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The crop may soon overtake canola in Manitoba. | **P. 15**



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### Churchill progress

A First Nations consortium signs a non-binding deal to buy the northern port. | **P. 60**



## DIVERGENCE: IF GM TECHNOLOGY IS SAFE, WHY DON'T CONSUMERS TRUST IT?

BY MICHAEL RAINE  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Food is tied to much more than the industries and science that produce it. Its popular history is not in the plant breeding or the planting or the plants and animals themselves. It is in the preparation and the consumption.

And in large part, because of that, the rest of food's story is based on trust.

Consumers trust that food's route to their homes is safe, ethical and sustainable. While they don't know every detail of its production and route through the food processing

and distribution world, they do want a general feeling of safety.

This past fall, the American government signed into law an initiative that would require its agriculture department to develop a labelling standard for food that would capture the relationship between genetic modification and the food under the label.

That was done largely to pre-empt a single state regulation that GM food ingredients be labeled in Vermont. And what happens in the United States has a way of trickling across the border.

SEE DIVERGENCE, PAGE 4 >>

### Related stories:

Making the case for GM labelling | **P. 43**

Canola group helps consumers make sense of their food fears | **P. 44**

Farmers clash with food company over GMOs | **P. 52**



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING @ PRODUCER.COM

## FEATURES



**GM FOOD POLL**  
This week's Western Producer features a number of stories on GM food and consumer trust. What can farmers do to help build that trust?



**GM IN AG TIMELINE**  
In 1972, U.S. researchers laid the foundation for blending genes from a variety of organisms. Check out our timeline of major developments in GM and agriculture.



**NEONIC BAN POLL**  
A University of Guelph expert says the government's decision to ban neonics was political, an "over-reaction" and a mistake. What do you think?

## VIDEOS

**FOOD WORKSHOPS**  
This group aims to mellow out some of the heated arguments about food.



**MARKETS WRAP**  
WP Markets editor D'Arce McMillan returns with his first look at crop markets in 2017.



**PLUS:** We're calling this week's WP our "GMO issue." In it, we hope to shed light on the relationships between consumer and producer.

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GM TECHNOLOGY

# Consumers still opposed to GM food

If given a choice, most consumers would choose to buy a non-GM food item – though most don't read the labels

BY KAREN BRIERE  
REGINA BUREAU

Health Canada says the results of a 2016 survey of consumer views on genetically modified foods will help the department communicate to Canadians.

However, opinions remain largely unchanged from previous research that showed consumers are skeptical about, if not completely opposed to, genetically modified foods, the report said.

"The findings from this public opinion research will be used by Health Canada to more effectively communicate to Canadians how food products derived from biotechnology are assessed and regulated under the Food and Drug Regulations, as well as the safety of these products," said a statement issued after federal health minister Jane Philpott was unavailable for an interview.

GM foods have been on the Canadian market for decades and although government has repeatedly assured consumers of their safety, consumers remain wary.

The report, done by the Strategic Counsel market research firm last March after consulting focus groups and an online survey, found people don't know much about GM foods, don't understand why they are necessary, and don't know which information to believe.

This is a challenge for policy makers and those tasked with communicating food safety and regulatory policies, such as Health Canada, the report said.

"The massive anti-GMO movement, and accompanying volume of information, presents a significant challenge for Health Canada in terms of being a credible neutral regulator, in that there would be a strong likelihood that any decisions/announcements would be received through a conditioned lens."

Key among the findings is consumers' lack of basic understanding of food science and technology.

Sixty-one percent of respondents said the term genetic modification is negative, and many believe that process involves injecting foods with hormones, antibiotics, ste-



# 61%

OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS HAVE A NEGATIVE VIEW OF THE TERM GENETIC MODIFICATION. MANY BELIEVE THE PROCESS INVOLVES INJECTING FOODS WITH HORMONES, ANTIBIOTICS, STEROIDS OR OTHER SUBSTANCES

roids or other substances.

"The term 'Franken-food' came up in almost every focus group in the context of discussions about GM foods, although many consumers clearly know very little about the actual science of genetic modification," the report said.

"It is clear that, for quite some time, there has been and continues to be an information void on this issue which has been rather successfully filled by the anti-GMO view."

The survey found 26 percent of

respondents said they would be comfortable eating GM foods and only 22 percent supported their development and sale in Canada.

"It is clear that significant efforts to inform and educate Canadians would be required in order to shift views in a more positive direction."

The results were similar across the focus groups and the survey, indicating little difference in opinions by demographics or region.

Even on the Prairies, where con-

sumers might be considered closer to the farm, parents in the focus group were more neutral to negative in their initial impression of GM foods, compared to the general population, which tended to be neutral to positive.

"What was perhaps somewhat surprising in this location was that there was virtually no significant difference between Saskatoon and other locations in terms of their understanding of and views regarding GM foods," said the report.

Quebec City focus group participants appeared to have greater confidence in the safety of GM foods.

But the report also identifies that nearly half of the respondents don't understand why GM foods are necessary. Consumers don't believe the argument that genetic modification will produce more affordable, sustainable food and ensure food supply.

More than half believe GM is a way for corporations to increase their profits, and 78 percent want their GM food labelled.

But the research also found that 76 percent of respondents still list price as the most significant factor when they buy food.

To Stuart Smyth, a University of Saskatchewan professor who researches biotechnology and innovations, it signals that consumers say one thing but do another.

"They may respond to a survey and say absolutely I want this or I want that, but when the rubber meets the road and they're in the grocery store, it's get in, get what you want, and get out as quick as you can," he said.

Similarly, 78 percent of respondents believe that GM foods should be labelled but 45 percent said they rarely or never look at labels.

"I struggle to see how they can get to 78 percent of a concern level," Smyth said. "Consumer purchasing decisions don't correlate to what they're expressing."

Still, the survey found that, if consumers had a choice, 62 percent would choose to buy a non-GM food item.

Finally, the report noted that 70 percent of Canadians view the federal government as a trustworthy source when it comes to GM foods. This compares to 54 percent of scientists working for food product companies and half of environmental activists.

Smyth said governments, agriculture and academics have not communicated the technology well and it will likely take decades more to educate consumers.

The study cost \$119,060.19.

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## HIGHLIGHTS ON THE ROAD TOWARD GENETIC MODIFICATION IN AGRICULTURE

**1972:** Researchers at Stanford University and the University of California use enzymes to cut a piece of bacterial DNA and replace it with another strand. This forms the basis for rDNA, the blending of genetics from a variety of organisms.

**1974:** Rudolf Jaenisch and Beatrice Mintz at MIT use rDNA tools and introduce foreign DNA into mouse embryos.

An international moratorium on genetic engineering research mostly squelches research.

**1975:** The Asilomar Conference creates guidelines for genetic modification and leads to innovation in rDNA and ultimately innovation in agriculture and health sciences. It also establishes standards for public disclosure about genetic research.

**1977:** At Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, Mary Dell Chilton discovers that the genes in bacteria responsible for causing plant disease could be removed from bacteria without adversely affecting its ability to insert its DNA into plant cells and modify the plant's genome.

Allan Maxam and Walter Gilbert at Harvard University developed a sequencing method for DNA. It was later replaced with chain termination tools, but it led the way to other discoveries.

**1978:** Synthetic insulin created from a transgenic, genetically modified bacteria is developed by Herbert Boyer.

**1982:** The synthetic insulin Humulin is approved by the FDA and other health administrations.

**1980:** GMO patent is issued for the first time for a bacteria that breaks down oil after a spill in water.

**1983:** Mary Dell Chilton and her colleagues create the first genetically modified plants using Agrobacterium-carrying, disarmed Ti plasmid. She is dubbed the "queen of Agrobacterium."

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>

## DIVERGENCE

» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Science in recent times used genetic modification to create bacteria that produce medications and drugs that save human lives, crops with built-in pesticides that reduce the need for more dangerous chemicals and improve farm sustainability and plants and animals that yield more efficiently and produce fewer pollutants.

People were using selective plant breeding in southwestern Asia 9,700 years ago to produce domestic varieties of wheat. Another cereal, corn, was derived by man from a plant called teosinte, which had tiny ears and few kernels. Today, next to wheat and rice, it is one of the food starch staples of modern society.

Selection of genetics through plant and animal breeding has generated all of the food that humans now rely on. Only since 1973 have we been able to manually adjust those genetic selections.

Since that time, the tools to make those changes are more refined and efficient, saving decades of cross-breeding time and the money.

After the 1973 breakthrough in genetic modification, the world stopped to take a breath as scientists, politicians and the media considered and analyzed the enormity of what had been achieved. In the space of a year, research into transgenics had come to a halt while society considered the potential ramifications on the planet's ecology and on human health. A meeting of leading scientists in 1975 created rules around genetic modification research.

Five years later, the first GM bacteria patent was granted and approved for use. It was a bacteria that broke down oil after a spill.

In 1982, GM bacteria that produced synthesized insulin was approved. In the early 1990s, the Flavr Savr tomato was approved for sale and, after nearly a decade of testing, GM crops arrived, starting with B.t. insect resistance and followed in 1996 with glyphosate tolerance in soybean and then corn and canola.

Canadian researchers at the University of Guelph produced the Enviropig, a reduced phosphorous excreting animal, which was approved for commercial production but never released, and Canada is one of the first countries to approve genetically modified salmon and apples for production and consumption.

While science forms the basis for Canadian regulation, public acceptance does not necessarily follow that same logical path.

Last fall, Health Canada released a report it commissioned to get a sense of Canadians' opinions surrounding GM use in food production. The majority of Canadians have a poor understanding of the role of GM in their food, the study found. Their understanding of the processes have largely been shaped by negative or controversial media, both social and mainstream, and has been reinforced by non-governmental groups that claim a leading stake in the environment's protection and anti-GM advocates. The findings suggest that Canadians' understanding of science is low, and as a result, their trust in it is also low.

In this edition of *The Western Producer*, we look at some of these opinions, the science and realities of GM in Canada today.

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GM FOOD

# Farmers play important role in building consumer trust

The perception that many consumers have of modern farms can colour their expectations of the food they buy – so those perceptions should help shape how farms operate

BY BRIAN CROSS  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

When Canadian grocery buyers think about farmers, what images come to mind?

Do they see a trustworthy, tractor-driving character who wears a straw hat, striped coveralls and a red flannel shirt to work every day?

Or do they see low-income wage earners, working on a massive factory farm, where values such as environmental stewardship and animal welfare play second fiddle to more important motives like efficiency and profitability?

Is the consumer's typical farmer someone who carries a pitchfork to work, picks free-range

eggs by hand, and wakes up at day-break to care for animals that live in a red, hip-roofed barn?

Or is their typical farmer someone who produces hundreds of tonnes of unprocessed food every year and sells his product to a multinational processor or a globally integrated export company?

Is today's farmer someone who applies more chemical pesticides than ever to his fields and grows genetically modified crops because they are easier to manage and more profitable?

Or is he someone who cares for every plant by hand and manages his crops personally in hopes of ensuring safety and quality?

When it comes to food produc-

tion and food marketing, imagery can be a powerful tool.

But in many cases, the images conveyed on food packages and supermarket shelves create a false perception of how many modern farms operate.

Similarly, the images and claims available to consumers through the internet and social media can be equally misleading, leading to a relationship of distrust and misunderstanding between the people who buy food and the people who grow it.

Agriculture has changed dramatically during the past few decades. But have consumer attitudes toward farmers and food production changed at the

same pace?

The relationship between consumers and farmers was a key theme during a recent event hosted by Farm and Food Care Saskatchewan.

The Farmers at the Table conference, held Dec. 14-15 in Saskatoon, attracted almost 200 delegates.

The conference had many objectives. One of them was to dispel common myths about modern agriculture. Another was to close the gap between consumer expectations and the reality of modern farm practices.

"When it comes to trust, the

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE »

## (CON'T) MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS ABOUT GENETIC MODIFICATION IN AGRICULTURE

**1991:** A tomato with a fish gene enables the plant to resist frost. Licensed by the USDA, it fails to reach the market due to poor public reception. Researchers create transgenic tomatoes with cereal genes to resist drought, while those with tobacco genes improve drought and soil salinity stress tolerance.



**1994:** The Flavr Savr tomato is licensed for human consumption in the U.S. It has an extra tomato gene that interferes with the production of an enzyme that degrades pectin in fruit, causing it to spoil. It failed to garner commercial success due to few consumer features and was withdrawn from the market in 1997.

**1995:** DNA Plant Technology Corporation, using USDA licensed genetics, produces Endless Summer tomatoes, which contain a gene that suppresses nearly all ethylene emissions. These tomatoes can remain on the plant longer and remain fresh twice as long at the grocers. Licensing issues prevent commercial release.

The U.S. approves use of B.t. genetics in crops.

**1996:** Herbicide resistance genetics are approved in U.S. and Canadian crops, paving the way for Monsanto's Roundup Ready soybean.

**1999:** Papaya ringspot resistant fruit released in Hawaii and approved in the U.S. and Canada for consumption.

The first Enviropig, a lower phosphorus excreting pig, is born at the University of Guelph. The pigs produce the enzyme phytase in their salivary glands.

**2000:** Golden rice, a vitamin A-rich cereal, is developed to improve human health, largely in Asia. In 2005, Syngenta produces an improved version with higher beta-carotene content. Greenpeace and others denounce it.



GETTY PHOTO

three main issues with consumers right now are GMOs, antibiotics and animal welfare,” said FCCS executive director Clinton Monchuk.

“Those are the three main things that consumers have told us, through surveying, that they have concerns with. So our messaging going forward is going to be focusing on these issues.”

“We have a role to play in making sure that consumers understand and trust modern agriculture.”

Food economist Terry Scott, a speaker at the conference, said today’s consumers demand more information than ever about the food they consume.

Through their wallets, their computers and their smartphones, today’s grocery shoppers wield more influence than ever over the way food is produced and sold in North America.

For proof, doubters need only look at recent marketing campaigns launched by food retailers and restaurant chains such as McDonald’s, Earls and A & W.

With consumer influence at an all-time high, the need to gain consumer trust at all points of the supply chain has never been more important.

“What I’m finding with the primary producer within the last three years is that they’re more and more in tune

with where consumer trends are going,” said Scott.

“They’re interested in learning about (consumer trends), they’re spending a lot of time on it and they’re thinking about it.”

“That said, the farming industry is not an industry... where attitudes change very quickly, and that’s not necessarily a bad thing.”

“It’s not unlike some of the big (food retail) companies, like Loblaw’s, Wal-Mart and McDonald’s. These companies don’t make decisions based on knee-jerk reactions and neither should farmers.”

The key, according to Monchuk and Scott, is to close the gap between consumer perceptions of agriculture and realities of everyday life on today’s modern farms.

Farmers need to be profitable. But they also need to be keenly aware of the importance that consumers place on issues such as environmental stewardship, animal welfare and food safety.

The use of GM crops presents an interesting case study.

According to Scott, food retailers and processors are capitalizing on opportunities to differentiate their products from others’.

Through differentiation, retailers can cater to specific segments of the food market.

For example, products that claim

to be organic, gluten-free, natural, ethically produced, low-sodium or locally sourced are more common in today’s supermarket aisles.

Wiley consumers want to know what’s in their food, where it’s from and who’s behind it, Scott said.

Food sellers and food producers who answer these questions are more likely to gain a larger share of the overall food market.

“I don’t think (GMO labelling) should be mandated, but I think it should be voluntary,” Scott said.

“People want to know what’s in their food. So if your packaging voluntarily says GMO-free, then you are saying to a certain segment of the market that wants that particular type of product: ‘Here you go. Here’s a GMO-free product.’”

“I don’t think mandatory labelling is anything that’s going to get you anywhere, but I can see it as being a sales point of differentiation.”

Kevin Folta, a professor and chair of the horticultural sciences department at the University of Florida, also suggested that GMO labelling should be voluntary.

Largely through his presence on social media, Folta has positioned himself on the front lines of the debate over the safety of GM foods.

An outspoken supporter of GM technology, Folta insists that GM foods are safe for consumers,

though perhaps not always for the environment.

“For health, they are absolutely safe and this has been determined through 20 years of use and (massive) amounts of testing before any products hit the market,” he said. “There are some environmental concerns that have come from the overuse of good technologies.”

“Weed resistance and insect resistance are examples of things that have come about because of too much reliance on GM technology but these are problems that are now getting new solutions.”

According to Folta, it’s a good thing that today’s consumers crave more information about the food they’re eating.

What’s often worrisome is how they fill that craving.

In their search for information, some consumers are turning to what Folta calls “merchants of doubt”—individuals and organizations that spread fear and misinformation about beneficial technologies such as genetic modification.

“I think it’s great that consumers want to learn more about their food,” Folta said.

“The problem is that scientists and agricultural producers have not been really excited to tell them. Going forward, I think it’s going to be an opportunity for us to share

that information and to tell consumers the good things about agriculture and about food.”

Like Scott, Folta believes that voluntary labelling for GM products would be preferable to mandatory labelling.

Instead of focusing energy on mandatory labels, the farming and food industries should spend more time defusing misinformation and building a higher level of trust with consumers.

“I think there’s opposition to (GM) labels because there’s still a perception out there that (GM) foods are somehow second rate or perhaps dangerous,” Folta said.

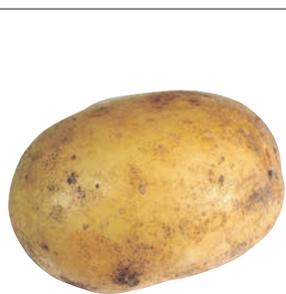
“I’m not so sure that consumers fully appreciate supply chains and the way food is produced,” he added.

“Instead, they go to the supermarket, they see the terminal products and they know that the ingredients came from a farm at some point. In many cases, they know very little about what it takes to get that food to their table.”

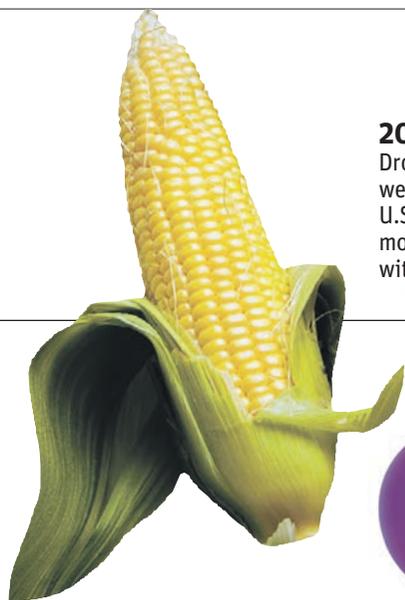
“Consumer trust will come when our best agents, the farmers themselves, are engaging the public directly.”

*brian.cross@producer.com*

**FOR RELATED STORIES, SEE PAGE 22 >>**



**2010:** BASF produces Amflora potatoes, which contain a starch that can be processed into a product used in paper making. It was approved for industrial applications by the European Commission, but in 2012 the potato is withdrawn from the EU market.



**2013:** Monsanto releases Drought Guard corn in the western Great Plains of the U.S. The corn reduces its moisture losses when faced with drought stress.



**2014:** A blue tomato crop is grown by New Energy Farms in Ontario for U.K. researchers. The purple-fleshed tomato contains high levels of anthocyanins, an antioxidant. Genes from two other plants were used to develop the tomato, likely for a North American market because EU licensing is challenging.

**2015:** The AquaAdvantage salmon is the first genetically-modified animal approved for human consumption in the U.S. Release was blocked by Congress until the Food and Drug Administration create a GM labelling system. Environment Canada approves AquaAdvantage salmon egg production for commercial use. Non-browning Arctic Apples are approved in Canada. Okanagan Specialty Fruits receives U.S. approval in 2016.

**2016:** CFIA approves the sale of the AquaAdvantage salmon in Canada. The GM fish contains genes from another fish that grows year round and matures twice as fast on two-thirds the feed.

# MARKETS



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An analyst expects flax prices to “percolate higher over the winter” and advises growers to hang onto their crop until March. | FILE PHOTO

## CANADIAN EXPORTS

# EU could boost flax price

Lower maximum residue limits have slowed Black Sea region imports, opening the door for Canadian grain

BY SEAN PRATT  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

The tweaking of a maximum residue limit is creating an opportunity for Canadian flax in Europe.

The European Commission tightened its tolerance level for haloxyfop last summer to .01 parts per million from .1 parts per million.

Haloxyfop is a Dow grass herbicide that is used extensively on flax crops in Russia and Kazakhstan but is not registered in Canada.

“Some (Black Sea) cargoes this fall got caught under that tighter limit,” said Chuck Penner, analyst with LeftField Commodity Research.

John Duvenaud, analyst with Wild Oats Grain Market Advisory, said the tighter MRL has not completely shut down European imports from the Black Sea region, but it has certainly slowed the volume of trade.

“European importers have become super-cautious about doing further business with these suppliers,” he wrote in a recent newsletter.

Canada was the major supplier of flax to Europe until traces of

Triffid, a genetically modified variety, was discovered in Canadian shipments to the European Union.

The EU drastically curtailed its imports of Canadian flax in the wake of the Triffid incident, creating a void that was filled by the Black Sea region.

Buyers in the EU who have become accustomed to sourcing flax from the Black Sea region are now looking elsewhere.

**They're starting to poke around for Canadian flax, so that's what caused some of the bids to jump.**

CHUCK PENNER  
LEFTFIELD COMMODITY RESEARCH

“They're starting to poke around for Canadian flax, so that's what caused some of the bids to jump,” said Penner.

Grower bids were up about \$1 per bushel by the end of 2016 compared to where they were at harvest time.

The problem is the new source

of demand materialized just before the St. Lawrence Seaway closed, which is the transportation route for most Canadian flax heading to Europe.

Some flax did move through the seaway prior to its closure. According to the Canadian Grain Commission, 31,200 tonnes of the crop was exported through Thunder Bay as of Dec. 18.

Duvenaud is advising growers to refrain from selling their flax into a tight system. He thinks there will be better opportunities ahead.

“Expect prices to percolate higher over the winter,” he wrote in the *Wild Oats* newsletter.

“Expect users to return to the table once the fall delivery push abates.”

Penner said the price response will depend on how much of the Black Sea crop was sprayed with haloxyfop.

“If all of it is affected, well then it's a big problem.”

He said it will be clear that the problem is severe if prices continue to escalate. If they get high enough, Canadian exporters will find alternative transportation routes for shipping flax to Europe because ocean freight rates are cheap.

He thinks prices will stay flat for a while and begin climbing in early March in advance of the re-opening of the seaway if there is a big problem.

A seasonal bump in flax prices used to occur in March when Europe was the major buyer of the crop, and that bump could return in 2017.

However, Canadian exporters could face challenges servicing the new European demand.

Farmers harvested 577,000 tonnes of the crop in 2016, down 39 percent from the previous year. There are quality issues with some of that flax, and an estimated eight percent of the crop won't be harvested until spring.

There are 274,000 tonnes of carryout from the 2015 crop, which will bolster supplies. However, exporters also have to service China, which is buying about 30,000 tonnes per month, Duvenaud said.

Agriculture Canada is forecasting 200,000 tonnes of flax carryout in 2016-17.

“That number will almost certainly be lower when the smoke clears,” said Duvenaud.

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## CANOLA PRODUCTION

# Canola crush, exports on target

Members of the Canadian Oilseed Processors Association are operating at 88.5 percent of capacity

BY SEAN PRATT  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Canada's canola processors should have no problem meeting Agriculture Canada's domestic crush estimate for 2016-17.

“It wouldn't be surprising to see us reach nine million tonnes of crush in 2016-17,” said Chris Vervaet, executive director of the Canadian Oilseed Processors Association.

COPA members had crushed 3.43 million tonnes as of Dec. 14, which is 419,000 tonnes ahead of the previous year's pace.

Agriculture Canada is forecasting 8.9 million tonnes of crush, which is only slightly lower than its export estimate of 9.5 million tonnes.

The Canola Council of Canada expects domestic crush to soon overtake exports.

In its *Keep it Coming* document, the council forecasts 14 million tonnes of crush and 12 million tonnes of exports by 2025.

“We are well on the way to meeting that target,” Vervaet told delegates attending the Canola Industry Meeting.

## Capacity increasing

COPA members almost tripled their crush capacity from 2005-16. It is now at 10.7 million tonnes. Crushers are operating at 88.5 percent of capacity compared to 82.9 percent a year ago.

Eighty-five percent of the four million tonnes of oil and five million tonnes of meal produced by COPA members is exported.

The United States is by far the biggest market, consuming 64 percent of the oil followed by China at 16 percent.

“We're hoping markets outside of the United States continue to take up a bigger piece of that pie,” he said.

The U.S. accounted for more than 90 percent of meal exports until very recently, but China has been coming on strong the past couple of years and now makes up 20 percent of meal exports.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>

WHEAT EXPORTS

# Crop mission addresses gluten issue

Overseas buyers were reassured that Canada has an ample supply of high quality wheat

**BY ED WHITE**  
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Sometimes a sales call is just about reassuring customers that you're still there and still have good products, says a farmer who represented Canada on some of the recent New Crop Missions.

That's especially true after your reputation has been knocked.

"There's still a little bit of concern about gluten strength," said Kevin Bender of Sylvan Lake, Alta., who visited Indonesia, the Philippines, Dubai and Nigeria.

Canada's New Crop Missions visit crucial Canadian export markets annually once there is a rough sense of the size and quality of that year's production.

A farmer and representatives of the Canadian Grain Commission, the Canadian International Grains Institute and the commercial grain industry tend to comprise each mission.

Bender was the farmer on these recent missions, which gave him a chance to explain what Canadian farmers do and how they do it.

Overseas buyers were worried about reports that Canada had a bad harvest and a poor growing season, so the mission provided a chance to reassure buyers that Canada still has lots of crop to sell, Bender said.

It was also a chance for Canadian industry representatives to reinforce the idea that the gluten strength issue should disappear as the new wheat class is introduced and the varieties that caused the weak gluten values are removed or reclassified.

Bender said he was happy to be able to reassure buyers on these points because sales bring Canadian farmers a huge amount of value.

For example, the Philippines and Indonesia are regular buyers of Canadian grain but had their confidence rattled by the gluten strength issue.



This year's crop missions, such as the ones that were recently made to the Philippines, Indonesia, Dubai and Nigeria, were intended to ease buyers' concerns about the quality of this year's harvest as well as specific issues such as gluten strength in Canada's wheat crop. | FILE PHOTO

The Philippines tends to buy Canadian wheat for blending as a way to increase the quality of lesser quality wheat, but it stops being attractive if quality becomes unreliable

"They had pulled really back on Canadian wheat when they ran into some gluten strength issues," said Bender.

"We've been trying to get them back."

The visits to Asian buyers was also a chance to boost the profile of

Canada in a market that is very close to Australia, a key competitor.

Dubai and Nigeria are also important customers of Canadian crops with Nigeria having the largest population in Africa.

Meeting all the key millers in those countries helps keep Canada top-of-mind in markets also targeted by competitors from Europe and the Black Sea region, Bender said.

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An extensograph is used to assess the gluten strength of wheat

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL GRAINS INSTITUTE PHOTO

» CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

COPA has three policy priorities:

- Food and feed safety modernization efforts happening in countries such as China, the U.S. and Canada.

"There are implications for oilseed processors through this increased government oversight," said Vervaeke.

COPA wants Canada's regulations in areas such as preventive controls and labelling to be in line with those of its trading partners.

"There are certainly some risks there in terms of not being aligned with other countries and putting us at a competitive disadvantage."

- Transportation — The six member companies of COPA rely on rail to get 75 percent of the oil and meal they produce at their 14 crush facilities to market.

COPA wants the railways to face penalties for failing to live up to their contractual obligations. As well, it wants service to be demand based rather than supply based and for interswitching to be made permanent.

"We are very encouraged that we have seen some momentum in this regard and the willingness of the federal government to address these issues," said Vervaeke.

- Carbon pricing — Crushers consume a considerable amount of natural gas and electricity.

The proposed \$50 per tonne national carbon tax would cost the industry an extra \$30 million a year. COPA would like the federal government to offset those costs so the industry can remain competitive.

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**64%**  
OF CANADIAN CANOLA OIL IS EXPORTED TO THE UNITED STATES

A LOOK AHEAD

# Thoughts, theories, lots of questions for 2017

## HEDGE ROW



ED WHITE

This is the traditional time for lists of things likely or possible to happen in the coming year, so here are mine for 2017's agricultural markets:

### Surprisingly good world growth

I throw this in here because it could actually happen and because most of the rest of my list is dismal.

If world growth begins grinding higher, that will boost demand for commodities and raise all our ships. Good luck with that.

### Ethanol and the Great Corn Dump

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump is unlikely to mess with U.S. biofuel supports because he was elected by voters in the farm states, but some of his key appointments hate ethanol, and he might be moved by them.

If corn used for ethanol is even marginally reduced, that could flood the feed markets with homeless corn, not just in the United States but also here in Canada, where corn often works its way up when there's too much down south.

And where corn goes, other grain prices follow, so watch out.

## WP LIVESTOCK REPORT

### CASH HOGS

The U.S. national live price average for barrows and gilts was US\$41.13 per hundredweight Dec. 29, little changed from \$41.30 Dec. 16. U.S. hogs averaged \$51.81 on a carcass basis, down from \$52.95 Dec. 16.

The U.S. pork cutout was \$81.08 per cwt. Dec. 29.

The estimated U.S. slaughter for



### Trade with the U.S.

With Trump in charge, who the heck knows how Canada's vital two-way agriculture and food trade with the U.S. will develop? Is he going to target Canadian imports, or will he want to keep that quiet while he takes on China and other vexatious overseas markets?

### Trade with the United Kingdom

With Brexit looming, will Canadian exports be disrupted in some unpredictable way? Will British importers begin making more deals with Canadian exporters as they begin to look more outward?

Will CETA come into force and Canada's already strong exports to the U.K. bloom while it's still covered by the deal?

### Trade with the European Union

Will the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement be finalized and new markets open? Will CETA be finalized but new markets not actually open? Will CETA fail and business-as-usual continue with Fortress Europe?

### Interest rates

Most people assume they're going up. However, we are probably due

for a recession, which would tend to lead them lower. Trump, trade, flights-to-safety and other wild cards could lead interest rates any which way.

### A commodity market rally

It could happen. It could already be happening. Commodities sold off by about 50 percent from July 2014 and then bounced back in the past year by about a third. That could just be the beginning—or the end. You never know with commodity markets, but that's an excuse for hope here in Next Year Country.

*ed.white@producer.com*

PORK PRODUCTION

## U.S. hog herd up four percent

REUTERS NEWS AGENCY &amp; SASKATOON NEWSROOM

The U.S. hog herd as of Dec. 1 was bigger than analysts expected, notching the highest number since 1943.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's quarterly hogs and pigs report said the herd as of Dec. 1 was 71.5 million head, up four percent over last year.

Analysts expected a herd size of 71.1 million.

Pork production is effectively the largest ever because hogs now weigh significantly more than they did in 1943, when the herd reached 83.7 million, said the USDA.

"There's a much bigger supply of pigs lined up here for the next few months, a lot more hogs to process," Allendale analyst Rich Nelson told Reuters.

Chicago hog futures, which had rallied for much of December, fell on the report. However, the nearby February contract mostly recovered in the following days as traders implemented bull spreads, in which they buy the nearby contract and sell the deferred contracts.

As of Dec. 29, May was trading about two percent lower than before the report.

The report said the breeding inventory, at 6.09 million head, was up one percent from last year and up one percent from the previous quarter.

Market hog inventory, at 65.4 million head, was up four percent from last year and up slightly from last quarter. The trade, on average, had expected the breeding herd to be up .2 percent and market hogs to be up two percent.

The report said the average pigs saved per litter was a record high 10.63 for September-November, compared to 10.53 last year.

Declines in both hog and cattle futures were minimized by monthly USDA cold storage data showing 520.3 million pounds of pork and 531.5 million lb. of beef in U.S. freezers in November, each below respective analyst estimates of 566.1 million lb. of pork and 544.6 million lb. of beef.

"That clearly shows retailers were more aggressive (selling) beef than trade expectations," Nelson said.

### LAMBS WEAKER

Ontario Stockyards reported that 2,320 sheep and lambs and 243 goats traded Dec. 23.

New crop lambs sold actively at prices down from the previous week's highs. All other lamb traded barely steady to \$10 per cwt. lower based on quality. Sheep sold steady. Good goats traded in premium ranges, while others were steady.

the week to Dec. 29 was 1.33 million, down from 1.66 million in the same period the previous year.

In Canada, the Dec. 24 Signature Five price was C\$136.28 per 100 kilograms. On a per hundred-weight basis, the price was \$61.82.

### BISON STEADY

The Canadian Bison Association said Grade A bulls in the desirable

weight range sold at prices up to C\$6-\$6.25 per pound hot hanging weight. U.S. buyers are offering US\$4.60 with returns dependent on exchange rates, quality and export costs.

Grade A heifers sold up to C\$5.75-\$6. U.S. buyers are offering US\$4.40.

Animals outside the desirable buyer specifications may be discounted.

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**CANFAX REPORT**

**FED CATTLE**

Fed prices rose for a 10th consecutive period in the week ending Dec. 23 and posted a new second half high.

Fed steers averaged \$154.51 per hundredweight, up 69 cents. Heifer trade was too small to establish an average.

Alberta fed prices were at a \$21-\$26 premium to the Ontario market over the past couple of weeks, which was the largest premium of the year.

Stronger cash prices and basis levels brought some cattle to market ahead of schedule.

Some of these yearlings have been on full feed for less than 100 days, but weight sorts were performed and heavy cattle were marketed.

Feedlot inventories are current, and carcass weights are expected to remain below year-ago levels.

Steer weights fell four pounds from the previous week and were the smallest since the first half of August.

Buying interest was mixed with one packer in Alberta more aggressive than the other. In some instances, there was as much as a \$10 price difference in live bids between the two plants.

Premiums were paid for quick delivery cattle as buyers looked for cattle to be delivered between Christmas and New Years.

Some producers negotiated lift times into the second half of January, and dressed bids were in the mid-\$250s on a delivered basis.

Fewer cows are on feed this year, which should support the western Canadian fed complex.

However, it cannot be ignored that there is basis risk to the Canadian market.

Canadian beef cutouts must also be competitive with the U.S. market if fed cattle prices are to maintain their premium to the U.S. market.

In the United States, dressed sales in the north were US\$5 higher, while southern regions traded \$2-\$4 higher on a live basis.

**COWS MIXED**

D1, D2 cows ranged C\$85-\$100 per cwt. to average \$93.08, up \$1. D3s ranged \$75-\$91 to average \$83.75, down 50 cents.

Dressed cowbids were \$180-\$185 delivered.

Butcher bulls averaged \$101.69, down 81 cents.

Weekly western Canadian non-fed slaughter to Dec. 17 rebounded sharply to 9,792 head. For the year, slaughter was running 15 percent ahead at 320,375 head.

Weekly exports to Dec. 10 were up nine percent at 5,320 head.

Exports are down 11 percent for the year at 248,074 head.

Some cull cows put on feed will go to market in the new year, but overall cow numbers are expected to be moderate.

**FEEDERS UP**

Alberta feeder prices rose as producers had one last time to sell or buy feeders for the 2016 tax season.

Steer calves traded mixed on various qualities, and heifer calves were steady to \$5 higher.

Market strength carried over into feeders heavier than 600 pounds, and prices were generally \$2-\$4 per cwt. higher.

The calf index rose \$1.44 to

\$190.79, and the feeder index firmed to \$175.24.

Weekly auction volume was seasonally modest at 28,613 head.

Auction volume for the year was 1,534,642 head, down one percent from the previous year.

Weekly feeder exports to Dec. 10 were a meagre 163 head. Exports for the year stood at 177,186 head, down 38 percent.

More feeder heifers were at auction during the week, which may indicate that the stronger market prompted producers to sell more feeders over the past couple of weeks rather than carrying them into the new year.

On that note, moderate calf marketings are anticipated for the first half of January, which should support prices.

Ample feedgrain supplies and a weaker loonie could also support prices.

**U.S. BEEF UP**

U.S. beef cutouts jumped higher on moderate demand and offerings.

Choice was US\$197.61 per cwt., up \$3.40, and Select was \$186.17, up more than \$7.

The U.S. Choice cutout traded higher than a year ago despite both the Choice and Select rib primal plummeting. Chuck and round surged higher during the week.

Weekly Canadian cut-out values to Dec. 16 were not available.

