Pasture Weekly Weed Updates”. Every year I send out a weekly overview of weed staging as well as any other pertinent information to authorized Range & Pasture retailers during spray season. If you know of anyone else at your retail location or within your organization that might find this beneficial, please send an email and I will add them to my list.

**IN THIS WEEKS EDITION:**

- Conditions
  - Weed staging
- Weeds to be on the lookout for
- Recommendation watchout
- 2018 Stewardship REB8 Program

**CONDITIONS:**

- The majority of broadleaf and brush species are at ideal staging.

**WEEDS TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR:**

**Western Snowberry or Buckbrush:** The ideal application window for Buckbrush is very narrow, and now is a great time to be applying Reclaim II to buckbrush.



Recommendation:

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v
- **NOTE:** We no longer recommend or support Grazon or Grazon XC for control of Western Snowberry/Buckbrush.

**Absinth Wormwood:** Treat in the juvenile stage, when the plant is actively growing. It becomes much harder to control at the mature stage after bolting, once stems become woody.



Recommendation:

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v (1% for aerial)
- Restore™ II at 20 ac/case or 1L/ac
- Grazon™ XC at 1.9L/ac

**Burdock:**

- Timing is critical for good control of this weed, below it is pictured at the 4 leaf stage. We recommend spraying up to the 4 leaf stage. Once



this plant begins to bolt there is nothing that will control it. If customers have plants that have bolted, the best thing that they can do is cut them down to prevent seed spread.

Control has been observed on a wide variety of susceptible species at the following rates:  
○ Reclaim II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2% v/v (1% for aerial)

- Grazon XC at 1.9L/ac

**Tall Buttercup**

Apply when actively growing – from emergence to flowering.

- Reclaim II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v (ground application), 1.0% v/v for aerial application
- Restore II at 1L/ac or 20 ac/case



**Leafy Spurge:** Apply when actively growing, from full true flower, prior to seed set.

Recommendation:

- Tordon™ 22K – For best results apply using spot application at 90ml/100m<sup>2</sup>(3.6L/ac) where no more than 50% of a hectare is treated
- Grazon™ XC @ 1.9L/ac
  - It is recommended to add a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2% v/v for ground application
  - Note: Subsequent treatments may be required.



**Recommendation Watch Out:**

- **Leafy Spurge staging is extremely early this year;** as listed above, apply when actively growing from full true flower, prior to seed set.
- **It is too early to be spraying Canada Thistle in pasture**
  - **If Canada thistle is the main target please recommend customers wait until later June or early July.** The best time to control thistle is when the majority of plants have emerged, prior to 10% of the population going to “fluff”. Reclaim™ II at 20ac/case, Grazon™ XC at 1.9L/ac and Restore™ II at 20ac/case or 1L/ac will provide good control of plants that have emerged and are present at time of application.
- **July 31, 2018** is the deadline for customers to take advantage of the Stewardship REB8 program

**2018 STEWARDSHIP REB8 CUSTOMER PROGRAM**

- Customers must purchase **a minimum of \$1400** of Restore™ II, Reclaim™, Reclaim™ II, or Grazon™ XC from Dec 1, 2016 to **July 31, 2018**
- Qualifying customers will receive a rebate cheque from Dow AgroSciences for 8% of their purchase in the Fall of 2018
  - **NOTE: Off-invoice discounts at retail are no longer part of the program.**



- In order to receive the 8% rebate, a Stewardship and Best Practices Form must be completed and signed at the time of purchase & submitted to Dow AgroSciences.
- **Attached is a copy of the Stewardship form or they can be found at:**

<http://www.dowagro.com/en-ca/canada/crop-portfolio/range-and-pasture>

I hope that you have a great week! Please do not hesitate to call myself or the Solutions Center if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Vaughn Leuschen BSc, PAg, CCSC  
IVM/ R&P Territory Manager  
Northern Alberta  
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**Range & Pasture Weekly Weed Update**  
**Week of June 11, 2018**

Good morning,

I hope that you had a great weekend.

**IN THIS WEEKS EDITION:**

- Conditions
  - Weed staging
- Weeds to be on the lookout for
- Recommendation watchout
- 2018 Range & Pasture retail training

**CONDITIONS:**

- The majority of broadleaf and brush species are at ideal staging.

**WEEDS TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR:**

**Western Snowberry or Buckbrush:** The ideal application window for Buckbrush is very narrow, right now is a fantastic time to control it.

Recommendation:

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v



- **NOTE:** We no longer recommend or support Grazon or Grazon XC for control of Western Snowberry/Buckbrush.

**Oxeye Daisy:** apply when actively growing, prior to flowering.

Recommendation:

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v
- Restore™ II at 1L/ac or 20ac/case



### **Common Tansy:**

Apply when actively growing, prior to flowering.

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v  
Grazon™ XC 1.9L/ac



**Leafy Spurge:** Apply when actively growing, from full true flower, prior to seed set.

Recommendation:

- Tordon™ 22K – For best results apply using spot application at 90ml/100m<sup>2</sup>(3.6L/ac) where no more than 50% of a hectare is treated
- Grazon™ XC @ 1.9L/ac
  - It is recommended to add a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2% v/v for ground application

### **Recommendation Watch Out:**

- **Leafy Spurge staging is extremely early this year;** if it is in full flower, now is a great time to control it.
- **If Canada thistle is the main target please recommend customers wait until later June or early July.** The best time to control thistle is when the majority of plants have emerged, prior to 10% of the population going to “fluff”. Reclaim™ II at 20ac/case, Grazon™ XC at 1.9L/ac and Restore™ II at 20ac/case or 1L/ac will provide good control of plants that have emerged and are present at time of application.
- **July 31, 2018** is the deadline for customers to take advantage of the Stewardship REB8 program

### **2018 Range & Pasture Retail Training Video:**

As mentioned below, Stewardship promotes good results, as well as protects desirable species and the environment. Please click on the link below to watch a short video to help land owners control trees, brush and invasive weeds in their pastures in a safe and effective manner. This training video reviews

important stewardship information, product recommendations, and 2018 Range & Pasture programming. As a bonus, for taking the time to watch the video and complete the quiz, you get a chance to receive a free pair of range & pasture socks – Stay Grassy!

