

**AGENDA  
CLEAR HILLS COUNTY  
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING  
March 18, 2016**

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The Agricultural Service Board meeting of Clear Hills County will be held on Friday, March 18, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers of the County Office, Worsley, Alberta.

<b>1. CALL TO ORDER</b>	
<b>2. AGENDA</b>	
<b>3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>	
a. February 8, 2016 .....	2
<b>4. Delegation(s)</b>	
a. Peace Country Beef & Forage Association 10:20 a.m.....	6
b. Curt Hale – Cocktail Cover Crop 11:30 a.m.....	7
<b>5. BUSINESS ARISING</b>	
<b>6. OLD BUSINESS</b>	
a. Activity Report .....	8
b. Pollinator Habitat No Mow Program.....	10
c. Clubroot of Canola Policy 6306 .....	17
d. Agriculture Improvement Policy 6302.....	20
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c. Promoting Farm Publications.....	45
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<b>11. ADJOURNMENT</b>	

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY  
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Worsley, Alberta  
February 8, 2016**

PRESENT

Brian Harcourt	Chair
Leslie Davis	Member
Stan Logan	Member
Charlie Johnson	Council Representative
Mackay Ross	Member

IN ATTENDANCE

Audrey Bjorklund	Community Development Manager
Sarah Hayward	Community Development Clerk
Aaron Zylstra	Agricultural Fieldman
Al Fletcher	Agricultural Fieldman

IN REGRET

Baldur Ruecker	Deputy Chair
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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Harcourt called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

AGENDA

**AG16(02/08/16)**

**RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the agenda governing the February 8, 2016 Agricultural Service Board meeting with the following amendments and add-ins.**  
**7d. Organic Alberta Conference 2016 CARRIED.**

**AG17(02/08/16)**

**RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board adopts the minutes of the January 11, 2016 Agricultural Service Board Meeting as amended. CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS

Activity Report

The Board is presented with the Agricultural Service Board Activity Report.

**AG18(02/08/16)**

**RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the February 8, 2016 ASB Activity Report as presented. CARRIED.**

Wire Roller

The Board is provided with information and costs for a hitch mount style wire roller as a potential rental equipment item as requested.

**AG19(02/08/16)**

**RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council purchase a tractor hitch mount style wire roller as a rental equipment item and include \$1,600 plus shipping in the 2016 Operating Budget. CARRIED.**

Heavy Harrows

The Board is presented with further information on options and comparisons of McFarlane Harrows, heavy harrows and Valmar style attachments.

**AG20(02/08/16)**

**RESOLUTION by Councilor Johnson that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the discussion around Heavy Harrows and due to high cost and maintenance**

Clubroot of Canola  
Policy 6306

requirements not consider this as a potential rental equipment item. **CARRIED.**

The Board is provided with a revised draft Clubroot of Canola Policy 6306 as requested.

**AG21(02/08/16)**

**RESOLUTION by Councilor Johnson that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council adopt the amended Policy 6306 Clubroot of Canola Policy with wording from options 1, 2 & 3 in Section 3.1.2 Enforcement amended to a 5 mile radius of an infected field. **CARRIED.****

NEW BUSINESS  
Weather Stations

Chair Harcourt requested that this item be included in today's agenda, following up on Resolution No. 5 Climate Stations that was passed as amended at the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference.

**AG22(02/08/16)**

**RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the discussion about Weather Stations. **CARRIED.****

Roadside Mowing &  
Bee Habitat

Member Ross is proposing the Board recommend Council eliminate or reduce the second pass of the mowers when doing fenceline-fenceline work to provide bee habitat.

**AG23(02/08/16)**

**RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board direct administration to draft a Pollinator Habitat No-Mow Program Policy for the next Agricultural Service Board meeting. **CARRIED.****

Chair Harcourt adjourned for lunch at 11: 40 a.m.  
Chair Harcourt reconvened from lunch at 12:17 p.m.

Events

The Board is presented with events for their consideration

**AG24(02/08/16)**

**RESOLUTION by Member Logan that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of:**

- Member Ross, Chair Harcourt and Member Davis to Cocktail Cover Crop Selection workshop with Graeme Finn on February 23, 2016 at the Rycroft Ag Society Hall starting at 10:30 a.m.
- Member Logan, Member Davis, Chair Harcourt, Member Ross and Councillor Johnson to the Peace Country Beef and Forage Association Annual General Meeting on Friday, February 26, 2016 at the Dunvegan Motor Inn in Fairview, Alberta starting at 4:30 p.m.
- Member Ross and Chair Harcourt to the Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance Wetland Workshop on February 19, 2016 at the Holiday Inn, 9816 107 Street, Grande Prairie, Alberta starting at 9:30 a.m.

- Chair Harcourt and Councillor Johnson to the Peace Country Classic being held on March 10-12, 2016 at Evergreen Park, Grande Prairie, Alberta.
- Member Ross to the Organic Alberta Conference on February 25-26, 2016 at the Pomeroy Inn and Suites in Old's Alberta.
- Chair Harcourt to Farm Credit Outlook 2016 on March 1, 2016 at the Pomeroy Hotel & Conference Centre in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

CARRIED.

Organic Alberta  
Conference 2016

Member Ross requested this be added to today's agenda.

AG25(02/08/16)

**RESOLUTION** by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board draft a policy around reimbursing some costs for Producers that attend agricultural focused Conferences and Workshops and follow up by reporting on the event to the Board.

CARRIED.

AG26(02/08/16)

**RESOLUTION** by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board pending Dave Bannow reporting to the Board on his attendance to the Organic Alberta Conference 2016 on February 25-26, 2016 in Old's Alberta approve reimbursing the following expenses; cost of the conference and lodging with receipts.

CARRIED.

#### REPORTS

Community Development  
Manager Report

At this time the Community Development Manager will have an opportunity to report on Community Development agricultural topics.

AG27(02/08/16)

**RESOLUTION** by Chair Harcourt that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the February 8, 2016 Community Development Manager report for information.

CARRIED.

Agricultural Fieldman  
Report

At this time the Agricultural Fieldman will have an opportunity to present his report.

AG28(02/08/16)

**RESOLUTION** by Member Logan that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the February 8, 2016 Agricultural Fieldman report for information.

CARRIED.

Board Reports

At this time the Board members will have an opportunity to present their reports.

Councillor Johnson: ASB Provincial Conference on January 18-21, 2016 in Edmonton, Alberta.

Member Ross: ASB Provincial Conference on January 18-21, 2016 in Edmonton, Alberta and FarmTech on January 26-28, 2016 at Northlands in Edmonton, Alberta.



AG29(02/08/16)

**RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' written or verbal reports of February 8, 2016 for information. CARRIED.**

INFORMATION &  
CORRESPONDENCE

The Board is presented with correspondence to review.

1. Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance – Newsletter – (63-02-02)
2. Peace Country Beef & Forage Association – Newsletter – (63-02-02)
3. AAMDC Membership Bulletin – (63-02-02)
4. Alberta Farm Animal Care Advisory Council Summary – (63-02-02)
5. Alberta Invasive Species Council – The Invader 2016 – (63-02-02)
6. Policy 6313 Coyote Hunt Incentive – (63-30-20)

AG30(02/08/16)

**RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of Chair Harcourt to attend Peace Country Beef School on March 15, 2016 in Grimshaw, Alberta. CARRIED.**

AG31(02/08/16)

**RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of Member Davis to attend solar workshop, Generating Electricity from the Sun, on March 10, 2016 at the AgriPlex in High Prairie, Alberta. CARRIED.**

AG32(02/08/16)

**RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board receives the Information & Correspondence of February 8, 2016 as presented. CARRIED.**

ADJORNMENT

Chair Harcourt adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN

# Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	<b>Agricultural Service Board</b>
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Aaron Zylstra, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>DELEGATION – Peace Country Beef &amp; Forage Association 10:20 a.m.</b>
File:	63-10-02

## DESCRIPTION:

Peace Country Beef & Forage Association (PCBFA) Manager, Monika Benoit, will be presenting an update, by conference call, on the 2015 Environmental Stream partnership program and present the plans for the 2016 program. Also presented will be the updates on the PCBFA programs, funding and direction.

## BACKGROUND:

Current budget includes \$10,000.00 annually for Peace Country Beef and Forage Association functions, outside of the Environmental Stream Funding.

## BUDGET/COSTS:

## ATTACHMENTS:

## OPTIONS:

## RECOMMENDED MOTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agriculture Service Board accept for information the delegation from Monika Benoit, Manager, Peace Country Beef and Forage Association on the 2015 Environmental Stream partnership program and 2016 programming.

<b>Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:</b>	<b>AgFieldman:</b>
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# Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	<b>Agricultural Service Board</b>
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Brian Harcourt, ASB Chair
Title:	<b>DELEGATION – Curt Hale – Cocktail Cover Crop 11:30 a.m.</b>
File:	63-10-02

## DESCRIPTION:

Curt Hale will be in attendance at 11:30 a.m. to present the Board with information on his Cocktail Cover Crops experience and the benefits to his cropping process.

## BACKGROUND:

## BUDGET/COSTS:

## ATTACHMENTS:

## OPTIONS:

## RECOMMENDED MOTION:

RESOLUTION by... that this Agriculture Service Board accept for information the delegation from Curt Hale on his experience with Cocktail Cover cropping and benefits.

<b>Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:</b>	<b>AgFieldman:</b>
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# Clear Hills County

## Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Al Fletcher, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>ACTIVITY REPORT</b>
File:	63-10-02

### DESCRIPTION:

The board is presented with the Agricultural Service Board Activity Report.

### BACKGROUND:

The Activity report is helpful to administration and the board for tracking the status of resolutions and directions from the board. Items will stay on the report until they are completed. Items that are shaded indicate that they are completed and will be removed from the list once presented at the current Agricultural Service Board meeting.

### ATTACHMENTS:

- Agricultural Service Board Activity Report

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by \_\_\_\_\_ that this Agricultural Service Board (ASB) accepts the March 18, 2016 ASB Activity Report as presented.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: *ABj* AgFieldman: *A*





## Senior Management Team Agricultural Service Board

### Activity Report for March 18, 2016 Page 1 of 2

Budget Items:

CAO = Chief Administrative Officer

DO = Development Officer

EA = Executive Assistant

Completed Items:

CSM = Corporate Services Manager

AF = Ag. Fieldman

CDM = Community Development Manager

**MOTION      DATE      DESCRIPTION      DEPT      STATUS**

REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETINGS				
<b>December 14, 2015</b>				
AG124	(12/14/15)	RESOLUTION by Member Logan that this Agricultural Service Board table consideration of participating in an Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) partnership to the next board meeting pending more information from the current ALUS participants.	AF	March 18, 2016 ASB Mtg.
<b>February 8, 2016</b>				
AG19	(02/08/16)	RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council purchasing a wire roller as a rental equipment item and include \$1,600 plus shipping in the 2016 Operating Budget.	AF	February 23, 2016 Council Mtg.
AG21	(02/08/16)	RESOLUTION by Councilor Johnson that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council adopt the amended Policy 6306 Clubroot of Canola Policy with Option 1, 2 & 3 in Section 3.1.2 Enforcement amended to a 5 mile radius of an infected field.	AF	March 18, 2016 ASB Mtg.
AG23	(02/08/16)	RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board to draft a Pollinator Habitat No-Mow Program Policy for the next ASB meeting.	AF	March 18, 2016 ASB Mtg.
AG25	(02/08/16)	RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board To draft a Policy around reimbursing some costs for Producers attending agriculturally oriented Conferences and Workshops and reporting to the Board.	AF	March 18, 2016 ASB Mtg.
AG26	(02/08/16)	RESOLUTION by Member Davis that this Agricultural Service Board pending Dave Bannow reporting to the Board on his attendance to the Organic Alberta Conference 2016 on February 25-26, 2016 in Old's Alberta approve reimbursing the following expenses; cost of the conference and lodging with receipts.	AF	To a future ASB mtg.

# Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Aaron Zylstra, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>POLLINATOR HABITAT NO-MOW PROGRAM</b>
File:	63-10-02

## DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with revisions to Policy 6304 Roadside Vegetation Control for the proposed Pollinator Habitat No-Mow Program.

## BACKGROUND:

AG23 (02/08/16) RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board direct administration to draft a Pollinator Habitat No-Mow Program Policy for the next Agricultural Service Board meeting. CARRIED.

## OPTIONS:

1. Recommend Council approve as presented.
2. Direct the following amendments.
3. Accept for information. (no action)

## ATTACHMENTS:

- Revised Policy 6304 Roadside Vegetation Control

## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by that this Agricultural Service board recommend Council adopt Policy 6304 Roadside Vegetation Control that has been revised to include the proposed Pollinator Habitat No-Mow Program as presented/amended.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: <i>AJ</i>	AgFieldman:
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# Clear Hills County

Effective Date: April 28, 2015	Policy Number 6304
Title: ROADSIDE VEGETATION CONTROL Draft	

## 1. Policy Statement

Clear Hills County strives to maintain roadsides that have a high level of visibility, support adequate drainage, prevent weeds from spreading and are aesthetically acceptable.

## 2. Definitions

Roadside - that portion of the road allowance that extends from the edge of the driving surface to the adjacent property line.

## 3. Purpose

To provide direction to administration for the control of roadside vegetation in an environmentally safe, publicly acceptable and cost effective manner.

## 4. Responsibilities

### 4.1 Brushing

### 4.2 Public Works Manager will:

- 4.2.1 provide council with an annual project plan to remove all brush from County roadsides by December 2012;
- 4.2.2 Contract and/or operate equipment for clearing and mulching of trees and brush;
- 4.2.3 provide follow up inspections to insure roads and roadsides are clear of brushing debris, stumps and mounds;
- 4.2.4 obtain any necessary warranty work from contractors following the inspection of the completed job;
- 4.2.5 seed suitable pasture seed mix, as required, to prevent erosion and weed competition;
- 4.2.6 Notify in writing landowners with property adjacent to the roadsides included in the annual brushing program plan prior to work commencing.

- 4.3 The County will provide a *Brushing Request* agreement (form B) to landowners, whereby:

- 4.3.1 The landowner agrees to allow the municipality to enter their land to brush outwards into the road ditches.
- 4.3.2 When landowners are requesting private land brushing, the brushing will extend by approximately 16.5 feet onto private land adjacent to road ditches, as needed.
- 4.3.3 The County will be responsible for all surveying costs and staking of work area.

#### 4.4 Brushing of Intersections

- 4.4.1 Clear Hills County will brush intersections beyond the right of way upon request, pending signed agreements between affected landowners and Clear Hills County. The intersection will be brushed 300 feet each way from the corner, in a triangular shape, along adjacent roadway. The vegetation will be controlled by spraying or mowing to control regrowth of brush and included as part of the agreement.

#### 4.5 Do Not Brush Backslope program

- 4.5.1 The Do Not Brush Backslope program is available for persons who want to retain the trees and brush on the backslope of the road allowance in front of their residence.
- 4.5.2 Landowners must request in writing for the County Brushing Program to leave the trees and brush on the backslope of the road allowance in front of their residence.

#### 4.6 Spraying

- 4.6.1 The program will focus on brush control to prevent regrowth and vegetation as listed in the Weed Control Act of Alberta and/or plants designated by County by-law and are the same as the Agricultural Service Board expects the public to control.
- 4.6.2 Spraying will not occur adjacent to yard sites or known herbicide sensitive vegetation such as gardens or shelterbelts or within the legislated setback from water bodies and water sources.
- 4.6.3 Agricultural Services staff will:
- 4.6.4 Contract for and or apply herbicide to kill brush regrowth in



the year following the brushing program.

4.6.5 Contractor for and or apply herbicide to Noxious & Prohibited Noxious weeds to prevent weed spread & weed seed propagation;

4.6.5.1 Select herbicide based on the following criteria:

4.6.5.2. Registered for use in Alberta

4.6.5.3. Registered for control of the target vegetation

4.6.5.4. Cost effectiveness

4.6.5.5. Suitability for site, application conditions and will not increase environmental foot print.

#### 4.7 Do Not Spray Program:

4.7.1 The Do Not Spray program is available for persons who do not want the roadside adjacent to their property sprayed.

4.7.2 Landowners must complete and sign a Roadside Spraying form stating that they do not wish to have the road allowance adjacent to specific land locations sprayed,

4.7.3 Landowners accept full responsibility for weed and brush control within the stated road allowance.

4.7.4 Failure to control the weeds and brush in the current growing season will result in the County controlling the weeds and brush in accordance with this policy.

#### 4.8 Mowing

4.8.1 Public Works Manager will:

4.8.1.1 Provide council with an annual project plan to mow County owned roadside ditches.

4.8.1.2 Contract and/or operate equipment to mow County owned roadside ditches.

4.8.2 Mowing operations will rotate throughout the County on an annual basis, as per the project plan approved by council, to ensure all roads are maintained as efficiently as possible.

4.8.3 Administration will prioritize the mowing of roads as follows:

- 4.8.3.1 Market Roads: first priority; annually mow to outside edge of road right-of-way (fence line to fence line).
- 4.8.3.2 Local roads: second priority; annually mow to outside edge of mowable road right-of-way (property line to property line).
- 4.8.3.3 All other roads: last priority: annually mow to outside edge of mowable road right-of-way (property line to property line) as needed for brush between 4 and 6 feet in height adjacent to road.

#### 4.9 Mowing for Community Organizations

- 4.9.1 Clear Hills County offers to mow outfields and large grassed-in areas that are beyond the reasonable scope of riding and push lawn mowers for community not-for-profit organizations within the County, once annually in conjunction with the roadside mowing program.
  - 4.9.1.1 Organizations requesting this service are required to sign a waiver annually protecting Clear Hills County, see attachment Schedule A.
  - 4.9.1.2 Mowing of outfields and large grassed in areas that are beyond the reasonable scope of riding and push lawn mowers shall be completed subject to the conditions set out in Schedule A. In the event that the Public Works Manager or his representative determines that the area requested is too hazardous or difficult to mow the Organization will be notified that the area cannot be mowed.

#### 4.10 Alternative Weed Control Methods

- 4.10.1 In Environmentally sensitive areas due to soil structure, native species sensitivity or where legislated setback from water bodies and water sources prevent the application of herbicides, mowing or brushing Agricultural Services staff will implement alternative weed control methods such as hand picking or use of biological controls.

#### 4.11 Pollinator Habitat No-Mow program:

- 4.11.1 The Pollinator Habitat No-Mow program is available for persons who wish to increase habitat for pollinators by reducing ditch mowing.

- 4.11.2 The Pollinator Habitat No-Mow program is in affect for the backslope and that portion of road right-of-way that would be mowed when doing the second pass of the County mowing program. Note: The shoulder and that portion of the road right-of-way that is mowed in the first pass of the County mowing program is exempt from the No-Mow program.
- 4.11.3 Landowners must complete and sign a roadside 'Pollinator Habitat No-Mow' form stating that they do not wish to have the road allowance adjacent to specific land locations mowed.
- 4.11.4 Landowners accept full responsibility for weed and brush control within the stated road allowance.
- 4.11.5 Failure to control the weeds and brush in the current growing season will result in the county controlling the weeds and brush in accordance with this policy

## 5. Fencing

- 5.1 Replacement fences will be constructed to the standard currently in place or to the following standards; whichever is of the higher quality (i.e. game fence):
- 5.1.1 In all other instances fences will be replaced to the standard that existed prior to the fences being removed;
- 5.1.2 If the landowner wants to raise the fence to a higher standard he could compensate the County up to the standard he would require;

### Current Standards

- 5.2.1 four wire fencing with Canadian Double Strand standard wire;
- 5.2.2 Treated posts with a minimum diameter of 3 inches and a length of 7 feet; varying post lengths may be used where conditions warrant;
- 5.2.3 Posts are to be placed approximately 18 to 20 feet apart;
- 5.2.4 Two braces on corner post construction
- 5.3 The county will only replace existing fences. If no fence exists or a lower quality fence than standards as per Section 2.2, with evidence

of not being used exists, the county will not be obligated to construct a fence.

5.4 During County operations, fences that are in the right of way will not be repaired or replaced if damaged.

6 Reference to Legislation

7 6.1. Weed Control Act

8 Related Policies

1.11. Property Line Spraying Policy 6309

1.12. Policy No. 3206 Fencing

1.13. Bylaw No. 197-15 Schedule of Fees-Purchase of goods and services

9 End of Policy

ADOPTED: Resolution C262(03/29/11)

AMENDED: Resolution C408(05/10/11)

AMENDED: Resolution C262 (03/29/11)

AMENDED: Resolution C445 (07/23/13)

AMENDED: Resolution C190-14 (03/25/14)

AMENDED: Resolution C231-15 (04/28/15)



# Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Aaron Zylstra, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>CLUBROOT OF CANOLA POLICY 6306</b>
File:	63-10-02

## DESCRIPTION:

The Board is provided with a revised draft Clubroot of Canola Policy 6306, so that they can review the amended wording as requested at the last meeting, before presenting it to Council for their consideration.

## BACKGROUND:

At the regular ASB meeting at the February 8, 2016 the ASB requested that the Clubroot of Canola Policy be revised. It is being brought back to the Board to approve as amended/presented with the amended changes in its entirety.

AG9(01/11/16) RESOLUTION by Councilor Johnson that this Agricultural Service Board direct options be drafted for amending Policy 6306 Clubroot of Canola Policy setting out the County's response in the event of Clubroot of Canola being confirmed within the County boundaries. CARRIED.

AG21 (02/08/16) RESOLUTION by Councillor Johnson that this Agricultural Service Board recommend Council adopt the amended Policy 6306 Clubroot of Canola Policy with wording from options 1,2 and 3 in section 3.1.2 Enforcement amended to a 5 mile radius of an infected field. CARRIED.

## OPTIONS:

1. Recommend Council approve as presented.
2. Direct the following amendments.
3. Accept for information.

## ATTACHMENTS:

- Revised Policy 6306 Clubroot of Canola Policy

## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by that this Agricultural Service board recommend Council adopt revised Policy 6306 Clubroot of Canola Policy as presented/amended.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: <i>ABj</i> AgFieldman:
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# Clear Hills County

Effective Date: <b>March 14, 2016</b>	Policy Number <b>6306</b>
Title: <b>CLUBROOT OF CANOLA POLICY – DRAFT</b>	

## 1. Policy Statement

- 1.1. Clear Hills County will implement procedures to reduce the possibility of introduction, limit the spread, and minimize yield losses of Clubroot in Canola in the County.

## 2. Responsibilities

- 2.1. Agricultural Services staff will conduct a minimum of 25 field inspections, as per Clubroot in Canola Procedure 6306-01, for Clubroot on Canola grown in the County.  
**Fields will be selected according to the following criteria:**
  - 2.1.1. **Fields surrounding an infected field; or fields associated with an infected field through equipment, geography, ownership, etc.**
  - 2.1.2. **Canola fields displaying symptoms similar to those infected with Clubroot**
  - 2.1.3. **Fields with a short or no crop rotation. (ie. canola on canola)**
  - 2.1.4. **Random fields throughout the County for adequate surveying coverage.**
- 2.2. Agricultural Services staff will educate producers, general public and other industry about Clubroot of Canola, through newsletters, publications, workshops and one-on-one communications.
- 2.3. **Any Canola crops displaying symptoms of Clubroot infection will be sampled and samples will be sent to a credible laboratory for confirming or denying the presence of Clubroot.**
- 2.4. Agricultural Service Board will work cooperatively with neighboring municipalities and primary producers.

## 3. Enforcement

- 3.1. **Upon confirmation of a Clubroot infected Canola field in the County:**
  - 3.1.1. **The landowner and registered occupant will be notified in writing with a legal notice in accordance with the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act.**
  - 3.1.2. **All landowners and registered occupants within a 5 mile radius of the field where Clubroot was confirmed, will be sent written notice that Clubroot was confirmed within 5 miles of their property. Additional information including the *Alberta Clubroot Management Plan*, Clubroot of Canola Policy 6306, Clubroot identification information, equipment cleaning procedures and information on minimizing the spread of Clubroot.**
  - 3.1.3. **A County wide public notice will be issued, informing the general public, contractors, stakeholders, industry and all County landowners that Clubroot of**

Canola has been confirmed in the County. This will be posted in the County newsletter and the local newspaper.

3.2. A Notice given for Clubroot will require for the infected field:

- 3.2.1. That no canola crop or any host crop shall be grown in that field for a minimum of 3 years, beginning with the year following the discovery of Clubroot infection in that field. In the 4<sup>th</sup> year a Clubroot resistant canola variety may be grown.
- 3.2.2. That all volunteer host plants (cultivars or weeds) must be destroyed to prevent more than 3 weeks growth.
- 3.2.3. That straw, chaff, feed, dirt, and debris must not be removed from the field for 4 years following the year of detecting Clubroot in the field.
- 3.2.4. That access areas to the infected field be seeded and maintained with non-susceptible grasses (for cleaning equipment).
- 3.2.5. That all equipment leaving that field must be cleaned by removing all dirt, plant material, and debris.

3.3. Infected fields will be monitored for compliance for 4 years following the issuance of the Notice.

3.4. Crops growing in non-compliance will be destroyed at the landowner's expense.

3.5. Should enforcement be required, additional administrative fees will be charged at 15% of the cost of enforcement.

**4. Guidelines**

- 4.1. Alberta Clubroot Management Plan
- 4.2. Peace Regional Clubroot Guideline 2.1

**5. Reference to Legislation**

- 5.1. Agricultural Pests Act
- 5.2. Pest and Nuisance Control Regulations of Alberta
- 5.3. Clear Hills County Pest Control Policy (6303)

**6. End of Policy**

ADOPTED  
Resolution C344(06/10/08) Date: June 10, 2008

AMENDED  
Resolution C165(02/22/11) Date: February 22, 2011

# Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Aaron Zylstra, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>AGRICULTURE IMPROVEMENT POLICY</b>
File:	63-10-02

## DESCRIPTION:

The Board is provided with Policy 6302 Agriculture Improvement Policy with the requested revisions around reimbursing some costs for producers that attended agricultural focused Conferences and Workshops.

## BACKGROUND:

AG25(02/08/16) RESOLUTION by Member Ross that this Agricultural Service Board draft a policy around reimbursing some costs for Producers that attend agricultural focused Conferences and Workshops and follow up by reporting on the event to the Board. CARRIED.

## OPTIONS:

1. Recommend Council approve as presented.
2. Direct the following amendments
3. Accept for information. (no action)

## ATTACHMENTS:

- Revised Policy 6302 Agricultural Improvement Policy

## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by that this Agricultural Service board recommend Council adopt Policy 6302 Agricultural Improvement Policy with revisions to include reimbursing some costs for producers that attended agricultural focused Conferences and Workshop as presented/amended.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: <i>abj</i> AgFieldman:
--





# Clear Hills County

Effective Date: <b>March 14, 2016</b>	Policy Number <b>6302</b>
Title: <b>AGRICULTURE IMPROVEMENT POLICY - REVISED</b>	

## **1. Policy Statement**

- 1.1. Clear Hills County will actively encourage the adoption of innovative, appropriate technologies and practices that may be of economic benefit to County agricultural producers.

## **2. Responsibilities**

- 2.1. Agricultural Services under direction of the Agricultural Service Board will encourage agricultural producers to adopt innovative and appropriate technologies and practices by:

- 2.1.1. purchasing and offering rental equipment,
- 2.1.2. establishing demonstration plots,
- 2.1.3. hosting or organizing seminars, informational meetings, and tour days,
- 2.1.4. organizing an Agricultural Trade Show,
- 2.1.5. supporting Veterinarian Services Incorporated (VSI), and
- 2.1.6. offering innovative and informative programs and services.

- 2.2. Agriculture Producers operating in the County may be eligible to receive reimbursement for their costs associated with attending out-of-County events, workshops, seminars, conferences or the like based on the following criteria:

- 2.2.1. The event is agricultural in scope and perceived by the Board to be beneficial to one or more producers in the County's agriculture community.

- 2.2.2. The eligible attendee provides a written and verbal report to the board at the next regular ASB meeting following the event. The report regarding the event must include the knowledge, skills or benefits received from attending the event.

- 2.2.3. Reimbursement will be at the discretion on the Board and may be cost shared with the attendee. The County may reimburse expenses when receipts are provided and only for event fees or registrations, food, and accommodations associated with the approved event. Travel costs will be the attendee's responsibility.

**3. End of Policy**

ADOPTED

Resolution #C192-03

Date: March 25, 2003

AMENDED

Resolution #C460-03

Date: June 24, 2003

Resolution #C876-03

Date: November 25, 2003

Resolution #C461(06/26/07

Date: June 26, 2007

Resolution #C164(02/22/11)

Date: February 22, 2011

Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Clear Hills County

## Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Aaron Zylstra, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>FARM FAMILY AWARD</b>
File:	63-10-02

### DESCRIPTION:

The board is presented with Farm Family nominations from the Hines Creek area (Ward 2) for the County's annual Farm Family Award.

### BACKGROUND:

David & Lorraine Frykas family are being nominated.  
Riley and Aaron Buker are being nominated.

### ATTACHMENTS:

1. Farm Family nomination applications
2. Farm Family Award procedure 6302-03

### OPTIONS:

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by that this Agricultural Service Board Approve the 2016 Farm Family Award to \_\_\_\_\_ and family and purchase a gate sign to a maximum of \$300 to present at the County's Agricultural Trade Show banquet on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: <b>Manager:</b> <i>Abj</i> <b>AgFieldman:</b>
--

# Clear Hills County 2016 Farm Family Award Application Form

**Purpose:** To create greater public awareness of the social and economic importance of Alberta's farming industry, and the farm families on which it depends.

