

What's in a name?

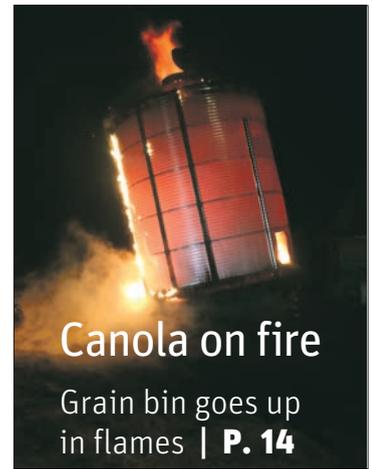
Food labelling can get tricky when it comes to GMOs | **P. 38**

Genomic prediction

Making beef breeding a more exact science | **P. 63**

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Canola on fire

Grain bin goes up in flames | **P. 14**

MOVING LIVESTOCK

Animal transport regulations updated



Cattle are loaded onto trucks after an auction sale at the Southern Alberta Livestock Exchange in Fort Macleod, Alta., earlier this fall. The federal government recently posted regulations that would toughen the rules for transporting livestock. | BARB GLEN PHOTO

Proposals will shorten transit times

BY BARB GLEN
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

Shorter times in transit for livestock are among the proposals in new regulations posted for public comment Dec. 3 by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

About 700 million animals are transported each year, a figure that includes mostly poultry but also cattle, pigs, horses, sheep and goats.

The CFIA said in background information accompanying the proposed changes that about two percent of animal shipments do not comply with current regulations on transport time, loading and unloading.

That means about 14 million animals could potentially suffer during transportation, and 1.59 million would be dead on arrival.

"Given the strong public support for preventing the suffering of animals and the risk to human and animal health, this must be addressed," the CFIA said in its background data.

The changes proposed would amend the Health of Animals Act. Transport regulations in that act

SEE TRANSPORT, PAGE 5 >>

PESTICIDES

Neonics lower in grain regions

Hazardous levels of imidacloprid found near Ontario fruit and vegetable production but lower levels of thiamethoxam and clothianidin in corn and soybean regions

BY ROBERT ARNASON
BRANDON BUREAU

Neonicotinoids are present in streams and waterways throughout southern Ontario, says a new report from Environment Canada.

However, regions with intensive horticultural production, such as southwestern Ontario and the Niagara region, are the only parts of the province with hazardous levels of the insecticides in water.

The concentrations of neonicotinoids in water are much lower in areas where corn and soybeans dominate.

Environment Canada tested sur-

WHAT IS A NANOGRAM?

A nanogram (ng) is one billionth of a gram. If a sample of water has 400 ng per litre of water, it's equivalent to .4 parts per billion (p.p.b.). A sample that is 1,300 ng per litre would be 1.3 p.p.b.

One way to envision p.p.b is to think of one drop of ink in a gasoline tanker truck. That would be about 1.0 p.p.b of ink.

Source: National Environment Services Center at West Virginia University

face water in Ontario for five neonicotinoids from 2012-14, including thiamethoxam and clothianidin,

which are used as seed treatments on corn and soybeans.

The average surface water concentrations of those neonicotinoids were typically 10 to 30 nanograms per litre in regions of Ontario where corn and soybeans are the primary crops.

The levels were well below the safety benchmark of 230 nanograms per litre.

John Struger, an Environment Canada scientist and lead author of the report, said it's unlikely that detected levels of thiamethoxam and clothianidin are threats to aquatic life.

"Mean concentrations in tens of

nanograms, I don't think we're seeing that (is) killing all these aquatic invertebrates."

In a paper that will soon be published in the journal *Chemosphere*, Struger and other researchers reported that high levels of imidacloprid, another neonicotinoid, were found in surface water in parts of Ontario, specifically areas with intensive vegetable, orchard and grape production.

"At two sites in southwestern Ontario, the Canadian federal freshwater guideline value for imidacloprid (230 nanograms per litre)

SEE NEONIC, PAGE 4 >>



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Early warning: B.C. researchers look for the avian flu virus in wetland sediment using genomics. See page 61. | B.C. AG MINISTRY PHOTO

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CORRECTIONS

In a graphic on page 8 of the Dec. 8 issue, the chart on the right should have been labelled "Top 10 ag importers in 2015." A mugshot that ran with a story on page 3 of the Dec. 8 issue was not of the Bill Ross who is executive director of Manitoba Canola Growers.

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FEATURES



BACKSTAGE AT AGRIBITION
There's plenty of preparation before the show ring — and some chores require getting down and dirty. Really dirty.



HARVEST HARDSHIP
By anyone's measure the harvest of 2016 has been one of the toughest on record. We'd like to put together a collection of harvest hardship stories. Care to share yours?



FARM FINANCES POLL
A financial analyst says American farmers could face a financial storm as weak crop prices fail to cover costs. How do things look on your farm?

VIDEOS

DRAINAGE DRONES
Green Aero Tech's interface enables landowners to identify areas requiring drainage.



FARM FORUM EVENT
WP reporter Robin Booker talks with some of the featured presenters at FFE 2016.



PLUS: This year's harvest was tough. Share your harvest horror stories, photos and videos with us here at bit.ly/2gzmgBP.

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TUBERCULOSIS INVESTIGATION

Elusive bacteria frustrates CFIA

The strain is difficult to find and grows slowly

BY BARBARA DUCKWORTH
CALGARY BUREAU

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency may have its best people working on the current case of bovine tuberculosis, but officials admit it is a complex investigation into a confounding bacteria.

"If we tried to create a more perfect bug that we couldn't get rid of, this one would be the one," said veterinarian Dr. Rick James-Davies, CFIA regional director for the West.

Eighty people from the agency's Calgary office are working on the southeastern Alberta case, and 40 are involved from Ottawa, said James-Davies.

Canada has had tuberculosis free status since 1923, but cases occasionally appear. Trading partners expect a complete investigation and enhanced surveillance when cases are found, he told the Alberta Beef Producers annual meeting, which was held Dec. 5-7 in Calgary.

Surveillance normally takes place at federal plants during animal inspection after slaughter. The original case reported in September was detected in a five-year-old Alberta cow shipped to a packing plant in the United States.

As of Dec. 7, 26,000 cattle were under quarantine on 50 farms in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Of those, 18 have been declared high risk because they were in close proximity to the source animal at some point.

"We expect that 50 number to change. We will certainly find some others, and I hope they are the low-risk ones," said James-Davies.

Testing is ongoing and should finish in early January, said Dr. Harpreet Kochhar, the CFIA's chief veterinarian.

The bacteria is hard to find even with advanced testing.

It is called mycobacterium bovis and is one of many strains of mycobacteria that cause human tuberculosis, John's disease and leprosy. It is contagious and takes a long time before symptoms occur. It also requires direct contact among animals, said Karen Schmid, a beef production specialist with Alberta Beef Producers.

Once the disease has progressed, it can form nodular lesions known as tubercles, which can move through the lymphatic system and remain dormant in the body until the immune system breaks down. In an advanced case, the animal may display a loss of appetite, weight loss, fluctuating fever and cough.

DNA testing showed that the strain found in Alberta is related to one that emerged in cattle in central Mexico in 1997. It has never been identified in Canadian livestock or wildlife but has been found in the United States.

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HOME FOR WINTER



Alicia Ericson and her horse, Alie, helped bring home the cows from fall pasture near Huxley, Alta., but this Shorthorn proved to have plans of its own. | JOANN WINTHER PHOTO

TUBERCULOSIS REPERCUSSIONS

Alberta ranchers lament loss of herds

Under the TB quarantine, 18 ranchers will see their entire herds destroyed

BY BARBARA DUCKWORTH
CALGARY BUREAU

An uncertain future looms over a community of southern Alberta ranchers whose operations are in quarantine because of bovine tuberculosis.

"I had no knowledge or inkling about TB and never thought I could end up with such a wreck," said Brad Osadczuk, whose cow was the original animal diagnosed with the infectious disease in early September.

His ranch near Jenner is among the 50 that are under quarantine. Producers do not know when the quarantine will be lifted or how they will rebuild their cattle herds, which took generations to develop.

"These herds have literally descended from 100 years ago," Osadczuk said.

"We take pride in the bloodlines and the cattle and the breeding programs that we built up over the last three generations. You just don't go to town and buy a new one."

Harpreet Kochhar, chief veterinarian with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, said the first priority is tracing the disease and making sure it is not spreading.

"Once the animals are destroyed, we want to make sure that there is no residual infection staying in the herd or in the premise," he said Dec. 7.

"A proper cleaning and disinfection will be the next logical step.

Beyond that, a risk assessment will be done to determine when restocking of that herd can be done."

Financial worries dominate the ranchers' lives.

About 10,000 animals will be destroyed at designated plants, and they will be closely inspected for disease. Some may be cleared as fit for human consumption, but

These herds have literally descended from 100 years ago. We take pride in the bloodlines and the cattle and the breeding programs that we built up over the last three generations. You just don't go to town and buy a new one.

BRAD OSADZUK
ALBERTA RANCHER

others may be rendered.

Osadczuk's 1,200 Red Angus-Simmental cross cow herd will be destroyed, and he has lost the income expected from contracted calf sales in the fall.

He does not have an off-farm job and has already met with his banker to get loan extensions with no sense of when he can pay it back.

"Our factory is gone. There is no compensation for that," he said. A CFIA formula pays a maxi-

mum of \$4,500 for a commercial animal, but he is being offered current market value of around \$2,000 per head.

The federal government also announced cash advances and money through AgriRecovery totalling \$16.7 million.

Producers can use the AgriRecovery money for feeding, watering and corral building, but Osadczuk said it is not enough.

"My 1,200 cow ranch is going to eat up 10 percent of that, so the 18 depopulated ranches will take all that money that we need to live on for the next year and a half," he said.

Kevin Stopanski's herd is considered low risk, but he has not been able to do business since his ranch was quarantined in October. He has talked with his banker, but he has no idea about final costs because it depends on how long the quarantine and restrictions last.

"There are 32 ranchers who have to maintain their cattle and calves," he said.

"I have to maintain my calves, probably until the first of March because my reactors have not been dealt with yet," he said.

The affected ranchers want to protect their property rights and ensure they are treated fairly.

"As a group, we have got some legal counsel. We need to make sure we are covering all our bases," said Osadczuk.

Both men are well connected in the beef industry. Osadczuk is a

director with Alberta Beef Producers and Stopanski is a delegate representing Zone 1 in the south-east.

"So far we are trusting the people in the industry who are helping us out," said Stopanski.

Considerable debate during the Dec. 5-7 ABP annual meeting in Calgary produced three resolutions seeking help for those affected as well as a push for improved communication and better emergency plans.

One resolution asked that bridge financing be made available to affected premises in the event of a CFIA imposed quarantine. The money would be used to cover costs incurred throughout the quarantine period and ensuing restriction period.

"One of the problems that happened at Jenner was the lack of a process in place to get money to these guys in a timely manner," said ABP chair Bob Lowe.

Another motion asked for improved compensation that reflects the interruption of business for the length of the quarantine until ensuing restrictions are lifted.

"The CFIA regulations don't compensate anything more than for market price of the animal and not for how long they are putting us out of business," said Osadczuk. Another resolution requested better emergency plans so the CFIA can respond better when these diseases emerge.

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NEONIC CONTAMINATION

» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was exceeded in roughly 75 percent of the (water) samples collected," the report said.

Environment Canada staff tested surface water at 15 sites in Ontario for three years in an effort to monitor neonicotinoids in creeks near agricultural land.

Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency asked Environment Canada to collect the data because it wanted more information on neonicotinoids, commonly known as neonics.

The Environment Canada data had an impact.

In late November, the PMRA announced a plan to phase out the use of imidacloprid in Canada over the next three to five years. Health Canada said the chemical is putting aquatic insects at risk and may be jeopardizing birds and other species that rely on those insects for food.

Scott Kirby, the PMRA's director general for environmental assessment, said data from provincial and federal departments was pivotal in Health Canada's decision to ban imidacloprid, which was once the most popular insecticide in the world.

"Those studies have measured levels of imidacloprid in aquatic systems adjacent to agricultural areas that are well above the benchmarks that we consider protective to aquatic life."

In addition to the proposed ban, Health Canada announced a special review of thiamethoxam and clothianidin to evaluate the risk to aquatic insects.

Neonics are applied as seed treatment to almost all of the corn and canola planted in North America and a portion of soybean acres.

Imidacloprid is applied to many crops, but in Canada is primarily used in fruit, vegetable, potato, tomato and greenhouse production.

Environment Canada scientists detected neonics at all 15 test sites in Ontario.

"We were concerned, or surprised, by how widespread the occurrence of them (is)," Struger said.

"As a class of insecticides, we did not see such widespread distribution of say the organophosphate insecticides."

Struger, who retires from Environment Canada at the end of December, said the relationship between horticulture production and imidacloprid levels in surface water was striking.

"When you look at the data, the imidacloprid data stands out more than the thiamethoxam and clothianidin data."

However, the science around the safety threshold of 230 nanograms per litre is not settled.

As well, the presence of multiple neonics in the same water body is concerning.

"Often we would see a couple of these compounds in the same (water) sample," Struger said.

"Their mode of action we think is similar in how ... it would affect an aquatic invertebrate, but nobody really knows about the synergistic effects of multiple exposures."

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SAYIN' HOWDY | Soon-to-be two-year-old Shade Flundra scales a fence to visit with his farm friends while his mom does the evening chores on the Shoderee Ranch south of Twin Butte, Alta. | KEVIN LINK PHOTO

PESTICIDES

Greenhouse connection to neonic contamination disputed

BY ROBERT ARNASON
BRANDON BUREAU

The area around Leamington, Ont., has a large number of greenhouses.

Environment Canada believes those greenhouses, which produce vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers, are contributing to high levels of insecticides in surface water in the surrounding area.

Environment Canada scientists collected surface water samples from 15 locations across Ontario in 2012-14, including a creek and a drain near Leamington.

The scientists were monitoring the water for neonicotinoids, such as imidacloprid, which is applied to fruit and vegetable crops in Canada.

The Sturgeon Creek test site near Leamington in southwestern Ontario had an average imidacloprid concentration of 1,390 nanograms per litre, more than five times the government threshold of 230 nanograms per litre.

While historically there have been cross connections, modern vegetable greenhouses operate on a closed loop system.

JUSTINE TAYLOR
ONT. GREENHOUSE VEGETABLE GROWERS

The same site had a maximum detection of 10,400 nanograms per litre.

"This area of southern Ontario is also home to the largest concentration of commercial greenhouses in North America," said an Environment Canada study on neonicotinoids in surface water in Ontario, which is available online at www.sciencedirect.com.

"In addition, 4.6 percent of the Sturgeon Creek watershed is dedicated to field tomato production."

Environment Canada also

detected high levels of imidacloprid in a creek in the Niagara region, home to vineyards and orchards that rely on the insecticide.

As well, the study said the presence of imidacloprid in surface water was "strongly correlated with greenhouse activity, vegetables and other agriculture including vineyards and orchards."

An Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers spokesperson said imidacloprid is used as drench on greenhouse tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers, but it can be used only once per growing season.

"Most greenhouse vegetable farmers invest heavily in biocontrols, good bugs to eat the bad bugs," said Justine Taylor, science and government relations manager with the vegetable growers association.

"Imidacloprid is very tough on biocontrols, so it would be used as a last resort."

It's not clear that insecticides applied in a greenhouse are

responsible for high levels in local streams because many crops are grown in the area around Leamington.

"It would be difficult to pinpoint the source without further analysis," Taylor said.

"While historically there have been cross connections, modern vegetable greenhouses operate on a closed loop system."

The PMRA has proposed a ban on all agricultural uses of imidacloprid in Canada because of potential risks to aquatic insects.

However, if the problem is related to vegetable, fruit and greenhouse production in specific parts of the country, maybe Health Canada could introduce regulations that target that sector.

"I think that could be a possible outcome," said John Struger, lead author of the Environment Canada study.

"But that would be for the regulatory agency to look at and work with producers to reduce that risk."

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CARBON PRICING

Ottawa may force B.C. plan on Sask.

Sask. says B.C. carbon tax won't work in that province, but farmers would be exempted

BY KAREN BRIERE

REGINA BUREAU

Saskatchewan says Ottawa can't impose the British Columbia carbon plan because it won't work.

A government spokesperson also says the province was caught off guard when officials learned of media reports suggesting that the B.C. plan was the federal government's default.

Ottawa has said it will impose a carbon-limiting plan on provinces that don't come up with their own by 2018. It can be a carbon tax or a cap-and-trade system.

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall has steadfastly opposed any carbon plan because he says it would make farmers uncompetitive. He, along with Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister, did not sign on to the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change after the first ministers' meeting Dec. 9.

During the meeting, a media report indicated that federal Environment Minister Catherine McKenna's office said Saskatchewan farmers would be eligible for the same exemptions as B.C. farmers if the province didn't agree to the national plan.

That would mean exemptions on diesel and gasoline for farm use, as well as 80 percent of natural gas for greenhouses.

A request for comment from McKenna's office was not returned before *Western Producer* deadlines Dec. 12.

However, the province said the B.C. plan would not address all the concerns that Saskatchewan has with a carbon tax, including increased fertilizer costs and higher costs to transport goods to port. Farmers would also see indirect increases in pesticide and herbicide costs because of freight systems subjected to the tax.

"A land-locked province needing inputs from global producers and selling its products on global markets will be disproportionately affected by this tax," said a statement from the province.

"We are not comparable to British Columbia."

B.C.'s tax, in place since 2008, is currently at \$30 per tonne.

Alberta's tax will exempt diesel and gas for farm use but not natural gas. It begins Jan. 1 at \$20 per tonne and increases to \$30 the following year.

Ontario and Quebec have both chosen cap-and-trade systems.

The framework includes critical actions the signatories intend to use to build the economy while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This includes protecting and enhancing carbon stored in forests, wetlands and agricultural land.

Saskatchewan has already earned a small victory in reaching an agreement with Ottawa that will allow it to continue to generate coal-fired electricity beyond 2030, the target to reduce emissions by 30 percent of 2005 levels, as long as equal emission reductions occur.

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STILL HARD AT IT



Fababeans were combined Nov. 28 on Eugene Patenaude's farm near Kelvington, Sask. | CHRIS PATENAUDE PHOTO

TRANSPORT REGULATIONS

» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

date back to 1977.

The CFIA said existing rules do not reflect current science nor do they match current industry practice in many cases. As well, they do not meet the standards of many international trading partners.

Brady Stadnicki, policy analyst with the Canadian Cattlemen's Association, said the CCA provided input to the CFIA on cattle transportation issues and it is now reviewing the proposals with a view to providing comment.

"Generally, our message has always been just that we're not opposed to making amendments to the regulations just as long as they're based on science representative of Canadian conditions ... and as much as possible can be outcome based rather than prescriptive."

The regulatory proposals were quickly panned by Animal Justice, a group with the stated mission of "leading the legal fight for animal protection."

It termed them woefully inadequate and said they put the convenience and profits of animal-use industries ahead of animal welfare in priority.

In its background data, the CFIA

said its objectives with the amendments are to better reflect new science on the care and handling of animals to reduce risk, better align Canada's requirements with those of other countries and satisfy societal expectations regarding responsible animal care in transport.