I hope that you have a great week. Please do not hesitate to call myself or the Solutions Center if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Vaughn Leuschen BSc, PAg, CCSC  
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**Range & Pasture Weekly Weed Update**  
**Week of June 18, 2018**

Hi All,

I hope you are having a great week!

**IN THIS WEEKS EDITION:**

- Conditions
- Recommendation watch-outs
- Weeds to be on the lookout for

**CONDITIONS:**

- The majority of broadleaf species and brush are at ideal staging.
- Tall buttercup, wild caraway, and oxeye daisy are all in full bloom. I strongly recommend **anyone wanting to control these species should plan to apply their product in the next week**; staging is progressing rapidly with the warmer temperatures.

**WATCH OUT:**

- **Canada Thistle staging is extremely variable**
  - For best results apply when the majority of thistle have emerged – pre-bud to bud, prior to 10% fluff, or post fluff staging is ideal.
  - If Canada Thistle is the sole target, I would recommend holding off for at least another week or two.
  - Even though Reclaim II, Restore II, and Grazon XC provide a soil active residual, thistle plants are drawing moisture from roots much deeper (can be up to 6m) than the top 30-45 cm where that herbicide residual layer is. Therefore you will see little residual activity on established thistles that haven't emerged at time of spraying.
  - **Plants need to be emerged to be controlled.**

- **July 31, 2018** is the deadline for customers to take advantage of the Stewardship REB8 program

**Weeds to be on the look-out for:**

**Absinth Wormwood:** Treat in the juvenile stage, when the plant is actively growing. It becomes much harder to control at the mature stage after bolting, once stems become woody.

Recommendation:

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v for ground application
- Restore™ II at 20 ac/case or 1L/ac
- Grazon™XC at 1.9L/ac

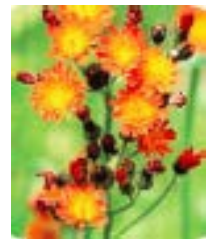


**Hawkweed:**

Apply when actively growing, prior to flowering.

Recommendation:

- Reclaim II at 20ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v
- Restore II at 20ac/case or 1L/ac



**Wild Caraway:** Apply when actively growing, prior to flowering.

Recommendation:

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v (2L of surfactant per 1000L of spray solution)
- Restore II™ control has been observed when applied at 1L/ac or 20 ac/case for a wide variety of susceptible species



**Tall Buttercup:**

Apply when actively growing – from emergence to flowering.



- Reclaim II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v
- Restore II at 1L/ac or 20 ac/case

**White Cockle:** apply when actively growing, prior to flowering. If White Cockle is past flower and starting to set seed, ideal staging has passed and customers will see reduced control.

Recommendation:

- Reclaim II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v



**Western Snowberry or Buckbrush:** The ideal application window for Buckbrush is very narrow, and best timing is mid to late June.

Recommendation:

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v



- **NOTE: We no longer recommend or support Grazon or Grazon XC for control of Western Snowberry/Buckbrush.**

I hope that you have a great week. Please do not hesitate to call myself or the Solutions Center if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Vaughn Leuschen BSc, PAg, CCSC

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[www.dowagro.ca](http://www.dowagro.ca)

**Range & Pasture Weekly Weed Update**  
**Week of June 25, 2018**

Hi All,

I hope you are having a great week!

**IN THIS WEEKS EDITION:**

- Recommendation watch-outs
- Weeds to be on the lookout for
- Stewardship Training

**Recommendation Watch out:**

- **HAYING WEATHER DOES NOT NECESSARILY MAKE GOOD SPRAYING WEATHER**
  - If temperatures are above 28°C there will be limited uptake as the plant is shut down, causing reduced control.
  - **We do not recommend application when the temperature exceeds 28°C**

**WEEDS TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR:**

**Western Snowberry or Buckbrush:** The ideal application window for Buckbrush is very narrow, and best timing is mid to late June. **If customers are looking to control Buckbrush, this is the week to do it.**

Recommendation:

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v

**Tall Buttercup, Wild Caraway, Oxeye Daisy, and Scentless Chamomile:** All these species are anywhere from 50-100% in bloom.



**Customers looking to control these species should do so this week.** Apply



when actively growing – from emergence to flowering. **Customers will see reduced control once these species start setting seed.**

Recommendation:

- Reclaim II at 20ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v
- Restore II at 20ac/case or 1L/ac



### **Canada Thistle:**

**Current Staging** – Canada Thistle staging is extremely variable depending upon the area that you are in.

The massive root system and underground buds, in well-established thistle infestations make it very challenging to eliminate with one application. **In very densely populated stands set expectations that a subsequent spot treatment may be required** due to dormant buds and extensive root systems. Even though Reclaim II, Grazon XC & Restore II provide a soil active residual, thistle plants are drawing moisture from roots much deeper than the top 10-30 cm where the herbicide will be (see photo below), therefore you will see limited extended control on established thistles that haven't emerged at time of spraying. The residual, however, will stop new seedlings from germinating and establishing.

**Canada thistle plants need to be emerged to be controlled.**

The following picture shows you just how extensive the Canada Thistle root system is.



- For best results apply when the majority of thistle have emerged – pre-bud to bud, prior to 10% fluff, or post fluff staging is ideal.
- If Canada Thistle is the sole target, I would recommend holding off for at least another week, maybe two depending on staging.

Recommendation:

- Reclaim™ II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v for ground application
- Restore™ II at 20 ac/case or 1L/ac
- Grazon™XC at 1.9L/ac

**Tansy:**



Apply when actively growing, prior to flowering.