**Application Deadline:** March 1, 2016

*Please print*

Name of Farm or Farm Unit: Frykas Farms/1174142 LTD.

Family Name: Husband: David Frykas

Wife: Lorraine Frykas

Address: Box 265 Hines Creek TOH 2A0  
Box # Town Postal Code

Legal Land Description: SW 19-84-5 W6

Telephone #: 780-494-2390 Fax #: 780-494-2399

Names of immediate family members actively engaged in the farming application:

Name	Age
<u>Michael Frykas</u>	<u>41</u>
<u>Kim Frykas</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>Karlin Frykas</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Kenda Frykas</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Michelle Rieger (Frykas)</u>	<u>39</u>
<u>Sean Rieger</u>	<u>39</u>
<u>Tanis Rieger</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Kaden Rieger</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Quinn Rieger</u>	<u>3</u>

The following is to be used in assessing Farm Family candidates. **There are two areas – The Farm and the Community – each worth 50 points.** Local Farming conditions may suggest additional areas for consideration in selection but these points cover the basic areas to be considered. Each of the two areas will receive equal weight when making a decision.

\*Note: Be sure to consider the whole family, not just one family.

*Please See Attached  
For the information.*

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Special Project Awards won (specify):**

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**How does this family spend time together?**

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**How do the family members demonstrate a real respect for themselves and community members?**

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**This application is submitted to the Agricultural Service Board of:**

**Name:** Clear Hills County  
**Address:** Box 240 Worsley, AB T0H 3W0  
**Phone:** 780-685-3925  
**Fax:** 780-685-3960

*Terry & Linda Nowek*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of nominator  
(Please print)

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
*[Signature]*

RECEIVED  
FEB 19 2016  
CLEAR HILLS COUNTY

**Farm Family Award**

**2016**

**Frykas Farms / 1144142 LTD.**

**David and Lorraine Frykas**

**Box 265 Hines Creek AB.**

**T0H 2A0**

**Legal Land Description: SW 19- 84-5- W6**

**Telephone: 780-494-2390 Fax: 780-494-2399**

**Names of family members:**

<b>Michael Frykas</b>	<b>Age: 41</b>
<b>Kim Frykas</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Karlin Frykas</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Kenda Frykas</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Michelle (Frykas) Rieger</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Sean Rieger</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Tanis Rieger</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Kaden Rieger</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Quinn Rieger</b>	<b>3</b>



## **The Farm**

### **Type of farm:**

**Grain**

### **Scale:**

**4800 acres**

### **Use of modern farming practices:**

**David and Lorraine have changed the role of how they farm since 1972. They have increased their acres from 640 to 4800 acres. They use modern farming practices including no till, crop rotation, pre harvest burn and soil testing.**

**David and his son Michael spend many hours researching different varieties of seed genetics. They have been able to select grain that is drought, insect, and disease resistant. Soil testing determines the fertilizer use for each field.**

**Marketing plays a big part in their operation. Many hours are spend on the phone or laptop.**

**Use of farming technology:**

Their machinery is all computerized and have the latest technology that include cameras, G.P.S., and auto steer. This enables them to have precision seeding. With the use of G.P.S. they are able to drain their fields.

**Soil conservation practices:**

They have two air seeders that they use for direct seeding into the stubble.

They practice soil conservation by using heavy harrows in the spring to preserve the moisture and soil. They also pre burn before seeding.

**Involvement on self-improvement programs:**

When David finished high school he took Agriculture through Fairview College. Throughout the years David and Michael have taken numerous short courses to keep up to date with the farming practices. Michael has taken over the day to day operations that involve attending seminars provided by chemical companies and elevators. Michael also attends management, marketing and many government programs. He also does a lot of research online for the up to date equipment and practices.

**General appearance and upkeep of farmstead:**

David and Lorraine's farmstead appearance is always neat and tidy.

**Buildings, including home:**

Please see attached pictures 1984 to 2015

**Machinery:**

Their equipment has changed with G.P.S. in the combines, air seeders, and sprayers. They are able to farm more efficiently with less waste.

**Land, Driveway:**

Please see picture

**Activities in marketing their product:**

Michael is involved in marketing the grain. Michael spends many hours on the phone making contracts.

## **The Community**

### **Number of years residing in this community:**

David was born in 1946 and raised in Hines Creek. Lorraine married David in 1972 and they bought their first parcel of land (SW 19-84-5-W6) where they live today. David's family has farmed all their life. David's grandpa, Mike Frykas came to Hines Creek in 1928 and got a homestead (NE 18-83-6-6). In 1931 his wife Nellie (grandmother) and four children came to Hines Creek. When the family grew up they moved into Hines Creek. David's dad Carl married Nellie Stoskey and build a home on NW 21-83-6-6 where David grew up. David's parents' purchased more land and raised cattle. David and Michael still farm the land today.

David and Lorraine have been members of many organizations which are listed below.

**a) Organizations:**

Business ~ Local government – Lorraine

Service Clubs ~ Legion – David & Lorraine

**b) Special Projects**

One of the special projects was reclaiming the land at Carters Camp Recreational Society. The crown was going to sell the banks of the peace for private game farms. The Frykas's and a group of neighbours got together and became a registered society and applied to the crown for a recreational lease. Lorraine was the secretary. Many neighbours and friends got together and travel many hours for signatures, filling in paper work and eventually they were granted the recreation lease. Carters Camp remains a recreation lease today.

**c) Awards**

**4H:**

Michael and Michelle have received many awards in 4H for grand champion and showmanship.

**Ukrainian Dancing:**

Michael and Michelle have also received gold medals in Vegriville and surrounding area.

## **Agriculture**

**Agriculture Society – David & Lorraine (Directors)**

**Director for U.G.G. – David**

**4H - Horse Leaders - Lorriane**

**4H - Sewing Leaders - Lorraine**

**4H - Cow Leaders - David**

**Royce Gymnastics - Lorraine (secretary)**

**Peace Pony Chariots – David (member & director)**

## **Youth**

**Michael Frykas**

- Played hockey
- Curling
- Volleyball
- Royce baseball
- 4H

**Michelle Frykas**

- Curling
- 4H
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Figure skating
- Track & field
- Student union ( treasurer )

**Michael & Michelle**

- Ukrainian Mitelka Dance Club



### **Other Organizations**

- Hines Creek Museum - Lorraine ( president )
- Hines Creek Homecoming
- Hines Creek History Book 2015
- Hines Creek Curling – David & Lorraine ( directors)
- Hines Creek Provincial basketball 2015 ( volunteers)
- Hines Creek Arts & Craft – Lorraine
- Youth after school curling – organized and facilitated ( Lorraine )
- George Lake Society – David & Lorraine ( members )
- Carters Camp – David & Lorraine ( secretary and director )
- Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Society - (David & Lorraine )
- Ukrainian Royce Cemetery - David & Lorraine ( members )
- Hines Creek Golf Club – David &Lorraine ( directors & members )

### **Family Time Spent Together**

The family enjoys camping, boating, water skiing, fishing and golfing. They spend special family celebrations such as birthdays and holidays together.

### **Demonstrates respect for themselves and the community**

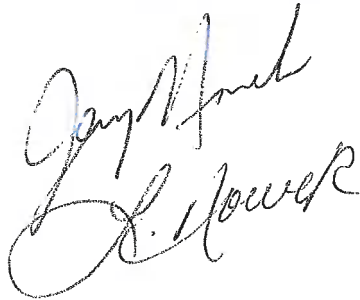
They feel fortunate to have 2 children who are very community minded. They have coached hockey and are known to help out by selling tickets.

Comments

We nominated David and Lorraine Frykas for the Farm Family Award. The whole family is involved with the farm. We can see how the grandchildren are involved too. You can often spot them in the machinery and grain truck with grandpa or dad. There will surely be the 5<sup>th</sup> generation farming here in Hines Creek. They utilizes the latest technology and farm practices. They are also dedicated volunteers and have played a big part in our community.

Sincerely

Jerry and Linda Nowek

Handwritten signature of Jerry and Linda Nowek in cursive script.





more  
graineries ↓



1984

Clear County

Andrew Clear Hills  
County, Alberta

# Clear Hills County 2016 Farm Family Award Application Form

**Purpose:** To create greater public awareness of the social and economic importance of Alberta's farming industry, and the farm families on which it depends.

Application Deadline: March 1, 2016

ATTN: AARON

Please print

Name of Farm or Farm Unit: <sup>B</sup> 6 farms

Family Name: Husband: Riley Baker

Wife: AARON (Berggren) Baker

Address: 706 Hines Creek TOH 2A0  
Box # Town Postal Code

Legal Land Description:

Telephone #: 780 834-1494 (cell) Fax #: NA

Names of immediate family members actively engaged in the farming application:

Name	Age
Riley	<del>35</del> 38
AARON	34
BOBBE-JO	22
Cody	17
Cheerone	10
Jaxon	7

The following is to be used in assessing Farm Family candidates. There are two areas – The Farm and the Community – each worth 50 points. Local Farming conditions may suggest additional areas for consideration in selection but these points cover the basic areas to be considered. Each of the two areas will receive equal weight when making a decision.

\*Note: Be sure to consider the whole family, not just one family.

Describe the following in detail (Additional information may be added on separate pages)

**THE FARM**

Type of farming operation: Cattle + horse

Scale of operation: 50 head cattle, <sup>20</sup> head horse

Use of modern farming practices (give examples):  
tractors

Use of farming technology: tractors, balers,

Soil conservation practices (list examples):  
none known

Involvement on self-improvement programs (i.e. extension courses, 4-H programs, short courses etc.):  
no 4h - this current year,

General appearance and upkeep of farmstead:

Buildings, include home:

home, shop, open front shed, shed (barn), tack room, sheds (storage)

Machinery: grain bin, shelters.

tractors, balers, discbine, rakes, square, stocker, feeder, cultivators

Land, driveway:

Activities in marketing their products:

Agricultural awards won by any member of the family (specify):  
none known

Farm participation in the farming operation:  
every



**THE COMMUNITY**

Number of years residing in this community:  30 plus year.

For the following categories, please list:

- a) Organizations any family members belong to (including positions, responsibilities and length of membership;
- b) Special Projects family members actively involved in or responsible for;
- c) Community Awards received by any family member.

**Business:**

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**Local Government:**

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**Service Clubs:**

craft horse club  
Northern Redneck Riders  
Ogdenale riders

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---

**Agricultural:**

---

---

**Youth:**

---

---

**Other Organizations:**

Sleigh rides  
Smoky Mtn Team roping  
High School rodeo

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Special Project Awards won (specify):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**How does this family spend time together?**

sleigh rides, farming.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**How do the family members demonstrate a real respect for themselves and community members?**

Very polite, offer services (sleigh rides) even  
on short notice.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** A Hines Creek and district Agricultural Society

**Address:** Box 184.

**Postal Code:** T0H 2A0 **Phone #:** 780 772 0248.

**This application is submitted to the Agricultural Service Board of:**

**Name:** Clear Hills County  
**Address:** Box 240 Worsley, AB T0H 3W0  
**Phone:** 780-685-3925  
**Fax:** 780-685-3960

Jodi Rubulak.  
Name of nominator  
(Please print) (secretary)

Rubulak  
Signature

Comments:

When first arrived in Community  
borrowed equipment to feed & bale.  
Use draft horses to feed other, still use  
that on cold days.  
hand water cattle and other animals.



# Clear Hills County

Title: **Family Farm Award**

Procedure No. 6302-03

P

## 1. Family Farm Award

1.1. To better the relationship between urban and rural people. To set before the general public, the high ideals of Agriculture and the opportunities of rural citizenship. This could be exemplified by selecting a farm family within the County's boundaries who best typifies the value of the family farm to our rural communities.

R

1.2. Guidelines for selection of the Farm Family recipient.

O

1.2.1. Select a family deserving of recognition for both Agricultural and community involvement.

1.2.2. Must be an active farm family residing on the farm.

C

1.2.3. Equal consideration is to be given to the family's participation in agriculture and their community.

1.3. Procedure of selection.

1.3.1. Nominations will be solicited annually from Agricultural Societies and the public at large within the nomination district, within the County, to be awarded on a rotating basis, the following is the rotation to be followed:

E

- Cherry Canyon (2013; 2019)
- Eureka River (2014, 2020)
- Cleardale (2008, 2015)
- Hines Creek (2010, 2016)
- Worsley (2011, 2017)
- Whitelaw (2012, 2018)

D

1.3.2. Once the Agricultural Service Board has received all applications by a set specified date, they will then determine the successful family to receive the award.

U

1.4. Awards to the Successful Farm Family

1.4.1. The Agricultural Service Board staff will arrange for the winning family's name to be engraved on the Farm Family Award plaque located at the County office, and have personal family plaque engraved and ready for presentation at Farmers Appreciation Night held locally in the spring of the year.

R

1.4.1.1. AG004(01/12/12) RESOLUTION by Member Logan that this Agricultural Service Board adopt a standard annual Farm Family gate sign format that will fit on rural address signage posts, with cutout lettering and a separate name and year tab. CARRIED

E

1.4.2. The Agricultural Service Board Chairman or designate shall present the award to the selected family, at the Farmers Appreciation Night.

1.4.3. Once the family is selected, the administration will forward the successful applicant's name to Edmonton Northlands for their consideration. The Farm Family will be responsible for all expenses if they wish to travel to Edmonton.

1.4.4. The Agricultural Service Board will provide up to eight banquet tickets for the Farm Family to attend the Grande Prairie Peace Country Classic (Trade Show's) Peace Region Farm Family Award night.

1.4.5. Appendix "A" illustrates the Nomination form to be filled out by anyone wanting to nominate a family for the Farm Family Award.

2. **End of Procedure**

P  
R  
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# Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	<b>Agricultural Service Board</b>
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Aaron Zylstra, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>Trade Show April 9, 2016</b>
File:	63-10-02

DESCRIPTION:

Administration is requesting Board members to participate in the Agricultural Service Board booth at the Trade Show to promote agricultural services and get feedback from the visitors.

BACKGROUND:

Ideas to include in the ASB booth?  
Any highlights to advertise?

Schedule for booth - 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 1 hour shifts with two Board members a shift.

	2 Board Members per shift
10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.	
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	

ATTACHMENTS:

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

RESOLUTION by that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the Agricultural Service Board booth schedule and discussion around the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clear Hills County Agricultural Trade Show being held on April 9, 2016 at the Dave Shaw Memorial Complex in Hines Creek, Alberta.

<b>Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:</b> <i>ABj</i> <b>AgFieldman:</b>
--



# Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	<b>Agricultural Service Board</b>
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Chair Harcourt
Title:	<b>PROMOTING FARM PUBLICATIONS</b>
File:	63-10-02

## DESCRIPTION:

Chair Harcourt is requesting a round table discussion on how to encourage local producers to read the Alberta Farmer, Northern Horizon and Peace Country Sun, due to the valuable information that is included in these publications.

## BACKGROUND:

## BUDGET/COSTS:

## ATTACHMENTS:

## OPTIONS:

## RECOMMENDED MOTION:

RESOLUTION by that this Agricultural Service Board accept for information the discussion around the valuable and useful agricultural information that is included in articles in Alberta Farmer, Northern Horizon and Peace Country Sun.

<b>Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:</b> <i>aby</i> <b>AgFieldman:</b>
--

# Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	<b>Agricultural Service Board</b>
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Councillor Johnson
Title:	<b>QUACKGRASS</b>
File:	63-10-02

## DESCRIPTION:

Councillor Johnson requested to have a discussion around elevating Quackgrass to a prohibited noxious or noxious weed in the County. Currently Quackgrass is not listed as a prohibited noxious or noxious weed in the *Weed Control Act*, and Couch Grass (aka Quackgrass) is considered a prohibited noxious weed seed in the *Weed Seeds Order*.

## BACKGROUND:

Prohibited Noxious – these weeds pose a serious threat to agriculture, recreation and/or the environment and are at population levels low enough to eradicate. Prohibited noxious weeds must be destroyed so they do not produce seed or spread to infest other lands.

Noxious weeds must only be controlled as to limit the spread of the weed from parcel to parcel. Noxious weeds still pose a significant threat to agriculture, recreation and the environment in general but are at infestation levels too high to fully eradicate.

## ATTACHMENTS:

- Weed Control Regulation
- Weed Seeds Order
- Weed Control Act

## OPTIONS:

## RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Resolution by.. that this Agricultural Service Board...

<b>Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:</b> <i>ABJ</i> <b>AgFieldman:</b>
--



Province of Alberta

## WEED CONTROL ACT

# WEED CONTROL REGULATION

**Alberta Regulation 19/2010**

Extract

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All persons making use of this document are reminded that it has no legislative sanction. The official Statutes and Regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpreting and applying the law.

(no amdt)

**ALBERTA REGULATION 19/2010**

**Weed Control Act**

**WEED CONTROL REGULATION**

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**19** Coming into force

## Schedule

**Definitions****1** In this Regulation,

- (a) "Act" means the *Weed Control Act*;
- (b) "authorized person" means a person authorized by the Minister;
- (c) "licence" means a licence to operate a seed-cleaning facility or to provide a seed-cleaning facility for rent or lease.

**Part 1**  
**Seed-cleaning Facility Licences**  
**and Notice to Move a Seed-cleaning**  
**Facility**

**Application for licence**

**2(1)** An applicant for a licence shall contact the chief administrative officer of the municipality in which the seed-cleaning facility is located.

**(2)** On receipt of the application, the chief administrative officer shall request an inspector to inspect the facility for the purposes of issuing the licence.

**Licence issue**

**3(1)** On completion of a satisfactory inspection, the inspector may issue or renew a licence to the applicant in the form required by the Minister.

**(2)** An inspection will be considered to be satisfactory if the inspector

- (a) completes the inspection in the form and manner required by the Minister, and
- (b) gives the applicant a rating of 80% or more.

**Contraventions**

- 4(1)** If an inspector considers that an applicant or licence holder has contravened a provision of the Act or this Regulation, the inspector may report that contravention to an authorized person.
- (2)** The inspector shall give written notice to the applicant or licence holder of having made the report.
- (3)** The notice must
- (a)** be given no later than 7 days after making the report, and
  - (b)** advise the applicant or licence holder of the right to make submissions to the authorized person within 14 days after having been given the notice.
- (4)** The notice may be delivered to the last known address for the applicant or licence holder as recorded in the licence or licence application records of the chief administrative officer of the municipality where the facility is located.
- (5)** Fifteen or more days after the applicant or licence holder receives the notice with respect to a contravention of the Act or this Regulation, an authorized person may suspend, cancel or refuse to issue or renew a licence.
- (6)** An applicant or licensee may appeal a decision of an authorized person under subsection (5) to the Minister.

**Expiry**

- 5** A licence expires one year after its date of issue.

**Transfer of licence**

- 6(1)** A licence is not transferrable.
- (2)** If a licence holder purports to transfer a licence, the licence is void.

**Movement of seed-cleaning facility**

- 7(1)** If a seed-cleaning facility is to be moved into a municipality, the owner or operator of the seed-cleaning facility shall notify an inspector in that municipality at least 24 hours before the seed-cleaning facility is moved into the municipality.
- (2)** An inspector may waive the 24-hour notice requirement.

## Part 2 Designation of Weeds

### Schedule of designations

**8** Subject to section 9(6), the plants set out in the Schedule are designated as noxious weeds or prohibited noxious weeds in accordance with the Schedule.

### Municipal designations

**9(1)** The local authority of a municipality may designate a plant as a noxious weed or a prohibited noxious weed within the municipality by bylaw.

**(2)** If the plant is designated as a noxious weed within a municipality by the Schedule, the local authority may designate it as a noxious weed or a prohibited noxious weed.

**(3)** If the plant is designated as a prohibited noxious weed within a municipality by the Schedule, the local authority may only designate it as a prohibited noxious weed.

**(4)** A designation under this section is not effective unless it is approved by the Minister.

**(5)** The plants set out in a bylaw of a municipality are designated as noxious weeds or prohibited noxious weeds within that municipality in accordance with the bylaw.

**(6)** A designation as a prohibited noxious weed under this section prevails over a designation as a noxious weed under section 8.

## Part 3 Appeal of Inspector's Notice, Local Authority's Notice or Debt Recovery Notice

### Application

**10** This Part sets out the requirements that apply to an appeal of an inspector's notice, local authority's notice or debt recovery notice under section 19(2) of the Act.

### Delivery of notice

**11(1)** The appellant shall provide notice of the appeal to the chief administrative officer of the municipality in which the land subject to the notice is located.

## Part 4 Other Matters

### Transitional

**16(1)** A municipal bylaw made under the *Weed Control Act*, RSA 2000 cW-5, is continued under this Regulation.

**(2)** For a period of six months after the coming into force of this Regulation, a municipal bylaw made under the *Weed Control Act*, RSA 2000 cW-5,

- (a) is to be read as if a designation of a plant as a restricted weed is a designation as a prohibited noxious weed, and
- (b) despite section 9(4), may be amended without the approval of the Minister to the extent the amendment is
  - (i) amending a designation of a plant as a restricted weed to a designation as a prohibited noxious weed, or
  - (ii) repealing a designation of a plant as a nuisance weed.

**(3)** A licence under the *Seed Cleaning Plant Regulation* (AR 15/2003) is continued under this Regulation.

### Repeals

**17** The following regulations are repealed:

- (a) the *Weed Regulation* (AR 171/2001);
- (b) the *Seed Cleaning Plant Regulation* (AR 15/2003).

### Expiry

**18** For the purpose of ensuring that this Regulation is reviewed for ongoing relevancy and necessity, with the option that it may be repassed in its present or an amended form following a review, this Regulation expires on August 1, 2016.

### Coming into force

**19** This Regulation comes into force on the coming into force of the *Weed Control Act*, SA 2008 cW-5.1

(2) The notice of appeal must be delivered personally or sent by certified or registered mail within the time specified in the notice for doing the thing required by the notice or 10 days, whichever is less.

**Notice requirements**

**12** The notice of appeal must be in writing and include

- (a) the name and address of the appellant,
- (b) a copy of the notice in respect of which the appeal is being taken,
- (c) the legal description of the land affected,
- (d) the grounds for appeal, and
- (e) a \$500 appeal fee.

**Determination of appeal**

**13(1)** The appeal panel shall hear and determine the appeal within 5 days of receipt of the notice of appeal by the chief administrative officer.

(2) The appeal panel may confirm, rescind or vary the notice.

(3) The chief administrative officer shall send a copy of the decision together with the written reasons, if any, to the appellant by certified or registered mail.

**Appeal review request**

**14** A request to review a decision of the appeal panel under section 20 of the Act must be made to the Minister within 3 days of the appellant receiving the appeal decision.

**Refund of fee**

**15(1)** If the appellant is successful in an appeal or review, the \$500 appeal fee will be refunded to the appellant.

(2) If the appellant is partially successful in an appeal or review, the \$500 appeal fee may be refunded in whole or in part at the sole discretion of the appeal panel or the Minister, as the case may be.



### Schedule

1 The following plants are designated as prohibited noxious weeds in Alberta:

autumn olive — *Elaeagnus umbellata* Thunb.  
 balsam, Himalayan — *Impatiens glandulifera* Royle  
 barberry, common — *Berberis vulgaris* L.  
 bartsia, red — *Odontites vernus* (Bellardi) Dumort  
 buckthorn, common — *Rhamnus cathartica* L.  
 cinquefoil, sulphur — *Potentilla recta* L.  
 crupina, common — *Crupina vulgaris* Pers. ex Cass.  
 dyer's woad — *Isatis tinctoria* L.  
 Eurasian water milfoil — *Myriophyllum spicatum* L.  
 flowering rush — *Butomus umbellatus* L.  
 garlic mustard — *Alliaria petiolata* (M. Bieb.) Cavara & Grande  
 goatgrass, jointed — *Aegilops cylindrica* Host  
 hawkweed, meadow — *Hieracium caespitosum* Dumort.  
 hawkweed, mouse-ear — *Hieracium pilosella* L.  
 hawkweed, orange — *Hieracium aurantiacum* L.  
 hoary alyssum — *Berteroa incana* (L.) DC.  
 hogweed, giant — *Heracleum mantegazzianum* Sommier & Levier  
 iris, pale yellow — *Iris pseudacorus* L.  
 knapweed, bighead — *Centaurea macrocephala* Puschk. ex Willd.  
 knapweed, black — *Centaurea nigra* L.  
 knapweed, brown — *Centaurea jacea* L.  
 knapweed, diffuse — *Centaurea diffusa* Lam.  
 knapweed, hybrid — *Centaurea* × *psammogena* Gayer  
 knapweed, meadow — *Centaurea* × *moncktonii* C. E. Britton  
 knapweed, Russian — *Rhaponticum repens* (L.) Hidalgo  
 knapweed, spotted — *Centaurea stoebe* L. ssp. *micranthos*  
 (Gugler) Hayek  
 knapweed, squarrose — *Centaurea virgata* Lam. ssp. *squarrosa*  
 (Willd.) Gugler  
 knapweed, Tyrol — *Centaurea nigrescens* Willd.  
 knotweed, giant — *Fallopia sachalinensis* (F. Schmidt Petrop.)  
 Ronse Decr.  
 knotweed, hybrid Japanese — *Fallopia* × *bohemica* (Chrtk &  
 Chrtková) J. P. Bailey  
 knotweed, Japanese — *Fallopia japonica* (Houtt.) Ronse Decr.  
 loosestrife, purple — *Lythrum salicaria* L.  
 medusahead — *Taeniatherum caput-medusae* (L.) Nevski  
 nutsedge, yellow — *Cyperus esculentus* L.  
 puncturevine — *Tribulus terrestris* L.  
 ragwort, tansy — *Jacobaea vulgaris* Gaertn.  
 rush skeletonweed — *Chondrilla juncea* L.  
 saltcedar — *Tamarix ramosissima* Ledeb.  
 saltlover — *Halogeton glomeratus* (M. Bieb.) C.A. Mey.  
 St John's-wort, common — *Hypericum perforatum* L.  
 starthistle, yellow — *Centaurea solstitialis* L.  
 tamarisk, Chinese — *Tamarix chinensis* Lour.

tamarisk, smallflower — *Tamarix parviflora* DC.  
thistle, marsh — *Cirsium palustre* (L.) Scop.  
thistle, nodding — *Carduus nutans* L.  
thistle, plumeless — *Carduus acanthoides* L.

**2** The following plants are designated as noxious weeds in Alberta:

baby's-breath, common — *Gypsophila paniculata* L.  
bellflower, creeping — *Campanula rapunculoides* L.  
bindweed, field — *Convolvulus arvensis* L.  
blueweed — *Echium vulgare* L.  
brome, downy — *Bromus tectorum* L.  
brome, Japanese — *Bromus japonicus* Thunb.  
burdock, great — *Arctium lappa* L.  
burdock, lesser — *Arctium minus* (Hill) Bernh.  
burdock, woolly — *Arctium tomentosum* Mill.  
buttercup, tall — *Ranunculus acris* L.  
chamomile, scentless — *Tripleurospermum inodorum* (L.) Sch. Bip.  
clematis, yellow — *Clematis tangutica* (Maxim.) Korsh.  
cockle, white — *Silene latifolia* Poir. ssp. *alba* (Miller) Greuter & Burdet  
daisy, oxeye — *Leucanthemum vulgare* Lam.  
dame's rocket — *Hesperis matronalis* L.  
henbane, black — *Hyoscyamus niger* L.  
hoary cress, globe-podded — *Lepidium appelianum* Al-Shehbaz  
hoary cress, heart-podded — *Lepidium draba* L.  
hoary cress, lens-podded — *Lepidium chalepense* L.  
hound's-tongue — *Cynoglossum officinale* L.  
mullein, common — *Verbascum thapsus* L.  
pepper-grass, broad-leaved — *Lepidium latifolium* L.  
scabious, field — *Knautia arvensis* (L.) Coult.  
sow thistle, perennial — *Sonchus arvensis* L.  
spurge, leafy — *Euphorbia esula* L.  
tansy, common — *Tanacetum vulgare* L.  
thistle, Canada — *Cirsium arvense* (L.) Scop.  
toadflax, Dalmatian — *Linaria dalmatica* (L.) Mill.  
toadflax, yellow — *Linaria vulgaris* Mill.



CANADA

CONSOLIDATION

CODIFICATION

## Weed Seeds Order, 2005

## Arrêté de 2005 sur les graines de mauvaises herbes

SOR/2005-220

DORS/2005-220

Current to February 15, 2016

À jour au 15 février 2016

Last amended on June 4, 2009

Dernière modification le 4 juin 2009

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## OFFICIAL STATUS OF CONSOLIDATIONS

Subsections 31(1) and (3) of the *Legislation Revision and Consolidation Act*, in force on June 1, 2009, provide as follows:

### Published consolidation is evidence

**31 (1)** Every copy of a consolidated statute or consolidated regulation published by the Minister under this Act in either print or electronic form is evidence of that statute or regulation and of its contents and every copy purporting to be published by the Minister is deemed to be so published, unless the contrary is shown.

...

### Inconsistencies in regulations

**(3)** In the event of an inconsistency between a consolidated regulation published by the Minister under this Act and the original regulation or a subsequent amendment as registered by the Clerk of the Privy Council under the *Statutory Instruments Act*, the original regulation or amendment prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

## NOTE

This consolidation is current to February 15, 2016. The last amendments came into force on June 4, 2009. Any amendments that were not in force as of February 15, 2016 are set out at the end of this document under the heading "Amendments Not in Force".