The proposals include cost estimates for businesses to provide feed, water and rest to animals either on trucks or at off-loading areas, as well as estimates to provide more training to personnel and to increase record keeping.

Estimates indicate that total incremental costs for compliance with the proposed new regulations would be \$556,217 a year, or \$444 per business expected to be affected.

The background information and complete list of proposed changes can be found at www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2016/2016-12-03/html/reg2-eng.php#reg.

Public input will be accepted until Feb. 15.

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PROPOSALS FOR ANIMAL TRANSPORTATION LAWS

Proposed amendments to the Canadian health of animals regulations include shorter transport times for livestock before food, water and/or rest must be provided. Statements within the proposals indicate changes will bring Canada into closer alignment with similar regulations in other countries.

Ruminants (cattle, sheep & goats)

- **Canada current:** transport of adult animals for no more than 48 hours without feed, water and rest; can be increased to 52 hours if animals reach final destination in that time. Calves: no more than 18 hours without feed and water.
- **Canada proposed:** for adult animals, no more than 36 hours without feed, water and rest. Calves and compromised animals: no more than 12 hours without feed and water.
- **New Zealand:** no more than 12 hours without water and 24 hours without food. Calves: no more than 12 hours of transport from point of pickup.
- **Australia:** Access to feed, water and rest every 48 hours. Calves: varies by age, but those up to six months must have water access every 24 hours.
- **United States:** No more than 28 hours of transport for all ages, then unloaded for feed water and rest. Can be extended to 36 hours with permission.

- **European Union:** No more than eight hours of transport, can be extended if vehicles designed to provide water and are partitioned and insulated. Calves less than 10 days old and lambs less than one week old cannot be taken on journeys of more than 100 km.

Monogastrics (pigs, horses & poultry)

- **Canada current:** no more than 36 hours without feed, water and rest. Chicks: no more than 72 hours of transport after hatching.
- **Canada proposed:** broilers, laying hens and rabbits no more than 24 hours without access to food and water; horses and pigs no more than 28 hours; other adult monogastrics no more than 36 hours; day-old birds no more than 72 hours from time of hatching.

- **New Zealand:** adult pigs, no more than eight hours without water and 24 hours without food; birds no more than 12 hours of transport; chicks must reach destination within 72 hours of hatching.

- **Australia:** adult pigs must have feed and water every 24 hours; piglets no more than 12 hours without feed and water; poultry no more than 24 hours; chicks no more than 72 hours without water.
- **United States:** horses no more than 28 hours of transport, then unloaded for feed, water and rest; pigs no more than 28 hours; no regulations for poultry.
- **European Union:** no more than eight hours of transport, can be extended if vehicles designed to provide water and are partitioned and insulated; birds and rabbits no more than 12 hours of transport; ban on transporting very young animals more than 100 km.

Source: Canada Gazette, Canadian Food Inspection Agency

What's your take? Join us at www.producer.com or follow us on social media.



MARKETS



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Canola growers harvested more crop than what was expected earlier in the fall when snow covered large parts of the Prairies. The bad weather helped to lift canola futures, but elevator companies had a better handle on the volume available and widen their basis levels.

| FILE PHOTO

CANOLA OUTLOOK

Good tidings for canola in 2017

Analyst expects prices to start rising by February and get 'better and better right into June'

BY ED WHITE
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Farmers might have long faces from bad canola basis levels for most of the fall, but some analysts think they might find much to smile about in the new year.

Buyers' hunger for canola should strengthen after the present futures rally settles and the cash market chews through enough of the 2016-17 crop.

"We think demand should be pretty good throughout the year," said John Driedger of FarmLink Marketing.

Harold Davis of Prairie Crop Charts was similarly optimistic. The next few weeks might be choppy, following a seasonal pattern of range-bound trade into early January, but prices should then be able to gradually rise through the winter.

"I predict the situation will look better and better right into June," said Davis, who specializes in analyzing market trends and cycles.

Farmers have faced bad basis levels this fall, disappointing many. The futures market has seen a strong rally, rising from below \$475 per tonne in early September to about \$520 in early December, but a significant chunk of those gains were lost to widening basis levels.

The floor is moving up. I'm very bullish on global edible oils.

HAROLD DAVIS
PRAIRIE CROP CHARTS

Davis said average basis near the end of November was 56 cents per bushel under in Manitoba, \$1 in Saskatchewan and 97 cents in Alberta.

For Saskatchewan, the 10-year average is 66 cents under and the five year is 46 cents under, making this year much worse than usual. "They have been really stinky,"

said Davis.

"I think the basis levels were presaging a big crop."

Davis thinks country buyers didn't buy futures traders' beliefs that the prairie crop had been much reduced from earlier expectations. They thought much of the weather-affected crop could be harvested and would be coming in soon.

"The elevators seem to have known more than the analysts," said Davis.

Driedger thinks the continuing in-flow of newly harvested canola has pushed basis levels wider than usual and extended the traditional period of harvest weakness.

"There's a lot of canola that's been taken off with too-high moisture," said Driedger.

"It ends up almost like a second harvest pressure."

Statistics Canada's December production report pegged the 2016 canola crop at 18.4 million tonnes, which would be the second largest in history.

Driedger and Davis said they expect to see the canola futures market consolidate now, with significant gains unlikely until after New Year's. However, both were relatively bullish for 2017.

Davis said Canadian canola is relatively cheap compared to European canola, U.S. soybeans and Asian palm, so demand should remain strong. In an already positive vegetable oil market, that means canola could make some real gains.

"The floor is moving up," said Davis. "I'm very bullish on global edible oils."

Driedger said farmers harvested a large canola crop, but demand is strong, so that shouldn't be a problem.

Crushers are making good margins and are processing as much as they can. That is likely to continue.

Farmers might find better basis levels as buyers begin bidding to replenish the export pipeline.

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OILSEED OUTLOOK

Soybean glut won't hurt canola demand

Canadian crushers are set to process a record nine million tonnes this year

BY ROBIN BOOKER
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

CALGARY — Healthy crush margins in Canada, strong Chinese demand for oilseeds and increased European demand for canola will offset the downward pressure on canola values by a burdensome soybean carryover, said Marlene Boersch of Mercantile Consulting Venture.

China is set to import 86 million tonnes of soybeans and 4.5 million tonnes of rapeseed this year, she said.

"That is a very good demand situation on top of the normal buyers that we have," Boersch said during her presentation at the Farm Forum Event in Calgary Dec. 7.

"On canola, I think we have very strong export demand. Right now values of canola products relative to soybean products are priced very advantageously. So I see more export demand coming."

Canola exports to the European Union picked up last year because of production problems in the bloc and in Ukraine.

"They (EU) have a very important biodiesel market they have to source for, and in terms of exports of canola, we are very important, and they had to come to Canada to make up for some of those shortfalls," she said.

"We will have some competition from Australia, but again we have already sold about half a million tonnes to Europe and I think we will sell more."

She said any problems with the Eastern European winter rapeseed crop will support canola because growers in the region are unlikely to reseed with spring canola.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>



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DTN AG SUMMIT

Market analyst says too many balls to juggle

While technical charts show a bullish market for soybeans, expert thinks otherwise because of huge soybean supply

BY SEAN PRATT
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

CHICAGO, Ill. — Darin Newsom said this was the most difficult market outlook presentation he has put together in the last decade.

There are too many wild cards and no clear path forward for grain and oilseed markets. With that caveat, he provided his best guess where soybean, corn and wheat prices are heading.

Newsom tends to rely heavily on technical charts, which are bullish for soybeans. However, this year he is leaning more toward the bearish market fundamentals.

The biggest bearish factor is that U.S. farmers harvested an "extraordinary" 4.36 billion bushels of soybeans this year.

"We have a lot of supplies on hand right now," he told delegates attending the 2016 DTN Ag Summit.

Cash prices have been unusually strong, given the burdensome supply, setting a high of US\$9.72 1/2 per bu. in the last week of November.

Cash prices will trend higher if soybeans follow the same seasonal pattern of the last three years, establishing a seasonal high of \$10.42 to \$10.65 in July 2017.

However, Newsom is not convinced that is the way the year will unfold. He believes cash prices are higher than they should be because of an unusually strong early-season export program.

He thinks China has been doing some pre-emptive buying in anticipation of a looming trade war with the United States. U.S. President-elect Donald Trump has pledged to impose a 45 percent tariff on imports from China.

"China gets a little grumpy about



Analyst Darin Newsom sees price downside risk for both corn and soybeans this winter, but soybeans should bring better profits at planting time. However, American farmers' "addiction" to corn might limit the size of the swing. | FILE PHOTO

that stuff," said Newsom.

"Are they doing their buying and shipping right now?"

He believes the pace of exports will slow dramatically starting in February and March if Brazil harvests its expected 103 million tonnes of soybeans.



DARIN NEWSOM
MARKET ANALYST

Newsom said Brazil would be a more attractive trade partner because its currency is weak and it isn't threatening China with tariffs.

It makes him wonder if the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2.05 billion bu. export estimate will be met. That is why DTN is recommending farmers be 100 percent sold on soybeans.

The outlook is similar for new crop futures. The November 2017 futures contract closed at \$10.26 1/2 the last week of November.

It is forecast to trend down to \$9.65 to \$9.85 the first week of February, climb to a seasonal high of \$10.51 to \$10.73 in June and then fall to a harvest low of \$9.04 to \$9.22.

That is what the technical charts say, but Newsom worries about what happens if fund money becomes nervous about bearish signs in the market. Funds are currently 140,000 contracts net long on soybeans.

He believes the funds will become antsy if interest rates rise and the U.S. dollar continues to strengthen, as anticipated.

Funds are counting on the USDA's long history of grossly over-estimating soybean ending stocks. The current forecast is 480 million bu. That will shrink to 175 million bu. by the September estimate based on the previous three years.

However, if the USDA's initial estimate is correct, the situation would be a lot less optimistic, and DTN's June price forecast would have to be lowered.

The corn supply situation is also burdensome. Growers harvested a record 15.23 billion bu. of the crop, and ending stocks are forecast at 2.4 billion bu., resulting in a 16 percent stocks-to-use ratio.

The average cash price was \$1.97 per bu. the last time the stocks-to-use ratio was that high, which means it could be argued that the current price of \$3.25 to \$3.30 per bu. is too high.

"It certainly looks that way to me," said Newsom.

As with soybeans, strong export

demand is propping up the cash price. He expects that demand will continue because Brazil had a poor corn harvest last year and needs to rebuild its own stocks rather than exporting to markets such as Mexico this year.

Newsom thinks prices will move higher until spring planting is done and farmers start moving their old crop corn. That will cause basis levels to tank and the cash market to fall.

He forecasts a low of \$3.06 in January and a seasonal high of \$3.28 in the spring. History shows new crop futures tend to post a high the first week of December.

"From there it's a train wreck. It just goes down," said Newsom.

Many pundits believe corn will lose acres to soybeans, but U.S. farmers are addicted to the crop, so he wouldn't be surprised if the decline is less than anticipated.

Newsom believes the seasonal high of \$3.80 for December 2017 new crop corn has already been achieved, and prices will steadily decline to a harvest low of \$2.80.

Wheat has been stuck in a sideways trading pattern for years, and he doesn't see that changing.

World ending stocks are forecast at 249 million tonnes, which works out to a 35 percent stocks-to-use ratio.

"You want to talk about a cumbersome market? It's wheat."

There is no relief on the horizon with the Black Sea wheat crop in good shape heading into winter.

"Do I think we've seen the lows in wheat this year? Absolutely not," said Newsom.

He believes hard red winter wheat has already posted its seasonal high cash price of \$4.07 per bu. He is forecasting a weakening basis throughout 2017 and the potential of sub-\$3 cash prices.

Newsom is forecasting that new crop July 2017 Kansas City wheat futures will tumble from a high of \$4.82 3/4 to a harvest low of \$3.95.

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» CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Vegetable oil values are driving the oilseed market, more so than meal.

"Canola has a higher oil content than soybeans. Given current prices we compare very favourably and that's why we think China will

continue to be interested in buying canola," she said.

Crush demand is strong in Canada because crusher margins are excellent.

"We have some good oil forward sales into China because of the dockage problem, so crushers have been keen to work to capacity,

which they have been doing. So the two demand components are working very well right now," Boersch said.

"Crush margins for Canadian crushers are outstanding with board crush as high as \$160 a tonne."

She said Canadian crushers will

process a record nine million tonnes this year.

Canadian canola acreage is expected to remain about the same as last year at 20.5 million, so it might be a good time to lock in some new crop canola contracts that are available, she said.

However, growers sitting on old

crop canola may want to hold sales for a few months.

"I don't think I would sell a lot of current crop canola right now; I would wait a little bit, to see that demand really come to the table," Boersch said.

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CROP RESULTS

Canola prices, demand rosy; wheat not so much

MARKET WATCH



D'ARCE McMILLAN

The rising Canadian dollar is likely having a greater impact on Canadian crop markets than the final Statistics Canada production report of the year.

The agency's crop size estimates issued Dec. 6 had no shocking discrepancies from what the trade expected.

There were minor differences from a pre-report survey of analysts, but not enough to significantly change the general assumptions about the amount of grain in Canada this year.

This was especially true this year because Statistics Canada maintained its usual schedule for the report and so was interviewing farmers about production in late October and early November when a lot of the crop was still in the field.

The agency consulted widely to try to keep its numbers relevant, but still, the credibility suffered because of the difficulty presented by the late harvest.

The canola production estimate of 18.4 million tonnes was about 400,000 tonnes less than the midpoint of a survey of analysts conducted by Reuters News Agency. It was just shy of the record 18.6 million tonne crop produced in 2013.

Even if the crop is closer to 19 million tonnes, demand is strong enough to keep the ending stocks number from becoming a burden.

The domestic crush is smashing records, which is helping to make up for an export pace that is running a bit behind last year.

Statistics Canada said the canola yield was record large at 42.3 bushels an acre, but the harvested area was down 6.6 percent.

Canola futures fell last week as the loonie rose to more than US76 cents and as soybean oil came off recent highs. The loonie is rising with crude oil because OPEC has



Farmers persevered against some of the most challenging fall conditions in years and brought in a large crop. Statistics Canada had trouble tallying the crop because of the late harvest. Its numbers are subject to revision for two years. | FILE PHOTO

negotiated backing from Russia and other non-OPEC producers to support the OPEC production reduction with a cut of their own. However, there remains skepticism that OPEC members will carry through on their targets. And even if they do, some question whether it will be enough to actually realign production and demand.

STATISTICS CANADA ESTIMATED THE CANOLA YIELD AT
42.3
bu. per acre

The economics departments of several Canadian banks forecast that the loonie will remain in the mid US70s or lower in the first half of 2017.

Statistics Canada's spring wheat estimate came in close to the trade's expectation. The wheat market is weighed down by ample world supply, although there is some support for grain with higher quality and protein. Canadian wheat exports are running well behind last year, likely because exporters struggle to blend the

range of quality available into exportable shipments.

The durum estimate at 7.7 million tonnes was about 500,000 tonnes more than the average of expectations.

However, that should have little impact on the price of milling durum because so much of this year's durum crop was pushed down into the feed category due to fusarium and other degrading factors.

The report confirmed record large pea and lentil crops, and the estimates were close to the trade's expectations.

Even with the large crops, prices for pulses have been well supported by the strong pace of exports.

However, the potential for trouble over the looming expiry of an exemption from India's fumigation policy could slow pulse exports early in 2017, which could present a risk for unpriced peas and lentils.

Oat production at 3.15 million tonnes was a little higher than the average of pre-report forecasts but was within the range.

As this column was written Dec. 12, nearby Chicago oat futures had rallied about eight percent since the Statistics Canada report. Corn was static in the same period, and the loonie rose, so it appears the

NOVEMBER CROP PRODUCTION ESTIMATES

Statistics Canada's final crop production report of the year had no big surprises. The late harvest complicated data gathering for the report. The canola number is a bit smaller than the trade expected and durum production was larger than the trade's guess. Crop quality will likely have a larger impact on the price farmers are paid this year than the volume produced.

November estimates of production of principal field crops:

(000 tonnes)	2014	2015	2016	2015-16
Total wheat	29,420	27,594	31,729	15.0%
durum	5,193	5,389	7,762	44.0%
spring wheat	21,298	19,962	20,454	2.5%
winter wheat	2,929	2,243	3,513	56.6%
Barley	7,119	8,226	8,784	6.8%
Canaryseed	125	149	120	-19.4%
Canola	16,410	18,377	18,424	0.3%
Chickpeas	123	84	75	-9.9%
Corn	11,487	13,559	13,193	-2.7%
Dry beans	273	243	229	-5.9%
Field peas	3,810	3,201	4,836	51.1%
Fall rye	218	226	409	81.2%
Flax	873	942	579	-38.5%
Lentils	1,987	2,541	3,248	27.9%
Mustard seed	198	123	234	89.5%
Oats	2,979	3,428	3,147	-8.2%
Soybeans	6,049	6,371	6,463	1.4%
Sunflower seed	55	73	51	-30.3%

Source: Statistics Canada | WP GRAPHIC

trade believes oat supply will be fairly tight and deserving of a stronger price.

Follow D'Arce McMillan on Twitter @darcecmillan or email darce.mcmillan@producer.com.

WHEAT MARKETING

More quality Canadian wheat than expected despite weather

BY ED WHITE
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Overseas buyers of Canadian grain are being surprised by Canada's New Crop Missions, but not because they are hearing about bad crops and poor quality.

All serious buyers of Canadian wheat and durum already know Western Canada had a bad growing season and nightmarish harvest, but few realize Canada still has lots of good crops to sell.

"We have a better news story to tell them than what they've been hearing," said Cam Dahl, president of Cereals Canada.

Despite the growing conditions

and harvest problems, more than 55 percent of Canada's Canada Western Red Spring wheat is No. 1 or No. 2, which is more than many buyers have expected.

That wheat also has good milling and baking characteristics, so Canada still has much premium product to sell, Dahl said during a break-in meetings in London, England.

The New Crop Missions take place every year once the Canadian crop is harvested and roughly assessed. Representatives of the entire Canadian grain industry, from farmers to industry organization leaders to regulators, fly off to meet with buyers.

We have a better news story to tell them than what they've been hearing.

CAM DAHL
CEREALS CANADA

This year's missions began in Canada with a set of meetings with Canadian millers. Following that, missions left for Asia and South America. After returning briefly to Canada, a mission headed back overseas to Algeria, Morocco and the European Union.

The latter trip focused on durum.

"There's lots of durum talk, which unfortunately is the more difficult discussion this year," said Dahl about Canada's damaged crop.

Other countries also have equivalents to the New Crop Missions but are generally less comprehensive than Canada's, Dahl said. The Canadian missions contain the entire wheat chain, including farmers, which offers foreign buyers a better sense of how the Canadian industry operates and what it can deliver.

"Having the producers here is a really important part of the discussion," said Dahl.

For instance, many buyers are worried about ochratoxin, a dan-

gerous mycotoxin that can develop in poorly stored and handled grain. Farmers on the missions can explain to buyers how they store their grain, which tends to reassure them.