- Reclaim II at 20 ac/case plus a non-ionic surfactant at 0.2%v/v



**Broadcast/spot application rates, Water Volumes, & Rainfast**

## BROADCAST AND SPOT SPRAYING

	Broadcast Application <i>20 gal/ac water volume</i>	Spot Application <i>Mixing in 10 L water</i>
		
<b>Restore II ▲</b>	20 ac/case	24 mL
<b>Reclaim II ▲</b>	20 ac/case PLUS 0.2% v/v non-ionic surfactant	2.3 g (1 tsp) Reclaim II A 17 mL Reclaim II B 20 mL surfactant
<b>Grazon XC ■</b>	1.9 L/ac for weed control Tree rates: contact Dow AgroSciences	67 mL (i.e. 0.67% solution)
<b>Tordon 22K ■</b>	1.84 L/ac	50 mL (i.e. 0.5% solution)
<b>For Backpack/Spot Application:</b> *Thoroughly and uniformly wet the foliage, but not to the point of runoff. **Apply to foliage until wet, up to the point of runoff. Maximum one application per year for all treatments.		

### WATER VOLUMES

Ground: Minimum 20 gal/ac

Aerial: Minimum 5 gal/ac

### RAINFAST



I hope that you have a great week. Please do not hesitate to call myself or the Solutions Center if you have any questions.

Thanks,

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[www.dowagro.ca](http://www.dowagro.ca)

## Insect of the Week (June 18, 2018) - Red turnip beetle (*Entomoscelis americana*)

Posted: 18 Jun 2018 05:12 PM PDT

This week's **Insect of the week** is the red turnip beetle (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). This beetle is 7-10 millimeters long and has a distinctive red body with black markings on the head and thorax, and three black stripes down its back (elytra). They feed on mustards, canola, cole crops, and cruciferous weeds (except stinkweed).

They overwinter as reddish brown oval eggs in the soil. Adults emerge in the spring to feed for 2-3 weeks before re-entering the soil to escape the summer heat. When they re-emerge, they disperse throughout the host crop, feeding, mating, and laying eggs (300-400/female). Feeding damage can cause delayed harvest or need for re-seeding to replace killed plants. Later in the season they feed on leaves, stems, and pods. Attached pods are prone to premature shelling.

For more information about the red turnip beetle, have a look at our **Insect of the Week** page!



Red turnip beetle adult and damage  
John Gavloski, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

To see current insect issues visit [agriculture.alberta.ca/bugs-pest](http://agriculture.alberta.ca/bugs-pest)



#littletingsrunworld



# Forage Facts

Published by the Peace Country Beef & Forage Association

June 2018, Volume 14, Issue 161



## We Want YOU to Soil Your Undies!!

Yes, you read that correctly, we want you to soil your undies! (Now, before whoever does laundry in the house gets too upset, we mean soil as in under our feet soil.)

For those who have attended some of our Soil Health workshops, you may have heard some speakers talk about burying a pair of cotton underwear to help determine how biologically active your soil is. It was also a feature article in our March Forage Facts!

We here at PCBFA have decided to up the ante. So we are running our first ever Soil Your Undies Contest! And we want you to join in on the fun!

All you need to do is bury a pair of 100% cotton underwear and send us a Before picture or video! You can share on our Facebook Page, or tag us @PCBFA on Twitter or @peacecountrybeef on Instagram, or text or email your picture to Katie! After 2 months, dig up your underwear and send us an After picture! The more decomposed your underwear are, the more biologically active soil you have! There will be prizes for the Peace Country's Most Decomposed Pair of Underwear!

### What you need:

- White, 100% cotton pair of underwear
- Shovel
- Site Marker (flag, post, etc)
- a patch of soil you can leave undisturbed

### Prizes for Most Decomposed Underwear:

1st Prize: 5 Year PCBFA Membership



(\$225 Value)

2nd Prize: 1 Soil Test from CARA's Soil Health Lab (\$150 Value)

3rd Prize: PCBFA Gift Certificate (\$50 Value)

### Contest Rules:

1. Need to start with 100% cotton underwear
  2. Send PCBFA a 'Before' picture of the underwear, as well as a picture of the site you are burying them at via Social Media, email, or text no later than June 30th.
  3. Bury your underwear in a small trench in the top 6 inches of the soil
  4. After 2 months, dig up your underwear and send an 'After' picture to PCBFA via Social Media, email, or text no later than August 31st.
  5. Underwear showing the most decomposition wins!
- Participants are welcome to bury more than one pair of underwear. The underwear showing the most decomposition will be considered for the contest.
  - Only one prize will be awarded per participant.

We hope you will join in on the fun!!

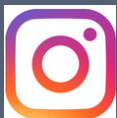
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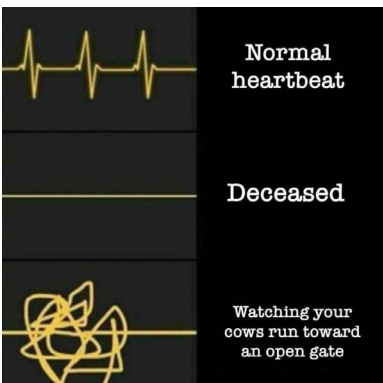


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The snow is finally gone, the grass is green, calves are on the ground, and now it's time to move to summer grass! What is on your checklist before turning your cows out on pasture? Checking the fence, and assessing the grass stand are fairly common procedure, but what about testing your herd's water source?

Water is the most important need for livestock in the summertime, but the health of our cattle's water sources is often overlooked. Just like how we test our feed for its nutritional value, we should seriously consider doing the same for our water sources! Just as poor quality forage affects an animal's growth and health, same is to be said for poor quality water. Poor water quality can lead to reduced milk production in lactating cows, low rate of gain in yearlings, and even so far as to cause cattle to go blind, and in extreme cases, even die.