## CARACTÈRE OFFICIEL DES CODIFICATIONS

Les paragraphes 31(1) et (3) de la *Loi sur la révision et la codification des textes législatifs*, en vigueur le 1<sup>er</sup> juin 2009, prévoient ce qui suit :

### Codifications comme élément de preuve

**31 (1)** Tout exemplaire d'une loi codifiée ou d'un règlement codifié, publié par le ministre en vertu de la présente loi sur support papier ou sur support électronique, fait foi de cette loi ou de ce règlement et de son contenu. Tout exemplaire donné comme publié par le ministre est réputé avoir été ainsi publié, sauf preuve contraire.

[...]

### Incompatibilité -- règlements

**(3)** Les dispositions du règlement d'origine avec ses modifications subséquentes enregistrées par le greffier du Conseil privé en vertu de la *Loi sur les textes réglementaires* l'emportent sur les dispositions incompatibles du règlement codifié publié par le ministre en vertu de la présente loi.

## NOTE

Cette codification est à jour au 15 février 2016. Les dernières modifications sont entrées en vigueur le 4 juin 2009. Toutes modifications qui n'étaient pas en vigueur au 15 février 2016 sont énoncées à la fin de ce document sous le titre « Modifications non en vigueur ».

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**TABLE OF PROVISIONS****Weed Seeds Order, 2005**

- 1 Weed Seeds
- 2 Repeal
- 3 Coming into Force

**SCHEDULE****TABLE ANALYTIQUE****Arrêté de 2005 sur les graines de mauvaises herbes**

- 1 Détermination des variétés de graines de mauvaises herbes
- 2 Abrogation
- 3 Entrée en vigueur

**ANNEXE**



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Registration  
SOR/2005-220 June 29, 2005

SEEDS ACT

**Weed Seeds Order, 2005**

The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, pursuant to subsection 4(2)<sup>a</sup> of the *Seeds Act*, hereby makes the annexed *Weed Seeds Order, 2005*.

Ottawa, June 28, 2005

Andrew Mitchell  
Minister of Agriculture and  
Agri-Food

Enregistrement  
DORS/2005-220 Le 29 juin 2005

LOI SUR LES SEMENCES

**Arrêté de 2005 sur les graines de mauvaises herbes**

En vertu du paragraphe 4(2)<sup>a</sup> de la *Loi sur les semences*, le ministre de l'Agriculture et de l'Agroalimentaire prend l'*Arrêté de 2005 sur les graines de mauvaises herbes*, ci-après.

Ottawa, le 28 juin 2005

Le ministre de l'Agriculture  
et de l'Agroalimentaire,  
Andrew Mitchell

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<sup>a</sup> R.S., c. 49 (1st Supp.), s. 4(4)

<sup>a</sup> L.R., ch. 49 (1<sup>er</sup> suppl.), par. 4(4)

## Weed Seeds Order, 2005

### Weed Seeds

**1** The seeds of the species of plants set out in the schedule are deemed to be weed seeds for the purpose of establishing grades under the *Seeds Act*.

### Repeal

**2** [Repeal]

### Coming into Force

**3** This Order comes into force on July 1, 2005.

## Arrêté de 2005 sur les graines de mauvaises herbes

### Détermination des variétés de graines de mauvaises herbes

**1** Les graines des espèces de plantes énumérées à l'annexe sont réputées être des semences de mauvaises herbes en vue de l'établissement de catégories aux termes de la *Loi sur les semences*.

### Abrogation

**2** [Abrogation]

### Entrée en vigueur

**3** Le présent règlement entre en vigueur le 1<sup>er</sup> juillet 2005.

## SCHEDULE

(Section 1)

### CLASS 1

## Prohibited Noxious Weed Seeds

(Applicable to all tables of Schedule I to the *Seeds Regulations*)

Item	Column 1 Latin Name	Column 2 Common Name
1	<i>Acroptilon repens</i> (L.) DC. (= <i>Centaurea repens</i> L.)	Russian knapweed
2	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i> Host	Jointed goatgrass
3	<i>Carduus nutans</i> L.	Nodding thistle
4	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i> Lam.	Diffuse knapweed
5	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i> L.	Yellow star thistle
6	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i> L. (= <i>Centaurea maculosa</i> Lam.)	Spotted knapweed
7	<i>Conium maculatum</i> L.	Poison Hemlock
8	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i> Cass.	Common crupina
9	<i>Cuscuta</i> spp.	Dodder
10	<i>Datura stramonium</i> L.	Jimsonweed
11	<i>Eriochloa villosa</i> (Thunb.) Kunth	Woolly cup grass
12	<i>Euphorbia esula</i> L.	Leafy spurge
13	<i>Halogeton glomeratus</i> (M. Bieb.) C.A. Mey.	Halogeton
14	<i>Lepidium appelianum</i> Al-Shehbaz (= <i>Cardaria pubescens</i> (C.A. Mey.) Jarm.)	Globe-pod hoary cress
15	<i>Lepidium draba</i> L. subsp. <i>chalepense</i> (L.) Thell. (= <i>Cardaria chalepensis</i> (L.) Hand.-Mazz.)	Lens-pod hoary cress
16	<i>Lepidium draba</i> L. subsp. <i>draba</i> (= <i>Cardaria draba</i> (L.) Desv.)	Heart-pod hoary cress
17	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i> (Nees) Hack. ex Arechav.	Serrated tussock
18	<i>Odontites vernus</i> (Bellardi) Dumort. subsp. <i>serotinus</i> (Dumort.) Corb. (= <i>Odontites serotina</i> Dumort.)	Red bartsia
19	[Repealed, SOR/2009-161, s. 1]	
20	<i>Solanum carolinense</i> L.	Horse nettle (Ball nettle)
21	<i>Sorghum halepense</i> (L.) Pers.	Johnson grass

### CLASS 2

## Primary Noxious Weed Seeds

(Applicable to all tables of Schedule I to the *Seeds Regulations* except Tables XIV and XV)

## ANNEXE

(article 1)

### CATÉGORIE 1

## Graines de mauvaises herbes nuisibles interdites

(applicable à tous les tableaux de l'annexe I du *Règlement sur les semences*)

Article	Colonne 1 Nom latin	Colonne 2 Nom commun
1	<i>Acroptilon repens</i> (L.) DC. (= <i>Centaurea repens</i> L.)	Centaurée de Russie
2	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i> Host	Églope cylindrique
3	<i>Carduus nutans</i> L.	Chardon penché
4	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i> Lam.	Centaurée diffuse
5	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i> L.	Centaurée du solstice
6	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i> L. (= <i>Centaurea maculosa</i> Lam.)	Centaurée maculée
7	<i>Conium maculatum</i> L.	Ciguë maculée
8	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i> Cass.	Crupine
9	<i>Cuscuta</i> spp.	Cuscute
10	<i>Datura stramonium</i> L.	Stramoine commune
11	<i>Eriochloa villosa</i> (Thunb.) Kunth	Ériochloë velue
12	<i>Euphorbia esula</i> L.	Euphorbe éssule
13	<i>Halogeton glomeratus</i> (M. Bieb.) C.A. Mey.	Halogeton
14	<i>Lepidium appelianum</i> Al-Shehbaz (= <i>Cardaria pubescens</i> (C.A. Mey.) Jarm.)	Cranson velu
15	<i>Lepidium draba</i> L. subsp. <i>chalepense</i> (L.) Thell. (= <i>Cardaria chalepensis</i> (L.) Hand.-Mazz.)	Cranson rampant
16	<i>Lepidium draba</i> L. subsp. <i>draba</i> (= <i>Cardaria draba</i> (L.) Desv.)	Cranson dravier
17	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i> (Nees) Hack. ex Arechav.	Stipe à feuilles dentées
18	<i>Odontites vernus</i> (Bellardi) Dumort. subsp. <i>serotinus</i> (Dumort.) Corb. (= <i>Odontites serotina</i> Dumort.)	Odontite rouge
19	[Abrogé, DORS/2009-161, art. 1]	
20	<i>Solanum carolinense</i> L.	Morelle de la Caroline
21	<i>Sorghum halepense</i> (L.) Pers.	Sorgho d'Alep

### CATÉGORIE 2

## Graines de mauvaises herbes nuisibles principales

(applicable à tous les tableaux de l'annexe I du *Règlement sur les semences*, sauf les tableaux XIV et XV)

Item	Column 1 Latin Name	Column 2 Common Name
1	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i> Medik.	Velvetleaf
2	<i>Ambrosia trifida</i> L.	Giant ragweed
3	<i>Barbarea</i> spp.	Yellow rocket or winter cress
4	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scop.	Canada thistle
5	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> L.	Field bindweed
6	<i>Elytrigia repens</i> (L.) Desv. ex Nevski (= <i>Agropyron repens</i> (L.) Beauv.)	Couchgrass
7	<i>Galium aparine</i> L.	Cleavers
8	<i>Galium spurium</i> L.	False cleavers
9	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> Lam. (= <i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i> L.)	Ox-eye daisy
10	<i>Linaria</i> spp.	Toadflax
11	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i> L.	Purple loosestrife
12	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L.	Wild radish
13	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> L.	Tansy ragwort
13.1	<i>Setaria faberi</i> R. A. W. Herrm.	Giant foxtail
14	<i>Silene latifolia</i> Poir. subsp. <i>alba</i> (Mill.) Greuter & Burdet (= <i>Silene pratensis</i> (Rafn) Gord. & Gren.)	White cockle
15	<i>Silene vulgaris</i> (Moench) Garcke	Bladder campion
16	<i>Sinapis arvensis</i> L.	Wild mustard
17	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i> L.	Perennial sow thistle

Article	Colonne 1 Nom latin	Colonne 2 Nom commun
1	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i> Medik.	Abutilon
2	<i>Ambrosia trifida</i> L.	Grande herbe à poux
3	<i>Barbarea</i> spp.	Barbarée vulgaire ou cresson de terre
4	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scop.	Chardon des champs (chardon du Canada)
5	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> L.	Liseron des champs
6	<i>Elytrigia repens</i> (L.) Desv. ex Nevski (= <i>Agropyron repens</i> (L.) Beauv.)	Chiendent
7	<i>Galium aparine</i> L.	Gaillet gratteron
8	<i>Galium spurium</i> L.	Gaillet bâtard
9	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> Lam. (= <i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i> L.)	Marguerite blanche
10	<i>Linaria</i> spp.	Linaire
11	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i> L.	Salicaire commune
12	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L.	Radis sauvage
13	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> L.	Sénéçon jacobée
13.1	<i>Setaria faberi</i> R.A.W. Herrm.	Sétaire géante
14	<i>Silene latifolia</i> Poir. subsp. <i>alba</i> (Mill.) Greuter & Burdet (= <i>Silene pratensis</i> (Rafn) Gord. & Gren.)	Lychnide blanche
15	<i>Silene vulgaris</i> (Moench) Garcke	Silène enflé
16	<i>Sinapis arvensis</i> L.	Moutarde des champs
17	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i> L.	Laiteron des champs

### CLASS 3

## Secondary Noxious Weed Seeds

(Applicable to all tables of Schedule I to the *Seeds Regulations* except Tables XIV and XV)

Item	Column 1 Latin Name	Column 2 Common Name
1	<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i> L.	Common ragweed
2	<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	Mayweed (stinking mayweed)
3	<i>Avena fatua</i> L.	Wild oat
4	<i>Avena sterilis</i> L.	Wild oat, Sterile oat
5	<i>Camelina</i> spp.	False flax
6	<i>Cichorium intybus</i> L.	Chicory
7	<i>Daucus carota</i> L. subsp. <i>carota</i>	Wild carrot
8	<i>Erucastrum gallicum</i> (Willd.) O.E. Schulz	Dog mustard
9	<i>Lepidium campestre</i> (L.) R. Br.	Field peppergrass
10	<i>Lolium persicum</i> Boiss. & Hohen.	Persian darnel
11	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	Ribgrass (Narrow-leaved plantain)
12	All <i>Rumex</i> species except <i>R. maritimus</i> L. & <i>R. acetosella</i> L.	Dock

### CATÉGORIE 3

## Graines de mauvaises herbes nuisibles secondaires

(applicable à tous les tableaux de l'annexe I du *Règlement sur les semences*, sauf les tableaux XIV et XV)

Article	Colonne 1 Nom latin	Colonne 2 Nom commun
1	<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i> L.	Petite herbe à poux
2	<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	Camomille des chiens
3	<i>Avena fatua</i> L.	Folle avoine
4	<i>Avena sterilis</i> L.	Avoine stérile
5	<i>Camelina</i> spp.	Caméline
6	<i>Cichorium intybus</i> L.	Chicorée sauvage
7	<i>Daucus carota</i> L. subsp. <i>carota</i>	Carotte sauvage
8	<i>Erucastrum gallicum</i> (Willd.) O.E. Schulz	Moutarde des chiens
9	<i>Lepidium campestre</i> (L.) R. Br.	Lépidie des champs
10	<i>Lolium persicum</i> Boiss. & Hohen.	Ivraie de Perse
11	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	Plantain lancéolé
12	Toutes les espèces <i>Rumex</i> , sauf <i>R. maritimus</i> L. et <i>R. acetosella</i> L.	Patience
13	<i>Silene noctiflora</i> L.	Silène noctiflore

Item	Column 1 Latin Name	Column 2 Common Name
13	<i>Silene noctiflora</i> L.	Night-flowering catchfly
14	<i>Sisymbrium loeselii</i> L.	Tall hedge mustard
15	<i>Thlaspi arvense</i> L.	Stinkweed
16	<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i> (L.) W. D. J. Koch subsp. <i>inodorum</i> (L.) Appleq. (= <i>Matricaria maritima</i> L.)	Scentless chamomile
17	<i>Vaccaria hispanica</i> (Mill.) Rauschert (= <i>Saponaria vaccaria</i> L.)	Cow cockle

#### CLASS 4

### Secondary Noxious Weed Seeds

(Applicable to Table XII of Schedule I to the *Seeds Regulations*)

The weed species named in Class 3 and in addition:

Item	Column 1 Latin Name	Column 2 Common Name
1	<i>Cerastium</i> spp.	Chickweed, mouse-ear
2	<i>Digitaria</i> spp.	Crabgrass
3	<i>Panicum</i> spp.	Panic grass
4	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	Heal-all
5	<i>Stellaria media</i> (L.) Vill.	Chickweed, common

#### CLASS 5

### Noxious Weed Seeds

(Applicable to Tables XIV and XV of Schedule I to the *Seeds Regulations*)

Item	Column 1 Latin Name	Column 2 Common Name
1	<i>Cerastium</i> spp.	Chickweed, mouse-ear
2	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scop.	Canada thistle
3	<i>Digitaria</i> spp.	Crabgrass
4	<i>Elytrigia repens</i> (L.) Desv. ex Nevski (= <i>Agropyron repens</i> (L.) Beauv.)	Couchgrass
5	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> Lam. (= <i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i> L.)	Ox-eye daisy
6	<i>Panicum</i> spp.	Panic grass
7	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	Heal-all
8	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i> L.	Perennial sow thistle
9	<i>Stellaria media</i> (L.) Vill.	Chickweed, common

Article	Colonne 1 Nom latin	Colonne 2 Nom commun
14	<i>Sisymbrium loeselii</i> L.	Sisymbre élevé de Lœsel
15	<i>Thlaspi arvense</i> L.	Tabouret des champs
16	<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i> (L.) W. D. J. Koch subsp. <i>inodorum</i> (L.) Appleq. (= <i>Matricaria maritima</i> L.)	Matricaire inodore (matricaire camomille)
17	<i>Vaccaria hispanica</i> (Mill.) Rauschert (= <i>Saponaria vaccaria</i> L.)	Saponaire de vaches

#### CATÉGORIE 4

### Graines de mauvaises herbes nuisibles secondaires

(applicable au tableau XII de l'annexe I du *Règlement sur les semences*)

Les espèces énumérées dans la catégorie 3 ainsi que les suivantes :

Article	Colonne 1 Nom latin	Colonne 2 Nom commun
1	<i>Cerastium</i> spp.	Céraiste
2	<i>Digitaria</i> spp.	Digitaire
3	<i>Panicum</i> spp.	Panic
4	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	Prunelle vulgaire
5	<i>Stellaria media</i> (L.) Vill.	Mouron des oiseaux ou stellaire moyenne

#### CATÉGORIE 5

### Graines de mauvaises herbes nuisibles

(applicable aux tableaux XIV et XV de l'annexe I du *Règlement sur les semences*)

Article	Colonne 1 Nom latin	Colonne 2 Nom commun
1	<i>Cerastium</i> spp.	Céraiste
2	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scop.	Chardon des champs (chardon du Canada)
3	<i>Digitaria</i> spp.	Digitaire
4	<i>Elytrigia repens</i> (L.) Desv. ex Nevski (= <i>Agropyron repens</i> (L.) Beauv.)	Chiendent
5	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> Lam. (= <i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i> L.)	Marguerite blanche
6	<i>Panicum</i> spp.	Panic
7	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	Prunelle vulgaire
8	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i> L.	Laiteron des champs



	Column 1	Column 2
Item	Latin Name	Common Name
10	<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i> (L.) W. D. J. Koch subsp. <i>inodorum</i> (L.) Appleq. (= <i>Matricaria maritima</i> L.)	Scentless chamomile

	Colonne 1	Colonne 2
Article	Nom latin	Nom commun
9	<i>Stellaria media</i> (L.) Vill.	Mouron des oiseaux ou stellaire moyenne
10	<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i> (L.) W. D. J. Koch subsp. <i>inodorum</i> (L.) Appleq. (= <i>Matricaria maritima</i> L.)	Matricaire inodore (matricaire camomille)

## CLASS 6

### Other Weed Seeds

Seeds of all other species not listed as crop kinds in Schedule I to the *Seeds Regulations*.

SOR/2009-161, ss. 1, 2.

## CATÉGORIE 6

### Autres graines de mauvaises herbes

Les graines de toutes les espèces de plantes autres que les espèces inscrites à l'annexe I du *Règlement sur les semences*.

DORS/2009-161, art. 1 et 2.



Province of Alberta

## **WEED CONTROL ACT**

Statutes of Alberta, 2008  
Chapter W-5.1

Current as of October 1, 2011

Office Consolidation

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**Note**

All persons making use of this consolidation are reminded that it has no legislative sanction, that amendments have been embodied for convenience of reference only. The official Statutes and Regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpreting and applying the law.

**Regulations**

The following is a list of the regulations made under the *Weed Control Act* that are filed as Alberta Regulations under the Regulations Act.

**Alta. Reg.**                      *Amendments*

**Weed Control Act**

Weed Control .....19/2010

# WEED CONTROL ACT

## Chapter W-5.1

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HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the  
Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

**Definitions**

1 In this Act,

- (a) "bylaw" includes, in respect of an improvement district or special area, an order made by the local authority;
- (b) "chief administrative officer" means
  - (i) the chief administrative officer of a local authority appointed under the *Municipal Government Act*, or

- (ii) if subclause (i) does not apply, an officer of a local authority designated by the local authority;
- (c) “control” means
  - (i) to inhibit the growth or spread, or
  - (ii) to destroy;
- (d) “destroy” means
  - (i) to kill all growing parts, or
  - (ii) to render reproductive mechanisms non-viable;
- (e) “inspector” means a person appointed as an inspector pursuant to Part 2;
- (f) “land” includes
  - (i) fixtures on the land, and
  - (ii) the land down to the low water mark of a stream, lake or other body of water that borders or is located on land;
- (g) “local authority” means
  - (i) in respect of an improvement district or a special area, the Minister responsible for the *Municipal Government Act*, or
  - (ii) in respect of all other municipalities, the council of the municipality;
- (h) “Minister” means the Minister determined under section 16 of the *Government Organization Act* as the Minister responsible for this Act;
- (i) “municipality” means
  - (i) a municipality or improvement district formed under the *Municipal Government Act*,
  - (ii) a municipality formed under a special Act, or
  - (iii) a special area constituted under the *Special Areas Act*;



- (j) “noxious weed” means a plant designated in accordance with the regulations as a noxious weed and includes the plant’s seeds;
- (k) “occupant” means, subject to section 26, a person who occupies, exercises control over or has the right to occupy or exercise control over land;
- (l) “owner” means
  - (i) in respect of land, subject to section 26, the person who is registered as an owner of the land under the *Land Titles Act*, or
  - (ii) in respect of personal property, the person who
    - (A) is the legal owner of it,
    - (B) has lawful possession of it, or
    - (C) has the right to exercise control over it;
- (m) “prohibited noxious weed” means a plant designated in accordance with the regulations as a prohibited noxious weed and includes the plant’s seeds;
- (n) “seed-cleaning facility” means a building, structure or vehicle that is designed, intended or used to clean, grade or size seed.

## Part 1 Weed Control

### Noxious weeds — control

**2** A person shall control a noxious weed that is on land the person owns or occupies.

### Prohibited noxious weeds — destroy

**3** A person shall destroy a prohibited noxious weed that is on land the person owns or occupies.

**Spread of weeds prohibited**

**4(1)** Subject to the regulations, a person shall not use or move any thing that, if used or moved, might spread a noxious weed or prohibited noxious weed.

**(2)** Subsection (1) does not apply if the thing is used or moved in a manner directed by an inspector under section 13.

**Disposal and storage of weed seeds**

**5(1)** A person shall not deposit or permit to be deposited noxious weed seeds or prohibited noxious weed seeds where they might spread.

**(2)** A person shall store refuse that may contain noxious weed seeds or prohibited noxious weed seeds, including screenings from cleaning, sizing or grading seed, in a container that will prevent the scattering of the seeds.

**(3)** Subsection (2) does not apply if the refuse is disposed of in a manner directed by an inspector under section 13.

**Seed-cleaning facility**

**6(1)** A person shall not operate a seed-cleaning facility or provide a seed-cleaning facility for rent or lease

(a) unless the person is licensed under the regulations, and

(b) except in accordance with the terms of the licence.

**(2)** Despite subsection (1), a farmer may operate a seed-cleaning facility the farmer owns to process seed for the farmer's personal use.

## **Part 2**

### **Inspectors**

**Municipal inspectors**

**7(1)** A local authority shall appoint inspectors to enforce and monitor compliance with this Act within the municipality.

(2) If the Minister directs an inspector appointed under section 8 to enforce and monitor compliance with this Act within a municipality on the municipality's behalf,

- (a) an appointment of an inspector previously made by the local authority is void, and
- (b) the local authority shall not make any further appointments until the Minister revokes the direction.

#### **Provincial inspectors**

**8(1)** The Minister may appoint inspectors to enforce and monitor compliance with this Act within Alberta.

(2) The Minister may direct an inspector appointed under subsection (1) to enforce and monitor compliance with this Act on behalf of a municipality if

- (a) the Minister gives advance written notice to the municipality, and
- (b) in the opinion of the Minister,
  - (i) the local authority failed to appoint sufficient inspectors to enforce and monitor compliance with this Act, or
  - (ii) the inspectors appointed by the local authority are not properly enforcing and monitoring compliance with this Act.

#### **Municipal inspectors — joint authority**

**9** An inspector appointed by a municipality may, with the consent of the local authority of another municipality, enforce and monitor compliance with this Act within the other municipality.

#### **Inspector's identification**

**10(1)** A person who appoints an inspector shall provide the inspector with identification in the form required by the Minister.

(2) An inspector shall, on request, produce the inspector's identification while acting under the authority of this Act

- (a) in respect of land, to the occupant or owner of the land, and
- (b) in respect of personal property, to the owner of the personal property.

### **Part 3**

#### **Inspector's Powers and Notices**

##### **Obstruction of inspector**

**11** A person shall not wilfully obstruct or delay an inspector in the exercise of the inspector's duties or powers to enforce and monitor compliance with this Act.

##### **Entry and inspection power**

**12(1)** An inspector may enter land or inspect land or personal property at a reasonable time

- (a) to monitor compliance with this Act, including making inquiries, taking samples or performing tests, or
- (b) to enforce an inspector's notice, local authority's notice or Minister's notice in accordance with section 18.

**(2)** An inspector shall not enter a building unless the owner or occupant of the land on which the building is situated

- (a) consents, or
- (b) has been given a written notice.

**(3)** Subsection (2) does not apply if the building is, or is part of, a seed-cleaning facility, grain-handling facility or auction market.

**(4)** An inspector shall not enter a private residence unless the occupant of the land consents.

**(5)** A written notice under subsection (2)(b) must

- (a) name a reasonable time of entry, and
- (b) be given at least 24 hours before the time of entry.

**Inspector's notice**

**13(1)** If an inspector finds non-compliance with this Act, an inspector may give an inspector's notice in writing requiring compliance

- (a) in respect of land, to the occupant of the land and to the owner of the land, and
- (b) in respect of personal property, to the owner of the personal property.

(2) If an inspector finds prohibited noxious weeds that have not been destroyed, the inspector shall give an inspector's notice requiring the prohibited noxious weeds to be destroyed.

**Contents of inspector's notice**

**14(1)** An inspector's notice must direct the method, subject to the regulations, and time for compliance with this Act.

(2) The notice may contain directions, including limiting the use of land, for the year in which it is given and the following year.

(3) The notice must not require the destruction of crops unless in the inspector's opinion the destruction of crops is necessary to control noxious weeds or destroy prohibited noxious weeds.

(4) The notice must not require the destruction of more than 20 acres of growing crops unless the local authority of the municipality in which the crops are growing has consented in writing.

(5) Subsection (4) does not apply if the growing crop

- (a) does not have a significant commercial value, or
- (b) is a crop of noxious weeds or prohibited noxious weeds.

**Local authority's notice**

**15(1)** A local authority may give a local authority's notice to control noxious weeds and to destroy prohibited noxious weeds to the owners and occupants of land in a subdivided area that does not exceed 20 acres.

- (2) The notice may direct the method, subject to the regulations, and the time for the destruction of the weeds.
- (3) The notice may contain directions for the year in which it is given.

**Minister's notice**

**16(1)** The Minister may, by order, give a Minister's notice requiring a person to cease an activity that, in the opinion of the Minister, is in contravention of this Act.

- (2) The notice may prohibit
  - (a) the activity that, in the opinion of the Minister, is in contravention of this Act,
  - (b) the use of any facility, and
  - (c) the use or movement of anything as specified in the order.
- (3) The notice must
  - (a) contain the reasons for the making of the notice, and
  - (b) be served on the person to whom it is directed.
- (4) The Minister may apply by way of originating notice to the Court of Queen's Bench to seek an order of the court directing the person to comply with the Minister's notice.

**Compliance with notice**

**17(1)** A person given a notice under this Part in accordance with section 24 shall, subject to the right to appeal an inspector's notice or a local authority's notice, comply with the notice.

- (2) If a notice of appeal is filed, a notice is stayed until
  - (a) the appeal is disposed of, and
  - (b) a review by the Minister under section 20 is completed or the time to apply for a review has expired.
- (3) If there is a conflict between notices given under this Act,



- (a) a Minister's notice prevails over a local authority's notice or an inspector's notice, and
- (b) an inspector's notice prevails over a local authority's notice.

**Enforcement of notice**

**18** An inspector, or any person authorized by an inspector, may take any action that the inspector determines is necessary to fulfil a requirement of a notice given under this Part that has not been complied with when

- (a) in respect of an inspector's notice or a local authority's notice,
  - (i) the appeal period in the regulations has expired or the appeal has been determined, and
  - (ii) the request for review period in the regulations has expired or the request has been considered,

or

- (b) in respect of a Minister's notice, a court order referred to in section 16 has been served on the person to whom the notice was directed.

## **Part 4**

### **Appeal of Inspector's Notice or Local Authority's Notice**

**Appeals**

**19(1)** A local authority shall establish, at least annually, an independent appeal panel to determine appeals of inspector's notices, local authority's notices and debt recovery notices.

**(2)** A person who is given an inspector's notice, local authority's notice or debt recovery notice may, in accordance with the regulations, appeal it to an appeal panel.

**(3)** The appeal panel may confirm, reverse or vary the inspector's notice, local authority's notice or debt recovery notice.

**Review**

- 20(1)** An appellant may, in accordance with the regulations, request a review by the Minister of a decision of an appeal panel.
- (2) The Minister may confirm, reverse or vary the decision of the appeal panel and the decision of the Minister is final.

## **Part 5**

### **Recovery of Inspector's Expenses**

**Inspector's notices and local authority's notices**

- 21(1)** Expenses incurred by an inspector enforcing an inspector's notice or a local authority's notice are a debt due to the local authority by the person subject to that notice.
- (2) The chief administrative officer shall give a debt recovery notice to the debtor
- (a) demanding recovery of the debt due, including a statement of expenses, and
  - (b) advising of the debtor's right to appeal the debt recovery notice.
- (3) A local authority may recover the debt due in accordance with subsection (4) from any person who is given a debt recovery notice if
- (a) the person has agreed in writing to repay the debt due,
  - (b) the person's rights of appeal and review of the debt recovery notice under sections 19 and 20 have expired, or
  - (c) the appeal and review of the debt recovery notice have been determined.
- (4) A local authority may recover the debt due from any person who is given a debt recovery notice in either or both of the following manners:
- (a) in the same manner as property taxes against land to which the inspector's notice or local authority's notice relates;
  - (b) by filing a certificate with the clerk of the Court of Queen's Bench at any judicial centre certifying the amount owing.

(5) A certificate filed under subsection (4)(b) becomes an order of the Court of Queen's Bench and may be enforced as a judgment of that court.

(6) A certificate filed under subsection (4)(b) becomes an order of the Court of Queen's Bench and may be enforced as a judgment of that court.

2008 cW-5.1 s21;2011 c14 s29

#### **Minister's notice**

**22(1)** Expenses incurred by the Minister to enforce a Minister's notice are a debt due to the Minister by the person subject to the notice.

(2) The debt due may be recovered by an action in debt.

#### **Appointment of municipal inspector**

**23(1)** The salary and expenses incurred by the Minister with respect to an inspector directed by the Minister to enforce and monitor compliance with this Act on behalf of a municipality under section 8 are a debt due to the Minister by the municipality.