*This cattle market information is selected from the weekly report from Canfax, a division of the Canadian Cattlemen's Association. More market information, analysis and statistics are available by becoming a Canfax subscriber by calling 403-275-5110 or at www.canfax.ca.*



Feedlot inventories are current, and carcass weights are expected to remain below year-ago levels. | FILE PHOTO

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- NS Johnson Farm, Chauvin, AB

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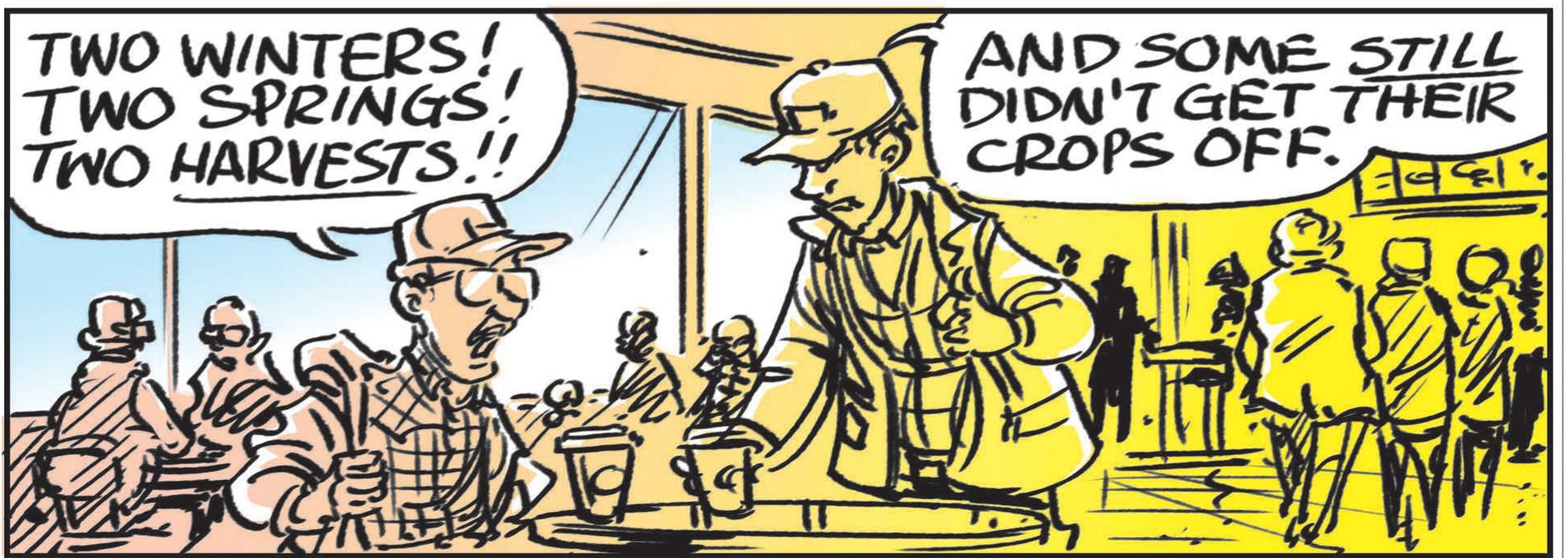
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CRAIG'S VIEW



## &amp; OPEN FORUM

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

## Higher food prices have pros and cons

BY MARK FRIED

Governments in developing countries sought for decades to keep food prices low so that they could depress wages and attract investment in manufacturing.

Cheap food also kept a lid on urban discontent while ensuring a steady supply of cut-rate labour fleeing rural penury.

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank and other groups have long argued against this logic. If most hungry people live from agriculture, surely battling hunger requires measures to ensure farmers receive a decent return from the market.

The debate turned on its head in 2008 when the price of staple foods suddenly rose all over the world, doubling or tripling in a matter of weeks. This sparked food riots and pushed the number of chronically undernourished people over one billion.

High prices, not low, were now causing hunger. Coping mechanisms common to every humanitarian crisis became rife: eat less, replace a varied diet with filling staples, borrow money, sell off assets, migrate and take on any work you can find, no matter how poorly paid, risky or undesirable.

When prices finally plateaued in 2012, concern about the "food price crisis" waned. But how have people fared in the age of expensive food?

A study by Oxfam and the Institute of Development Studies examines this question through in-depth interviews in 10 countries across the developing world. It concludes that higher food prices have wrought a permanent transformation, with important impli-



Higher food prices have raised incomes in developing countries, but often come at the cost of longer work hours. | FILE PHOTO

cations for aid policy.

The report, titled *Food, Work and Care After the Global Food Crisis*, conveys good news of higher incomes and greater consumption: global poverty is definitely falling.

High food prices encouraged investment in farming and a consequent rise in rural wages, typically the wages of the poorest. Farmers with access to capital found new opportunities, and many rural women started businesses trading vegetables or selling cooked food.

However, the story is not all good. Higher food costs sparked in-

tense pressure to earn cash. People now work longer hours, travel farther for work and migrate in much greater numbers. Women, in particular, spend more time and effort earning money and fewer hours caring for families or themselves. People eat a less nutritious diet and take on more debt.

In sum, the coping mechanisms born of crisis became the new normal. Incomes are up, but people's lives are much more ridden with anxiety.

At the same time, higher agricultural wages have not stemmed the

exodus of young people to cities. Most express relief to be off the farm, even though the paid work they find is no less precarious. Jobs are short-term and often involve dangerous or back-breaking work with unstable earnings.

In each of the 23 communities studied, seasonal and temporary migration increased: Ethiopian women to the Persian Gulf, Vietnamese men to Laos, Guatemalans to the United States and Canada, Kenyans from the hinterlands to coastal tourist resorts.

People also have less time to prepare food or care for family members, and their ability to pay for care is as variable and uncertain as their employment.

Despite this, people interviewed don't regret the moves they've made. True, they had few options, but they insist the new work and social environment is exciting and contains an element of possibility. For young people in particular, the job market spells hope, even if few find their lives any easier.

Higher food prices have indeed raised incomes, but the process entails costs that generally go uncounted. The report's authors conclude by calling on governments and aid providers to acknowledge this, and move beyond traditional safety nets of emergency food or price supports to things like basic labour provisions, financial and migration services, school lunch programs and public day care.

Welcome to a more complex era for development.

*Mark Fried worked for Oxfam Canada for many years. He lives in Ottawa. This article was supplied by the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.*

SPECIAL REPORT

## The debate over GM foods

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK



BRIAN MACLEOD  
EDITOR

It's best that people should know how laws and sausages are made? With media coverage of politics these days, most people know more about the former. And with sausages, we're talking about food — in this case, specifically crops that are genetically modified.

So much of what is said or written about GM foods is countered with an opposite. They are safe; you can't prove that (precautionary principle). They don't save money; farmers are more productive. They are not needed; yet GM foods are in many processed foods. Label GM foods, as is consumer's right to know; labelling "may contain" means nothing and puts a safe product in the same category as peanut labelling. Organics are safer and more nutritious; no they're not, because they're subject to contamination.

It goes on.

A Health Canada survey released this summer that prompted the special report on consumer attitudes toward GM foods in this edition says only 26 percent of respondents indicated they would be comfortable eating GM foods, and only 22 percent support the development and sale of GM foods in Canada.

Almost 80 percent of respondents want GM foods labelled.

A story on page 52 notes that while farmers are embracing GM crops, consumers are leaning toward non-GM ingredients, leading one major food company, Dannon, to announce it was converting several of its yogurt brands to non-GM.

Producers and consumers are going in opposite directions.

The biggest problem, the survey suggests, is that "consumers' basic understanding of food science and technology is low."

The suggestion seems to be to educate more people about GM crops. But, based on survey attitudes, it appears to be a bit of a gamble. Will educated consumers accept them as a rational approach to food production or turn on them en masse?

Science alone isn't doing the trick. Even though 88 percent of scientists believe GM food is safe, many people don't trust scientists if their studies were at all funded by large biotech corporations.

There is a strong push for farmers to do the talking because they are trusted by consumers. Failure to communicate about GM foods may well see more consumer groups forcing politicians to enact laws that are counter-productive.

Throughout this edition you'll see stories on the state of the GM debate. We hope readers will find our special report helpful.

TECHNOLOGY HEADACHES

## Equipment failure can cause major financial setback

HURSH ON AG



KEVIN HURSH

Technology is great when it works. However, one of the greatest risks faced by farms has become high tech machinery that doesn't perform as intended.

The official list of farm hazards includes flooding, disease, fire, drought, hail, low grain prices, high input costs, death, disability and divorce. Machinery problems should be added to that list.

This includes both used equipment and new.

With used equipment, there may not be any guarantees or support, particularly if the purchase was private or through auction. If you

buy through a dealership, you can expect varying degrees of support for unexpected problems.

When something is clearly broken, it needs to be fixed. You pay the price, both in repair and the lost time, and you move on.

It's a much bigger concern when the problem can't be clearly defined and numerous attempts at a fix miss the mark.

The nastiest surprises can come with new equipment where you assume warranty protection has everything covered. While that's usually the case, you don't have to look very hard to find horror stories. Maybe you have some of your own. If you don't, you probably know a neighbour who has had a bad experience.

The increasing complexity of machines and the integration of software and electronics means the problem isn't always easy to diagnose. It gets even more complicated if there are two or more interrelated problems to sort out.

What if the Tier 4 emission equip-

ment on your new tractor continually shuts it down, and you have to call the dealer almost every day to override the system and get it running again. The mechanics can't sort it out, and you end up losing many days of seeding time.

It's even more common to have problems with a new seeder, such as inconsistent seeding depth, improper seeding rates, poor seed and fertilizer distribution or blockage issues. It isn't always easy to identify seeding issues at the time, but terrible surprises can emerge with the crop.

New seeder prototypes should be extensively tested, but sometimes inherent design problems aren't identified until many units are out in the field operating under a wide range of conditions. Other times, a particular machine is a dud. Component parts are faulty or there were problems in the assembly.

The dealer and the manufacturer may argue over who is responsible and how the problem should be fixed. The level of support will vary

from one manufacturer to the next and one dealership to the next, but in most cases, they won't take the machine back and refund your money. Nor will they provide a new machine to replace the faulty one.

The cost from lost seeding days and/or thousands of acres with seed depth or blockage issues can be enormous. Your neighbours harvest 50 bushel per acre canola crops and you barely get 35, or your late-maturing wheat crop has frost and weathering damage and grades No. 3 instead of No. 1.

Good luck getting any compensation for these sorts of crop losses. They are difficult to prove, hard to quantify and expensive to litigate.

That new or new-to-you piece of equipment should be a great advancement for your farm, but do your research and test it out in advance if you can. Otherwise, it could be a source of financial loss.

Kevin Hursh is an agricultural journalist, consultant and farmer. He can be reached by e-mail at [kevin@hursh.ca](mailto:kevin@hursh.ca).

## UNUSUAL SIGHTING



A great horned owl sits out in the open in the middle of the day south of High River, Alta. | MIKE STURK PHOTO

## OPEN FORUM

## LETTERS POLICY:

Letters should be less than 300 words. Name, address and phone number must be included for verification purposes and only letters accepted for publication will be confirmed with the author.

Open letters should be avoided; priority will be given to letters written exclusively for *The Western Producer*.

Editors reserve the right to reject or edit any letter for clarity, brevity, legality and good taste.

Publication of a letter does not imply endorsement by *The Producer*.

## ELECTORAL CONSENSUS

To the Editor:

Democratic Institutions Minister Maryam Monsef says she hasn't heard a consensus about the way forward on electoral reform.

That can only mean she is completely tone deaf or severely confused about the concept of democracy. The interviews and reports to the Electoral Systems and Electoral Reform Canada committee clearly contradict her statement, as an overwhelming majority of the testimony was in favour of proportional representation.

Only five percent of the input favours some form of a ranked, run-off, preferential ballot that could

never represent any kind of proportionality as votes are being redistributed back and forth across party lines, every time a candidate is removed from the ballot.

Ranked and run-off ballots do not make every vote count, and they also do not produce democratic governments.

Her personal beliefs are also completely irrelevant.

Monsef has a compelling mandate to deliver on (Prime Minister Justin) Trudeau's election promise that is prominently displayed on the Liberal party's website under the heading of electoral reform at [www.liberal.ca/realchange/electoral-reform/](http://www.liberal.ca/realchange/electoral-reform/).

"We will make every vote count.

"We are committed to ensuring that 2015 will be the last federal election conducted under the first-past-the-post voting system.

"We will convene an all-party parliamentary committee to review a wide variety of reforms, such as ranked ballots, proportional representation, mandatory voting and online voting.

"This committee will deliver its recommendations to Parliament.

"Within 18 months of forming government, we will introduce legislation to enact electoral reform."

The 2015 election served well as a referendum on electoral reform.

The Liberals, NDP and Green parties all promised to change the electoral system, and those three parties were supported by 63 per cent of the voters.

It's also prudent to be reminded of Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin's 1991 ruling, "Ours is a representative democracy. Each citizen is entitled to be represented in government."

That simply means the laws of the land insist we have a constitutional right to have democratic governments.

Trudeau cannot hide behind Monsef forever, using her as a shield to fend off the electorate — and the Supreme Court.

If he cannot deliver on his promise, and chooses to defy the highest court of the land, then he must resign as prime minister — now.

Andy Thomsen  
Peachland, B.C.

## OPPOSING TRUMP

To the Editor,

In the Dec. 8, 2016, *Western Producer*, there is a letter to the editor from Gordon Stephenson, who takes exception to the cartoon featuring Donald Trump.

He says the cartoon was not funny and shows how little the cartoonist knows about WP readership and "our political views."

Well, I do not share Stephenson's political views, so his "our" does not apply to me. I am not a Donald Trump supporter.

Kenneth W. Domier  
Edmonton, Alta.

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## INSECTICIDE BAN

# PMRA's proposed neonicotinoid ban seen as political

Environmental scientist says the Pest Management Regulatory Agency didn't consider 'middle of the road approaches' instead of a ban

BY ROBERT ARNASON  
BRANDON BUREAU

In November, Health Canada said that a nation-wide ban of imidacloprid, a neonicotinoid insecticide, was necessary because the chemical is a threat to aquatic insects.

In late December a University of Guelph expert said the government's conclusion was an "over-reaction" and a mistake.

"I'm not in agreement with the decision to ban (imidacloprid)... I don't agree that the weight of evidence suggests that that particular action is needed," said Paul Sibley, a U of G professor in envi-

ronmental sciences.

"I do think some action is needed, but I think that (a ban) is essentially a politicized response, much as we saw in Europe when they banned (neonicotinoids) because of pollination concerns."

Health Canada surprised many people in the agricultural trade when it proposed phasing out the use of imidacloprid over three to five years.

Scientists with Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency determined that levels of imidacloprid in water bodies near agricultural land are unacceptably high, which is putting aquatic insects at risk and threat-

ening animals that depend on those insects for food.

The Bayer insecticide is used as a seed treatment on field crops, but it is applied primarily to fruit, vegetables and potatoes in Canada. It was once the most popular insecticide in the world.

Because of the risk to aquatic insects such as midges and mayflies, Health Canada will also conduct a special review of two other neonicotinoid insecticides: thiamethoxam, a Syngenta product, and clothianidin, a Bayer product.

Neonicotinoids are applied as seed treatments to almost all of the corn and canola planted in North America and a portion of soybean

**There is a heavy, heavy lobby from beekeepers and others, largely environmentalists, to outright ban these chemicals.**

PAUL SIBLEY  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES PROFESSOR

acres.

The class of insecticides has been highly controversial over the last five years because of their link to bee deaths and bee colony losses. In 2013, the European Commission banned the use of neonics in an effort to protect bees.

Sibley compared Health Canada's proposed phase out for imidacloprid to Europe's ban on all neonics because political pressure likely influenced both decisions.

"There is a heavy, heavy lobby from beekeepers and others, largely environmentalists, to outright ban these chemicals," Sibley said.

"They (the PMRA) say it's driven by their risk assessment, but there is a lot of pressure from other groups."

Sibley tempered his remarks, saying the PMRA is a "model organization on how to deal with pesticides."

However, in this case he disagrees with its position.

"What bothers me ... is there was no consideration of intermediate, middle of the (road) approaches in dealing with this problem," he said.

"There are a number of so-called best management practices that we could incorporate, (which) would lead to a reduction in the environmental concentration of the neonics. The decision not to do that (middle ground) and the decision to phase out, I think that's where the politics comes in.... That little bit of politicization really made the difference between what I say (is) a slightly more rational approach and what I see as a fairly irrational approach."

Sibley studies how pesticides affect aquatic species, and this year one of his graduate students has been working with Ontario's environment ministry to study thresholds, or concentrations in water where neonicotinoids and other pesticides become a threat to aquatic insects such as mayflies and midges.

"She has developed a very robust set of acute toxicity exposures," he said.

Based on the student's lab research, Health Canada's proposed thresholds for imidacloprid are too low, Sibley said.

Government scientists have suggested an acute, or maximum, level of 360 nanograms per litre for imidacloprid in ponds and water bodies, he said.

"On the chronic side, .041 ng/l. We're talking 41 nanograms per litre.... Extremely low."

Environment Canada monitoring has found that concentrations of neonicotinoids, in water bodies in southern Ontario, are typically 10 to 40 ng/l, although much higher levels have been found in creeks in regions with intense fruit and vegetable production.

The Ontario government is the primary funder of Sibley's study on pesticide thresholds. His graduate student plans to publish a paper sometime this year.

Sibley said the government and the public's focus on neonicotinoids is myopic and misguided, particularly when it comes to water bodies in rural Canada.

"Compared to what is driving problems in streams and ponds, neonics aren't the issue. The issue is things like habitat loss or (excessive) nutrients," he said.

Health Canada will accept comments on its proposed phase out of imidacloprid until Feb. 21.

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## Huge Variation Found in Air Bulk Metering Systems

The Secret is Out—Average Variation of 20% in Product Distribution

Seed and fertilizer metered into high velocity air streams and sent down distribution tubes to manifolds that split into separate, smaller tubes of varying length to deliver the product to ground openers on toolbars up to 90 feet wide. What could go wrong with that? Plenty, as farmers, agronomists and some air cart manufacturers are finding out.

"When we started running high-yield wheat trials with seeding rates up to 160 pounds per acre, we really started to see variations between openers. It was all over the map," says agronomist and farmer Steve Larocque at Three Hills, Alberta.

A few years ago, Larocque ran a basic tube-sock test on five different air distribution systems, using some of his customers' existing air drills. He zip-tied socks on one long and one short hose coming off the same manifold on the left wing, right wing and centre section (six socks in total). While not conducted with scientific rigour, the demonstration showed that the variance between hoses ranged from a low 29% on one drill to a high of 98% on the worst drill. Larocque says the worst drill was probably an outlier, and the high variation could have been reduced with some adjustments. The other three drills had variances of 33%, 41%, and 45%.

"Visually, that variance isn't easy to see in the field unless you are measuring plant stand densities across each row. I think that's why product variance hasn't been on people's radar," says Larocque. "I think it's high time for the industry to play catch-up and start matching the accuracy of distribution to the accuracy of their metering."

**"If we truly want to elevate yields, increase standability and reduce maturity, I believe that air drills should be delivering that same amount of seed and fertilizer into each and every furrow."**

At SeedMaster, Research Farm Manager Owner Kinch looked at different manifolds to see what kind of variation exists. He tested six different models of manifold towers from different manufacturers to see how product distribution varied from hose

to hose after it left the manifold. Overall, the average variation of all towers was 20%.

**"Industry has known about this problem, but most haven't wanted to do much about it," says Kinch.**

At PAMI, in Humboldt, Saskatchewan, Program Manager Nathan Gregg says the variance is caused by a multitude of factors, including manifold type, number of manifolds, hose length, hose curvature, and even the metering system. He isn't aware of any recent research that has measured variation over an entire metering and distribution system. However with the development of more accurate seed row blockage monitors, farmers are now seeing variation between sections and even down to individual seed rows.

**"In the past it was hard to diagnose and so it was easy to ignore. I think farmers are now becoming more aware of the limitations of the systems," says Gregg.**

Trent Meyer, Executive Vice President at SeedMaster, says SeedMaster has historically worked hard to reduce the variation on their bulk distribution system with the Nova™ air cart. As much as possible, distribution hoses are kept the same length, hose curvature is designed to allow product to flow smoothly around corners, metal pipe is used to reduce friction, and manifold design is aimed to provide the most uniform product splitting.

"We've worked to reduce the issue as much as possible, but we have seen very little from other manufacturers in this regard. They aren't doing their customers or the industry any favours," says Meyer.

For 2017, Meyer says SeedMaster is going one step further with their new Tunable Tower™ manifold system to further reduce variance. The tower features a centre-cone adjustment that allows product and airflow to be balanced for each run, reducing the deviation between lines. The Tunable Towers are integrated with the XeedSystem monitor to continuously display product flow for each run in real time to guide adjustment to balance product distribution.



**"In limited testing we've found that industry manifolds have a variance of 20–23%. With the addition of Tunable Towers, we've been able to balance product distribution across the toolbar and get absolute variance down to as low as 10%. That's 5% below or 5% above the target rate," says Meyer.**

For farmers who prefer to use an air cart for both seed and fertilizers, Meyer says the Nova air cart with Tunable Towers will set the new industry standard for bulk product metering accuracy. That will pay off in better agronomics: more uniform emergence, better access to crop nutrients, uniform maturity, less wasted seed and fertilizer, and improved yield. Research at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) found that uniform plant stands increased canola yields by up to 32% at low-yielding sites and by up to 20% at high-yielding sites compared to non-uniform plant stands.

For the ultimate in seed and fertilizer distribution and placement, the new UltraPro™ II on-frame tank and distribution system from SeedMaster provides even more accurate seed row distribution of product with near seed singulation. SeedMaster research has shown the UltraPro metering system can reduce absolute variation to about 3% (1.5% about or below target rate). This metering variation can be accounted for by seed-size variation.

"The UltraPro has allowed farmers to cut canola seeding rates with confidence, and that saves them a lot on input costs. Cutting back just one pound per acre of canola seed can easily save them \$10 to \$13 per acre, while still achieving good stand establishment and maximum yield," says Meyer. "That's the value of reducing variance in seed and fertilizer distribution systems."

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## CROP PREDICTIONS

# Soybeans could nudge out canola in Man.

The crop is gaining ground in western Manitoba and yields have been increasing, with some reports up to 65 bu. per acre

BY ROBERT ARNASON  
BRANDON BUREAU

If current seeding trends continue, something significant might happen in Manitoba during the next five years.

Soybeans could be planted on more acres than canola.

In 2016, Manitoba had almost 1.7 million acres of soybeans and about 3.1 million acres of canola, based on Statistics Canada data.

The gap between the two crops remains huge, but industry watchers think soybeans could reach two million acres soon, possibly in 2017.

Barring a catastrophe, like an early frost or an extremely dry August, soybeans will likely rise above two million acres and could go much higher.

"Can we hit three million acres? Yeah, it's possible," said Dennis Lange, Manitoba Agriculture industry development specialist for pulse crops.

Lange posed the question, 'can soybeans hit three million acres,' during a talk at the Manitoba Agronomists Conference last month.

With 9.5 to 11 million acres of cropland in Manitoba, depending on the definition of cropland, soybeans will have to steal significant acres from other crops to reach three million.

Some of the gains may come from minor crops, but data from the last five years suggests that growers are planting soybeans instead of canola, winter wheat, barley, oats and flax.

To reach three million acres, soybeans would need to oust large acreage crops because displacing 20,000 acres of flax and 25,000 acres of sunflowers won't do it, Lange said. "It's those big crops like canola and spring wheat that will really make the difference in seeing more soybean acres."

In western Manitoba, where soy continues its sprawl, it seems like canola is the crop that's losing out.

"I think it (the acreage gain) is primarily from canola the last few years," said Elmer Kaskiw, former Manitoba Agriculture crop production adviser in Shoal Lake.

"In general, we've been just inundated with rain, and canola just hasn't been able to withstand that excess moisture like soybeans can.... The majority of acres, in my opinion, are going to come from canola."



GETTY PHOTO

From 2012 to 2016, Manitoba soybean acres increased by 736,019, while canola acres decreased by 332,423



***We haven't seen an early fall frost (for many years). That will certainly temper a lot of enthusiasm (for soybeans) once we get one of those.***

ELMER KASKIW  
FORMER MANITOBA AGRICULTURE CROP ADVISER

Canola is still the "go to" crop in western Manitoba but data shows that soybeans have gone from a novelty to a normal crop in a short time.

- In 2011, only about five percent of soybean acres were seeded outside the Red River Valley and central Manitoba
- In 2015, nearly 40 percent of

total acres were seeded outside those areas.

As well, yield data indicates that soybeans have been a more reliable crop in Manitoba over the last five years, with yields consistently reaching 30 to 40 and higher.

This year, the average soybean yield in Manitoba could be 42 bu. per acre, which will likely be higher than the average yield for canola.

Reg Dyck, a retired farmer from Starbuck, heard reports of soybean yields of 50 and 60 bu. per acre this fall. "All the way up to 65 (bu.), let's say

40 to 65. I don't think canola is anywhere near that," he said.

"There's a benefit to growing soybeans (because) there is less production risk than canola.... With canola, you have the risk of a field (swaths) blowing before harvest. You have flea beetles, you have sclerotinia."

With record yields, soybean acres are bound to increase in 2017, but Kaskiw wonders how long the soybean craze can last.

"We haven't seen an early fall frost (for many years)," Kaskiw said.

"That will certainly temper a lot of enthusiasm (for soybeans) once we get one of those."

Lange agreed. During his presentation he showed photos of soybean fields, in places like Roblin and Dauphin, which were still green in mid-September.

Disease pressure could also put the brakes on expansion. Soybean cyst nematode is often described as the most damaging soybean disease in the United States. The nematode, a microscopic plant-parasitic worm, isn't in Manitoba but it has been found in North Dakota.

"These things are carried up (via) flood waters so at some point we are going to see it," Lange said.

There is also the issue of soil fertility. Soybeans are heavy users of in-soil phosphorus but University of Manitoba research shows the crop doesn't respond to phosphorus added as fertilizer. So managing the crop's long-term nutrient needs can be tricky.

More agronomic challenges will

## MANITOBA ACREAGE CHANGE, 2012 TO 2016

### Increase

- Soybeans: 736,019 acres
- Feed wheat: 328,196
- Field peas: 116,321
- Grain corn: 65,908
- Prairie spring wheat: 54,957

### Decrease

- Winter wheat: 422,854 acres
- Canola: 332,423
- Barley: 113,198
- Oats: 98,168
- Flax: 53,317

Source: Manitoba Agriculture

likely pop up, but for now, soybeans maintain their Cinderella status in Manitoba.

That reputation may fade and soybeans may not reach three million acres, but it's a safe bet that soybean acres will get close to canola and spring wheat in Manitoba.

"Farmers are going to be the big drivers," Lange said. "If markets stay steady, definitely the acres will continue to increase."

Justine Cornelson, a Canola Council of Canada agronomist, said it may be beneficial for soybeans to take acres away from canola.

"Biodiversity is a good thing and we want to be promoting it around and within our cropping system."

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## GRAIN TRANSPORTATION

# MPs support maintaining interswitching, revenue cap

BY KAREN BRIERE  
REGINA BUREAU

The House of Commons transport committee says extended interswitching under the Fair Rail for Grain Farmers Act and the maximum revenue entitlement for railways should both be maintained as the federal government looks toward new legislation this spring.

However, the committee report, tabled in Parliament in mid-December, recognized that the measures have to work for both shippers and railways.

It said the 160-kilometre extended interswitching zone should be kept unless an alternative policy could “bolster the bargaining posi-

tion of rail shippers where rail competition is extremely limited.”

However, it also said railways shouldn't be penalized for that obligation and recommended the Canadian Transportation Agency examine rates to ensure they are compensatory.

As well, the committee said the interswitching provisions allow U.S. railways access to Canadian traffic but not the other way around. It recommended the federal government negotiate an agreement with the United States to allow Canadian railways access to U.S. traffic.

The report comes after a series of public hearings last fall to examine the future of the Fair Rail act. The act amended the Canada Trans-

portation Act after the grain backlog of 2013-14, and although it was supposed to be temporary, it was postponed for one year in June 2016.

## Revenue cap opposition

When Transport Minister Marc Garneau announced the government's transportation strategy in November, he said several measures would be dealt with in spring legislation, including extended interswitching and the MRE, which is also known as the railway revenue cap. It will also include reciprocal penalties between shippers and the railways.

The railways told the committee that the legislated revenue cap for-

mula discourages capital investment and doesn't provide them with an incentive to move more grain or offer premium service during peak periods.

“There is a significant problem with the maximum revenue entitlement and how it treats investments, which is what we refer to as the free rider problem, meaning that if CN goes and buys 1,000 new hopper cars, the formula by definition gives 50 percent of the benefit of that investment to my competitor,” Janet Drysdale, Canadian National Railway's vice-president of corporate development, said during a September meeting.

“I think there's work that needs to be done with modernizing the maximum revenue entitlement if

we hope to have a situation where either railway companies or customers have an incentive to reinvest in the fleet.”

Farm organizations have said the revenue cap should be retained but reviewed and updated. They want a full costing review.

“We are still waiting for the government to fulfill their promise to launch the costing review, as they had stated they would, prior to the 2015 election,” Canadian Federation of Agriculture president Ron Bonnett said after Garneau's November announcement.

The committee said there isn't enough market data available to eliminate the revenue cap.

“The committee is in agreement with the producers and rail shippers who recommended that the MRE be maintained, at least until there is sufficient market data to make an evidence-based decision to move to market-based rates,” said the report.

It supports changes to the revenue cap formula that would increase efficiency in grain transportation, specifically accounting for investments made by individual railroads and excluding revenues earned from interswitching and container grain movement.

The report contains 17 recommendations, including:

- minimum grain volume movement be maintained but that the requirement not harm other shippers such as short-line railways
- the temporary amendments regarding railway level of service compensation and definition of operational terms that could be subject to arbitration be made permanent
- adequate and suitable accommodation” be defined in legislation to balance shipper needs and railway efficiency
- the CTA be amended so shippers have an appropriate dispute resolution process when negotiating service level agreements
- true commercial accountability be established by implementing financial penalties when service agreements are not fulfilled

Wade Sobkowich, executive director of the Western Grain Elevator Association said it supports extended interswitching as well as a better definition of adequate and suitable accommodation. He said service obligations and capacity of the rail system are essential to economic opportunities and to meet customer needs.

“The definition of ‘adequate and suitable’ is really there to ensure the system focuses on the market demands of those customers and not be based on what the railways might be willing to supply,” he said.

The committee said the CTA must have access to more data from all participants in the grain supply chain to make better decisions. It wants the agency to be able to initiate its own investigations into rail performance and issue temporary orders for system-wide service concerns.

It also suggested a moratorium on railway siding abandonment to support more producer car shipments and that Ottawa consider ways to help short-line railways maintain assets and invest in infrastructure.

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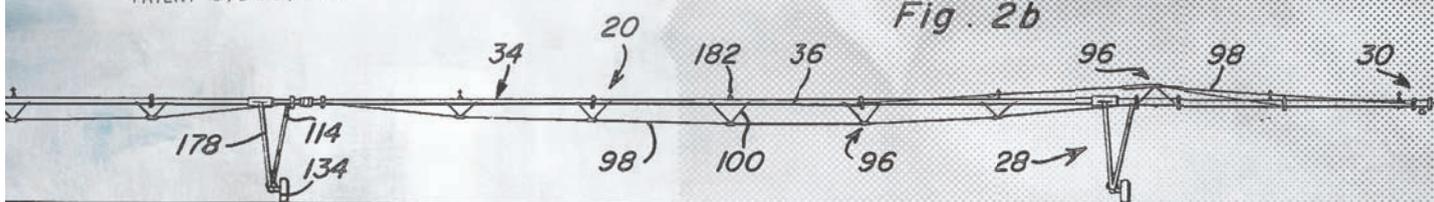


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# FARMLIVING

## WHEN WOMEN RUN THE RANCH

This Saskatchewan cattle producer and her two daughters know what they have to do to get the job done. | **Page 18**



FARM LIVING EDITOR: KAREN MORRISON | Ph: 306-665-3585 F: 306-934-2401 | E-MAIL: KAREN.MORRISON@PRODUCER.COM

IN ALBERTA,  
RURAL  
MEN'S LIFE  
EXPECTANCY IS

**THREE  
YEARS  
LESS**

THAN THEIR  
URBAN  
COUNTERPARTS



Increased mechanization has led to declining fitness levels and higher cardiovascular disease and cancer among farmers than city residents. | GETTY PHOTO

RURAL HEALTH

# Touch of a button means less exercise

Technology has made life more convenient on the farm, but fitness levels often suffer from sedentary days in the cab

BY **BARB GLEN**  
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

MEDICINEHAT — Farmers often take better care of their livestock and machinery than themselves.

That's the finding of Jordan Jensen, who is now in a position to help remedy that problem.

Jensen administers the Sustainable Farm Families program that operates out of the Farm Safety Centre in Raymond, Alta. The program involves farmers and their families participating in a series of workshops designed to improve their health and safety.

In Alberta, rural men have a life expectancy three years less than their urban counterparts, he said. Rural dwellers also have a higher risk of cardiovascular disease and

cancer than city residents.

Those statistics are often a surprise to participants in the workshops, said Jensen.

"We get a lot of resistance when it comes to that topic," he said, recalling comments that the numbers are skewed and that an outdoor farm lifestyle must be healthier.

"That's how Hollywood and the media tends to portray it, the old farmer who is 100 years old.... That's unfortunately not the case."

Jensen said many farmers would like to be more fit but access to fitness centres and fitness-promoting recreational activities can be limited by distance and the time needed to drive there and back.

"A treadmill is just not going to cut it all year round," Jensen said.

Increased mechanization on



**JORDAN JENSEN**  
SUSTAINABLE FARM FAMILIES PROGRAM

farms and ranches is also a factor in declining fitness levels.

"We spend quite a bit of time talking about how technology has advanced and evolved in agriculture, both for the good and the bad, and what we've learned is that life has become more convenient.

"It's a good thing but we then become used to that and we don't do the same things to get the exercise that we need to.

"(Farmers) find that they're just so busy, they're so consumed with all their work that they just don't have time or the resources to go out and get the exercise and fitness that they need."

People are generally advised to walk about 10,000 steps per day to stay reasonably fit, but Jensen said when farmers in the workshops are given pedometers to wear on the farm, they are often surprised to find they're only walking 3,000 or 4,000 steps in a 14-hour work day.

In his presentation to those at the Farming Smarter conference last month, Jensen said stress, long

hours, lack of paid sick leave and attitudes toward health are all factors affecting farmers' well-being.

Many dislike medical checkups or going to the hospital, preferring to treat themselves. Distance from facilities and location of the farm are additional issues.

"If a farmer has a heart attack or a stroke ... oftentimes ambulances will get lost," said Jensen.

He said prevention is preferable to treatment in any case and so far the safety centre has conducted about 36 workshops for 600 farmers. Each participant or family gets a resource kit written with farmers in mind.

The workshops are free for participants.

*barb.glen@producer.com*



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ON THE FARM

# Girl Power 101 — it's how things get done

There's no time for vacations for this mother and daughter team of cattle producers

BY WILLIAM DEKAY  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

HARRIS, Sask. — Since her late husband died in 2005, Nita Wilson has learned many tough lessons, particularly in the male dominated banking world.

"Because I was a female, they (lenders) thought I wasn't serious," said Nita.

"As a woman, you've got to be twice as good as a man at whatever you do to get noticed.... I think that's why we push so hard to be so good and we are getting noticed now," she said.

Nita and her daughters, Alana and Kara, run a 400-head herd of Angus-cross cattle and 80 horses on native grass near Harris in west-central Saskatchewan.

Nita's livestock management skills match her personality, which is straightforward, no nonsense and to the point.

"I don't believe in graining the cattle. I figure the cattle have got to make it on their own, so for 20 years, we just hayed them," she said.

"So anything that didn't grow or was thin come spring were down the road (sold). We kept doing that and doing that. Now our cattle can live on grass and hay and are very efficient," Nita said.

"We have a good herd."

She cited the example of a bull that came back to the farm home place on his own.

"He's been out in the hills with no water and no grass for a month. And he came home fat," she said.

The Wilsons topped the auction market in Lethbridge in November with their calves.

"Out of all the steer calves that we sold, there were 151 that averaged 660 (pounds) and there were 12 little ones that were under 500,



Kara, left, Alana and Nita Wilson raise 400 head of Angus-cross cattle and horses on their farm near Harris, Sask. | WILLIAM DEKAY PHOTOS

which is pretty good weaning weight because probably 30 to 40 were out of first calf heifers," she said.

Nita has carved out a frugal, less is more way of doing things.

"I don't have the equipment or manpower and I try to keep it simple."

Nita started farming with her hus-

band, Boyd, in 1973 on his family's homestead farm, which will be a century old this year.

During the high interest rates of the 1980s, with farm bills piling up, they were forced to sell some land, equipment and most of their cattle. Nita went to work for a feedlot.

However, land rent barely paid

the taxes and Nita decided the best way for them to get out of the financial hole was to sink deeper still.

"If you're going to go ahead, you have to take the risk and you have to keep improving and expanding or you're standing still," she said.

With debt nipping at their heels and an ailing husband to care for, Nita, at age 40, decided to start over. She quit her feedlot job to farm full time.

"I figured if I was going to work that hard, I would work for myself," she said.

At an auction in 1991 and unable to secure credit, the Wilsons bought 20 cows using their land rent money. Through the years, Nita has poured every available resource back into the operation.

"When I spend money, it's never for me. It all goes back into the farm. For 10 years, we basically did nothing for fixing fence or just barely got by," she said.

Kara said they don't take vacations.

"There's no time. The animals are our livelihood. That's what pays the bills," she said.

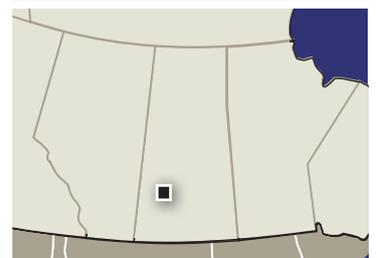
Like many cattle producers, the Wilsons showed a profit in 2015.

"I spent a lot of money fixing things that I hadn't fixed in 10 years because of BSE and drought. This year, we put in over 10 bundles of posts, a pallet of wire and we didn't get all that needed to get done," Nita said.

The years of debt are slowly dissolving, and Nita is happy and thankful that her daughters have stayed home.

"I'd like to see the farm continue. Farming's everything to us," said Alana.

## ON THE FARM



NITA, ALANA & KARA WILSON  
Harris, Sask.

Looking ahead, the Wilsons plan to maintain their all female lineup.

They said when it comes to working cattle, females are calmer and take their time more as compared to their male counterparts.

"We are biased to have a female staff because we have worked with guys and seen how the guys rile up the cattle," said Nita.

"We can go in and walk them through pretty much to the gate. We don't chase them and don't get them rattled. It's just a different energy... if you just take it easy, they actually go faster," said Alana.

"(During) preg checking, we ran 197 through the one day in three and a half hours," said Kara.

Added Nita: "I think that's one of the reasons our herd is so good. It's because we spend a little more time."

Kara said a crew of women can be stressful at times.

"We butt heads quite often because all three of us are strong willed, but at the end of the day we're all good. We go our separate ways," she said.

"Compromise wins out."

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CHEESE TO CHOCOLATES

# Think outside the recipe to use up Christmas leftovers

## TEAM RESOURCES



SARAH GALVIN, BSHEc

Christmas cooking quantities are of great concern as we picture the large group of guests eagerly anticipating the feast. And every year we overdo it and have a fridge full of leftovers.