Last summer, near the town of Shamrock in southern Saskatchewan, over 200 cattle died on a community pasture due to poor dugout water. Testing conducted by the University of Saskatchewan showed that the water in that dugout contained excessive levels of sulfate and total dissolved solids (TDS). After this tragedy, the Province of Saskatchewan, along with the



*Just as we test our forages for feed quality, we should consider testing our water as well.*

University of Saskatchewan's Western College of Veterinary Medicine reviewed over 550 water samples taken from dugouts and wells across the province, hoping to find a benchmark figure of the province's livestock water quality. What they found, was that there was no 'average' water quality, even for dugouts within a couple miles of each other along the same drainage. In fact, water quality was extremely varied in each sample! Meaning that each and every water source is unique in the content of its water.

There are many factors that can affect the quality of our dugouts. If your dugout fills from surface run-off, then wet springs can cause nutrient loading from neighbouring fields or corrals. Contamination from nearby industrial sites or roads is also a concern. Whereas a dry spring gives a dugout little-to-no recharge, meaning there was no flush of minerals and dissolved solids from the previous year. During hot, dry summers, evaporation causes these mineral concentrations to get even higher. This was the case in Shamrock.

Ground-fed dugouts and wells on the other hand, are at the mercy of the ground water that is feeding them. These water sources tend to be higher in minerals to start with, and without a recharge from spring run-off, there may be a high concentration of min-

### Thank You to the PCBFA Board of Directors

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### Do You Have Project or Workshop Ideas?

We are always looking for ideas! Give us a call!

### PCBFA Member Perks:

- Two Free Feed Tests per year
- Ration Balancing Assistance
- CAP Application Assistance
- Environmental Farm Plans
- Scale & Tag Reader Available for Member Use
- Soil & Livestock Water Quality Testing

### Thank You to Our Municipal Partners

- MD of Fairview
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!  
**GRAZING WEEK '18**  
 JUNE 18-23RD 2018

Join PCBFA for a Series of Grazing Workshops & Field Days in June!

# = Quality Beef

By: Katie McLachlan



erals making it an unsuitable water source come fall, especially during a drought.

Without a water test, it is next to impossible to determine what is in your water. So what should we be looking for on a water test? Generally, we need to be focused on four main things: Alkalinity, pH, Total Dissolved Solids, and Sulphates. See the below chart for a breakdown of these elements.

If your water has an odd colour or smell to it, or has a lot of algae, it is recommended to test the biology of the water as well.

If your water test comes back poorly, you may need to look into changing or diluting your water source. That may mean watering cattle out of another water source entirely. Or, depending on the mineral concentration of the water, diluting it with higher quality water may bring concentrations down to a more acceptable level.

Did you know - PCBFA can help you get your livestock water analyzed? Give us a call and we can supply you with sample bottles and take care of getting the sample to the lab! A standard water test costs \$115, and a PCBFA Team Member will go over the results with you!

Item Analysed	Water Content	Usefulness for Cattle
Alkalinity	0-1,000 ppm	Acceptable
	>1,001 ppm	Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptable for mature, dry cows</li> <li>• Unsuitable for young animals or lactating cows</li> </ul>
pH	<5.5	Unsuitable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced feed intake</li> <li>• Can cause acidosis</li> </ul>
	6.5-8.0	Acceptable
	8.1-10	Poor
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	0-3,000 ppm	Acceptable
	3,000-5,000 ppm	Acceptable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For mature animals</li> </ul>
	5,001-7,000 ppm	Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can cause diarrhea in lactating cows, avoid use for pregnant cows</li> <li>• Test for sulfates</li> </ul>
	7,001-10,000 ppm	Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older animals may subsist on it</li> <li>• Sulphates likely high</li> </ul>
	<10,000 ppm	Unsuitable
Sulphate (SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> )	<500 ppm	Acceptable
	501-1,000 ppm	Acceptable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diarrhea, or refusal by animals not accustomed to it</li> <li>• Slowed growth rate in younger animals</li> </ul>
	1,001 - 2,500 ppm	Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laxative</li> </ul>
	>2,500 ppm	Unsuitable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance of all animals significantly affected</li> <li>• Greater than 4,000 ppm, dangerous health problems expected</li> </ul>

From: Alberta Agriculture & Forestry, Agri-Facts Agdex 400/716-2, April 2007  
[https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex718/\\$file/400\\_716-2.pdf?OpenElement](https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex718/$file/400_716-2.pdf?OpenElement)



# Upcoming Events

Ranching for Profit: An Introduction and Grazing Workshop with Dave Pratt	June 19th	Brownvale Hall
Ranching for Profit: An Introduction with Dave Pratt	June 20th, Morning Session	Dunvegan Provincial Park Visitor's Center
Pasture Rejuvenation Field Walk	June 20th, Afternoon Session	Wanham Provincial Grazing Reserve
More Grass, More Profit & a Better Way of Life with Kelly Sidoryk	June 23rd	Hanson Ranch near Valleyview
Riparian Zones 101	June 26th	Valleyview
Morning Coffee Tour of the High Prairie Plots	Late July	High Prairie
Field Day at the Research Farm	August 2nd	Fairview Research Farm
Jim Gerrish Grazing School	August 7th	Bay Tree
Cocktail Cover Crop Farm Tour	Early August	Fairview-Hines Creek
Soil Health School	Mid August	High Prairie
Soil Health School	Mid August	Teepee Creek
If you would like more information, or to register for any of these great upcoming events, please visit our website, <a href="http://peacecountrybeef.ca">peacecountrybeef.ca</a> , email <a href="mailto:info@pcbfa.ca">info@pcbfa.ca</a> or call 780-835-6799 ext. 3		