(2) The debt due may be recovered

(a) by withholding it from a grant or other money payable to the municipality by the Crown, or

(b) by bringing an action in debt.

## **Part 6 Miscellaneous Matters**

#### **Service of notices**

**24(1)** A notice given under Part 3 or 5 must

(a) be in the form required by the Minister, and

(b) be served on a person in accordance with subsection (2) or (3).

(2) The notice, except for a local authority's notice, must be served on a person

- (a) by delivering it personally to the person,
- (b) by leaving it with a person who appears to be 18 years of age or older at the private residence or place of business of the person, or
- (c) if service under clause (a) or (b) is impractical,
  - (i) by posting the notice
    - (A) on the land or, if practicable, on the personal property to which the notice relates, or
    - (B) at the private residence of the person intended to be served,
  - and
  - (ii) by sending a copy of the notice by regular mail
    - (A) in respect of land, to the last address listed in the assessment roll of the municipality for the owner of the land, or
    - (B) in respect of personal property, to the last known address of the owner.

(3) A local authority's notice must be sent by regular mail to the last address listed in the assessment roll of the municipality for the owner of the land subject to the notice.

(4) For the purpose of this section, a notice sent by regular mail is deemed to have been received by the person 7 days from the date of mailing.

**Subsequent owner or occupant subject to notice**

**25(1)** A notice given under this Act is effective against a subsequent owner or occupant of the land or a subsequent owner of personal property from the time the notice was originally given.

(2) An owner of land or personal property shall provide a copy of the notice to a person before that person enters into an agreement to acquire the interest in the land or personal property.

(3) A chief administrative officer shall, on request, provide a mortgagee or purchaser of land a copy of all active notices given under this Act that relate to that land.

#### **Highways — designated owner or occupant**

**26(1)** If a highway is owned or occupied by a municipality, the local authority may

- (a) in respect of an improvement district or a special area, by order, or
- (b) in respect of all other municipalities, by bylaw,

provide that for the purposes of this Act a person is the owner or occupant of the highway to the highway's midpoint to the extent that the person is the owner or occupant of land that borders the highway.

(2) If a local authority makes an order or bylaw under subsection (1), the municipality is not an owner or occupant of the land for the purposes of this Act.

(3) A bylaw or order made under subsection (1) is not effective unless the Minister approves it.

(4) In this section, "highway" means a highway as defined in the *Traffic Safety Act* and includes the land on which it is situated.

#### **Refusal, revocation or suspension of licence**

**27** The Minister may refuse, revoke or suspend a seed-cleaning facility licence if the applicant or holder has, in the Minister's opinion, contravened this Act.

#### **Offence and penalty**

**28** A person who contravenes this Act is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of not more than \$5000 or, in the case of failure to comply with a Minister's notice, a fine of not more than \$1000 for each day the offence continues.

**Disposition of fines**

**29** A fine imposed for an offence under this Act committed within a municipality belongs to the municipality.

**Regulations**

**30** The Minister may make regulations

- (a) respecting the designating of a plant as a noxious weed or prohibited noxious weed, generally or in respect of any part of Alberta;
- (b) respecting the directions that may be given in a notice under Part 3 of this Act;
- (c) respecting the sale, use, handling or movement of a thing that might contain or cause the growth or spread of noxious weeds or prohibited noxious weeds;
- (d) respecting appeals, appeal panels and reviews of appeals;
- (e) respecting the licensing of a person who operates a seed-cleaning facility or who provides a seed-cleaning facility for rent or lease;
- (f) respecting forms for the purposes of this Act.

**Act binds Crown**

**31** The Crown is bound by this Act.

**32** *(This section amends the Public Lands Act; the amendment has been incorporated into that Act.)*

**Repeal**

**33** The *Weed Control Act*, RSA 2000 cW-5, is repealed.

**Coming into force**

**34** This Act comes into force on Proclamation.

*(NOTE: Proclaimed in force June 17, 2010.)*



# Clear Hills County

## Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 14, 2016
Originated By:	Aaron Zylstra, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>ALBERTA FARM ANIMAL CARE FUNDING</b>
File:	63-10-02

### DESCRIPTION:

The Board purchased a membership to Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) in 2015, and did not include funds for this in the 2016 budget. AFAC has invoiced for 2016 and provided information for the Board's consideration. The Board is requested to decide if a membership would be valuable to the County or not and if so request funds be included in the 2016 budget.

### BACKGROUND:

The Alberta Farm Animal Care suggested membership level for your organization is \$500.

A membership was purchased in 2015 for \$500.

This was not included in the 2016 budget.

AFAC has sent an invoice for a \$500 membership for 2016. Membership would allow a representative to vote at the AFAC annual general meeting.

### ATTACHMENTS:

- AFAC advisory council summary
- 2015 Activities Summary

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by \_\_\_\_\_ that this Agricultural Service Board...

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: <i>ABj</i>	AgFieldman:
--	-------------



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🌐 www.afac.ab.ca

📘 Alberta Farm Animal Care  
🐔 @AbFarmAnimal

## Alberta Farm Animal Care Advisory Council Summary January 2016

### How do we define animal welfare?

---

- Definitions of welfare differ based on experiences
  - Producers – focus on the needs and health of animal
  - Consumers – look at welfare as whatever is “natural”
  - Researchers – focus on finding the ideal situation for animals under very controlled conditions
  - Fieldmen and Other Industry – use the Code of Practice and other tools to guide them
  - Consideration of the 5 freedoms

### Council Observations and Questions to Ponder

---

- There is an intersection between economics and welfare decisions; a need to understand and better communicate the pros and cons of various decisions
- Animal care issues are most commonly management based – **ALERT Line is available to help**
- Current programs/initiatives in industry:
  - Animal care programs
    - Need to be talked about more by AFAC and by commodities
  - Codes of Practice ([www.nfacc.ca](http://www.nfacc.ca))
  - Strides in livestock and poultry transportation – interest to continue improving it through training and resources
  - Interaction with schools and youth (AFAC and many groups do this)



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📘 Alberta Farm Animal Care

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## Current species-specific issues

---

- Poultry
  - Environmental (ventilation, etc.)
  - Mortality rates
  - Antimicrobials – moving away from prophylactic use; can cause problems – need to get that positive message to public
- Dairy
  - Lameness – what are the different causes of lameness and initiatives to improve them?
  - Body condition score
  - Cleanliness
- Equine
  - Lack of education for horse owners
  - Horse slaughter concerns
- Sheep/goats
  - Difficulty obtaining antibiotics labeled for sheep and goats
  - Tail docking – pressure from public to stop doing it but don't understand why it's done
  - Shearing – crews lack experience, small producers have trouble finding a shearer

## Current issues

---

- Animal based concerns:
  - Painful procedures/pain mitigation
  - Transport (CFIA inconsistent; loading and unloading)  
Housing



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☎ 403-652-5111  
FAX: 403-663-3035  
🌐 www.afac.ab.ca

📘 Alberta Farm Animal Care  
🐾 @AbFarmAnimal

## The VALUE of AFAC lies in

---

- Being a unified, trusted, credible voice to the public
- Having strength in numbers
- Consistent messaging
- Staying proactive (AFAC's "Heart of a Farmer" videos:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU4nWjvnREFSKrn5i2GJkNA>)
- Understanding each other's issues so that we have people to contact for tough conversations

## Recommendations to AFAC

---

- Potential members that need to be at the table:
  - Small flock owners and other individual producers
  - MD and county members – establish a connection with these groups
    - Good avenue to get info out to producers
  - Transporters
- Groups could work with AFAC to make sure they are camera-ready
- Request: AFAC tell vets what commodities (producers) want from them
  - AFAC to work with individual commodity groups to address this request
- Communication Assistance
  - Help with advertising the ramifications of eliminating certain production practices
    - Social media campaign around the above
  - Fast Facts from AFAC
    - Examples that have been completed to date: farrowing crates ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=emX9pd\\_FxOo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=emX9pd_FxOo)), cattle in winter (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZNUmtpoRyM>),



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#5 112 Centre Street  
High River, AB T1V 1M4

☎ 403-652-5111  
FAX: 403-663-3035  
🌐 [www.afac.ab.ca](http://www.afac.ab.ca)

📘 Alberta Farm Animal Care  
🐔 @AbFarmAnimal

- "Social Research"
  - Best methods to get info to public in a credible, science-based way on limited budgets (builds on 2014 consumer research AFAC completed)
  - Best methods to get info to producers

## Next Steps/Outcomes – Proposed Projects

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- Social research project examining how best to reach the public and how best to reach producers for maximal interest, engagement, and uptake
- Collaborative third-party web portal designed to gather information from commodity groups and other trusted sources and present it in a credible, unbiased way



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It has been another busy year at Alberta Farm Animal Care! Here are some of the key activities we've been working on to serve the Alberta livestock and poultry industry in 2015:

- We have really focused on increasing and strengthening our communication efforts – to our members, producers, and consumers alike. We continue to work at maintaining social license by telling the good story of animal agriculture through video, infographics, and other media.
- The 2015 Livestock Care Conference was our greatest success to date with over 200 attendees! It was a great day filled with learning and networking opportunities. We hope that you will join us for the 2016 conference in March.
- It is a priority for us to engage with students and youth across the province. We are pleased to report that we were able to reach all post-secondary schools with an agricultural program as well as several 4-H clubs/events and Ag Societies across Alberta. We take these opportunities to speak proactively on general animal care and welfare on behalf of the industry.
- Throughout 2015 we were able to facilitate and coordinate a variety of workshops and training opportunities including: low-stress cattle handling, cattle body condition scoring, Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue workshops, Speakers Bureau producer ambassador training, and a crisis communications forum.
- We continue to support the industry with resources that help producers to discover and implement best practices on farm. Some of these resources include: Humane Handling Guidelines, our short audio NewsLine series, and “Considering the Code” factsheets that break down the national Codes of Practice into practical bite-sized pieces. We also continue to maintain our ALERT Line “producers helping producers” call line as well as the Emergency Livestock Handling Equipment Trailer program.
- Over the past year AFAC has explored and now started the transition to a new, more inclusive governance structure. This new structure will include an Advisory Council as well as a smaller Board. The Council is open to all members, including producers, commodity organizations, and industry associations and will provide a forum to learn about and discuss industry issues (i.e. handling, euthanasia, transportation, biosecurity).

Farmers, commodity organizations, agribusinesses, and other members of the agri-food value chain invest in AFAC each year. They do so because they believe in a community-based approach to building public trust in farming and continuous improvement in farm animal care. Working together, we can demonstrate strength in numbers and it's through the dedication and commitment of our members that we can accomplish our goal of advancing responsible, humane animal care.

For more information on these and other initiatives at AFAC, please visit [www.afac.ab.ca](http://www.afac.ab.ca).

*Angela Greter*  
Executive Director  
Alberta Farm Animal Care  
[www.afac.ab.ca](http://www.afac.ab.ca)







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## Alberta Farm Animal Care Council vs. Board – What to Expect

### Why the changes?

- AFAC staff met individually with all commodity organization members in Fall 2014. It was identified that the current governance structure of AFAC was not working well; the organization was losing value with its commodity members
  - Three new structures were proposed to the AFAC Board in December 2014. After much discussion, the Council format was widely agreed to be that which will best move AFAC's mandate forward; it is more inclusive and allows individual producers, industry organizations, and service providers an opportunity to become more engaged

### What is the “Advisory Council”?

- The Advisory Council will include all voting members who choose to attend Council meetings – likely three meetings each year
- The focus of each meeting will be to learn about, discuss and debate topics of farm animal welfare in order to direct the activities of AFAC
  - The Council is about information sharing and idea generation, not decision making
  - Council meetings will be FUN! They will feature invited speakers, small group breakouts, and large group discussion. At the end of each meeting, attendees will have learned something about other species or sectors.
  - Council will recommend projects, activities, communications, studies, surveys etc. that AFAC or AFAC members can undertake to enhance animal welfare in Alberta with respect to the selected topic(s)
- Member organizations may send a staff member as well as their designated Council member (typically a producer) to Council meetings. This will allow the greater AFAC membership to benefit from the knowledge of staff and input of producers, handlers, and processors
- Any gaps in animal welfare will be easily identified by this inclusive structure and discussion format and recommendations made by Council will guide AFAC's strategic plan, goals, projects, and programs moving forward

### What will the Board do now?

- The Board will now include a maximum of 8 members selected from the voting membership (the Advisory Council) at the AGM in March
  - Most importantly, the Board will become a governance Board, whose responsibilities are to ensure the directions from Council are implemented. Once someone is elected to the AFAC Board, they will remove their “organization or producer hat” and put on their “AFAC hat” – **they now represent AFAC, not a specific organization**
  - The majority of the Board must be from commodity organizations
  - The Board will set the direction of AFAC through strategic planning
  - A good set of policies to guide staff decision making will be established, reviewed, and maintained
  - The implementation of the plan and operations will be delegated to staff



# Clear Hills County

## Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Aaron Zylstra, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>ALUS</b>
File:	63-10-02

### DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with an update to Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS).

### BACKGROUND:

Administration is working on organizing a joint meeting Municipal District of Fairview No. 136 and Municipal District of Peace No. 135 on Wednesday, April 20, 2016.

AG124 (12/14/15) RESOLUTION by Member Logan that this Agricultural Service Board table consideration of participating in an Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) partnership to the next board meeting pending more information from the current ALUS participants. CARRIED.

### ATTACHMENTS:

- M.D of Peace No. 135 motion

### OPTIONS:

1. Approve the attendance of...
2. Accept for information

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by \_\_\_\_\_ that this Agricultural Service Board authorize the attendance of all available members to attend the Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) joint meeting with M.D of Fairview No. 136 and M.D. of Peace No. 135 on April 20, 2016.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:

*ABJ*

AgFieldman:

**Sarah Hayward**

---

**From:** Aaron Zylstra  
**Sent:** March-09-16 1:30 PM  
**To:** Sarah Hayward  
**Subject:** FW: MD of Peace ASB Position on ALUS

*Aaron Zylstra*  
*Clear Hills County Ag. Fieldman*

---

**From:** Nasar Iqbal [mailto:agfieldman@mdpeace.com]  
**Sent:** February 10, 2016 3:39 PM  
**To:** Fred; Aaron Zylstra; Audrey Bjorklund  
**Subject:** MD of Peace ASB Position on ALUS

Hi ALL,  
We discussed the ALUS program at today's ASB meeting and following was outcome.

"The Agricultural Fieldman provided an update on the ALUS program in the Peace region.

Rick Keillor:            MOVED that the M.D. continue to monitor and explore the ALUS program but not become involved at this time.

Thanks

Carried"

Nasar Iqbal (P.Ag.)  
Agricultural Fieldman  
MD of Peace No. 135  
Box 34, Berwyn, Ab. T0H 0E0  
Phone: 780-338-3845  
Fax : 780-338-2222  
"Agriculture & Communities Grow Together"

# Clear Hills County Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Aaron Zylstra, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>EVENTS</b>
File:	63-10-02

## DESCRIPTION:

The Board is presented with events for their consideration.

## BACKGROUND:

- 2016 Livestock Care Conference – March 22 & 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016; Olds, AB

## OPTIONS:

1. Approve the attendance of one or more members to one or more of the events listed.
2. Accept for information.

## ATTACHMENTS:

- 2016 Livestock Care Conference

## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That this Agricultural Service Board ...

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager:

*ABj*

AgFieldman:

*AZ*

# 2016 Livestock Care Conference Agenda

## TUESDAY, March 22, 2016

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | Sheep Handling / Body Condition Scoring Demo, Curt Pate, Lorna Gibson (South Arena, Olds College Campus) |
| 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm   | “Meet the Expert” session for post-secondary students  |
| 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm   | AFAC Annual General Meeting  |
| 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm   | Talking Posters (presentations from post-secondary Ag students)  |
| 9:30 pm – 10:00 pm  | Emergency Handling Equipment Trailer Showcase  |

## WEDNESDAY, March 23, 2016

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 9:00 am – 9:15 am   | Message From Minister Oneil Carlier   |
| 9:15 am – 9:30 am   | Welcome and AFAC update, Angela Greter, AFAC Executive Director   |
| 9:30 am – 10:30 am  | The Interconnection between Human and Animal Welfare; Brenda Schoepp  |
| 10:30 am – 11:00 am | MORNING BREAK   |
| 11:00 am – 11:30 am | All About Rabbits, Marion Popkin  |
| 11:30 am – 12:15 pm | Hot Topics in Poultry Welfare, Dr. Alexandra Harlander, University of Guelph                                  |
| 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm  | LUNCH BREAK & AWARDS OF DISTINCTION PRESENTATION  |
| 1:15 pm – 2:00 pm   | Animal Welfare at the Intersection Between Politics, Policy, Profit & People, Dr. Jennifer Walker, Dean Foods |



# 2016 Livestock Care Conference

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The Livestock Care Conference is an annual event showcasing speakers from Canada and around the world. The conferences centers around promoting responsible, humane animal care and continual improvement in Alberta's livestock production systems. In addition to basic information on the upcoming conference, presentations from past conferences are also hosted on this page.

## **SPEAKERS**

### **Curt Pate**



Nationally recognized stockmanship instructor, Curt Pate, teaches techniques to put the proper pressure on cattle at a different angle and at varying amounts that helps move them comfortably and without bad experience.

'Sometimes you cannot see pressure or understand its effects until it has created a problem. When you force cattle to go into a pen, they may get excited, go on the fight, and become dangerous or very difficult to work. Negative pressure creates stress, positive pressure creates contentment,' Pate says.

An avid environmentalist, Pate is passionate about grazing animals to improve the environment as well as for a profitable farm business.

'We need to utilize the Earth's resources in a way that works like a good ranch, combining Mother Nature with technology then adding common sense and integrity. With the growing public scrutiny of livestock production, improving our livestock handling practices will help the sustainability of the cattle industry,' Pate says.

### **Lorna Gibson**



Lorna along with her husband Bill have been sheep farming together north east of Lacombe, for the past 30 years. At present they have downsized their flock to 125 East Friesian Dorset cross ewes.

In 2011, Lorna retired from Agriculture Canada in Lacombe where she was a Meat Sensory Science Biologist, researching meat quality of beef, pork, bison, chicken, muskox, and lamb. In the late 1980 and 90's Lorna was involved in the research and development of the Canadian National Lamb Grading System.



For several years Lorna was leader of the Wild n' Woolly 4-H Sheep Club in the Alix area, and continues to assist other 4-H Clubs, judging public speaking, showmanship and sheep conformation classes.

In central Alberta Lorna is known as the "Sheep Lady." She developed and previously taught courses for the Alberta Lamb Producers entitled "Sheep Production 101" and has written a manual. She has also produced four U-Tube video's on sheep management and the topics include Predation, Nutrition, Lambing and Health.

Lorna believes proper nutrition is the number one component of a successful sheep operation and Body Condition Scoring is an important step in evaluating your sheep flocks level of nutrition.

### **Brenda Schoepp**



[www.brendaschoepp.com](http://www.brendaschoepp.com)

@BrendaSchoepp

[brenda.schoepp@cciwireless.ca](mailto:brenda.schoepp@cciwireless.ca)

Brenda is a businesswoman from Alberta where she actively ranches and operates an equine rescue operation. She enjoys a young, vibrant client base as a business coach and mentor for men and women in eight nations. She has recently completed her Nuffield Scholarship entitled: *The Development of Mentorship Programs for Women in Agriculture – A Global Perspective*. As a published author, she has written over 200 articles on animal welfare, particularly on shrinkage in cattle. Her work in agriculture and food systems is featured by media in 36 countries, in classrooms on World Food Day in the UK, by USDA Resource Conservation, extensively with Future Farmers of America and she was featured at the 2015 Global Economic Summit in Mumbai. Brenda is a strong supporter of rural communities and a professional speaker.

### **Marion Popkin**

### **Dr. Alexandra Harlander**



I am a trained veterinarian with a DVM and DVSc degree from the University of Vienna, Austria and a PhD from the University of Hohenheim, Germany. I am a Board-Certified Veterinary Expert in Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law (European Veterinary College of Animal Welfare and Behavioural Medicine, United Kingdom). My research looks at the impact that husbandry can have on physiology and behaviour of poultry, birds' motivation to perform abnormal behaviour and the objective assessment of poultry welfare.

### **Dr. Jennifer Walker**



**DVM, PhD, Dip. ACVPM**

A California Native, Jennifer earned her Bachelor's in Animal Science (1994) and her DVM (2000) from the University of California at Davis. As an associate veterinarian in a California practice specializing in dairy herd health she developed her interests in on-farm education, udder health and animal welfare. In 2010 she completed her PhD in Veterinary Preventive Medicine at The Ohio State University where she also minored in University Education. Her work in education included the development and delivery of a graduate level course, "Current Issues in Animal Welfare" in addition to serving as in Assistant Instructor for the required veterinary ethics course, leading lectures on humane euthanasia and animal handling. Jennifer joined Dean Foods as their Director of Dairy Stewardship in July of 2010. In this role she has been putting to use her expertise in on farm milk quality and passion for animal welfare by working with customers, suppliers, dairy farmers to develop an industry wide standard that promotes the good welfare of dairy cattle. Over the last five years she has had a firsthand view of the intersection between politics, policy, profit and people and how it can drive positive change in animal welfare as much as it can hinder it.

**Leona Dargis**



Leona is an accomplished motivational and inspirational speaker whose speaking engagements have not only taken her across North America but the world. Her story began in rural North Eastern Alberta. She is the eldest of five daughters who were raised on their family farm consisting of 7,000 acres of cropland and a 4,000 head feedlot. Together they learned the values of hard work, perseverance and gratitude. After the sudden passing of her parents in 2007, Leona and her sisters carried on their legacy in continuing to operate the farm business all while supporting each other to pursue their dreams. Earlier that same year Leona graduated from Olds College with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Agribusiness. Her leadership role in representing the next generation in agriculture is global. Her past commitments to organizations like the Canadian Young Farmers Forum and the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth have awarded her one of three prestigious Canadian Nuffield Scholarships in 2011. This enabled her to study the topic of succession planning and farm diversification around the world. She traveled to countries such as: India, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Her most recent trips to Africa gave her a hands-on experience on the importance of subsistence farming and education, which she treasures most. She leads by setting an example and will share her stories that exemplify how to take unimaginable change, adapt to it and succeed.

# When Manure Hits the Fan

## Brandy R. Street



M.Sc.(Ag)

SPCA Certified Program Manager, British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA)

Brandy grew up on a small farm in rural Saskatchewan where she fell in love with animals and the farm lifestyle. A University of Saskatchewan graduate, Brandy holds a B.Sc. in Agriculture, majoring in Animal Science and minoring in Business. Brandy also holds a Masters degree in Applied Ethology; the study of animal behaviour. Brandy's graduate studies examined the effects of group size and space allowance on pig behaviour, health and productivity.

After working for the Prairie Swine Centre and Manitoba Agriculture, Brandy joined the BC SPCA's farm animal welfare team. Today she oversees national expansion activities for the program, including producer recruitment, education initiatives and partnership development within the food retail sector.

## Jackie Wepruk



Jackie Wepruk has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Winnipeg, and a Master of Environmental Design from the University of Calgary.

Upon completing her master's degree, Jackie was involved in a variety of farm animal welfare contracts with the Alberta Farm Animal Care Association (AFAC) and other farm organizations.

She participated in efforts that led to the creation of the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) in 2005 and is the general manager of the organization. In this capacity she facilitates a partnership between farmed animal industries, governments, the veterinary community, the humane movement and other allied groups to advance farm animal welfare in Canada.

A variety of experiences have informed her perspectives and passions relative to animal welfare including three years working at an animal shelter, involvement in breed rescue with Siberian Huskies and participating in the Code Development Committee that created the sled dog standard of care in British Columbia.

Home life includes a kennel of Siberian Huskies that Jackie competes with in obedience trails and mid-distance sled dog races. Winters are spent training and racing in Canada and the U.S.

### **Darren Vanstone**



Darren worked in his family's clothing stores located in the Okanagan at the age of 8. He started working in restaurants and catering while attending the University of Alberta. After graduation he moved to operations positions at Sobeys and Sunterra Markets. After a stint working for Starbucks, Darren returned to Sobeys to lead the development of Urban Fresh stores in Alberta and Ontario. In 2012, he joined what was then WSPA as Corporate Engagement Manager.

In his current role Darren helps manage the organization's local and global partnership work and is World Animal Protection's representative on the National Farm Animal Care Council and the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef.

### **Michelle Follensbee**



Michelle was raised in northeast Saskatchewan and attend the University of Saskatchewan College of Agriculture where she completed a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in animal science. Her interest in animal behaviour and animal welfare took her to the University of Guelph where we completed a Master of Science in Agriculture. Her studies focused on the nesting motivation of domestic hens.

Michelle currently works for the province of Alberta in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Her duties include oversight of a small and talented team who: deliver programs to improve food animal welfare in the province, provide animal welfare and animal protection policy recommendations to senior executives within AF and, oversee the provinces *Animal Protection Act* and Regulation.

# Clear Hills County

## Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	<b>Agricultural Service Board Meeting</b>
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Al Fletcher, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT</b>
File No:	63-10-02

### DESCRIPTION:

At this time the Agricultural Fieldman will have an opportunity to present his report.

### BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

### ATTACHMENTS:

- Report
- Rental Equipment Usage

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Agricultural Service Board accepts the March 18, 2016 Agricultural Fieldman report for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: *ABj* AgFieldman: *AB*

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# CLEAR HILLS COUNTY

## AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT

**MARCH 14, 2016**

AARON ZYLSTRA

### WEED PROGRAM

- Updating GIS -
- Reviewing 2015 weed inspections
- Have begun advertising for seasonal staff positions (deadline in March 30<sup>th</sup>).
- We'll be following up with problem areas from last year (Cleardale, Chinchaga, Hines Creek, & AB Transportation) and issuing notices on some before spring.

### VEGETATION CONTROL PROGRAM

- Ordering herbicides
- Repairing spray equipment

### TRADE SHOW

- I've seen more interest from Agricultural companies in the trade show. It seems the economy has them looking for business.
- Already making plans for next year – I'm would like to provide insurance coverage options to those exhibitors that don't have affordable options.
- 

### OTHER TOPICS

- Worked on a joint ALUS meeting with the MDs of Peace and Fairview. There seems to be very little support from the other MDs at this point in time. Kate Churchill, from MMSA, is working on a wetland strategy for the Clear Hills, Fairview, and Peace municipalities.
- Shelterbelt tree program – we have orders for more than 4,000 trees(with still more interest). Woodmere had some issues with germination for some species. We're working on taking orders for next year, as we are sold out for most species this year.
- Ordered 30 rolls of plastic mulch
- Events:
  - Watershed Alliance Wetland Workshop – Feb 19th
  - Cover Crop Selection Workshop – Feb. 23rd
  -

# Clear Hills County Agricultural Fieldman Report

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**March 14 2016**

**Al Fletcher**

## **Pest Control to Mar 10**

- Wolves - 47
- Coyotes - 152
- Beaver - 3
- Working on Form 7 training.
- 

## **Rental Program**

- Replaced tire on tree spade.
- Developing rental parts inventory.
- Sickle mower ordered
- Wire roller ordered and shipped.
- Post hole auger has been purchased

## **Weed Program**

- Working on pesticide applicators course.
- Reviewing 2015 weed inspections
- Working on weed containment-disposal.(picked & bagged)

## **Other Topics**

- Events:
  - Attended: Watershed Alliance Wetland Workshop.  
Jay White – presenter, focused on wetland classification, function, policy, wetland loss.  
Attended: Alberta Invasive species conference & AGM.
  -



Equipment	Rental Rates	Rental Equipment Usage January 1, 2016 - March 9, 2016		
		Total Users	Total Days	Total Revenue
Backpack Sprayer	\$ -			
Bale Scale	\$ 30.00			
Bale Tester	\$ 10.00			
Ball Hitch (2" & 2 5/16")	\$ -			
Livestock Ultrasound	\$ 25.00			
Chairs	\$0.5/chair			
Community Centre	\$ 50.00			
Corral Panels	\$ 50.00			
Coyote Trap	\$ -			
Eco-Bran Applicator	\$ 50.00			
Grain Bag Roller	\$ -			
Grain Bagger	\$ 350.00			
Grain Bag Extractor	\$ 350.00			
Grain Vac	\$ 200.00	10	10	\$ 2,000.00
Grass Seeders-Hand Held	\$ 5.00			
Grass Seeders-Quad Mount	\$ 5.00			
Grill	\$ 5.00	1	6	\$ 30.00
Hand Held Rope Wick	\$ 10.00			
Land Leveller	\$ 130.00			
Loading Chute	\$ 25.00	4	4	\$ 100.00
Manure Spreader	\$ 150.00			
Mulch Applicator	\$ 25.00			
Extra Hoses	\$ 1.00			
Post Pounder	\$ 125.00			
Pull/Push Roller Applicator	\$ -			
Quad Mount Rope Wick	\$ -			
Quad Mounted Sprayer	\$ -			
Quad Pull Type Sprayer	\$ -			
RFID Tag Reader	\$ -			
Rock Picker	\$ 300.00			
Rock Rake	\$ 300.00			
Roller Mill	\$ 20.00			
Rotowiper	\$ 75.00			
Scare Cannon #91060254	\$ -			
Signs	\$ -	1		
Skid Mount Sprayer	\$ -			
Steam Tables	\$ 5.00			
Tables	\$1.00/table			
Toilets	\$ 40.00			
Tree Spade	\$ 150.00			
Truck Mount Sprayer	\$ 100.00			
Wash Station	\$ 10.00			
Water Pumps	\$75.00(Summer) \$200 (Winter)	1	2	\$ 400.00
Zero Till Drills	\$300.00/20 feet			

# Clear Hills County

## Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	<b>Agricultural Service Board Meeting</b>
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Al Fletcher, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>BOARD REPORTS</b>
File No:	63-10-02

### DESCRIPTION:

At this time the Board members will have an opportunity to present their reports.

### BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

At this time the Board members will have an opportunity to report on meetings attended and other agricultural related topics.

### ATTACHMENTS:

- Member Ross written reports
- Chair Harcourt's written reports

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by \_\_\_\_\_ that this Agricultural Service Board accepts the Board members' written or verbal reports of March 18, 2016 for information.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: *AB* AgFieldman:

***Under the Influence/Terry O’Rielly***

---

Emotions dictate action, tell a story and people will feel your message.

Stories inspire the future; it is perhaps the only thing that ever has. Look at Science fiction from 20-30 years ago, in lots of ways we have surpassed the technology those story tellers dreamt of.

Relay stories of trust and confidence; have them feel trust, never say “Trust me”.

A story can penetrate in a second, and resound for decades.

Stories add value, which creates margin, which creates profit.

Customer service is marketing, Southwest Airlines bends over backwards when it comes to customer service, and they have been profitable for over 40 years. While other airlines have gone broke or bailed out, South West is so valued by their customers that during the months after 9/11, with all airlines losing flights and money, South West remained profitable and their customers donated 100’s of thousands of dollars to keep them going.

Never market a product you haven’t experienced or used.

***Craft Brewing in Alberta/Craft Brewer Panel***

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Tap space and shelf space is a huge challenge for micro brewer, but getting better. Largely consumer driven, as is most consumer product placement.

Craft malting, the middle process between the farmer and the brewer, has become a reality in Alberta.

***Native Pollinators/Professor Ralph Cartar***

---

20% of pollination is done by managed bees; the balance is done by native pollinators and the wind.

Native pollination increases yield by 18% over solely wind pollinated crop.

Native pollination is more efficient than managed, increased native species diversity also increases visitation and consequently yield.

Habitat is everything. Most native pollinators are ground dwellers, tillage, continuous grazing (pasture that is managed with lots of rest has an abundance), Nitrogen fertilizer, and of course pesticides.

Abundance of native pollinators (sufficient to satisfy all needs) is about 300m from habitat; diversity of species has a 750m range from habitat. Be mindful to limit distances in your fields to allow habitat within 300m-750m of all crops. Semi natural habitat on all four sides of a quarter section would satisfy.

32.7% semi natural landscape is ideal for diversity of native pollinators, and yield of crops. Any increase in semi natural landscape, 10-15-20-25% all have an immense impact on yield. Managed bees will have a negative effect on native, at higher semi natural landscape, however the managed bees honey production will be more uniform thanks to plants which flower for more months of the summer.

#### ***Family and Farmland/Greg Gartner***

---

Do not proceed without professional advice, Greg and others have dealt with hundreds of succession plans.

Land is primarily an asset; it is not valued on productive capacity (no surprise).

Owner (Dad) is worried about the 3D's;

- 1) Death of the inheriting child, "the land will leave the family"
- 2) Divorce of the inheriting child, "she will get/sell half or more"
- 3) Debt, land gets mortgaged and lost.

Lease the land to all "children" occupying/farming child gets use for agreed amount, cannot be "lost" from any of the 3 D's. After passing of owners (Mom and Dad) lease continues in all children's names. Lease amount paid from occupying child to siblings (potentially at a rate set before "Mom & Dad" pass).

Options should be examined and included for all potential contingencies.

#### ***Crop Rotation/Kent Erickson, Scott Keller***

---

Considerations for crop rotations; Soil is #1, broad leaf/grass, disease management, herbicide rotation; equipment utilization (seed/harvest for weeks not days).

Kent's father set up their 8 way rotation 20+ years ago.

Canola (Liberty link).

Malt Barley.

Flax.

Milling Oats.

Canola (Clear field/Roundup Ready).

Winter wheat.

Peas.

Hard red spring wheat.

Benefits are; delivery point options, weed timing (different each crop), disease management, soil diversity (due to crop diversity), and decreased market risks.

Scott practices a 3 crop rotation, with 3 herbicide rotation over a 6 year period. This is a huge leap from the common consensus of Farm Tech that I attended 10 years ago! At that time, 2 crops with 1-2 herbicides and no-till where the only things talked about.

Future changes for these producers include, cover crops, intercropping, livestock integration, all with the soil health being the focus.

### ***Transparency, the Currency of Trust/ Charlie Arnot***

---

Agriculture as a whole has a shared interest in maintaining social licence. All Ag issues, BSE, manure spill, avian/pig flu etc. have a negative impact on the entire industry.

Research and divulgence of information does little to build trust, shared values (story telling) build trust quickly.

Can something be used in agriculture, eaten, are scientific questions. Should something be used or eaten, are social questions, which is why scientific answers do not satisfy the consumer.

Increased transparency creates trust, and it is no longer optional. Food companies have the primary responsibility, farmers have the secondary. Practices/action is an illustration of values in action.

Understand and appreciate issues, share positives and negatives. Ask for input, acknowledge values and explain practices that address those issues.

Respond decisively, admit mistakes, engage and share plans for correcting those mistakes.

Who you are (are perceived to be) is more important than what you know.

Embrace the skeptic, it's not personal it's social, and typically misadvised. Share values, and demonstrate transparency, do these things early, often, and consistently.

Stress that the practices farmers follow help to create healthy affordable food. Money is at the sub conscious of food purchases.

### *Plant Growth Regulators/ Panel*

---

Essentially an herbicide, that when applied around growth stage 30, results in little or no cell elongation.

This results in plants that are 10-20% physically shorter than control. Yields are higher (only when high fertility is used and maximum yield is being stressed), almost eliminates lodging. Combining and swathing are faster, requiring less fuel. High levels of synthetic N are the primary cause of lodging, adding potassium will only help if the soil is deficient.

Crop varieties have little impact on lodging, timing is critical (5 day window in Alberta), and on a dry year producers could see a \$0 ROI.

Elevators (buyers) are requiring a signed declaration of use due to resistance from consumers.

### *You and the Future of Food/Gordon Bacon*

---

Food is at the nexus of social issues and government priorities, usually only sub consciously. With increased BMI (Body Mass Indexes), increased diabetes, cancers in all ages especially children, Food directly or indirectly tends to be held responsible.

There are 52 tests required to release a new seed variety for use, however there are no mandatory test for nutrition or health consequences. It is important to talk about food, which keeps the entire chain under inspection. Otherwise it is/would be easy for government to pressure the 1.5% (farmers) of the population and avoid the rest of the chain (i.e. lawyered corporations).

Canada needs to address global consumer standards, by meeting them not trying to force change, charge a premium to these markets when met.

70% of the fossil fuels used by agriculture are in synthetic fertilizer and its application. We need to move toward food based sustainability (regeneration).

## *Relationship Awareness/Ginette Grimace*

---

Listening is the key to conversation and therefore relationships. Most of us prefer talking to listening.

Managing our own ego, resisting the urge to tell our story, and debating without triggering an argument (even a silent one) are the hardest conversational issues. Remember a debate is for mutual learning and understanding, not a contest with a winner/loser.

Science has found that words, even a single word, can influence the expression of genes in a human.

Conversation is 7% words, 38% voice (tone), and 55% body language. Our default brain is 90% subconscious, and it functions at 5 times the speed we listen/talk. Consequently it maintains a running commentary of what is being said, considers the past interactions with the person or other "similar" people, and future interactions and outcomes of the conversation.

Look for and see positives (train your brain) realize it takes 5-10 seconds for the "fight or flight" response to pass, take time to let it, reassess the phrase that was presented, then reply. Conversations have impacts on self-worth, do not criticize, and find a way for the other person to find their own solution.

Be a critical thinker, argue with yourself, not everything you think or have perceived is true.

Should is the worst word in our vocabulary, implies past fault where none may be.

Trust is the most important aspect in communication. It is built with honesty, consistency and repetition.

It is important to empathise, especially challenging for "fixer" (typically men). People need to be heard, not have their issues "fixed", sometimes it will take weeks, months, or more of empathizing before the person feels heard, then more often than not they will "fix" the issue themselves, which is almost always the best.

Trust killers are; inconsistent messages, inconsistent standards, false kindness (not to be confused with being civil), false feedback (positive or negative), withholding information that hinders success. Emails/texts erode trust if they are negative, give negatives, face to face or phone as last choice. Always begin emails/texts with pleasantries, give constructive criticism.

Conversation inhibitors; No, But, However, Great, negative/destructive comments or behavior, drama words such as "literally".

Listening is more than hearing someone's ideas, problems; it is discovering why something is being said and a sign of respect. Take the time to listen, it will be faster and more effective, ask good questions, paraphrase the meaning, and empathize with the speaker.

Remember we think 5 times faster than we listen, repeating in your head what the speaker is saying will occupy your brain and will convey an accurate "I am listening" appearance. We all have stories we want



to tell, but people most likely won't listen till they feel heard, don't be in a hurry to connect with your own story, get the details from them, and empathize.

### *Disney University/Doug Lipp*

---

Simplify with crystal clear priorities; Safety, Courtesy, Show, Capacity. These priorities will overcome time, heat, and pressure.

Always direct/point with an open hand (old mannerism but physiologically welcoming as opposed to directing).

Keep it simple.

When are you "on stage" and when are you off? Important for all of us to have a break that cannot (save for emergencies) be interrupted. Keep "plussing" the show, it may be another week, day, task, for you but it must seem like the; first, best, fastest, whatever is applicable, to the customer.

If you lose a customer it will take an average of 10 years to get them back, put in the extra mile once in a while.

My note: Acknowledge that some customers are best referred to a competitor.

Trust + training = Engagement resulting in empowerment.

Walt Disney spent time walking the park, picking up garbage (a Disney policy, everyone makes sure the park is clean) going on the rides, asking employees how they and their job was going. This built trust and loyalty.

The culture of your organization is what people do without being told. What is your culture?

Organisations need dreamers and doers; it forms a brilliant balance, and success. Walt was the dreamer, with one foot in the past and one in the future. His brother Roy was the doer, the "we can get this close to your dream, Walt". Sadly Walt did not have a succession plan to replace himself; in the hours before he died Walt was telling Roy about the next park they would build. Using the ceiling tiles of the hospital room to map the new park out. In the years after Walt passed Disney lost money, and was almost purchased to be split apart.

Perception, do you see it like I see it. Look at the whole picture, even if you don't act on something, acknowledge it is there. Accept differences and find ways to make it work. Disneyland Tokyo has a "steam" train; however it is illegal to transport passengers in a steam train. So the train has one station, tours the park, but transports nowhere. This allowed it to exist without breaking the "rules". Also in Disneyland Tokyo, 2 days before Grand Opening, the park manager received a phone call that the custodial staff had "cleaned" the haunted house. They cleaned the cobwebs, painted the walls, replaced broken windows, etc. They had been trained to do these things, but not trained in how to specifically "clean" the haunted house.

Be creative, we forget what it is like to be 12.

### *Sustainable Imperative/Professor Gord Winkel*

---

If it isn't grown, it is mined.

In less than a decade, mining went from being the most dangerous jobs in Canada (33 deaths a year) to the top of the safety ratings (1 death every 3 years). There is no reason Agriculture can't do the same, perception drives regulation. Do it voluntarily or have it regulated and enforced, we have the choice.

It is imperative that agriculture organise and have one voice (Alberta Agriculture Coalition), otherwise the many voices will get played off and against each other. We want to move forward in a positive manner. All portions of the Agriculture sector must work together to benefit the sector, competing will work against Agriculture and the pressure will land on the primary producers.

### *Herbicide Resistance/Professor Tom Mueller*

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Herbicide resistance has dominated agriculture in Tennessee. Roundup is hard to find as it will not work, the plants whether RR plants or weeds, will no longer absorb the glyphosate, or metabolise it too quickly, same issue with an increasing number of herbicides.

All herbicides create selection pressure; any survivors that seed out have the ability to fill the niche. Tillage is returning as a way to control resistant weeds, the soil (not just in Tennessee) then is susceptible to erosion whether rain or water. Hand picking certain Invasive weeds has become the norm, on the plus side, it is extremely effective and the fields often only need extensive picking for the first year or two. After which one person can pick a quarter section in an hour or two.

Average weed control costs have increased 2-2.5 times, this cost has overshadowed the 20 years of easy times when Glyphosate controlled everything cheaply.

Avoid herbicide resistance by diversity, diversity, diversity. Diversify crop rotation, anything that reduces reliance on herbicides, and diverse herbicide rotation.

The Professor checked attendance against the names on the Applicators Licence sheet at the door, meaning if someone (3 in the case of this one session, and some at his previous session) signed their name but didn't attend they received no credit☺

*Club root/Canola notes from Farm Tech 2016*

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Club root survey information is 5-7 years behind, we need to look way ahead not next year.

2 crop rotation disadvantages are becoming clear, fungus, cleavers, trash that doesn't decompose (which hinders seeding), wild oats, and as mentioned, herbicide resistance.

Volunteer Canola, on non Canola years, results in "food" for the club root fungus. This accelerates the growth of, and mutation (5x etc.) of the fungus.

Change rotations/habits now while the farm is profitable, not after a negative economic impact (club root notice).

MacKay Ross

## ORGANIC CONFERENCE, OLDS AB FEB 25-26 2016

Diversity is a double edged sword; pick a couple or few symbiotic "crops" so that you have a marketable amount. An issue Organic production is prone to, outside of fruits and vegetables.

Don't fight "mother" nature, use wetlands, use windbreaks, and long crop rotations to keep her on her toes. Graze at different times, plow, and use winter annuals.

Keep your "seed" as those offspring are attuned to your local (even micro) climate.

Soil is the bank account, put lots in to get lots out, rejuvenate don't just sustain.

Half day of chores so you have time for the business, 3-4 hours a day for books, planning, marketing, etc.

Be a price maker not taker, know the cost of production. Then set a retail price.

Social capital is potentially the most valuable anymore, this capital increases with time.

### Weed management in organic grain production

---

Crop competition, annual weeds suffered the most, canopy blocks the sunlight.

Pay attention to varieties that emerge fast, grow fast, leaf out to form canopy.

Increase seeding rates, generally 20-100% over normal seeding rate, 1.5x is a good starting point.

Large seed size does have an impact if you have the option use larger seed, if you have small seeds slightly increase rate.

Use narrow as possible row spacing, world record wheat crop (conventional) was seed 3.75"x3.5" spacing.

Rotary hoe usage, 2 sometimes 3 passes good residue left behind, great on small weed seeds. Speeds as high as 15 km/h?!?

Inter row cultivation, timing is easy, old front mounted systems "eye" guided. New pull type systems use GPS (RTK) and optical sensors, etc.

Clip weeds (flail mower) above the crop canopy, mid to late bloom is an effective way to reduce the next years weed seed bank..

Chaff collection is becoming common in Australia for herbicide resistance weeds; downside, piles of chaff full of weeds. "Seed Destroyer" is self-powered, and towed behind the combine, destroys chaff and weed seeds, then applies residue.

Combine cultural weed control (rotations) and mechanical weed control to get the best of both worlds.

Fall rye/winter wheat (rotation) work well for transitioning to organic weed control.

### ***Hemp and other products traceability and food Safety***

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One day in the fridge rice grows bacteria 3 days E.coli!?

Hemp has no "kill spot", never cooked, washed with chlorine etc. so anything can possibly contaminate.

Tea leaves are not "washed" so if something is there making sun tea will propagate the bacteria. Boiled tea has a "kill spot".

Specialty training available GACP, mindset is the outcome.

### ***Organic 3.0***

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Widespread uptake of true sustainable organic practices is the goal of Organics 3.0.

Organic 1.0 started in the 1920s by visionaries using science to expand understanding and yield of organic production. Organic 2.0 circa 1970s formed standards and developed the niche market. Organic 3.0 is the current movement to get mainstream agriculture into organic production.

Organic industry is embracing conventional technology to expand, it is socially active, CSA's are more common, and crowdsourcing is used. Ecological farming too increase biology, which results in integrated pest management, such as, high brix plants and maintaining natural predators.

Work together with conventional agriculture, "this will work without going organic" spread BMPs.

### ***Bringing soil science back to the farm***

---

70% of the world is fed organically; organic foods have the potential to have the complete nutrient/mineral composition that our foods no longer have.

Plant Legumes to increase the plant available nitrogen in the soil, animal manure (compost) applied to the fields for plant available phosphorus.

Roots make topsoil, not residue, so grow topsoil don't try to build it. Plant diversity is the fastest way to grow topsoil.

Animals, power the soil by forcing the plants to work, which builds soil, animal diversity increases the rate at which top soil grows.

### Catchments not Watersheds

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Catchments keep the water, using high organic topsoil, which stops flooding and releases the water slowly which lessens drought effects.

Catchment payments (wetlands, ALUS type idea) would reverse soil loss, decrease flooding, minimize drought, clean the air, water, and stop climate change through carbon sequestration.

Instead of building a new \$4-6 Billion water treatment plant, the city of NY spent \$1.5 Billion on the catchment upstream of the existing plant, to have the land do the same job. The annual "rent" for the land in this plan is also about 1/10<sup>th</sup> of what the projected annual operating costs for the new plant.

Grow deep top soil in the catchment, plan and manage it. The world (on average) has 60 years of topsoil left (at current loss rates)!

### Green Manure

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Alfalfa appears to be king of the green manure crops, it can grow great in our grey wooded soils, and clovers are good too.

Plan to grow high protein crops after a green manure crop in the rotation.

Vary annual, biennials, and perennials to get various benefits, diversity.

Check inoculants with Organic certifiers, and handle carefully, it is a live bacteria which has a short (less than a year) shelf life, and doesn't like heat or direct sunlight.

Manage a green manure crop like, or better than, a cash crop.

Terminate the green manure crop at bloom/early bloom. In the case of No-Till seeding, seed a cover crop after green manure termination to stop N leach/losses.

Mowing a green manure crop, will result in loses of up to 15% of N to atmosphere.

If grazing the green manure (or mowing), let regrowth reach early bloom before termination. This would delay "plow down" till late in the fall shortening the time till spring seeding (conventional).

Green manure crop rolling, high biomass is the only way to go.

### *Organic transition, Livestock*

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Grey wooded soil has the potential to grow lots of grass, maybe the best of the soil types.

Easiest cattle to grass fed finish are 2 year old heifers.

April calve, November the following year sell. Over winter, low stock density to ensure they get enough grass, when grazing stock piled forage.

Graze a maximum of 1.5x per year, 2x one year 1x next year.

You can't starve for a profit or genetics, grow grass, not livestock.

A cow herd only has to be fed organic feed for the last trimester for the calves to be organic. (Other considerations such as insecticides, antibiotics, even salt)

### *Organic transition, Crops*

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Must be innovative to keep costs down.

Front mount cultivator for (eyeball) precision, tine harrow behind the tractor "Don't look back!"

There is a national organic standard but the different certifiers (Pro-cert etc.) seem to interpret it a little differently.

Use Google doc. to keep track of "everything", Pro-Cert has an App too.

2 keys to organic transition; Love what you do, Connect with the people who love what you do.

CSA's tend to have fewer customers, only 400-500 people signed up, Farmers Markets result in thousands of customers to manage. Do you want quantity or better quality (loyal)?

Use communication to make customers feel involved in your farm (story).

It can be hard to find resources, (library's don't carry books etc.) the internet is a time saver.

Key for people looking to get into organic farming. Go work organic farms, so you have the experience before transitioning the (family) farm or buying land to start organic farming.



### *Hoops, Houses and Aqua culture*

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Putting a hoop house on skids (need something to move it) or better on rollers (chain link gate wheels) allows man power to move it, both result in 3-4 crops a year. However the capital cost is about 50% more than a stationary hoop house. It is important whenever possible to have an east west orientation for longer season.

Build thermal mass into the north wall, such as large containers/black pipe full of water, or brick/concrete to absorb solar heat during the day and release it at night.

Passive solar greenhouses, heat retention is key. With 10hrs as the minimum sun hours for growth the year round green house is a possibility. One possibility is partially submerged, basically a hole in the ground, so as to get below the frost line, put an open to the south only highly insulated building on top.

Aquaponics has the potential to grow tons of fish per year and tons of vegetables in a closed loop. Fish waste goes through a bio-digester, and then fertilizes the plants; plants clean the water, which goes back through the fish tank.

### *Where are all the young Farmers?*

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National new farmers' coalition has been formed to help new farmers/people who are interested in farming. Young agrarians.org

68% of new farmers are 1st gen and 57.6% of those were female, 73% of new farmers are ecologically farming, most are attracted to farming for social reasons (healthy food, socially responsible, lifestyle).

### *Random notes*

---

Great returns on cereal crops so far! Similar cash inputs, 2-3x the return per bushel compared to conventional.

Don't be afraid to harrow, one researcher demonstrated 4 passes (not recommended of course) which had 57% of the crop covered with soil, only suffered 15% loss of yield.

Complete record keeping (everything, and pictures too) any format and daily/hourly.

Organic canola requires a 3km buffer! GE protocol must be followed.

Permeant signage on bins, if transitional or conventional and Organic at the same time, temporary signs on grain trucks etc.

Required to grow different crops on organic and non-organic land, seems like transitioning all at once is the way to go.

**MACKAY ROSS**

By Brian Harcourt

## **FCC Conference**

Grande Prairie, AB.

Steve Liebel Senior Product Specialist.

Management Software...

FCC uses the Settler Program....#1 in Canada..  
Features...Classifies all expenses and income..  
Customizes your whole operation..  
Saves you time, money and effort..  
Automatically calculates Federal and Provincial GST...  
Tracks inventory, adjusts quantity and quality..  
Employee forms payroll, t4s and any deductibles etc...  
Will print reports for all features of the farm program.  
Supported by professionals.

Ag. Expert Mobile records receipts on your phone (cell phone of course)...

Field Manager Pro...Records what happens on your farm...seed..spray..rain .whatever you need  
...

History of every quarter section even every field, you need traceability.  
Cost of operation...who ran the tractor, how many hours etc per field, soil tests, weather  
weeds..

Harvest results. which bin, moisture content

Experts can be reached...1 800 667 7893, or [fccsoftware.ca](http://fccsoftware.ca)

## **Cover Crops Workshop**

Rycroft, AB

Graeme Finn...Australia..

Quotes and comments..

Plants harvest microbes from the soil  
Brassicas--help diversify crop residue, cover, companion crops can  
be annuals or perennials, legumes all are great for the soil.  
Mycorrhizal root system allows for easy water infiltration.

Sainfoin and vetches have great root systems.

Pastures must have a "rest period". 25--40 days after grazing.

Takes 4--6 years to rejuvenate the soil.

Brassica legume cover crop mix, Sweds, Kale, Forage Turnips, Radish, Plantain.

And 4010 forage peas, Italian Rye grass at about 15 pounds per acre.

Some swaths will hold their feed value all winter.

If bale grazing cast the seed mix around the bale, the cattle will trample the seeds into the soil.

Try to use drought tolerant seed if possible.

Get your soil tested...

## **Peace Country Beef Cattle Day**

Fairview, Alberta

Clayton Robins..Manitoba.

"Energy Dense Forages" The Canadian Opportunity

Quotes..

Higher sugar content faster rate of gain.

Energy dense forages higher digestibility, higher rate of passage,  
above soluble carbs, low in non-digestible fibre, above normal lipid content.

Any forage has the potential to be energy dense.

WSC= water soluble carbs--sugar+digestibles go up together.

Temperature and light intensify the % of WSC.

Keep green cover residue on soil all season long.

Spot bale grazing is better than swath grazing.

He suggests adding into your forage fields oats, barley, short awn triticale, cultivars with good  
disease resistance and cut back on the seed rate.

Harvest at an earlier stage if possible.

Leave in the field square bales or round.

Clayton suggested adding some chicory and or plantain to enhance your forage  
but do not let them go to seed!!!!

Narrow leaf plantain if you can find it.

legumes, clovers, vetches, hybrid brassics, 20%.

Meadow fescue, Italian rye grass.

Chicory has a great root system, aggressive, high in sugar, high digestibility, high in carbon.

Plantain also has a great root system, establishes easily in all soils.

## Forage Feed...PCBFA and NPARA..

Anibal Pordomingo presenter..

Quality Attributes of Forage fed beef.

Tender - lean-marbled-predictable beef.

Fatty acid composition and carotene, and vitamins A,D+E.

The animal--growing and then finishing.

When the animal is "ready" to sell is good if the market is "there".

ADG--average daily growth.

Grow --to Finish period 12 to 15 months.

IMF--inter-muscular growth.

1-2% too lean..3-4% good..5-6% too much fat.

SFA...Sterified fatty acids.

PUFA..Polyunsaturated fatty acids.

Feeding 100% hay it must be of very good quality.

Pasture all year better beef than pen fed.

The leaf of the plant is #1 feed, much better than the stem.

Do not over estimate forage quality.

Buy good quality feed.

Harcourt.

# Clear Hills County

## Request For Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 18, 2016
Originated By:	Al Fletcher, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	<b>INFORMATION &amp; CORRESPONDENCE</b>
File No:	63-02-02

### DESCRIPTION:

The board is presented with correspondence for review.

### BACKGROUND:

Attached are documents for the Board's information:

### ATTACHMENTS:

1. Alberta Farm Animal Care – E-newsletter (63-02-02)
2. Back Forty Newsletter – (63-02-02)
3. The Pest Insider – (63-02-02)
4. Alberta Bear Smart Conference – (63-02-02)
5. Peace Country Beef & Forage Association – Winter 2016 – (63-02-02)
6. Permaculture in the Peace Country – (63-02-02)
7. News Release – Warkentin Calls on Liberal Government to take action on Grain Transportation – (63-02-02)

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RESOLUTION by \_\_\_\_\_ that this Agricultural Service Board receives the information & correspondence of March 18, 2016, 2016 as presented.

Initials show support - Reviewed by: Manager: <i>AG</i> AgFieldman:
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## Sarah Hayward

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**From:** Aaron Zylstra  
**Sent:** February-24-16 9:57 AM  
**To:** Sarah Hayward  
**Subject:** ASB agenda - Alberta Farm Animal Care February E-Blast

ASB agenda - correspondence

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**From:** Alberta Farm Animal Care [mailto:afac@afac.ab.ca]  
**Sent:** February 22, 2016 5:19 AM  
**To:** Aaron Zylstra  
**Subject:** Alberta Farm Animal Care February E-Blast



### Alberta Farm Animal Care E-Newsletter

#### Save the Date

##### **Livestock Care Conference**

- March 22 & 23, 2016
- Olds, AB
- Click [here](#) for more information
- Click [here](#) to register

##### **Calgary Aggie Days**

- April 6-10, 2016
- Calgary, AB
- Click [here](#) for more information

##### **Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue**

February 2016

Welcome to the 9th edition of the Alberta Farm Animal Care e-newsletter. It's an exciting time at AFAC with a number of new projects and initiatives underway. Read on to find out more!

The AFAC Team

#### Livestock Care Conference 2016

Have you registered for the 2016 Livestock Care Conference yet? We are just over a month away from the event and we are looking forward to seeing you there!

The conference will be taking place on March 22-23, 2016 in Olds, Alberta at the Pomeroy Inn & Suites. Not only is this a great location for an agricultural conference, but there is also a brewery on site. What a great way to support students!

### **Workshop - Awareness**

**Level** -April 20-21, 2016

- Grande Prairie, AB
- Click [here](#) to register

### **Lethbridge Aggie Days**

-April 29 & 30, 2016

- Lethbridge, AB
- Click [here](#) for more information

### **Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue Workshop - Awareness Level**

- Pincher Creek
- Dates TBD

### **Calgary Stampede**

-July 8-17, 2016

-Calgary, AB.

- Click [here](#) for more information

### **Medicine Hat Exhibition & Stampede**

-July 27-30, 2016

-Medicine Hat, AB.

- Click [here](#) for more information

### **Canadian Livestock Transport**

The Canadian Livestock Transport Certification Program is a comprehensive training course and support service for those involved in the livestock transportation industry.

It was started by Alberta Farm Animal Care in 2007 and although the torch was passed off to the Canadian Animal Health Coalition in 2013, we still 100% support and recommend this program!

For more information check out their website at:

<http://livestocktransport.ca>



On March 22 from 10am-12pm there will be a Sheep Handling/Body Condition Scoring Demo done by Curt Pate and Lorna Gibson. This will take place on the Olds College campus in the South Arena. Curt Pate is well known for his cattle handling skills, but he is also great at working with sheep. For an additional \$25 to your conference registration, you can attend this very valuable workshop AND surely learn something new!



The Alberta Farm Animal Care AGM will also be taking place on March 22 from 6:30-8pm and all members are strongly encouraged to attend. Please follow [this link](#) to see the full agenda.

On March 23, we have a fantastic lineup of keynote speakers. After the Minister of Agriculture, Oneil Carlier, kicks of the conference at 9am, we will hear from Brenda Schoepp about the "Interconnection between Human and Animal Welfare". I don't know about you, but we are definitely interested in learning more about that topic. Following that, we will learn more about what is happening in the rabbit and poultry industries with regard to animal welfare.

To kick start the afternoon Dr. Jennifer Walker will cover "Animal Welfare at the Intersection Between Politics, Policy, Profit & People", followed by a Bear Pit discussion panel called "When Manure Hits the Fan" where we will have panelists from World Animal Protection, BC.SPCA, NFACC, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, and Alberta Farm Animal Care. The goal of the panel is to help distinguish what each organization does and how they each respond to different situations!