Dahl said the world is awash with low quality wheat from the Black Sea region and other exporters, but there is little high quality, high protein wheat on the world market.

"There is room in the market for the Canadian crop," said Dahl.

"There's a lot of wheat, but there's not a lot of good wheat."

The missions end in mid-December.

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MARKET FUNDAMENTALS

Fund buyers send soybean futures prices off kilter

An analyst recommends watching futures spreads to help track demand

BY SEAN PRATT
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

CHICAGO, Ill. — Crop markets are not behaving as they should given the fundamentals, says an analyst.

"There's a lot of things going on in our markets that really don't seem to make sense," said Tregg Cronin, a farmer and broker from South Dakota.

When that happens, he looks to the basis and spreads for answers.

American farmers harvested a record 15.23 billion bushels of corn. The market should be paying farmers and elevators to store a tremendous amount of grain, Cronin told delegates attending the 2016 DTN Ag Summit.

"It's not."

Carry is the price spread between nearby and more distant futures contracts. It represents the cost of storing grain, plus interest.

The market is now paying 65 percent of the price to store corn between December and March. That is not a lot considering the corn stocks-to-use ratio is high at 16.4 percent.

Cronin said the cash price for corn is higher than it should be, while the futures price is "mud-



Corn is loaded to a truck beside a pile of soybeans at an elevator in Minnesota in October. An analyst looking at futures spreads and the implied value of carry thinks fund buying has lifted soybean futures too high, given the record large U.S. crop. | REUTERS PHOTO

dling along" in a range of 30 to 50 cents per bushel.

"Spreads are not trading where we think they should, relative to the amount of supply we have and basis certainly is not trading weak enough to justify the prices we're at," he said.

The situation is the opposite for soybeans. The market is paying 93 percent of the cost of storing soybeans between January and March and 71 percent of the cost of the full carry between March and May.

"If we go back over the last five

years, you're very, very hard-pressed to find a time when the market was paying so much to store soybeans," said Cronin.

That makes no sense in a market where futures prices have been trending up for a month. The cash price of soybeans is weak and futures prices are strong.

Cronin believes the futures price is over-valued relative to supply of the crop. He thinks the answer lies in the puzzling behaviour of institutional fund investors.

The funds are net long 135,000 contracts in the soybean market,

which is more than triple the 52-week average. A year ago, the funds were net short 83,000 contracts.

By contrast, the commercials, which are grain elevators and other users, have reduced their net long position to 227,116 contracts, down from 323,000 a year ago.

"These are the guys that I like to pay attention to," said Cronin.

"They're the ones that use the product every day. They know what it's worth."

One factor is a lot of money normally in Chinese stock markets is

looking for a home due to the weakening Chinese currency.

Some of that money is spilling over into the soybean market and pushing up futures prices. The problem is that cash and futures prices will remain unlinked for only so long.

"The soybean market is definitely a concerning one," said Cronin.

He believes cash and futures prices will realign, with futures weakening as the year evolves.

In the corn market, the funds hold a sizable net short position, while the commercials have a big net long position. So the funds are working against commercial efforts to lure corn out of farmers' hands.

The commercial interest in buying corn means demand is stronger, supply is smaller or farmer retention is greater than anticipated. Cronin thinks it is likely a combination of all three.

He believes corn will have a tough time breaking out of its current trading band. If prices reach the \$3.70 to \$3.90 per bushel range farmers will rush to sell. If prices drop to \$3.20, growers will lock their bins.

Cronin said it will be important to watch basis and spreads if prices climb to the top end of the range.

"If you see basis backing off, if you see Gulf bids drop, if you see spreads widening out, that's a sign that the farmer is selling that corn."

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CANFAX REPORT

FED CATTLE PROFITABLE

The Canfax weighted steer average was \$150.48 per hundredweight, up \$1.57, and heifers were \$149.22, up 33 cents.

That was the highest price for the second half of the year and marked the eighth week of the rally.

Producers are now selling cattle at or above break-even levels following 16 consecutive months of losses.

One Alberta packer was offering premiums for quick delivery, while the other was buying for the beginning of January.

Both Alberta plants have been running five days a week for three weeks, but their hours might be scaled back soon to match tighter fed supplies.

Strength in Western Canada was impressive, considering that the U.S. fed market was under pressure. U.S. packers paid US\$109-\$112 per cwt. for cash cattle that brought \$114-\$115 a week earlier.

Alberta cash fed prices were at a premium to the U.S. cash market. That rarely happens in December.

Fed calves are getting cleaned up, and more yearlings are coming to market with numbers expected to remain historically tight.

Cattle-on feed placements have been below year-ago levels for six consecutive months. Third-quarter placement volumes are also the smallest since cattle-on-feed reporting began in 2000. Tighter supply should support first-quarter 2017 prices.

COWS STEADY

The cow market was flat following

strong gains the previous two weeks.

D1, D2 cows ranged \$82-\$97 to average \$89.93 per cwt., down 20 cents. D3 cows ranged \$70-\$85 to average \$78.

Rail grade cows ranged \$168-\$173.

Slaughter bulls averaged \$101.31, up \$1.31.

Western Canadian cow slaughter has been 9,300-9,750 head the last five weeks, while it ranged 5,700-8,500 over the same period last year.

FEEDERS STEADY

It was the third consecutive week in which auction market volumes were substantially higher than a year ago.

Some auction marts in the central and northern Prairies saw their largest runs of the year. Heifer volumes picked up over the last couple of weeks.

The market took a breather last week after the surge in prices over the past few weeks.

Calves were mostly steady with the heavier weights under a little pressure.

However, the price slide between heavy feeders and calves is modest.

Eastern Canadian buyers were bidding, but most cattle stayed local.

The U.S. market pulled back from its recent highs, creating some market uncertainty.

Local feedlots have seen some profits as of late, and this should help support the calf market into year end.

Auction volumes are expected to seasonally decline but will likely

remain above year-ago levels.

Cattle futures and the Canadian dollar will be key factors this week. The loonie rose last week.

The bred cattle market saw further price improvement.

There was strong demand for bred heifers and cows through several bred sales. They traded through the ring and electronic sales.

Bred heifer prices averaged more than \$2,000 with highs to \$2,600, which would account for the majority of the bred cattle.

Some lots exceed these levels.

Bred cattle are mostly returning to the breeding herd.

BEEF FALLS

U.S. packers have given up considerable margin over the past couple of months. Margins had topped \$100 per head but are now near break-even levels.

U.S. boxed beef prices have peaked and moved lower last week with Choice at US\$189.48, down \$1.03, and Select at \$171.42, down \$1.51. The demand for holiday items will likely slow down as buyers fill inventories.

Weekly Canadian cut-out values to Dec. 2 rose with AAA up C\$4.95 at \$253.34 and AA up 27 cents at \$232.10.

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.

WP LIVESTOCK REPORT



HOGS RISE

A little tighter supply and continued strong packer profit margins pushed U.S. hog prices higher.

Pork wholesale values were also up.

The U.S. weekly slaughter dipped a little.

Merchants believe cash and wholesale pork prices are about to top out as plants prepare to close over the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

They also note that ham values could erode after grocers stock up for winter holiday demand.

The U.S. national live price average for barrows and gilts was US\$40.09 per hundredweight Dec. 9, up from \$35.60 Dec. 2.

U.S. hogs averaged \$52.66 on a carcass basis Dec. 9, up from \$47.13 Dec. 2.

The U.S. pork cutout was \$75.81 per cwt. Dec. 9, up from \$73.25 Dec. 2.

The estimated U.S. weekly slaughter for the week to Dec. 9 was 2.443 million, down from 2.535 million the previous week.

Slaughter was 2.430 million last year at the same time.

In Canada, the Dec. 10 Signature Five price was C\$125.11 per 100 kilograms, up from \$115.86 the previous week.

The price was \$56.75 on a per hundredweight basis, up from \$52.55 the previous week.

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.

LAMBS STEADY TO HIGHER

Beaver Hill Auction in Tofield, Alta., reported that 926 sheep and 298 goats sold Dec. 5.

Wool lambs lighter than 54 lb. were \$189-\$230 per cwt., 55-69 lb. were \$186-\$211, 86-105 lb. were \$180-\$199 and 106 lb. and heavier were \$168-\$185.

Wool rams were \$84-\$117 per cwt. Cull ewes were \$70-\$155.

Hair lambs lighter than 54 lb. were \$180-\$220 per cwt., 55-69 lb. were \$186-\$210, 70-85 lb. were \$180-\$195, 86-105 lb. were \$180-\$190 and 106 lb. and heavier were \$165-\$182.

Hair rams were \$80-\$131 per cwt. Cull ewes were \$85-\$105.

Ontario Stockyards Inc. reported that 1,113 sheep and lambs and 107 goats traded Dec. 5.

Light weight lambs and good sheep sold higher. All other sheep, lambs sold steady. Goats were strong.

ANIMAL WELFARE

Provide input on changes to animal transport rules

Some 700 million animals, most of them poultry but also cattle, pigs, horses, sheep and goats, are transported in Canada every year, according to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Small wonder, then, that such movement is visible to everyone who travels the roads. The highways and byways are among the few places where an increasingly urban populace sees and thinks about animal agriculture.

Thus it's important not only that animals are moved in ways that recognize their health and welfare but also that it is seen to be done.

Last week, the CFIA posted to *Canada Gazette* its proposed amendments to animal transport rules. The *Gazette* is the government site for notices and pending regulatory changes.

In its background documentation, the CFIA acknowledges the public perception aspect of livestock transport. One of its objectives for pending changes is to "satisfy Canadian societal expectations regarding the responsible care of farm animals and the humane treatment of animals during transport, including loading and unloading."

Information provided with the *Gazette* posting shows considerable study has been done on the livestock transport topic, as befits updates that have been in development for at least a decade.

A thorough review and modernization of the rules, which haven't been substantially altered since 1977, is welcome and necessary.

Livestock care and welfare has always been important to those who raise animals, but it is also under ever-increasing scrutiny. Attention to animal care is important economically and morally and to protect social licence for food animal production.

However, as we have come to know in the agriculture business, changes do not

come without additional costs, first to primary producers and then to other links in the chain.

For example, among the major proposals are shortened livestock transport times and requirements to provide food, water, rest and potential unloading and reloading during longer trips.

Lengthy transport has become necessary, in some cases, because there are fewer growing and finishing operations, spread further apart, and also fewer processing plants.

Even so, CFIA estimates that 98 percent of current shipments are already in compliance with the shorter transport times now being proposed.

For those that aren't, new regulations indicate the need for more offloading sites, created at someone's expense, and/or that transport trailers be equipped with food and water for the animals carried, and/or enough space for them to lie down and rest.

That translates to fewer animals per load and related higher costs for shippers. Proposals also indicate increased costs for livestock operations and businesses related to staff training, labour and record keeping.

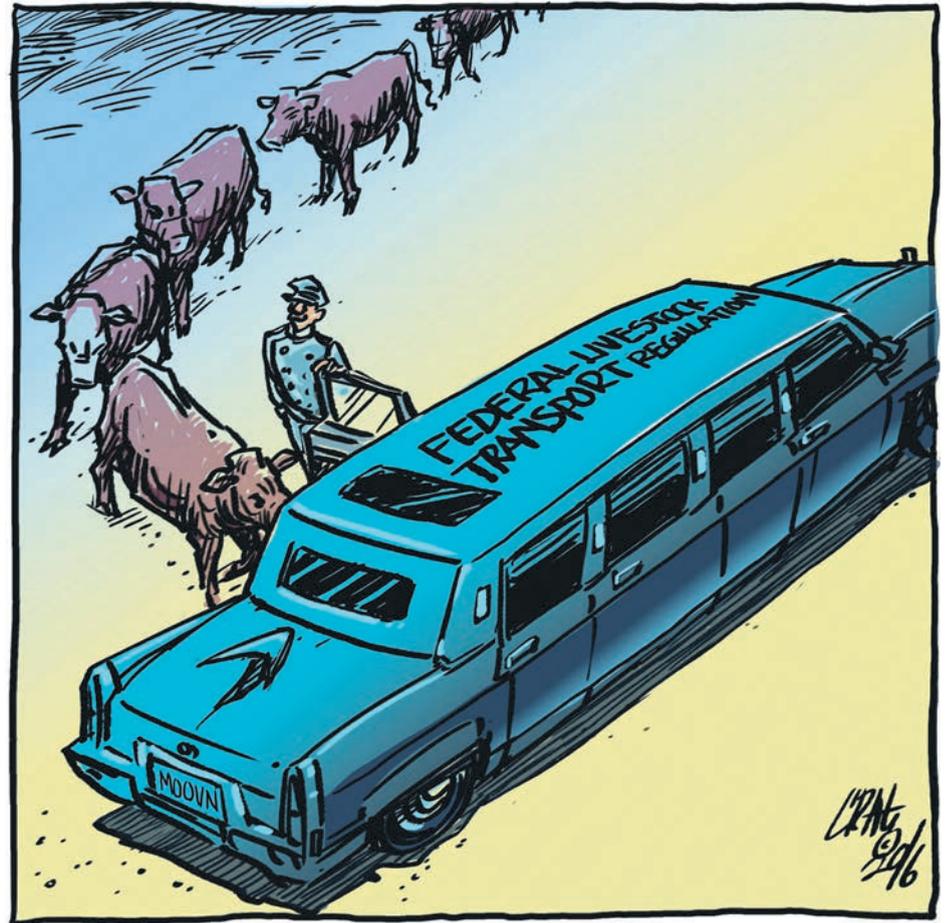
Protecting animal health and welfare is money well spent. It occurs hand in hand with protection of the agriculture industry's livelihood.

That is why changes to regulations must be scientifically based on good outcomes for animals rather than on satisfying human perceptions. Therein lies the potential rub.

Input on the proposals will be accepted until Feb. 15. It will be worthwhile for the livestock industry and producers to use that opportunity.

Bruce Dyck, Barb Glen, Brian MacLeod, D'Arce McMillan and Michael Raine collaborate in the writing of Western Producer editorials.

CRAIG'S VIEW



BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

These herds have literally descended from 100 years ago. We take pride in the bloodlines and the cattle and the breeding programs that we built up over the last three generations. You just don't go to town and buy a new one.

BRAD OSADCZUK,
JENNER, ALTA., RANCHER WHO IS FACING DESTRUCTION OF HIS 1,200 COW HERD, PAGE 3

PREMIERS MEETING

Agriculture poses sticking point at climate change meeting

CAPITAL LETTERS



KELSEY JOHNSON

Reporters staking out the first ministers meeting on climate change knew they were in for a long night when the pizza showed up.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the country's premiers had been holed up in Ottawa's foreign affairs buildings for hours as they tried to negotiate a national climate change plan that included a price on carbon. Reporters milled about the media room, pouncing on any poor official who emerged from the meeting room.

A key pillar in its 2015 election promise, the federal Liberal gov-

ernment was doing everything it could to secure a historic agreement on climate change before the weekend hit.

Postponing discussions was not an option, Environment Minister Catherine McKenna said, even if several provinces still weren't inside.

The final negotiations were not without drama. As expected, Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall remained steadfast in his opposition, repeating his promise to take Ottawa to court if needed.

But British Columbia and Manitoba were also nervous. B.C. Premier Christy Clark told reporters she was worried the proposed plan would be more a burden on Western Canada, warning she would not sign any agreement that did not include some way of ensuring the deal was fair for all.

Twenty minutes later, as reporters were scarfing down slices of deluxe pizza, word broke B.C. had signed on.

But now Manitoba was holding

out, refusing to sign the deal until Ottawa promised more federal health-care funding.

Not all the negotiating was happening in the room, either. Friday morning, McKenna's office told iPolitics that Saskatchewan farmers could be subject to exemptions like those found in B.C. The province's plan exempts purple gas and diesel and provides a substantial rebate for greenhouse producers who rely on natural gas to heat their operations.

The possibility of agricultural exemptions caught Saskatchewan by surprise. The premier has repeatedly argued farmers will be hurt by the proposed carbon tax, which Wall said will cost producers up to \$80,000 per year.

Agree to the agricultural exemptions and Saskatchewan could be seen as supporting the federal tax — a position Wall clearly wanted to avoid.

In the end, the premier argued that land-locked Saskatchewan's agriculture industry was not com-

parable to British Columbia's, where growers have easy access to the West Coast. A carbon tax, Wall argued, would also see the price of key agricultural inputs such as fertilizer and pesticide increase, which are two products not covered by B.C.'s exemptions.

Disagreements on agriculture surfaced again during the evening press conference, when Trudeau revealed that a national deal had been reached.

Trudeau was asked how he planned to ensure Canadian agriculture would remain competitive, particularly given the variety of exemptions for the sector both internationally and inter-provincially.

Premiers, he replied, would be able to use the revenue generated to develop programs and supports for people, like farmers, who may be vulnerable. Trudeau did not respond to a follow-up question asking whether support for agriculture would be seen as an agricultural subsidy by the World Trade Organization.

"If I can give all the money back that he's paid in carbon taxes and she's paid in taxes, what's the point? How does that change behaviour?" Wall responded as Trudeau shook his head and at one point rolled his eyes.

"There's a lot of good analysis of how impactful carbon pricing is, and I recommend it to everyone to take a look at," the prime minister said.

The Pan-Canadian Framework will come into force January 2018, although many provinces, including Alberta and Ontario, are rolling out their climate change plans Jan. 1.

The House of Commons agriculture committee has agreed to look at ways government's can help farmers "better adjust to the increasing severity of issues associated with climate change and better address water and soil conservation issues" in the new year.

Kelsey Johnson is a reporter with iPolitics, www.ipolitics.ca.

& OPEN FORUM

BEEF SECTOR

The name of the game— certification

BY SPENCER GRALING

April 29, 2016. It is the day that Earls, a Vancouver based restaurant chain, made an announcement that not only shook the Canadian beef industry to its core, but also solidified a stark new reality for Canadian producers — a reality that is now, more than ever, augmented by public opinion and must be adapted to if we wish to ensure the economic progression of our nation's cattle industry.

Without any consultation with Canadian ranchers, Earls made an announcement that day to discontinue buying cattle for its locations from Canadian producers and instead source their beef from Creekstone Farms, a Kansas ranch accredited by the non-profit group Humane Farm Animal Care.

According to Earls president Mo Jessa, this decision was fuelled by the public's desire for, quote "beef without antibiotics, hormones and with certification for ethical treatment."

In fact, Earls reports that over two-thirds of their customers want to be assured, through standardized certifications, that livestock received ethical treatment from ranch to slaughterhouse.

And as it turns out, Earls is not alone: burger chains, steakhouses and grocery stores across the nation are feeling the pressure of public opinion when providing beef for their customers.

As someone who has lived in rural Alberta all his life and is surrounded by family, friends and neighbours involved in the beef industry, you can imagine my frustration.



Verification programs give consumers the satisfaction of being certain that what they are buying is raised the way they demand, either locally, sustainably or organically. | FILE PHOTO

To see someone as proud as the Canadian cattle producer provide such professional care and attention to their livestock and then be labelled as inhumane in practice and be economically punished through outsourcing is truly disheartening.

That is, until I realized exactly what the problem plaguing our nation's beef industry is, and it all comes down to one word: certified.