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## Reduce Economic Losses

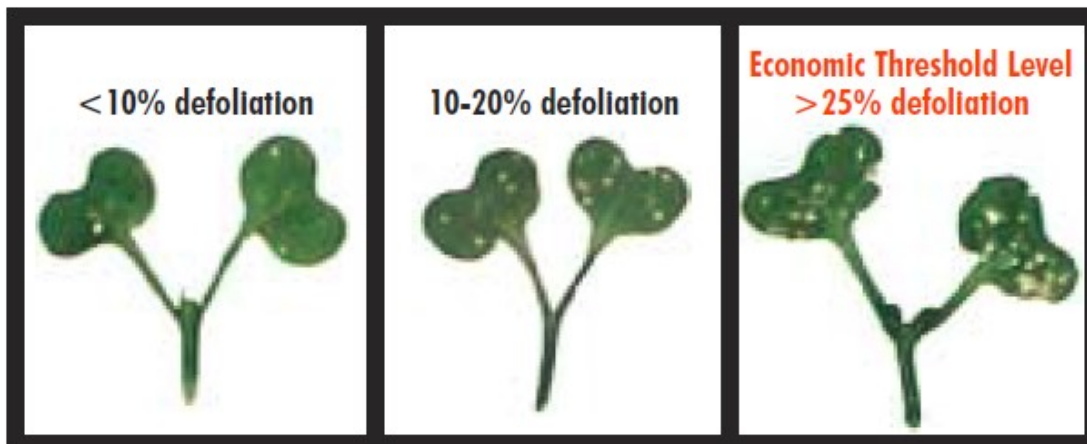
*excerpt from Canola Council of Canada - [Flea Beetles](#)*



Use the economic threshold to decide whether a foliar spray for flea beetle control will be economical. Since seed treatments are standard practice, the use of economic thresholds for flea beetle control in canola only apply when foliar sprays are being considered.

Canola seedlings can withstand 50% leaf loss. Flea beetles can damage plants very quickly, however, so the economic threshold for flea beetle feeding on canola is when there is 25% defoliation and flea beetles are present and continuing to feed. Applying controls at 25% defoliation will reduce the risk of flea beetles reaching a level where yield loss and plant development are substantially reduced.

**Action Threshold: 25% defoliation**



This economic threshold is based on an optimal plant stand of 75 to 150 plants per square metre (7 to 14 plants per square foot). Growers should take plant stand into consideration when making economic threshold decisions. Thinner plant stands would require a foliar insecticide application at a lower defoliation percentage than an optimal plant stand, because in this situation maintaining plant health is more critical to maximize production per plant in order to compensate for reduced plant numbers. Any plant mortality is also more likely to directly impact yield when plant density is already lower than optimal.

When assessing whether a foliar insecticide spray is needed, growing conditions, soil moisture, overall crop health, yield potential and commodity prices need to be balanced with flea beetle numbers and damage. Control decisions should be based on current defoliation and the potential for crop growth to exceed feeding by flea beetles going forward. If soil moisture and growing conditions support rapid canola growth and seedlings are vigorous, the crop may be able to stand more feeding than slow growing drought stressed canola. However, when flea beetle feeding is combined with poor plant growth during hot, dry weather, canola can tolerate less feeding than if plants are growing under more ideal growing conditions.

When scouting fields for flea beetle damage, it is important to understand that flea beetles generally invade canola fields from the field edges. Flea beetle damage and the number of flea beetles may be higher at the field edge than farther into the field. An insecticide application to field perimeters may control invading beetles if they have not spread throughout the field. On hot and calm days, flea beetles are capable of moving longer distances and may populate the field more uniformly.



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## Alberta Crop Report

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Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) has delivered the Alberta Crop Reporting Program to clients since 1940. The objective of the crop report is to capture timely information relating to crop production in Alberta during the current crop season. This is achieved through the use of surveys which collect data on moisture and crop conditions, progress of seeding and harvesting, insect and disease situation, yield potential and crop quality, etc. Data collected through the surveys, along with information from other sources will be used to compile the weekly 2018 crop report, which presents provincial and regional summaries.

The delivery of the Alberta 2018 Crop Reporting Program is done in partnership with Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC), and members of the Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen (AAAF).

The crop report is used by industry and other stakeholders for various purposes, including drought monitoring and forecasting of production insurance payments. It is also used to validate some of the Alberta crop estimates generated by Statistics



Canada.

This year, the crop reporting series will consist of 26 weekly crop reports, 13 of which will be full reports and 13 abbreviated. These reports are being prepared in partnership with AFSC (see Alberta 2018 Crop Report Release Schedule below). The first crop report is scheduled for release on May 4, 2018. A final report entitled "Alberta 2018 Crop Season in Review" is expected to be released by AF in March, 2019. For more information, please contact James Wright at 403-782-8336 for the AFSC crop reports, and Ashan Shooshtarian at 780-422-2887 for the AF crop reports.

The assistance of industry and government stakeholders, particularly AFSC, AF and Alberta Ag-Info Centre is greatly appreciated.

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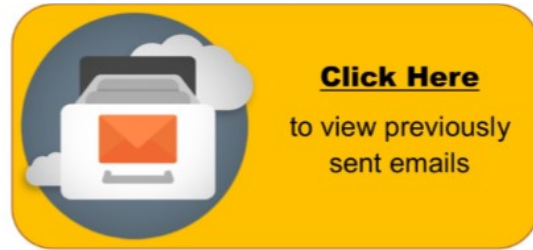
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## Grain farmers need to be prepared for August 1 wheat reclassification

The Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission (Sask Wheat), the Alberta Wheat Commission (AWC) and the Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association (MWBGA) are asking Prairie grain farmers to be prepared for the upcoming reclassification of 29 wheat varieties.

On August 1, 2018, 25 varieties of wheat currently classified as Canada Western Red Spring (CWRS) and four varieties currently classified as Canada Prairie Spring Red (CPSR) will be reclassified into the Canada Northern Hard Red (CNHR) class.

“We want farmers to have a plan to market any remaining wheat that is transitioning to a new class on August 1,” says Sask Wheat Chair Laura Reiter. “It is important farmers know what they have in their bins and that they communicate with their local elevator or buyers soon to make sure they are able to maximize the return on these varieties.”