## AFAC's Videos

The latest  
'Heart of a Farmer':  
Herman and Alice's Story



Want to find out more about us and what we do? Check out our short 2 minute video on 'Who is Alberta Farm Animal Care?'



Keep an eye out for new AFAC videos coming soon!

## Shout Out for Volunteers

We are always looking for hardworking, enthusiastic volunteers to help out at our conference or at our booth at Aggie Days, Stampede, Western Days, K-Days, and more! It's a great opportunity to meet great people, network, and gain valuable skills.

If this seems like something you or someone you know is interested in please email Kristen Hall at [kristen@afac.ab.ca](mailto:kristen@afac.ab.ca)

## Become a Member!

If you're interested in becoming a member of Alberta Farm Animal Care and supporting our vision to make sure all farm animals in Alberta are respected, well cared for and experience a high state of welfare, visit our website at [afac.ab.ca](http://afac.ab.ca) or email



Lastly, to wrap up the conference, Leona Dargis will share her experiences about "Animal Welfare Around the World". This topic is sure to be of interest to the audience and will help to make the conference memorable!

Thank you to all of our sponsors for making this event possible. Please [click here](#) to see the full list of our generous sponsors that continue to help advance welfare in Alberta!



Do you want to be a sponsor too? [Click here](#) for more information!

To register for the conference [click here!](#)

## Advisory Council Summary

Alberta Farm Animal Care's very first Advisory Council meeting took place on January 7, 2016 in Red Deer, AB. The topic for this meeting was focused on "Hot Topics in Animal Welfare" and was kept general in order to get AFAC members on the same page before moving the bar forward over subsequent meetings.

There was great cross-sector representation at the meeting including producers, commodity organizations, industry associations, exhibitions, counties, government, and

[kristen@afac.ab.ca](mailto:kristen@afac.ab.ca) for more information!



academia. It was inspiring and insightful to gain perspective from across different organizations on questions such as:

- How do we define animal welfare?
- What programs and initiatives are in place or in development?
- How does industry demonstrate that it is serious about animal welfare?
- What are the main animal care and welfare concerns currently?
- How can industry and AFAC continue to improve?



As expected, it was found that many of the current issues are similar across different species or areas of the industry. The main issues included: painful procedures, transportation of animals, housing, euthanasia, slaughter processes, handling, and stress of animals. There was also much discussion around improving public engagement, education, and awareness of current practices and communication of how industry continues to move the issues forward.





The increasing need for AFAC to help the industry around communications became apparent and it was recognized that the organization plays a major role as a "hub" for information.

For any members that missed out on the more detailed update, please contact the AFAC office and we will be happy to send you the report.

Interested in participating in these conversations? [Become an AFAC member!](#)

## Student Sponsorship

Just a quick reminder that our Student Sponsorship will once again be in full swing this year at the 2016 Livestock Care Conference!

If you are a post secondary student taking something related to agriculture, you can apply to be sponsored to attend the conference. Sponsorship includes free registration for the conference and one night of shared accommodations. This year we have 30 student sponsored spots available thanks to our very generous sponsors! For a list of these sponsors please [click here](#).



The deadline to apply for sponsorship is February 28 and you can do so by sending your application to Kristen McDonald at [kristen@afac.ab.ca](mailto:kristen@afac.ab.ca).

Please follow [this link](#) for more information on how to apply!

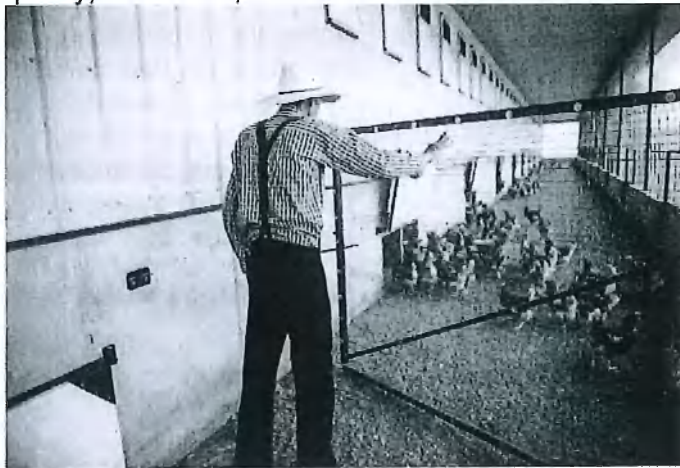
Member Spotlight: Alberta Chicken Producers



Alberta Chicken Producers was a founding member of Alberta Farm Animal Care back in 1993! Read on to find out about some of the work they are currently undertaking.

### **Working Together to Enhance Broiler Chick Quality**

Placing quality chicks on your broiler farm is half the battle towards producing a healthy, successful flock of broilers. Recognizing that chick quality is a value-chain issue, the Broiler Chick Quality Committee was formed in 2013 to allow hatcheries, hatching egg producers, and broiler producers to discuss issues affecting the quality of chicks in Alberta. This group has produced a broiler chick quality manual, shared findings on the impact of egg washing methods on incubation success, and, most recently, focused on reducing 7-day mortality values. High early mortality signals issues with egg quality, incubation, or health status of the chick.



In 2015, 7 day mortality dropped steadily and came in below our 2% target threshold mid-year with a decline of more than half a percentage point over the preceding 15 months - this represents a 24% improvement in reported 7 day mortality. The magnitude of this change was made possible through the open sharing of information that led to targeted changes within hatcheries, broiler breeder farms, and broiler farms. Moving forward, we will be exploring new ways to interpret early mortality patterns to expand the impact of the 7 day mortality evaluation. This work is positively affecting the health and welfare of broilers. The Alberta poultry industry is leading the way with this initiative.



## Addressing Anti-Microbial Use

Concern over anti-microbial use (AMU) in the agriculture sector and the resulting potential effect of antimicrobial resistance in the human population has resulted in increased media attention and consumer concern. The Alberta Chicken Producers have been proactively addressing this concern through their involvement in the development of a sector-wide antimicrobial strategy. This strategy includes: (1) baseline use and resistance trends information, (2) best management practices, (3) ensuring effective controls of AMU in Canada, (4) educating stakeholders on AMU/AMR, and (5) research into alternative products.

The AMU data is being analyzed to determine regional effects in when antimicrobials are used, how long they present in the ration, and why they are being used. Once complete, the aggregated data will show the extent of AMU in Canada and will identify opportunities for sensible reductions in AMU.

### Whiteboard videos

We have been continuing our Whiteboard video series with a few new videos to show you! As one of our latest endeavours in video production, we have been using these as a medium to bring important information about livestock welfare to consumers and producers, in a quick and efficient manner.

Our first video was produced to answer the question: 'Why do pig farmers use farrowing crates?' and proceeded to give a quick, just over one minute, overview of the use of farrowing crates in the pork

EVER WONDERED  
WHY HOG FARMERS USE  
FARROWING CRATES



WHAT YOU  
NEED TO KNOW



industry.

One of our latest videos is a timely one and a half minute video that discusses how cows are able to be outside in the colder winter months (this year excluded!). Check it out below!

### HOW DO COWS SURVIVE THE WINTER?



Finally, the latest release gives a quick run down on who Alberta Farm Animal Care is and what some of the programs and projects that we run are. It's a great video to get a sense of what we do and what our members are supporting in the livestock industry.

Check out the link on the side bar!

Alberta Farm Animal Care | [afac@afac.ab.ca](mailto:afac@afac.ab.ca) | PO Box 5201, #5-112 Centre Street  
High River, AB T1V 1M4

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SARDA

# Back Forty

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

**WINTER ISSUE** FEBRUARY 2016

**IN THIS ISSUE**



### AIA Award Winning Photo

*By Shelleen Gerbig*

The above photo received the third place award in the Alberta Institute of



(top) of the photo.

The photo was taken with a GoPro Hero3+ Silver Edition camera with a H3-3D Gimbal

for stable pictures and video and First Person Video (FPV).

Khalil Ahmed & Victor Gauthier, staff member of SARDA snapped this photo from his drone in August of 2014. The foreground (bottom) of the photo shows the cereal plots and trials located south of Donnelly in 2014. Broadleaf plots and trials are visible in the background

The drone used was a DJI Phantom 2 drone with a multifunctional Quad-rotor system. The drone is equipped with precision flight, stable hovering, auto return home and landing. It is capable of 25 minutes of flight time per battery and a range of 1 km..

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This publication made possible in part by:







## Alberta Energy Regulator

### Three Things You Need to Know about Abandoned Wells in Alberta

by Riley Bender and Leanne Chartrand, AER.

Oil production has been happening in Alberta since the first oil well was drilled in what is now Waterton Lakes National Park in 1902. And for nearly as long, abandoned wells have been a reality in the province.

An abandoned well is one that no longer produces oil or gas or maintained for future use. It has been plugged to prevent oil and gas from flowing up the wellbore and its casing has been cut off at least one metre below the surface to ensure that activities at ground level, like farming, can be done safely. Of the many reasons why a well may be abandoned, the most common is that the well no longer produces enough oil or gas at to make it economic for the

company.

Like other oil-and-gas bearing regions across North America, abandoned wells dot the province's landscape, from Medicine Hat to High Level. As of January 2016, the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has calculated that there are 66 496 abandoned wells across Alberta—roughly 15 per cent of all wells in the province.

With that in mind, here are the top three things you need to know about these wells:

**Abandoned wells are the responsibility of the current well owner, not the landowner.**

While over 66 000 wells may seem like a lot, the AER has several programs, and expert

staff, in place to help manage the growing number of abandoned wells in Alberta.

According to David Hardie, senior advisor at the AER, companies operating in Alberta must follow very strict rules and requirements when it comes to abandoned wells. If the rules are not followed, the AER can penalize the company in a variety of ways, including a fine or shutting down the operation.

"The AER also has programs to help manage the costs and environmental concerns associated with abandoned wells," Hardie added.

The [Licensee Liability Rating Program](#) helps protect Albertans from the costs of abandoning wells and reclaiming lease sites. With a

## Build a Legacy!

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

growing number of abandoned wells in the province, Hardie said that it's important for the AER to hold operators, not Albertans, accountable for all abandonment and reclamation costs.

**Wells that haven't been abandoned by companies that go bankrupt are not your responsibility.**

One of the things that makes Alberta unique is the presence of the Orphan Well Association (OWA). The OWA is a nonprofit organization that makes sure Albertans don't have to pay for abandoning wells that belong to companies that have gone bankrupt. Each year, energy operators pay into a fund to ensure the OWA can pay for abandonment and reclamation. The money collected by the AER's Licensee Liability Rating Program is used to fund the OWA. The OWA in turn uses these funds to properly

abandon and reclaim wells that were owned by companies that went bankrupt.

**If you have concerns about an abandoned well, call the regulator.**

to every complaint. The AER can be reached at 1-800-222-6514 for all concerns about energy development.

Further information on energy development, the rules

industry must

follow, and the AER is available at [www.aer.ca](http://www.aer.ca).

And if you don't know where oil and gas development has occurred on your property, you can request specific information from the regulator in its Products and Services

Catalogue. To find information about energy development on your land, request a land development package by calling 1-855-297-8311 or by e-mailing [inquiries@aer.ca](mailto:inquiries@aer.ca).



If you have any concerns specific to abandoned wells, or anything else related to oil and gas development, you can call the AER. Experts in oil and gas operations are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, and they respond

**More Information**

**Alberta Energy Regulator**

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

[inquiries@aer.ca](mailto:inquiries@aer.ca)

**1-800-222-6514**

(24 hr hotline)





The weather may still be chilly but things at the Lesser Slave Watershed Council things are sure starting to heat up! After hiring a new watershed coordinator before Christmas, we are getting everything ready for a busy spring. In addition to our usual school programs and outreach events, we are going to be turning our focus onto riparian areas. Riparian areas are those narrow bands of vegetated slope between streams, rivers, water bodies and the upland or agricultural

area adjacent to them. Not only are these green zones beautiful but they are vital to a healthy upland and aquatic environment. Riparian zones provide essential habitat to nearly 80% of Alberta's native species including mammals, birds amphibians and all fish. They can also provide some great benefits to producers including flood and drought mitigation, improved rangeland quality and opportunities for forage and shelter.

We want to work together with landowners, farmers and ranchers to complete several riparian restoration projects over the spring and summer. Right now, we are in the process of forming partnerships with producers and selecting suitable project locations. To help this process along we are using data from aerial riparian health assessments, which we completed in partnership with the Alberta Conservation Association. We also hosted

## Perennial Crop Insurance Deadline is February 29, 2016.

Call your local AFSC Branch for a customized hay and pasture insurance estimate before the February 29, 2016 deadline.

Growing Forward 2 is a federal-provincial territorial initiative.

[www.AFSC.ca](http://www.AFSC.ca) • 1-877-899-AFSC (2372) •  @AFSC\_AB



our first open house in partnership with Peace Country Beef and Forage on February 3rd as a way to start more directly engaging with producers, landowners and the community. During this event we shared information riparian areas and best management practises, were able to meet met with a variety of producers, and started laying the groundwork for future partnerships. We plan to continue positively promoting,

supporting and providing information on riparian and wetland enhancement work by educating and working with and local governments, community groups, landowners and stakeholders. As they are completed the LSWC plans to showcase our upcoming projects throughout the community and watershed by completing project journals for each of our restoration sites. These will include pre project photos and riparian health

scores, description of challenges and of the project work we did including costs and challenges we experience along the way that will help us improve as we move forward. If you are interested in learning more or want to get involved, get in touch with us at [info@lswc.ca](mailto:info@lswc.ca) or (780)523-9800.

#### More Information

**Meghan Payne**  
780-523-9800  
[meghanpayne@lswc.ca](mailto:meghanpayne@lswc.ca)

## Purchase your Membership Today!

- Membership entitles you to receive personally addressed newsletters
- Notification of upcoming events
- Invitations to attend special tours and activities
- Annual Research Report of all SARDA's projects and activities
- Vote at the Annual General Meeting

Individual \$ 50 annually  
Corporate \$150 annually



**NEW**

### Contact SARDA

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Pay online [www.sarda.ca](http://www.sarda.ca)

  
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## SARDA's 2015 Research Report Abstracts

By Nasima Junejo

*Abstracts are brief summaries of research reports or articles that give the reader a snapshot of what each report is about. Below are the summaries of some of the research trials SARDA staff worked on in 2015. A hardcopy of the full report is included with the purchase of a SARDA membership.*

### **Barley, oats and triticale varieties comparison for forage production in 2015**

The objectives were to compare forage yield and quality of different cereal varieties under Alberta and Peace Region growing conditions in 2014, and to communicate information to the producers. The results for several sites across the province are available in the Alberta Seed Guide ([www.seed.ab.ca](http://www.seed.ab.ca)). This report contains the details and results from the site in the southeast Peace region at Big lakes, high prairie.

### **Effects of long term crop rotation on the Wheat and Canola yield**

Crop rotation and legumes are long-standing farming practices to improve crop yield. Long term trials were conducted in the Peace Region of Alberta, to study the effects of legumes and crop rotations on canola and wheat yields and on fertilizer inputs. Canola (C), wheat (W), pea (P), barley (B) and flax (F) crops used to form

12 crop rotations i.e. CC monoculture, WW monoculture, WC, PWW, CWW, CCW, PCW, CPW, WBC, BWC, FWC, and FCW. One crop from each of the 12 crop rotations was grown each year in 2009 - 2015. Similar amounts of fertilizers were applied to a given crop in the given year, irrespective of the stubble type. Canola and wheat monoculture showed lowest yield from their monoculture or on their own stubble than in other rotations or on other stubble. Averaged across all years, the canola yield benefit on the stubble of other crops over the canola stubble was 24%. Similarly, averaged across all years, the wheat yield benefit on the stubble of other crops over the wheat stubble was 15%. The maximum amounts of the N, P, K and S fertilizers were used in the CC monoculture. Thus there were fertilizer savings in other crop rotations. Major savings were observed for N fertilizers when a rotation included peas and for S fertilizers when canola was not a part of the rotation. Overall,

use of crop rotations and legumes can increase canola and wheat productions and reduce fertilizer inputs.

### **Effects of tillage and fertilizer rates on wheat, barley and canola yield**

The project was started in 2010 near Donnelly in the southeast Peace Region (Gauthier Farms, NW7-77-20W5). The objectives are to assess seeding systems by soil test based fertilizer rate interactions for canola and cereal production and to communicate the findings to the producers. Combinations of two seeding systems (DS - no-till, direct seeding and CT - conventional till, fall plus spring tillage) and four fertilizer rates (0, 60, 100 and 140% of the soil test based recommended rate) are the 8 treatments. A cereal (wheat from 2010 to 2012 and barley in 2013) – canola rotation was used. Both crops were grown every year. The same seeding system and fertilizer rate are repeated in a given plot to assess the long term effects.

*Continued on page 7*

*Continued from page 7*

Overall, the yield of crops significantly increased when the fertilizer rate was increased from the 0% to 60%, while the differences among the 60% to 140% were not always significant. No consistent effect of the seeding system or the interactions between seeding system and fertilizer rates were observed crop yield.

### **Advanced Agronomic Practices in Wheat, Barley and Pea to Maximize Yield and Harvestability**

This project uses systems thinking to identify synergies between advanced agronomic practices to maximize the

profitability of Alberta growers. This study examines combinations of advanced agronomic practices on wheat, feed barley and field pea. Small plot field trials were conducted at 5 locations across Alberta – including Falher – to maximize harvestability, yields, quality & profitability.

### **Response of Spring Wheat to Macro and Micro fertilizers blend**

The experiment was started in 2006 at different research sites of SARDA, Alberta. Different combinations of conventional and mosaic fertilizers were applied to evaluate the effects on wheat yield. The highest yield was obtained from the

combination of Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potash and Sulphur fertilizer which were significantly different from only Nitrogen, MOP and check treatments however the yield obtained from other combinations were not significantly different. The outcomes of research trials showed a potential increase in wheat yield when plots were supplemented by potash and Sulphur amended fertilizer at smoky river region. A comprehensive long term research trials are needed to confirm the results. SARDA is thankful to Mosaic fertilizer company for providing funding for this project.



## **SARDA, the Organization and its Board**

By Charles Turcotte, Chairman

The New Year has come and gone, so here we are fast approaching SARDA's Annual General Meeting (AGM). It will be an exciting AGM as the Board and the organization has had a productive year, but for the purposes of this article I will focus on one key aspect of the AGM – director replacement. Terms for our elected director's service are three years long and we will have three director positions

up for election at the upcoming AGM. Are you wondering what it means to be a director of SARDA? Well let me give you a high level view, with a little help from the works of John Carver and Nathan Garber, on what it means to be a director.

To begin, we are a not for profit organization run by the staff of a policy board. All Policy Board Members share the view that the job of the board is:

1. to establish the guiding principles and policies for the

- organization;
2. to delegate responsibility and authority to those who are responsible for enacting the principles and policies
  3. to monitor compliance with those guiding principles and policies;
  4. to ensure that staff, and board alike are held accountable for their performance.

We have three advisory or standing committees. Most committee meetings are held in



conjunction with the regular Board meeting. We have approximately 4-5 meetings per year. Board development is given a high priority in order to ensure that directors are able to function effectively. Elected directors are expected to aid in the ongoing development of the values, mission, and policies of the organization.

Operating under the Policy Board Model requires high level of attention to our policies and our guiding principals (vision and mission) as well as trust and confidence in the General Manager. On behalf of the ownership, the Board has total authority over the organization and total accountability for the organization. But the Board relies on others to carry out the work, that is, to exercise most of the authority and to fulfill most of the accountability. This dependence on others requires the Board to give careful attention to the principles of sound delegation.

Simply put, the Board exists to be accountable to our members (who are our organizations owners) that its organization works. The board is where all authority resides until some is delegated through our policies to our general manager and his staff. This

simple total authority-total accountability is true of all boards that truly have governing authority.

The Board speaks authoritatively when it passes an official motion at a properly constituted meeting. Statements by board members have no authority. In other words, the

Board speaks with one voice or not at all. The "one voice" principle makes it possible to know what the Board has said, and what it has not said. This is important when the Board gives instructions to one or more subordinates. "One voice" does not require unanimous votes. But it does require all board members, even those who lost

the vote, to respect the decision that was made. Board decisions can be changed by the Board, but never by board members.

SARDA has a reasonably large operating budget. SARDA is impactful to the economy of the municipalities we operate in through, first of all, the impact on the decision making of the agricultural producers as well as the jobs and expenditure of SARDA itself.

Currently our mission is Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association will own an advanced agriculture resource centre of excellence. and our vision is Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association facilitates the transfer of unbiased information between research institutions, industry, and agriculture producers.

I hope to see you at our upcoming AGM and if you are interested in putting your name forward to be a director for a growing and exciting member organization make sure to let us know through our website [www.sarda.ca](http://www.sarda.ca) or by contacting our manager or any director!

#### Further Information

**SARDA**  
780-837-2900  
[www.sarda.ca](http://www.sarda.ca)



# THE PEST INSIDER

January 2016

## Rats Are Not Always a Pest

Even though Alberta and New York City spend great amounts of effort to eradicate rats some places utilize them as a valuable food source. A remote village in north-east India celebrates Unying-Aran a **festival with rats as the culinary centerpiece**. One of the favorite dishes is a stew called bule-bulak oying, made from rats stomach, intestines, liver, testes, foetuses, all boiled together with tails and legs plus some salt, chili and ginger. This community welcomes all kinds of rats from those seen around the house to the wild species that dwell in the forest. The tail and feet are particularly noted for their taste. The Adi tribe told interviewers that Rodent meat was the most delicious and best meat they could imagine.

Its not just in a small corner of India that rat is on the menu. Near Yaounde, in Cameroon on a small farm cane rats are raised for food. They are described as like a small dog, angry, vicious little fellows but also tasty. These rats are a special treat since they are more expensive than chicken or vegetables. **Rat meat is a bit like pork, but very tender, like slowly cooked pork shoulder.**

Our taste for rodents goes back centuries. The Chinese during the Tang Dynasty ate rats and called them household deer. One specialty eaten then was new-born rats stuffed with honey. Two hundred years ago New Zealand ate Kiore a household rat considered a delicacy and served to visitors, used as currency and wedding gifts. Today rats are eaten regularly in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Indonesia and Africa. In Laos farmers can identify at least five rodent species based on their taste.

*“People who love to eat are always the best people”*  
*—Julia Child*

## In This Issue

- Rats not always Pests
- T-Rex controls Sugar Cane Rats
- Rabid Raccoon
- Polynesian Island rat eradication
- Alberta Rat Update
- Bells new Ground Squirrel bait
- Coyotes







T-REX patented interlocking teeth

## Controlling Rodent Pests in Guatemala Sugarcane Fields

### Sweet Success for T-REX

Rats are one of the most damaging pests that Guatemalan sugarcane producers have to deal with. They eat through the plant stalks and can cause the entire plant to die. Only 1% damage to each hectare of crop causes 1/2 ton lost in sugar production.

In preventing and controlling rodents in sugar cane crops, trapping can be an important part of their integrated pest management (IMP) approach. Not only does trapping effectively reduce rat population numbers but it can be used to monitor populations to determine how much baiting is required to minimize crop damage, thus avoiding the costly mistake of either over baiting or under baiting the huge fields. Increased trap usage by farmers has resulted in a reduction of bait required. Also trapped dead rodents can easily be disposed of, eliminating odours or other issues.

When wooden mechanical traps failed to do the job to help eliminate the rodent pests due to harsh environmental conditions of rain, sun and heat, those responsible for pest control went looking for a new trap with the right qualities to meet their needs. Trigger sensitivity, snap velocity, interlocking teeth, durable plastic, and ease of setting were trap qualities needed to eliminate rat escapes when setting 3,000 traps in a large field of sugar cane. You can read more about the product being profiled in *The Bell Report* publication on the Bell Laboratories web page at <http://bit.ly/1IRr6TH>

## Rabid Raccoon Fights Dogs in Ontario

Two Ontario dogs fight an aggressive raccoon in the back of an animal control van exposing the first documented case of rabies in a raccoon in the Province in a decade. The CFIA confirmed this Hamilton raccoon as the first rabid one in Ontario since 2006. Toronto and Hamilton grapple with a large urban population of raccoons which lead the Province to institute a rabies control program more than 20 years ago. During the summer of 2015, 100,000 baits were distributed containing the rabies vaccine to immunize animals in border areas due to raccoon rabies in New York State. Provincial Officials say the flavored baits immunize most skunks, foxes, and raccoons that eat them.

Part of the fight between the Bull Mastiffs and the rabid raccoon was captured on video and uploaded to facebook by the owner of the dogs. Earlier the dogs were picked up by animal services workers and placed in the van where the captured raccoon was caged. It is unknown who got out of their cage first to initiate the fight between dogs and raccoon. The dogs are being held in quarantine.



Recently an Ontario Police officer was bitten by a sick raccoon and sent to Hospital for treatment.





## French Polynesian Island Paradise

### Rat Eradication

A large-scale rat eradication project is underway in the French Polynesian Islands, located in the South Pacific Ocean halfway between California and Australia. This area is known as an exclusive island escape, filled with stunning turquoise lagoons and picturesque romantic landscapes. This project is the largest rat eradication project yet to be undertaken. Decades ago, the Norway rat, Polynesian rat and other invasive species overran the island groups – driving the Polynesian Ground-dove nearly to extinction. This rodent eradication effort aims to help restore the population of native animal and plant species, particularly this rare and endangered Ground Dove.

Only 100% rat eradication is acceptable for rat control on these islands. If any rodents are found on follow up investigations the project will be considered a failure. If successful will this be another jurisdiction in the world that can claim rat free status?

The project is expected to take 20 years and covers 48 islands, and will require more than 16 million pounds of bait. You can read the full article on the Bell Laboratories web page at [http://www.bellabs.com?news\\_articles/127](http://www.bellabs.com?news_articles/127)



Critically Endangered Polynesian Ground-dove

Picture courtesy of Bell Laboratories Inc



## Alberta Rat Update

On September 30, 2015 a second rat infestation in Bon Accord was found 500 yards south of the 1st nest found earlier in the spring. About 20 roof rats were eradicated at this site. This infestation had eluded PCO's all summer and is thought to be part the original infestation.

We had 22 single confirmed rat sightings in the Province in 2015. In Addition four landfills (Stettler, Edmonton NE, Llyodminster, Lac LaBiche,) reported finding rats but all of these dumps managed to eradicate the infestations before the rats could multiply.

A home in Morinville was found to have 26 pet rats brought in from BC being raised for snake food and pets. Our Investigation Branch Staff met with the resident to ensure the rats were destroyed.

Rats were being sold from BC to a Grande Prairie advertising site. The local PCO called the ad and requested they take off the Alberta listing. Kudos to our sharp PCO.

The Globe and Mail did a story on Alberta's rat control program. Justin Giovannetti meet with PCO's in

the Sibbald area and reported his findings On November 25th. Read the article at [http://mywebmemo.com/top-stories/on-the-frontlines-of-albertas-war-against-rats\\_437966.html](http://mywebmemo.com/top-stories/on-the-frontlines-of-albertas-war-against-rats_437966.html).

## Bangladesh Rat Control

Bangladesh has crowned a new national champion rat killer after his team eradicated more than 160,000 rodents in the past 12 months.

Farmer Abdul Khaleq Mirbohor won 20,000 Bangladeshi taka (\$250) at a ceremony in Dhaka Wednesday for eliminating 161,220 rats in a year as part of a nationwide campaign to stop grain being devoured by rodents.

"Mr Mirbohor is a passionate rat killer. During the ceremony, he told the dignitaries that nothing gives him pleasure (more) than killing grain-eating rodents. Mirbohor hired mostly women volunteers to kill the rats in paddy and wheat fields, then submitted the tails of the deceased animals to the regional agriculture office to count them. "I've been killing rats since 1996. I love killing them. They are the enemy of the country and people. They devour grains, ground nuts

and spread diseases," the 55-year-old farmer told reporters. Government officials said the farmer was "obsessed" with killing rats. "Fellow villagers called him mad. He is like a Pied Piper of Hamelin.

Rodents destroy 1.5 million to two million tonnes of food in Bangladesh annually, the Ministry of Agriculture estimates.

Farmers in the predominantly agricultural nation have killed nearly 13 million rodents in the last 12 months, saving \$25 million of food, officials said.



## Coyotes

Fur prices for coyotes was fairly high in 2015 with expected prices of \$75 or more per pelt. Coyote numbers may be high in some areas but complaints of coyote predation and reports of coyote numbers are generally down. The mild fall weather certainly has helped the coyotes survival.

## Contacts

**310-RATS (7287)**

**310-FARM (3276)**

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Specialist

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Cell: 403-308-0960

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[phil.merrill@gov.ab.ca](mailto:phil.merrill@gov.ab.ca)

## Bells New Ditrac Ground Squirrel Bait

The diphacinone based prepared pellets are designed for ground squirrel control around buildings and within 100 ft. of man made structures when placed in bait stations. Specifically developed to appeal to California Ground squirrels, it gives pest control officers a non-restricted rodenticide for controlling California Ground Squirrels in lawns, golf courses, sports fields, parks, and levees. The multi-feed, first generation, anti-coagulant, bait comes in a 12 lb. pail or 60 lb. bag with its active ingredient at .005%. Ditrac Ground Squirrel Bait is not registered in Canada yet!



Picture courtesy of Bell Laboratories Inc.