A form of social licensing, certification is the bridge of trust that separates theory from fact. Unfortunately, Canada has very little standardized verification programs for sustainable and ethical beef production in place, thus putting our farmers at a disadvantage in the global marketplace.

Perhaps the most exciting aspect of the Earls fiasco was what happened on May 4, only five days after Mo Jessa initially revealed the restaurant's outsourcing plans.

After facing an onslaught of consumer backlash and seeing res-

taurant sales drop nearly 30 percent overnight, Earls was forced to reverse their policy, apologize to local producers and announce plans to reintroduce Canadian beef to their menu while still working to provide a product that meets the public's standard of excellence.

This proves that the Canadian consumer isn't interested in just any sustainable beef, but rather desires certified sustainable beef raised right here in Canada.

And thankfully not all hope is lost in the industry's fight for social licensing with the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef and fast food heavyweight McDonald's leading the way.

The pair have been working toward a Canadian standardized certification program since 2014 with the McDonald's sustainable beef pilot project and I must say — I'm Lovin It! Thanks to the information gathered during the project, the roundtable is devel-

oping a new certification framework that is set to be finalized in late 2017.

Until then, it's up to local producers to lay a foundation for the industry to bridge the gap between theory and fact by engaging the public in a conversation about what society deems as ethical and science assures us is necessary.

Because with our nation's world class farmers as advocates, I'm confident that the Canadian cattle industry will not only survive but will thrive in this new economic environment where public opinion trumps fact and where certification is the name of the game.

Spencer Graling of St. Paul, Alta., won the senior category of the recent Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture competition. This is his winning speech, which was edited for length.

ON THE HORIZON

Plenty to read in coming weeks

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK



BRIAN MACLEOD
EDITOR

As we approach the final few days of the year, *The Western Producer's* staff is busy working on some interesting material for readers.

We are currently compiling material for our second *Yield Guide*. As well, our popular seed guide and canola guide publications are currently being put together, along with what we call our Issue 52 (the last publication of the year), which this year will focus on innovation in the agriculture.

All of this information will find its way into the *Producer* in the weeks ahead. Many farmers have had a particularly difficult year, so we hope you'll find our guides and stories helpful in preparation for what lies ahead.

The raison d'être of *The Western Producer* is to get information into the hands of farmers to help them make business decisions about their future.

So it was a little surprising last week when an online reader took us to task about a story by Reuters under the headline, "Statscan: Canada harvests bigger wheat, canola crops despite snowy fall." The story reported that an expected canola crop of 18.4 million tonnes would be the second-largest on record, and an all-wheat crop of 31.7 million tonnes would be up 15 percent from last year. We hoped this would help farmers make decisions about marketing.

The comment suggested that farmers are struggling, and we should be focusing on that instead. (The actual wording was more pointed.)

Indeed, it has been an exceedingly difficult year and we have tried to document that. On Nov. 3, the *Producer* published an editorial calling for improvements to the cash advance program. (Some changes were later announced.) On Nov. 10, we published a front-page photograph of a field that had significant ruts filled with water, as a farmer was combining in rough terrain. On Nov. 17, we published a front-page story headlined, "Farmers frantic to beat snow."

There were several more stories on the difficult harvest, but the comment got us wondering how much damage farmers did to their machines in the rush to get the crop out of bad ground? We are looking for information on just that. So, if your machinery was damaged more than usual this year, let us know at my email below. We'll try to get a handle on how tough this harvest was on farmers.

brian.macleod@producer.com

WHAT'S COMING?

Clues to the next agriculture policy framework

HURSH ON AG



KEVIN HURSH

It doesn't really even have a name yet. Next Policy Framework (NPF) is just a temporary moniker. The previous five-year program frameworks for agriculture were Growing Forward 1 and then Growing Forward 2.

The new Liberal government has resisted the urge to refer to the next federal-provincial deal as Growing Forward 3, so at some point a new handle will be coined.

To their credit, governments started work on the NPF long before the expiration of Growing Forward 2. The wheels of government move very slowly, but there

seems to be a concerted effort to have programs in place and move from one framework to another without big gaps.

Whether you think it's noble or misguided, we have a federal government committed to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. That will have an impact on agriculture both within and outside the NPF.

Within the NPF, don't be surprised to see a renewed emphasis on environmental farm plans.

Most prairie farmers who went through the environmental farm plan process many years ago were motivated by government support for best management practices. However, the environmental farm plan was not a living document. The thick binders have collected thick layers of dust. While there's still funding for a few best management practices, very few producers have updated their plans.

In the NPF, it wouldn't be surprising to see a resurrection of the envi-

ronmental farm plan approach with a much greater emphasis on emission reductions.

Outside of the NPF, biofuel policy will have a great impact on agriculture, and at this point there are mixed expectations of how the federal government will proceed.

Some are hopeful that ethanol and biodiesel will be viewed as part of the solution to reducing carbon emissions, thereby increasing the biofuel demand for corn, wheat and canola.

Others say a full life cycle assessment shows ethanol and biodiesel are poor choices for overall emission reduction. If the government adopts that view, expect new demand to be minimal.

What happens south of the border might be even more important. U.S. President-elect Donald Trump appears to be an ethanol supporter, although at this point everyone is still trying to guess what approach he will take on a large number of issues.

The lion's share of funding for the NPF will likely remain business risk management — in other words, the farm safety net programs of AgriInvest, AgriStability and AgriInsurance.

Will government contributions under AgriInvest remain at one percent of eligible net sales? Will there be some sort of tax abatement to encourage producers to withdraw the money as long as it's used for specific types of on-farm investments?

And what's the fate of AgriStability? Enrolment continues to drop, and its shortcomings have been widely discussed. Can it be fixed or should it be replaced, and if so, with what?

If you have views, let both levels of government know. Whatever the NPF is ultimately named, five years is a long time to harbour regrets.

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

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*.

SASKTEL WORRIES

To the Editor:

How would allowing someone, other than the Province of Saskatchewan, control of up to 49 percent of SaskTel not fit the definition of privatization of a crown corporation?

The more changes there are to the rules to allow for a public-private partnership, it raises suspicion, in my opinion, of the government's intention, no matter what they say. Premier Brad Wall wants to be prepared for the quick sale, which sounds like putting up a "for sale" sign to me.

When I heard about this on the news, the phrase "the beginning of the end" popped into my head. Putting forth this idea of getting rid of even part of a crown corporation shows the agenda of the Saskatchewan Party govern-

ment coming to the forefront again. It would be a move that might make the government coffers look good in the short term, but would definitely be a loss for the taxpayers forever after, while a private entity reaps the benefits and profit. SaskTel is not losing money.

Of course, neither were many of the government liquor board stores that were closed.

It brings back memories of how Wall and his party didn't speak up for a farmer, only noting the issue of the CWB monopoly's fate. Now farmers are losing and big companies are pocketing the profit.

Beware. SaskTel is only one of the several crown corporations that could be in the line of government fire.

Lynn Sangster
Assiniboia, Sask

OLD MAN WINTER



A bull moose forages in a field near Tugaska, Sask.
| MICKEY WATKINS PHOTO

CANADIAN WESTERN Agribition

2016 Canadian Western Agribition SPECIAL TO THE

RBC BEEF SUPREME CHALLENGE

SUPREME CHAMPION FEMALE..... Miller Wilson Angus, Bashaw, AB
SUPREME CHAMPION BULL..... Enright Farms, Renfrew, ON
Additional Owner: Cavanhill Farms

FIRST LADY CLASSIC

GRAND CHAMPION..... Ter-Ron Farms, Forestburg, AB
Additional Owner: Six Mile Ranch

FIRST LADY CLASSIC FUTURITY

GRAND CHAMPION..... Twisted Sisters Livestock, Lloydminster, AB
Additional Owners: Meghan Hoffman and Brianna Kimmel

PRESIDENT'S CLASSIC

GRAND CHAMPION..... Black Gold Simmental, Lloydminster, SK

BLACK ANGUS

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Miller Wilson Angus, Bashaw, AB
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Serhienko Cattle Co., Maymont, SK
Additional Owner: Michelson Land & Cattle and Wheatland Cattle Co.
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Enright Farms, Renfrew, ON
Additional Owner: Cavanhill Farms
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Brooking Angus Ranch, Radville, SK
Additional Owner: Sunrise Angus & CSI Angus

RED ANGUS

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Six Mile Ranch Ltd., Fir Mountain, SK
Additional Owner: Niobrara Red Angus
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Ter-Ron Farms, Forestburg, AB
Additional Owner: Six Mile Ranch
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Six Mile Ranch Ltd., Fir Mountain, SK
Additional Owner: Blairs.Ag Cattle Company
Additional Owner: Niobrara Red Angus
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Six Mile Ranch Ltd., Fir Mountain, SK
Additional Owner: Diamond T Angus
Additional Owner: Sunberry Valley Ranch
Additional Owner: Vikse Family Farm

CHAROLAIS

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Serhienko Cattle Co., Maymont, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Rollin Acres Charolais, Mulmur, ON
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Prairie Cove Charolais, Bowden, AB
Additional Owner: Cederlea Farms
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Johnson Charolais, Barrhead, AB

GELBIEH

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Davidson Gelbvieh, Ponteix, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Fladeland Livestock, Gladmar, SK
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Royal Western Gelbvieh, Red Deer County, AB
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Twin Bridge Farms, Lomond, AB

POLLED HEREFORD

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Harvie Ranching, Olds, AB
Additional Owner: RSK Farms MB
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Remital-West, Olds, AB
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Glenlees Farm, Arcola, SK
Additional Owner: Ron Schmidt
Additional Owner: Micheal Caley Sr.
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Remital-West, Olds, AB
Additional Owner: Glenrose Polled Herefords

HORNED HEREFORD

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Hirsche Herefords and Angus Ltd., High River, AB
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Brad Dallas, Bowden, AB
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Triple A Herefords, Moose Jaw, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Big Gully Farm, Maidstone, SK

LIMOUSIN

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Greenwood, Lloydminster, SK
Additional Owner: Boss Lake Genetics
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Boss Lake Genetics, Stony Plain, AB
Additional Owner: Greenwood Limousin
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Highland Stock Farms, Bragg Creek, AB
Additional Owner: Double 4 Farming Ltd.
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Boss Lake Genetics, Stony Plain, AB
Additional Owner: Skull Creek Ranches

MAINE-ANJOU

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Rusylvia Cattle Co., Derwent, AB
Additional Owner: Rusylvia Cattle Co.
Additional Owner: Tyson Pashulka
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Lightning Strike Cattle Co., Grenfell, SK
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Bry-Ann Farms, Daysland, AB
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Lightning Strike Cattle Co., Grenfell, SK

SHORTHORN

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Braun Ranch Ltd., Simmie, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Spady Farms, Deroche, BC
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Hill Haven Farm, Duntroon, ON
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Anwender Cattle Co., Radville, SK

SIMMENTAL

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Lone Star Angus, Sylvan Lake, AB
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Twisted Sisters Livestock, Lloydminster, AB
Additional Owner: Meghan Hoffman
Additional Owner: Brianna Kimmel
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Wheatland Cattle Co., Bienfait, SK
Additional Owner: JP Cattle Co.
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Harvie Ranching, Olds, AB

SPECKLE PARK

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Jason Goodfellow, Neilburg, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE..... Jason Goodfellow, Neilburg, SK
GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Codiak Acres, Ardrossan, AB
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL..... Ravenworth, Middle Lake, SK

COMMERCIAL CATTLE

GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF BRED REPLACEMENT HEIFERS..... Murray Westman, Vermilion, AB
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF BRED REPLACEMENT HEIFERS..... Rockin' Lazy M Ranch, Moose Jaw, SK
GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF OPEN REPLACEMENT HEIFERS..... Blairswest Land and Cattle, Drake, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF OPEN REPLACEMENT HEIFERS..... Jackson Family Farm, Humboldt, SK

PROSPECT STEER & HEIFER

GRAND CHAMPION PROSPECT STEER..... Rasmuson Cattle, Midale, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION PROSPECT STEER..... KinRow Cattle, Pangman, SK
GRAND CHAMPION PROSPECT HEIFER..... Brodie Gutzke, Weyburn, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION PROSPECT HEIFER..... Nostadt Stock Farms, Maidstone, ON

LETHBRIDGE FACILITY

Alberta potato processing plant planned

The extra demand created by the facility will increase total potato acres in southern Alberta to 50,000

BY BARB GLEN
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

A new potato processing facility in Lethbridge, to be built by Cavendish Farms, was announced Dec. 12 at Lethbridge city hall.

It is expected to create demand for an additional 9,000 acres of potatoes in southern Alberta.

Lethbridge Mayor Chris Spearman said in a news release that the project, with an investment of at least \$350 million, is among the largest in the city's history and will create jobs and economic growth for the city and region.

Cavendish has operated a potato

processing facility within the city since 2012, when it acquired the former Maple Leaf Foods plant in the city's north side industrial park. That acquisition was announced almost four years to the day of this one.

Options for expansion in the current location are limited, so the new Cavendish facility is slated to be built in the Sherring Industrial Park in the city's northeast sector. The future of the existing Cavendish operation was not known at press time.

Alberta Agriculture Minister Oneil Carlier was on hand for the announcement, as was Cavendish

Farms president Robert K. Irving. Carlier said the news illustrated his government's aim to provide "the right conditions for jobs, economic growth and diversification."

"This historic private investment will create good jobs and opportunities for local farmers, and it will build on Lethbridge's stellar reputation as a national hub of agri-food business innovation," Carlier said in a news release before the official announcement.

The existing plant employs about 130 people.

The release indicated that the city and Cavendish would continue

discussions on needed infrastructure upgrades to the industrial park to accommodate the project.

In addition to Cavendish, southern Alberta is home to two other potato plants. McCain's and Lamb-Weston operate processing facilities near Coaldale and Taber, respectively.

At present, about 45,000 acres of potatoes are grown in the region annually.

The Cavendish announcement would bring that total to about 50,000 acres of potatoes once the new plant is operating.

barb.glen@producer.com



The plant in Lethbridge will require 9,000 more acres of potatoes. | FILE PHOTO

Grand and Reserve Grand Champions WESTERN PRODUCER



CANADIAN JUNIOR BEEF EXTREME

CHAMPION Merit Cattle Co., Radville, SK
RESERVE Ter-Ron Farms, Forestburg, AB
Additional Owner: Six Mile Ranch

YOUTH SHOWMANSHIP

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP (9-12 YEARS) CHAMPION Karmrie Kaufmann, Ceylon, SK
INTERMEDIATE SHOWMANSHIP (13-15 YEARS) CHAMPION Baxter Blair, McLean, SK
SENIOR SHOWMANSHIP (16-21 YEARS) CHAMPION Makayla Hoffman, Lloydminster, AB

TEAM GROOMING

JUNIOR TEAM (9-12 YEARS) CHAMPION Jordan Dorrance, Wawota, SK
INTERMEDIATE TEAM (13-15 YEARS) CHAMPION Ashtyn Webber, Krissely Webber, Midale, SK
SENIOR TEAM (16-21 YEARS) CHAMPION Josee Renee Monvoisin, Gravelbourg, SK

SSBA SHEEP SHOW ANY OTHER BREED

GRAND CHAMPION EWE Clinton Wiens, Drake, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE Double L Farms, Fox Valley, SK
GRAND CHAMPION RAM Kim & Diane MacDougall, Regina, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM Mish Katahdins, Glenavon, SK

CANADIAN ARCOTT

GRAND CHAMPION EWE Braebank Stock Farm, Pilger, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE Braebank Stock Farm, Pilger, SK
GRAND CHAMPION RAM The Govan Ranch, Englefeld, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM The Govan Ranch, Englefeld, SK

DORSET

GRAND CHAMPION EWE Furze Farms Ltd., Maryfield, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE Furze Farms Ltd., Maryfield, SK
GRAND CHAMPION RAM Furze Farms Ltd., Maryfield, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM Coyote Acres, Halkirk, AB

SUFFOLK

GRAND CHAMPION EWE Rocking S Ranch, Nokomis, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE Rocking S Ranch, Nokomis, SK
GRAND CHAMPION RAM Rocking S Ranch, Nokomis, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM Furze Farms Ltd., Maryfield, SK

SHROPSHIRE

GRAND CHAMPION EWE Danika Zinger, Pritchard, BC
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE Lorri Lyster, Halkirk, AB
GRAND CHAMPION RAM Coyote Acres, Halkirk, AB
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM Coyote Acres, Halkirk, AB

COMMERCIAL SHEEP SHOW

GRAND CHAMPION SINGLE COMMERCIAL EWE Lois Trowell, Saltcoats, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION SINGLE COMMERCIAL EWE Lakeland College Sheep and Stuff Club, Vermilion, AB
GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF COMMERCIAL EWES Lois Trowell, Saltcoats, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF COMMERCIAL EWES Furze Farms Ltd., Maryfield, SK
GRAND CHAMPION MARKET LAMB Clinton Wiens, Drake, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION MARKET LAMB Wade & Laurel Johnson, Avonlea, SK

BOER GOAT SHOW

GRAND CHAMPION PUREBRED BOER GOAT DOE Deep Lake Land & Livestock, Indian Head, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION PUREBRED BOER GOAT DOE Kerry O'Donnell, Calder, SK
GRAND CHAMPION PERCENTAGE BOER GOAT DOE St. John Boer Goats, Brock, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION PERCENTAGE BOER GOAT DOE Calico Creek Goats, Yorkton, SK
GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF 3 PUREBRED AND/OR PERCENTAGE DOES Calico Creek Goats, Yorkton, SK

COMMERCIAL GOAT SHOW

GRAND CHAMPION COMMERCIAL DOE Kerry O'Donnell, Calder, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION COMMERCIAL DOE Bundy Livestock, Balcarres, SK
GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF 3 DOES Bundy Livestock, Balcarres, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION PEN OF 3 DOES Kerry O'Donnell, Calder, SK
GRAND CHAMPION MARKET KID Calico Creek Goats, Yorkton, SK
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION MARKET KID Calico Creek Goats, Yorkton, SK

CHORE TEAM EVENTS

CHORE TEAM COMPETITION Lloyd Smith, Pelly, SK
FEED TEAM RACE Lloyd Smith, Pelly, SK
WATER BARREL RACE Lloyd Smith, Pelly, SK

HORSE PULLS

HEAVYWEIGHT Dennis Weinberger, Cochrane, AB
MIDDLEWEIGHT Dennis Weinberger, Cochrane, AB
LIGHTWEIGHT Nick Heeter, Dalton, MN

TRAINER'S CHALLENGE

1st Tyler Darroch, Yorkton, SK

STOCK DOGS

1st Milton Scott, Airdrie, AB

CANADIAN NATIONAL 4-H AND YOUTH JUDGING COMPETITION

GRAND AGGREGATE Jess Verstappen representing Lakeland College

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CANOLA STORAGE

Fire in canola hopper bin causes consternation

BY ROBIN BOOKER
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

An extraordinary photo that went viral on social media depicting a Dec. 6 bin fire should serve as a stark reminder of how wrong things can go when storing canola.

The cause of the fire is a mystery to its owner, Jim Shirley, who farms about 1,000 acres near Kelvington, Sask.