In February 2015, the Canadian Grain Commission (CGC) announced the Canadian wheat class modernization process. The process was undertaken to maintain the quality, enhance the consistency and support the marketability of Canadian wheat. In December 2015, the CGC announced the creation of the CNHR and Canada Western Special Purpose wheat classes.



Many producers have been preparing over the last two years by transitioning to varieties not designated for reclassification. However, according to the CGC's 2017 Grain Varieties by Acreage Insured Report, 491,108 acres of wheat varieties which are designated for the CNHR class on August 1, including Harvest, Lillian and Unity, were still grown in Western Canada in 2017.

"The CGC is not allowing any grace period for producers after the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline," said Kevin Bender, AWC Chair. "We therefore think it's important that farmers negotiate the best possible terms for the varieties being reclassified and be aware that grain companies will have until December 31, 2018 to ship any remaining stocks from the system as CWRS and CPSR."

Producers who have a contracted delivery date after August 1 for a transitioning variety should contact their elevator or grain buyer as soon as possible to ensure their grain will be accepted as CWRS or CPSR. Wheat varieties classified as CNHR are expected to sell at a discount to the CWRS and CPSR classes.

"The MWBGA is happy to partner with our fellow wheat organizations in communicating to Western Canadian producers the importance of making a transition plan," says Fred Greig, MWBGA Chair. "Maintaining the quality of the CWRS class is important to Canada's reputation and will benefit farmers. While the reclassified varieties are still registered and can be grown, we strongly recommend that farmers arrange their marketing options for these varieties prior to future plantings."

For more information on the reclassification, please go to the CGC website at [grainscanada.gc.ca](http://grainscanada.gc.ca).

**For more information, contact:**

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[Dallas Carpenter](#)

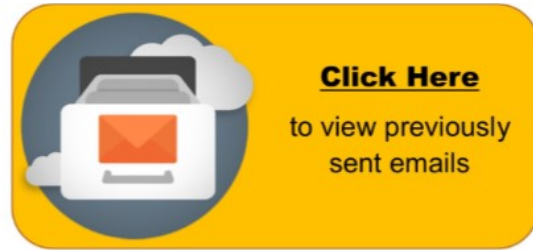
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Sask Wheat

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Sask Wheat

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Weed resistance to herbicides is not a new issue. Canada has reported resistance issues in weeds to at least six different herbicide groups. As an increasing number of weeds no longer respond to herbicide, it is important to know more about the issue and how to detect it.

### **Top 10 management practices**

On a positive note, a retired AAFC colleague, Neil Harker, and I wrote a paper with “Top 10 Herbicide-Resistant Management Practices.”

10. Maintaining a database: invaluable reference.
9. Strategic tillage: If, where, or when needed.
8. Field and site-specific weed management – one size may not fit all.
7. Weed sanitation: border control and slowing herbicide resistance dispersal.
6. In-crop wheat-selective herbicide rotation – combating non-target-site-resistance.
5. Herbicide Group rotation – avoid back-to-back in-crop Group 1 or Group 2.
4. Herbicide mixtures/sequences – better than rotations.
3. Pre- and post-herbicide scouting – know your enemy.

2. Competitive crops and practices that promote competitiveness – natural biological control.

1. Crop diversity.

The following links lead to articles updating the status on Weed Resistant Weeds in the prairie provinces of Canada

[Herbicide Resistance](#)

[Top Crop Manager Focus on Herbicide Resistance](#)

[Identification of Glyphosate Resistant wheat in Southern Alberta](#)

## FORWARDED ON BEHALF OF DALE CHRAPKO

Since the last report (June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018) widespread thunderstorm activity has brought much needed rain to some of the driest parts of southern Alberta, lying between Calgary and Lethbridge (**see map 1**). Unfortunately, this was “hit and miss” type of activity with the previously dry Mossleigh AGCM station (90 km southeast of Calgary) reporting 54 mm of rain and just 35 km further east, the Queenstown station reported only 6 mm. This was a similar story for a wide swath of land from Calgary over to Oyen and along the east half of the province all the way up to Fort McMurray. Simply put, many saw appreciable rain and some did not.

Many dry areas across the northern Peace Region also saw significant rain fall amounts ranging from over 75 mm in the Hawk Hills (just north of Manning), down to only about 5 mm in the La Crete area. Cool and wet conditions are expected to continue across the north over the next few days.

Currently soil moisture reserves are slowly rebounding with recent rains, but still remain below normal across about 70% of the province’s agricultural areas (**see map 2**). Extremely low reserves are found through parts of southern Alberta, and along a wide corridor, roughly following Highway 2 from Lethbridge to Red Deer. This does not necessarily mean there is presently an acute moisture shortage, given the recent rains, but it does mean that these areas have a diminished capacity to resist hot and dry weather unless significant moisture is received in the coming days.

Chronic moisture deficits are well represented by the 365-day accumulation map, that depicts year over year deficits across a wide area, generally lying south of the Yellowhead Highway, extending all the way to the USA boarder (**see map 3**). Additionally long term deficits are found through the central and northern Peace Region.