Repurposing this food in interesting ways is key to enjoying a few more meals while the food is fresh.

### PANETTONE FRENCH TOAST

Panettone is a rich Italian Christmas bread. Its unique flavour comes from a flavouring called fior de sicila, which is a citrusy vanilla. Additional flavours are added with dried fruits and citrus peel in the batter.

- 4 large eggs
- 1 tsp. sugar 5 mL
- 1 c. whole milk or light cream 250 mL
- 8 pieces thickly sliced panettone butter maple syrup

Break eggs into a wide, shallow bowl or pie plate. Beat with a fork or whisk until foamy, then stir in sugar, salt and milk.

Over medium-low heat, heat griddle or skillet coated with a thin layer of butter.

Place the bread slices, one at a time, into the bowl or plate, letting slices soak up egg mixture for a few seconds before carefully turning to coat the other side.

Transfer bread slices to a griddle or skillet and heat slowly until bottom is golden brown. Add more butter to the pan as necessary to prevent sticking. Turn and brown the other side. Serve french toast hot with butter and maple syrup.

### CHEESE BALL

This is a great way to use up all the bits and pieces of leftover cheese. Use whatever you have on hand.

- 1/4 c. salted butter 60 mL
- 1 c. shredded sharp, flavourful cheese, in any combination that might include gruyere, cheddar or blue cheese 250 mL
- 1 c. soft cheese such as cream cheese, goat cheese or any combination 250 mL
- 1 tbsp. finely chopped green onions 15 mL
- 1/4 tsp. cayenne 1 mL
- 1 tbsp. lemon juice 15 mL
- 1/3 c. chopped, salted roasted pecans 75 mL
- 1 tbsp. chopped flat leaf parsley 15 mL

Bring the butter and cheeses to room temperature. This will take at least 30 minutes.

Put everything except the pecans and parsley in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Beat until smooth, scraping down the sides of the bowl from time to time.

Scrape the mixture onto a piece



Top off a meal of turkey salad in endive leaves, below, with a slice of Ferrero cheesecake with berries. | SARAH GALVIN PHOTOS

of waxed paper and place in the refrigerator for at least 15 minutes or until firm enough to work with. Gently form into a ball.

Mix the pecans and parsley together on a large plate or a cutting board. Roll the cheese ball in the mixture, then pat into the sides until you have an evenly coated ball.

Wrap well in plastic wrap and refrigerate. When ready to serve, let the ball sit out for at least half an hour to soften. Serve with plain crackers or small toasts.

### FERRERO ROCHER CHEESECAKE

This small cheesecake is nicer for the post-Christmas meals. Use leftover home made cookies for the crumb crust. Any firm cookie, such as a gingersnap or sugar cookie, will work. Pulse in a food processor until crumbs. Use a flat bottomed drinking glass to pat the cookie crust in the springform pan.

- 1 c. cookie crumbs 250 mL
- 3 tbsp. melted butter 45 mL
- 1 pkg. cream cheese
- 1/4 c. sugar 60 mL
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla 5 mL
- 8-10 Ferrero Rocher chocolates, roughly chopped

Generously butter a seven inch (17

cm) springform pan. Line the bottom with buttered parchment paper.

In a medium sized bowl, mix cookie crumbs with butter. Pat the mixture into the springform pan. Freeze.

Beat room temperature cream cheese with sugar and vanilla until creamy and soft. Add egg and beat until well combined. Stir in chopped chocolates. Pour mixture over frozen cookie crust in the prepared pan.

Bake in a 350 F (180 C) oven for 30 to 40 minutes. Be careful not to overcook. The mixture should still be a bit wobbly when you gently shake the pan.

Turn the oven off when cheesecake is firm, and open the door slightly to cool gently. This will prevent cracking on the top of the cheesecake. Cool to room temperature. Refrigerate for a few hours or up to two days before serving. Serves six.

### TURKEY SALAD IN ENDIVE LEAVES

- 1 c. chopped cooked turkey 250 mL
- 1/2 c. finely chopped fennel or celery 125 mL
- 1/4 c. finely chopped onion, any kind 60 mL
- 1/4 c. mayonnaise 60 mL
- 1/4 c. sour cream 60 mL
- salt and pepper, to taste
- 2 endive heads



Mix all ingredients except endive and spoon onto individual endive leaves.

### CRANBERRY VINAIGRETTE

- 1 c. fresh cranberries 250 mL
- or 1/4 c. cranberry sauce 60 mL
- 1/4 c. sugar, or to taste 60 mL
- 1/3 c. vegetable oil, divided 75 mL
- 2 whole cloves
- 2 tbsp. sherry 30 mL
- 2 tsp. sherry vinegar 10 mL
- 1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg 2 mL
- 1/4 c. red onion, finely chopped 60 mL
- 1 1/4 c. cranberry juice cocktail 310 mL

Sprinkle cranberries with sugar and set aside. Heat one teaspoon (5 mL) oil over medium heat and saute onion, stirring frequently. Add cloves and deglaze pan with sherry and vinegar. Stir in cranberries, sugar and cranberry juice. Cook until sauce has thickened. Whisk in remaining oil and nutmeg, then season with salt and pepper. Set aside for 12 hours. Bring to room temperature before serving. Serve with a goat cheese souffle or green salad.

Sarah Galvin is a home economist, teacher and farmers' market vendor at Swift Current, Sask., and a member of Team Resources. She writes a blog at [alloufingersinthepie.blogspot.ca](http://alloufingersinthepie.blogspot.ca). Contact: [team@producer.com](mailto:team@producer.com).

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## HEART HEALTH

# Know how to detect and lower risk of heart attacks

## HEALTH CLINIC



CLARE ROWSON, MD

**Q:** Heart attacks seem to run in my family. I am a 48-year-old woman in good health. Is there any way that I can find out if I am at risk of having a heart attack in the future?

**A:** You are right to be concerned because heart disease is

still the leading cause of death in women in North America.

For some people, there are some major factors of age, gender, and heredity that increase the risk of heart attacks that cannot be changed. Other situations that can be controlled are diet, weight, exercise, cigarette smoking and alcohol consumption.

Males older than 65 are at increased risk but as you are female and younger, you can be more optimistic.

Women should drink no more than an average of one drink a day while men can have two drinks. Certain illness such as diabetes and high blood pressure will also increase a person's risk of having a

heart attack, but the risk decreases if the symptoms are well controlled with medications.

People with high cholesterol, with the worst kind being triglycerides, should try to lower it with diet and/or cholesterol lowering medications such as statins.

The Mayo clinic has an online tool for calculating the risk of a cardiovascular event at [www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/heart-disease/in-depth/heart-disease-risk/itt-20084942](http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/heart-disease/in-depth/heart-disease-risk/itt-20084942).

In a recent study led by Harvey Hecht of the Icahn School of Medicine and director of cardiovascular imaging at Mount Sinai St. Luke's Hospital in the U.S., researchers found that mammograms for find-

ing breast cancer could also be used to detect heart attacks risks in middle-aged women.

There appears to be a link between the amount of calcification of the arteries in the breast and the calcium built up in the coronary arteries. Calcium salts are radio-opaque so readily show up as white lines on the mammogram.

Coronary arterial calcification is considered an early sign of cardiovascular disease.

The researchers felt that this risk factor might be even more significant than factors such as diabetes and high cholesterol.

Seventy percent of the women studied who had evidence of breast arterial calcification on their mam-

mogram were also found to have CAC as shown on a non-contrast CT scan of the chest.

If a younger woman had breast arterial calcification, it was even more significant, because there was an 83 percent chance she also had CAC.

Currently, radiologists who look at mammograms and provide a report do not usually mention calcification. It would only take them a minute or two longer to do so, would not increase costs to the health-care system and could save money as well as lives.

Clare Rowson is a retired medical doctor in Belleville, Ont. Contact: [health@producer.com](mailto:health@producer.com).

## ALCOHOLISM

## Coping with drunk cousin

## SPEAKING OF LIFE



JACKLIN ANDREWS, BA, MSW

**Q:** My wife's cousin came over for a holiday dinner with our family. All of us love him until about the fourth beer. Once the alcohol starts to pile up, he gets belligerent and all of that fun degenerates into sarcasm and dark humor. He has managed to stumble through just about all of our family holiday times, he has discouraged our family reunions and two of his sisters refuse to have him over to their house. Both my wife and I would like to get him to stop drinking but we have no idea how to go about it. What do you suggest?

**A:** I hope that you will always encourage your wife's cousin to stop drinking and support him if and when he commits to his recovery but you must always remember that the decision to stop drinking is his and his alone.

You can try to talk him into signing on for a treatment program, and even pay for it, or you can encourage him to start attending Alcoholic Anonymous meetings, but that is about as far as it goes.

Unless he is committed to his own recovery, the odds for success are limited. Talk to some of the people involved with one of your local AA groups. They might have some ideas to help you encourage Bob to stop drinking but they too have to admit to a certain helplessness without Bob's own determination to reconstruct his life.

You could try joining with your wife's sisters and prohibit him from attending whatever it is that your family is planning but that has only limited value.

The other option is to simply run alcohol-free activities. You can have fellowship without alcohol.

Jacklin Andrews is a family counsellor from Saskatchewan. Contact: [jandrews@producer.com](mailto:jandrews@producer.com).



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50 YEARS AGO

## Specialist questioned long-term antibiotic use in Alberta livestock

### FROM THE ARCHIVES



BRUCE DYCK

*The Western Producer takes a weekly look at some of the stories that made headlines in issues of the paper from 75, 50, 25 and 10 years ago.*

### 75 YEARS AGO: JAN. 1, 1942

The Saskatchewan petition calling for improved federal agriculture policy had collected 125,000 signatures by Dec. 27, which was a 25 percent increase from the previous week.

Field crops were worth \$83 million in Manitoba in 1941, up from \$60.9 million in 1940. However, it was a different story in the other two prairie provinces: \$121 million in Saskatchewan from \$179 million in 1940 and \$93.3 million in Alberta, down from \$140 million in 1940.

### 50 YEARS AGO: JAN. 5, 1967

Western Canada's country elevator system wasn't earning enough to provide for its own maintenance and replacement costs, said A.M. Runciman, president of United Grain Growers. He called for better co-operation and understanding from prairie farm organizations.

A. Baddon, a livestock supervisor with the Alberta Animal Industry Division, said no one could deny the benefits from using antibiotics to treat livestock disease. However, he wondered whether their inclusion in livestock rations for extended periods was a good thing in the long run.

### 25 YEARS AGO: JAN. 2, 1992

The federal government was predicting a 24 percent \$800 million increase in realized net farm income in 1992, which would be entirely because of higher government support payments. However, while incomes in Alberta and Manitoba were expected to increase 131 and 43 percent, respectively, those in Saskatchewan were expected to decline 10.4 percent.

Ontario beef producer Ross Baker wanted to donate a cow to help feed hungry people in Russia and hoped other Canadian farmers would do the same. The plan wasn't expected to go far, however, because of restrictive import regulations for live cattle.

### 10 YEARS AGO: JAN. 4, 2007

Both railways exceeded their revenue cap limits in 2005-06 — Canadian National Railway by \$2.7 mil-

lion and Canadian Pacific Railway by \$1.5 million.

The Canadian government lived up to its commitment to develop an organic regulation by the end of 2006, but the European Union, which had forced the need to have such a standard in place, changed its mind at the last minute and extended its deadline for third party equivalency by one year to Dec. 31, 2007.

[bruce.dyck@producer.com](mailto:bruce.dyck@producer.com)



Bea Williams of Rosetown, Sask., right, a member of the Saskatchewan Council for the International Year of the Child, talked to retiring council president Norma Hextall of Grenfell, Sask., centre, and new president Alma Copeland of Elrose, Sask., during the Saskatchewan Home Economics convention in Saskatoon in May 1977. Williams, a member of the Canadian IYC commission, urged home economists at the convention to start IYC activities in their communities.

FILE PHOTO

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## TOUGH TO BEAT IN THE LONG RUN

GM FOOD

# Judge GM on a case-by-case basis: experts

BY ROBERT ARNASON  
BRANDON BUREAU

Lucy Sharratt and Robert Wager don't agree on much.

Sharratt spends most of her time opposing genetically modified food, while Wager is a vocal defender of the technology.

However, they do see eye to eye on one matter: it's wrong to make blanket statements about the safety of GM food.

"Each GM food needs to be assessed on its own merits," said Sharratt, co-ordinator with the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network, which is a group of 17 organizations with "serious concerns" about crop biotechnology.

"Each GM food or each GM crop is assessed for safety because each one poses a different set of safety questions."

Wager, a biologist at Vancouver Island University and social media advocate of GM food, said basically the same thing: each GM crop should be assessed individually.

"If you are introducing a new trait that has no history of being in the food supply, then rigorous testing, beforehand, is essential."

However, when it comes to GM crops already in the food system, such as B.t. corn, Wager said there are no doubts about their safety.

"(It) has been very well documented from decades of research," he said. "And, of course, trillions of meals with no evidence of harm."



Most experts would agree with Wager:

- A 2015 Pew Research Centre survey found that 88 percent of scientists believe GM food is safe to eat.
- A U.S. National Academy of Sciences report on GMOs, released this May, "found no substantiated evidence that foods from GE (genetically engineered) crops were less safe than foods from non-GE crops."

- The National Academy of Sciences went even further, saying: "There is also nothing about the current processes used to generate GMOs that would theoretically pose a unique health risk... (And) over the last two decades, animals and humans exposed to GMOs have not experienced any relative increase in any major disease." Seeing how membership in the National Academy of Sciences is

## QUICK FACTS

In a chapter of a 2015 report called *GMO Inquiry*, the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network said:

- There is a diversity of opinion on the safety of GMOs in the scientific community. The biotechnology industry has a vested interest in promoting the incorrect idea of a scientific consensus.
- Even after 20 years, the scientific literature on GM food safety is inconsistent and far from robust.

Source: CBAN

one of most prestigious honours in the scientific world and 200 of its members have earned Nobel Prizes, a layman might assume that such a report would settle the matter.

Nope. After pornography, Donald Trump and Justin Bieber, it seems like the remainder of the internet is dedicated to angry debates over GM food.

The online divide does translate into the real world. Public opinion polls consistently show that half or a majority of Canadians and Americans think GM food is unsafe.

Proponents of GM food say junk science and the power of social media have skewed public opinion against the technology, but Sharratt sees it differently.

A 2015 Ipsos Reid survey, conducted for CBAN, found that 57 percent of Canadians don't trust

the regulatory system that oversees GM crops and food.

Sharratt said much of the skepticism stems from the process.

Corporations that want to commercialize a GM crop provide Health Canada with safety studies on their technology. Experts say the corporate-funded studies are comprehensive, independent and of the highest quality.

However, Sharratt and others say the industry science isn't transparent and cannot be trusted.

"If the Canadian government is relying on industry data... then the question of 'are they safe' becomes more complex," she said.

"That's an ongoing problem in discussing safety."

Wager agreed that transparency is an issue, but it's the GM haters who aren't transparent.

"The critics of the technology are demanding 100 percent transparency on those who support this technology," he said "But they themselves are hiding behind all manners of facades to not let the public realize how big and how much money is being put forward by the anti- (GM) industry.... The reason the public has anxiety towards this is because of a massive multibillion-dollar, multi-decade fear campaign designed to generate that anxiety."

robert.arnason@producer.com

FOR A RELATED STORY, SEE PAGE 43 »

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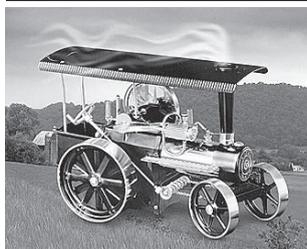
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS 0200



COMMITTEES OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

## Provide Input on Ways to Grow and Diversify Alberta's Agri-food and Agribusiness Sectors

The Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future invites input for its inquiry on growing and diversifying the agri-food and agribusiness sectors in Alberta, focusing on value-added production, small business opportunities and local food production and promotion.

**Submit your feedback by Sunday, January 15, 2017**  
[assembly.ab.ca/committees/abeconomicfuture](http://assembly.ab.ca/committees/abeconomicfuture)

EconomicFuture.Committee@assembly.ab.ca  
780.415.2878 (Call toll-free by dialing 310.0000)

Note: Submissions and the names of submitters may be made public.

[assembly.ab.ca/committees/abeconomicfuture](http://assembly.ab.ca/committees/abeconomicfuture)



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**AUTO/TRUCK PARTS 1100**

ONE OF SASK's largest inventory of used heavy truck parts. 3 ton tandem diesel motors and transmissions and differentials for all makes! Can-Am Truck Export Ltd., 1-800-938-3323.

**SASKATOON TRUCK PARTS CENTRE Ltd.** North Corman Industrial Park. New and used parts available for 3 ton trucks all the way up to highway tractors, for every make and model, no part too big or small. Our shop specializes in custom rebuilt differentials/transmissions and clutch installations. Engines are available, both gas and diesel. Re-sale units are on the lot ready to go. We buy wrecks for parts, and sell for wrecks! For more info, call 306-668-5675 or 1-800-667-3023. [www.saskatoontruckparts.ca](http://www.saskatoontruckparts.ca) DL #914394

**AUTO/TRUCK PARTS 1100**

**WRECKING SEMI-TRUCKS,** lots of parts. Call Yellowhead Traders. 306-896-2882, Churchbridge, SK.

**WRECKING TRUCKS:** All makes all models. Need parts? Call 306-821-0260 or email: junkman.2010@hotmail.com Wrecking Dodge, Chev, GMC, Ford and others. Lots of 4x4 stuff, 1/2 ton - 3 ton, buses etc. and some cars. We ship by bus, mail, Loomis, Purolator. Lloydminster, SK.

**TRUCK PARTS:** 1/2 to 3 ton, new and used. We ship anywhere. Contact Phoenix Auto, 1-877-585-2300, Lucky Lake, SK.

**WRECKING VOLVO TRUCKS:** Misc. axles and parts. Also tandem trailer suspension axles. Call 306-539-4642, Regina, SK.

**SOUTHSIDE AUTO WRECKERS** located in Weyburn, SK. 306-842-2641. Used car parts, light truck to semi-truck parts. We buy scrap iron and non-ferrous metals.

**WRECKING LATE MODEL TRUCKS:** 1/2, 3/4, 1 tons, 4x4's, vans, SUV's, Cummins, Chev and Ford diesel motors, Jasper Auto Parts, 1-800-294-4784 or 1-800-294-0687.

**TRUCK BONEYARD INC.** Specializing in obsolete parts, all makes. Trucks bought for wrecking. 306-771-2295, Balgonie, SK.

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**2016 SUBARU IMPREZA** consumer reports as best small car starting at \$23,360! Call for best price!! 1-877-373-2662 or [www.subaruofsaskatoon.ca](http://www.subaruofsaskatoon.ca) DL #914077.

**SPECIAL PURCHASE** OF new and near-new 2014-2015 Crosstrek XVs. Save up to \$5000. Come in quickly!! 1-877-373-2662. [www.subaruofsaskatoon.ca](http://www.subaruofsaskatoon.ca) DL #914077.

**TRAILERS**

**GRAIN TRAILERS 1505**



2013 4 HOPPER grain trailer, electric side chutes, elec. tarp, mint cond., 13,000 kms, \$55,000. Call 306-421-3865, Estevan, SK.

**NEW WILSON AND CASTLETONS:** 44' tridem, 3 hopper ahead, 2 hopper and 36' tandem; 2014 Wilson Super B; 2010 Lode-King alum, w/alum. budds, lift axles, Michel's chute openers; 2005 Lode-King Super B; 1 older tridem; 2008 Lode-King tandem; Michel's auger and chute openers. Ron Brown Imp. DL #905231. 306-493-9393. [www.rbisk.ca](http://www.rbisk.ca)

**EISSES GRAIN TRAILER Rental & Sales.** Super B grain trailers for rent by the day, week or month. Contact Henry at 403-782-3333, Lacombe, AB.

**PRAIRIE SANDBLASTING & PAINTING.** Trailer overhauls and repairs, alum. slopes and trailer repairs, tarps, insurance claims, and trailer sales. Epoxy paint. Agriculture and commercial. Satisfaction guaranteed. 306-744-7930, Saltcoats, SK.

**REMOTE CONTROL TRAILER CHUTE OPENERS** can save you time, energy and keep you safe this seeding season. FM remote controls provide maximum range and instant response while high torque drives operate the toughest of chutes. Easy installation. **Kramble Industries**, call 306-933-2655, Saskatoon, SK. or visit us online at: [www.kramble.net](http://www.kramble.net)

**GRAIN TRAILERS 1505**



**NEW BERG'S 24'** end dump, w/Berg's Signature quality finish. Call for winter pricing specials and 30 day trials, 204-325-5677, Winkler, MB.



1990 WARREN BULK Feed Trailer, 9 comp. auger, tri-axle, spring ride, 40' tank, good tires/brakes, \$20,000. 250-372-2233. [john@purityfeed.com](mailto:john@purityfeed.com)

**2010 DOEPKER TRIDEM Grain Trailer** in very good condition. Call 780-221-3980, Leduc, AB.

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**NORMS SANDBLASTING & PAINT,** 40 years body and paint experience. We do metal and fiberglass repairs and integral to daycab conversions. Sandblasting and paint to trailers, trucks and heavy equip. Endura primers and topcoats. A one stop shop. Norm 306-272-4407, Foam Lake SK.

2015 AHV LODE-KING aluminum Super B hoppers, extra light pkg., round stainless fenders, current safety, excellent 11R22.5 tires w/alum. wheels, exc. cond., no air lift or elec. tarps. 8 sets avail., \$93,000 OBO each. 1-866-236-4028, Calgary, AB.

**EISSES GRAIN TRAILER Rental & Sales.** Super B grain trailers for rent by the day, week or month. Contact Henry at 403-782-3333, Lacombe, AB.

**LIVESTOCK TRAILERS 1510**

**GRASSLAND TRAILERS QUALITY PRODUCTS AT WHOLESALE PRICES.** 20' steel stock, starting at \$13,550 up to 8' width available; 25' Duralite alum. at \$25,250; Krogerman bale bed at \$11,000. Glen 306-640-8034, 306-266-2016, Wood Mountain, SK. or email [gm93@sasktel.net](mailto:gm93@sasktel.net)



2017 FEATHERLITE 8117-6720, #HC144168, 1 center gate, 6.5' tall, spare tire, \$19,900. Call 1-866-346-3148 or shop online 24/7 at: [Allandale.com](http://Allandale.com)

**MISC. TRAILERS 1515**

**PRECISION TRAILERS:** Gooseneck and bumper hitch. You've seen the rest, now own the best. Hoffart Services, Odessa, SK. 306-957-2033 [www.precisiontrailers.ca](http://www.precisiontrailers.ca)

**100 MISC. SEMI TRAILER FLATDECKS/STEPDECKS.** \$2,500 to \$30,000. 20' lowbeds, \$10,000 to \$70,000. Tankers, end dumps. 306-222-2413, Saskatoon, SK. [www.trailerGuy.ca](http://www.trailerGuy.ca)

1985 MANAC 45' flatdeck trailer, 1200x22.5 tires, \$2500. 306-842-5710, Weyburn, SK.

**COMPONENTS FOR TRAILERS.** Shipping daily across the prairies. Free freight. See "The Book 2013" page 195. DL Parts For Trailers, 1-877-529-2239, [www.dlparts.ca](http://www.dlparts.ca)

53' AND 48' tridem, tandem stepdecks, w/wo sprayer cradles; 53', 48' and 28' tridem, tandem highboys, all steel and combos. **Super B Highboys;** Tandem and S/A converter w/drop hitch; 53'-28' van trailers and Kentucky moving van; Pintle hitch tandem flatdeck; Aluminum tankers. Ron Brown Imp. 306-493-9393, Delisle, SK. DL #905231. [www.rbisk.ca](http://www.rbisk.ca)

24' GOOSENECK 3-8,000 lb. axles, \$7890; Bumper pull tandem lowboys: 18', 14,000 lbs., \$4450; 16', 10,000 lbs., \$3390; 16', 7000 lbs., \$2975. Factory direct. 888-792-6283. [www.monarchtrailers.com](http://www.monarchtrailers.com)

**NEW NEW 2017 STEPDECK** beavertail, 48' tandem axle, flip ramps, \$31,900. Warranty. Call 306-563-8765, Canora, SK.

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**Misc. TRAILERS 1515**

3- HYDRAULIC TRANSFER AUGERS, 10", like new, all elec. equipment incl., asking \$6900. 780-871-3762, Rivercourse, AB.

**BEHNKE DROP DECK** semi style and pintle hitch sprayer trailers. Air ride, tandem and tridems. Contact SK: 306-398-8000; AB: 403-350-0336.

**TOPGUN TRAILER SALES** "For those who demand the best." **PRECISION AND AGASSIZ TRAILERS** (flatdecks, end dumps, enclosed cargo). 1-855-255-0199, Moose Jaw, SK. [www.topguntrailersales.ca](http://www.topguntrailersales.ca)

**2002 10'x30' WELLSITE** trailer, propane pig, A/C, bedroom with bunk beds, Fresh CVIP, \$35,800. Stk #UV1026. On Track Company Inc. 780-672-6868, Camrose, AB

**SELLING**

**TRAILTECH TRAILER:** 22', two 7000 lb axles, bumper hitch, hi boy, low boy, beaver tails and tilt, elec. over hydraulics, winch & picker, bolt rims, \$11,999 403-346-7178.

**2005 10'x30'** national wellsite trailer, propane pig, A/C, bath w/shower, W&D, microwave, stove, fridge, \$48,575. On Track Company Inc. 780-672-6868, Camrose, AB

1997 LODE-KING 48' Hi-boy flat deck, alum. combo, air ride, 12 winches on each side, \$6000. 204-325-8019, Winkler, MB.

2005 TRAILTECH 27' 5th wheel trailer, 20,000 axles w/loading ramps and self contained 545 Ferrari crane unit, \$17,000; 1980 Muv-All 48' equipment trailer, winch, hyd. beavertail, 25 ton capacity, \$24,000; 1998 Loadline 28' end dump, tandem, spring ride, \$22,000; 1998 Loadline 29' end dump, tandem, air ride, \$25,000. Can-Am Truck Export Ltd., 1-800-938-3323, Delisle, SK. DL #910420.

**TRUCKS**

**NEWEST TO OLDEST 1595**



2009 F-150 XLT SWB, 4x4, 5.4 auto, 20" rubber, only 48,000 kms, \$19,900. Cam-Don Motors, 306-237-4212, Perdue, SK.

**FOUR WHEEL DRIVE 1670**

2010 DODGE RAM Laramie, 4x4, dsl., 6.7L auto, 2 tone gray, orig. owner, only 97,000 kms, \$39,500 OBO. 403-485-0390, Milo AB

**GRAIN TRUCKS 1675**



1998 KENWORTH T800, new grain box, Detroit engine, 60 Series, 10 spd. trans., \$48,000. 204-325-5677, Winkler, MB.

**2002 IH 2600** w/IH 320 HP eng., 10 spd., 221,000 kms, new 20' BH&T, exc. rubber, vg. \$49,500; **2009 Mack CH613**, MP8 Mack eng., 430 HP, 10 spd., AutoShift, 463,000 kms, exc. shape, new 20' box A/T/C, \$73,500; **2009 IH Transtar 8600** w/Cummins eng. 10 spd., AutoShift, new 20' BH&T, 742,000 kms, exc. tires, real good shape, \$69,500; **2007 IH 9200**, ISX Cummins, 430 HP, AutoShift, alum. wheels, new 20' BH&T, fully loaded, 1,000,000 kms, real nice, \$67,500; **2009 Mack CH613**, 430 HP Mack, 10 spd., AutoShift, new 20' BH&T, alum. wheels, 1.4 million kms, has bearing roll done, nice shape, \$69,500; **2007 Kenworth T600**, C13 Cat, 425 HP 13 spd., AutoShift, new 20' BH&T, alum. wheels, new paint, 1.0 million kms, exc. truck, \$71,500; **1996 Midland 24'** tandem pup grain trailer, stiff pole, completely rebuilt, new paint and brakes, exc. shape, \$18,500; **1985 Ford L9000**, Cummins, 10 spd., 20' BH&T that's been totally rebuilt, new paint, exc. tires, \$28,500; **1999 IH 4700 S/A** w/17' steel flatdeck, 230,000 kms, IH dsl., 10 spd., good tires, \$19,500; **1998 Freightliner** tractor, C60 Detroit, 430 HP 13 spd., alum. wheels, sleeper, good rubber, \$17,500; **2005 IH 9200** tractor, ISX Cummins, 430 HP 13 spd., alum. wheels, flat-top sleeper, good rubber, \$22,500. All trucks Sask safetied. Trades considered. Call Merv at 306-276-7518 res., 306-767-2616, cell, Arborfield SK. DL #906768.



2009 VOLVO VNL430, No DEF, Volvo D16, 535 HP, 18 spd., 4-way locks, 290,000 kms, mint condition, farmer owned. \$72,900. Westlock, AB. 780-206-1234.



2010 IHC PROSTAR, 500 HP Cummins, 18 spd., 46 rear lockers, Jakes, fresh safety, new rubber, \$49,900. Cam-Don Motors, 306-237-4212, Perdue, SK.



2012 MACK PINNACLE CXU613, 34' flat-top sleeper, removable roof fairing, Mack MP8, 455 HP Eaton 13 spd trans, safetied, \$49,900. Norm 204-761-7797 Brandon MB

**2002 KENWORTH T800** w/new grain box, rebuilt engine and turbo with warranty, \$68,000. 204-325-5677, Winkler, MB.

**2004 PETERBILT 330**, tandem axle, C&C, long WB, Cat dsl., 10 spd trans, AC, low miles, alum. wheels, \$26,900, w/new B&H \$48,900. K&L Equipment and Auto. Ph Ladimer, 306-795-7779 Ituna. DL #910885

**2008 WESTERN STAR**, 10 spd. Eaton AutoShift, new 20' BH&T; 2008 tandem IH 7600, Cummins, 10 spd., new BH&T; 2004 Pete 330 S/A, Cat Allison auto, w/new 16' BH&T. Ron Brown Imp. 306-493-9393, DL #905231 [www.rbisk.ca](http://www.rbisk.ca)

**GRAIN TRUCKS 1675**

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**GRAVEL TRUCKS 1676**



2000 VOLVO WG64F, 14' gravel box, Volvo VED12 345 HP, 10 spd, 18,500 frts, 46 rears, 4-Way lock up, 495,000 kms, \$19,900. Norm 204-761-7797 Brandon MB

2004 MACK TANDEM AXLE dump truck, fresh AB. safety, low kms, very clean, good condition. Call 780-983-0936, Clyde, AB.

**2012 IHC TRANSSTAR**, low pro, Max 300 HP diesel Allison auto trans, single axle, loaded cab, 13' Armstrong landscape dump, \$39,900.; **2003 GMC C8500** tandem, automatic, with 15' box, low miles, \$34,900. **K&L Equipment and Auto.** Ladimer, 306-795-7779, Ituna DL #910885

**NEW CANUCK GRAVEL TRAILERS:** 1999 Arne's tridem end dump, clean; 1996 IH 9400, 60 Detroit, 10 spd, 16' gravel box, alum rims. Ron Brown Imp. 306-493-9393, DL 905231 [www.rbisk.ca](http://www.rbisk.ca)

**SEMI TRUCKS 1677**

1989 IH EAGLE, 425 CAT, 3406 engine, 5th wheel, 24.5 alum. budds, white, \$16,500. 306-960-3000, St. Louis, SK.

2001 KENWORTH W900, C15 Cat 6NZ with bunk, \$42,000. 306-452-8081, Redvers, SK

**2005 PETE 378**, pre-emission, C15 Cat, 18 spd., full lockups, flat-top, winch, safetied, \$37,500. 306-563-8765, Canora, SK.



2006 FREIGHTLINER S/A daycab, 455 Detroit, 10 spd., fresh safety, 470,000 kms, very good, \$24,900. Cam-Don Motors Ltd., 306-237-4212, Perdue, SK.

2006 FREIGHTLINER tandem axle, daycab, Mercedes power, auto trans, nice clean safetied tractor, \$19,500. 780-983-0936, Clyde, AB.



2009 VOLVO VNL430, No DEF, Volvo D16, 535 HP, 18 spd., 4-way locks, 290,000 kms, mint condition, farmer owned. \$72,900. Westlock, AB. 780-206-1234.



2010 IHC PROSTAR, 500 HP Cummins, 18 spd., 46 rear lockers, Jakes, fresh safety, new rubber, \$49,900. Cam-Don Motors, 306-237-4212, Perdue, SK.



2012 MACK PINNACLE CXU613, 34' flat-top sleeper, removable roof fairing, Mack MP8, 455 HP Eaton 13 spd trans, safetied, \$49,900. Norm 204-761-7797 Brandon MB



**2012 PETE 388**, 70" sleeper, "Crate Drop In" ISX 565 HP AT 750,000 kms, 18 spd, 12 fronts, 40 rears, 3.70, lots of chrome, \$89,900. Norm 204-761-7797, Brandon

**WANTED: MACK COMPLETE** or parts: 1985-1990 R-688; 1990-1999 RD-688 and 427-454 engine. Selling: Camelback susp., 4-42 diffs, 15 spd. Eaton, 350 HP engine. 306-960-3000, St. Louis, SK.

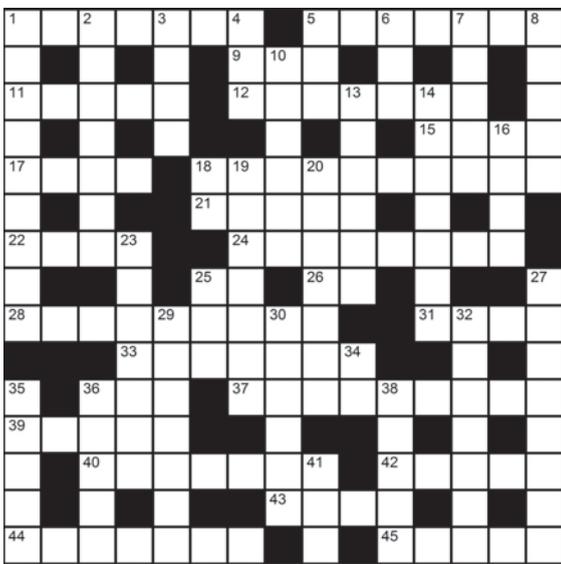
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**Entertainment Crossword by Walter D. Feener**



**Last Weeks Answers**

**ACROSS**

1. She played Officer Joanne Molenski on the final season of *Hunter*
5. Cates and Tonkin
9. She played Christian Grey's sister, Mia, in *Fifty Shades of Grey*
11. 2016 biblical film starring Joseph Fiennes
12. *Blonde* (2001 film)
15. 2009 film starring Hugh Dancy and Rose Byrne
17. Actor Corddry
18. Private investigator played by Kathleen Turner in 1991
21. *Anything* (2014 film) (2 words)
22. *Each Dawn* (1939 gangster film) (2 words)
24. Sitcom about Jerry, George, Elaine and Kramer
25. *Confidential* (1997 film)
26. Initials of an actor known for his starring roles in spaghetti westerns
28. Alyssa Milano's film debut (2 words)
31. 1993 television film starring Christopher Walken and Lorraine Bracco
33. Camp or Dewhurst
36. *Hay* (*Hollyoaks* character)
37. *In* (former HBO show about a psychologist)
39. *The Birds* (1983 miniseries)
40. 1972 film starring Stacy Keach, Jeff Bridges, and Susan Tyrrell (2 words)
42. Actress MacDowell
43. He played the cook on *Bonanza*
44. *The Nutty Professor* director (1996)
45. *The Golden* (sitcom 1985-1992)

**DOWN**

1. James who was once married to Elizabeth Ashley and Michele Lee
2. She played Boof in *Teen Wolf*
3. He was nominated for an Academy Award for his role as Petronius in *Quo Vadis*
4. *Salem's* (2004 miniseries)
5. Morita of *Happy Days*
6. *The* and *the Pussycat*
7. Lynda and Billy
8. He played Page's husband in *I'm Dancing as Fast as I Can*
10. He starred in *The Wrestler*
13. Karkanis who played Dawn Vargaz on *The Best Years*
14. 2012 film about three bootlegging brothers
16. *Rent* (1995 comedy)
18. Initials of the director of *The Grand Budapest Hotel*
19. *On Precinct 13*
20. Alan (pseudonym used by film directors)
23. She played lifeguard Lani McKenzie on *Baywatch*
25. Film starring Miley Cyrus and Demi Moore
27. She played Bailey Quarters on *WKRP in Cincinnati*
29. Bollywood's biggest hit of 2005 (2 words)
30. He played Bello's father on *Prime Suspect*

**SEMI TRUCKS 1677**



2013 PROSTAR IH day cab truck with in-dash GPS, 500 HP Maxx force 18 spd., 46,000 rears, 3.91 ratio, 228" WB, approx. 129,000 kms, 11R22.5 tires, c/w wet kit for only \$65,000. New MB. safety. 204-743-2324, Cypress River, MB.



2013 VOLVO 630 D13, I-shift automatic, warranty, heavy spec, full lockers, new head and injectors, engine & cab heaters, PTO fluid pump w/remote, \$85,000 OBO. 306-515-1461, Lemberg, SK.

**T800 KENWORTHS ALL HEAVY SPECS** 18 spd., full lockers, 2008. Also daycab 2009, new trans. and clutch; 2010 Pete 378, IFX Cummins, 18 spd; 2009 Kenworth T660, new ISX Cummins, tranny, and clutch, 18 spd., lockers; 2008 IH 9900 daycab, 260,000 kms., ISX Cummins, 18 spd., lockers; 2007 Pete 379, daycab and bunk; 2013 IH 59001, 42" bunk, 46 diff., 4-way lock, 18 spd., 390,000 kms; 2007 IH 9200, daycab, ISX 435, 13 spd; 1997 FLD 120, 425 Cat, 46 diff and lockers; 1996 Kenworth T800, 475 Cat, 13 spd., rebuilt diff and tranny. Ron Brown Implements, Delisle, SK., 306-493-9393. DL #905231 www.rbisk.ca

**SPECIALIZED TRUCKS 1680**



FULLY LOADED 2009 GMC 3500 4x4 pickup and new DewEze bale handler. Phone Dave 403-627-2601, Pincher Creek, AB.