Shirley found out about the fire when a neighbour called and said there was a problem at his bin site.

"When I got there, the fan was burned off the bin and canola oil was running out the bottom of the hopper, about three inches thick, and down past the barn about 100 feet way," Shirley said.

"It's unbelievable how much oil was coming out of that canola."

Firefighters arrived at the scene and poured water into the hole where the fan used to be.

"They threw some water in there and that kind of just settled it down a little bit," Shirley said.

Neighbours also showed up to help Shirley, but it was a difficult fire to fight because it was contained inside the bin.

They decided to remove as much canola as they could as quickly as possible.

"Some (canola) came out with the auger, then we cut a bunch of holes in the hopper and drained it out, but it was sitting right underneath the bin. The cone was really hot so we thought we had to get the bin off

the pile or it will light up again," Shirley said.

All of the canola in the bin was ruined.

"We were able to auger some out, but it was already burned and water damage. There is 1,600 bu. altogether and none of it was any good for anything," he said.

"I've never heard of a bin lighting up, like burning. They'll get charcoal in the bins, but they don't burn. That's why I'm thinking something must have lit this thing."

JIM SHIRLEY
KELVINGTON, SASK., GROWER

They pulled the hopper legs off the bin with Shirley's tractor in an attempt to get it away from the pile of canola and the propane tank used for its dryer.

When they were attempting to move the bin there was about 100 bu. of canola still inside, which burst into flames.

This was when Shirley took the photo.

"It wouldn't fall over, it was like one of those big tops. We pulled all the legs off and we thought it would just fall over. But it just wouldn't," Shirley said.

"We kept hooking on to it with chains and tow ropes, and finally it

just kind of spun it around."

The bin continued to stand until a day later, when Shirley finally tipped it over to get it out of the way.

Three days after the fire, smoke was still coming from the canola pile.

There were about 1,600 bu. in a 2,300 bushel bin, which also had a propane heater installed.

The heater had been turned off for about two weeks, but the propane line attached to it was still charged.

"The propane tank was right by the bin, like maybe 20 feet away. The hose had burned off, but it had that safety on it, so it shut off. That was a good thing," Shirley said.

He said he is unsure how the bin caught fire.

"The canola came off at 13.5 (percent moisture) and I had the air on it for a month, so it wasn't that it was heated, I don't think. But what lit it up, I don't know. I'm thinking a bearing on the fan threw some sparks in there or something."

He said he climbed up on the bin a few days before the fire and noticed the air was blowing through the canola and there was no smell.

"Sometime an aeration fan will find a hole and go through it. But if there was burning going on I think I would have smelled it, I'm just about sure of it," Shirley said.

He said he has seen heated canola before, including a bin of his father's more than 30 years ago, but he has never heard of a



This 2,300-bushel hopper bin contained 1,600 bu. of canola when it caught fire near Kelvington, Sask. In this photo, the hopper's legs had already been pulled off with a tractor in an attempt to move the bin. | JIM SHIRLEY PHOTO

bin catching fire like this one did.

"I've never heard of a bin lighting up, like burning. They'll get charcoal in the bins, but they don't burn.

That's why I'm thinking something must have lit this thing," Shirley said.

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Pioneer® brand seed product	Town	Province	Crop	Yield (bu/ac)
45M35 RR	Leask	SK		83.4
45H33 RR	Vulcan	AB		80.9
46H75 CL	Rosthern	SK		80.9
P7632AM™	MacGregor	MB		209.9
P8622AM™	Schanzenfeld	MB		207.5
P7958AM™	Brandon	MB		204.4
P006T78R	Minto	MB		67.9
P006T46R	Darlingford	MB		67.3
P005T13R	Notre Dame de Lourdes	MB		64.4

Canola, corn and soybean yield data was collected from large-scale, grower managed trials across Western Canada as of November 14, 2016. Product responses are variable and subject to any number of environmental, disease and pest pressures. Individual results may vary. Multi-year and multi-location data are a better predictor of future performance. Do not use this or any other data from a limited number of trials as a significant factor in product selection. Refer to pioneer.com/yield or contact your local Pioneer Hi-Bred sales representative for the latest and complete listing of trials and scores for each Pioneer® brand product. Always follow grain marketing, stewardship practices and pesticide label directions. Varieties that are glyphosate tolerant (including those designated by the letter "R" in the product number) contain genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate herbicides. Glyphosate herbicides will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate. AM - Optimum® AcreMax® Insect Protection system with YGCB, HX1, LL, RR2. Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution for above-ground insects. Genuity®, Roundup Ready®, YieldGard® and the YieldGard® Corn Borer design are registered trademarks used under license from Monsanto Company. Liberty Link® and the Water Droplet Design are trademarks of Bayer. Herculex® Insect protection technology by Dow AgroSciences and Pioneer Hi-Bred. Herculex® and the HX logo are trademarks of Dow AgroSciences LLC. CLEARFIELD® is a registered trademark of BASF. Pioneer® brand products are provided subject to the terms and conditions of purchase which are part of the labeling and purchase documents. © 2016, PHIL.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Farmers urged to prepare for tough times ahead

Market advisers expect interest rates to rise and warned producers to brace for years of low margins

BY ED WHITE
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Smart farmers are now working to prepare for a possible interest rate squeeze, says a leading U.S. agricultural economist.

According to a Canadian banker, Canadian farmers have been able to take such measures with less pain than their U.S. counterparts thanks to the falling loonie, which has eased the pressure felt by thousands of farmers south of the border.

"For the most part, Canadian farmers have had pretty average returns. It's been business as usual," James Fehr, vice-president of agriculture and agribusiness for the Royal Bank of Canada in eastern Manitoba, said in an interview.

"There's been the exchange (rate difference) that has really protected them from the downside."

David Kohl of Virginia Tech, an adviser to Canadian farmers for 30 years, told farmers at the Dec. 7 Manitoba Dairy Conference that they can't count on the low interest rate era continuing long into the Donald Trump presidency if he achieves what he wants.

"I'm watching really closely the first year of the Trump administration," said Kohl in an interview.

Trump's "pro-growth and less-regulatory" approach could lead to "more inflation, and when you



During the super cycle, you could ... make money because the economics were good. Now, whether you're big or small, you also have to sweat the small stuff.

DAVID KOHL
FARM ADVISER

have more inflation you're going to have higher interest rates."

If Canadian and world economic conditions "normalize," young

farmers will be dealing with something they might have never experienced. During the years of the commodity bull market, returns were high. During the low-interest-rate era, debt costs were low.

An inflationary period will make debt more expensive to manage and a more normal commodity period will continue to leave margins thin.

"During the super cycle, you could ... make money because the economics were good. Now, whether you're big or small, you also have to sweat the small stuff," said Kohl.

As a farmer recently quipped to him, "big and sloppy doesn't cut it anymore."

Kohl said good farm managers have been adjusting their businesses to deal with a prolonged period of narrow margins, keeping a close watch on cash flow, cost of production and budgeting.

He urged farmers to build good relationships with their lenders because keeping the debt situation well-managed will be key if interest rate volatility erupts.

Kohl said his own family's dairy processing business recently locked in some interest rates on its debt because of the risk of interest rate increases.

Fehr said he has been encouraging farmers to consider locking in some rates too. Above all, farmers



James Fehr, left, of RBC and David Kohl of Virginia Tech said farm managers will need to look at cost of production and watch cash flow in upcoming years. | ED WHITE PHOTO

need to understand how their finances would be affected by interest rates rising one or two percent.

"That's one of the things we talk to him about: cash flow and checking his cash flow against a sensitivity analysis for interest rates," said Fehr.

Kohl said he thinks about 25 percent of young farmers will quit the business "in a New York minute" if a tight financial squeeze occurs. Twenty-five will struggle and 50

percent will "hunker down" and be able to ride it out.

Young farmers might not have faced a higher interest rate environment connected to a period of low returns, but they are generally well-educated and well-prepared, Kohl said.

"We're watching the young producers to see if they can take an economic punch."

Kohl is guessing that most of them can.

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FARM SAFETY

A gripping story about cutting corners

BY BARB GLEN
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

CALGARY — Duane Janiskevich wants a “do over,” and he wants other farmers in Canada to be so safe that they never need one.

Janiskevich cut off three fingers and his thumb in 2008. The evidence is there, on his right hand, and the memory is vivid. He knew at the time that a jigsaw was the right tool, but he used a table saw instead.

“I knew it was a dangerous activity the way I was doing it, but I didn’t have time, really, to use the right tool, in my mind,” he said.

He made the cut but as he pulled back from the blade, the saw hurled the piece of wood directly at him.

“Before I even looked down at my hand, I just thought, ‘I want a do over, because that was way too easy.’ It was such a simple decision, something I knew I shouldn’t have done.

“And then I looked down and I just screamed as loud as I could. My middle finger was lying in my hand. My thumb was lying in my hand, and the other two fingers, I didn’t know where they were at the time.”

Janiskevich talked about his situation before speaking to Alberta Milk members during the organization’s Nov. 23 annual meeting.

He formed Gripping Insights Consulting following finger reattachment and lengthy rehabilitation. The business name shows his appreciation for irony as well as the importance with which he treats the farm safety message.

“I do have some gripping issues now and again.”

Janiskevich grew up in Lemburg, Sask., a farming community where his grandparents farmed and where he was also a frequent farm visitor and worker.

That’s why he knows a bit about the farmer psyche.

“We look for ways that we can do something quickly, and sometimes it puts our safety at risk,” he said.

“It’s understanding where we’re doing that and to sort of analyze that action and stop doing it. For me, I didn’t stop soon enough.”

Janiskevich said he is aware of recent controversy over Alberta’s Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act, formerly known as Bill 6.

And then I looked down and I just screamed as loud as I could. My middle finger was lying in my hand. My thumb was lying in my hand, and the other two fingers, I didn’t know where they were at the time.

DUANE JANISKEVICH, GRIPPING INSIGHTS CONSULTING



Duane Janiskevich’s hand is a reminder of the tragic consequences of not working safely. | BARB GLEN PHOTO

However, he said attitudes rather than legislation are the keys to farm safety.

“For me it’s not about legislation or organizations that are looking over (your shoulder) to see what you’re doing,” he said.

“It’s really about safety being that personal value, something where you really don’t care if somebody is watching or not, but you’re saying, ‘I want to be safe for my family. I want to be safe because I love doing what I do and I want to keep doing it.’”

His presentation to Alberta Milk was called Stop Cutting Corners. Janiskevich said that’s because doing things in an unsafe way leads to more of the same but increases risk.

Injuries affect other family members, often in unforeseen ways, and there are mental as well as physical tolls on the person who suffers it.

“It carried a heavy weight,” said Janiskevich about his injury.

“A lot of it, I think to start with, was guilt. I knew what I did caused my injuries. You go through self-doubt.... I thought every time I shook somebody’s hand, they were going to judge me. It would be in their face.”

He regained 80 percent functionality in his right hand after intense therapy and thoughts of further amputation and was off work for six months. Motivational speaking is the latest foray in his working career, which includes teaching, civil technology and management consulting and farm labourer.

As well, Janiskevich has got his wish, in a way.

“I think every time I talk to a crowd, I get a do over. I get a chance to do this thing right, through them,” he said.

“It’s more about making it real for people, not pointing fingers. I tell people that I don’t point fingers because you have no clue where I’m pointing anyways.

“I’ve taken my story. I’ve added humour in different spots. But it’s something that’s relatable. I think people just step back and say, ‘whoa, why am I cutting corners? What am I gaining? Is it just the time? Is it just a little bit of money? Is it just a little bit of effort? And is it worth it?’”

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Backstage at Agribition

There's plenty of preparation before the show ring — and some chores require getting down and dirty. Really dirty. | **WILLIAM DEKAY PHOTOS**



ABOVE: The up-and-over manoeuvre failed for Keston Hollman, 7, of Innisfail, Alta., who didn't get quite the right twist on his manure throw.

TOP: Trent Liebreich of Radville, Sask., gives his Black Angus bull a thorough face wash.

CENTRE: Jeff Trask puts the finishing touches on a horned Hereford from Lock Farms in Macklin, Sask.

LEFT: The FCC Crossing was a popular place for Agribition participants to catch up on much needed sleep.

AGRIBITION

Fewer sheep in the sales ring, but price called 'good average'

The high selling lot sold to Saskatchewan producer for \$625

BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU

Fewer sheep producers opted to sell their animals at Canadian Western Agribition this year but organizers said those who did were happy with the prices.

Laurel Johnson, president of the Saskatchewan Sheep Breeders Association, said 58 animals sold this year compared to 91 last year.

Prices averaged \$366 overall, while purebred ewes averaged \$535.

"It's a good average," Johnson said. "It's consistent with the national show and sale."

The high-selling lot was a Dorset yearling ewe, named Coyote Acres Roxy 465C, consigned by Lorri Lyster of Halkirk, Alta. She sold to Maria Hogenboom of Yorkton, Sask., for \$625.

Johnson said the industry is strong, as evidenced by 115 animals exhibited in the show from Western Canada.

"We're trying to get youth involved and excited about the show aspect," she said.

4-H multi-clubs are including sheep, and many families find the smaller livestock an safe and easy way to involve their children in

showing, she said.

Johnson, her husband and children run 80 purebred and commercial sheep, cattle and guard dogs near Avonlea, Sask. She said her son and daughter have been showing since they were old enough to hold onto the sheep.

Her son, Gilbert, won the junior showmanship class this year.

In the winners' circle

The grand champion ewe, any other breed, was Wiens C60D, from Clinton Wiens at Drake, Sask. The reserve was Double L Carys 2C from Double L Farms at Fox Valley, Sask.

Kim and Diane MacDougall of Regina exhibited the grand champion ram, any other breed, White Rose 63C. Standing reserve was JJCM A 401 from Mish Katahdins at Glenavon, Sask.

Braebank Stock Farm from Pilger, Sask., had the top two Canadian Arcott ewes with Braebank Duchess and Braebank Cecily 153C.

The Govan Ranch of Englefeld, Sask., swept the ram Arcott titles with Sheep Trax Benny and Sheep Trax Clovis 470C.

Three of four Dorset ribbons went to Furze Farms Ltd. of Mary-

field, Sask.

The grand champion ewe was Furze Adele 43A, followed by Furze Corset 41C. Furze Drake 41D was the top ram. Coyote Acres Trojan 154D, from Coyote Acres at Halkirk, Alta., won reserve.

Rocking S Ranch of Nokomis, Sask., showed the grand and reserve champion ewes: Rocking S Linda 4C and Rocking S Natalie 2D. Rocking S Las Vegas 1D was the ram champion, followed by Furze Darby 22D.

Winners in the wool breed classes were The Edge China 82C from Danika Zinger of Pritchard, B.C., and Sheep Trax Cara 523C from Lyster in the ewe division. Coyote Acres showed the ram winners, Coyote Acres Nairn 133D and Coyote Acres Badger 145D.

In the commercial classes, Lois Trowell from Saltcoats, Sask., showed the grand champion ewe. Lakeland College Sheep and Stuff Club from Vermilion, Alta., had the reserve.

The pen winners were Trowell and Furze Farms.

Wiens exhibited the top market lamb, and Johnson showed the reserve.

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AGRIBITION

Prices dip at Agribition's commercial cattle show

BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU

For the second year in a row, the high-selling pen at the Canadian Western Agribition commercial cattle sale went from the same seller to the same buyer.

The difference this year was a substantial decrease in price, reflecting the current cattle market.

Last year, Palmer Charolais of Bladworth, Sask., paid \$5,000 each for a pen of five bred heifers from Mebs Ranch at Broadview, Sask.

This year, the price was \$3,950 each.

Overall, the 2016 sale averaged \$2,184.38 on 200 bred heifers and \$1,384.75 on 80 open replacements. Last year, bred heifers averaged \$3,424.29, while opens were \$2,066.

In the show, the grand champion pen of bred heifers was a pen of 10, bred to Angus, from Murray West-

man at Vermilion, Alta. The reserve banner went to Rockin Lazy M Ranch of Moose Jaw, Sask., for a pen of five bred to Black Angus.

The open replacement heifer winners were pens from Blairswest Land and Cattle at Drake, Sask., and Jackson Family Farm of Humboldt, Sask.

In the Bull Pen Alley show, the supreme champion pen was an Angus entry from Double F Cattle Co. of Parkside, Sask.

Breed winners were Cedarlea Farms of Hodgeville, Sask., (Charolais); McCoy Cattle Co., Milestone, Sask., (Hereford grand); LV Farms Ltd., Midale, Sask., (Hereford reserve); JP Cattle Co., McAuley, Man. (Simmental grand); McIntosh Livestock, Maymont, Sask., (Simmental reserve); Anderson Cattle Co., Swan River, Man., (reserve Angus).

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2016	2015
BRED HEIFERS AVERAGED	BRED HEIFERS AVERAGED
\$2,184.38	\$3,424.29

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AG NOTES

CHICKEN FARMERS OF CANADA HAS NEW CHAIR

Benoît Fontaine from Stanbridge Station, Que., is the new chair of Chicken Farmers of Canada.

Fontaine joined the board in 2013 and most recently served as the first vice-chair of the organization's executive committee.

The former high school Canadian history teacher farms in the Lac Champlain area and raises chicken and turkeys.

Fontaine has also been involved in the Union des producteurs

agricoles since 1999 and has served on CFC's policy and production committee.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS FLAX FOOD RESEARCH

The Flax Council of Canada received \$135,000 in federal and Manitoba government funding to develop four flax-based food products that may help lower cholesterol.

The council also invested \$54,000 in the project.

The funding helped create and

test four foods made with ground flaxseed: a muffin, bread, smoothie mix and nutrition bar.

The work was done at the Food Development Centre in Portage la Prairie, Man., with a focus on using ingredients grown and made in Manitoba.

The creation of a flax muffin recipe with 13 grams of flax is the first product ready for consumers.

About 50,000 muffins will be served in the health region this year.

It is said to be an excellent source of energy, low in saturated fats and provides five grams of protein and

four grams of fibre per muffin.

They are made at the Donut House in Winnipeg.

The recipe is available online at healthyflax.org.

PULSE GROWERS ELECT DIRECTORS

Brad Blackwell of Dinsmore, Jackie Carleton of Saskatoon and Lee Moats of Riceton have been elected for three-year terms to Saskatchewan Pulse Growers' board of directors.

Blackwell operates a family farm

that grows 8,000 acres of wheat, malting barley, flax and red lentils. Pulses account for 40 percent of their acres.

Carleton manages and operates a 4,000 acre farm with her husband. Peas and lentils account for one-third of their crop rotation.

Moats operates a farm with his wife and son. Lentils account for 33 percent of their cropping system, along with winter cereals and canola.

The new board members will assume responsibility following SPG's annual general meeting at CropSphere Jan. 9 in Saskatoon.

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PRODUCTION

TELEMATICS BOOMING IN PRECISION AGRICULTURE

Farmers are seeing the benefits of the tools and, while not as quickly adopted as guidance, they are finding out it can pay for itself. | **Page 23**



PRODUCTION EDITOR: MICHAEL RAINE | Ph: 306-665-3592 F: 306-934-2401 | E-MAIL: MICHAEL.RAINE@PRODUCER.COM

ELEVATION MODELLING

Drones used to target areas for drainage

Company produces topographic maps, processes data and provides interface program for software platforms such as MyJohnDeere or FarmCommand

BY RON LYSENG
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Unmanned aerial vehicle technology has advanced to the point that an RTK-equipped drone with elevation accuracy of plus or minus five centimetres can find the best route for water across a field.