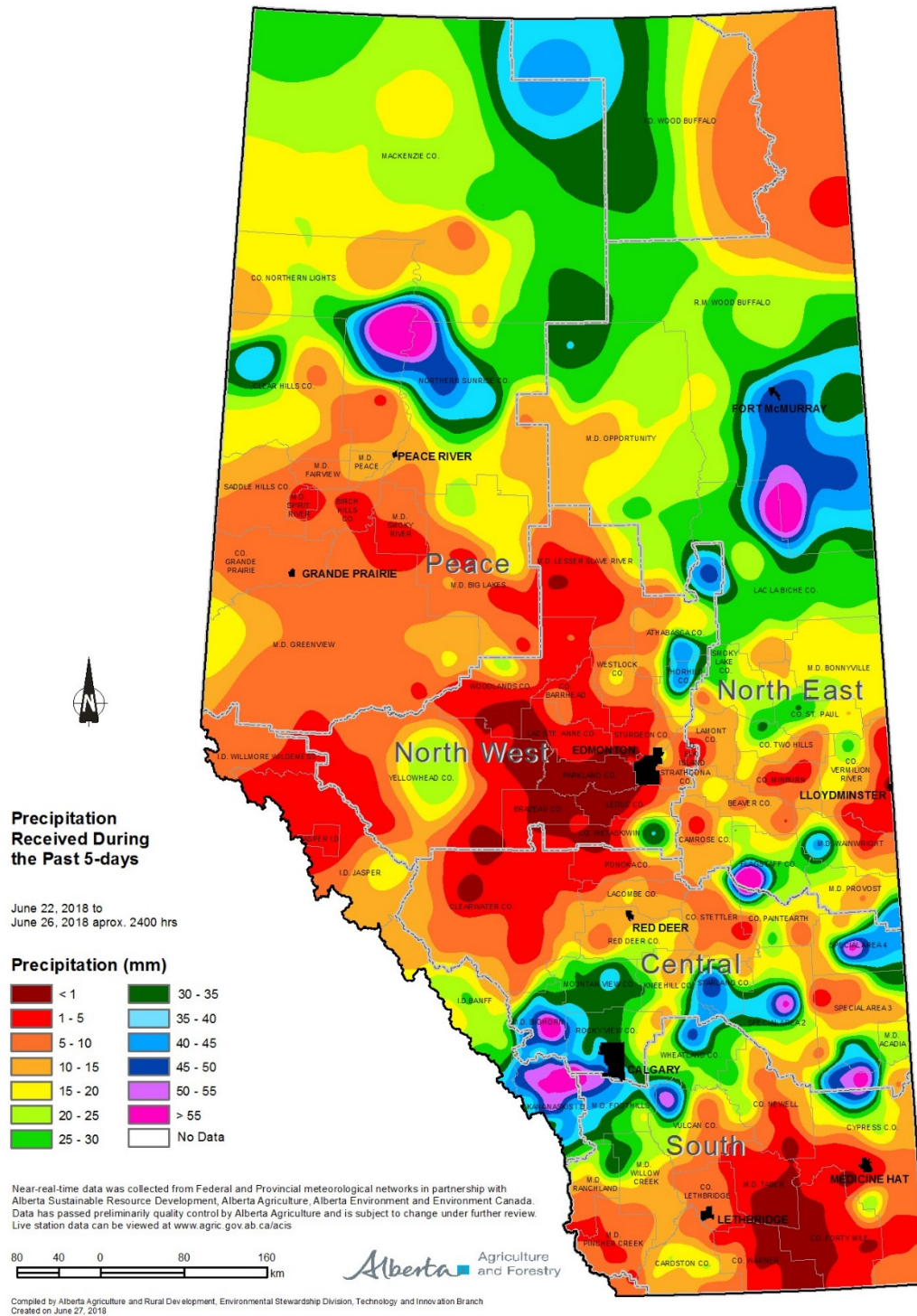
### **Forecast from AF’s Fire Weather Section:**

Looking out over the next two weeks, there does not appear to be any indication that Alberta will see hot dry weather develop. On the contrary, an upper cold low is expected to situate in Montana next Monday or Tuesday and it is forecast to bring wide spread rain (not spotty thunderstorms) to most of the province in the following days, at least south of Slave Lake. This is very good news for southern Alberta, as July 3<sup>rd</sup>, historically marks an abrupt end to their wet season, which has been a looming concern given the dry conditions that have persisted since July 2017.

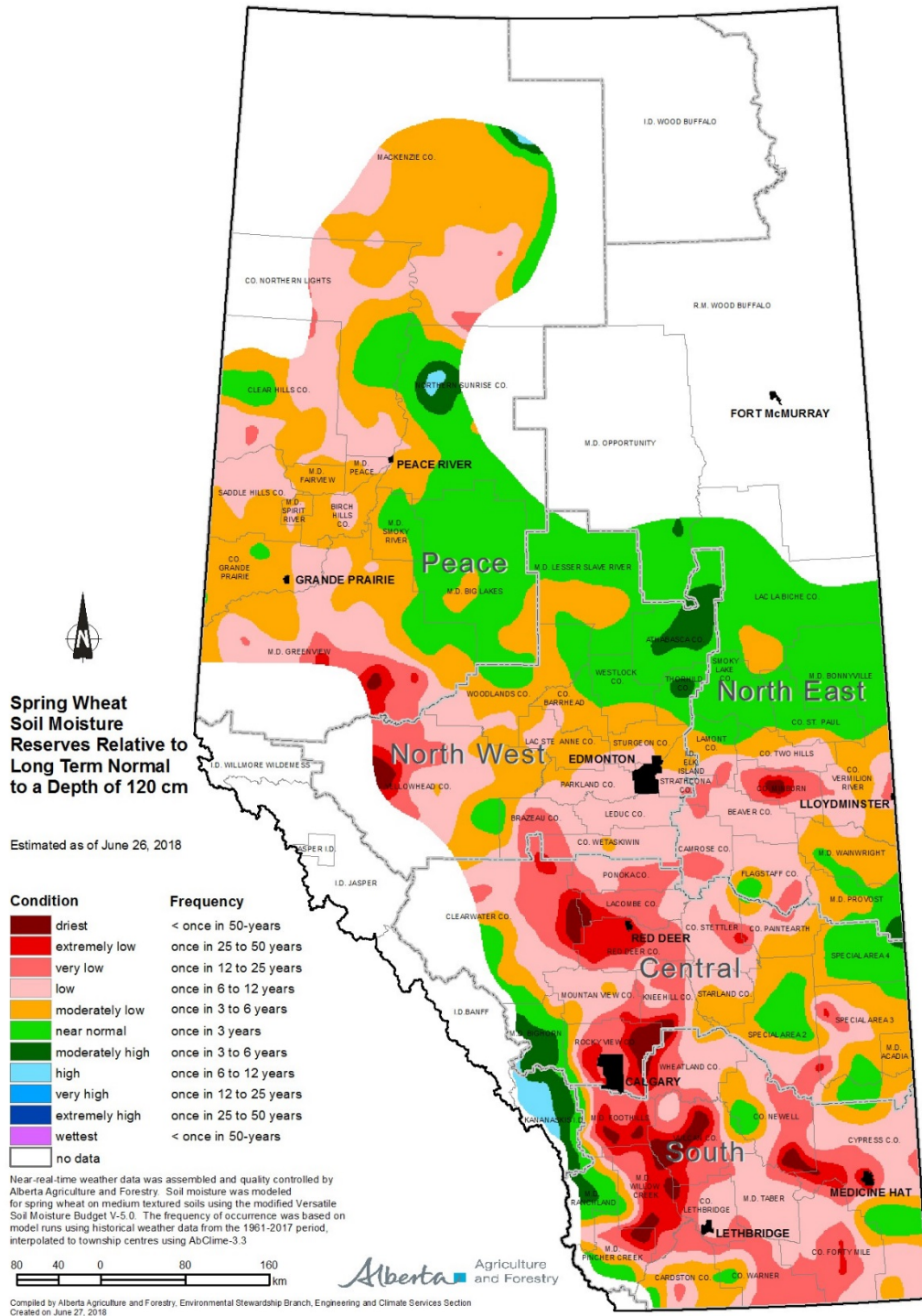
By the middle of next week (July 3 to 9), expect to see most areas across the south, getting upwards of 20 mm or rain with higher amounts towards the foot hills. It’s a bit early to tell yet, but if conditions set up right, there could be even greater accumulations. Stay tuned, the weather does appear to be co-operating and more moisture is on the way, with the earliest break from the cool wet conditions not expected until very late into next week.