II CHUCK TREE mover, never used II Chuck hydraulic tree mover \$2,480. 1-888-278-4905. www.combine-world.com

1997 MACK RD688, 100 barrel water tank, pump, etc., 400 Mack, 24.5 wheels, white, \$16,500. 306-960-3000 St. Louis SK

2002 INTERNATIONAL 4700 sanitation truck, side load, IH 466, RH/LH drive, A/T air brakes, Haul-All receptacle, \$17,900. www.combine-world.com 1-888-278-4905

WINCH TRUCK, 2003 Kenworth W900, rebuilt Cat C15 6N2, 30 ton hyd. winch, \$55,000. Knight tandem scissor neck, low-bed w/beavertails \$22,000. Danny Spence, 306-246-4632, Speers, SK.

**SPECIALIZED TRUCKS 1680**



2010 F250, 5.4 auto., 126K, new Courtney Berg Hydra-Dec bale handler, new Cooper Discoverer ST Maxx tires, truck totally gone over in shop, \$29,995. Duchess, AB., 403-378-4331. centennial@eidnet.org

2007 CHEV C6500, 2 WD, Duramax dsl., 7 spd. trans, 20' flatdeck w/winch, only 152,000 kms, \$21,900. 2008 Dodge 3500, 2 WD, Hemi gas engine, auto trans, 16' flatdeck, 178,000 kms, \$16,900 OBO. 2001 STERLING 9500, tandem water truck, 4500 gal. tank, C12 Cat, 13 spd., Bowie pump, \$22,900; 1998 FREIGHTLINER FL80, tandem water truck, Allison trans, 3200 gal. water tank w/Honda GX160 pump, 293,000 kms, \$21,900. Trades considered. K&L Equipment and Auto, Ph. Ladimer, 306-795-7779, Ituna, SK. DL#910885.

**SPORT UTILITIES 1682**

2009 FORD EXPLORER LTD., V8, AWD, loaded, 4 leather buckets, new winter tires, very good condition, 219,000 kms, \$14,900. Photos. 306-843-2934, Wilkie SK

2016 SUBARU FORESTER name top pick for 2016. Starting from \$29,360. Great selection to choose from!! 1-877-373-2662, www.subaruofsaskatoon.ca DL #914077.

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**VARIOUS 1685**

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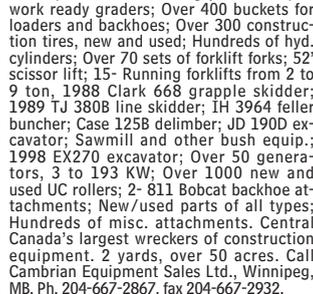
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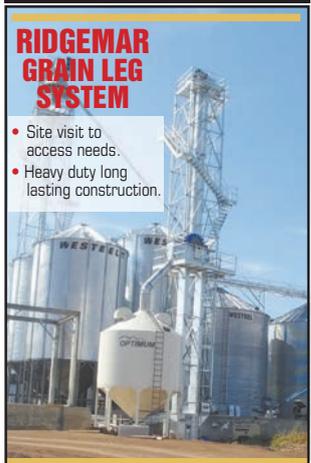
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2009 BOURGAULT 3310, 75", w/6550 tank, 1 yr. on new tips and discs, very accurate drill and tank, \$205,000 OBO. Call 306-867-7165, Loreburn, SK.

WANTED: BOURGAULT OPENERS for 3320 Para-link drill, single shoot w/liquid end. Call 306-463-7527, Kindersley, SK.

**SPRAYING EQUIPMENT**

**PT SPRAYERS 4238**

NH SF115, 130', 1200 Imperial gal. tank, 2 rinse tanks, wheel boom sprayer, \$19,000 OBO. 306-327-7198 Kelvington SK

**SP SPRAYERS 4241**

2008 CASE/IH 4420, 1 owner, 100', Aim Control, 5 nozzle body, full load, leather seats, ViperPro monitors, AutoSteer, auto-raise, AutoBoom, 2501 hrs, 1200 gal. SS tank, crop dividers, all updates, 2 sets of Michelins, very well maintained w/service records, stored inside heated shop, mint condition, field ready, \$195,000 OBO. 306-421-9909, Estevan, SK.



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**SPRAYING VARIOUS 4244**

WANTED: 3 PTH sprayer. Call Glen 306-640-8034, 306-266-2016, Wood Mountain, SK. or email gm93@sasktel.net

FLOATER TIRES: Factory rims and tires: JD 4930/4940, R4045; 800/55R46 Good-year tire and rim; 710/60R46 Goodyear LSW; Case 650/65R38 Michelins, \$13,500. Duals available for combines. 306-697-2856, Grenfell, SK.



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**TILLAGE/SEEDING**

**AIR DRILLS 4250**

4710 CONCORD and 3000 air cart, 47', 10" spacing, 300 bu., disc levelers, 3" Dutch openers, 4 rank, 5 plex, Agron blockage, \$14,000 OBO. 306-463-7420 Kindersley SK

2003 FLEXI-COIL 5000 39" 9" sp, 3.5" steel packers, 2011 P1060 430 bu. cart, DS. 306-722-3773, 306-722-7605, Osage, SK

JD 1820, 61" air drill, 10" spacing Atom Jet paired row boots, 4" pneumatic packers, NH3 Raven controller, sectional, JD 1910 430 cart, variable rate, 3 meters, \$49,000. 306-743-7622, Langenburg, SK.

2011 MORRIS CONTOUR 70', 650 bu. tank w/duals, TBH mechanical drive, dual shoot \$160,000. 306-948-7223, Biggar, SK.

2006 EZE-ON 7550 40' air drill, 10" spacing, 5" packers, 4" carbide tip openers, 3115 tank, \$35,000. 306-452-7004, Parkman, SK. E-mail: taylorgains@gmail.com

2008 BOURGAULT 5710 air drill, mid row banders/knives, good condition, monitors incl., \$95,000. 306-294-0015, Eastend, SK. dtaylor@hotmail.com

2010 BOURGAULT 5710 w/6450 tank, less than 15,000 acres, double shoot w/MRB's, 10" spacing, 3 tanks metering, deluxe auger, bag lift, 591 monitor, shedded, \$135,000. 306-421-5217, Benson, SK.

MOON HEAVY HAUL pulling air drills/ air seeders, packer bars, Alberta and Sask. 30 years experience. Call Bob Davidson, Drumheller, AB. 403-823-0746.

2013 MORRIS CONTOUR II, 61', 8370 TBH tank, 450 bu., 3 tank, paired row carbide tips, main frame big tires, blockage monitor, seeded approx. 15,000 acres, 5000 acres on new carbide tips, asking \$190,000. 306-883-7305, Spiritwood, SK.

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2010 65' 3310 BOURGAULT Paralink, 12" spacing, mid row shank banding, double shoot, rear hitch, tandem axle, low acres, \$145,000. 2002 49' Morris Maxim air drill, 12" spacing, w/2240 Morris grain cart, \$52,000. A.E. Chicoine Farm Equipment, 306-449-2255, Storthoaks, SK.

2013 SEEDMASTER 6012, seed brakes and other options: Nova 560-8-D, load cells, 40 bu. rear tank, sect. control, flow sensors, \$234,000. 780-754-2361 Irma AB

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WANTED: BOURGAULT OPENERS for 3320 Para-link drill, single shoot w/liquid end. Call 306-463-7527, Kindersley, SK.

2013 BOURGAULT 3320 XTC 66', 10" space, MRB, DS, Bourgault updates done, blockage and X20 monitors c/w 6700 cart, 2 fans, 4 metering tanks, conveyor, duals, whole unit always shedded, exc. cond., \$320,000. 780-872-3262, Lashburn, SK.

**AIR SEEDERS 4253**

2012 CASE/IH 800 PRECISION, 60'; 2011 Case/IH 800 Precision, 50'. Both w/3430 TBH 430 bu. cart. Both like new, exc. cond, low acres. 218-779-1710, Bottineau, ND.

**HARROWS/PACKERS 4256**

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**SEEDING VARIOUS 4259**

JD 7200 PLANTERS IN STOCK, 8 to 16 row, any planter makes available. Call Reimer Farm Equipment, Gary Reimer, 204-326-7000, Hwy #12, Steinbach, MB.

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**TILLAGE EQUIPMENT 4262**

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BOURGAULT 9200 50' floating hitch chisel plow, 600 lbs. trips w/Raven NH3 autorate kit. 306-563-7505, Canora, SK.

CASE/IH 5600 HD chisel plow, 29' with Degelman 3 bar harrows, \$6500 OBO. 403-820-0145, Drumheller, AB.

**TRACTORS**

**Agco 4274**

WANTED: MISC. PARTS for Cockshutt/Oliver 2050-2150. Call 780-632-1048.

**ALLIS/DEUTZ 4277**

WANTED: DEUTZ 7145 tractor. Call Bill 204-467-5608, Stonewall, MB.

WANTED TO BUY 1972-2006 Deutz tractor with good engine for parts. 306-395-2668, or 306-681-7610, Chaplin, SK.

**CASE/IH 4286**

2010 CASE/IH MAGNUM 180, loader, MFWD, 4665 hrs., \$134,000. Call Nelson Motors & Equipment, 1-888-508-4406, www.nelsonmotors.com

2014 CIH 600 QuadTrac, 2765 hrs, luxury cab, diff lock, 1000 PTO, 36" tracks, \$407,900. South Country Equipment, 306-842-4686, Weyburn, SK.

2013 140A FARMALL Case/IH w/loader, 1800 hrs., \$82,000. A.E. Chicoine Farm Equipment, 306-449-2255, Storthoaks, SK.

1993 CASE 9270, 5400 hrs., STS Outback, well serviced, shedded, good tires, \$70,000. 306-666-4403, Fox Valley, SK

2016 CASE MAXIM 145, 150 HP, FWA, loader, grapple, like new, \$190,000 OBO. 780-352-8858, Bittern Lake, AB.

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2014 CIH 600, Quadtrac, PTO, 886 hrs., \$452,900. Nelson Motors & Equipment, 1-888-508-4406, www.nelsonmotors.com

WANTED: 2294 FWA, in good running order; and 1370, 2290 Case w/weak engines 306-395-2668, 306-681-7610. Chaplin, SK.

2010 CIH 535 QuadTrac, 4100 hrs, 1000 PTO, 30" tracks, luxury cab, \$226,000. South Country Equipment, 306-842-4686, Weyburn, SK.

1995 CASE 5240, 3900 hrs., can be equipped w/loader; 1999 Case MX170, 4000 hrs., c/w loader. Call 204-522-6333, Melita, MB.

2012 CIH 500, Quadtrac, PTO, 1570 hrs., \$369,000. Nelson Motors & Equipment, 1-888-508-4406, www.nelsonmotors.com

2009 CASE/IH 435, 2650 hrs., 71070R duals, powershift, 4 hyd., shedded, mint, \$200,000 OBO. 306-563-4462, Canora, SK.

**STEIGER 4289**

2013 CIH STEIGER 600 quad, 1850 hrs, 6 hyd outlets, 36" tracks, diff lock, \$453,900. South Country Equipment, 306-842-4686, Weyburn, SK.

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2007 CHALLENGER MT765B track, 3268 hrs, 320 eng. HP, 4 SCV's, autoguidance, \$172,900. South Country Equipment, 306-721-5050, Regina, SK.

2010 CHALLENGER MT875C, Degelman blade, 2700 hours, \$334,000. Call Nelson Motors & Equipment, 1-888-508-4406, www.nelsonmotors.com

**JOHN DEERE 4295**

2014 JD 9560RT, 824 hrs, 36" tracks, Greenstar, JD Link, tow cable, \$483,500. South Country Equipment, 306-746-2110, Raymore, SK.

2012 JD 9560R, duals, PTO, 2539 hrs., \$360,000. Nelson Motors & Equipment, 1-888-508-4406, www.nelsonmotors.com

2013 JD 9460R, 1200 hrs, 800/70R38, PowerGard warranty- Oct/18, JD Link, \$377,800. South Country Equipment, 306-721-5050, Regina, SK.

9420 JD, bought new in 2003, shedded summer/winter, 710x42 tires, used on 40' cult. on small farm, 2800 hrs., mint cond., \$155,000. 306-752-4336, 306-921-7683, Melfort, SK.

2012 JD 9560RT, PTO, 1940 hrs., \$366,000. Nelson Motors & Equipment, 1-888-508-4406, www.nelsonmotors.com

2012 JD 9510RT, 1660 hrs, Greenstar, JD Link, 36" tracks, AJ hitch, \$391,900. Call South Country Equipment, 306-424-2212, Montmartre, SK.

NICE 2010 JD 9630, 4WD, original owner, 2500 hrs, fully loaded, big hyd. pump, 5 remotes, 800 duals, all updates done, best offer. Don 306-948-6059, Biggar, SK.

WANTED: JD 2520 tractor, powershift, 1969-1972. Also 3020, 4000, 4020, 4620. Diesel, powershift, '69-'72. Cancar Ag tree farmer 4 WD early 1960's. 306-960-3000.

2012 JD 9560R, triples, PTO, 1992 hrs., \$344,900. Nelson Motors & Equipment, 1-888-

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 2029 hrs, AHHC, lat tilt, Trimble Autosteer, chopper, long auger, pick-ups available ..... **\$54,800**

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 MD/JD PW7 16', hyd. windguard, like new ..... **\$22,900**

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 14', good auger & floor, single point, w/14' Swathmaster ..... **\$14,900**

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 40', w//AHHC, new/knife & guards, very good cond, set for CNH, JD/Lexion/Agco available ..... **\$38,800**

**1997 MF 8780**  
 1543 hrs, reel F/A, hopper ext'n, chopper, spreader, pick-ups available ..... **\$29,800**

**2011 JD 615**  
 Header and pickup, nice belts, auger & floor 80%, overall very good cond..... **\$19,800**

**2008 CIH 2016**  
 16', single pt, good belts, dbl hyd winguard, very good condition..... **\$19,900**

**2011 AGCO 4200**  
 16', reel spd, HHC, good flighting, belts & windguard ..... **\$19,800**

**2011 MD D60-D**  
 40', draper, DKD, transport, new knife & guards, nice header, set for JD, CNH/ Lexion/Agco available ..... **\$46,800**  
**2012 MD D60**  
 40', swather draper, DKD, transport, for MD built swathers..... **\$24,800**  
**2011 MD D60-D**  
 45', draper, DKD, AHHC, hyd tilt, transport, set for JD, CNH/Lexion/Agco available ..... **\$34,800**

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**2010 MD FD70**  
 40' flex draper, transport, DKD, AHHC, hyd tilt, pea auger. JD/CNH/Agco/ Lexion kits avail.... **\$59,800**

**2013 JD 640D**  
 40', hydra-float, pea auger, hyd tilt, for STS/S series, very good condition..... **\$49,800**

**2014 JD 6125R MFWD**  
 125 HP, 540 hours, FEL w/ bucket, PTO, 3PH, factory warranty ..... **\$129,000**

**2008 IH MAGNUM 275 MFWD**  
 3168 hrs, PTO, LH rev, powershift, weights, rear duals ..... **\$118,800**

**2013 IH FARMALL 140A**  
 773 hrs, 540/1000 PTO, rear duals, LH rev, shuttle shift ..... **\$89,800**

**2013 MD D65-D**  
 40', rigid draper, pea auger, AHHC, hyd. tilt, transport, very good cond, JD, CNH, Lexion, AGCO conversions avail ..... **\$49,800**

**2010 HB 88C**  
 Flex draper, 36", Ull PUR, DKD, hyd F/A, runs well ..... **\$29,800**

**2008 IH 535 QT**  
 535 HP, 5204 hours, 16 speed p/s, weights, 30" tracks, nice cab ..... **\$164,800**

**2008 IH 485 QT**  
 485 HP, 4229 hrs, pwr shift, front weights, good overall cond ..... **\$159,800**

**2004 NH TV145**  
 FEL w/grapple, 3PH, PTO, 6658 hrs..... **\$54,800**

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 70', 430 bu, 8 run, dbl shoot, ready to go w/ monitor ..... **\$79,800**

**2002 BOURGAULT 5710 SERIES**  
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 61', 10" spacing, sgl shoot, blockage sensors, good 3" rubber packers, 430 bu, tow behind, 8 run, dbl shoot .... **\$36,900**

**1998 JD 1900**  
 350 bu, 6 run, dbl shoot, tow behind, 8" auger, clean unit..... **\$24,800**

**2010 KELLO-BILT 225**  
 16' disc, tandem offset, 24" discs, 10.5" spacing, good disc ..... **\$23,800**

**1999 FLEXI-COIL S85**  
 70' heavy harrow, teeth 50%, good useable harrow..... **\$13,900**

**2014 INTERNATIONAL TERRA STAR**  
 4WD, 105,370 km, Hiab 7400 lb crane, 7' flat deck w/ 5th wheel, tool locker, hyd. outriggers, fresh safety ..... **\$46,800**

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7.3 Ford Powerstroke DT466E - 230 IHC ISB 5.9 Cummins 3126/C7 Cat

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# SOUTH COUNTRY EQUIPMENT

## GREAT SELECTION!

### 2015 John Deere 9570R

**\$542,500**

526 hrs, 18/6 powershift, JDLink, server 4600 processor, cab, Commandview, 800/70R38, PowerGard warranty - April-2019. St #0017505A



### 2016 John Deere S680 STS

**\$573,100**

328 sep hours, GreenStar display, JDLink, ProDrive Trans w/ HarvestSmart, 650/85R38, PowerGard warranty till August 2019. St #0785634A



### 2014 John Deere 9560RT

**\$483,500**

824 hrs, 18/6 powershift, JDLink, deluxe cab, Commandview II, 36" durabilt tracks, leather trim, PowerGard warranty May 2020, hi-flow hyd sys. St #0904525A



### 2013 John Deere S690 STS

**\$440,900**

730 sep hrs, AutoTrac, JDLink, Pro Drive trans w/ Harvest-Smart, small wire concave, 650/85R38, Michels toppler. St #0755658A



### 2015 John Deere 6195R

**\$243,000**

866 hrs, JD1800 Green-Star, JDLink, 4100 server processor, 620/70R42, MFWD w/limited slip, w/JD H380 loader, bucket & grapple, PowerGard warranty - Oct 2018. St #0022614A



### 2008 John Deere 9770 STS

**\$175,600**

1591 sep hrs, premier cab, 20.8r-38, hyd fore/aft, hi cap lift cylinders, deluxe header ctrls, small wire concaves. St #0727166B



### SELECT UNITS HAVE SPECIAL FINANCE RATES!

#### COMBINES

- 16 JD S690 STS, 47 hrs, demo unit, 650/85R38, ProDrive w/HarvestSmart. \$640,000 (M)
- (10) 16 JD S680, 300 hrs up, PowerGard warranty till Aug /2019, AutoTrac. \$573,100 (M)
- 15 JD S690 STS, 328 hrs, AutoTrac, 650/85R38, premium cabs. \$499,900 (W)
- (2) 15 JD S680 STS, 225 hrs up, 650/85R38, JDLink, AutoTrac. \$515,500 up (A,W)
- (5) 14 JD S690, 434 hrs up, 650/85R38, power fold grain tank cover, JDLink, AutoTrac. \$451,600 (R,RM)
- (7) 14 JD S680, 392 hrs up, premium cabs, AutoTrac, JDLink, HarvestSmart. \$459,000 up (R, RM)
- (6) 15 JD S670, 316 hrs up, 520/85R42, GreenStar display, TriStream rotor. \$477,900 up (M)
- (3) 14 JD S670 STS, 210 hrs up, Pro Drive trans w/HarvestSmart, 520/85R42. \$427,700 (R,SV)
- (3) 13 JD S680, 385 hrs up, GreenStar 2630, JDLink, Pro drive trans, 650/85R38. \$409,300 up (A, RM)
- (7) 13 JD S690, 725 hrs up, GreenStar 2630, JDLink, 650/85R38. \$419,400 up (MM,R,W)
- (2) 12 JD S680, 1137 hrs up, 2630 GreenStar, JDLink, Pro Drive w/HarvestSmart. \$360,900 up (W)
- (4) 12 JD S690 STS, 708 hrs up, Pro Drive w/HarvestSmart, 650/85R38, cover. \$384,200 up (MM,RM)
- 13 CIH 8230, 913 hrs, 620/70R42, Navll guidance, w/2011 CA 3016 15 PU. \$357,100 (A)
- 13 JD S670 STS, 977 sep hrs, 520/85R42, JDLink. \$349,900 (M)
- (2) 12 JD S670, 977 hrs up, 520/85R42, TriStream rotor, JDLink. \$329,100 (A)
- (2) 12 CIH 8230, 900 hrs up, 620/70R42, Magnacut chop, w/3016 15' PU. \$302,000 (MJ)
- 11 JD 9870sts, 1460 hrs, AutoTrac, fore/aft reel control, hi-capacity feeding. \$251,600 (R)
- (7) 11 JD 9770 STS, 1220 hrs up, premier cabs. \$233,300 up (A, M,R,S)
- 10 JD 9770 STS, 1583 sep hrs, 20.8R38, 600/65R28, small wire concave. \$226,600 (MJ)
- (6) 10 JD 9870 STS, 1522 hrs up, 20.8R42, premium cab, AutoTrac. \$176,900 up (R,W)
- 08 JD 9770 STS, 1591hrs, 20.8R-38, hyd fore/aft, small wire concave, Zenon light. \$175,600 (M)
- 07 JD 9860 STS, 1940 sep hrs, 800/70R38, new drop in engine, GreenStar display. \$174,100 (S)
- 07 JD 9860 STS, 1809 hrs, large wire concave, 30.5x32. \$154,000 (W)
- 07 JD 9760 STS, 2301 hrs, 800/70R38, premier cab, deluxe harvest controls. \$133,400 (RM)
- (2) 04 JD 9860 STS, 1568 hrs up, 20.8x42, Contour Master, prem header control. \$132,000 up (MM,W)
- 05 JD 9860 STS, 2307 sep hrs, 800/70R38, Cray big top, fine cut chopper. \$131,800 (A)
- 06 JD 9660 WTS, 1488hrs, 800/65R32, touchset comb adjust, deluxe header control. \$121,500 (R)
- 06 JD 9660 STS, 2116 hrs, 30.5Lx32, small wire concave, mech roll tarp. \$122,900 (M)
- 05 JD 9660 STS, 2140 hrs, 800/70R38, GreenStar, deluxe header controls. \$119,000 (S)
- (2) 03 JD 9750 STS, 1966 sep hrs up, deluxe header controls. \$112,500 up (S, W)
- 06 NH CR960, 2278 sep hrs, 900/60R32, w/ 76C 14' pickup. \$107,500 (RM)
- (4) 04 JD 9760 STS, 2065 sep hrs up, premium header control, Touchset. \$95,800 up (M,M), \$102 JD 9650 STS, 2576hrs, 800/65R32, Cray Big top hop ext, small wire concave. \$95,200 (S)
- 01 JD 9750 STS, 2776 hrs, 20.8R38, deluxe header control, 20' unload auger. \$92,400 (M)

#### TRACTORS

- (4) 15 JD 9570R, 544 hrs up, CommandView cab, JDLink, 800/70R38. \$536,900 up (M)
- 15 JD 9520R, 1275 hrs, 800/70R38, premium cab, leather pkg. \$513,000 (M)
- 14 JD 9560RT, 824 hrs, 36" tracks, GreenStar, JDLink, tow cable. \$483,500 (RM)
- 13 CIH Steiger 600 Quad, 1850 hrs, 6 hyd outlets, 36" tracks, diff lock. \$453,900 (W)
- 14 CIH 600 QuadTrac, 2765 hrs, luxury cab, diff lock, 1000PTO, 36" tracks. \$407,900 (W)
- 12 JD 9560R, 1379 hrs, JDLink, hi-flow hyd system, 800/70R38. \$400,100 (R)
- 12 JD 9510RT, 1660 hrs, GreenStar, JDLink, 36" tracks, AJ Hitch. \$391,900 (MM)
- 12 JD 9560R, 2916 hrs, 18F, 6R powershift, hi-flow hyds, 520/85R46. \$383,400 (MM)
- 13 JD 9460R, 1200 hrs, 800/70R38, PowerGard warranty Oct/18, JDLink. \$377,800 (R)
- 11 JD 9630T, 2486 hrs, 36" tracks, 5 hyd outlets, front idler weights, deluxe comfort. \$313,900 (W)
- 15 JD 7210R, 963 hrs, MFWD, JDLink, CommandView Cab, 710/70R38. \$253,300 (M)
- 15 JD 6195R, MFWD, 941 hrs, JDLink, 620/70R42, w/ JD H380 Loader. \$243,000 (M)
- 10 CIH 535 QuadTrac, 4100 hrs, 1000PTO, 30" tracks, luxury cab. \$226,000 (W)
- 15 JD 6150M, 1288 hrs, deluxe cab, MFWD, w/H360 loader, bucket & grapple. \$183,100 (MJ)
- 07 Challenger MT765B, track, 3268 hrs, 320 eng hp, 4 SCVs, AutoGuidance. \$172,900 (R)
- 15 JD 6140M, 1064 hrs, MFWD, w/H360 loader, bucket, grapple. \$169,800 (M)
- 04 JD 9520T, 4198 hrs, deluxe cab, 2600 GreenStar AutoTrac, 36" tracks. \$159,900 (A)

#### SEEDING

- 13 SeedMaster 74-12TXB, JD towers, w/JD 1910 550 bu tank. \$269,500 (RM)
- 10 SeedMaster 70-12TXB, w/JD 1910-430 bu tank, primary block on seed & fert. \$221,800 (M)
- 06 SeedMaster 66-12, new JD towers, w/JD1910 430 bu tank, Valmar. \$185,300 (M)
- 12 SeedMaster 66-12, Raven Cruiser II, Matrix hyd block, 40 bu canola tank. \$177,700 (RM)
- 12 JD 1835 57', 10" spac, 4-21" pneumatic wheels, w/JD 1910 430 bu, 6 run double shoot. \$151,000 (RM)
- 09 JD 1835 61', 10" spac, w/ JD 1910-430bu cart, 8 run double shoot. \$125,100 (RM)
- 06 SeedMaster 66-12, double shoot/JD air pack, pneumatic packers. \$116,900 (W)
- 08 JD 1830, 61', single shoot, w/JD 1910 430 bu 3 tank, 8 run double shoot. \$108,500 (W)
- 08 SeedMaster 64-12, dual castors, rear outer wing wheel, lift kit. \$107,500 (W)
- 08 SeedMaster 50-12TXB, double shoot, smart hitch, Pattison liquid dist. \$55,000 (R)



### LOCATIONS

**Assiniboia, SK (A)**

306-642-3366

**Montmartre, SK (MM)**

306-424-2212

**Moose Jaw, SK (MJ)**

306-692-2371

**Mossbank, SK (M)**

306-354-2411

**Raymore, SK (RM)**

306-746-2110

**Emerald Park/  
Regina, SK (R)**

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**Southey, SK (S)**

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**Weyburn, SK (W)**

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## 2006 JOHN DEERE 4895



**\$59,000**

2320 Eng/1896 Cut Hrs, '11 30' HB HDR, HDR Trans, STB WHL, X2 Knife

**Hi Line** Farm Equipment Ltd. **WETASKIWIN, AB**  
780-352-9244

## 2006 BOURGALT 6450



**CALL**

3 tank metering, dual shoot, rice tires, Stk #UEQ3672

**Cropper Motors** Naicam, Sk **NAICAM, SK**  
306-874-2011

## 2013 JOHN DEERE S670



**\$349,900**

977 Sep hrs, Premium Cab And Radio, Hid Lights & Extremity, Autotrac Ready/harv Monitor

**SOUTH COUNTRY** EQUIPMENT **MOSSBANK, SK**  
306-354-2411

## 2014 NEW HOLLAND T9.645



**\$385,000**

963 hrs, Tracks, PTO, 2 Pumps

**NB NOVLAN BROS** **PARADISE HILL, SK**  
306-344-4448

## 2012 SEED HAWK 6612



~~\$249,500~~  
**CASH DEAL \$220,000**

12' Seed Hawk 66-12. Tow behind, Quick pin depth control.

**RAWEST INTL** **VULCAN, AB**  
403-485-1998

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## 2003 JOHN DEERE 9750STS



**\$112,500**

2559 Sep hrs, Duals, Deluxe Header Controls, Seat Air Susp & Yield Est Pkg

**SOUTH COUNTRY** EQUIPMENT **SOUTHEY, SK**

## 2013 GLEANER S77



**\$379,000**

4200 Header, STK #55905

**AGRITERRA** EQUIPMENT **LOUGHEED, AB**

## 2013 MERLO 55.9 TELEHANDLER



**\$145,900**

998 hrs, 140 hp, Heat, AC, Cab susp, Boom susp, 12,100lb lift cap, 40K, Mint!

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MOTORS AND EQUIPMENT



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**2006 JOHN DEERE 9760 STS**  
Duals, 1771 hrs. (A)

**\$130,900**



**2010 BOURGAULT 3310 AIR DRILL**  
MRBs, 6550 cart.

**\$265,000**



**2012 JOHN DEERE 4940 SPRAYER**  
1200 gal. tank, 120' booms, 1600 hrs.

**\$283,000**



**2012 JOHN DEERE 6210R**  
826 hrs, 210 hp, MFWD, loader w/ grapple. (RE)

**\$184,000**



**2015 JOHN DEERE 9620R**  
669 hrs, PTO, dual. (ES)

**\$554,000**



**2012 CASE IH QUADTRAC 500**  
1570 hrs, PTO. (ES)

**\$369,000**

### 4 WD TRACTORS

2008 JD 9430, duals, 2520 hrs	\$214,900	(RE)
2008 JD 9530, duals, 3178 hrs	\$231,900	(ES)
2009 JD 9630, triples, 3950 hrs	\$240,000	(OX)
2012 JD 9560R, duals, 1685 hrs	\$352,000	(ES)
2012 JD 9560R, duals, 1709 hrs	\$356,900	(ES)
2012 JD 9560R, duals, 1816 hrs	\$356,000	(ES)
2012 JD 9560R, duals, 1988 hrs	\$366,000	(ES)
2012 JD 9560R, triples, PTO, 1992 hrs	\$344,900	(ES)
2012 JD 9560R, duals, PTO, 2085 hrs	\$368,000	(AV)
2012 JD 9560R, duals, PTO, 2246 hrs	\$355,900	(ES)
2012 JD 9560R, duals, PTO, 2539 hrs	\$360,000	(ES)
2013 JD 9560R, duals, 1943 hrs	\$373,000	(ES)
2015 JD 9620R, duals, PTO, 669 hrs	\$540,000	(ES)

### TRACK TRACTORS

2012 JD 9560RT, PTO, 1940 hrs	\$366,000	(AV)
2016 JD 9620RX, PTO, 515 hrs	\$684,000	(AV)
2010 Challenger MT875C, Degelman blade, 2700 hrs	\$334,000	(RA)
2012 Case IH 500 Quadtrac, PTO, 1570 hrs	\$369,000	(ES)
2014 Case IH 600 Quadtrac, PTO, 886 hrs	\$452,900	(AV)

### 2 WD - MFWD TRACTORS

1980 JD 4440 2WD, loader, 7188 hrs	\$33,500	(RE)
1996 JD 7800 MFWD, loader, 11,845 hrs	\$59,500	(OX)
2012 JD 7200R MFWD, IVT 2226 hrs	\$186,900	(RE)
2012 JD 6210R MFWD, loader, 826 hrs	\$184,000	(RE)
2013 JD 6170R MFWD, loader, 1500 hrs	\$184,000	(RA)
2010 CIH Magnum 180, loader, MFWD, 4665 hrs	\$134,000	(RE)

### SEEDING EQUIPMENT

61' JD 1820/1900, 340 bus cart, double shoot, 2002	\$73,000	(RA)
60' JD 1820/1910, 10" spg, ss, arm, rubber press, 430 bus tth cart, 2003	\$76,900	(AV)
61' JD 1830/1910, 10" spg, double shoot, 550 bus tth cart, 2013	\$197,000	(AV)
40' Flexi-Coil 5000, 2320 tank, 1994	\$20,000	(ES)
57' Flexi-Coil 5000, 3450 tank, 1997	\$20,000	(RE)
66' Bourgault 3310/6550ST, single shoot, 12" spac, 2010	\$162,900	(AV)
65' Bourgault 3310/6550ST, 10", double shoot, 2010	\$265,000	(RA)
66' Bourgault 3320/6550ST, 12", double shoot, 2013	\$224,000	(RE)
60' Bourgault 3710/7700 Disc Drill, 2014	\$438,000	(RA)
53' Bourgault 5710 MRB, 2001	\$33,400	(AV)
70' SeedMaster TXB70-12, 12", JD 550 cart, 2009	\$243,900	(RA)
90' SeedMaster TX8-M90, 12" spacing, front and rear, 550 bus JD 1910 air tanks, sectional control, ARM 2013	\$215,900	(ES)
70' SeedMaster SXG550, 12" spacing, double shoot, sectional control, 550 bus cart 2012	\$199,000	(ES)
John Deere 1900, 270 bus TBT, D/S 1998	\$34,900	(RA)
John Deere 1910, 250bu TBH, D/S 2003	\$33,700	(RA)
John Deere 1910, D/S, conv 2014	\$114,400	(ES)
Bourgault 4350 Seedcart, 1999	\$20,000	(OX)

### COMBINES

(Please refer to our website for more details)

2012 JD S670, 1004 sep hrs	\$299,000	(OX)
2014 JD S670, 435 sep hrs	\$400,000	(RA)
2014 JD S670, duals, 459 sep hrs	\$399,000	(RA)
(4) - 2015 JD S670	SEE WEBSITE	(ES)
2013 JD S680, duals, 892 sep hrs	\$379,800	(ES)
(5) - 2014 JD S680	SEE WEBSITE	(ES)
2015 JD S680, duals, 729 sep hrs	\$464,000	(ES)
2015 JD S680, duals, 775 sep hrs	\$458,400	(ES)
(3) - 2012 JD S690	SEE WEBSITE	(ES)
2013 JD S690, duals, 850 sep hrs	\$400,000	(ES)
(5) - 2014 JD S690, duals	SEE WEBSITE	(AV)
(4) - 2016 JD S690, duals, 250 sep hrs	\$589,000	(RE)
2010 JD T670, singles, 1131 sep hrs	\$214,900	(RE)
2011 JD T670, duals, 1003 sep hrs	\$245,000	(RA)
2008 JD 9770, duals, 1708 sep hrs	\$152,600	(RE)
2010 JD 9770, duals, 1532 sep hrs	\$203,000	(AV)
(5) - 2011 JD 9770	SEE WEBSITE	(AV)
2005 JD 9760 STS, singles, 2149 sep hrs	\$118,500	(AV)
2006 JD 9760 STS, duals, 1771 sep hrs	\$130,900	(AV)
2009 JD 9870, 1800 hrs	\$191,400	(AV)
2010 JD 9870, duals, 1520 hrs	\$205,900	(ES)
2006 JD 9860, singles, 2402 hrs	\$128,700	(AV)
2001 JD 9650W, 3720 hrs	\$66,000	(RE)
1999 JD 9610, singles, 2539 sep hrs	\$60,900	(RE)
1996 JD 9600, singles, 2725 sep hrs	\$43,900	(RE)
2012 New Holland CR8090, duals 788 sep hrs	\$328,800	(RE)

### COMBINE PLATFORMS

JD 914 Pickup Headers, several	CHECK WEBSITE	(AV)
JD 615P Pickup Headers several to choose from	CHECK WEBSITE	(AV)
2008 MacDon PW-7	\$17,600	(AV)
Precision Pickup headers	\$7,500-\$15,000	(AV)
2010-2014 JD 640D 40' draper, several to choose from	CHECK WEBSITE	(AV)
2012-2014 JD 640FD 40' flex drapers, several to choose from	CHECK WEBSITE	(AV)
2014 JD 635FD 35' flex draper	\$78,200	(RA)
JD 635D 35' draper several to choose from	CHECK WEBSITE	(ES)

2003 JD 936D 36' draper	\$25,500	(RE)
2013 MacDon D65 40', Transport	\$72,900	(OX)
2012 MacDon FD70 40' flex draper	\$64,900	(RA)
MacDon FD70 45' flex draper 2 units	CHECK WEBSITE	(AV)
2014-2016 MacDon FD75, 40' flex draper, 3 units	CHECK WEBSITE	(AV)
2014 MacDon FD75, 45' flex draper	\$84,500	(ES)
2004 MacDon 973, 36', JD adapter	\$25,900	(ES)
2003 MacDon 972, 36', JD adapter	\$24,900	(RE)

### CORN HEADERS

2002 JD 1290 12 row, 20" spacing	\$31,000	(AV)
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### SP WINDROWERS

2011 JD A400, 36', header, swath roller	\$91,900	(RE)
2008 JD 4895, 36', head 1002 hrs	\$76,000	(RE)
2008 JD 4895, 30', 1050 hrs	\$82,000	(ES)
2008 JD 4895, 36', 1114 hrs	\$82,600	(RE)
2001 MacDon 2952, 30', 2792 hrs	\$49,700	(RE)
2002 MacDon 2952, 30', 3500 hrs	\$45,500	(RE)
2006 Case WDX1202, 30', 2400 hrs	\$45,800	(RE)

### GRAIN HANDLING EQUIPMENT

2004 Brandt 10x70 Grain Auger	\$7,200	(ES)
2010 Brandt 13x110HP Grain Auger	\$19,900	(AV)
2011 Brandt 13x90HP Grain Auger	\$19,200	(ES)
2014 Brandt 13110HP Grain auger	\$24,300	(OX)
2013 Brandt 13x40 PTO Load Out Auger, mover, new	\$15,900	(AV)
2014 Brandt 1545 Conveyor	\$22,500	(OX)
2009 Brandt 1545LP Conveyor	\$17,900	(RA)
2009 Sakundiak 10x1200 Grain Auger	\$11,000	(ES)

### GRAIN CARTS

2011 Brent 1394	\$87,900	(ES)
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### SPRAYERS

2015 JD R4045, 1150 hrs	\$449,000	(ES)
2015 JD R4045, 1200 hrs	\$449,000	(ES)
2013 JD 4730, 975 hrs	\$274,800	(AV)
2013 JD 4730, 1050 hrs	\$275,900	(RE)
2011 JD 4730, 3449 hrs	\$206,400	(RE)
2012 JD 4830, 850 hrs	\$272,900	(RA)
2010 JD 4930, 1490 hrs	\$237,900	(RA)
2010 JD 4930, 2019 hrs	\$228,400	(OX)
2012 JD 4940, 1600 hrs	\$283,000	(RA)
2014 JD 4940, 960 hrs	\$333,000	(AV)
2014 JD 4940, 1137 hrs	\$329,000	(OX)
1994 Spray Coupe 3630, 2978 hrs	\$23,000	(OX)
2010 Farm King 1200, suspended boom, 90'	\$23,000	(RE)

### HAYING EQUIPMENT

2000 JD 1600A Mower Conditioner	\$10,900	(ES)
2012 New Holland H1750 Mower Conditioner	\$37,200	(AV)
1995 MacDon 5000 Mower Conditioner	\$6,900	(OX)
1998 JD 566 Round Baler	\$9,700	(ES)
2003 JD 567 Round Baler	\$14,900	(OX)
2007 JD 568 Round Baler, surface wrap	\$27,200	(RA)
2013 JD 559 Round Baler, surface wrap	\$30,000	(AV)
2010 JD 568 Round Baler, surface wrap, 12,750 Bales	\$35,200	(RE)
2011 JD 568 Round Baler, surface wrap, 17,700 bales	\$35,400	(RE)
2011 JD 568 Round Baler, surface wrap	\$28,000	(RA)
2014 JD 569 Round Baler, surface wrap, 6974 bc	\$54,000	(RE)

### MISC EQUIPMENT

2013 Degelman 7000 Strawmaster, 82' Valmar applicator	\$60,000	(AV)
2012 Highline CFR650 Bale Processor	\$23,500	(AV)
2006 Highline 8000 Bale Processor	\$7,450	(RE)
2011 JD HX20 Rotary Cutter, 20'	\$19,900	(RE)
2008 JD 637 Disk 45', 5 section	\$66,000	(ES)
2011 Ezee-On 8700 Disk 35', 3 section	\$59,000	(ES)
2013 Schulte SDX102 Snow Blower	\$8,000	(AV)
2013 Schulte FM300 Snow Blower	\$9,500	(OX)
2005 Schulte 9600 Snow Blower	\$4,900	(AV)

### LAWN & GARDEN EQUIPMENT

2009 JD Z860A Zero Turn Mower, 60" MOD, 3-bag MCS, 406 hrs	\$9,500	(OX)
2013 JD Z235 Zero Turn Mower, 42" cut, 66 hrs, m ulch kit	\$2,700	(AV)
2010 JD Z445 Zero Turn Mower, 54" cut, 528 hrs	\$3,700	(RE)
2012 JD Z445 Zero Turn Mower, 48 cut, 388 hrs	\$3,300	(OX)
2008 JD Z510A Zero Turn Mower, 48" cut, 358 hrs	\$4,350	(OX)
2012 JD Z655 Zero Turn Mower, 54" cut, 383 hrs	\$5,800	(ES)
2013 Toro S55060 Zero Turn Mower, 50" cut, 171 hrs	\$2,800	(RA)
2010 JD X320 Lawn Tractor, 48" cut, 140 hrs	\$3,300	(AV)

### COMPACT UTILITY TRACTORS

2013 JD 3320 300CX Loader, rear hyd, 475 hrs	\$24,300	(AV)
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**LOADERS/DOZERS 4322**

2006 CAT D8T SU dozer, single shank ripper, cab air, 11,000 hours, work ready, \$150,000. 204-795-9192 Plum Coulee, MB



2013 CIH L785 FEL w/grapple and bucket. Fits on Case Puma 200, \$18,000; Also have some rear weights as well, \$1.75/lb. 204-743-2324, Cypress River, MB.