Prairie companies are working together to make every acre pay its way.

One topographic-capable unmanned drone is a fixed wing eBee RTK, retailing for about \$100,000, including the ground station. Green Aero Tech in Carman, Man., runs a fleet of four eBee RTKs, says chief executive officer Scott Hiebert.

With a plethora of high quality drones costing a fraction of that amount, why would he incur such a major expense for his four-year-old company?

"For years now, farmers have been telling all of us drone service providers, 'your drone aerial makes a pretty picture, but until my water is under control, it just doesn't matter,'" Hiebert said.

"So we went looking for a UAV that gives survey-grade elevation data. We spent about \$250,000 buying and testing drones that claimed to give elevation data good enough for a drainage plan.

"I admit, we got duped by their marketing claims. None of them gave topographic accuracy good enough for drainage. I'd say that 99 out of 100 drone manufacturers don't have the ability to do accurate elevation modelling."

He said many drones are good for field scouting, but they can't do accurate elevation mapping.

Hiebert settled on the eBee RTK. Each of the four units cost \$80,000 plus another \$20,000 for the base

station. Green Arrow Tech runs a fleet of 14 units in total, but it uses its eBee RTK units 90 percent of the time. The other aircraft are used primarily for scouting.

"We are not drones just for the sake of drones," he said.

"Our focus is on topographical accuracy. We invested in some really high tech equipment to deal primarily with drainage. To make a drainage plan, we need plus or minus five cm. We still deal with crop health, but we realize that crop health is so often related to drainage.

"We were doing UAV drainage plans before we bought the eBee RTK drones, but it was time consuming. We'd have to set up at least 16 stations on a quarter section. Ten were ground control points, plus we had six more to check. It was a lot of work.

"Then about a year ago we bought these eBee RTK drones. Now we only put down a couple control points. We do a quarter section in 45 minutes. It takes an hour and a half to do a whole section. We'll sometimes run two drones at the same time."

Hiebert said gathering good elevation data was the first challenge.

Next came problems with processing data and turning it into a plan that a drainage engineer could use. AgSky in Swan River, Man., had solved the data processing problem, but it needed cash and good drones to move forward.

"So we bought AgSky about a year ago," Hiebert said.

"We got their processing capability. They got money and drones. That purchase allowed us to focus on topographical mapping. Once that was working, we were able to develop algorithm and integration



Green Aero Tech's web interface enables the landowner to identify areas requiring drainage. The blue lines show where water is flowing naturally. The red and yellow areas show where water is being held back in depressions and sinks. The portal allows users to easily switch between elevation, drainage and visual maps. It also provides a perspective on what's happening with adjacent fields. Some layers can be loaded directly into a tractor's display equipment to provide guidance for ditching and scraping operations. | GREEN AERO PHOTOS



Three eBee UAV units wait to be put into the air. At \$80,000 each, plus three RTK correction units, the equipment to do 3D mapping is not inexpensive. |

RON LYSENG PHOTO



Tile drainage based on aerial mapping of a Manitoba field.

tools so we could form working partnerships with other parties."

In the past year, Green Aero Tech has entered into partnerships with Farmers Edge, NextGen Drainage, Enns Brothers John Deere in Manitoba and Western Sales John Deere in Saskatchewan.

It developed an application program interface with the two John Deere dealers to ensure seamless integration with the existing software. It also developed an online portal so that farmers not con-

nected to either Deere or Farmers Edge can use their RTK aerial services.

"We have three programmers on staff. Drone technology is evolving so fast that we have one team member dedicated totally to research and development," he said.

"That's how we can develop new things like the portal that lets us push data directly into MyJohnDeere or FarmCommand. That means John Deere and Farmers Edge don't need to develop these

systems. We've already got it covered. But we're not tied to any of these partnership agreements. We work with anyone and everyone. We're colour blind."

Hiebert said the cost to clients range from \$4 to \$10 per acre, depending on their requirements. He emphasizes that Green Aero Tech produces a drainage prescription map.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>



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» CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

The prescription map must be produced by a qualified drainage contractor, he added, and Green Aero Tech is a data provider rather than a drainage engineering company.

"We do a lot more than topographical mapping," he said.

"We cover all the bases. We do multi-spectral imaging for crop stress management, thermal imaging and everything else the other drone service providers do. We do a lot of thermal work for Syngenta and all the major seed companies."

The company has offices in Cochrane Alta., Swift Current, Sask., Swan River, Man. and North Dakota as well as its headquarters in Carman.

In August, Green Aero Tech gained access to the proprietary MyJohnDeere management system of Enns Brothers and Western Sales, two of Canada's largest John Deere dealerships.

"We're the first drone service provider in North America allowed to push data into the MyJohnDeere system," Hiebert said.

"We have some pretty good connections. Our family farm at Carman is 11,000 acres and we've been big Deere customers forever. We were running Starfire autosteer 20 years ago. My brother, Curtis, has spoken at John Deere board of directors meetings at their head office. So that didn't hurt. If doors open, you've got to walk through them."

The deal gives Deere customers access to drone data that they can use to make land and water management decisions, said Mitch Rezansoff, integrated solutions manager at Enns Brothers.

"Initially we teamed up with Green Aero Tech for in-season crop health NIR and NDVI imagery, but when they got topography, we signed on for that, too," Rezansoff

said.

"We (Enns Brothers) cover half the acres in Manitoba. We had been using local drone service providers, but that didn't give us the consistency we needed from one area to the next. Green Aero gave us reliably consistent imagery."

"Dealing with in-season imagery for analysis, it's not the sort of thing you can plan for very far in advance."

We get a much more comprehensive picture with an aerial topographical map. We get to see the ditches, the knolls and the surrounding countryside so we can figure out how it all fits together. Where is the water coming from and where is it going?

MITCH REZANSOFF
ENNS BROTHERS

It's usually an on-demand requirement, and they have enough drones and pilots to meet that requirement throughout Manitoba."

Rezansoff said the topographical data can feed into the Deere Smart Water program.

"We're starting to see more operators looking at a drainage strategy over the whole farm, rather than a field by field approach," Rezansoff said.

"We get a much more comprehensive picture with an aerial topographical map. We get to see the ditches, the knolls and the surrounding countryside so we can figure out how it all fits together. Where is the water coming from and where is it going?"

He said having that information at hand makes the permit process go a lot more smoothly. You can show the municipality or the drain-

age engineers where there are problems with ditches, culverts, surface drains that have silted in and other hidden problems that can't be seen on the ground.

Rezansoff said Deere started loosening its grip on proprietary software about five years ago.

"Actually, John Deere is almost following the Apple model where we have a platform and we look for quality partners who do things very well," he said.

"They actually now encourage third parties to develop solutions that can integrate into the John Deere software."

"John Deere actually hosts an annual conference where they bring in other companies to show these third party developers how they can bring a new solution into the John Deere system."

"Once you're integrated into the Deere system, that certainly broadens your number of potential clients."

Rezansoff said farmers like the idea because it helps reduce the number of software systems and suppliers with which they have to deal.

Fifty companies have integrated their solutions into the John Deere technology through Develop With Deere, including two other drone RTK providers, he added.

Farmers Edge announced a strategic alliance with Green Aero Tech in July.

The message from customers was loud and clear, said Todd Ormann of Farmers Edge: drainage was one of the underlying problems preventing maximum yield. Excess water hinders seeding, spraying and harvest, affects crop health and often drowns out a crop completely.

"We've had some wet years, so a lot more people are finally seeing the economic value of investing in water management," he said.

Farmers Edge has developed its

own program called Drainage Manager, he added.

Ormann said Drainage Manager takes data from Green Aero Tech and integrates it into FarmCommand, which gives Farmers Edge customers high quality survey-grade topographic information in their own systems. They can now use that topographic information along with all the other maps that they already have in FarmCommand.

He said drone imagery provides sharp images, fast processing times and close to real-time access to critical data when weather conditions and cloud cover prevent the use of satellite imagery.

The Green Aero Tech data can be integrated with the Farmers Edge Precision Solutions package, including VRT, soil sampling and analysis, field-centric weather, in-field telematics and data transfer, high-resolution satellite imagery, field-centric data analytics and access to FarmCommand.

NextGen Drainage, one of West-

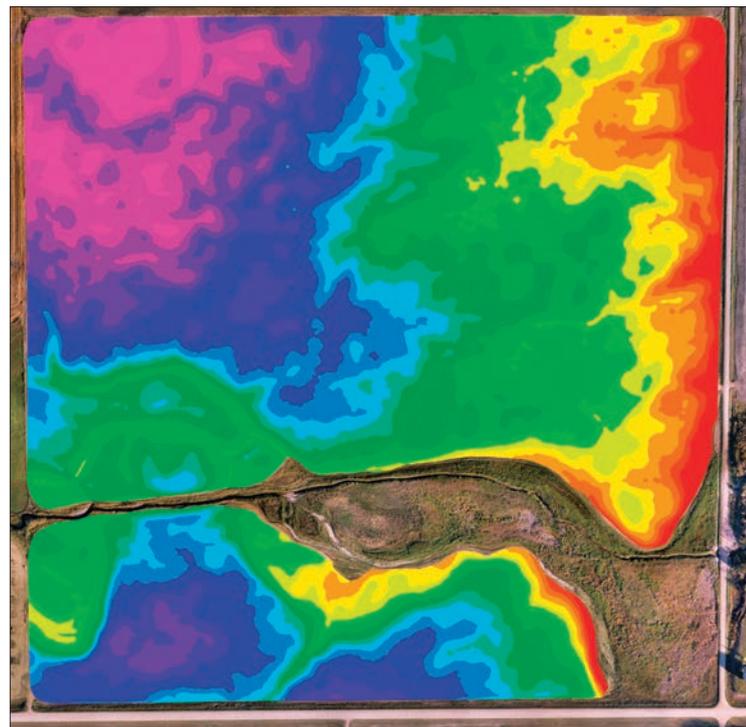
ern Canada's fastest growing tile drainage companies, has partnered with Green Aero Tech to use drone aerial imagery in designing subterranean tile drainage systems.

It's all about efficiency, said NextGen CEO Brett Sheffield. A drone can accomplish in an hour what a survey crew accomplishes in a day. A survey-grade drone topographical map significantly reduces the time and manpower cost of plotting elevations in a field, he added.

"NextGen chose to work with Green Aero Tech because they're the leaders in aerial RTK imagery. Green Aero now does all our drone work. That's really what's allowed us to expand across Western Canada so rapidly," Sheffield said.

"We do a lot of our own survey work as well, on the ground, but the aerial data they (Green Aero Tech) provide is accurate enough to allow us to make quotes and then proceed to an install. That's a huge advantage for us."

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An RTK drone can make survey-grade topographic maps with plus or minus five centimetre accuracy. The drone service provider first captures a large number of aerial photographs that are combined in a process called orthomosaicing. This rainbow-coloured map allows accurate visual maps to be created. | GREEN AERO PHOTO

TOPOGRAPHY MAPPING

How 3D aerial mapping works

BY RON LYSENG
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Creating survey-grade topography maps from a drone still sounds like science fiction to most people, but if you understand triangles, you're on the right path to understanding the process.

Here is Warren Genik of Green-Aero in his own words as he explains how it works.

"It all starts with photogrammetry, a method of combining multiple 2D images into one large 3D map. By overlapping aerial photographs, one individual object or key point shown in multiple aerial photos can be identified using specialized software."

"When one of our drones flies over a field, it captures 500 to 600 photos per quarter section using a grid pattern. Each photo covers about three acres. This means that one rock in the field is photographed eight to 12 times from an altitude of 300 feet."

"Using the same set of aerial

images, a second unique object is identified and marked as a new key point. A relationship has now been established between the two points using triangulation. This relationship becomes a spatial measurement or a point in 3D space.

"The high number of overlapped photos creates a very detailed point cloud, or 3D model of the field. With the drone travelling 60 km-h, it takes an average of 45 minutes to capture the necessary imagery for an entire quarter."

"By repeating the process many more times using high-end computer servers, this eventually becomes a 'point cloud' with millions of 3D points, each with its own unique location and elevation measurement."

"The key to making this model accurate enough for use in precision agriculture, engineering or survey activities comes down to three main points: right time, right place and right image."

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WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY

Cellphones play key role in most telemetry systems

PRECISION HAPPENS



TERRY A. BRASE

So far in this series of articles on telemetry, I've written about how wireless signals work, how telemetry works and what it can do.

What is missing is how to actually set it up to operate.

Most of the time it sounds easier than it actually is. The good news is that precision ag companies have integrated systems that do most of the setup for you.

Telemetry refers to wireless transfer of data, though precision agriculture has focused on the transfer of field data to and between the field, office and vehicles.

Walkie talkies and CB radios are wireless devices. They are set up by merely tuning each of the transmitting and receiving devices to the same channel or radio frequency.

Another example is the data transfer between RTK mobile base stations and field rovers.

An RTK base station requires a radio that is configured as a transmitter, as well as other settings such as a specific frequency, type of signal, an ID code and possibly the baud rate, which is the rate at which electrical signals are transferred. Most of the time, manuals provide recommended settings.

The rover GPS must also have a radio but be configured as a receiver with all the same settings. If the settings are different, the transmitter and receiver don't "talk" and no data is transferred. Most mobile RTK bases work on a similar basis: a transmitter for output of data and a receiver for input of data using radio signals.

The growth of telematics in



In precision agriculture, most companies rely on a modem and cellular data service to transfer data between devices. | FILE PHOTO

recent years is largely due to the increased use of cellular signals, which is where telematics gets more complicated.

Cellular signals are used by cellphones and include a nationwide network. The modem is the basic part of a cellphone, which transfers voice and data to a wireless signal. A gateway modem is a device that connects the cellular signal directly to the internet, or possibly other networks.

I have a dumb phone, which is to say a phone that provides only voice service and not data service. I have an iPad that provides data service but not voice service.

Most of you have a smartphone that receives both voice and data service.

As a result, you contract with a carrier for a voice plan and a data plan that is paid monthly. In precision agriculture, most companies rely on a modem and cellular data service to transfer data between devices and thus require a monthly data plan fee.

So how does a precision agriculture telemetry system work with cellular data?

As an example, I'll use the transfer of sensor data from the field to a

user's smartphone or tablet.

A field sensor may be an ET (evapotranspiration) sensor in an orchard, a temperature gauge in a grain bin or a fill level sensor in a storage tank. This would be data that can be sent to the office or smartphone on a regular interval instead of a person travelling to every location to collect the data on a USB stick or manual transfer.

First, there needs to be a transmitter at each sensor.

If there is only one sensor, it might be directly connected to a modem, which moves the data into a cellular signal.

If there are multiple sensors, such

as a set of ET sensors, then there is likely something known as a "sink" with a gateway modem. All of the ET sensors are using a radio frequency to transmit data to the sink, which collects them. The gateway modem then sends them out as a cellular signal.

So where is the data being sent? In most cases it is being sent to the Internet of Things (IoT).

If you haven't heard of the IoT, it's the same old internet with which you are familiar, but IoT is the part that connects all those other "things," such as sensors in precision agriculture.

Data can go a lot of places once it's

in the internet. Most likely it goes to a computer server to be stored and becomes part of a database.

From there it may be displayed on a website, which people can go to and look at the sensor information.

It could be made available directly to a cellphone in the form of a text message.

Or it might just be available to a few people, who can access the computer server for their own use.

Each system will be different, but if you are a user of a wireless network, you will likely have a user name and password that provides you access to all the data in one or more ways.

Another major use of telemetry is transferring data between vehicles or implements in the field.

Each vehicle will share guidance lines, harvest data or coverage maps to identify what the other machines have done. Allowing a fleet of vehicles or implements to communicate in this way requires a modem in each vehicle and a data plan to carry the data through a cellular network.

The home office would also have the same modem, which allows all data out in the field to be shared at the office. This is real time as the data is being collected, viewed and stored.

Terry A. Brase is an educational consultant, former precision agriculture educator and author. BrASE LLC. Contact him at precision.happens@producer.com

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CLIMATE CHANGE

Adaptation called best plan for climate change

Two researchers tell Ottawa conference that mitigation will buy time, but farmers must start reacting to changes now

BY MICHAEL RAINE
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

OTTAWA — Soybeans, grain corn, longer-season cereals, increased canola yields and fewer frost damaged crops: these all point to the reality of climate change and its effects in Western Canada.

“Global warming is happening and it’s caused by humans,” Thomas Homer-Dixon told the Grow Canada Conference audience in Ottawa last week.

The researcher from the Centre for International Governance Innovation of Global Systems at the Balsillie School of International Affairs in Waterloo, Ont., said the atmosphere is failing to release about a watt per sq. metre of energy when compared to the long-term mean.

It doesn’t sound like much until the math is added up to show that it represents the heat value of 400,000 Hiroshima-sized bombs going off on the planet every day.

He said that sensationalistic puts the issue into perspective.

All that additional energy will result in global average temperatures more than doubling the 1 C increase on which the Paris Accord’s climate change plan is predicated, he added.

“There is a less than 20 percent chance that we will hold it to 2 C.”

Homer-Dixon said the food crops that the world grows evolved and were developed during a time of stable temperatures and weather conditions.

“These are not those times,” he said.

Homer-Dixon said farmers, government and the food industry need to be planning for more extreme weather conditions and far greater food insecurity.

Kevin Folta, a professor and chair of the horticultural sciences department at the University of Florida, told the conference that many experts are focusing on mitigating climate change, but farmers and the industry need to start



KEVIN FOLTA
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

reacting to the effects now.

“Mitigation discussions will follow,” he said.

Homer-Dixon said weather effects from the rapidly heating planet are already being experienced, and climate change is still in its early days.

The erosion of the Arctic sea ice is causing more aggressive change in northern latitudes, which has thrown the polar vortex out of its normally abnormal patterns because of the loss of low-pressure troughs that often were appearing in the north.

This is an overly simple description of the climate change event, but the result is the same: very regular, very extreme waves in the counter-clockwise movement of air around the North Pole result in violent, north-south swings in the jet stream. These waves of air movement cause protracted flows of dry and wet, hot and cold conditions.

Homer-Dixon said farmers could expect to see bigger storms, more rain near coasts and a greater chance of extreme droughts in the middle of the continents.

“Just because it is warming in the (Canadian Prairies), extending growing seasons and allowing more cropping choices right now, doesn’t mean it will always work out,” he said.

Mapping of credible weather models to 2080 and beyond shows that drought will likely be the norm for much of the United States in the summer with extreme heat losses to



Thomas Homer-Dixon says the agricultural world is entering a radically different phase of global weather variability. | MICHAEL RAINE PHOTO

the cereal crops and many oilseeds.

Parts of Western Canada from the Alberta and British Columbia Peace district to southeastern Saskatchewan appear to benefit with additional moisture and warm conditions, but southern Alberta, western Saskatchewan and Manitoba are not projected to be so lucky.