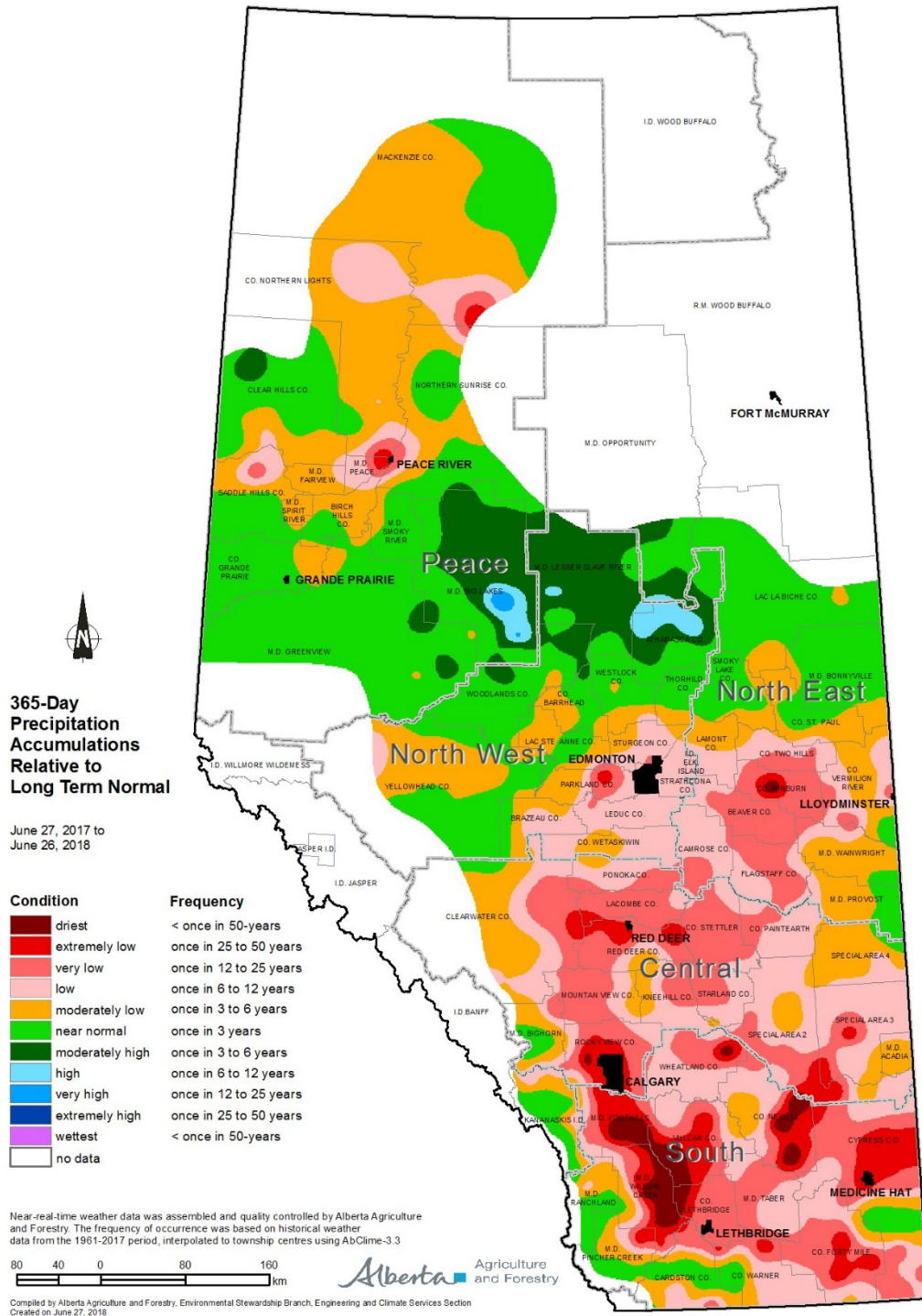
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