2004 DEERE 325 skidsteer loader, new eng., c/w bucket, vg working condition, \$25,000. Can deliver. Call anytime 204-743-2324, Cypress River, MB.

KIRSCHNER 10' BLADE, hyd angle, mounts on JD 740 loader, exc., \$4600; Degelman 4600 blade, 4-way, mts for JD 6430 tractor, exc., \$9500; Deg. 6900 2-way, mounts for JD 9320. 780-352-3012 Wetaskiwin AB

2009 14' 6900 Degelman 4 WD blade, hyd. angle, mounting kit for STX 275, 280, 285, 330, 335, \$20,000. A.E. Chicoine Farm Equipment, 306-449-2255, Storthoaks, SK.

ALLIED 590 LOADER, excellent shape, \$3500. Danny Spence, Speers, SK. 306-246-4632.

2007 DEGELMAN 6600, 14", 2 way hyd. fits CNH 275335 HP 4wd's, excellent condition, \$ 8,800. 1-888-278-4905. www.combine-world.com

LEONS 775Q, Q/A, 6-way hyd. front mount blade, \$13,500; Allied Farm King 960, 3 PTH snowblower, hyd. spout, \$3,500; JD 158 FEL, bucket, joystick, mounting kit to fit JD 4240, 4440 & 4230 tractors, \$5,500; Leons 707 push blade 8' front mount blade, \$1,200. Lamont Farm Centre Ltd., 780-895-7338, Lamont, AB.



2017 YANUSH PULL STYLE DOZERS. Buy or lease pricing starting at \$25,500. Visit booth 1720 at Manitoba Ag Days for more info or call Jonathan 306-876-4989 or 306-728.9535. www.yanush.ca

2013 DEGELMAN 5700 blade, 12', mounts for JD 6150R; 2013 Degelman 5700 blade, 12', mounts for NH T7.185, \$11,500 ea. 780-679-7795, Camrose, AB.

2011 CASE 1221E loader w/toothed bucket, M11 Cummins, 4 spd., 5500 hrs., \$165,000. 306-452-8081, Redvers, SK.

CRAIG SNOW WING 12", complete with frame, mounts, hydraulic block off a 1997 Champion 730A-VHP Series V grader, \$4,900. 1-888-278-4905. www.combine-world.com

10' DEGELMAN DOZER and frame, manual angle, new cutting edge, fits most 2WD & FWA, \$5900. 306-948-7223, Biggar, SK.

DEGELMAN 12-1,14" 2 way blade, manual tilt, good cutting edge, mounts 30" tractor frame, \$4,980. 1-888-278-4905. www.combine-world.com



2012 BOBCAT S 205 skidsteer loader, 1650 hrs., c/w bucket, vg working condition, \$28,000. Can deliver. Call anytime 204-743-2324, Cypress River, MB.

**MISCELLANEOUS 4325**

GPS OUTBACK EZ-DRIVE TC with S2 Display, hyd. steering control. Will fit all ATX Case/IH 4 WD tractors and other makes, \$3300. Call A.E. Chicoine Farm Equipment, 306-449-2255, Storthoaks, SK.

ODESSA ROCKPICKER SALES: New Degelman equipment, land rollers, Strawmaster, rockpickers, protil, dozer blades. 306-957-4403, 306-536-5097, Odessa, SK.

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WANTED: STAINLESS STEEL LIQUID fertilizer storage tanks for transporting/storing, 1,600-50,000 gallons. Call 306-960-3000.

BOBCAT 943 SKIDSTEER, \$14,900; NH LX865 skidsteer, \$12,900; McKee 7' snowblower, \$7,000; Lorenz 8' HD snowblower, \$1,500; Gehl 500 cu. ft., 4 auger feed cart, \$10,000; Knight 3 auger feed cart, \$5,000. 1-866-938-8537.

**MISCELLANEOUS 4325**

SUNFLOWER HARVEST SYSTEMS. Call for literature. 1-800-735-5848. Lucke Mfg., www.luckemanufacturing.com

**WANTED 4328**

WANTED: USED, BURNT, old or ugly tractors. Newer models too! Smith's Tractor Wrecking, 1-888-676-4847.

WANTED: Older and newer tractors, in running condition or for parts. Goods Used Tractor Parts, 1-877-564-8734.

WANTED: GOOD ENGINE for Belarus 7010. Will consider buying complete tractor. Call 403-378-4979, Duchess, AB.

**WANTED MF 36 & 360 Discers**  
All sizes, any condition, also parts discers, Premium Price paid for 12Ft with 19" blades.  
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GUARANTEED PRESSURE TREATED fence posts, lumber slabs and rails. Call Lehner Wood Preservers Ltd., ask for Ron 306-763-4232, Prince Albert, SK.

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16' PEEL RAILS, 2-3" \$7.50 ea., 125 per bundle; 3-4" \$9.25 ea., 100 per bundle; 4-5" \$11 each, 75 per bundle. Vermette Wood Preservers, 1-800-667-0094, Spruce Home, SK info@vwpltd.com

**FIREWOOD 4475**

WALLENSTEIN WOOD PROCESSOR # 830. 1 man machine for cutting, splitting and piling, 50 hrs. 403-346-7178, Red Deer, AB

SEASONED SPRUCE SLAB firewood, one cord bundles, \$99, half cord bundles, \$65. Volume discounts. Call V&R Sawing, 306-232-5488, Rosthern, SK.

BLOCKED SEASONED JACK Pine firewood and wood chips for sale. Lehner Wood Preservers Ltd., 306-763-4232, Prince Albert, SK. Will deliver. Self-unloading trailer.



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QUILL CREEK BISON is looking for finished, and all other types of bison. COD, paying market prices. "Producers working with Producers." Delivery points in SK and MB. Call 306-231-9110, Quill Lake, SK.

NEBRASKA BISON BUYING all classes Calves, yearlings, adults, finished bison. Call Randy Miller 402-430-7058 or email: RandyMiller@Miller95Enterprises.com

BISON WANTED - Canadian Prairie Bison is looking to contract grain finished bison, as well as calves and yearlings for growing markets. Contact Roger Provencher at 306-468-2316, roger@cdnbison.com

WANTED ALL CLASSES of bison: calves, yearlings, cows, bulls. Willing to purchase any amount. dreyets1@rap.midco.net Call 605-391-4646.

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SASKATCHEWAN BISON ASSOCIATION is having a Field Day January 13, 2017 at Beldon Bison Ranch near Nipawin, SK. With opportunities to talk to established producers, learn about the industry and view the Canadian Bison Draft entries. We look forward to seeing you there! 306-522-4766 or 306-812-7092. beldonbisonranch@gmail.com

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**CATTLE**

**AUCTION SALES 5005**



LAZY S BULL POWER 2017, January 28th, at the ranch, Mayerthorpe, AB. 225 polled red and black Simmental, Angus and Beefmaker (Sim Angus) bulls. 780-785-3136. Video online www.lazysranch.ca

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SOUTH VIEW RANCH has Black and Red Angus 2 year old bulls. Ceylon, SK. Call Shane 306-869-8074, Keith 306-454-2730.

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PUREBRED BLACK ANGUS long yearling bulls, replacement heifers, AI service. Meadow Ridge Enterprises, 306-373-9140 or 306-270-6628, Saskatoon, SK.

**RED ANGUS 5015**

90- TWO YR. OLD and yearling Red Angus bulls. Guaranteed, semen tested, and delivered in the spring. Bob Jensen, 306-967-2770, Leader, SK.

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REG. RED ANGUS bulls born Feb./Mar. 2016, calving ease, good growth. Little de Ranch, 306-845-2406, Turtleford, SK.

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RED ANGUS BULLS, two year olds, semen tested, guaranteed breeders. Delivery available. 306-287-3900, 306-287-8006, Englefeld, SK. www.skinnerfarms.ca

RED ANGUS PUREBRED 2 year old bulls. Open heifers also available. Contact DBM Angus Farms at Holland, MB., Brian 204-526-0942 or David 204-723-0288.

**CHAROLAIS 5055**

60 BRED COWS Charolais/ Simmental cross for sale. Call 403-652-7253, High River, AB.

REGISTERED CHAROLAIS BULLS, 2 year olds and yearlings. Polled, horned, some red. Quiet hand fed, hairy bulls. 40+ head available. Will at Cougar Hill Ranch 306-728-2800, 306-730-8722, Melville, SK

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COMING 2 YR. old polled PB Charolais bulls, come red factor. Call Kings Polled Charolais, 306-435-7116, Rocanville, SK.

YEARLING & 2 YEAR old Charolais bulls, Creedence Charolais Ranch, Ervin Zayak, 780-741-3868, 780-853-0708 Derwent, AB

CHAROLAIS BULLS, YEARLING and 2 year olds. Call LVV Ranch, 780-582-2254, Forestburg, AB.

**GELBVIEW 5075**



DAVIDSON GELBVIEW & LONESOME DOVE RANCH, 28th Annual Bull Sale, Saturday, March 4, 2017, 1:00 PM at their bull yards, Ponteix, SK. Complimentary lunch at 11:00 AM. Pre-sale viewing and hospitality, Friday, March 3rd. Selling 100+ PB yearling bulls, Red or Black. Performance and semen tested. Contact Vernon and Eileen 306-625-3755, Ross and Tara 306-625-3513, Ponteix, SK. View catalog and video on our websites: www.lonesomedoveranch.ca or www.davidsongelbvieh.com

**HEREFORD 5090**

ROSELAWN FARMS has an excellent group of Hereford and Black Baldie heifers bred Hereford. March calving. All vaccinations. Wally 204-534-8204, Killarney, MB.

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**WELSH BLACK 5235**

WELSH BLACK- The Brood Cow Advantage. Check www.canadianwelshblackcattle.com Canadian Welsh Black Soc. 403-442-4372.

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**SHEEP SERVICE/ SUPPLIES 5598**

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WANTED: ORGANIC LENTILS, peas and chickpeas. Stonehenge Organics, Assiniboia, SK., 306-640-8600, 306-640-8437.

**PERSONAL 5950**

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No person shall, without an express statement that the animal's registration, identification or status as a purebred is from a jurisdiction other than Canada and that the animal will not be registered or identified in Canada by the person, sell, as registered or identified, or as eligible to be registered or identified, or as a pure-bred, any animal without providing to the buyer thereof within six months after the sale the animal's duly transferred certificate of registration or certificate of identification. Any person who contravenes any provision of this Act or the regulations (a) is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction and is liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars; or (b) is guilty of an indictable offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand dollars. For further information contact: Canadian Kennel Club Etobicoke, On.

**NON REGISTERED 5971**

COUNTRY RAISED CATS and kittens to give away! An assortment of healthy and active ones. Can deliver within reason. Phone 306-278-2069, Carragana, SK.

**WORKING DOGS 5973**

BLUE HEELERS PUPS for sale, ready to go. Call 306-290-8806, Dundurn, SK.

MATURE IRISH WOLFHOUND/ Greyhound cross dogs for sale. Phone 306-290-8806, Dundurn, SK.

IRISH WOLFHOUND and GREYHOUND pup for sale, ready to go. Call 306-290-8806, Dundurn, SK.

PUREBRED BORDER COLLIE pups. From good working and personable parents. Contact 306-553-2213, Swift Current, SK.

REGISTERED BORDER COLLIE pups, Sire Scottish import, son of 2010 International Champion, top working stock. 780-941-3843, New Sarepta, AB.

**REAL ESTATE**

**B.C. PROPERTIES 6110**

NW BC GOLD Lease- Cassiar. Ancient river bed, 1895 Chinese "hand mine" claim, approx. 105 acres and some equip. for sale or trade. Email: duckdodger@sasktel.net

**COTTAGE/LOTS 6125**

LOG HOMES AND CABINS, sidings, paneling, decking, Fir and Hemlock flooring, timbers, special orders. Phone Rouck Bros., Lumby, BC. 1-800-960-3388. www.rouckbros.com

**HOUSES/LOTS 6126**

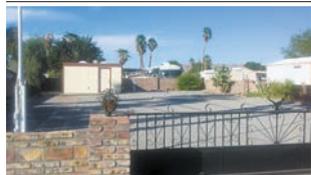


YUMA, AZ. HOME for sale: 3 bdrm, 2 baths, w/solar system, pool, att. garage and RV garage, fully furnished. For more info. call 403-871-2441 or 928-503-5344.

ALBERTA ACREAGE LAND located between 2 of Central AB's prettiest lakes, \$359,900. Call 403-350-7672. www.BlakeKing.ca

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LOG AND TIMBER HOMES, Saskatoon, SK. Visit www.backcountryloghomes.ca or call 306-222-6558.



DOUBLE RV LOT for sale, Yuma, AZ. With RV support building - washer/dryer, toilet, shower etc. 403-871-2441, 928-503-5344.

DWEIN TRASK REALTY INC. Quality homes in small towns currently available within 45 minutes of Saskatoon. Ideal for retirement, fixed income or seasonal living situations. Health services, shopping, schools and sport facilities are in these towns or very close commute. For more info. go to www.traskreality.com or please call Dwein 306-221-1035, Amanda 306-221-5675 or Victoria 306-270-9740.

3 BDRM FURNISHED character home, Varsity View, Saskatoon, SK. Quiet. Avail. Feb. 1, \$1600 + utilities/mo. 306-373-0693.

TIMBER FRAMES, LOG STRUCTURES and Vertical Log Cabins. Log home refinishing and chinking. Certified Log Builder with 38 years experience. Log & Timber Works, Delisle, SK., 306-717-5161, Email info@logandtimberworks.com Website at www.logandtimberworks.com

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MEDALLION HOMES 1-800-249-3969 Immediate delivery: New 16' and 20' modular homes; Also used 14' and 16' homes. Now available: Lake homes. Medallion Homes, 306-764-2121, Prince Albert, SK.

MOBILE ON OWN LOT, Boyle, AB. 16x76, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, new flooring, deck, shingles, furnace. Owner financing available. \$122,500. Call for info 780-482-5273. group.6@outlook.com

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MESA AZ. For sale fully furnished 2 bdrm. mobile home. For more info call 306-317-2740.



YEAR ROUND RESORT LIVING. Whispering Pines Golf and Country Club is a gated maintenance free community overlooking Pine Lake on golf course with year round amenities 20 mins. from Red Deer, AB. 1900 sq. ft. on 3 fully finished levels, 3 bdrms, 2-1/2 baths, fireplace in bdrm ensuite. Beautiful club house with fine dining, pool, fitness room. For sale or trade. 780-482-5273. group.6@outlook.com

**FARMS & RANCHES**

**BRITISH COLUMBIA 6131**

178 ACRE RANCH, beautiful view of the Seven Sisters mountains, exc. land and water, horse, barn, shop, hay shed and outbuildings, on Hwy #16 between Smithers and Terrace, \$650,000. 250-849-8411.

HALF SECTION OF open farmland for sale. Fort St. John, BC. area. Cultivated. Good productive soil. Sloped North to South. Lots of wildlife. Each quarter is titled. Other land is also available to purchase. Phone 250-781-3586, e-mail: trskafte@ocol.com

**ALBERTA 6132**

RANCLAND, 2400 ACRES, 2240 lease and 160 deeded, plus \$10,000 surface rights. Additional land and buildings available for rent. Price \$1,450,000. Sunnynook, AB. Call Bruce Little 403-807-7485.

1426 ACRES: 5 quarters of deeded land and 1 section of grazing lease in 1 block. Of the 800 acres deeded land, 750 are cultivated. 640 acres are leased and 70 acres have been upgraded. There is an artesian well on the property, good water supply and fences are in good shape. MLS# ID#1100534 Cereal. Real Estate Centre, 1-866-345-3414. For all our listings view: www.farmrealestate.com

ONE QUARTER GRAINLAND for sale, East of Bindloss, AB. For more info. call 403-379-2521.

**SASKATCHEWAN 6133**

RM 260-261, LAND FOR RENT BY TENDER. RM 260: SE-15-27-23, NE-16-27-23, NW-16-27-23, SW-21-27-23. RM 261: NE-25-25-26, NW-25-25-26, SE-35-25-26. Highest or any offer may not necessarily be accepted. All offers due by January 15, 2017. Grant Specht, Box 38, Etonia, SK. S0L 0Y0. Home 306-967-2768, cell 306-463-9768.

**SASKATCHEWAN 6133**

**WANTED 5,000 to 20,000 ACRES OF GOOD CROP PRODUCTION LAND IN SASKATCHEWAN AND ALBERTA**

Please call Marcel at 1-403-350-6868  
Marcel LeBlanc Real Estate Inc.

FARMLAND FOR SALE in the Kipling, SK. area, RM 124. 7 quarters with 1000 cult. acres, 1200 sq. ft. w/double att. garage, nat. gas heat, built in 1995, heated shop, quonset, seed cleaning complex incl. weigh scale and apple grain storage. 306-736-2850, 306-735-7575.

CUPAR, SK. FARM FOR LEASE. Cupar farm consists of approx. 863 acres of cropland located north of Regina in the RM of Cupar. Area is well suited for canola and cereal crops. Bonnefield plans to negotiate with excellent farmers to form long term lease arrangements to ensure this land is maintained profitably and sustainably for the long term. For additional info please email cupar@bonnefield.com

LAND FOR RENT by tender, 25 1/4 quaters for cash rent at Leader, SK. Tenders close Jan. 31, 2017. sheler1@hotmail.com or call Ervin Ausmus 306-628-7918.

INDIAN HEAD, SK FARM FOR LEASE. Approx. 2525 acres of cropland. Located NE of Regina in the RM of Indian Head. The area is well suited for canola, cereal crops and lentils. Bonnefield plans to negotiate with excellent farmers to form long-term lease arrangements to ensure this land is maintained profitably and sustainably for the long term. For more info. email: indianhead@bonnefield.com

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GRAIN LAND TO RENT, 35 mile radius of Rouleau, SK. Call 306-776-2600 or email: kraussacres@sasktel.net

RM HILLSDALE. For sale by tender with bids closing Feb. 7, 2017. 6 quarters of some of the highest assessed farmland in the region. Paved access. Details at: www.cayfordtender.ca or contact Vern McClelland, RE/MAX Lloydminster 306-821-0611, Lloydminster, AB.

FOR SALE: 8400 ACRES cultivated highly assessed farmland in Luseland, SK area. Call 306-834-7619.

**SASKATCHEWAN 6133**

**Acres of Expertise.**

**HAMMOND REALTY**

**Kevin Jarrett (306) 441-4152**  
kevin.jarrett@HammondRealty.ca  
HammondRealty.ca

LAND TENDER: 560 acres of Louac Farmland for Sale by Bids. Written confidential bids are being accepted for the sale of all, or any portion of, or any combination of, parcels of farmland in the RM of Laird. Land locations are as follows: Portion of SW-25-40-5 W3, 80 title acres, 75 SAMA cult. acres, assessment 53,500; NW-25-40-5 W3, 160 title acres, 159 SAMA cult acres, assessment 101,900; SW-36-40-5 W3. 160 title acres, 154 SAMA cult acres, assessment 105,100; SE-35-40-5 W3, 160 title acres, 158 SAMA cult acres, assessment 99,000. Total package consists of 560 titled acres or 546 SAMA cult acres. All acres were seeded to HRSW in 2016. Written/signed bids accepted until January 20, 2017. Bids must be accompanied by a 10% deposit, made out to Louac Farms Ltd. All applicants will be notified by January 27, 2017 and successful bidders identified and unsuccessful bidders cheques returned. Closing date for transaction will be Mar 31, 2017. Taxes for 2017 are the responsibility of the purchaser. The highest or any bid will not necessarily be accepted. There is no Right of First Refusal on this land. Send sealed bids to: Land Tenders c/o Louac Farms Ltd. Unit 702-922 Broadway Ave. Saskatoon, SK. S7N 1B7. For more info email: Kyle.klassen@sasktel.net or phone 306-227-0103.

QUARTER FARMLAND for Sale by Tender. 134 acres, NE-13-44-04-W3, RM Rosthern. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Please submit tenders to: Robert Baynton, Box 1191, Rosthern, SK, S0K 3R0. Call for more information 306-467-4898.

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FARMLAND NE SK (Clemenceau) 4 quarters plus 36 acre riverside parcel w/5 bdrm. home. Featuring: bins on concrete with direct hit on railroad cars, 40 acres of mostly mature spruce timber, 2 farmyards, 1 bordering Etomami River and 50 miles of provincial forest, excellent elk hunting and other big game and goose. 580 acres cult. Full line of farm equipment and sawmill also available Reg Hertz, 306-865-7469.

FARM/RANCH, 3200 ACRES, horse, shop, storage shed, cattle facilities, 30 minutes from Saskatoon. \$5,600,000. 306-280-6408 Jeff Kwochka, Realty Executives Saskatoon.

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER, RM # 341: NW 04-36-26-W2; SE 04-36-26-W2; NE 21-35-36-W2; and NW 21-35-36-W2. 306-203-1912, soso\_42@hotmail.com

DWEIN TRASK REALTY INC., Delisle, SK. Cash renter tenders being accepted for one year lease on N1/2 and SE1/4 of 25-33-09-W3. For further information please call Dwein 306-221-1035.

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DARREN SANDER - Saskatoon/Battlefords (306) 441-6777

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RM #369. 160 acres: 130 farmland, 20 grassland, 10 yard site. Incl. 3 bdrm house, 3 car garage, quonset and sheds. 306-872-4500, 306-874-7778, Spalding SK

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FARMLAND NW-35-30-12-W3 near Harris. Assess 56,100. 1 year lease in place til end of 2017 (\$7000) that will go to new owner. Asking \$239,000. Ph 306-220-0191

FARMLAND FOR SALE: Multiple quarters RM Keys No. 303, Canora, SK. NW 28-31-3-W2; SW 33-31-3-W2; NE 32-31-3-W2; SE 32-31-3-W2; NW 21-31-3-W2. Send offers to: eojkwalsh@gmail.com or c/o Walsh, 6984 Hagan Road, Brentwood Bay, BC. V8M 1B3.

SEVERAL QUALITY LAND packages for sale. Please check out our website at www.hcventures.ca Regina, SK.

GRAIN FARM, 29 quarter sections in a block, South of Sturgis, SK. Approx. 4640 total acres, 4265 cult. Very good farm. 306-516-0070, saskfarm@outlook.com

AG AND RECREATIONAL land for sale. All offers considered, but not necessarily accepted. For more info view www.agrecc.ca

PRIME FARMLAND FOR SALE: approx. 640 acres of prime heavy farmland in RM of Redburn. Land includes a farm site with modern shop and some grain storage. The land is held in a farming corporation and this is a share sale. The sale will be by closed bid. 310-998-7996, Drinkwater, SK. Email: mbrown3400@gmail.com

RM RODGERS 133. Wanted grain land to rent/lease or purchase in the RM of Rodgers 133 and surrounding RM's. 306-631-5302, pepinfarms@gmail.com

FOR RENT: 3000 acre ranch. Includes hay meadows, pasture, possible farm site, 2 barns, house and quonset. Preferably young energetic couple. Mail replies to: Box 386, Glaslyn, SK. SOM 0Y0.

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ID# 1100488 KAMSACK, SK. All 1838 acres of this Ranch Land is located in 1 block and bordered by water front, Crown Land and community pasture. Currently leased out as a working ranch. Numerous possibilities available such as: Ranching; Outfitting; Executive Camps; Bed & Breakfast; Retreats; Eco Tourism; Stables; or Subdivision of lots or acreages. Includes a 3160 sq. ft bungalow with a walk-out basement and breath taking views. MLS®. Real Estate Centre, 1-866-345-3414. For all our listings visit us on-line: www.farmrealestate.com

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 1) 1732 deeded acres w/4425 acres of Crown land, fenced, small bungalow, very good buildings and metal corral system, can carry 350 cow/calf pairs. 2) Excellent horse ranch in Erickson, MB., Riding Arena and buildings in fantastic condition. 3) 640 acres mixed farm within 15 min. of Brandon. 4) 640 acre cattle farm, Rorketon, MB., 1500 sq. ft. home, heated shop. Call Jim McLachlan 204-724-7753, HomeLife Home Professional Realty Inc, Brandon, MB., www.homelifepro.com

160 ACRES NW-5-21-26WPM, 115 cult. RM Riding Mountain West near Angusville, MB. please mail written offers to Box 735, Arborg, MB. ROC OAO. Info. 204-376-2971.

RM RUSSELL. 3400 acres. For more details check out our website www.hcventures.ca Regina, SK. Realtors/Brokers welcome.

**MANITOBA 6134**



NEAR DUCK MOUNTAIN, river nearby, very scenic. 459 acres, 265 cultivated, 60 acres fenced pasture. 1550 sq. ft. bungalow with attached garage, 30x42' heated workshop plus much more. Florence Komarniski Real Estate, 204-638-3055, Dauphin, MB., or Grant Tweed, Century 21, 204-761-6884.

QUARTER SECTION NE-20-3-28, Pearson, MB. area. 120 acres broke, 40 acres hayland. Call/text for price 306-551-7186.

**PASTURES 6136**

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STAND-ABILITY, YIELD AND grade are never far apart. Certified AC Andrew, AAC Brandon, Carberry, AC Stettler. Dutton Farms Ltd., Paynton, SK., 306-441-6699.

CERTIFIED AAC BRANDON, AAC Jatharia Grant, Greenshields Seeds, 306-746-7336, 306-524-4339, Semans, SK.

REGISTERED AAC FORAY wheat, 0% fusarium. Please call 403-485-6708, Vulcan, AB. info@markertseeds.com

CERTIFIED CDC UTMOST wheat, 0% fusarium. Phone 403-485-6708, Vulcan, AB. info@markertseeds.com

AAC ELIE, CERT., sister to AAC Brandon, top quality seed. Gregoire Seed Farms Ltd, North Battleford, SK., 306-441-7851, 306-445-5516. gregfarms@sasktel.net

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**PULSE CROPS**

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**FARM LABOURER REQUIRED** for livestock operation. Duties include: operating, maintaining seeding & harvesting equip. Smoke free enviro., \$17/hr. Housing avail. Lyle Lumax, 204-525-2263, Swan River, MB.

**FARM LABOURERS.** LINCOLN Gardens is a seasonal vegetable farm located at Lumsden, SK. Seeking 8 seasonal field labourers starting April 15, 2017. Must have valid drivers license, be reliable and physically fit. Duties include: Planting, weeding and harvesting of vegetable crops. Sort, wash, weigh and pack vegetables. Hand move irrigation pipes. 50 to 60 hrs./week. Must be available weekends. Starting wage is \$10.75/hour. Send resume with references to: Lincoln Gardens, Box 750, Lumsden, SK. S0G 3C0. Phone 306-731-7781.

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**PASTURE MANAGER: PEMBINA Grazing Reserve** is looking for a Pasture Manager to manage and maintain the grazing reserve. This is a full time position from May 1st to October 31st. For those interested, please email: c\_or\_c@telusplanet.net to obtain a copy of the Terms of Reference.

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**RANCH HAND REQUIRED:** on large Southern Alberta cattle ranch. Must be experienced at moving cattle on horseback! And able to work with others. The job entails feeding cattle in the winter, haying in the summer and riding horses to move cattle throughout the year. Resume and references required. Contact 403-344-2205.

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Two horses wait for their owners to extend holiday wishes to patrons of the Vanscoy Hotel near Saskatoon Dec. 29. | PAUL YANKO PHOTO

## CUSTOMER CONCERNS

## Loblaw responds to customer survey

Animal welfare among top concerns, and retailer says it plans to work with food industry and farmers

BY BARB GLEN  
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

OTTAWA — Animal welfare is one of the top issues for customers of Loblaw stores, but in the past it hasn't been on the list at all.

Sonya Fiorini, senior director of corporate social responsibility for Loblaw, said the company conducts annual customer surveys, and the latest results indicate consumers' top five concerns are workers' rights, local sourcing, health and wellness, animal welfare and the environment.

"Our customers care about housing, space and general well being (of farm animals), but they define the idea of animal welfare with words like abuse, mistreatment and cruelty," she said.

"And customers, like the media, are very receptive to these messages, images and campaigns of animal welfare groups exposing the mistreatment."

That response factored into Loblaw's decision to sell only cage-free eggs by 2025.

Any decisions by Loblaw have an effect on production. It is Canada's largest retailer, operating Superstore, Shoppers Drug Mart and No Frills stores, as well as product lines of President's Choice, No Name and Life Brand.

***We don't expect change to happen overnight, but what we do expect from our suppliers is to make sure that they don't stay stagnant, that they are always looking for new opportunities on how to improve, that they're paying attention to what the consumers are asking for.***

SONYA FIORINI, LOBLAW



It serves 17 million Canadians and has more than 200,000 employees across Canada.

Fiorini said the company works with industry and farmers to implement planned changes to its product lines as they relate to animal production.

"This is new and very important ground in our relationships, and we understand our decisions have a large impact on farms and farmers. This is why we need to be tightly entwined, and that's why we sit on the National Farm Animal Care Council and that's why I'm here today," she told a council meeting last month.

In a later interview, Fiorini said she doesn't typically hear complaints from farmers about retailer

requirements for food production. She said she has met with pork, chicken, egg and veal producers and has found them willing to collaborate.

"We want to make sure that there's a viable industry. By no means do we want to put anybody out of business," she said.

"When we do something, we make a commitment or we say we're moving in a certain direction, we usually have a really long time span or horizon when we do that.

"We don't expect change to happen overnight, but what we do expect from our suppliers is to make sure that they don't stay stagnant, that they are always looking for new opportunities on how to

improve, that they're paying attention to what the consumers are asking for."

Loblaw's goal is to offer choice to consumers, she added. That means choice on price as well as other options. Fiorini agreed that what customers want and what they are willing to pay for can be two different things.

"There is a consumer that is willing to pay more for certain products, and we're seeing that much more and more, but we're also seeing that when we make a commitment to something and we bring the industry along with us, whether it be animal welfare or organics or another type of offering, the more availability that is out there, the less of a price gap there actually is."

Fiorini said Loblaw has a sustainability plan involving community enrichment and environmental awareness, and it plans to release a carbon reduction strategy shortly.

It also wants to improve local sourcing of products. Fiorini said more than 30 percent of the stores' produce is from Canadian farmers, and that figure rises to 45 percent in summer. She said all poultry and pork in Loblaw stores comes from Canadian farms.

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## GUARANTEED INCOME

## Improved diet would lower health costs

BY JEFFREY CARTER  
FOR THE WESTERN PRODUCER

TORONTO — A guaranteed basic income for all Canadians could reduce hunger and food insecurity, but it could also prove to be an expensive fix.

"Basic income sounds like a silver bullet, but I don't think it's a silver bullet for poverty," Craig Alexander, chief economist with the Conference Board of Canada, said Nov. 28 at the Canadian Food and Drink Summit, which the board organized in Toronto.

"The cause of poverty extends far beyond the money."

He said services to address physical and mental disabilities and other needs would still be required, even if governments were to put a plan in place guaranteeing a higher base income for individuals.

It could also prove to be a disincentive to work and, depending on the design, complex and expensive to administer.

Alexander said a simpler way to address food insecurity may be to restructure the taxation system, as proposed by Kevin Milligan of the C.D. Howe Institute. That would mean making non-refundable tax refunds refundable for a greater number of low-income families.

Despite his reservations, Alexander said he supports the idea.

Valerie Tarasuk of the University of Toronto's nutritional sciences department said low incomes are a barrier for families looking to move themselves out of poverty.

Rather than being a disincentive, a sustainable income provides individuals and families with a launching point from which they can improve their fortunes.

In addition, the current system comes with a high cost.

Tarasuk said low income families and individuals often reduce their living expenses by buying food that lacks proper nutrition.

Tarasuk said her research, published in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, shows that average health care costs are \$1,600 a year for food secure Canadians, \$2,160 for those who are marginally food insecure, \$2,800 for those who are moderately insecure and nearly \$4,000 for those in severe situations.

Tarasuk said food insecurity affects a broad spectrum of Canadians. The working poor, First Nations people and people who rent accommodations are more likely to be food insecure.

"We're talking about 12.6 percent of households that were food insecure in 2007, according to Statistics Canada," she said. "That's about four million people, and we know that it's underestimated."

Senator Art Eggleton agreed that reduced health-care spending would offset the costs of implementing a basic income system.

About one in seven children in Canada arrive to school hungry, he added.

"How shameful this is in a country that is a G7 nation and which is as rich as ours," he said. "The current system is failing.... It's time to end this Band-Aid approach. It's time to go in a new direction."

IN THE SUMMER, LOBLAW SAYS ITS PRODUCTS ARE

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CANADIAN PICKERS

# Antique hunters uncover bits of prairie history

Television show hosted by Alberta antique enthusiasts travelled the country looking for old and unusual artifacts

BY BARB GLEN  
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

MEDICINE HAT, Alta. — There they lurk: old granaries and sheds on farms across the Prairies, loaded with junk and with treasures.

However, Western Canada doesn't have the lock on such hoards. Sheldon Smithens of *Canadian Pickers* fame says there are similar collections across all of Canada.

"They're everywhere, and I'm reluctant to say hoarders," he said.

"There's just a lot of serious collectors."

Smithens and fellow picker Scott Cozens starred in four seasons of *Canadian Pickers*, the reality television show in which they travelled around Canada buying antiques and artifacts they found, primarily in rural areas.

"We were out of cities more often than not," he said.

"The types of merchandise that the producers of the show were interested in exposing were more often found in rural areas, much to my chagrin sometimes, because my background is a little more in classical antiques — furniture, silver, glass, china, those sorts of things."

The show is no longer in production, and these days Smithens, a trained auctioneer, appraiser and third-generation antiques dealer, is also in demand as a public speaker.

That's what he was doing in Medicine Hat during the Farming Smarter annual conference in early December.

The show continues to air in the United States and other countries, where the two men are known as the Cash Cowboys.