**LOCAL  
SOLUTIONS**

**ALBERTA  
BEARSMART  
CONFERENCE**

**APRIL 6-7<sup>TH</sup>, 2016**

**DAY 1: KEYNOTES, WORKING GROUPS  
DAY 2: DEMONSTRATIONS**

THE CITY OF  
**GRANDE**  
prairie

ALBERTA



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# LOCAL SOLUTIONS ALBERTA BEARSMART CONFERENCE

APRIL 6-7<sup>TH</sup>, 2016  
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 MONTROSE CULTURAL CENTRE  
 AT TERESA SERGANT HALL

Please join us in our two day conference. Refreshments and lunch will be provided both days. We will also be hosting a Wildlife Speaker Night and local Art Show, where we can hear exciting stories from the field, and mix and mingle amongst local bear and other wildlife photographs. Door prizes to be won! Refreshments will be provided.

DAY 1	Provincial and Regional Program Updates	DAY 2	Living, Working and Recreating in Bear Country
9:00-9:30am	Provincial Program Updates	9:00-10:30am	County of Grande Prairie presentations
9:30-10:30am	Regional Program Updates		
10:30-10:45am	Coffee Break	10:30-10:45am	Coffee Break
10:45-12:00pm	Regional Program Updates	10:45-12:00pm	City of Grande Prairie presentations
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch (provided)		
1:00-4:00pm	Community ABS Presentations	12:00-1:00pm	Lunch (provided)
4:00-6:30pm	Dinner on your own	1:00-4:00pm	Demonstrations ▶ Bear Spray ▶ Electric Fencing ▶ And more!
7:00pm-8:00pm	Wildlife Speaker and Art Show - please join us while we regale you with interesting stories and artwork featuring bears and other wildlife across Alberta. RSVP is appreciated.  Montrose Cultural Centre at Teresa Sergant Hall, 9839-103 Ave, Grande Prairie, AB, T8V 6M7		

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- Upcoming Events in Centerfold!
- Highlights from the Western Canadian Conference on Soil Health

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# FORAGE COUNTRY

WINTER 2016

## The Classroom Agriculture Program is Looking for Volunteers!

*Submitted by Classroom Agriculture Program*

When asked “where does food come from?”, too many kids say the grocery store. The Classroom Agriculture Program (CAP) is trying to change that. CAP has been around since 1985; during that 30 years, more than 600,000 grade four students have participated in the program. These students have learned where their food really comes from and why agriculture is important to Alberta.



The Vision of CAP is: *“To provide students with quality, comprehensive agriculture learning experiences that lead to a greater understanding of and support for the agriculture industry in Alberta.”* We do this through a volunteer base of about 300 people who work in the agriculture industry. Our volunteers are the real strength of CAP. A class may have presentations from a veterinarian, someone who works on a chicken farm, someone who owns a grain farm, works in a soil lab, or runs a country grain elevator. As you can see the variety of professions in agriculture is large and varied. In addition to the volunteer presentation each student also receives an “Activity Booklet”. The booklet is full of puzzles and games. Each of our commodity members has a page in the booklet. Our members are Alberta Barley, Alberta Beef, Alberta Canola, Alberta Chicken, Alberta Institute of Agrologists, Alberta Irrigation Projects, Alberta Milk, Alberta Pork, Alberta Pulse Growers, Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, Alberta Wheat, Eastern Irrigation District, and the Egg Farmers of Alberta, and our partner is Agriculture For Life.



CAP is endorsed by the Minister of Education and the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry. This year, we are honoured to be chosen as the winner for the 2015 Friends of Education Award, given out by the Alberta School Boards Association.

PCBFA is proud to be involved with the administration of the Classroom Agriculture Program in the Peace Region! If you would like to become a part of CAP, either as a volunteer, member, or partner, or if you

would like more information, please contact Don George, General Manager of CAP by phone at 587-877-2544 or email [don.george@classroomagriculture.com](mailto:don.george@classroomagriculture.com) or Kaitlin McLachlan with PCBFA at 780-835-6799 or email [kmclachlan@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:kmclachlan@gprc.ab.ca).





# Peace Country Beef & Forage Association

## Local Information for Peace Country Producers

### Board of Directors

Peter Tindall

Randi Kuriga

Preston Basnett

Thomas Claydon

John Prinse

Jordan Barnfield

Conrad Dolen

Nancy Van Herk

Gary These

Stan Logan

### Staff

Monika Benoit, Manager

Akim Omokanye, Research

Coordinator

Kaitlin McLachlan, Extension

Coordinator

### Locations

GPRC Fairview Campus,

Trades Instructional Building,

Room 229

780-835-6799

High Prairie Provincial

Building

ARD/AFSC Office

780-523-4033

Having worked in the Peace Country for many years, we have established ourselves as an innovative association, willing to work with local businesses, educational facilities, other research groups and always with the producers from across the Peace Region.

Our programs vary from environmental concerns to finding the newest technology and helping producers implement it on their operations.

Our board is made up of producers from across the Peace Region, who actively voice questions, ideas and concerns to address the needs of farmers and ranchers of the Peace.

### Vision

The Peace Country Beef & Forage Association is a producer group with the goal to be a hub of innovative, relevant and local beef, forage and crop information for Peace Country producers.

### Mission

A Peace Country producer's first stop for optimizing beef, forage and crop production to maximize profitability with innovative and credible information.

If you have any questions, comments or feedback about our current extension events or any of our projects, please do not hesitate to give us a call at either PCBFA office.

Your input matters to us!

We are beginning a new 3 year cycle of funding and with your help we have identified several areas in which we will be focusing our research and extension efforts.

- Forages and Livestock Program: *Optimizing Production and Profitability of Livestock and Forage Production in the Peace Country.*
- Environment Program: *Facilitating the Role of Agricultural Producers as Stewards of the Land.*
- Annual and Special Crops Program: *Long Term Profitability of Crop Production through Land Rejuvenation & Sustainability.*

These programs will all work together to improve production and profitability on all operations in the Peace Country with a focus on soil health and restorative, sustainable farming practices.



"For the last time, Junior, stop blowing milk bubbles! ... You're giving me gas!"

## Wetlands are not Wastelands

*By Cows & Fish*

Wetlands are essentially lands that are wet. They are low lying areas where enough water collects to support water-loving plants, like cattail, rushes, sedges and willow. Wetlands also have perpetually wet soils because they are either saturated with water year-round or covered with water at least some time during the growing season of most years. Sloughs, ponds, potholes, bogs and muskeg areas are all types of wetlands. Wetlands include the area covered by water and the adjacent area of lush water-loving plants called the riparian area.



Wetlands vary in shape, size and permanence. A temporary wetland may have water only after snowmelt or a heavy rain. Whereas a semi-permanent wetland will hold water through most years, but may dry out after several years of drought. And a permanent wetland will have water present year round.

Wetlands are not wastelands. They are the connection in the watershed we often cannot see, linking groundwater, surface water in other wetlands, lakes and streams, soil moisture and weather patterns. Wetlands are so closely linked with other parts of the water cycle that drainage can have significant local effects such as lowering the water table, reducing local precipitation and creating greater temperature extremes.

There are many benefits to leaving wetlands and their surrounding riparian areas intact. Some are subtle, such as increased local soil moisture, reduced flooding, more stable stream flow, improved crop production and better water quality. Other benefits are more obvious such as supplying shelter, forage and water for livestock, habitat for wildlife and fish.



In drought some wetlands completely dry up, sometimes for several years in a row. However, even a dry wetland provides many of the same benefits listed above. Seeding a seasonal wetland while it is dry is a risky venture. There is increased danger of frost in the low area and a very high likelihood of flooding once wetter conditions return. Wetland substrates are usually quite impervious, and may be saline, which results in low crop productivity. Several studies have shown that the costs of draining and cropping wetlands are often higher than the crop returns.

What can you do to manage your wetlands on your farm or ranch? Consider leaving your wetlands intact including the natural extent of the riparian vegetation and an additional buffer of extra vegetation where possible. Not only will this trap more snow in winter, increasing soil moisture and recharging groundwater supplies, but this buffer will also filter out nutrients found in runoff from your pastures or cropped fields, improving water quality in your watershed. Manage grazing in wetlands to prevent over-use and trampling by livestock, and to avoid manure build-up.

Cows and Fish helps landowners and their communities to assess their wetlands and other riparian areas as well as develop management strategies to help conserve these valuable resources. For more information on wetlands contact Cows and Fish at 403-381-5538 or view their website at [www.cowsandfish.org](http://www.cowsandfish.org).

**Find us online!**

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



@pcbfa

@pcbfa\_crops



<https://www.facebook.com/peacecountrybeef>

## Headed to School this Fall? Think Ag!

By Carly Shaw

Did you know that one in eight Canadian jobs are tied to the agriculture sector? This relates to some 2.1 million jobs and a 6.7% contribution to Canada's GDP in 2013!

Did you know that one job in agriculture generates four to seven more Canadian jobs? Also—did you know that there are 3 jobs waiting for every agriculture grad in Canada?

Not only are many people employed by the agriculture industry but there is still a large demand for workers, including those who have had Post-Secondary education, by 2022 there will be an estimated 74,000 job opportunities in Canadian agriculture alone. So whether you have a child who is nearing the end of their high school career or you are thinking of going back to school yourself, know that there is high demand for your skills and that there are many schooling options for you throughout Canada! Some of the best agriculture programs in Canada are offered right here in Alberta!

The University of Alberta offers degrees in:

- Sustainable Agriculture Systems
- Agriculture and Resource Economics
- Agricultural Business Management
- Agricultural Food and Nutritional Science
- Animal Science & Animal Health
- Crop science



The University of Lethbridge offers degrees in:

- Agricultural Studies
- Agriculture Biotechnology

University of  
Lethbridge



Lakeland College in Vermilion offers diplomas in:

- Agribusiness
- Animal Science
- Crop Technology
- Western Ranch and Cow Horse
- Animal Health Technology
- Lakeland also is host to a Student Managed Farm, with purebred & commercial cattle, a working dairy, sheep, and a large grain operation.



Lethbridge College offers diplomas in:

- Plant and Soil Science
- Animal Science
- Agricultural and Heavy Equipment Technician Certificate
- Agriculture Equipment Technician Apprenticeship



Olds College offers:

- Agriculture Management
- Bachelor of Applied Science: Agribusiness
- Agriculture and Heavy Equipment Program
- Agronomy Certificate
- Rural Finance and Entrepreneurship Certificate



Grande Prairie Regional College offers a diploma in:

- Animal Health Technology





Each program varies from 1-4 years, with some programs even being offered online. If you are not interested in attending school in Alberta there are many more options, one of which is the University of Saskatchewan, a school with a variety of agricultural programs. It offers programs such as: Agribusiness, Agriculture Biology, Agricultural Economics, Agronomy, Animal Science, Horticulture Science, Prairie Horticulture Certificate, Rangeland Resources, and Soil Science.

For more information on these programs or for information about what other provinces offer check out <http://bit.ly/1OJj78f>, or go directly to the schools website. <http://beefcareers.weebly.com/careers.html> lays out many of the career paths you can choose related to agriculture. Some of the careers that post-secondary schooling can lead to and their yearly average salaries in Alberta are an:

- Agrologist \$81,051.00
- Soil scientist \$98,399.00
- Heavy duty equipment mechanics \$77,665.00
- Agricultural Engineer \$103,915.00
- Biological technician \$55,614.00
- Landscape Architectural Technologist \$49,630.00
- Mechanical Engineering Technologist \$77,835.00
- Purchasing agent \$77,753.00
- Marketing manager \$92,734.00

The above information was found on [occinfo.alis.alberta.ca](http://occinfo.alis.alberta.ca). Whichever path it is you decide to choose, know that the agriculture industry offers many rewarding opportunities to those who have a passion for it.

**Find your future in agriculture**

**Considering your career path?**  
Consider a career in ag. There are more opportunities, and more things you can do, than you might realize.

**2.1 million** Ag employs over 2.1 million Canadians.

From 2011-2020 it's projected that **38%** of jobs in the Canadian ag industry will be unfilled, creating opportunities in a variety of fields.

**1 in 8** Canadian jobs are in ag and agri-food.

In 2013, there were more than **56,000** career opportunities available in the ag industry in North America.

**Are you looking for a job that's:**  
**You'll find it in ag.**  
Canada will play a vital role in feeding the world and we need great people to make it happen.

- ✓ rewarding
- ✓ in demand
- ✓ diverse

AgMoreThanEver.ca  
A positive voice for Canadian agriculture

**Agriculture**  
more than ever

**BY 2022, THERE WILL BE AN ESTIMATED 74,000 JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN CANADIAN AGRICULTURE.**

**Canada's opportunity:**  
world food demand is set to grow

**60% by 2050**

Source: CropLife Canada

## Growing Forward 2 Environmental Programs

By Stacy Pritchard

Environment-related Growing Forward 2 programs are still open and accepting applications! All of these programs are in great funding positions and are encouraging producers to apply! As always, GF2 funding is first come, first served, so getting your applications in sooner rather than later will ensure that your project gets funded.

GF2 is in the third fiscal year of the 5 year programing, and it is expected that the funding available could be a little tighter next year as the programs are winding down. So right now is a great time to take a look at your operations and see where you could benefit from one of these programs, sitting down and filling out an application.

Lets take a closer look into some of these programs and how Peace Country producers can take advantage of the funding available to them.

### **On-Farm Stewardship Program**

Of all the programs relevant to livestock producers, the On-Farm Stewardship Program is likely the broadest and aims to improve the on-farm impact on water quality in five categories. In order to be eligible for funding from the On-Farm Stewardship Program, producers must complete an Environmental Farm Plan. PCBFA would be happy to help you get an EFP started for your operation. Depending on the activity, 30%, 50% or 70% of the costs can be covered. Each activity has its own set maximum funding, but in total, producers can receive a maximum of \$50,000 from this GF2 Program.

#### Grazing Management:

This program includes several activities, the first being Riparian Area Fencing & Management. This program will assist producers with 70% of the costs of fencing riparian areas and riparian area management practices. The eligible expenses in this category include permanent fencing supplies, the purchase and planting of approved trees & shrubs for riparian area management as well as labour and equipment.

The most popular activity we assist producers with applications for is the Year Round/Summer Watering Systems. This activity will assist producers with 50% of the cost of installation of remote watering systems or eliminating direct access to water bodies and sources. Eligible areas for funding under this program include portable watering systems, year-round watering systems, pumping systems, power sources (solar, windmills), and pipelines used to distribute water. Recently there has also been the addition of an alert monitor for remote watering systems used to monitor systems without having to physically make trips out to

the pasture. For more information on this new addition check out the January Forage Facts or visit [www.growingforward.alberta.ca](http://www.growingforward.alberta.ca)

The 2 other activities under this program are Wetland Restoration and Shelterbelt Establishment. Both activities provide funding for approved species for either the establishment of a shelterbelt (50%) or a wetland restoration (70%). Other expenses eligible for funding include fencing off your new shelterbelt, as well as the mulch to get it established, and earthwork related to restoring your wetland.



#### Manure Management

The Manure Management category will assist with 50% of the costs of earthworks, materials, supplies, labour and equipment required to develop improved manure storage facilities. It will provide assistance with the installation and upgrades to runoff control systems outside of livestock pens. This program will also cover 50% of the costs to relocating a livestock facility or wintering site and dismantling an existing on if it poses a risk to the watersheds.

#### Crop Input Management

Under this category, the purchase of sprayer cones, sectional control operation systems for sprayers and seeding equipment, and pulse modulating sprayer systems are eligible expenses. The cost share on this program is 50%.



### Agricultural Waste Management

This category assists producers with 50% of the costs associated with double-walled storage tanks for used oil, and 70% of the costs for a roller for used grain bags.

### Innovative Stewardship Solutions

This category allows producers the opportunity to design and submit a unique project they believe will improve water quality on their operation. Each project will be assessed on an individual basis by a technical review panel.

### **On-Farm Water Management Program**

A program that closely complements the On-Farm Stewardship Program is the On-Farm Water Management Program. Producers who have completed a Long-term Water Management Plan are then eligible for 1/3 of costs related to their on-farm water supply and management up to \$5,000 for standard incentive projects and 50% to an unspecified maximum for special incentive projects. Standard incentive projects include construction of wells, dugouts, spring developments, dams, water pipelines, and off-site watering systems. There are size requirements for new or expanded water sources. Special incentive projects include well decommissioning, well pit conversions, purchasing water meter and water well depth measurement equipment and connecting to multi-user water supply pipelines.



### **On-Farm Energy Management**

This program assists producers with the investments that improve energy efficiency on their farm. This program will cover 35% of the costs on most projects to a maximum of \$50,000 per farm. Some of the eligible expenses include high-efficiency equipment from the program's Funding List, retrofit projects that improve the operation's energy usage per unit of production, and installation of submeters to monitor on-farm electricity and/or natural gas usage; the program will cover 100% of the cost for the applicant's first 3 submeters. More project ideas can be found on the GF2 page for the On-Farm Energy Management Program.

### **Confined Feeding Operation Stewardship**

This GF2 Program aims to help the industry in three key areas: 1) Less agricultural impact on water quality; 2) Improved business outcomes for livestock producers and commercial manure applicators and; 3) Improved market opportunities. The program is open to both CFOs and to commercial manure applicators and provides assistance with projects relating to the 3 key outcomes at 50% for most project categories, 30% for some and 70% for others to a maximum of \$100,000 per CFO and \$70,00 to commercial manure applicators.

Growing Forward 2 

*Alberta*  
Government

*Canada* 

#### Programs Accepting Applications

- \* Agri Processing Automation and Efficiency - Livestock
- \* Agri Processing Product and Market Development - Livestock
- \* Agriculture Watershed Enhancement
- \* Animal Health Biosecurity Delivery Agent
- \* Business Management Skills Development
- \* Business Opportunity
- \* Confined Feeding Operation Stewardship
- \* Food Safety Systems Delivery Agent
- \* Food Safety Systems Processor
- \* Irrigation Efficiency
- \* Livestock Welfare Processor
- \* On-Farm Energy Management
- \* On-Farm Stewardship
- \* On-Farm Water Management
- \* Regional Water Supply
- \* Traceability Pilot
- \* Traceability Technology Adoption
- \* Traceability Training

#### Programs Not Currently Accepting Applications

- \* Agri Processing Automation and Efficiency - Crop
- \* Agri Processing Product and Market Development - Crop
- \* Animal Health Biosecurity Producer
- \* Food Safety Systems Producer
- \* Livestock Welfare Delivery Agent
- \* Livestock Welfare Producer

Growing Forward 2 Programs are continuously updated and changes are made to the programs. All information on GF2 programs can be found at [www.growingforward.alberta.ca](http://www.growingforward.alberta.ca)

The best way to stay up to date on all things GF2 is to subscribe to the programs that you are interested in. The subscribe function can be found on the right side of the GF2 home screen.

PCBFA staff would be happy to help with your GF2 applications, so give us a call!

## Soil Health Conference Highlights

By Stacy Pritchard & Monika Benoit

2015 was the International Year of the Soils, and to wrap up a year of soil health awareness and great events across the province, the Western Canada Conference on Soil Health was hosted in Edmonton Dec 8-10, 2015. We had a great turnout for this conference, selling out registration before the early deadline for a total of 400 registrants representing producers, industry and the scientific community.



We started the conference hearing from Dr. Yamily

Zavala of the Chinook Applied Research Association, where she took us through the basics of soil health. She connected all of the components of soil health and showed us all how intricate the interactions between the physical, biological and chemical properties of soil are. One of the key messages was about the importance of mycorrhizal fungi, a topic that continued throughout the two days.

Following Dr. Zavala, Dr. Harold van Es of Cornell University in New York, brought us information on soil health assessment; what we should be measuring and how we can use the data we collect to build better soils. He talked about how soil health is the capacity of the soil to function and how when we improve our soil health we are investing in our land. One of his key messages was to start thinking beyond the traditional soil test and looking at soil holistic management with a soil health assessment. He also shared a great video on the Soil Health Institute that's worth checking out: <https://vimeo.com/147375088>

One of the highlights of the conference was Gabe Brown's presentation: Healthy Soils, Healthy Farms, Healthy Communities. I'm likely not alone in saying that I wish it had been longer! Gabe's experiences over the last 20 years have been influential in bringing about a change in thinking regarding how we view soil health and what is possible without the use of synthetic fertilizers. "The potential profitability of any farming or ranching operation is directly dependent on two things: the amount of carbon on one's operation and the ability of the owner to understand how soil functions." He spoke about the 5 principles of soil health that he has learned in the last 20 years, since 4 failed crops in a row drove him to looking at agriculture and soil in a new way. Those 5 principles are:

1. Least amount of mechanical disturbance possible
2. Armor on the soil surface at all times
3. Diversity drives soil health
4. Living plants in the soil as long as possible

### Animal integration

These 5 principles along with holistic management have allowed the Brown Ranch to reach the highly productive state that it is in today!

Next up for speakers was Dr. Jill Clapperton who talked about how "Healthy Plants Grow in Healthy Soil." She spoke about soil structure being very important for optimal root growth as well as being important for the predator-prey lifecycles in soil and nutrient cycling. She spoke a lot on how crucial the predator-prey cycle is critical to soil health due to the biological processes performed by both predator and prey. It is this biological activity that transforms and mineralizes the organic nutrients into the inorganic nutrients that plants and soil microbes use to grow and thrive. By modifying the soil environment with tillage, crop rotations and grazing we influence the ability of the soil to perform these essential activities (some modifications hinder and some enhance). So what's the bottom line then? The amount and quality of the soil organic matter are key, and we have the tools and the knowledge to manage soil health now, and in the future.

Dr. Allen Williams was able to speak to us twice over the two day conference. With the unique perspective of being both a scientist and a rancher, he was able to discuss management practices on his own operation as well as some of the 3,500 farmers and ranchers he has consulted with over the years. In his first presentation he discussed the use of soil microbial research as a replacement for chemical fertilizer. In his second presentation he walked us through how to effectively graze for soil health, discussing methods and management practices he has seen, used and recommended over the years, particularly Adaptive Grazing Management. Adaptive Grazing Management utilizes multi-paddock grazing strategies instead of continuous grazing. This strategy using multiple paddocks allows for grazing at high stock densities and has many benefits including vegetation and animal performance, as well as increasing soil health in the parameter of: soil aggregate stability, water infiltration rate and water holding capacity. This practice can also improve the fungi:bacteria ratio in the soil. Dr. Williams was a great addition to the conference bringing expertise and experience to Alberta from Mississippi!

The banquet speaker featured Nuffield Scholar, Blake Vince. Blake is a 5<sup>th</sup> generation farmer from Merlin, Ontario. During his presentation he took us through his journey as a farm kid learning the ropes and getting involved in no-till farming in a time when everyone else was still tilling, to trying a 5 species cover crop in 2012, and being selected as a



Nuffield Scholar in 2013. He told us about his Nuffield Journey across the globe to learn more about soil health, cover crops and how to farm without tillage. He met a number of influential people on his journey and learned a great deal about multi-species cover cropping around the world. Many of the message he shared with us had already been mentioned earlier in the day, or would be discussed on Thursday, but being able to see the impact cover crops and soil health is making around the world was inspiring!

Day 2 started off with Neil Dennis, a producer from southeastern Saskatchewan. Neil practices intensive grazing and has regenerated his land over the past 30 years to greatly increase his carrying capacity. Neil took over managing his family farm, which has been in the Dennis family for 115 years, and after struggling along for several years, Neil and his wife took a Holistic Management course, and have been managing their land differently ever since. Neil says that the wealth of a farm is directly dependent upon the health of the land. He has rejuvenated his once poor producing land using high stock density and proper recovery time. Neil gave an inspiring presentation showing how his land has changed with a focus on the health of his soil and some beautiful photos of his grass and cattle. Neil is headed up to the Peace Country for the PCBFA AGM on February 26<sup>th</sup> in Fairview. He will be spending a good portion of his presentation expanding on his talk from the conference, with a focus on some of his inventions and practices that make his job of moving stock regularly easy and time efficient!

One of the highlights of Day 2 had to be Dr. Odette Menard, whose area of expertise is earthworms! We learned about the various types of earthworms, a few different species (Did you know there are 14 species of earthworms in Alberta!?). We also learned that 1 ton of earthworms can make 2/3 inch of manure yearly. Dr. Menard took us through the relationship between soil health and earthworms. She talked about how the original reason we started plowing was for water management, weed control and fertility boosting, but those reasons are 150 years old, and yet we are still using them. She told us that the basis for healthy soil is to “cover and feed the soil”, going on to explain that we need to cover and feed the soil all the time by rethinking/redesigning rotations, and to cover and feed the soil properly by reducing or eliminating tillage. In terms of covering the soil – “brown is bad, gold is good and green is great.” And who can forget the videos Dr. Menard showed us. First of an earthworm pulling a whole corn leaf into its tunnel, and second, a video of earthworms mating!

The Conference wrapped up with a producer panel, each telling their story of “How & Why I Improved the Health of My Soil”. The panel consisted of 5 producers from across the province, including our own PCBFA member, Bill Hanson, who ranches with his family south of Valleyview. Bill talked about how they always makes decisions with the health of the soil at the forefront. They have implemented things like bale grazing and rotational grazing and have seen great improvement on their land over the 19 years they have been there. Besides improved grass production, they have also seen things such as a greater diversity of perennial species in their pastures, which they have never seeded. We heard from Ed Lang, of Walter Farms, a mixed operation that has been making management changes to improve their soil. They have been experimenting with cocktail cover crops, and have been very impressed with the results so far. Kelsey Beasley, who ranches with her husband in East Central Alberta gave us an energetic presentation, detailing how they are managing their land for long-term sustainability. Kelsey has a biology degree and had a very interesting perspective on looking after the biology in the soil. The Beasleys are currently running sheep on their operation, which they find to be great for having their young kids help out with. Ben Stewart of Prairie Land and Cattle Company near Hardisty gave a fascinating talk on the large operation that he is a part of. Ben is originally from New Zealand, and came to Canada years ago with a knowledge of intensive grazing practices and systems. He shared some of his knowledge on how he has adapted these systems for their ranch. Kevin Elmy was representing Saskatchewan on our panel, and gave us a very enlightening presentation on how his family manages their land for improved soil health. The Elmys run a grain operation and have adopted non-traditional agronomics, such as winter cereals in their rotation, millet and corn for grazing by their neighbor’s cows, soybeans and cover cropping. The Elmys practice holistic grain farming and have been successfully working with their neighbors to get the benefit of livestock on their land. The producer panel gave the audience a great opportunity to ask questions of producers who have been trying management techniques and systems designed with soil health in mind right in our own backyards. It was a very engaging conversation and a great way to wrap up an encouraging and enlightening conference!

2015, the International Year of Soils may be over, but PCBFA and other ARECA groups across Alberta will be continuing to hold extension events and we’re constantly working on applied research projects around this topic, so stay tuned! Keep this website, [www.albertasoilhealth.ca](http://www.albertasoilhealth.ca) handy, and watch for updates from PCBFA!

## Soil Health Applied Research Alliance



[albertasoilhealth.ca](http://albertasoilhealth.ca)





The PCBFA Board of Directors and Staff meet once every 2 months to go over the happenings with PCBFA. We will be electing 3 new board members at our Annual General Meeting February 26th at the Dunvegan Motor Inn in Fairview. For more information on becoming a board member, please give us a shout in Fairview at 780-835-6799 ext 2 or High Prairie at 780-523-4033!

### Environmental Farm Plans on Alberta Operations

Many Alberta producers are wondering if they need a current Environmental Farm Plan (EFP). The EFP is meant to be reviewed and upgraded regularly for each operation. It's simple to do. The program is coordinated by the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA) and EFP technicians are available across the province. A completed EFP is required for the On-Farm Stewardship categories of the Growing Forward 2 program. Stewardship is being tied to business opportunities and it is good to be prepared. There are many other reasons to complete an EFP too, including having a hard copy record of the environmental status of your operation, becoming more aware for the rules and regulations concerning the environmental impacts on farms including protecting water resources and air quality. EFPs can also contribute to the environmental sustainability of crop and livestock operations. Updating your EFP shows your commitment to being good stewards of the land and your commitment to meeting consumer expectations and food safety. By establishing that food is produced in an environmentally sustainable way in Alberta, also positions Alberta to be competitive in world markets.

Producers can use an online workbook. This workbook carries data entered to all areas of the plan where it is needed, provides quick access to information sources, ensures each section is complete prior to moving to the next and allows the EFP technician to see what is completed, answer questions and assist with finishing the plan.

To get started contact the ARECA office at 780-612-9712 or [info@albertaefp.com](mailto:info@albertaefp.com). You will then be matched to an available EFP

### Why Develop an EFP

- ◆ Improve farm health and safety
- ◆ To protect water resources, air quality
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- ◆ Agricultural sustainability
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- ◆ To demonstrate to the public, governments, regulators, lenders and/or investors that you are managing your environmental risks
- ◆ To increase your understanding of your legal requirements related to environmental issues.
- ◆ To identify what you are already doing well and pinpoint where improvements could be made.