Folta said farmers need to be acting now to adapt to the change that is currently upon them.

He said it’s important to lobby for more research about pests moving in from southerly regions, but new, adapted crops also need to be developed and farmers and producers must collect and share all

the data they can from their farms.

“There is a lot research that needs to take place quickly,” he said about the need to move to precision agriculture.

“I call it the farm to dork movement,” he said about the need to put data to work in plant breeding and environmental research.

“Compared to 1950, you have two more weeks of growing season,” he said.

That advantage, when combined with more extreme temperature swings, is causing fruit production to suffer as trees are prompted to bud earlier, only to have the entire year’s crops destroyed by frosts.

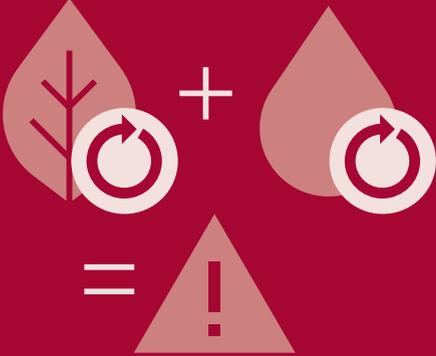
The researchers suggested that

farmers should consider drought-proofing water projects and infrastructure changes that might otherwise take time, resources and government lobbying to achieve.

Homer-Dixon said plant breeders have been forced to stretch their genetics to find genes capable of withstanding prolonged mid-season drought or temperature swings during flowering.

Both researchers said mitigation strategies for climate change will buy some time, but the overall plan for agriculture and food needs to be focused on a hotter, more violent environment.

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WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN COWS ARE EXPECTING

Another informative webinar from the Beef Cattle Research Council deals with managing pregnant cows so they carry calves to term. | **Page 27**



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BRINGING UP THE REAR



The last stragglers arrived as cattle were moved late last month from summer pasture to winter calving grounds on the home farm of Scott and Wendy Letts near Westlock, Alta. | LES DUNFORD PHOTO

LIVESTOCK TRANSPORT

Culled dairy cows can face tough journey

Long distances to plants and delays in timely culling by farmers are blamed for problems; nine-point plan developed

BY **BARB GLEN**
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

OTTAWA — Management of cull dairy cows must be improved, according to a study undertaken by PhD student Yanne Jane Stojkov of the University of British Columbia.

About 350,000 dairy cows a year are designated for slaughter in Canada, and some of them face long journeys to processing plants despite having health issues including lameness and mastitis.

Long distances to plants and producer delays in timely culling are among the reasons, Stojkov told those attending a Nov. 29 National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council meeting.

His findings led the council to develop nine points that experts agreed would improve management of cull dairy cows. They also prepared a formal statement that has yet to be made public.

Among those points is a need for producers and herd veterinarians to know the potential transport times and delays that cows could face on their way to processing plants.

In his research, Stojkov found many farmers lacked that information.

“When they’re reaching their culling decisions, they might assume that (the cows) will be sent to a slaughter plant nearby, not

subjected to long duration transport,” he said.

For example, dairy cows in Newfoundland can be sold to plants in Ontario, requiring hours of travel that might include both truck and ferry, unloading for food and water and reloading. Once in Ontario, the journey may not be over.

“The lucky ones might be slaughtered there, but the journey might continue all the way to the U.S.,” said Stojkov.

In British Columbia, about 22,000 dairy cows a year are culled and sent to one of two auction markets. Fewer than half will be slaughtered in B.C. Instead, they will be trucked over the Rockies to Alberta. Some may be processed there, but others continue their journey to U.S. plants.

Stojkov said there is no good information available to farmers on potential delays in cow slaughter.

“The consensus ... was that communication is needed to make producers and herd veterinarians aware of the potential long travel distances and ... take this into account when reaching culling decisions.”

A large part of the problem lies with a shortage of available and proximate slaughter plants. Some plants will not accept cull dairy cattle. Canadian Food Inspection Agency data indicates that about 30 beef processing plants operate in



YANNE STOJKOV
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Canada, compared to 400 in 1976.

Delays in slaughter can compromise cow health and worsen any problems the animals had at the outset. Stojkov provided U.S. statistics indicating that 30 to 40 percent of cull dairy cows in that country are emaciated when they reach packing plants and 40 to 50 percent are lame.

He said producers should involve herd veterinarians in their decisions on when to cull. Regulations ban the transport of downer animals, which cannot walk due to health conditions.

Options for managing compromised animals that are not classified as downers vary by province.

“It’s more difficult to assess these cows, and that’s why a more complex approach needs to be adopted to resolve this question,” Stojkov said in an interview.

“Some cows might have health problems or issues if assessed by one

vet, inspector, person or farmer or transporter, and some others might not agree with that. So it gets into those nuances. We need to develop it and make it more uniform.”

Emergency slaughter is available in some regions, and mobile slaughter plants are an option in others. Each has its advantages and disadvantages, said Stojkov.

As well, frequency of inspection and enforcement of animal welfare regulations also vary by province.

This is a summary of the nine points on cull dairy cow management as agreed by a panel of experts:

- More research is needed to “better characterize cull cow management and movement from farm to slaughter and the factors that lead to long delays before slaughter.”
- Producers and herd veterinarians must be made aware of potential for long travel distances and delays so they can consider it when making cull decisions.
- Information on the benefits of early culling should be given to producers and veterinarians. Early culling should be part of every herd health program so that “proactive culling of non-compromised animals becomes the norm.”
- Animal condition and potential delay to slaughter should be part of

the culling decision process, and veterinarians should be active in determining cows’ fitness for transport. People involved in transport need to be trained to recognize and handle compromised animals, including information on whether to load them.

- Efforts must be made to identify more local options for cull dairy cow slaughter so short transport and timely slaughter becomes the norm.
- Options must be investigated on management of compromised animals, such as direct-to-slaughter programs, on-farm emergency slaughter and mobile slaughter plants.
- All dairy farms and auctions should have training and tools for prompt, effective euthanasia of cows or access to those services.
- Enforcement of rules on animal welfare must be examined with the goal of widespread adoption of best management practices and possibly inter-jurisdictional sharing of information on non-compliance.
- Canadian authorities should negotiate with U.S. counterparts to allow age verification through health records so cull cows don’t need to go through chutes and increase their risk of injury.

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EAT TO MAKE HEAT | Steam rises from cattle on a -20 C December day in southern Alberta. | MIKE STURK PHOTO

HOG PRODUCTION

Hog antibiotics face tighter controls

Regulations will require producers to obtain prescriptions from veterinarians

BY WILLIAM DEKAY
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

New antibiotic regulations coming into effect next year will require pig producers to get their prescriptions from a vet.

"There's a lot of emphasis on veterinary oversight in the new regulations," said Peter Provis, swine veterinary technical consultant for Elanco Animal Health.

"The use of medically important antibiotics for growth promotion will no longer be permitted, and all the other antibiotics will require a prescription," Provis said during the Saskatchewan Pork Industry Symposium held in Saskatoon earlier this year.

"That's not very far away, and there's a lot of work and hurdles to overcome."

The new regulations come into effect in December 2017, but the timeline has already been pushed back from its originally scheduled December launch.

However, there continues to be confusion around the issue of antibiotic resistance and animal agriculture; public health is driving the global attention and policy changes.

"The use of antibiotics are being taken very seriously by OIE, (World Organization for Animal Health), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) and WHO, (World Health Organization) which are really agencies of the United Nations," he said.

"Really, all of the attention lately and concern is about the fact that there's potential, and it's hap-



No one's going to take them away. In most cases, the public believes very strongly that antibiotics are a right for animals, and animal welfare will usually trump other things. What they do require of us is to use them judiciously and sustainably.

PETER PROVIS
VETERINARY CONSULTANT

pened that there is the ability to transfer resistance from antibiotics in our livestock sector or in our companion animals to other bacteria that may potentially cause problems in humans."

Modern medicine did not create antibiotic resistance, which is in fact an ancient phenomenon.

"Lots of work shows that if they go up into the Arctic and access soil and different things that have not had any contact with people for 50,000 years, that they can find the ability for these bacteria to be resistant," he said.

"That's not surprising because the antibiotics in the world are truly natural compounds that we've found and purified."

However, their widespread use and overuse has led to resistance being magnified in the environment.

"All of these resistance genes and bacteria will circulate between human medicine, animal

husbandry, plant production, aquaculture and the environment," he said.

"As they circulate, they accumulate and hence the problem."

The federal government has outlined a broad strategy. Areas of focus include surveillance, stewardship and innovation.

The use of growth promoters has become "a dirty word in the public's eye," but Provis questioned whether they are needed as hog health continues to improve.

"In the last 10 or so years, there has been pretty good evidence to suggest that the use of antibiotic growth promoters in livestock feed is not working as good as it once was," he said.

"Now that you administer antibiotics to pigs that are healthy, they don't have a large impact in terms of their growth. This has caused a lot of people to stand back and say, 'maybe we don't need to be using antibiotics the

way that we have.' That's a good news story in light of the changes that are coming at us."

Harvey Wagner of SaskPork agreed that tighter controls using direct veterinary supervision will minimize and even stop the misuse of antibiotics while strengthening the industry's farm food safety program.

"Hopefully it will eliminate a lot of the errors made by people making the wrong assumptions or 'if a little is good, a lot is better,' that kind of stuff," said Wagner.

"That means that the vet has to have been on the farm, know what's happening on the farm, understand the health status of the animals on the farm and know if something's amiss. Then they can prescribe and be involved in the treatment regime."

However, Wagner said antibiotics will remain part of farming operations as new antibiotic alternatives are explored.

"We have to treat animals from time to time when there's bacterial illness," he said.

"It's a matter of proper animal welfare. It's also a question of food safety. If the animals are sick, you have to deal with it. You just can't let sick animals be there."

Added Provis: "No one's going to take them away. In most cases, the public believes very strongly that antibiotics are a right for animals, and animal welfare will usually trump other things. What they do require of us is to use them judiciously and sustainably."

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LAW ENFORCEMENT

Cattle ID info sharing urged

BY BARBARA DUCKWORTH
CALGARY BUREAU

Recovering stray or stolen livestock could be easier if the police were allowed to use the information attached to cattle electronic ear tags.

Alberta Beef Producers passed a resolution last week asking for livestock investigators to have better access to information stored by the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency.

RCMP officers may have difficulty tracking down the owners of strays or stolen animals, Cpl. Andrew Granger, an RCMP livestock investigator in northern Alberta, told the Dec. 5-7 ABP annual meeting in Calgary.

He regularly receives CCIA tag numbers, but that information is confidential.

"At this point I have no way of accessing it," he said. "If we are going to go through charges with this information, I would have to write a warrant and submit it to CCIA to get the information that way."

Opening the database to law enforcement or other legal entities would require support from all of the country's livestock associations, said CCIA chair Mark Elford. The agency is bound by an agreement that was made when it was formed to not share producer information.

However, the CCIA can access the information and contact registered owners. Producers were promised when the system was first introduced that the information would remain private except if the Canadian Food Inspection Agency needed cattle identification in the event of a disease outbreak and trace-back.

"There needs to be a change in the way things are done now," Elford said.

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HERD MANAGEMENT

Disease management helps reduce pregnancy losses

Vaccinations against BVD and scours help reduce abortions

BY BARBARA DUCKWORTH
CALGARY BUREAU

Pregnancy loss is a natural process, but good herd health and nutrition management can keep it to a minimum.

Three percent of cows lose their pregnancy for a myriad of reasons, said veterinarian Steve Hendrick of Coaldale, Alta., who works with cow-calf and feedlot clients.

"I recognize that wrecks can still happen even in the best managed herds," he said during a recent webinar sponsored by the Beef Cattle Research Council.

"As technology improves in ultrasound ... it has allowed us to detect pregnancy earlier. In doing so, we realize how much more common pregnancy loss really is. It is difficult to diagnose. The insult often happens before we actually see some of the signs that show up."

The 2015 Western Canadian cow-calf survey reported an average pregnancy rate of 93 percent and an actual calving rate of 90 percent, which means about three percent are lost.

Questions need to be asked if a number of cows are open during pregnancy checking time.

Producers should check the bulls that were used and find out whether the affected cows had a common sire or dam.

A pregnancy can end at less than a month of age, and the fetus may not be found or it may have been absorbed.

If a cow was pregnant and then starts cycling again, check for pyometra, which is pus from the uterus. If the cow lost the pregnancy early, debris could be left behind.

Losses may be attributed to genetic or developmental defects, infection from bacteria, viruses,



Many factors can contribute to pregnancy loss in cows, including developmental defects, bacterial or viral infections or consuming contaminated feed. | FILE PHOTO

protozoa, stress during breeding or poor nutrition.

A fetus's age can be estimated if it is found:

- two months pregnancy — mouse size
- three months — rat size
- four months — small cat size
- five months — large cat
- six months — small dog with hair starting to show
- seven months — fine hair growth
- eight months — hair coat complete and teeth slightly erupted
- nine months — incisors erupted

Fully developed but stillborn calves may happen more often in heifers than cows. The calf may have been too large, the mother was too thin or overweight or calving difficulties or malpresentations may have occurred.

Many producers write off a few losses, but they should talk with their herd veterinarian if more abortions occurred than normal.

Be as specific as possible when describing pasture management, feed, water and stage of pregnancy.

If possible, collect the fetus, placenta and blood samples from cows that aborted. Place the material in double heavy-duty plastic bags, pack in ice and do not freeze.

The fetus may have frozen outside if the abortion occurred in the winter, but try and get the package to the vet or laboratory as soon as possible.

A diagnosis is found in about one out of three cases. Half the time the cause is related to a bacterial infection such as campylobacter, vibrio, leptospirosis, listeriosis, brucellosis, salmonella, histophilosis or treperella.

One-third of the cases are a viral infection such as bovine viral disease or infectious bovine rhinotracheitis.

The cattle may also have been infected with protozoa such as trichomoniasis, neosporosis or sarcocystis.

Non-infectious causes could be mouldy feed that leads to contamination such as Aspergillus fungus or mycotoxins such as ergot and fusarium.

Nitrates in forages could be linked to pregnancy losses, so feed should be checked.

Some cows could abort if they ate ponderosa pine needles during cold weather when they have taken shelter around trees.

Genetic abnormalities and rough handling combined with other stressors may also be at fault.

A western Canadian study in 2000-05 examined fetuses lost because of abortion. More than one-third were undetermined. In other cases, thyroid gland lesions, pneumonia, congenital abnormality, placentitis and abnormal heart muscles were detected.

IBR and BVD infections made up less than three percent of cases.

Stillbirths from the same study found:

- 40 percent were dystocia or malpresentation
- 21.6 percent undetermined
- 8.9 percent thyroid gland lesions
- 7.1 percent myocardial necrosis
- skeletal muscle myopathy or abnormal muscle appearance

Preventing pregnancy loss starts with good management such as well balanced diets, vaccination and low stress handling.

"It is surprising how much variability occurs in our forage from year to year and season to season," Hendrick said.

Get feed tested to avoid mycotoxins such as fusarium.

Monitor body condition scores because this can affect the next calving season.

Check their body condition at pregnancy checking time so they can be sorted and fed accordingly.

Include minerals in the rations, especially in the last trimester when the fetus is growing rapidly, and extend it to lactation. Many people provide minerals in lick tubs but are often unsure if cows are getting enough.

Vaccination against BVD and scours is critical.

"A vaccination program is your insurance policy from a health standpoint. It is not 100 percent," said Hendrick.

"Work with your veterinarian who knows your herd and risks in your area to design a proper protocol for your herd."

A 2015 study summarized a number of trials and found a five percent increase in pregnancy rates and a 45 percent decrease in abortions when BVD vaccinations were used. Of those calves born alive, there was an 85 percent decrease in fetal infection rate.

Hendrick believes a modified live vaccine provides better protection than killed vaccines, but producers should consult with the herd veterinarian. Check the labels to see if they are safe to give to pregnant cows.

He recommended giving replacement heifers three doses of scours vaccine before breeding. Branding, weaning and prebreeding times may be most convenient.

Practice biosecurity and consider screening bulls for trichomoniasis and vibrio, especially if using community pastures.

Culling or isolation of affected cattle or groups lowers the risk of disease transmission.

Farm dogs can be tested because they can pass neosporosis in their feces.

A calculator is available on the beef cattle research council website at www.beefresearch.ca/research/body-condition-scoring.cfm to calculate body condition scores, feed requirements and what it might cost to maintain or bring a cow up to the ideal weight to support a pregnancy and a calf.

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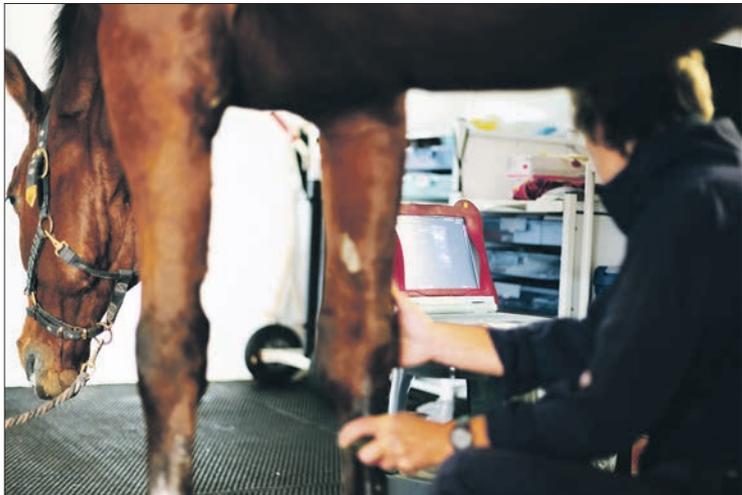
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TREATMENT OF INJURIES

Horses can gradually recover from bowed tendons



ANIMAL HEALTH



JAMIE ROTHENBURGER, DVM

It's a diagnosis no horse owner wants to hear. Bowed tendons are a serious cause of horse lameness and can be career ending for equine athletes.

Although most often a condition of racehorses, it can occur in other horses as well.

A bowed tendon is an injury to the superficial digital flexor ten-

don, which runs along the back of the leg, directly behind the cannon bone. Swelling from these injuries creates the characteristic bump on the back of the leg.

Horses can injure many other tendons and ligaments, but they are located deeper below tissue so there is no obvious swelling or bow in those. Most bowed tendons occur in the front legs.

The dense collagen that makes up tendons connects muscles to bone. In horses, tendons are a key anatomical adaptation to high speed running. They efficiently transfer muscle energy to mechanical movement, allowing horses to run for long distances at rapid speeds while saving energy.

Among domestic animals, ten-

don injury seems to be mainly an issue with horses.

Cows have similar lower leg structures, but tendon injuries are rare because we don't ask our cattle to run races, jump fences or carry out other athletic tasks.

But Achilles tendon injuries in human athletes share many similarities to horses, leading some researchers to suggest that horses are a useful model to study this injury in people.

Bowed tendons most often occur after prolonged micro injuries to the tendon that eventually overwhelm the body's ability to heal and eventually lead to lameness.

The accumulation of these micro injuries is the reason why bowed tendons are more common in older horses. Less frequently, tendons rupture with limited previous injury.