"There was no script to our show," Smithens said in an interview before his speech.

"We did have somebody go out and pre-scout because it's a great big country out there and we



Auctioneer and antique collector Sheldon Smithens says visiting the barns, shed and homes of collectors for the *Canadian Pickers* television show was like 'Animal House on wheels.' | BARB GLEN PHOTO

weren't just knocking on doors, but it didn't go too much deeper than just finding somebody that had an accumulation of stuff."

**I'm pretty well entrenched in Western Canada, so that's my personal interest, Canadian history.**

**SHELDON SMITHENS**  
AUCTIONEER

After that, it was a matter of looking around and offering sometimes

eager and sometimes reluctant owners to sell some of their items. Reluctance was part of it more often than not.

"That was sort of a common theme," he said.

"That was part of our challenge, was occasionally getting in somewhere where somebody didn't want to part with anything or they didn't want to part with it at a price that we could turn it over on a profit."

"That was part of the ball game. It wasn't just strictly a purchase arrangement. It was buying it at a reasonable price."

Smithens and Cozens bought

and owned the things seen on the show. It wasn't made-for-television fakery. Then they would sell their purchases at auction later.

Born in Lethbridge, Smithens grew up in Calgary and learned antiques and auctions at an early age.

"I didn't just fall off the picker turnip truck," he said.

His grandparents were collectors and buyers. His grandmother loved and collected 18th and 19th century Dresden china, as well as antique jewelry. His grandfather was a watchmaker.

At one time they operated an antique store where the Glenbow

Museum now stands in Calgary.

His parents owned and operated auction businesses in Lethbridge and Calgary. Smithens himself launched Smithens Antiques and Fine Art in Calgary, and while doing that he supplied period merchandise for movies and television series shot in southern Alberta, including *Legends of the Fall*, *Unforgiven*, *Open Range* and *Lonesome Dove*.

He left that business in 2008, and in 2010 he was contacted by a Toronto media company about a show based on *American Pickers*. He and Cozens, who is a lawyer and fervent garage sale and antique seeker, were chosen as hosts.

"I don't think I ever had so much fun as being on the road with what I call the circus," Smithens said.

"It was Animal House on wheels." Among the weirdest purchases made during the show's run was a trepanning kit from the 19th century.

"It would actually bore a hole in your brain if you were having psychological problems," he said.

"We bought that in Ontario and sold it at auction. It sold exceptionally well, one of those strange things that two or three bidders just had to have."

He also has fond memories of possibly discovering the bell from the train that killed circus elephant Jumbo in St. Thomas, Ont., in 1885.

The word is "possibly" because Smithens and Cozens were unable to definitively prove it was the bell in question.

The wild and the weird are nevertheless not his primary goals when buying.

"I like things that are historically significant, especially when it comes to the Prairies," he said.

"I'm pretty well entrenched in Western Canada, so that's my personal interest, Canadian history."

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AMALGAMATION

## New municipality plan for central Alberta well received

BY BARB GLEN  
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

Flagstaff County and the eight towns and villages within it are considering the formation of a single regional governance model.

The area southeast of Edmonton has a dwindling population of about 8,000 people. If a proposal proceeds, Flagstaff County, the towns of Daysland, Hardisty, Killam and Sedgewick and the vil-

lages of Forestburg, Heisler, Alliance and Loughheed would dissolve their municipal entities and elect representatives in October 2017 to govern a single new municipality.

"Right now the status quo isn't an option," said Bob Coutts, who is deputy mayor of Forestburg and chair of the Flagstaff Intermunicipal Partnership (FIP).

"The government is suggesting that that's not an option. They're not outright saying it, but through our discussions," Coutts said,

change appears necessary.

Within the past year, two former villages in the region, Strome and Galahad, reverted to hamlet status, and Heisler is pondering the same move, said Coutts.

Forming one municipality would allow communities to more easily share resources and reduce administration costs.

"We're trying to have a made-in-Flagstaff solution," said Coutts.

There are examples in other provinces of forced municipal amalgamations, but studies done by a consulting group hired by FIP show those haven't been well received.

There are similar municipal models in Alberta to the one Flagstaff is considering: Wood Buffalo encompasses Fort McMurray. The town and county of Lac la Biche operate as one, and so do the five communities of Crowsnest Pass.

A number of open houses have been held in the Flagstaff County



region to explain the proposal.

"I've been amazed at the support that there's been for this and really no negative," said Coutts.

"They understand the challenges that we have and they are thinking, 'yeah, this might be a good idea.'"

FIP has been in existence since 2003, and the various municipalities have co-operated already on

various services and activities, Coutts said.

However, recent indications from the provincial government have prompted it to concentrate on amalgamation.

Coutts said it is a bold step but one that might allow the region to grow and attract more people and businesses.

A sub-committee has been formed with members from each municipality in the region to develop a potential governance model for the new entity, including such things as how many elected officials would be required.

Taxation rates, service levels and the merging of various bylaws could take up to three years to finalize, if and when a new entity is created.

Coutts said the plan is to have a structure in place for October 2017 so a new council could be elected.

Gail Watt, mayor of Daysland, said in a recent news release that "the goal is to ensure we can main-

tain or increase service levels for all citizens at a cost they are willing to pay."

Coutts added in an interview that people generally demand a higher level of service than they might have in the past, and although a survey done in the region shows high levels of satisfaction with recreation facilities and cultural services, there were lower ratings for protective services, public works and community programming.

"People take pride in their community and through this whole process ... we want to ensure that each community's identity is embraced and enhanced," said Coutts.

"(Regionalization) is not to be confused with centralization. We don't want to try and centralize everything. That is not the goal."

More open houses are planned to gather more input from regional residents, said Coutts.

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GM FOODS

# Case made for labelling, but questions abound

BY WILLIAM DEKAY  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

To label or not to label: that is the question.

And according to one food biotech critic, we will never know the answer as to whether Canada should legislate mandatory labels for genetically modified ingredients in food unless we try it.

"We can say there's a discrepancy, but until we put labelling on the products, we actually don't know. So why don't we give Canadians the benefit of the doubt that they want that information because they're going to use it," said Lucy Sharratt of the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network.

There are numerous studies on both sides of the debate. One side says consumers have a right to the information, while those opposed to mandatory rules says it would unfairly tarnish the image of food containing GMOS because it implies they are of lower quality or somehow harmful.

Sharratt said recent polls show Canadian consumers want GMO labels.

She said GM food ingredients continue to increase in processed foods and there are GM apples, potatoes and salmon coming to store shelves soon.

AquaBounty salmon is the first genetically modified food animal to be approved for sale in Canada. Health Canada does not require the salmon to be labelled as a GM product because it is not deemed a health risk.

"Now is a great opportunity for the government to establish labelling because these new products are reinforcing the demand that Canadians have for labelling," she said.

She said without labelling, consumers are confused and burdened with difficult research, unlike in the organic sector where products are labelled certified registered.

"While consumers can seek out organic foods to avoid if they want to, (with) genetically modified foods that's not always an available choice," she said.

She also thinks labelling could help traditional food markets.

"One of the major problems is that some the new GM products when they are introduced actually jeopardize the existing markets for those products," she said.

"So labelling would go some way to resolving that issue as well. It would assist apple producers, for example, who are concerned about consumer reaction to a GM apple if, in fact, consumers knew where that GM apple was."

"The only organic products (in retail outlets) are certified organic products."

Stuart Smyth, who researches biotechnology and innovation at the University of Saskatchewan, said the push for GM labelling is coming predominantly from the organic and natural food industry.

"They believe that consumers will perceive that as a warning sign and try to avoid buying products that are labeled as GM or obtaining GMOs," he said.

Canada does not have a mandatory labelling policy because of its established science-based regulatory system.

Labels are only required when there are health risks, like a potential food allergy, or significant changes to the nutritional qualities of the food.

"So any label information has to contribute to improved nutrition, or safety, and/or efficacy of food products," he said.

"The regulatory agencies and predominantly Health Canada have decided that mandatory labelling for GM does not increase the safety of the food products."

Smyth thinks most consumers would not be any better served if mandatory labelling were implemented.

"Food companies would simply

put either 'contains GMOs, or 'May Contain GMOs, on every single product they make," he said.

"I struggle to see how trust could be increased through the blanket use of a very vague and generic term such as "may contain." Consumers are still no better informed."

He said recent studies suggest that about three quarters of Canadians want food products labelled for GM, but analysis suggests almost half of Canadians rarely or never look at labels.

"So about one in three Canadians really want labelling and may look at labels at an infrequent or semi-regular basis," he said.

"The reality is the vast majority of

Canadians pay no attention to labels."

Sylvain Charlebois, professor of food distribution and policy at Dalhousie University, said labelling would help solve many consumer issues surrounding a lack of trust and transparency toward the biotech industry.

"A lot of constituents believe that mandatory labelling could actually eliminate the mistrust that is out there between many consumers and the biotechnology and the biotech industry," he said.

Charlebois said he has advocated for about 15 years to embrace the technology of genetically modified crops and for labelling food products.

He said the science-based evi-

dence supports the use of biotechnology in agriculture, but many special interest groups have successfully convinced consumers otherwise without much proof that GMOs pose a risk.

However, opponent's cases are weakening as more studies show the safety of GM food.

"That's why I think people are looking for some closure as a result of many years of denial from the biotech. That's how I'm assessing the situation," he said. "At some point, I'm not sure that labelling will be useful for a long period of time because people will get used to it."

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HEALTH

# Farmers have much to teach consumers

Producer group aims to provide credible information on healthy meals and farm practices through consumer workshops

BY ED WHITE  
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Consumers have become frazzled about food, whether it's over GMOs, pesticides, gluten, big farms versus small farms, local versus global or organic versus conventional.

Jennifer Dyck and Ellen Pruden are trying to alleviate the worry by challenging today's food paranoia with a simple and friendly method.

"I think it's really about putting people back in their kitchen and cooking with whole ingredients," said Dyck, a professional home economist, as she stood wearing an apron behind a kitchen table loaded with freshly chopped salad ingredients.

"Let's love our food again."

Pruden has the same view on how to mellow out some of the heated up arguments about food that have upset millions of consumers and made them unsure of what to eat.

"Going back into the kitchen, cooking with whole ingredients, eating at the table with your family, reducing food waste, building a relationship with farmers: that's where we're going to move forward," said Pruden.

The two work for the Canola Eat Well initiative, which is a farmer-funded program that holds workshops and other events in many parts of Canada, highlighting the healthy, nutritious meals that people can make at home, that cooks can make in professional kitchens and that dietitians and other professional consumer nutrition advisers can promote to their clients.

Canola Eat Well holds numerous events on the Prairies, mostly in the major cities, but it also holds about six events a year in Toronto at the heart of Canada's consumer, restaurant and media markets.

Its events take a number of forms, but almost always include live cooking, lots of discussion and a chance for urban residents and professional food people to meet with a real, live farmer. They give people a chance to think about food in a positive light, which is a tonic against today's climate of fear, but also provides something many urban foodies truly desire: contact with a farmer.

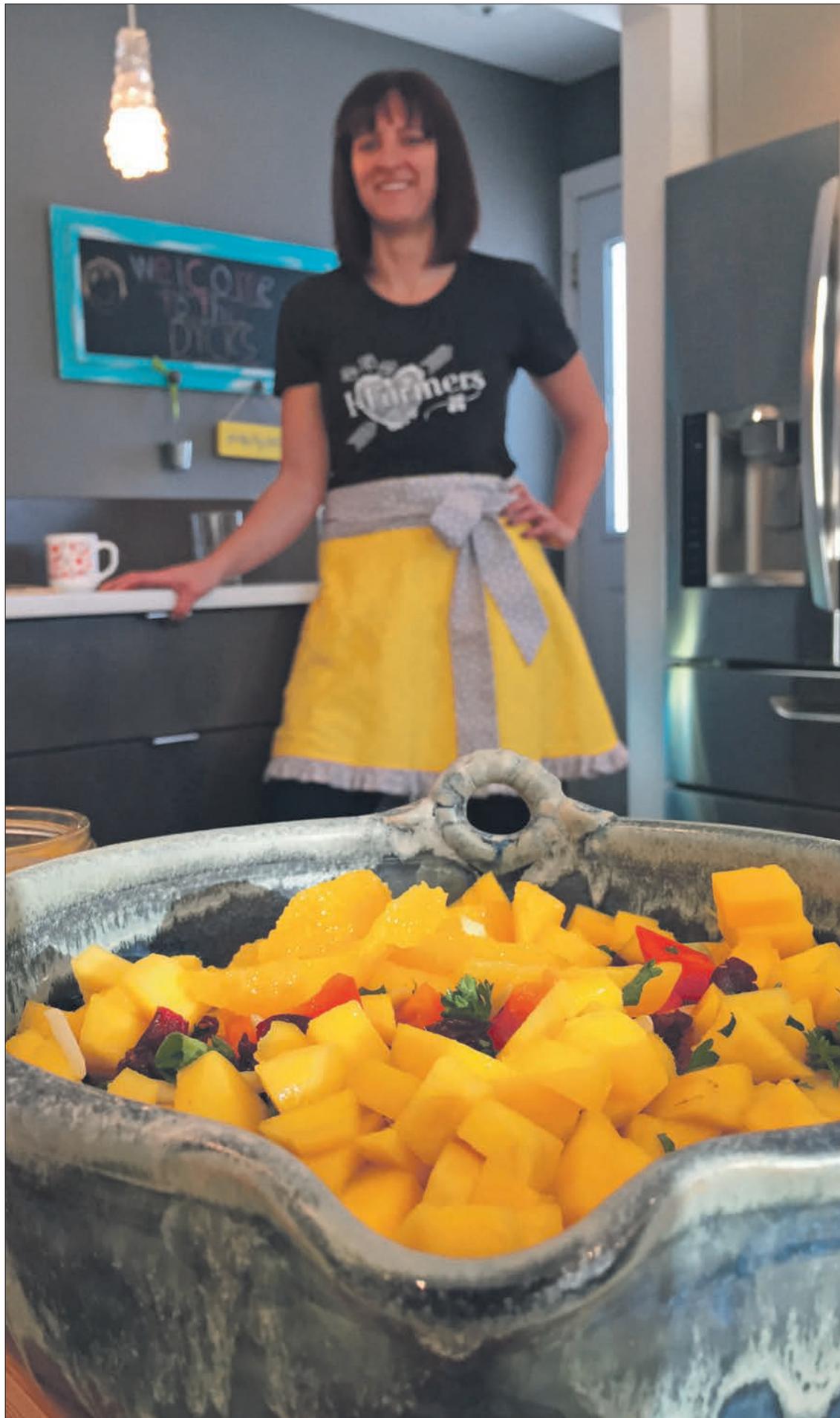
"They truly want to connect with the farmer, but they just don't know what the language is," said Pruden.

More than just in-person events, the campaign also reaches out to consumers and food people through various forms of social media, from Facebook Live to Twitter to Instagram, all of which allow it to build a community of people who care about healthy food. As always, becoming connected with real farmers is popular with urbanites.

"How many people know a farmer? You don't (usually)," Pruden said about urban residents.

"But we now live in a digital age where you can know a farmer that lives in Binscarth, Man., or some place in Alberta, and you have that ability to engage with them online."

Canola Eat Well was born in Manitoba within the Manitoba Canola Growers Association but has picked up support from Alberta and Saskatchewan canola growers and



Jennifer Dyck works with the Canola Eat Well initiative, a farmer-funded program that holds workshops to highlight healthy, nutritious cooking. | ED WHITE PHOTO

**Stop being scared of your food. We have one of the safest, most abundant variety and selection of affordable food ... in the world. It's just helping people be confident in their food choices and know they can be confident in the grocery store.**

JENNIFER DYCK  
CANOLA EAT WELL INITIATIVE

includes canola oil in most of its cooking and the recipes it promotes.

However, it isn't just a skill for canola oil. It operates under the premise that encouraging consumers to enjoy eating and preparing food and using whole and wholesome ingredients will help farmers more than pushing any component or approach to food or farming.

On this mid-December day, with sunlight bathing her kitchen, Dyck showed how to make a mango-quinoa salad as a demonstration of how Canola Eat Well encourages positive feelings about food.

It contained those two items, plus pomegranate, canola oil, cucumber, red pepper, spices and other ingredients. Some came from Canada, such as the cucumber and the canola oil. Some definitely did not, such as the mango and pomegranate. And some might have, such as the red pepper and quinoa, both of which are generally imported but are also now produced domestically as well.

Many people seldom prepare meals from scratch, which can make the kitchen an intimidating place when combined with food fears.

"It's less scary when you get to actually touch something and look at it, ask some questions and do that hands-on part," she said. "It just becomes a part of what you do."

Consumers who participate in Canola Eat Well events, either in person or through social media, have the opportunity to talk about anything food-related.

Questions sometimes come up about tempestuous issues such as GMOs, pesticides and gluten, but Dyck said the events do not descend into arguments that drive people into ideological corners because the goal is not to defend approved products and systems.

Consumers, foodies and food professionals are told where they can find credible information on these issues, and Dyck and Pruden said they don't feel like they have to defend against misperceptions or accusations.

"There's no point arguing on Facebook," said Pruden.

Added Dyck: "I feel like I'm past the ... 'is the GMO safe?' conversation ... I'm beyond that."

Online trolls sometime target what they are doing, but they don't tend to derail anything. Trolls bring responses from others, and the Canola Eat Well people can get back to talking about preparing food, enjoying food and bringing joy back into the kitchen.

"Everybody's intimidated on what to buy. Everybody's scared of their food," said Dyck. "Stop being scared of your food. We have one of the safest, most abundant variety and selection of affordable food ... in the world. It's just helping people be confident in their food choices and know they can be confident in the grocery store."

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Although producers in North America have largely embraced GM crops because of the economic and agronomic benefits they bring (in Canada alone improved crops have raised yields by 32 percent, according to CropLife), this is not the case in other countries, especially those of the European Union. The testimony showed that the market still seems reluctant to accept transgenic animals.

REPORT FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE ON GM FOOD

GM FOOD

# Grappling with GM animals

Federal report recommends greater regulatory transparency when evaluating GM livestock

BY KAREN BRIERE

REGINA BUREAU

The House of Commons agriculture committee has recommended greater regulatory transparency when evaluating genetically modified animals for human consumption.

However, it stopped short of recommending mandatory labelling of GM foods, saying the government should support that only for issues of food health and safety.

The NDP committee members filed a dissenting report on that point.

The report, tabled in the House in mid-December, follows public hearings in the fall after Agriculture Minister Lawrence MacAulay requested the committee examine the legal and regulatory framework around GM animals.

Last spring, Health Canada approved AquaBounty salmon for both human and animal consumption, although it is not yet on the market. It was earlier approved in the United States and is also undergoing assessment in Argentina and Brazil.

GM crops have been around for decades, but the GM salmon is the first animal in the world for human consumption.

Research into a GM hog developed at the University of Guelph in 1999 stopped after Ontario Pork withdrew its support in 2012.

The Canadian Cattlemen's Association told the committee that GM cattle won't be on the market any time soon because the industry prefers classic selection.

The committee heard that the main reason more GM animals aren't in development is consumer acceptance.

"Although producers in North America have largely embraced GM crops because of the economic and agronomic benefits they bring (in Canada alone improved crops have raised yields by 32 percent, according to CropLife), this is not the case in other countries, especially those of the European Union," the report said.

"The testimony showed that the market still seems reluctant to accept transgenic animals."

Other witnesses doubted the benefits of genetic modification in agriculture as a whole, suggesting they haven't reduced pesticide use as claimed and have had little to no impact on reducing hunger because they aren't grown in countries where hunger is an issue.

They also said there was no public consultation around the GM salmon. The Canadian Biotechnology Action Network asked the government to impose a moratorium

on GM animal introduction until Canadians have their say.

"On the other hand, all the witnesses representing the biotechnology industry and the agriculture and agri-food sector are of the view that the market should be left to decide," the report said.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency noted the country's regulatory system focuses on safety and environmental protection, rather than making value judgments about why a product is created.

Witnesses said improving transparency of the regulatory system would boost public trust and provide better acceptance of products.

Suggestions included increasing independent research funding on the effects of GM products on health and the environment, and allowing Health Canada to do its own studies rather than rely on data from industry.

The committee heard from witnesses, including the CFIA, who said labelling is a complex issue.

While most consumers say GM foods should be labelled and that they don't want to eat them, their buying behaviour suggests otherwise. Some witnesses suggested that mandatory labelling implies there are risks to GM foods.

"Given that no risks to health have been identified for GM foods approved in Canada, there are no particular labelling requirements," the committee said in recommending mandatory labelling for health and safety only.

The NDP's dissenting report said the opinions from witnesses on mandatory labelling were far from unanimous, and the committee recommendation doesn't reflect that.

Instead, the NDP said the committee should have recommended that government, stakeholders and consumers work together to establish a GM labelling plan.

The committee also recommended the government support independent research into the health, environmental and other effects of new GM technologies, including those that would produce GM animals. Another recommendation called on the government and industry to establish tools for traceability for GM animals.

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GM FOOD

# Consumers search for trustworthy GMO information

BY BARBARA DUCKWORTH  
CALGARY BUREAU

Consumer perceptions and confusion abound when it comes to the topic of genetically modified organisms.

There was no confusion for Jennifer Carlson when she launched her line of organic baby food 11 years ago.

"Organic was always predominately the number one choice when we started this company," the Calgary mother said.

"As a mother, I wanted to give my baby the very best, and that came with the best of ingredients."

Carlson did not want anything containing pesticides, antibiotics, growth hormones or GMOs when she started making baby food in her kitchen for her six-month-old daughter.

Certified organic products cannot be genetically modified, but that information is not added to the food label.

To be on the safe side, she does not use corn starch or canola in any of her products, which she sells across North America under the brand name Baby Gourmet.

The company website provides full information on ingredients, and Carlson is active on social media and blogs for the Huffington Post about good eating.

"We are very transparent about where our food comes from and where our ingredients come from," she said.

"People like to read the ingredients. They like to see what is in it."

People are hungry for information, and Carlson has joined the newly formed Clean Label Project as an adviser.

During her time in the food business, she has learned that mothers make up an influential consumer group who get their information from each other and social media. They want to know more, but how they sift through the billions of bytes of data is up to them.

"You have to find a reliable source that you trust and follow their information," said Carlson.

Finding that credible, trustworthy source of information can be a challenge, said Crystal MacKay, executive director of Farm and Food Care Canada.

The organization oversees the Canadian Centre for Food Integrity, which works to build public trust in the food supply.

Research is showing many people are not scientifically literate, and when they consult Google, negative information about genetic modification is often the first thing they see, she said.

Surveys from across North America report that people want their food labelled for the presence of GMOs, but when pressed, the average person is not sure what the term means.

Some members of focus groups have said breeding the best cow to the best bull to get a better animal is genetic modification, even though farmers have done selec-

tive breeding since livestock was domesticated.

"People aren't willing to work that hard to understand complex things like GMOs," MacKay said.

"It is easier to be against something than try and sort through all that noise to figure out what the answer is."

Finding credible information can be a problem, and researchers study sources of information regularly.

Recent research on public trust found people believe that university and government researchers are the most credible sources of information. Dieticians and veterinarians are also trusted sources, while corporations are not.

"The closer you are to the profit, the less credible you will be viewed," she said.

However farmers have a high level of credibility, even though they make money growing GM crops.

Comprehension is part of the problem. Scientists and reports may have credibility, but reading peer reviewed research papers may not tell the average consumer what she wants to know.

Farm and Food Care has introduced the Best Food Facts Online to its website. It is a U.S. based resource with 120,000 visitors per month. Ten Canadian researchers have been added to the group of experts to provide an online forum to answer questions.

"The goal is to provide a foodie friendly forum for researchers to have the opportunity to express their views, not in a scientific journal way," MacKay said.

"The most important thing for Canadians is healthy and affordable food, and after that they want to know they have access to the information," she said.

## Consumer attitudes

Ellen Goddard, professor and cooperative chair of agricultural marketing and business at the University of Alberta, studies consumers, their attitudes and perceptions. Biotechnology and GMO opinions have been on her radar for a long time.

"I wouldn't say the entire population was positive about the idea. It is important to get that," she said.

One of her research projects asked subjects if they would eat something like margarine if they knew it contained a GMO. More than half said they would not buy it, even though most canola has been modified.

"It begs the question what would happen if we labelled it," she said.

"This is the reason why some people are so opposed to labelling it because of that relatively high percentage that is in the definitely not/probably not category."

Her surveys have found nearly half the population is opposed or somewhat opposed to biotechnology in general, but 55 percent support it. Medicinal use of biotechnology was received less negatively.

"It is not the technology, but the technology in food, that somehow



Finn Rosmanitz tries organic baby food that does not contain genetically modified organisms, pesticides or added hormones. Young mothers have become a powerful consumer group.

BARBARA DUCKWORTH PHOTO

makes them uncertain."

Those who are strongly opposed do not change their minds, although the numbers in the neutral category are growing a bit.

"In the last 15 years, we are not seeing a switch in people being negative about technology to people being positive about this. It seems to be staying relatively flat," she said.

There are geographical differences of opinion.

"Having some connection to agriculture seems to moderate your views," she said. "You don't need to be a farmer. If you lived in Airdrie, you are probably going to know more about agriculture than somebody who lives in downtown Calgary, just because of the people you hang around with."

Age is another influencer.

"Older people are a bit more philosophical about technology, so if they can see a health benefit, then they are happy enough with it," she said.

If they see no benefit, they are in the neutral category.

Millennials may have the strongest preferences for natural products, so researchers are trying to pinpoint what people define as natural.

"Natural could mean anything."

People younger than 35 are realizing they have to learn how to cook, and they want things with fewer ingredients. They also want to understand what the ingredients are and do not want products that sound like they were created in a lab.

Goddard is also tracking where people get information.

Her research team asked people at the end of 2015 which types of social media they use to get information about food, science or technology. Those results are still being analyzed.

"The demand for information is something that is pervasive throughout my research, whether I am dealing with genetic technologies or genomic selection or anything," she said.

"If you ask the public, they will always say more information is better than less," she said.

Some researchers have asked people if they know what DNA, genomics or genetically modified organisms are, and have found there to be limited knowledge.

They also asked people if they agree or disagree that the world is better off with technology.

Those who agree are also fine

with GM products.

As well, people who are generally more positive about technology rate themselves as high knowledge when asked to self-assess their personal knowledge about science and technology.

"Are those people more knowledgeable? Possibly," Goddard said.

"Is there a link to education? Possibly. Can we educate ourselves out of people's concerns about this? No."

Children may be influenced to accept these technologies and understand what they are, but adults are not likely to change their minds.

"Your beliefs are made up of so many different values that the education piece doesn't work particularly, especially if it comes from an interest group," she said.

Goddard said she has found that people want more information, and some have said they are willing to pay more for products with more detailed labels.

"We seem to have an insatiable demand for information from a variety of sources," she said.

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FOR A RELATED STORY, SEE PAGE 52 >>

## AG NOTES

## SASKFLAX ANNOUNCES ELECTION RESULTS

Nancy Johns from Zelma, Shane Stokke from Watrous, and Greg Sundquist from Watrous were re-elected as directors on the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission (SaskFlax) board.

They join current directors Erwin Hanley from Regina, Jordon Hillier from Southey and Dave Sefton from Broadview.

They will sit on the board for a four-year term, which will officially

begin at SaskFlax's annual general meeting in Saskatoon Jan. 9.

The next call for nomination for directors will be in 2018.

## NEW BEEF CO-ORDINATOR HIRED IN ALBERTA

Melissa Downing has been selected as the new provincial co-ordinator for the Verified Beef Production Plus (VBP+) program.

Alberta Beef Quality Starts Here acts as the delivery agent for VBP+ in Alberta.

Downing is an agrologist who raises cattle near Metiskow, Sask., with her family.

Her strong background in the beef industry provides insight into priority areas the program should focus on, and how issues can be approached in a practical manner.

The VBP+ addresses environmental stewardship, biosecurity and animal care for Verified Beef Production program. It has been working with the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef to meet developed criteria.

More information is available at [melissa@alvertaverifiedbeef.com](mailto:melissa@alvertaverifiedbeef.com).

## RECOGNITION FOR SERVICE TO 4-H AND COMMUNITY

Helen Andrews and Corine Verbeek are the 2016 inductees into Alberta's 4-H Hall of Fame.

Andrews of Round Hill has been a 4-H leader and volunteer for 40 years, including district treasurer, secretary and regional secretary.

She was a founding member of the Focus on 4-H regional

project showcase and also involved in numerous community organizations.

Verbeek of Sturgeon County has been a 4-H leader and volunteer for more than 30 years, including as a district key leader and president, northwest regional president and provincial equine leaders forum committee member.

Candidates are nominated by their 4-H peers and evaluated based on leadership qualities, community references and contributions to 4-H, agriculture and their local communities.

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# PRODUCTION

## SATELLITES ACT AS LINE SCANNER FOR THE PLANET

The world's largest constellation of earth imaging satellites will provide information that farmers can use to divide their fields into zones when spraying. | Page 51



PRODUCTION EDITOR: MICHAEL RAINE | Ph: 306-665-3592 F: 306-934-2401 | E-MAIL: MICHAEL.RAINE@PRODUCER.COM

RESISTANT PEST

# Weevils wobble but they won't go away

Without effective control methods, the pest is here to stay

BY BARB GLEN  
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

Alfalfa weevils resistant to the most commonly used insecticides have been confirmed in the Rosemary area of southern Alberta, where many alfalfa seed crops are grown.

The wily weevils have been found to survive even after being treated with 50 times the recommended rate of Matador, a synthetic pyrethroid in the Group 3 chemical family.

Brad Alexander, research and extension manager with Alfalfa Seed Commission Alberta, said only 20 percent of the weevils from one field died when tested at the high rates of insecticide. Weevils from a second field had a 60 percent kill at the high rate, as determined by provincial entomologist Scott Meers.

"That definitely confirmed that there is resistance to Matador because the trial specifically used Matador, but the theory is, because of the nature of synthetic pyrethroids and of chemicals in general, I suppose, is that it's a general resistance to all synthetic pyrethroids, not just Matador."

Six insecticides are registered for use against alfalfa weevil. Matador and Decis are both Group 3, Malathion, Cygon and Imidan are in Group 1B and Coragen is in Group 28.

The latter four are not particularly effective against weevils, Alexander said.

"That's a little bit alarming because it kind of sticks you to only two mode of action groups to use in rotation," he said.

"If they're not getting killed by Group 3, then there's only the 1B category, which a lot of people don't like anyway."

Alfalfa seed grower Larry Wiens, who farms in the Rosemary region, said weevil control has been a major challenge for about two years.

"We've had to learn to live with higher levels," he said.

"We're just not getting the nice



Ben Dyck, who farms near Rosemary, Alta., took a pick axe to his frozen field Dec. 16 while collecting alfalfa weevils. The weevils in that region are resistant to most of the commonly used and registered insecticides. Alfalfa seed growers are hoping extended cold periods this winter will help control the damaging pests. | BRAD ALEXANDER PHOTO

start we used to get in July."

He said no other chemicals work as well as Matador and Decis, at least until recently.

"We really don't have any other registered options so that puts us in a difficult position. It's pretty frustrating right now."

However, he said he is optimistic that a solution will be found, whether or not it is cheap or easy.

Alexander said farmers likely use Matador and Decis so much because they cost about \$8 per acre compared to about \$32 for Coragen.

He said growers are talking with the Prairie Pesticide Minor Use Consortium to see if other chemicals can be registered to fight the resistant weevils.

In the meantime, an extended period of -20 C weather, like that of mid-December, might be enough to kill them. The hardy insects manufacture their own type of antifreeze, but it is only effective to about -18 C, said Alexander.

"This cold snap that we had, with no snow, which is also very important because they weren't insulated, hopefully that had some effect on the population."

Some alfalfa seed growers have used tine harrows on their alfalfa fields to better expose the insects to cold. Alexander said some might also consider burning their fields, but that requires moving all the leafcutter bee huts, which is time consuming.

Alexander said the resistant weevils first came to light as a result of a grower survey, which seems to indicate the problem is limited to the Rosemary area.

"Our hope is to get it under control, anyway, to get some form of control happening in the Rosemary area before 2018 because by the end of summer 2018, just judging on a forecast, (the weevils) can migrate up to 13 kilometres in one year," he said. "That would put them into a circle that encompasses Patricia and Brooks."

Olds College researchers have collected and are raising resistant weevils in a controlled setting, said Alexander, and are testing the efficacy of various insecticides against them.

They've already tried a chemical called Spinosad, a natural bacterial treatment, with limited success.

"We did have good control ... but by good, I mean better than water," said Alexander.

"It wasn't very good at all, but all of the other ones that we tested, some of them weren't even as good as water."

"(Olds College researchers) are kind of trying everything that they can on them, and next year we're ramping up for more testing not only of different chemicals and the chemicals that we have ... but we're also looking at expanding the area."

Alfalfa seed grower Fred Preston said he suspects weevil resistance has been building for years but became more obvious after several mild winters, which allowed higher

weevil populations to survive.

He said the situation is troubling, and he is in favour of using safer products against insects if they are available and effective.

"I'm OK with using safer products. Coragen is very safe for people and bees. It's expensive, but that's kind of how it goes. Safe is better," he said.

"I'm not going to change my cropping plans. I'm kind of in a committed relationship with alfalfa seed and the beekeeping, bee racket."

Alexander said the weevil problem is likely here to stay.

"To be very, very honest, I have not found a single report online or ever heard of any resistance issue going away," he said.

"Once it's here, it's basically a new pest. And that's how we're looking at this weevil because really we effectively don't have anything to control it, so it's almost like a new pest entirely to us."

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COST CUTTING

# Know your costs zone by zone to stay profitable

If parts of the field have a higher cost of production, money is being lost in that area

BY ROBIN BOOKER  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Lacklustre crop prices have many growers looking to reduce costs, but they need to be careful not to trim areas that keep their cost of unit production down, says Markus Braaten of AgriTrend.

"If we're changing our fertility program in such a way that we are actually reducing our yields in parts of these fields where we have the potential to grow them, we actually drive that cost of unit production up," Braaten said.

He said some costs are fixed to cover the same amount of acres, such as fuel, herbicide and often seed.

"Typically what happens when we get into situations where we are trying to find dollars, we might save ourselves some dollars per acre and cost ourselves tens of thousands of dollars on a farm level, simply because we turned our fertility down too much," Braaten said.

During a December presentation at the Farm Forum Event in Calgary, Braaten said it's useful for growers to understand the cost of unit production of every bushel they grow, including the variability of the cost of unit production

across their fields.

"Given the fact that we have varying field potential and we're rolling out with a flat rate kind of fertility program, our cost structure is static," Braaten said.

"It's the same, but we're amortizing that cost over different bushels, so it's important to understand what that cost structure is by zone."

He said farmers sell everything by the bushel, so if there is a cost of unit production in areas of the field that is outside of the ideal range, then growers may be losing money on every bushel they grow in those areas.



MARKUS BRAATEN  
AGRITREND

"It's not unusual for us to have parts of the field that are never going to produce enough wheat or corn or canola to ever be profitable given today's commodity pricing



Low-yielding areas of a field inflate the unit cost of production, so growers may want to reduce inputs in that area or abandon it altogether. | FILE PHOTO

and expense structure," Braaten said.

He said growers should either reduce inputs or even abandon less productive parts of their field to increase their profitability because these inflate the cost of unit production of the entire farm.

"Maybe we should be looking at abandoning parts of the field that we understand has significant limitations that I can't overcome," Braaten said.

"It's just purely a matter of, 'I'm not going to spend money in parts of the field where I don't anticipate any kind of return.'"

Growers have historically managed for the average, which means they have been drawing down the fertility in areas that grow more than their field average yields and increasing the fertility in areas that

tend to grow less than field average yields.

Growers should instead reduce inputs in areas with a high cost of unit production and invest them where there is a greater yield potential.

"We can take advantage of that and tweak on our fertility program a little bit, turn it down in those parts of the field where our productivity is compromised and take advantage of some of that fertility that is there," he said.

"And conversely we can turn up the fertility in those parts of the field where we have just better inherent yield potential. And again, a greater likelihood for a return on investment is going to come from those parts of the field that have better inherent productivity."

Braaten said that when low commodity prices prompt growers to reduce fertilizer costs, they should begin in areas that have a high cost of unit production. However, they should be careful not to reduce inputs in growing zones that lower the cost of unit production of their farm because this will be detrimental to their returns, he added.

"I'm using the same amount of fuel to roll over each one of these acres, I'm putting the same amount of herbicide on every single one of these acres," he said.

"Often times I'm putting the same amount of seed on each one of these acres, so I need to make sure that I'm not compromising on things that are actually driving productivity."

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## TECHNOLOGY

# Website interface gets upgrade to please crop buyers, sellers

Farmlead.com says improvements allow live chats between growers and buyers

BY MICHAEL RAINE  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Brennan Turner is in the business of making farm tools easier to use.

"That is the crux of any technology that you want farmers to use regularly," said Turner, who runs Farmlead.com.

"Make it easier to put to work whenever they need it or want it."

However, Turner doesn't make machinery or precision agricultural equipment.

Instead, he helps farmers market crops.

The tools he describes are a website interface and a smart-phone or tablet application that put buyers of grain and producers together to make deals.

The system allows farmers with inventory and grain buyers looking for supplies to find each other while keeping their names out of the arrangement until price and delivery terms have been agreed upon.

Operating for a few years, Turner's company had built up a list of things it knew needed changing.

"We could have been developing

more features and cool new aspects to the system but decided to focus on keeping the upgrades simple," he said about this past fall's overhaul of the parts of the grain marketing system that users could see.

Turner said it wasn't easy to decide to make major changes to a product that has been growing by 10 to 20 percent per month, depending on the time of year.

"You want to keep the things that are bringing you customers and deal with those that annoy them," he said.

"That sounds simple. It's not, even for a small organization."