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780-835-6799

Sabrina Westra, MARA  
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# Upcoming P

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Tactical Farming Conference</b>	<b>February 10-11th</b>	<b>Deerfoot Inn &amp; Casino. Calgary</b>
<b>Working Well Workshop</b>	<b>February 11th</b>	<b>High Prairie AgriPlex</b>
<b>Cocktail Cover Crop Selection Workshop</b>	<b>February 23rd</b>	<b>Rycroft Ag Society Hall</b>
<b>PCBFA Annual General Meeting</b>	<b>February 26th</b>	<b>Fairview Dunvegan Motor Inn</b>
<b>Solar Workshop</b>	<b>March 10th</b>	<b>High Prairie AgriPlex</b>
<b>Anne Wasko Beef Market Outlook at Peace Country Classic</b>	<b>March 11th</b>	<b>Grande Prairie Evergreen Park</b>
<b>Peace Country Beef School</b>	<b>March 15th</b>	<b>Grimshaw Venue TBA</b>
<b>Succession Planning Workshop with Merle Good</b>	<b>March 30th</b>	<b>Debolt Venue TBA</b>
<b>Young Farmer Inspirational Event</b>	<b>April 2016</b>	<b>Grande Prairie Venue TBA</b>
<b>Study Tour to Denver Colorado for National Western Stock Show!</b>	<b>January 2017</b>	



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# CBFA Events



Cost	Contact	In Collaboration With
See website for details	<a href="http://www.tacticalfarming.ca">www.tacticalfarming.ca</a>	BRRG, NPARA, LARA, PCBFA, Farming Smarter & MARA
Free	Kaitlin with PCBFA @ 780-835-6799	
\$15/Member, \$20/Non-Member	Kaitlin with PCBFA @ 780-835-6799	
\$55/Person \$75/Farm Unit	Kaitlin with PCBFA @780-835-6799	
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## It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

By Kaitlin McLachlan

PAGE 15

It is the most wonderful time of the year! That's right, calves are starting to hit the ground in the Peace Country! Whether you are in the midst of the calving madness or you have a few months to go before the fun begins, it's good to have some things in the back of your mind as we gear up for the calving madness!

Sometimes, when we get in the midst of calving, some things can start to fall by the way-side. We've had it happen on our farm – a spring storm rolls in, dumps a bunch of snow, cows (of course) have their babies in a snow bank or a puddle, then those calves then wind up getting sick. It is a vicious cycle that I'm sure most producers have dealt with – after all, we can't control the weather! We can however prevent other calves from getting sick with diseases such as scours, coccidiosis, and other nasty calving time illnesses that typically come on with the weather.

### Prepare your facilities

The best way that we can help to prevent the spreading of calving time diseases is to start clean and stay clean! Make sure that your calving area is clean and dry, with close proximity to shelter. Mud and snow are ideal conditions for common pathogens to multiply. Make sure to address any physical hazards such as nails sticking out of plank fences, loose wire or balls of twine. We all know how clumsy and curious calves can be, and we don't want them hurting themselves on preventable hazards. It is also a good idea to make sure that you have everything on hand that you may need. Items like disposable sleeves and gloves, calving jack,



OB chains, disinfectant, tube feeder, towels, sulfa drugs, jugs for water, pails for milk, tags, notebooks, and tattoo equipment are all invaluable in the midst of calving season when a trip to town is not always warranted.

### Vaccinate your cows

There are several diseases that can be vaccinated for before the calves even hit the ground. By utilizing pre-calving vaccinations on your cows, the anti-body in the vaccine becomes available to the calf through the cow's colostrum. If administered properly, this extra immunity boost in the calf's first hours can help mitigate the calf's risk of contracting diseases such as scours. Have a chat with your veterinarian about what pre-calving vaccinations are right for your herd.



### Colostrum

Colostrum is critical to the survival of a new born calf. A calf should be receiving between 1.5-2 litres of colostrum within the first 6 hours of its life. Colostrum contains a plethora of beneficial antibodies and bacteria that give the baby calf's immune system a boost! Calves out of first calf heifers are especially important to watch. Heifers typically produce less, and lower quality colostrum than mature cows. So it is very important to ensure heifer calves get up and get that first drink! If calves are unable to drink within the first 3 hours of their life, it is time to step in. They may need help getting

a drink, or if the cow doesn't have enough, colostrum off of other cows or replacer can be used.

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*Continued from page 15...*

### Controlling the “Bad Bugs”

Viruses such as *E. coli*, coccidia, cryptosporidia, and other nasty critters love damp conditions. The “perfect storm” for these viruses is a damp, crowded environment. Many of the pathogens that cause diseases like scours actually live in the cow’s gut and get spread whenever she lifts her tail. Then once a calf becomes sick, they start shedding billions of infectious particles themselves. In these kind of conditions, a ‘bad bug’ population explosion is imminent. If you are calving in a pen or a barn, it is important to try and keep those areas as dry as possible. Whether it’s busting out a fresh straw bale or moving animals to a drier pen after a heavy snow or a rain event, keeping a dry environment slows down the spread of harmful viruses significantly. Simple indicators like cow’s udders being clean and dry can indicate a favourable environment for preventing disease.

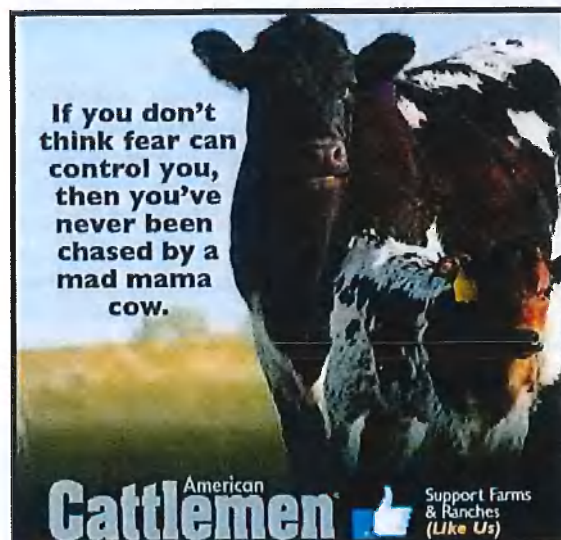


If you are having issues with calves getting sick with scours or coccidiosis, the next step is to separate the healthy and sick animals. This can sometimes be impossible due to facility restraints, but by getting the healthy calves out of the environment, you can be saving them from sickness and saving yourself some sleep! It is also important to ensure that we are not making calves sick with our own actions. Basic sanitation rules need to apply when dealing with sick calves – similar to dealing with sick kids. When helping out a child who is sick with the flu, you wash your hands before shaking hands with someone. Same should apply to the calving pen. In the spring when we’re calving, I have 2 sets of coveralls, one set for day-to-day use and one set I only wear when dealing with sick calves. Things like this help to mitigate the

spread of sickness in the calf herd. If you only have one set of coveralls, ensure that you are finished handling the healthy calves before tackling the sick ones and throw them in the wash right after. Never handle sick calves first! Also make sure that any equipment used in treating a sick calf is washed and disinfected between treatments. Separating equipment like tube feeders for healthy newborn calves and sick calves is also recommended.

Although we cannot control the weather or what comes out whenever a cow lifts her tail, we can control other variables. Learning how to best use the tools that we have available can make all the difference come calving time.

If you would like to learn more about mitigating sickness in your calves this spring, make sure to have a chat with your local veterinarian!





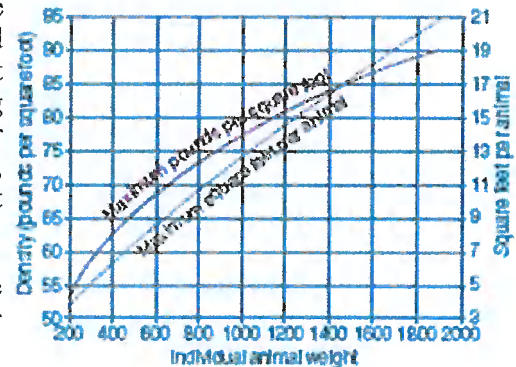
## Tips for Hauling Cattle

PAGE 17

Compiled by Carly Shaw

When hauling livestock it is important to remember that there are many rules and considerations to keep in mind for the safety of your cattle, yourself and your hauler. Below are some of the transportation guidelines which can be found on Alberta Agriculture & Forestry's website.

- Shippers are to ensure that cattle to be shipped are suitable to undergo transport. The transporter should accept only healthy animals for transport or risk prosecution.
- If the shipper pressures a driver into accepting an infirm animal, the driver should try to contact a regulatory inspector for advice. If the driver must take the animal it should be recorded on the manifest that the animal was loaded under protest and the liability is transferred back to the shipper, or whoever caused the infirm animal to be loaded.
- Market ready animals, especially older cows, bruise easily when they are handled roughly. When slaughtered, costly bruises must be trimmed from the carcass and disposed of. This animal is referred to as a dark cutter and is discounted significantly so drivers and shippers need to be aware of how their actions affect the final product.
- Stock prods should be used with discretion only on haired portions of the animal and never on the face. Prodding an animal that is either already moving or has no room to advance is unproductive. Whips, sorting sticks and canes must not be misused as they can cause bruising or injury.
- According to the Health of Animals Act, livestock must be able to stand in their natural position without their head coming in contact with a deck or roof. To the left is a chart that recommends loading densities in trailers by considering animal density, individual animal weight and square feet per animal. However weight restrictions, class of animal, distance to be travelled, weather, road bans, cattle comfort and special needs also need to be taken into consideration.
- If transportation is going to take longer than 52 hours, the cattle must be unloaded at the 48 hour mark for feed, water and a rest for a minimum of 5 hours.
- The unit must keep rolling during hot weather to ensure proper ventilation for the cattle and in cold weather bedding, such as shavings, should be used.



Despite taking all these precautions accidents can happen. So it is important to have a plan in place for emergency situations. The first thing to do in an emergency is call 911 and check to see if any humans are in need of medical assistance before checking the state of the animal. If the animal is safe where it is, supply it with



food and water, giving you time to plan a rescue strategy. When planning a rescue strategy you need to decide if it is a self-rescue, where the animal is able to rescue its self with some assistance, or a technical situation, in which the animal is unable to rescue itself and go from there. Always remember to make your safety a top priority in these situations so greater tragedy can be averted. The above information and so much more about handling emergencies can be found on [afac.ab.ca](http://afac.ab.ca) or their Facebook page Alberta Farm Care and keep a lookout for an emergency workshop put on by AFAC in your area.

Credit to Melissa Moggy & Alberta Farm Animal Care along with [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/beef11990](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/beef11990) for the wonderful information.

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## Keep Your 'P' Out of the River! As well as Your N, K, S & 2, 4-D!

By Kaitlin McLachlan

T-3 months until we see John Deeres and Seed Hawks roaring across fields here in the Peace Country! With all your seed and fertilizer pre-booked or already delivered, time to think about strategy in the field.

With commodity prices the way they are, you may be wondering how you can save some costs this year. Well time to bust out Alberta Agriculture's *Environmental Manual for Crop Producers in Alberta!*

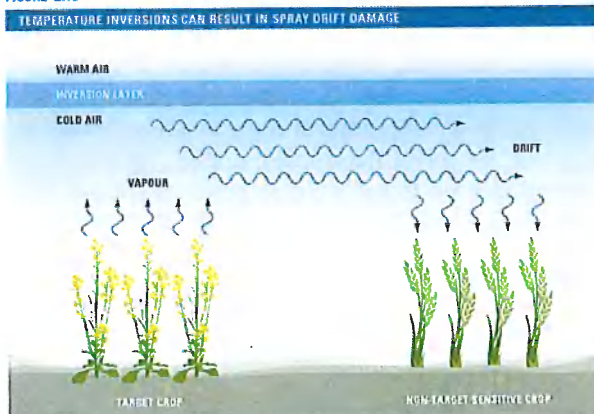
When putting down fertilizer, we want to ensure that we are getting the most bang for our buck! That means reducing the chances of losing the nutrient that we put down to things such as gas-off and run-off. Things to consider to prevent fertilizer nutrient loss:

- **Application Rate** – Set your yield goal and get your soil tested. Based on the recommendations given from your soil tests, you can match your nutrient needs based on your yield goal. However, make sure not to over apply! For example, the safe limit for side banding nitrogen with canola is 100-125lbs. After that, nitrogen toxicity effects the seedling and you become more susceptible to nitrogen loss.
- **Application Timing** - The most bang-for-your-buck comes from fertilizing in the spring when the crop goes in. This ensures the fertilizer being put down is there when the seed needs it.
- **Application Method** – Experiments done by Alberta Agriculture have proven that when broadcasting fertilizer, we actually loose more to run-off than we get benefit. Therefore, it is best to place fertilized in the seed row or side band. When placing in the seed row, use caution and ensure the rates aren't high enough to cause damage to the seedling.
- **Nutrient Form** – The chemical or physical properties of various commercial fertilizers affect how the nutrient is released – ie: urea vs slow release nitrogen. Make sure to apply fertilizers according to recommendations.
- **Buffer Zones** – By avoiding applying fertilizer in the wet areas around streams and wetlands, we won't be losing nutrient to the leaching process. According to the *Agricultural Operation Practices Act* under Alberta Agriculture, a buffer zone between where we are applying nutrients and a water body needs to be 30m wide.



Example of a buffer zone around a stream. Photo via: bwsr.state.mn.us

By ensuring that we are doing our best to decrease nutrient loss, we can save ourselves some money by using everything we put in the ground.



Adapted from: Figure 14 in Ozkan, H.; Erdal, 2000 Reducing Spray Drift. Bulletin 916-00. The Ohio State University Extension Bulletin.

Once the crop is up, it's time to pull the sprayer out of the shed. We all know how pricy herbicides and pesticides can be, so it's important not to waste!

Did you know that you actually have a legal responsibility to make sure that when you're spraying that it does not drift off your land? And your neighbour can sue for spray drift damage? So let's ensure we all do our best to reduce spray drift! Some ways to reduce drift include: slower travel speed, lower booms, use of spray shrouds, increased droplet size, avoiding temperature inversion (illustrated to the left), and use the AOPA's buffer zone regulations when spraying property lines. If using a custom sprayer, ensure that they have their Applicator's Licence.



So we've covered how to keep your chemical from blowing away, now let's make sure it doesn't wash away either! Depending on which pesticide you are using, the risk of runoff varies. Below is a chart outlining the run off potential of some common chemicals. So how can we ensure we don't lose chemical to run off? Leaving wide buffer zones around water bodies including; streams, rivers, wells, dugouts and sloughs that at least meet AOPA's 30m regulation. If there is rain in the forecast, don't spray. Not only will you not get a good kill, but it will wash away!

#### LOSS POTENTIALS OF SOME COMMON AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

PESTICIDE	RUNOFF POTENTIAL*	LEACHING POTENTIAL
Barvel	Small	Large
Basagran	Small	Medium
2,4-D Amine	Medium	Medium
Lexone, Sencor	Medium	Large
Linuron	Large	Medium
Poast	Small	Small
Roundup	Large	Small
Treflan	Large	Small
Counter	Medium	Small
Dylonate	Large	Medium
Bayleton	Medium	Medium
Tilt	Medium	Medium

\* Runoff potential: potential for transport of pesticide in runoff water

Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, 1992. Best Management Practices: Field Crop Production. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Aside from the physical application, there are other factors that can affect a chemical's ability to reach water. Spills when mixing in the sprayer should be cleaned up as soon as they happen. Pesticides are very soluble and can move through the soil much like water. Also when filling your sprayer, ensure that there is a check valve on the line you are using to fill as backflow from the sprayer tank to your water source is also possible. Backflow can have serious consequences on your personal water supply. Soil texture, slope of the land, and other factors also affect the runoff potential of chemical. Below is another chart that takes in some more factors to consider when using pesticides near water.

#### FACTORS AFFECTING PESTICIDE TRANSPORT TO WATER

CHEMICAL FACTORS	Solubility	Soluble pesticides will move easily with water and are more likely to leach through soil.
	Binding to soil particles	Some chemicals adhere very tightly to soil particles and are not subject to loss by dissolving into water, but can be carried to water bodies through erosion of soil particles.
	Rate of breakdown (half life)	A persistent chemical, because it is around longer, is more likely to be transported than one that breaks down quickly.
	Rate of application	A chemical with a low application rate is less likely to move away from the target.
	Timing of application	Chemicals applied in the fall or early spring have a greater chance of loss.
SOIL FACTORS	Texture	Sandy soils, which allow greater water movement and bind less tightly to chemicals, are subject to more losses.
	Slope	Steep slopes that are erosion prone are more likely to lose pesticides that are attached to soil particles.
	Depth to water table	Shallow water tables are more easily contaminated. In the spring and fall when water tables are high, chemicals are more likely to move downward and contaminate the groundwater.
APPLICATION FACTORS	Weather following spraying	Heavy rain within a few days of spraying can move significant proportions of the applied chemicals.
	Operator care	Excessive rates, uncalibrated sprayers, careless handling, spraying too close to streams or lakes, or spraying when it is too windy can all increase losses.

Adapted from: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, 1992. Best Management Practices: Field Crop Production. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, p. 36.



## Properly Disposing of Livestock Carcasses

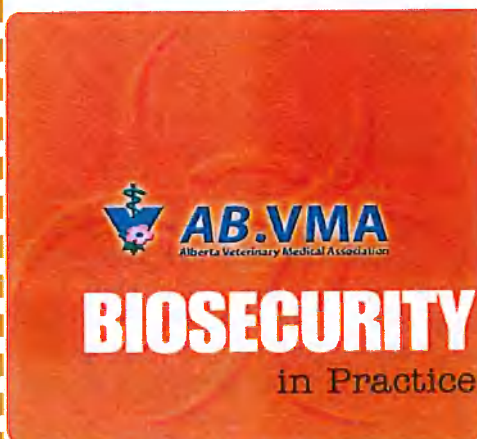
By Carly Shaw

When an animal dies it is often thought that it is okay to just dispose of it in the bush, but that may not always be the case. There are many rules, regulations and considerations to remember when disposing of an animal carcass. The book *Livestock Morality Management* put together by the Alberta government says some environmental considerations for improper disposal include:

- **Odour** – decomposition of organic matter, particularly the anaerobic (lacking oxygen) breakdown of proteins by bacteria, will produce a foul odour.
- **Scavengers** – ravens, magpies, coyotes, etc. and insects can transmit disease and are a nuisance.
- **Pathogens** – disease-causing spores may still be viable.
- **Excess Nutrients** – concentrated source of nitrogen.
- **Nuisance** – visible carcasses and bones fuel social issues and can puncture tires.



Depending on the reason of death there are five ways of disposal; (1) natural disposal, (2) livestock burial, (3) composting, (4) Incineration, (5) Rendering.



### Natural Disposal

AB.VMA warns in their book *Biosecurity in Practice* that natural disposal is only acceptable when the following conditions are met: disposed on property owned or leased by the owner of the animal, the animal was not euthanized with drugs or a chemical substance, total weight of animal does not exceed 1000kg per site, a distance of at least 500m between disposal sites, disposal site is at least 500m from wells or other domestic water intakes, 25m from the edge of a coulee, major cut or embankment, must be 400m from livestock facilities, residences, road allowance, provincial park, recreation area, natural area, wilderness area or forest recreation area.

### Livestock Burial

Livestock burial has both advantages and disadvantages, advantages being: inexpensive, biosecure and convenient. While disadvantages include: difficult/impossible in the winter, can cause ground pollution and pits must be 1m above seasonal high water table according to the AB.VMA. For more information on the exact regulations to follow when making a burial pit check out page 22 of the online manual created by AB.VMA at the following website: [www.abvma.ca](http://www.abvma.ca) under manuals



PCBFA has a copy of AB.VMA's Biosecurity in Practice if you would like to learn more about Biosecurity on your farm.

### Composting

Composting is a controlled process in which bacteria, fungi and other organisms break down organic material. For composting to occur there must be aerobic conditions, proper temperature, moisture, pH, proper carbon to nitrogen ration and maintaining at least a temperature of 55°C for at least 3 consecutive days. Some advantages of composting mentioned in *Livestock Morality Management* are: it is biosecure, can use year round, relatively inexpensive, environmentally sound, product can be sold or used, it is the best recommended method to handle catastrophic losses, and the heat given off in the composting process kills most pathogens, weed seeds, and insect larva. The disadvantages include; labour intensive, requires an impervious pad between the compost and the soil surface, bin disposal requires rot resistant walls and a cover to repel rain, takes time to develop the technique, and it requires a carbon source. The restrictions that must be followed can be found in the above mentioned website.

**Incineration**

Incineration must be done with correct equipment which does include a burn pile or barrel. You must use a double chamber incinerator which reaches temperatures of 850°C and provide oxygen to complete the burning process, reducing particulate and gas emissions (*Livestock Morality Management*). If you do not have access to an incinerator, this process may not be the best option for you.

**Rendering**

This process involves transporting or having carcasses picked up for a fee and transported to a disposal plant. The disposal plant then process the carcasses into feed ingredients like bone meal, meat meal or liquid fat to be used for various products. Costs for this process continue to increase and the logistics of collecting small volumes of carcasses on a frequent basis prevents this method from being widely accepted (*Livestock Morality Management*). Some advantages are that the carcass is removed from the farm and the rendering process destroys most diseases. Disadvantages to the rendering process include the risk of pathogenic transmission during pickup, and the increasing costs of the process.

Whichever way you decide to dispose of your carcasses make sure that you are following all of the rules and regulations in order to keep a biosecurity hazard off of your farm and a worry out of your mind!



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*By Carly Shaw*

The purpose of the On-Farm Food Safety program “is to help producers invest in equipment and tracking systems to improve On-Farm Food Safety (OFFS) practices, enhancing producers’ business competitiveness and food safety performance (GF2 website).”

To be eligible under this Program, applicants must have completed the On-Farm Food Safety (OFFS) training for the species they produce. For beef producers, the OFFS training is offered through Alberta Verified Beef Production (VBP) as of the date of application. There are two ways in which you can complete VBP’s training program, either online at [www.albertaverifiedbeef.com](http://www.albertaverifiedbeef.com) or watch for an in-person workshop being put on by PCBFA. In a nutshell, this training addresses the some of the main concerns when it comes to On-Farm Food Safety. If your operations has livestock other than beef, there are species appropriate training required for every species, and these are available on the GF2 website: <http://growingforward.alberta.ca>.

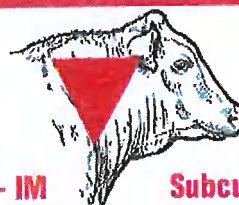


Example of an eligible squeeze chute with a neck extender under GF2’s On-Farm Food Safety Systems Program. Photo via: [morandindustries.com](http://morandindustries.com)

Some common on-farm food safety practices can include group health treatment records, ensuring proper insertion of needles so they don’t break, injecting needles in the proper areas and weighing cattle to ensure the proper dosage is being administered so as to not leave antibiotic residue. These are the types of activities that are eligible for funding. Under this program, successful applicants can receive reimbursement of 70% of eligible activities which include cattle squeeze chutes equipped with a neck extender, individual animal weigh systems, medical treatment software or herd management software that allows for tracking of medical treatments, and electronic animal thermometers. Maximum payment under the program is \$5,000 and you must complete your activities within the government fiscal year in which you apply (between April 1 and February 28). A complete list of all of the eligible equipment for cattle, including squeezes, medical treatment software or herd management software and scale systems can be found at on the Growing Forward 2 Website, under the FAQs on the On-Farm Food Safety Systems program.

Monitoring group health treatment records are an important aspect of food safety. Tracking this information allows you to consider the treatment dates and the withdrawal periods on medications to ensure that residues do not enter the food chain. Another important practice to implement during vaccinations is preventing broken needles. You can do this by; making sure that the animal is securely restrained with proper equipment like neck extenders on the chute; using only sharp, straight, detectable needles that are the appropriate size and length for the injection being given and changing needles every 10 animals or every time when dealing with a sick animal.

**INJECTION TECHNIQUES FOR BEEF CATTLE**

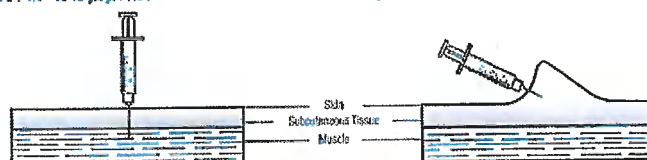


**Intramuscular - IM**

All intramuscular injections should be given in the neck muscle behind the base of the ear and ahead of the shoulder point. Use a 1-1 1/2" - 1 3/8" gauge needle.

**Subcutaneous - SC**

To minimize excess drainage, insert needle into loose, tented skin of neck in front of shoulder (preferred injection method). Use a 3/8" - 1" gauge needle.



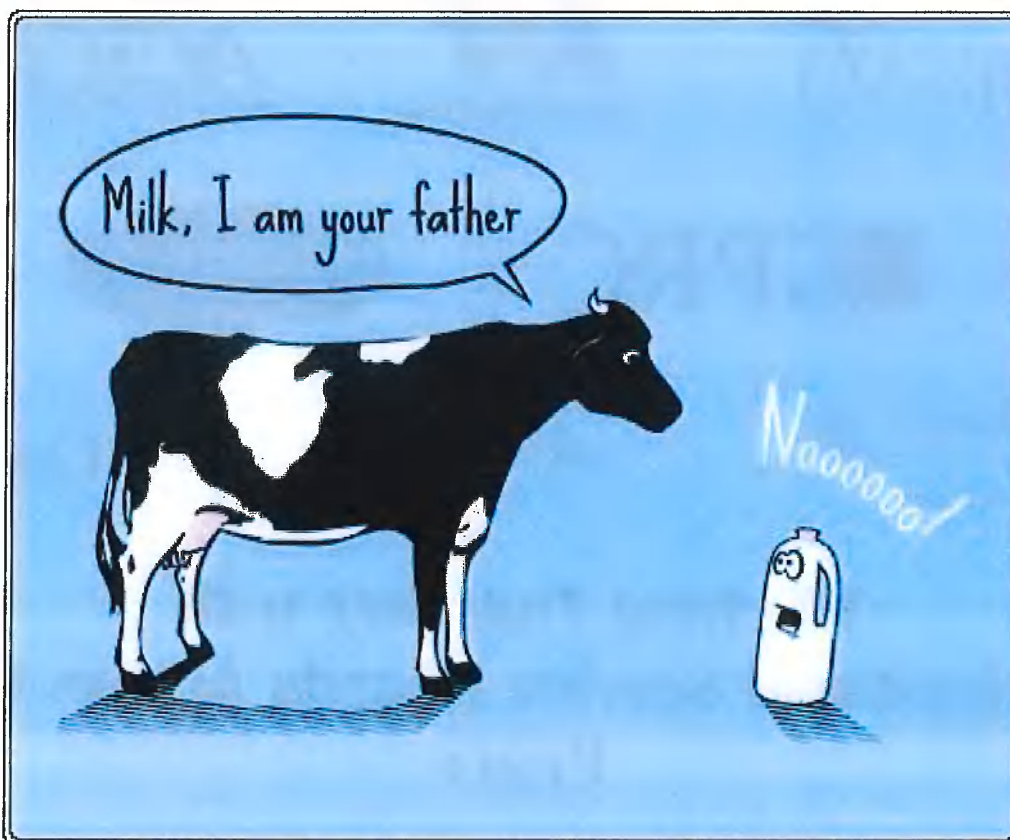
Remember to keep watch for the opening of the On-Farm Food Safety Program during spring and get your training done early in order to be proactive and ready to apply for equipment under this program! We expect this program to reopen after April 1st, 2016, so stay tuned for more updates and if you wish to subscribe to GF2 updates please visit the Growing Forward 2 website. And as always, if you would like assistance in filling out any Growing Forward paperwork, please feel free to give us a call or drop by the office!

**Growing Forward 2** 

A federal-provincial-territorial initiative

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Even the cows are getting into Star Wars!

***Check Out Our Website For More Details on Our Projects,  
Events and Past Publications:***

***[www.peacecountrybeef.ca](http://www.peacecountrybeef.ca)***



For more information about any of our field tours, workshops or project sites please call either Peace Country Beef and Forage Association Office. Fairview 780-835-6799 or High Prairie 780-523-4033



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**What is the difference between permaculture and sustainability?**

**Do I need a lot of land to get started in permaculture?**

**I'm not great at gardening. How can permaculture help me?**

**Why is it important to rotate my vegetable crops each season?**

**What size should my garden patch be? Where is the ideal site?**

**What tools are essential for someone who is just starting to garden?**

For our last one hour session, Rob and Jim will come together to answer your most burning questions related to permaculture and gardening. The questions can be related to the information that was presented at the conference, or not. If there is something that has been bothering you about your green thumb or how to incorporate permaculture design elements into your backyard, acreage or farm, come to the session prepared with your questions and be ready for some excellent answers!

**Cost \$80/person (incl lunch)**

Funding for the Conference includes the GPRC Waller Paszkowski Agriculture Legacy Endowment Fund

To learn more contact 780.251.0119 • [kacurrie@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:kacurrie@gprc.ab.ca)

Registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

**GPRC**

To register contact 780.835.6614 • 1.888.539.4772 or visit [gprc.me/permaculture](http://gprc.me/permaculture)



**Chris Warkentin, MP**  
**Grande Prairie-Mackenzie**  
**Official Opposition Critic for Agriculture**  
**and Agri-Food**

# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Warkentin Calls on Liberal Government to Take Action on Grain Transportation

**OTTAWA, February 26, 2016** – Chris Warkentin, Member of Parliament for Grande Prairie–Mackenzie and Official Opposition Critic for Agriculture and Agri-Food, called on the Liberal Government to quit stalling and take action on the report examining Canada’s rail transportation system.

This report was the culmination of an expedited review process driven by the previous Conservative government that sought, along with the *Fair Rail for Grain Farmers Act*, to address chronic backlogs that were stopping Canadian farmers from getting their product to market.

“What we saw a few years ago was simply unacceptable. Our farmers had recorded a record harvest and were left with no way to move their grain,” Warkentin said. “Our Party responded quickly and instituted this review so that our farm families could get their products to market in a timely fashion.”

“Farmers expect the government to take action and are now only being promised more meetings, more consultations, and more reports,” Warkentin continued. “This is an example of how the Liberals are simply out of touch with our agricultural sector.”

Warkentin advised that the federal government must come up with its plan for grain transportation before the *Fair Rail for Grain Farmers Act* expires in August. Grain transportation, Warkentin noted, has been an issue for decades, and continues to be a major issue for western Canadian farmers.

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