Turner's team renovated the look and feel of the website and mobile



Brennan Turner of Farmlead.com says the company tries to keep the marketing platform easy to use. | MICHAEL RAINE PHOTO

application, making the interface more reliable, "solving any freezing and technology issues" and adding a live chat feature that lets farmers and buyers converse instantly, within the deals, to ask questions and post answers.

The mobile site and website share a look and feel with the new design, and Turner said that while

more tools are planned for the marketing platform, such as adding photos to the live chat, none of the plans will make it more complex to use.

"We always come back to asking ourselves, 'what makes this an issue for a farmer to use?' Fix that."

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**Guy Keeler, PAg**  
Western Ag Professional Agronomy

In 2013, Guy took on a Western Ag Professional Agronomy franchise for the northwest region of Saskatchewan. He is responsible for ensuring that quality production information and services is consistently delivered to customers in a professional and ethical manner.

*"As an agrologist, my first responsibility is to my profession, which is very important to my customers because they want to know the information they receive is unbiased and independent."*

Guy was raised near Delisle and graduated from the U of S College of Agriculture in 1987. He worked with a number of agriculture supply companies before starting his own Crop Consulting business in 2001.



**Trista Warken, AAT**  
Sales Representative  
Richardson Pioneer  
Assiniboia, SK

Trista works closely with producers to advise them on the best crop inputs for their farm. She provides field scouting and farm management plans to producers with further recommendations and advice channeled from her Agronomist.

*"Being an Agricultural Technologist (AAT) challenges me to stay current with my education so that producers trust the services I provide are coming from an educated, professional and credible source."*

Trista was raised in Assiniboia, SK with ties to the family's mixed farm. She attended the University of Saskatchewan and convocated with a Diploma in Agronomy. Trista has been employed with Richardson Pioneer since 2015.

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SATELLITE IMAGING

# Farmers may seek help from above for spraying advice

BY ROBIN BOOKER  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

BANFF, Alta. — A satellite system that takes high-resolution pictures of the entire planet every day will soon help growers make in-season spraying decisions.

Planet's Dove satellites make up the world's largest constellation of earth-imaging satellites and act like a line scanner for the planet.

The satellites are evenly spaced along the same orbital path and constantly take pictures of the Earth as it rotates within this orbital line.

At least 100 satellites are needed for this system to achieve the goal of taking a picture of the entire planet every day, which is set to be met when an Indian rocket launches dozens of Dove satellites in early January.

A Dove satellite weighs 4.7 kilograms and uses the same low cost technology found in consumer good such as cellphones and laptops.

Its simple design and use of low-cost technology enable a low-cost platform that costs much less than other satellites, said Andrew Pylypchuk of Planet during the Bayer Agronomy Summit in Banff late last year.

"Solar cells recharge the batteries that are inside the satellite, that is usually made out of aluminum," he said.

"The telescope inside takes up the majority of the space. At the



Andrew Pylypchuk of Planet explained how the company's Dove satellite works during the Bayer Agronomy Summit in Banff, Alta. | ROBIN BOOKER PHOTO

very back we have the processor and some of the controls that point it, so reaction wheels and magnetic coils and so forth. And of course the digital camera back that actually takes the photographs and downloads that data."

Planet's Mission Control team has developed software that allows a handful of people to manage the system, including the download of images to 30 ground stations around the globe.

This new data stream of images could be very handy for growers during the growing season.

"It's about a 10 foot pixel size, so

they'll (farmers) be able to see good in-field variability, but they wouldn't be able to see the actual plant themselves," Pylypchuk said.

Planet plans to sell the data to established agriculture service providers rather than to individual growers.

"They need to have some expertise using data and deriving analytics from the imagery to actually maximize the value of what we're providing," Pylypchuk said.

Agriculture companies have already signed deals with Planet, such as Farmers Edge, the Climate Corp., Descartes Labs and Bayer

CropScience.

Bayer has said it hopes to implement the technology through its Digital Farming department, which will use the satellite images to create zones of in-field variability that would guide zone-based fungicide applications for sclerotinia in canola.

Warren Bills of Bayer CropScience said it is a fairly simple process, even though it will have to incorporate sprayer technology, sectional control, prescriptions and mapping.

"It involves identifying fields of canola that have high amounts of variability and targeting areas in that field that are higher producing with high yield potential, and consequently high amounts of disease risk, and turning the sprayer on in those areas," Bills said.

"We also know in those same fields there are areas that have lower potential, and if we were to apply in those areas, we may not see a positive return."

Fungicide rates will be constant and either applied, or not, depending on the how thick the crop is in the zone.

Planet satellite imagery from mid-to-late-June will be used when the crop is at its peak vegetative state to establish the zones.

"It's that snapshot that tells us at about a week before spraying where those thinner and thicker parts of the field are," Bills said.

Bayer studied sclerotinia levels last year by zones and the efficacy

of fungicide application by zone to ensure growers would see a higher rate of return from their fungicide application in canola when using zone applications.

"We measured infestation levels of sclerotinia by zone, and we also measured the effect of Proline fungicide by zone," he said.

"The data supported our assumptions. It supported that in your higher biomass areas you were generally seeing a higher return on your invested fungicide acre."

Bills said the studies have been based on a small sample size of sites and that further study is planned for 2017.

Growers may continue to spray the entire crop on their first pass with fungicides and use a zone-determined application only for the second fungicide pass.

Bills said the ability to spray herbicides only on the parts of fields that need them give growers another option, and they may be more inclined to perform a second fungicide application because it will have an improved return on investment.

"If you think of how growers have to apply fungicide, they drive to their field and they look at their field and say, 'am I going to apply this whole field or not,'" he said.

"I think what this process unlocks is for them to have the ability to say, 'I just want to apply parts of this field,' and we use technology to let them do that."

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GM TECHNOLOGY

# Farm groups challenge food company's non-GM pledge

Yogurt maker Dannon is misleading the public by suggesting non-GM crops are more sustainable than GM crops, say opponents

BY SEAN PRATT  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Farmers and food companies have dropped the gloves in the debate over genetically modified food.

A number of food companies have recently announced they are introducing non-GM product lines. That is making growers antsy because many rely on biotechnology to keep weeds and insects at bay.

The line in the sand for farm groups was when the Dannon Company announced it was converting its Dannon, Danimals and

Oikos brands of yogurt to all non-GM ingredients by 2018.

The Dannon Pledge includes switching the diet for the dairy cows that provide the company with its milk to non-GM crops.

"This was a tipping point," said Randy Mooney, chair of the U.S. National Milk Producers Federation.

Chris Galen, vice-president of communications with the federation, said Dannon's announcement was a tipping point because the company is telling farmers what kind of feed to use.

"This is entirely different and a more far-reaching step than just a

**When something is out there that is outrageously wrong, all of us are going to have to speak up and attack it.**

**RANDY MOONEY**  
U.S. NATIONAL MILK PRODUCERS  
FEDERATION

focus on biotech ingredients in the yogurt itself," he said in an email.

What dairy farmers find particularly galling is that scientific research shows the GM traits in the corn, soybeans and alfalfa fed to

cattle are not present in the meat or milk. So there will be no difference in the yogurt made before or after the Dannon Pledge.

"When something is out there that is outrageously wrong, all of us are going to have to speak up and attack it," Mooney told reporters during a conference call.

"If this isn't addressed, we're going to see a radical change in how food and feed is produced in this country."

The American Farm Bureau Federation, American Soybean Association, American Sugarbeet Growers Association, National Corn Growers Association, Nation-

al Milk Producers Federation and U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance published a tersely worded letter they sent to Dannon.

"In our view your pledge amounts to marketing flimflam, pure and simple," stated the letter.

"It appears to be an attempt to gain lost sales from your competitors by using fear-based marketing and trendy buzzwords, not through any actual improvement in your products."

Dannon shot back with a news release responding to the letter.

"We were surprised to receive a divisive and misinformed letter about our efforts to continue to grow America's enjoyment of dairy products, including yogurt," stated the company.

"We believe there is growing consumer preference for non-GMO ingredients and food in the U.S. and we want to use the strong relationships we have with our farmer partners to provide products that address this consumer demand."

The dispute illustrates the growing divide between the farm community and its food company customers surrounding the GM food issue.

Food companies increasingly want to source non-GM ingredients and to provide labels telling their customers whether products are GM or not.

Meanwhile, farmers continue to embrace the technology. More than 90 percent of the corn, soybeans and canola grown in North America in 2015 were GM varieties.

And farmers have been fighting vigorously against the introduction of mandatory GM labelling laws.

Randy Krotz, chief executive officer of the U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance, a group that speaks on behalf of about 100 farm organizations, does not accept that food companies are responding to consumer preference.

He believes anti-biotechnology activists are behind decisions like Dannon's.

"There is a lot of pressure being applied by organizations targeting (food companies) that don't necessarily represent broad consumer feelings or opinions," he said during the conference call.

Michael Neuwirth, spokesperson for Dannon, said Krotz is mistaken. The decision to switch half of its product line to GM-free ingredients came from the company's daily interaction with its customers and from market research data on shopper preferences.

"That's our business is understanding what people want and that's the reason we have a wide range of products," he said.

Neuwirth said customers want choice and they want to know what they are consuming, which is why the company is now labelling whether its products are GM or not.

"We are a food company trying to serve the needs of our shoppers and from that perspective, we believe we are responding to market preferences," he said.

Farm groups say Dannon is misleading the public by suggesting non-GM crops are more sustainable than GM crops.



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“Though touted with great fanfare as a corporate commitment to sustainability and environmental improvement, in reality the Dannon Pledge amounts to a major step backward in truly sustainable food production,” the groups stated in the letter to Dannon.

They contend that a shift away from GM crop production will increase pesticide, water and fossil fuel use and lead to more soil erosion.

They also allege that Dannon is anti-biotechnology.

**Though touted with great fanfare as a corporate commitment to sustainability and environmental improvement, in reality the Dannon Pledge amounts to a major step backward in truly sustainable food production.**

AMERICAN FARM GROUPS’ LETTER TO DANNON

Neuwirth said Dannon was stunned by the accusations contained in the letter it received, especially the idea that the company is not supportive of science.

He said the company relies on

science to ensure the safety and quality of its products and he rejects suggestions that the company is anti-biotechnology. It will continue to offer GM food products in addition to its non-GM lines.

The Dannon Pledge is designed to provide food products that are sustainable, natural and transparent, he said.

Neuwirth thinks farm groups misunderstood that the non-GM initiative falls under the natural plank of that pledge, not the sustainability component.

“We believe sustainable agriculture can be achieved with or without the use of GMOs,” he said.

Part of Dannon’s sustainability pledge is to provide a fixed margin of profit to its farmer partners who provide the company with its milk.

Krotz said farm groups don’t want to get in the way of farmers earning premiums, but they can’t abide when food companies portray GM crop production as unsustainable or unnatural.

He hopes they are not put in the position where they have to publicly challenge another food company for its actions.

“We’d really rather not have to do this again but certainly we will,” said Krotz.

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# LIVESTOCK

## WALKING ON TIP TOE

Toe tip necrosis is proving to be a major problem in feedlot cattle, although most research involves dairy animals. Dr. John Campbell explains. | **Page 57**



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CALF MANAGEMENT

# Young calves require special care

Scours, septicemia, pneumonia, navel and joint infections, injuries, pinkeye and foot rot are all particularly dangerous

BY **BARBARA DUCKWORTH**  
CALGARY BUREAU

The first month is the riskiest time in a young calf's life.

Scours is at the top of the disease list, says veterinarian Claire Windeyer of the University of Calgary's faculty of veterinary medicine.

"Scours is the number one disease we think of when we are considering calf-hood health problems," she said during a Beef Cattle Research Council webinar on disease management of young calves.

Other threats are septicemia, pneumonia, navel and joint infections, injuries, pinkeye and footrot.

"We know these diseases interact," she said.

"If you're at risk for one disease, you are at risk for others. Those calves that become sick early in life are often the ones who become repeat offenders and become sick with other things."

Very sick calves can die, which affects herd profitability.

"For every percentage of your herd that you lose, the rest of the herd has to pick up the slack," she said.

Five percent is considered a low to normal death rate. However, the survivors need to compensate, so calves need to be 25 to 40 pounds more at weaning to make up for those that died.

If 15 to 20 percent of calves are lost, the rest of the herd will have to weigh 100 to 200 lb. more at weaning to make up the losses.

"We want to prevent that mortality because it is really hard to pick up that slack," she said.

Scours or neonatal calf diarrhea can be caused by bacteria, viruses or parasites. More than one disease agent can strike a vulnerable young animal at the same time. If scours infects a calf, the entire herd should be monitored because there is rarely only one sick animal.

"Usually that really sick calf is just the tip of the iceberg," she said.

It is a good idea to know what caused the disease because different treatments are needed.

"Different bugs affect calves at different ages. If a calf is sick at less than five days, it is likely going to be



Calves that become sick early in life often become repeat offenders, which is a good reason to keep them healthy early on in life. | FILE PHOTO

an E. coli issue," she said.

At three weeks or older it could be coccidiosis.

Scours can look serious, but calves often die of dehydration so they need fluids.

Calves that are mildly dehydrated and can still suckle need oral electrolytes. Not all commercial products are alike, so talk to a veterinarian about the best products.

Calves that cannot stand and do not have a good suckle reflex will need intravenous fluids. A veterinarian's help may be needed.

Antibiotics don't treat most types of scours because many are viral or parasitic rather than bacterial. Antibiotics may be used to treat secondary infections.

Supportive care for sick calves includes keeping them warm and dry as well as making sure they are getting energy if they are off their mothers.

Septicemia is an inflammatory response to bacteria or bacterial

toxins circulating in the blood stream.

"It is an under-appreciated cause of death in calves," Windeyer said.

Clinical signs include depression, fever, hypothermia and no appetite. The gum may be brick red, and the whites of the eyes have visible blood vessels. Pulses become weak, and extremities become cold.

"They get sick quite quickly," she said.

"They go down hill before you really have a chance to clue in that something is going on."

Prognosis is not good, and they often need aggressive therapy to survive. They could end up with joint infections, pneumonia or meningitis.

Septicemia occurs in calves younger than two weeks and often happens because the newborn did not get enough colostrum from the mother.

Navels may not have healed, and

bacteria can enter the system. The calf may also have scours.

"We estimate about a third of our scouring calves do end up with bacteria in the blood, and some of those will become septicemic."

Injecting antibiotics into the vein so that they enter the blood stream sooner can help. Keep the calves warm, dry and hydrated and make sure they get enough energy.

Viral or bacterial infections can also lead to pneumonia or bovine respiratory disease. Sick calves have an increased respiratory rate, fever, dullness, depression, eye and nose discharge or a rough hair coat.

Sporadic cases of pneumonia can happen in calves younger than 30 days and are probably caused by insufficient colostrum.

Another form is an outbreak of summer pneumonia that hits at 90 to 150 days of age.

Management of calves takes planning to make sure they receive

adequate colostrum as well as a vaccination program.

Research at the University of Calgary monitored calves that were born without assistance to cows experiencing a difficult birth.

The suckling reflex at birth was also checked.

The research found the proportion of calves that failed to consume colostrum went up as calving ease decreased.

Producers can check the suckling reflex and test suckling strength by placing a finger in the calf's mouth at 10 minutes after birth. Calves with a weak suckle reflex were 42 times more likely to fail to consume enough colostrum.

The researchers found that calves born unassisted had a 14 percent chance of failing to consume enough, while those that arrived after a difficult assist had a 64 percent greater difficulty in getting enough colostrum on their own within four hours of life.

Producers may have to consider milking out the cow, if it will cooperate, and bottle feeding the newborn calf if it fails to get enough colostrum.

"Colostrum is the best vaccination a calf can receive," Windeyer said.

Every farm has a different vaccination program, depending on colostrum intake, the presence of disease, when calves are handled and marketing plans.

Vaccinate pregnant cows to give the calves a head start.

Intranasal vaccines have gained popularity in recent years. Maternal antibodies can interfere with the effectiveness of an injected vaccine, but the intranasal products may actually generate a better immune response in the calf.

Intranasal vaccines in Canada are only for the pathogens causing respiratory disease. They do not work for scours.

Windeyer said they may be provided during spring processing and at weaning. This can provide a good immune response to reduce clinical disease, death and virus shedding.

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## LIVESTOCK FEEDING

# Corn grazing is about finding right balance

Trials compare different corn allocations to make sure grazing cattle obtain the correct amount of nutrition and fibre

BY WILLIAM DEKAY  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

LANIGAN, Sask. — How do you manage the behaviour of cattle if they're always going to eat their dessert first?

It's a question of balance, said Breanna Anderson, a University of Saskatchewan graduate student who is looking for answers at the Western Beef Development Centre near Lanigan.

"We're trying to create a balanced diet because they're not going to nutritionally balance themselves," she said during the WBDC's 2016 winter field day.

"Just like kids in a candy shop."

The WBDC typically recommends that producers use a three-day allocation of standing corn, but the two-year study is comparing three and nine-day allocations of fresh grazing corn with and without the provision of a fibre source.

The four treatments include:

- three days of corn with fibre
- three days without fibre
- nine days of corn with fibre
- nine days without fibre

"With all the corn grazing trials we've done out here for 15 years, we've learned that cows are very selective," said Bart Lardner, senior research scientist at the centre.

He said cattle prioritize certain plant structures based on taste, sight and preference, which involve the cob, leaf, tassel and stalk.

"We find that they will go for the cob first, the ice cream part of the plant," he said.

"That's not bad, but you need to control that. We want them to have the other essential nutrient parts of the plant as well."

The corncob is full of starch, while the rest of the plant is mostly fibre.

Lardner said it's about balancing the starch and fibre that goes into the rumen every day.

"It's the same as a cow that's going to get nothing but straight barley. She's potentially going to bloat on that barley. That's why we have some fibre in with that barley," he said.

"In that total mix ration, we're going to have some barley grain, but we're also going to have some



A Western Beef Development Centre project compares three and nine day allocations with and without the provision of a fibre source. The plots were toured during the 2016 winter field day. | WILLIAM DEKAY PHOTO

forage, hay and green feed and some straw."

The rumen should have a pH of six to 6.2, but eating too much starch without adequate fibre content will lower it and create an acidosis type environment. As the pH drops, so does fibre digestibility, while the risk of sub-acute rumen acidosis goes up.

"This can be quite harmful to the animal," said Anderson.

Added Lardner: "It's basically a cow with a bellyache."

Part of Anderson's research is conducting a preference trial, which looks at the disappearance of the cob, leaf, husk, tassel and stem over time.

"It's to give us data to show what the cows are picking," she said.

She takes a daily representative sample from each field of 10 to 15

plants. The proportions of each plant are then weighed.

"As the days progress that the cows are in that amount of feed, what disappears first is the cob, leaf and husk, and at the end you're left with almost 100 percent stem, whereas at the start you're closer to 40 to 50 percent cob," she said.

A total of 112 cows are being used for the study with 14 per paddock spread out over eight fields.

Two cows per paddock have a rumen cannula installed to provide a basic research application.

Researchers use probes in the cannulated rumen to monitor pH fluctuations.

"We can track through the three or nine day allocation, with or without fibre, and compare how their pH is changing each day to see how their diet is changing each day,"

said Anderson.

Separate samples can also monitor production of volatile fatty acid and rumen ammonia, which indicates how well the feed is being digested.

One animal per paddock wears a GPS collar to monitor grazing behaviour every 24 hours.

Researchers can then accurately determine what times of day cattle are grazing, how much time they are spending in the corn, eating hay or at the windbreak or water trough.

"It's to get a better understanding of how our management affects their grazing behaviour because grazing behaviour will directly affect their diet — what parts of the plant they're selecting, how much they're eating, how many meals a day they're having," she said.

Soil samples in spring and fall are also taken to better understand how manure affects the nitrogen, potassium, phosphorous and sulfur profile in the soil.

The grazing perimeter of the nine day cycle is three times that of the three day cycle and three times the amount of food.

"So if on a three day group I'm giving them 1,000 pounds of feed on the nine day feed, I'm giving them 3,000 pounds of feed," she said.

"Is this going to affect rumen acidosis? Is this going to affect how much they waste, how much they're gaining?"

"We're trying to push the limits and see if this changes their behaviour. Are they still going after the cobs?"

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## WEANING RESEARCH

## Knowledge gaps in dairy calf weaning require research

BY ED WHITE  
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Dairy calves face much more severe weaning than beef calves, but far too little is known about how this affects their lifelong health and productivity, a dairy calf researcher told the Manitoba Dairy Conference.

Everything from pre-birth cow nutrition to pre-weaning to post-weaning has been only lightly researched, with major gaps of knowledge about many areas.

For instance, University of Alberta's Michael Steele said, even post-weaning studies and knowledge scarcely extend beyond cows six months of age.

"That's a huge hole in our knowl-

edge and we need to do something about that," said Steele at the opening of the annual conference in Winnipeg Dec. 7.

"We really need to integrate what we're doing pre-weaning with post-weaning."

Beef calves are generally weaned slowly between six and eight months of age, but dairy calves tend to be weaned between six and eight weeks of life, which is a huge transition for a young animal to go through. Steele described it as "abruptly" and "early."

A dairy calf's rumen expands from about 25 percent of the stomach system to 80 percent between pre- and post-weaning, causing all sorts of internal changes.

While weaning has been exten-



MICHAEL STEELE  
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

sively studied, there is still much to be learned, Steele said.

For instance, calves weaned at six weeks of age and those weaned at eight weeks show substantially different responses.

But the pre-weaning period is

much less studied, as is the period after the calves have moved onto dairy cow rations.

There is good reason to believe that pre-weaning differences can have a major impact on milk production, Steele said.

If, for example, a calf needs antibiotics in its first six weeks, it is likely to produce about 500 kilograms less milk in its first lactation.

Other studies have shown similar large impacts of slower growth rates and health changes on the production of milk.

There is good evidence that improved nutrition in the pre-weaning period can help overall cow performance.

"If you're going to invest in nutri-

tion, even though the feed costs are really high during this stage, this is the best opportunity for you to invest," Steele said.

"In general, when all is said and done, there are a lot of studies showing that the way that you feed a calf early in life can have a long-term impact and can affect their milk production."

Calf health is probably highlighted in many Manitoba dairy farmers' minds right now because the industry is expanding, trying to add about six percent to provincial milk production to be able to feed a new dairy processing plant opening in Winnipeg next year.

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## UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

### Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence (LFCE)

A unique research, teaching and outreach centre that unites the U of S with livestock and forage producers, the agriculture industry, and provincial and federal governments.



Joe Stookey, professor of large animal behaviour at the University of Saskatchewan's WCV. Photo: Christina Weese

Joe Stookey loves talking to beef cattle producers – anywhere and any time.

If there are beef cattle in the background, the professor of large animal behaviour at the University of Saskatchewan's (U of S) Western College of Veterinary Medicine loves it even more. And if Stookey is going to have coffee, he thinks there's nothing better than to have it with fellow cattle producers.

But he also worries that by only having producers around the table, these conversations might overlook important – and economically valuable – points of view that might come from scientists or the general public.

"Agriculture is less than two per cent of the population, and livestock production and beef production is even less than two per cent, so you need to expand your circle of contact and conversation," says Stookey. "If the only people you sit around the coffee table with is other producers, I'm afraid you're going to miss out."

That belief is where the Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence (LFCE) comes into play. Planned as an umbrella organization that brings all areas of the livestock industry together for research, education and extension, the LFCE is exactly the kind of forward-thinking approach that Stookey gets excited about.

In particular, the newfound degree of teamwork between researchers and producers is something Stookey says has huge potential to breed greater output from all parties.

"When you get that kind of support and that kind of collaboration and agreement between researchers and producers, that's a good model. The producers are going to want to see results and pay more attention, and the researchers are going to be more accountable to the producers," he says.

Stookey specializes in the maternal and social behaviours of cattle. He and his research team members investigate production practices like castration, de-horning and weaning — exploring new methods that balance animal welfare with cost-effective livestock production.

"My interest crosses the behaviour and welfare realm. Behaviourally, I'm interested in maternal behaviour – everything from birth to weaning. I'm interested in social behaviour and ways to minimize the stress of procedures," Stookey says.

He points to procedures such as contact weaning, which uses only a thin fence to separate calves from their mothers as they begin to thrive on food sources other than milk. It's one example of a U of S-developed production method that has gone on to be adopted as standard practice in many parts of the world. And since then, Stookey and his research students have taken that initial idea one step further to establish two-stage weaning — a process that minimizes weaning stress for calves as well as for their mothers.

Stookey's own work on weaning is precisely the kind of area where he thinks greater communication provided by the LFCE will be beneficial to producers and researchers. The centre's efforts will also appeal to the consumers who are increasingly concerned about animal welfare and want to know what the livestock industry is doing to address these issues.

"It's got a lot to do with humane treatment and handling and rearing, and those are the things that people are aware of. They're hot button topics," says Stookey. "The consumers sort of know that these procedures take place. They want to know we're doing it for good reasons, and we're doing it as humanely as possible."

For more information, visit [usask.ca/lfce](http://usask.ca/lfce).

### CONSERVATION

# Bison may return to Banff

Parks Canada to decide soon on reintroduction initiative

BY KAREN BRIERE  
REGINA BUREAU

Sixteen bison will move to Banff National Park in February if Parks Canada decides to go ahead with reintroducing the species.

A public comment period ended Nov. 30, and the feedback will be a factor in the final decision, said Karsten Heuer, project officer at the park.

He told the Canadian Bison Association annual convention that the five-year, reversible pilot project would see the Plains bison placed in the park's remote back country where there are lots of grassy meadows and archeological evidence has shown bison once lived. They've been absent about 140 years.

However, part of Parks Canada's mandate is to restore ecological integrity, and grazing bison would be an essential component of the ecosystem, Heuer said.

The reintroduction zone is grassy with frequent fire history and has enough good quality habitat for probably hundreds of bison year-round, he said.

"We're going to start small and go slow," he said.

The herd would be one of only three that will face the full impact of native predators.

The plan calls for the animals to be moved from Elk Island National Park near Edmonton to Banff in February, where they will be held in a soft release confined zone of 45 acres until June 2018. They will then be allowed to roam free in about one-fifth of the park's land.

The first bison will include 12



There are concerns the bison would escape the park. | FILE PHOTO

bred two-year-old heifers and four two-year-old bulls. Heuer said keeping them in the confined zone for their first and second calving will help them establish their sense of place. They will also become accustomed to electric fences.

Once free, the bison will have access to about 1,200 sq. kilometres of land.

There are concerns that the bison will get out of the park or into widely used areas of it. Heuer said park staff and the province are working together to design fencing that will keep the bison in but let other wildlife through.

The nearest private lands are about 50 kilometres away from the herd site, while provincial grazing allotments are about 20 km away, he said.

"One of the challenges of our project is to try to get the bison to hone in and not have them wander too widely," he said.

One-third of the animals will wear GPS and radio collars.

Heuer also said Parks Canada has

committed to testing sick, dead or chemically immobilized animals for all diseases and will cull the herd "in the unlikely event that TB or brucellosis is detected."

The project will be evaluated in 2022 to decide if long-term restoration of bison is feasible. Heuer said the animals will be removed if the answer is no. If the answer is yes, a plan with population targets will be developed.

"Our definition of success would be this element of returning a breeding population to the ecosystem," he said.

It would also offer cultural reconnection for First Nations people.

Heuer said Parks Canada learned from a failed 1978 release in Jasper National Park when Wood bison were released in the back country, took off running and ended up near Grande Prairie, Alta.

Heuer said the project could be reversed if needed by capturing the herd, which by 2022 would be an estimated 60 animals.

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### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

# Preparing for next disease outbreak

Animal health and welfare council publishes six recommendations

BY BARB GLEN  
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

OTTAWA — Porcine epidemic diarrhea, Seneca Valley virus and bovine tuberculosis won't be the last livestock disease outbreaks seen in Canada.

That much is known.

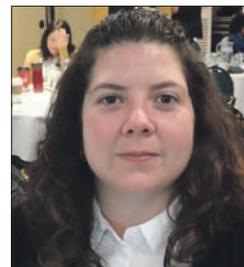
Preparing for the unknown — the next disease, weather disaster or even bioterrorism that affects farmed animals — is the task at hand.

That is what led the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council to publish recommendations about preparing for an emerging issue.

The list of six was released in October and discussed in more detail Nov. 29 by project lead Dr. Megan Bergman, Manitoba's chief veterinary officer.

An analysis of how PED was handled when it infected hog operations in Ontario, Quebec, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba in 2014-16 was useful in developing recommendations, said Bergman.

A seven-member working group found that experiences among provinces were not the same when it came to PED and concluded that a national preparedness plan



MEGAN BERGMAN  
MANITOBA CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER

would be useful.

Recommendations focus on early detection of the problem, a collaborative approach and effective communication. The latter proved important when government and the industry were dealing with PED, said Bergman.

"We found that the communication approach was embraced by the industry," she said.

"They ended up setting up national calls, which were actually initially facilitated by CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency), and there was a lot of positive feedback from the producers saying, 'we needed that, we were glad to have an update in terms of what was going on from province to province.'"

Lack of communication has been a common complaint about the bovine tuberculosis investigation in Alberta and Saskatchewan, which began in early October.

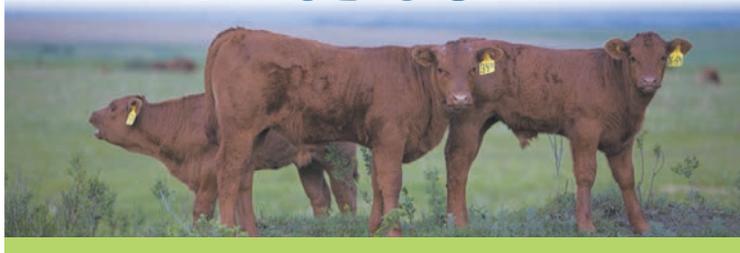
"Hopefully going forward, these recommendations can be employed with many of our national disease issues," said Bergman.

The six recommendations to prepare for emerging livestock issues includes:

- Industry and governments should develop a co-ordinated approach to risk mitigation for emerging disease.
- They should support, communicate and use enhanced biosecurity.
- Industry and governments should commit to developing emergency preparedness.
- They should ensure there is adequate financial and personal support for producers and others affected by a disease outbreak.
- They should ensure international acceptance of risk mitigation and early detection measures.
- They should investigate potential for assured access to slaughter plants in a disease outbreak.

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## THE WESTERN PRODUCER



## LAMENESS

# Toe tip necrosis syndrome can be big problem in feedlots

## ANIMAL HEALTH



JOHN CAMPBELL, DVM, DVSC

Lameness is an economically important disease in all cattle operations.

In dairy cows it is described in the Canadian Dairy Code of Practice as one of the most serious and economically important issues, which can have a major effect on dry matter intake, reproduction and early culling. As a result, much of the research on cattle lameness has focused on dairy operations.

However, there is a growing realization that lameness can have a significant impact on beef production as well. It is recognized in all cattle operations as a significant welfare concern because of the pain associated with it.

One North American study has suggested that lameness may be responsible for up to 16 percent of treatments and up to five percent of the mortalities in feedlot cattle.

Many producers assume that any case of lameness in a beef animal is caused by either foot rot or an injury. However, a recent study published in the *Canadian Veterinary Journal* provides insights into a cause of lameness that has not previously been well described in feedlot cattle.

Dr. Murray Jelinski and Dr. Chad Paetsch from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, along with colleagues Dr. Kent Fenton and Dr. Tye Perrett from Feedlot Health Management Services in Okotoks, Alta., pub-

lished a paper on the syndrome known as toe tip necrosis syndrome (TTNS). You may also see this condition described as toe ulcers, toe abscesses or P3 necrosis. It appears to be a different syndrome than the more common sole ulcers and sole abscesses seen in dairy cattle.

Cattle affected with the syndrome appear suddenly lame, usually shortly after arrival to the feedlot. The disease appears to be a bacterial infection that invades the tip of the hoof along the white line area and ascends into the inner structures of the toe.

The infections penetrate the hoof wall and invade the distal bone of the toe known as the third phalanx or Ps, causing an infection of this bone and severe necrosis of the tissue.

The infection and subsequent necrosis is obviously severely painful and the animals are very lame. The vast majority of infections appear in the hind foot. If the affected hoof is examined, there is often evidence of a separation of the white line at the toe region of the hoof along with either impacted material or pus evident.

Animal health crews at feedlots will often nip off the end of the hoof to allow drainage in an effort to treat these cases and administer antimicrobials to combat infection.

Jelinski and his colleagues used animal health databases from western Canadian feedlots to describe the epidemiology of this condition. Their research focused on post-mortem records from feedlots and they were able to examine the timing and extent of animals that died or were euthanized because of the condition.

They demonstrated that although this syndrome occurs sporadically, it tended to cluster

by lot and by feedyard. This might suggest there are risk factors for the disease associated with incoming lots of cattle. As well, there are other risk factors that may occur at the feedlot.

The researchers were also able to confirm that the disease occurs early in the feeding period and approximately 50 percent of the animals treated for the condition were treated before 12 days on feed.

Their data also confirmed that the condition was most commonly seen in auction-market-derived cattle and was almost exclusively restricted to the hind feet.

The cause of this condition is still not well understood. The predominant theory is that these animals have had excessive wear of their hoof wall in the toe area, which allows environmental bacteria to penetrate and establish an infection.

Many feedlot workers and veteri-

narians have often commented that the cattle affected with TTNS tend to be wilder and more agitated when handled. While this has not been scientifically proven, it might lend credence to the abrasion theory because wilder animals may tend to scabble and move their back feet across rough surfaces more violently when being handled.

This abrasion theory can't be proven or disproven by this research, but evidence that shows the disease clustering by lot and feedyard could be explained by this theory.

Exposure to abrasive flooring during transportation or at the auction yard or feedlot might be a factor as well.

However, other factors such as hoof hardness perhaps caused by nutritional issues may play a role. Some veterinarians have speculated that standing for prolonged periods may affect blood flow to the hoof and per-

haps cause the white line separation that is seen in the toe area.

A lot of questions remain about TTNS.

It remains a very difficult lameness to treat and often animals must be euthanized because they are non-responsive to therapy.

Anecdotally, it appears feedlot veterinarians and employees have improved their treatment success through early recognition. This early diagnosis is often predicated on a close examination of the hoof and not assuming that a lame animal is affected with foot rot.

Although current research hasn't answered all of the questions about TTNS, this study gives provides baseline data with which to more accurately describe the syndrome.

John Campbell is head of Large Animal Clinical Sciences at the University of Saskatchewan's Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

## HALAL AND KOSHER PRACTICES

## Group working to develop no-stun slaughter standards

BY BARB GLEN  
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

Public consultation is being sought on the practice of slaughtering animals without stunning them first.

Animal slaughter processes for the halal and kosher markets do not allow stunning to comply with religious belief. The market for such meat is growing, but there is no national standard in Canada for acceptable practices.

"What is acceptable can vary between provinces or even among slaughter facilities within the same province," said Jane Pritchard, chair of the group charged with developing standards for slaughter without stunning.

"Provincial, territorial and federal governments have been asked to develop a consistent approach to ensure animal welfare and respect religious requirements," she said in a news release.

A draft of standards so far developed is open for public comment until Jan. 27. It is intended to clarify acceptable practices for halal and kosher animal slaughter.

The draft deals with mammals and birds and gives information on

types of restraint, types of tools to be used and the use of stunning after a lethal cut is administered.

Loss of animals' sensibility, and how to achieve and confirm it, is dealt with in detail.

According to the department of halal certification, stunning is not allowed before slaughter, and a sharp knife must be used by an adult Muslim to sever the windpipe, food tract and jugular veins using one stroke. The name of Allah must be invoked at time of slaughter.

Other rules require that the slaughter take place out of sight of other animals waiting to be slaughtered and that unnecessary suffering of the animal must be avoided.

The process for kosher slaughter is similar. It must be done by a Jewish person trained in the process, but it does not include any religious ceremony or invocation. Electrical shock of the animal before slaughter is prohibited, as is administration of an anesthetic.

The draft code of practice and avenue for providing input can be found at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/swose](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/swose).

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GM TECHNOLOGY

# Public's anti-GMO perception tainted by media, say Green Party, NFU

Organization officials say because they questioned the need for GM food and pushed for scientific testing on its safety, they have been labelled GM opponents



**There's a pretty strong lobby to ridicule people who are concerned about GMOs, We've always had a fairly nuanced position, but that doesn't come out in the media.**

ELIZABETH MAY, GREEN PARTY LEADER

BY RON LYSENG  
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Dozens of Canadian organizations are dedicated to halting the march of genetically modified food with messages from mild skepticism to radically militant and doses of real science sprinkled throughout.

Here's a look at two of the best known: the Green Party and the National Farmers Union.

## GREEN PARTY

Leader Elizabeth May, the party's only MP, says its main concerns are GM labelling, resistance to new GM crops and global food supply.

"We're very concerned about additional products entering the marketplace," she said.

"The farming community has been strongly against genetically modified alfalfa and genetically modified wheat."

May said the Green Party is not as radically militant as it is portrayed in the media, but she conceded that the jury is still out regarding GMOs and their potential impact on human health. She said her party's concern goes beyond human health and extends to future food supplies on a global scale.

"One big concern has to be the security of our global food system," she said.

"Since the beginning of agriculture, farmers have saved their own seeds for the following year. The effect of genetic modification and technology use agreements has been to prevent farmers from saving their own seeds. Is it a good idea for one or two corporations to control all the world's seed?"

She draws a comparison between photocopiers and seeds. When all the photocopiers in the globe were

Xerox, that monopoly was understandable because Xerox invented photocopiers.

Monsanto did not invent seeds, yet it is trying to establish a global monopoly by exerting intellectual property rights over seeds.

"There's a pretty strong lobby to ridicule people who are concerned about GMOs," she said.

"We've always had a fairly nuanced position, but that doesn't come out in the media. Canada suffers from a decline in journalism in all areas. We don't have nearly as many reporters covering agriculture as we once had. They don't have the time to dig into difficult subjects to explain them to the public.

"Some of the anti-GMO groups have hurt their own cause by flaunting words like Frankenfoods. If media are short-staffed, they don't have time to dig into those stories.

"Who wants GMOs? Consumers certainly haven't asked for them. They're not in the farmers' interests. They are only in the interest of Monsanto. So, why are we doing this?"

## NATIONAL FARMERS UNION

The perception that the NFU is anti-GMO is wrong, said Swift Current, Sask., farmer Stewart Wells, who was president of the NFU in 2001 when the Royal Society of Canada released its GMO report.

At that time, Wells presented the NFU's position to the House of Commons agriculture committee.

He said that's exactly when public perceptions began to become twisted. The report lists 58 recommendations upon which the federal government needed to act. Once they had been followed, there

would be no need to label GM foods.

"That was 2001. To this day, the federal government has not acted on even one of those 58 recommendations," said Wells, who added that the federal government turned the recommendations around so the headlines read simply that GM food need not be labelled.

"The statement adopted by our grassroots members said we were not opposed to the science dealing with genetically modified foods. We said the work had to be performed according to what is called precautionary principles.

"Scientists should employ the same precautionary principles Health Canada applies when licensing new drugs, but we dared to ask questions about GMOs, so we were branded way back then as anti-GMO."

The precautionary principle is an approach to risk management that places the burden of proof on the proponents of a policy that is suspected of causing harm but for which there is no scientific consensus.

Wells said the NFU is not using the precautionary principle to prevent GMOs from ever reaching the market.

"When we had these discussions at the grassroots level, the example that came up most often was the pharmaceutical industry," he said.

"Some new drugs are rejected in the testing stage. Others that do pass, do so only after very rigorous

**Scientists should employ the same precautionary principles Health Canada applies when licensing new drugs, but we dared to ask questions about GMOs, so we were branded way back then as anti-GMO.**

STEWART WELLS  
NATIONAL FARMERS UNION FORMER PRESIDENT



testing, but they do pass. Others, like thalidomide, are banned years later when their impact becomes known. That's what we had in mind.

"We just want the highest degree of safety possible using today's best practice testing technologies."

Wells said GMO advocates often use a concept called "substantial equivalents."

If it looks like a potato, then it is a potato. If it looks like an apple, then it is an apple. Substantial equivalents ignore testing the genetic makeup of that potato or apple or canola plant.

"The companies took the idea of substantial equivalents and rammed it down everyone's throats," Wells said.

"That was their big mistake. When they did that, they got push-back from European and North

American consumers who realized this genetically modified apple is a new organism that never before lived on the face of our planet. Why should we accept that it's safe.

"The GMO promoters and our governments were unwilling to do the necessary feeding trials and the exhaustive testing.

Instead, they cite the notion of substantial equivalents. When their tactic became obvious, consumers, farmers and some scientists started to become really suspicious.

"So the next question people asked was, 'who benefits from GMOs.' By now, we see the benefits don't go to the farmer or the consumer. The benefits go to major multinational companies like Monsanto."

ron.lyseng@producer.com

This is a great opportunity to learn from great, powerful women in Ag and other industries. Sometimes it can be easy to forget all the possible connections we can make, so getting into a room with 570+ women really helps! — Jamie Y., Regina, Saskatchewan, AWC Delegate

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FOOD PRODUCTION

# Ontario greenhouses light up

Researchers look at energy efficient lighting to improve yield and quality

BY JEFFREY CARTER  
FOR THE WESTERN PRODUCER

HARROW, Ont. — Ontario's greenhouses are lighting up.

There are 100 acres of tomatoes and cucumbers in the province with supplemental lighting, and researchers are now turning their attention to peppers.

"We've done some preliminary work on peppers, and last year the results were promising, and so we've expanded our research," said Shalin Khosla, the greenhouse vegetable specialist with Ontario's agriculture ministry.

"There are numerous ways of doing this. We think we're getting close to finding the best combination of lights. There's still some fine-tuning to do."

Khosla is working closely with Xiuming Hao, who leads the lighting research at Agriculture Canada's research and development Centre in Harrow.

Hao and Khosla have found that additional lighting within the crop canopy, which is called inter-lighting, improves plant performance and may even deliver crops with higher levels of antioxidants. The latter is being evaluated by Ron Cao of Agriculture Canada in Guelph, Ont.

Three lighting technologies are being used:

- high pressure sodium (HPS)
- plasma
- light-emitting diodes (LED)

The energy efficiency of all three types have been improving, although the newest generation of LEDs remain the industry leader.

The different lighting technologies can be used on their own, but Hao and his associates have found a benefit in using a combination of technologies to deliver the right intensity and type of light.

LEDs, along with being the most energy efficient, can also deliver light in different colours, including red and blue, which best support peak plant growth.

They are typically used for sup-



Shalin Khosla and Xiuming Hao have been working closely together to advance the interests of Canada's greenhouse vegetable growers.

plemental lighting within the canopy, but can also be used as an overhead source.

Supplemental lighting is viewed primarily as a way to allow greenhouse operators in Ontario's northerly latitudes to produce crops when natural sunlight is least available — from October to March.

It's an expensive proposition that will likely require a price premium to be feasible.

However, there are also production advantages in terms of yield, fruit quality and disease management, along with the added benefit of delivering fresh produce to Canadians on the darkest days of the year.

"It comes down to food security," Khosla said.

"If you want year-round production in Ontario, you need lighting."

Tomato production can be increased by as much as 30 percent over the course of the growing season with most of the added production coming in winter. Supplement lighting allows tomato plants to be started in September or October and continue producing until July or August, depending on the season.

It's a similar story with large English type cucumbers. Research shows that overall yield can be close to double with artificial lighting.

A single crop of mini cucumbers planted in September and finished in April under artificial lighting can produce 60 kilograms of fruit per sq. metre and a second 50 kg crop by September. Tradi-

tional mini-cucumber production involves three or four crops over the course of a year that may produce 60 kg per sq. metre.

"It's almost double the yield with lights, and you use less seed and less labour," Khosla said.

He said artificial lighting is combined with high-wire vine management, which normally is used only for peppers and tomatoes.

The lights are turned on around midnight when electricity rates in Ontario are lowest. If it's cloudy, they may be left on past sunrise.

"You're trying to get the day length to 16 to 18 hours, depending on the crop," Khosla said.

Hao and Khosla said Ontario is among the world leaders in greenhouse lighting research, especially when it comes to fruiting crops on which lighting is manipulated for both the leaves and fruit.

Ontario's greenhouse acreage has been in expansion mode for decades. There were about 300 acres in 1991 when Khosla joined the agriculture ministry. Today, it's close to 3,000.



TOP AND ABOVE: Artificial lighting gives green peppers a purple or red hue. It's early days for the lighting pepper research at the Agriculture Canada research centre in Harrow, Ont. It is felt specific lighting can improve production and even optimize the level of antioxidants in mature fruit.

LEFT: Mini cucumbers are exposed to a four-to-one ratio of red and blue lights positioned within the plant canopy.

| JEFFREY CARTER PHOTOS

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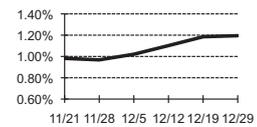
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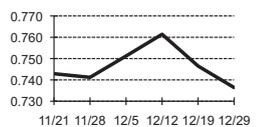
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Dec. 29

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Ships sit at anchor in English Bay outside the Port of Vancouver in November. The port is about to become busier now that G3 Canada has announced it is going ahead with plans to build a grain terminal there. | REUTERS/CHRIS HELGREN PHOTO

GRAIN HANDLING

## G3 west coast terminal on track

Construction is set to begin in March on the grain handling facility at the Port of Vancouver

BY BRIAN CROSS  
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Canadian grain companies continue to pour money into new or expanded export terminals at the Port of Vancouver.

G3 Global Holdings, the parent company of G3 Canada Ltd., announced Dec. 21 that it will go ahead with plans to build a state-of-the-art grain export terminal in North Vancouver.

Construction of G3 Terminal Vancouver will begin in March 2017 with completion scheduled for 2020.

G3 Global Holdings is a limited partnership between the Saudi Agricultural Livestock and Investment Company (SALIC) and Bunge Canada.

It is the parent company of G3 Canada, which controls assets that were formerly owned by the Canadian Wheat Board.

"Our Vancouver terminal is central to G3's vision of a coast-to-coast grain handling network that

sets a new standard in efficiency," G3 chief executive officer Karl Gerard said in a news release.

"We plan to transform the movement of grain through the West Coast, providing Canadian farmers with competitive pricing and reliable delivery opportunities."

G3's western Canadian grain handling network includes close to a dozen primary grain elevators in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

The company's prairie facilities include newly constructed high-throughput concrete elevators at Bloom, Man., Glenlea, Man., Kindersley, Sask., Colonsay, Sask., and Pasqua, Sask.

G3's other assets include port terminals at Thunder Bay, Ont., Trois Rivieres, Que., and Quebec City, and it is also building a port terminal at Hamilton, Ont.

The Vancouver terminal will give G3 its own export facility in Canada's busiest grain port, eliminating the need for G3 Canada to secure export capacity from competing grain companies on Cana-

da's West Coast.

G3 Terminal Vancouver will feature a rail loop track capable of holding three 134-car trains, a component that is unique among existing grain export terminals in Canada.

The facility will include more than 180,000 tonnes of storage and will be able to handle cereal grains, oilseeds, pulses and special crops.

The design will allow prairie grain trains to travel to Vancouver, unload while in continuous motion and travel back to G3 Canada's primary elevators without detaching from their locomotives.

Products that flow through the facility will be supplied via a throughput agreement with G3 Canada Ltd.

G3's facility will be the first new terminal constructed at the Port of Vancouver in nearly 50 years, according to the company.

However, it is the latest in a flurry of capital investments by grain companies that export Canadian

agricultural products.

Earlier in 2016, Viterro Inc. officially opened its expanded Pacific Terminal in Vancouver.

Viterro, a subsidiary of Glencore International, invested more than \$100 million in the west coast terminal and tripled the facility's annual handling capacity to more than six million tonnes.

In May 2016, Richardson International completed a \$140 million expansion of its grain export terminal in North Vancouver.

That expansion added 80,000 tonnes of storage capacity at the facility and boosted total terminal storage to 178,000 tonnes.

And in December 2016, officials with Parrish & Heimbecker Ltd. and Paterson Global Foods confirmed plans to build another new grain export terminal at the Port of Vancouver.

If approved, it would have total storage capacity of nearly 100,000 tonnes.

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### AG STOCKS DEC. 26-29

The TSX composite edged higher but U.S. stock indexes drifted lower in light trade between Christmas and New Year's as traders tempered the market enthusiasm that had run strong upon the election of Donald Trump, with his promises to increase infrastructure spending and cut taxes.

Cdn. exchanges in \$Cdn. U.S. exchanges in \$U.S.

### GRAIN TRADERS

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
ADM	NY	45.36	46.52
AGT Food	TSX	36.75	35.02
Bunge Ltd.	NY	70.83	72.83

### PRAIRIE PORTFOLIO

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
Ceapro Inc.	TSXV	1.74	1.84
Cervus Equip.	TSX	15.99	16.08
Input Capital	TSXV	2.00	2.05
Rocky Mtn D'ship	TSX	9.42	9.52

### FOOD PROCESSORS

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
ConAgra Brands	NY	39.78	38.41
Hormel Foods	NY	35.24	34.63
Lamb Weston	NY	37.77	35.26
Maple Leaf	TSX	28.29	27.99
Premium Brands	TSX	68.88	65.98
Tyson Foods	NY	62.15	62.44

### FARM EQUIPMENT MFG.

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
Ag Growth Int'l	TSX	53.00	53.01
AGCO Corp.	NY	58.05	58.23
Buhler Ind.	TSX	4.50	4.51
Caterpillar Inc.	NY	93.29	92.58
CNH Industrial	NY	8.64	8.61
Deere and Co.	NY	103.21	101.76
Agrium	TSX	136.32	133.28

### FARM INPUT SUPPLIERS

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
BASF	OTC	92.15	91.21
Bayer Ag	OTC	103.57	102.39
Dow Chemical	NY	57.42	58.41
Dupont	NY	73.81	74.86
BioSynt Inc.	TSXV	8.00	7.80
Monsanto	NY	105.10	105.50
Mosaic	NY	29.33	29.56
PotashCorp	TSX	24.59	24.08
Syngenta	ADR	79.29	80.01

### TRANSPORTATION

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
CN Rail	TSX	91.84	89.51
CPR	TSX	193.20	193.73

List courtesy of Ian Morrison, financial adviser with the Calgary office of Raymond James Ltd., member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund. The listed equity prices included were obtained from Thomson Reuters. The data listed in this list has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Within the last 12 months, Raymond James Ltd. has undertaken an underwriting liability or has provided advice for a fee with respect to the securities of AGT Food. For more information, Morrison can be reached at 403-221-0396 or 1-877-264-0333.

HUDSON BAY RAIL LINE

## Agreement reached in Port of Churchill's potential sale

COMMODITY NEWS SERVICE CANADA

WINNIPEG — Ownership of the Hudson Bay rail line and shuttered Port of Churchill may change soon.

The port's current owners and a collection of northern First Nations have inked a formal agreement, according to a company news release.

Omnitrax, the rail company that currently owns the northern Manitoban port, has signed a memorandum of understanding regarding the potential sale and ownership

transfer to the Missinippi Rail Consortium.

This step comes after a year of due diligence and the signal from the consortium that it intends to move forward, a statement from Omnitrax said.

The consortium is now able to negotiate with vendors ahead of the 2017 grain season.

The deal is non-binding and the sale remains subject to scrutiny from the federal government.

Ottawa is still looking at supporting the transaction, but in the

**We are grateful that Omnitrax Canada believes in our process and our people and is willing to get started now.**

ARLEN DUMAS  
MATHIAS COLOMB FIRST NATION CHIEF

meantime the 2017 grain season hangs in the balance, as does the continued shipment of freight through the North, the statement

said. It's not yet clear how many, or which, First Nations are part of the consortium, but Mathias Colomb First Nation made an offer to buy the port in the past.

The consortium is still open to other members.

"We are grateful that Omnitrax Canada believes in our process and our people and is willing to get started now," Mathias Colomb Chief Arlen Dumas said in a news release.

"Ensuring First Nations ownership in these assets is a vital part

of ensuring long-term viability in the North. Now we need the Government of Canada to complete their review so that this process can be concluded as soon as possible."

Omnitrax has owned the port for nearly 15 years but laid off a number of staff and closed the port ahead of the 2016 grain handling season.

The rail line now provides freight service to Churchill once a week, compared with twice a week previously.

## LEADERSHIP

# Employees will tell you if you are a leader or a boss

## PERSPECTIVES ON MANAGEMENT



TERRY BETKER

This past year wasn't an easy one for a lot of reasons. That's the common theme in talking to farmers.

Sure, some areas fared better than others, but many dealt with a long and drawn out harvest. The fact that there is still crop that hasn't been harvested sums it up.

A farm I had the opportunity to visit one day really late in November still had about 600 acres left to combine. They use one combine. It was a cool morning, but the forecast was pretty good.

In fact, there appeared to be a string of good harvest days ahead. However, late November is not prime for combining. Shorter daylight and sudden changes to the forecast are realities.

It was later in the morning when I arrived. I know the farm and family really well. The farmer and his spouse farm with their mid-20s daughter. They use casual labour as required and as people are available after working their day jobs. They make it work.

The farmer and spouse were working on adapting a different drive to their header when I arrived. I didn't expect that any of the casual people would be there helping but wondered where the daughter was, so I asked. The answer was that she was getting her hair cut.

Six hundred acres left to combine, late in November with some fairly significant repairs needed before any combining was going to happen that afternoon and the main employee was getting a hair cut.

I'm thinking that things have changed just a bit on the farm.

It didn't appear to be a big deal to the farmer: no complaining, no judging. It was just what was happening that morning.

I think that, for many farms and farm families, understanding how leadership applies to and affects farm business performance and the relationships that exist within the family and/or employees is becoming increasingly important.

Many farm families have goals of transitioning the ownership and management of their farm to the next generation. This usually includes the need to expand the business so that it is able to provide a standard of living for another family unit.

Growth is also required for the next generation to be able to actively participate in a management function, typically with some responsibility and related accountability.

Business activity on farms needs to increase to meet both requirements. For this and other reasons, farms are getting bigger.

What is becoming more and more important as farm families work toward their future is understanding how their leadership capacity, or the lack of it, will affect their desired outcomes.



Some employees do what the boss tells them, while others, who feel they are part of a team, do what their leader tells them. | FILE PHOTO

Not all farms are the same. Not all farms are at the same stage in their development. As a result, not all

farms have the same need when it comes to leadership. The need is specific to where the farm and farm

family are at in their business and personal life cycles.

The farm family I introduced at the beginning of this column is a modest-sized, average operation. Their need for leadership is quite different from a 10,000 acre plus operation. They intend to pass on the farm to the next generation.

Leadership will affect how successful they are at working toward that strategy.

My take-away from the haircut story is clear evidence of an application of leadership. In this case, the farmer and spouse were demonstrating to their daughter that other things are important besides crop in the field.

Getting employees on a 10,000 acre farm to work through a long

and difficult harvest — to put in extra time or work in extraordinary conditions — is a different function of leadership.

Someone once told me that the difference between being a leader and a boss can be thought of in terms of how employees perform. Employees who work for a "boss" do their jobs because they are told to do them.

Employees who work for a "leader" do their jobs because they have "bought into" what it is they believe the farm and farm family are working toward. It is a subtle but potentially powerful difference.

Terry Betker is a farm management consultant based in Winnipeg. He can be reached at 204-782-8200 or [terry.betker@backswath.com](mailto:terry.betker@backswath.com).

## CANADA'S LARGEST INDOOR FARM SHOW



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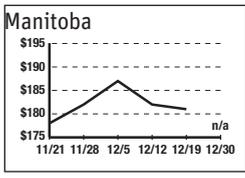
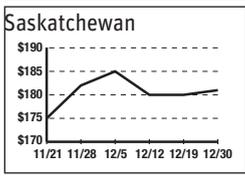
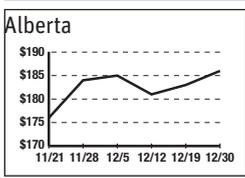


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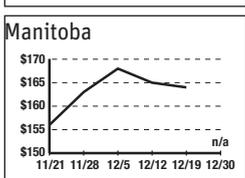
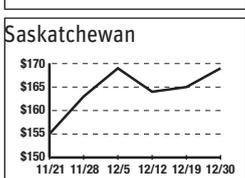
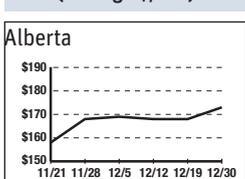


# CATTLE & SHEEP

## Steers 600-700 lb. (average \$/cwt)



## Heifers 500-600 lb. (average \$/cwt)



## Canadian Beef Production

million lb.	YTD	% change
Fed	1,947.8	+9
Non-fed	294.2	+17
Total beef	2,242.0	+10

Canfax

### EXCHANGE RATE DEC. 29

\$1 Cdn. = \$0.7364 U.S.  
\$1 U.S. = \$1.3580 Cdn.

## Slaughter Cattle (\$/cwt)

Grade A	Live		Previous Dec 9 - Dec 15	Year ago	Rail		Previous Dec 9 - Dec 15
	Dec 23 - Dec 29	Dec 23 - Dec 29			Dec 23 - Dec 29	Dec 23 - Dec 29	
<b>Steers</b>							
Alta.	153.00-155.00	153.75-154.00	161.11	161.11	257.00	255.00-258.50	255.00-258.50
Ont.	114.21-138.19	124.96-137.39	157.56	157.56	228.00-240.00	228.00-240.00	228.00-240.00
<b>Heifers</b>							
Alta.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ont.	121.85-137.27	121.97-139.56	155.85	155.85	227.00-240.00	227.00-237.00	227.00-237.00

\*Live f.o.b. feedlot, rail f.o.b. plant. Canfax

## Feeder Cattle (\$/cwt)

	Sask.				Man.				Alta.				B.C.			
	900-1000	800-900	700-800	600-700	900-1000	800-900	700-800	600-700	900-1000	800-900	700-800	600-700	900-1000	800-900	700-800	600-700
<b>Steers</b>	no sales	no sales	160-172	no sales	no sales	no sales	160-172	no sales	no sales	no sales	160-172	no sales	no sales	no sales	160-172	no sales
<b>Heifers</b>	no sales	no sales	167-177	no sales	no sales	no sales	167-177	no sales	no sales	no sales	167-177	no sales	no sales	no sales	167-177	no sales

## Average Carcass Weight

	YTD 16				YTD 15			
	Dec 17/16	Dec 19/15	YTD 16	YTD 15	Dec 17/16	Dec 19/15	YTD 16	YTD 15
Canfax	929	936	920	894	844	868	842	822
Steers	844	868	842	822	699	722	749	723
Heifers	699	722	749	723	992	1,003	1,016	1,004
Cows	992	1,003	1,016	1,004				
Bulls								

## U.S. Cash cattle (\$/cwt)

	Steers		Heifers	
	Dec 29	Dec 23	Dec 29	Dec 23
Slaughter cattle (35-65% choice)				
National	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kansas	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nebraska	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nebraska (dressed)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Feeders No. 1 (800-900 lb)</b>				
South Dakota	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Billings	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dodge City	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

## Cattle / Beef Trade

	Exports		% from 2015	
	Dec 29	Dec 23	Dec 29	Dec 23
Sltr. cattle to U.S. (head)	547,120 (1)	547,120 (1)	+15.4	+15.4
Feeder C&C to U.S. (head)	176,118 (1)	176,118 (1)	-38.6	-38.6
Total beef to U.S. (tonnes)	229,796 (3)	229,796 (3)	+18.0	+18.0
Total beef, all nations (tonnes)	301,541 (3)	301,541 (3)	+13.1	+13.1
<b>Imports</b>				
Sltr. cattle from U.S. (head)	n/a (2)	n/a (2)	n/a	n/a
Feeder C&C from U.S. (head)	17,493 (2)	17,493 (2)	-39.9	-39.9
Total beef from U.S. (tonnes)	119,503 (4)	119,503 (4)	-2.7	-2.7
Total beef, all nations (tonnes)	182,034 (4)	182,034 (4)	-7.0	-7.0

(1) to Dec 10/16 (2) to Oct 31/16 (3) to Oct 31/16 (4) to Dec 17/16  
Agriculture Canada

## Cattle Slaughter

To Dec 23	Fed. inspections only	
	Canada	U.S.
To date 2016	2,569,080	28,970,445
To date 2015	2,398,656	27,227,002
% Change 16/15	+7.1	+6.4

## Chicago Futures (\$/cwt)

	Close		Trend	Year ago
	Dec 29	Dec 16		
<b>Live Cattle</b>				
Feb	117.950	115.35	+2.600	136.43
Apr	115.750	113.60	+2.150	137.43
Jun	105.350	104.25	+1.100	127.45
Aug	100.950	99.75	+1.200	123.73
Oct	100.475	118.70	-18.225	124.60
<b>Feeder Cattle</b>				
Jan	131.925	129.90	+2.025	167.63
Mar	126.800	126.30	+0.500	164.68
Apr	126.325	125.60	+0.725	164.48
May	125.025	124.15	+0.875	164.23
Aug	125.025	124.48	+0.545	165.80

## Beef Cutout (\$/cwt)

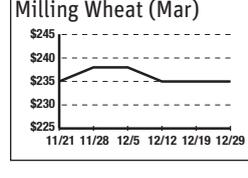
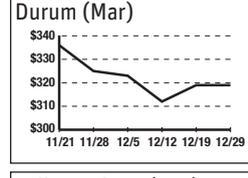
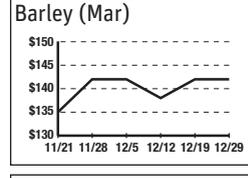
	Dec 29		Dec 23		Yr. ago
	Dec 29	Dec 23	Dec 29	Dec 23	
US Choice (uss)	197.61	193.46	197.63	197.63	197.63
Cdn AAA (cs)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

## Sheep (\$/lb.) & Goats (\$/head)

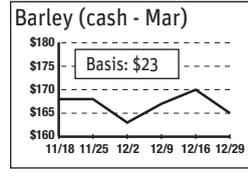
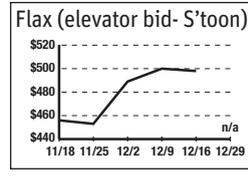
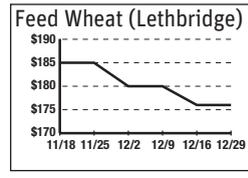
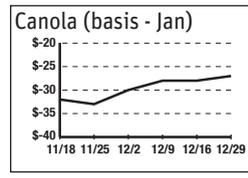
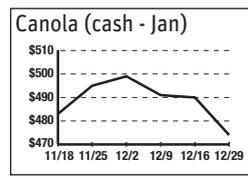
	Dec 19		Dec 12	
	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 19	Dec 12
<b>Wool sheep</b>				
55-69 lb	1.96-2.40	1.96-2.40	1.96-2.40	1.96-2.40
70-85 lb	1.86-2.26	1.86-2.16	1.86-2.16	1.86-2.16
86-105 lb	1.80-2.13	1.80-1.97	1.80-1.97	1.80-1.97
> 106 lb	1.70-1.90	1.70-1.85	1.70-1.85	1.70-1.85
<b>Beaver Hill Auction Services Ltd.</b>				
<b>New lambs</b>				
65-80 lb	2.00-3.55	2.65-4.08	2.65-4.08	2.65-4.08
80-95 lb	2.13-3.07	2.22-3.00	2.22-3.00	2.22-3.00
> 95 lb	1.81-2.30	2.10-2.29	2.10-2.29	2.10-2.29
> 110 lb	1.84-2.17	2.00-2.26	2.00-2.26	2.00-2.26
<b>Feeder lambs</b>				
1.77-2.00	1.95-2.15	1.95-2.15	1.95-2.15	1.95-2.15
<b>Sheep</b>				
1.60-2.10	1.50-2.20	1.50-2.20	1.50-2.20	1.50-2.20
<b>Rams</b>				
1.40-1.60	1.40-1.60	1.40-1.60	1.40-1.60	1.40-1.60
<b>Kids</b>				
75-165	75-155	75-155	75-155	75-155
<b>Ontario Stockyards Inc.</b>				
<b>Shipping December</b>				
Wool lambs <80 lb	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90
Wool lambs 81-95 lb	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
Wool lambs 96-115 lb	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75
Hair lambs <95 lb	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70

# GRAINS

## ICE Futures Canada

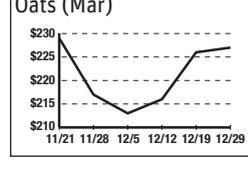
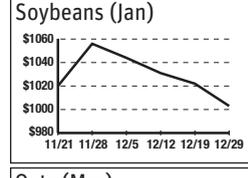
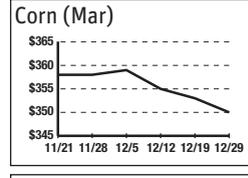


## Cash Prices

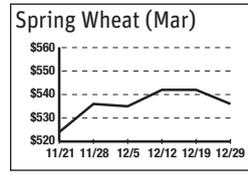


Canola and barley are basis par region. Feed wheat basis Lethbridge. Basis is best bid.

## Chicago Nearby Futures (\$/100 bu.)



## Minneapolis Nearby Futures (\$/100bu.)



## Pulse and Special Crops

Source: STAT Publishing, which solicits bids from Maviga N.A., Legumex Walker, CGF Brokerage, Parrish & Heimbecker, Simpson Seeds and Alliance Grain Traders. Prices paid for dressed product at plant.

	Dec 29	Dec 16	Nov 25
Laird lentils, No. 1 (c/lb)	69.00	68.00	66.00
Laird lentils, Xtra 3 (c/lb)	52.00	51.00	51.00
Richlea lentils, No. 1 (c/lb)	60.00	56.00	56.00
Eston lentils, No. 1 (c/lb)	68.00	68.00	64.00
Eston lentils, Xtra 3 (c/lb)	50.00	49.00	44.00
Sm. Red lentils, No. 2 (c/lb)	30.00	32.50	34.00
Sm. Red lentils, Xtra 3 (c/lb)	27.00	29.00	29.00
Peas, green No. 1 (\$/bu)	9.50	9.50	9.00
Peas, large, yellow No. 1 (\$/bu)	9.00	9.00	8.75
Peas, sm. yellow No. 2 (\$/bu)	9.00	9.00	8.75
Feed peas (\$/bu)	6.85	6.85	7.10
Maple peas (\$/bu)	15.00	15.00	14.50
Mustard, yellow, No. 1 (c/lb)	31.00	31.00	29.00
Mustard, Oriental, No. 1 (c/lb)	31.00	31.00	29.00
Mustard, Brown, No. 1 (c/lb)	33.00	33.00	31.00
Canaryseed (c/lb)	23.50	25.00	25.00
Desi chickpeas (c/lb)	35.00	35.00	35.00
Kabuli, 8mm, No. 1 (\$/mt)	1,433.00	1,433.00	1,433.00
Kabuli, 7mm, No. 1 (\$/mt)	1,234.60	925.90	925.90
B-90 ckpeas, No. 1 (\$/mt)	1,278.70	992.10	992.10

## Cash Prices

	Dec 29	Dec 14	Year Ago
No. 3 Oats Saskatoon (\$/tonne)	n/a	178.07	154.68
Snlfrw NuSun Enderlin ND (c/lb)	14.70	14.65	16.65

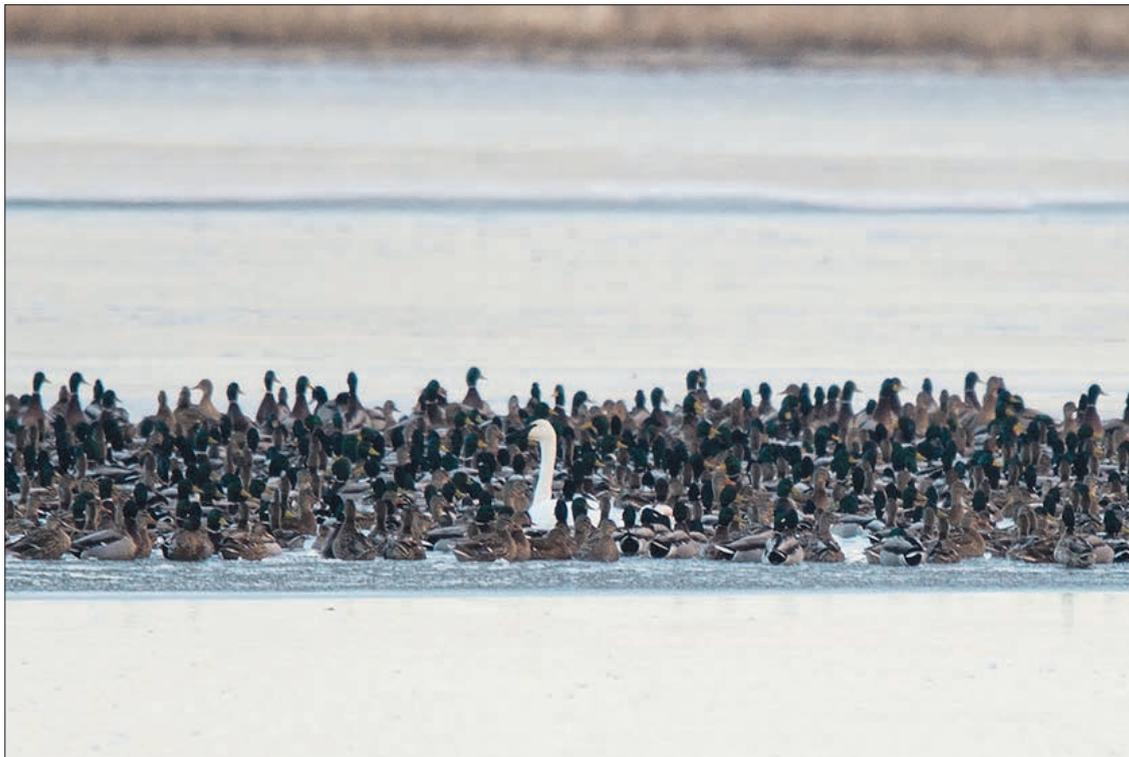
## U.S. Grain Cash Prices (\$/bu.)

USDA	Dec 29
No. 1 DNS (14%) Montana elevator	4.89
No. 1 DNS (13%) Montana elevator	4.43
No. 1 Durum (13%) Montana elevator	6.28
No. 1 Malt barley Montana elevator	3.24
No. 2 Feed barley Montana elevator	2.04

## Grain Futures

	Dec 29	Dec 19	Trend	Year ago
<b>Wpg ICE Canola (\$/tonne)</b>				
Jan	496.00	517.50	-21.50	473.80
Mar	503.70	525.70	-22.00	481.90
May	510.70	530.50	-19.80	487.20
Jul	515.50	532.70	-17.20	489.90
<b>Wpg ICE Milling Wheat (\$/tonne)</b>				
Mar	235.00	235.00	0.00	230.00
May	238.00	238.00	0.00	234.00
Jul	239.00	239.00	0.00	239.00
<b>Wpg ICE Durum Wheat (\$/tonne)</b>				
Mar	319.00	319.00	0.00	316.00
May	322.00	322.00	0.00	324.00
<b>Wpg ICE Barley (\$/tonne)</b>				
Mar	142.00	142.00	0.00	184.00
May	144.00	144.00	0.00	190.00
<b>Chicago Wheat (\$/bu.)</b>				
Mar	4.0475	4.0500	-0.0025	4.5825
May	4.1775	4.1750	+0.0025	4.6450
Jul	4.3175	4.3125	+0.0050	4.7225
Sep	4.4550	4.4500	+0.0050	4.8200

**A STANDOUT** | A trumpeter swan feeds in a strip of open water taken over by mostly mallard ducks on a frozen slough near Brant, Alta. | MIKE STURK PHOTO



# THE WESTERN PRODUCER

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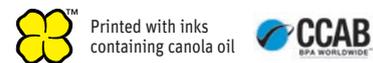
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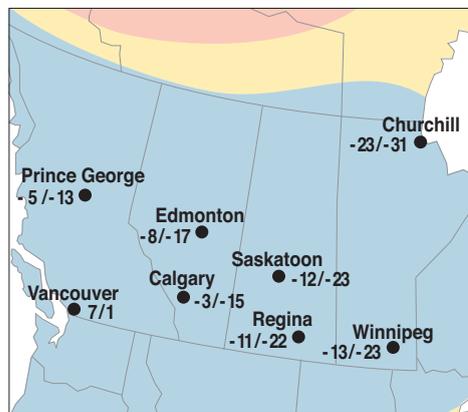
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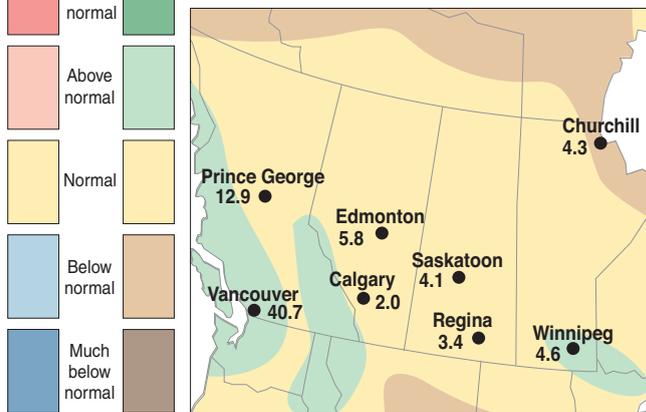


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**TEMPERATURE FORECAST**  
 Jan. 5 - 11 (in °C)



**PRECIPITATION FORECAST**  
 Jan. 5 - 11 (in mm)



The numbers on the above maps are average temperature and precipitation figures for the forecast week, based on historical data from 1971-2000. Maps provided by WeatherTec Services: www.weather Tec.mb.ca n/a = not available; tr = trace; 1 inch = 25.4 millimetres (mm)

**WEATHER DATA WAS UNAVAILABLE THIS WEEK**

WEATHER CONDITIONS

## New forecast points to slow spring next year for Prairies

**BY SEAN PRATT**  
 SASKATOON NEWSROOM

CHICAGO, Ill. — Forecasters thought La Nina would be the major weather factor in 2017, but its looking more like La Nada, says Bryce Anderson, DTN's senior agricultural meteorologist.

The Australian Bureau of Meteorology says the likelihood of a La Nina developing is now low. That viewpoint is shared by the U.S. National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center, which is forecasting neutral conditions from January through March.

That opens the door for what Anderson calls the B-team of weather influencers: the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) and Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO).

The PDO switched to a negative value in the fall of 2016, while the AMO has been positive since 1998.

That combination of a negative PDO and positive AMO results in a tendency for drier conditions over much of the U.S. grain belt during the summer.

Anderson told delegates attending the 2016 DTN Ag Summit that it is more of a cautionary note than a forecast.

He believes it will be drier than normal starting in Missouri and Illinois and heading south into the U.S. Delta and the southeastern United States.

"I don't think we're going to have a big problem. I think trend line yields are certainly achievable," said Anderson.

However, there will be times throughout the late spring and early summer when markets become nervous enough about conditions that they will cause price rallies.

Anderson is forecasting a cold winter in the Canadian Prairies as well as the U.S. northern Plains and

corn belt. That is because a large area of high pressure has set up over Alaska and north into the Bering Sea, which is blocking the westerly flow of Pacific Ocean air into North America and opening the door for Arctic air to descend south.

It means there could be a slow start to spring fieldwork if the cold conditions persist. He is also forecasting a stormy and wet spring for the U.S. and Western Canada.

"We're going to start out with a wetter scenario in the (Canadian) Prairies than we'd like to see," Anderson said in an interview fol-

lowing his presentation.

The slow start to the season could make markets antsy, resulting in a spring price rally.

Anderson believes temperatures will be below normal this spring and summer in Western Canada as ample soil moisture reserves act as a thermostat, keeping the hot weather at bay.

It is drier south of the border, where 57 percent of the U.S. is experiencing some level of drought compared to 37 percent at the same time last year.

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