Diagnosis is based on appearance of a bump (bow) at the back of the leg accompanied by heat, pain, lameness and swelling.

Ultrasound of the affected tendon is useful to isolate the precise location of the damage, measure the size of the defect and monitor the healing process. Most vets have portable machines they can use to scan horses right on the farm. Researchers and high-end equine clinics may use magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) but this test is expensive and not readily available.

Tendons are made of collagen, a tissue with few cells, limited blood supply and poor ability to regenerate.

These characteristics make tendon injuries notoriously difficult to treat. The mainstay of treatment is strict rest with gradual increases in controlled activity. Other supportive care including cold therapy, anti-inflammatory medications, hyaluronic acid and shock wave therapy may help healing.

New treatments, including stem cells and platelet-rich plasma, may hold promise but have little scientific evidence to show they are better than traditional treatments.

Depending on the nature of the injury, horses with bowed tendons may be pasture sound, OK for pleasure riding or even return to high performance. But horses with tendon injuries are at high risk of re-injury because the healed site is filled with scar tissue that is never as strong as the original. Return to work must be gradual to build up endurance and lost muscle.

Preventing tendon injuries is a challenge since most are the result of wear and tear. Proper conditioning and gradually increasing fitness levels is important since most tendon injuries occur when horses are tired. Most tendon injuries in racehorses occur at the end of the race.

On the other hand, time off for rest and recovery is also essential to allow for healing after exercise. Some veterinarians will even ultrasound tendons of non-lame horses to check for signs of injury.

Bowed tendons are serious, but prompt diagnosis and treatment are important to maximize the chances of a successful recovery.

Dr. Jamie Rothenburger is a veterinarian who practices pathology and a PhD student at the Ontario Veterinary College. Twitter: @JRothenburger

Horses with tendon injuries are at high risk of re-injury because the scar tissue is never as strong as the original. | GETTY IMAGE



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50 YEARS AGO

Manitoba farmers vote to strike

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: DEC. 18, 1941

The Canadian Wheat Board's decision to fix the prices of barley and flax at 64 3/4 cents and \$1.64, respectively, prompted a strong response from the prairie wheat pools, which were concerned it was the first step by the dominion government to establishing price ceilings on grain below the 1926-29 average. The pools wanted the government to delay establishing price ceilings until the Canadian Federation of Agriculture had an opportunity to discuss the issue with dominion officials.

C. Aubrey Weir, a dominion seed branch inspector from Calgary, warned that there was a "definite shortage of good oats and barley for seed for next year's crop" because of a lighter than normal crop in Alberta. He urged farmers

who expected to seed oats to obtain them as soon as possible.

50 YEARS AGO: DEC. 15, 1966

Manitoba Farmers' Union members voted to strike as a way to "obtain just farm prices." Michael M. Shwaluk of Oakburn, who introduced the resolution, said farmers should refuse to sell wheat until they received \$2.50 per bushel. "Sell enough to pay for food and taxes and to heck with any more until we get the \$2.50," he said.

Saskatchewan Wheat Pool attempted to increase Canadian forage exports to Europe by exploring the possibility of growing European varieties under contract. Exports of Canadian varieties were declining, and it was hoped that European buyers would be more interested in buying from Canada if they could buy varieties with which they were more familiar. R.E. McKenzie, head of the pool's farm service department, spent three weeks in Europe talking to private plant breeding institutions owned by seed companies. He said he had success with companies in West Germany, Sweden and Holland as well as with the state trading agency in Poland. Britain was also a possibility, he added.

25 YEARS AGO: DEC. 19, 1991

Proposed federal legislation would make it possible by 1993 for

commodity groups to collect checkoffs for research and promotion. CFA executive director Sally Rutherford welcomed the move, but the National Farmers Union said the government was shirking its responsibilities to fund research and promotion. The government promised when introducing the legislation that it would not do so.

Dairy farmers were fearing the worst as the possibility of a General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade deal (a precursor to the World Trade Organization) in the next week appeared increasingly likely. Louis Balcaen, head of Dairy Farmers of Canada, said the government had all but lost its bid to strengthen provisions that protected supply management. He wasn't alone. "It's very scary, what's ahead of us," Miniota farmer Norm Morton said at a Manitoba dairy producers meeting. "There isn't a person in this room that isn't worried about this whole situation."

10 YEARS AGO: DEC. 14, 2006

Four of the five directors elected in the CWB election supported single desk marketing. Farmers who were fighting federal government attempts to eliminate the single desk took it as a sign that Ottawa should back off, but CWB minister Chuck Strahl and farmers who supported the government's efforts said the election results held little significance.



Gordon Wailing of Young, Sask., was forced to water his cattle from a nearby slough using buckets in this undated photo after a storm knocked out power in the area. | FILE PHOTO

Provincial pork associations proposed establishing a national checkoff to fund the Canadian Pork Council. Provincial groups were voluntarily supporting the national organization, but it was thought that the CPC needed a better

source of funding. Florian Possberg, vice-chair of the council, said it would mean re-allocating funds rather than increasing what producers already paid.

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FARMLIVING

CREAMY GOODNESS

Cheryl Bieda milks cows and makes butter and yogurt, but she has also started making soap. She has expanded into a complete line of personal care products using natural ingredients. | **Page 35**



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

LIFE LESSONS

Words from the wise

Book shares thoughts and advice from people with decades of life experiences

BY **BARB GLEN**
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

HIGH PRAIRIE, Alta. — To make our world a better place, we must take time to smell the roses, take a walk, grow a garden, laugh, cry, and enjoy more of life together.

Those are Stella Sware's words of wisdom, the words her daughter-in-law, Jodi Sware, published in a book called *The Wisdom of Our Elders*.

Sware, a photographer with a business called A Thousand Words, asked about 80 elderly people to express the life lessons they'd like to share with others.

Then she matched each message with a photo of the person who provided it.

The result was a book rich in both photography and message.

"I asked them, 'if you could give one message to future generations, something that you've learned over your lifetime that could help make our world a better place, what would it be,'" said Sware.

Darell Goodrich, 85, had this to say:

- No. 1: Do what you do, well.
- No. 2: I found out at an early age the world doesn't owe you a living.
- No. 3: Hard work never hurt anybody.
- No. 4: Whatever job or task in life, whether it be work or play, put in your best effort.

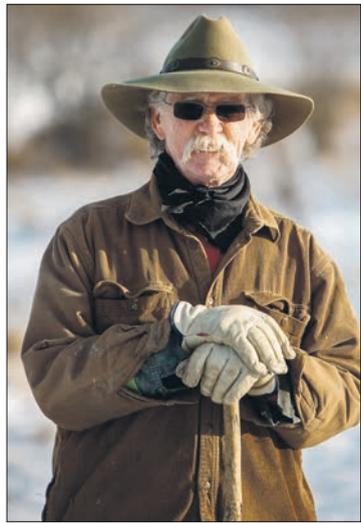
Keith Parke shared this view: "Some people always want to live on the mountaintop in their life, but nothing grows on a mountaintop. Only at the very bottom of the valley is the fertile land where things grow well. As in our life, at the lowest point is where we grow the most."

Said Sware: "I tried to photograph them in their own environment, somewhere that they loved or doing something that they loved."

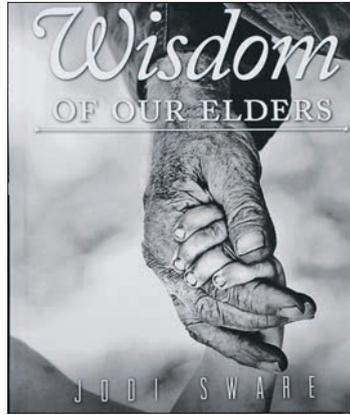
I saw that the wisdom of these people was present not only in their words but in their faces, bodies and spirits.

JODI SWARE,
PHOTOGRAPHER, AUTHOR

Most of the book subjects live in the High Prairie, Alta., area where Sware farms with her husband, Stan, and where she has a studio in town. The farm is home base and with three of their four children living at home, her time is often limited. Inability to travel widely is what focused her atten-



KEITH PARKE



tions on local people in her first book.

"I shoot a lot of my portraits at our farm. I guess it has led me to a lot of my subjects in my book. There are a lot of farm families because that's who we know. The people in the book, so many of them were the early people in the province. They came from other countries and pioneered here. Their stories are really incredible."

Now Sware is working on a second book with a similar theme: *Wisdom of Marriage*. She is targeting couples who have been together for at least 40 years.

With 18 years as a photographer under her belt, Sware said the books provide respite from shooting family portraits and weddings.

"It's just something that I love doing. It's very fulfilling. I sometimes burn out doing photography so these projects are more to kind of fill me up."

The first book and the second one now in process have prompted more ideas for future projects, though Sware wonders if she will live long enough to complete them all. They are wisdom projects: the wisdom of grandparents, the wisdom of mothers, the wisdom of best friends and perhaps even the



BARB GLEN PHOTOS

wisdom of farmers.

Sware said she has made a small profit on the first book but it hasn't made her rich. Nor is that her primary goal.

"I came to the realization that of all the wonderful relationships in my life, I most valued and missed the relationship with my grandparents," Sware wrote in the artist statement for her book.

"I was a young adult when they passed on and would give anything for the chance to have a conversation with them now... to pick up the phone and ask my grandma's advice or opinion or just hear her words of encouragement when I'm

having a tough day.

"I feel that by the time we are old enough to realize how important their words are, they are often gone. I was motivated to start a personal project as a means to stay inspired and creative while balancing my demands as a portrait photographer, wife and mom."

Through photography, she sought to show what her subjects are like inside, not just physically.

"I saw that the wisdom of these people was present not only in their words but in their faces, bodies and spirits," Sware wrote.

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Darell Goodrich is pictured in the book wearing faded jeans, jean jacket and fedora, standing in his pasture. | JODI SWARE PHOTOS



Eleanor Barnes is also featured in Sware's book.

HOW-TO DEMONSTRATION

An arrangement that says 'wow'

A home-made arrangement can save money and is more appreciated by recipient

BY KAREN MORRISON
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

TORONTO — Fillers and thrillers are essential components of homemade Christmas crafts.

Kelly Musters of Sandhill Nursery in Huntsville, Ont., who led seminars on creating festive containers and wreaths at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto in November, said supplies can come from greenhouses, craft stores or your own backyard.

"Go for a nice natural look, not a uniform look, and choose large impactful flowers to create a bright and beautiful element," she said.

Start with enough mulch to fill containers and keep everything snugly in place.

Choose fillers of greens such as white pine or juniper. The thrillers can be items like red foam flowers or berries.

"They create colour and an eye

catching component."

Musters said less is more when it comes to the thriller elements.

"You want to create balance and not overwhelm the container."

The displays require little care if weather is seasonal, but watering and spritzing will be needed in milder temperatures.

Do-it-yourselfers can save money by using containers such as old baskets or urns.

Store-bought containers can cost as little as \$20 and wreath bases are around \$25, with the remaining flourishes likely costing double that amount.

Musters said homemade crafts are a great way to channel creativity into something to enjoy and feel proud of making for the holiday season.

"It's so nice to have a beautiful fresh wreath. Nothing is more impactful on your front door and it's something you created yourself," she said.

"It creates a wow impact."

karen.morrison@producer.com



Kelly Musters of Sandhill Nursery gave a presentation on how to assemble Christmas wreaths and containers during the Royal Winter Agricultural Fair in Toronto last month. | KAREN MORRISON PHOTOS

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KEEPING IT SIMPLE

Holiday entertaining a breeze with oven prepared menu

TEAM RESOURCES



JODIE MIROSOVSKY, BSHEC

Most of us look forward to socializing, good conversation and sharing decadent food with family and friends this time of year.

But too often in the past I have found myself covered in flour as guests were arriving or revving up the mixer as people tried to visit over the noise of my food preparations.

Food offerings should be simple, nutritious and taste sensational, and sharing that food should be fun and satisfying without a lot of fuss and mess.

One way to help solve this entertaining problem is to become more efficient in the kitchen.

Many readers will remember the Penny Powers character (who was a home economist named Lillian McConnell) created in 1956 by the Saskatchewan Power Corp. to help families adapt to electricity in their kitchens.

The publication is all about being efficient, which has once again become trendy in today's hectic society.

The publication, called *Penny Powers Oven Meals*, encompasses an idea that has come full circle from the 1950s. Imagine, a complete meal out of the oven. How economical, efficient and appropriate for the holidays.

one hour or until chicken is cooked through. Turn chicken once during roasting, after about 30 minutes. Serves six. Adapted from *Company's Coming*.

OVEN ROASTED RICE

- 2 c. converted rice 500 mL
- 4 c. boiling water 1 L
- 2 tbsp. butter 30 mL
- 1 tsp. salt 5 mL

Combine the rice, water, butter and salt and place in a greased casserole. Remember to use quite a large dish as the rice will expand as it cooks. Stir well and bake covered at 350 F (180 C) for 60 minutes or until rice is fluffy and all the liquid is absorbed. Serves six.

BUTTERED PAN ROASTED ROOTS

- 4 parsnips, sliced horizontally into quarters
- 4 carrots, sliced horizontally into quarters
- 3 tbsp. butter or oil 45 mL
- salt and pepper to taste
- sprinkle of sugar

Place carrots and parsnips into a nine X 13 (22 x 33 cm) baking dish. Drizzle the butter or oil over the vegetables and mix thoroughly. Add salt, pepper and a light dusting of sugar. Cover and roast in the oven for one hour at 350 F (180 C) or until tender. Serves six.

Note: You can use all carrots or all parsnips if you desire.

LEMON PUDDING DESSERT

If your main course fills your oven, try this make-ahead dessert.

- 1 c. cold butter or margarine 250 mL
- 2 c. flour 500 mL
- 1 pkg. softened cream cheese 250 g
- 1 c. icing sugar 250 mL
- 2 c. whipped cream 500 mL or topping, divided
- 3 c. cold milk 750 mL
- 2 pkg. instant lemon pudding 99 g
- chopped pecans
- fresh berries for garnish

Preheat oven to 350 F (180 C). In a mixing bowl, cut the butter into the flour until crumbs form. Press into an ungreased nine x 13 inch (22 X 33 cm) pan and bake for 18 minutes. Cool.

Beat the cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Gently stir in one cup (250 mL) of the whipped cream or topping. Spread over the base.

For the third layer, beat the milk with the pudding mix (unprepared powder) on low speed for two minutes. Gently spread over the cream cheese layer.

Let set for five minutes and then top with the remaining whipped cream or topping.

Top with finely chopped pecans and refrigerate for one hour before serving.

Garnish with fresh berries before serving.

Store leftovers in the refrigerator. Makes 12 small pieces. Source: www.tasteofhome.com.

STRAWBERRY SPINACH SALAD WITH ORANGE HONEY DRESSING

This is an antioxidant rich side dish that can be prepared well ahead of the meal. It is a refreshing addition.

- 8 c. spinach, torn 1 L
 - 2 c. fresh sliced strawberries 250 mL
 - 1 finely cut red onion
 - sprinkle of nuts or seeds (I prefer chopped pecans)
- Dressing:
- 1/2 c. oil 125 mL
 - 1/4 c. vinegar 60 mL
 - 1 tbsp. sesame seeds 15 mL
 - 1 tbsp. poppy seeds 15 mL
 - 1/4 c. sugar 60 mL
 - 2 tbsp. honey 30 mL
 - 1/4 c. orange juice 60 mL

Combine the first four ingredients in a large bowl. Mix well. Combine dressing ingredients and pour over

greens just before serving and toss.

SKINNY B PARFAIT

A new find for our pantry, Skinny B breakfast cereal provides a snack rich in fibre and omega 3. Combine it with fresh berries and vanilla or plain yogurt to complete the mix.

In a dessert cup or glass, start layering with vanilla or plain yogurt. Use Greek style if you want added protein. Top with two tbsp. (30 mL) of dry Skinny B and finish off with fresh berries of your choice.

Jodie Mirosovsky is a home economist from Rosetown, Sask., and a member of Team Resources. Contact: team@producer.com.

Merry Christmas To All!

Enjoy a wonderful holiday season with family and friends. We're very grateful to you for your support, and look forward to serving you in the New Year.

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BAKED APRICOT CHICKEN

The aroma of this dish is enticing. Serve with cranberry sauce on the side.

- 4 tbsp. soy sauce 60 mL
- 1 tbsp. brown sugar 15 mL
- 1 c. apricot jam 250 mL
- 3 tbsp. vinegar 50 mL
- 1/4 tsp. paprika 1 mL
- 6 chicken breasts, thawed (if chicken pieces are large, slice into smaller pieces)

Combine first five ingredients in a large bowl. Arrange chicken in a baking dish that has a lid. Pour the prepared apricot sauce over the chicken. Cover and bake at 350 F (180 C) for

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"And the angel said unto them, Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people: for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."
Luke 2 : 10-11

May the message of that first Christmas fill your heart and home during this special season.

Andrew SCHEER
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May peace and joy be with you and your family through the coming year.

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Cheryl Bieda's pantry is a treasure trove of herbs, spices and dried wild flowers and petals, ready to be included in her personal care products. | BARB GLEN PHOTOS



VALUE-ADDED

Soap maker focuses on natural ingredients

BY BARB GLEN
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

FAIRVIEW, Alta. — A Jersey milk cow gave her name to Cheryl Bieda's business and the arrangement has worked out as smooth as cream — in more ways than one.

Misty is the cow, and Misty Meadows Soap is the business, which involves the making and selling of soaps, creams, balms and other products.

Bieda makes her products on the family's 640-acre farm northeast of Fairview, where she also milks a few cows, makes cheese, butter and yogurt, and grows many of the herbs used in an array of items.

A step inside her pantry is a step inside an apothecary shop like those depicted in movies. Dried herbs hang from the shelves and ceiling. Glass jars hold all manner of dried foods, herbs and spices. A dehydrator, butter churn and cream separator stand at the ready.

In another room are shelves full of soaps, baskets of lip balm and projects in various stages of completion.

"Sometimes, I start with a name," says Bieda, as she surveys soaps with names like Bear Trap, Running Lake and Cowboy Up.

But when she started making soaps about 10 years ago, the reasons were practical.

"What got me into that is that I had eczema really bad on my hands and I didn't want to use steroid creams. I thought there had to be a more natural way."

Given that the family ate little

processed food and raised its own meat, eggs and milk plus many vegetables, she concluded that soaps and detergents were contributing to her skin condition.

"I don't have eczema anymore," she said, as she held up her hands.

The soap led to more experiments and product development.

How many products?
"Too many," said Bieda. "I'm always thinking of more. My motto is keep it simple, keep it natural, enjoy life. There's so much that's crap out there."

"Knowing what I know now, I would never have used anything from the store on my kids. I would have raised them as little hippies right from the get go."

Ache and pain remedies

As her knowledge and skill grew, she developed Hippy Healer, a balm used on cuts and sores that employs essential oils and ingredients including St. John's Wort, calendula and arnica.

She has also developed a rub for sore muscles that involves essential oil infusions of hot peppers that she grows in her on-farm greenhouse.

"Once I started learning more and more about plants, I started infusing the oils. Then, it's just through trial and error. The more I learn, the more I want to put it to use."

Now her product line includes deodorants, hand and lip balms, a type of vapo rub, cream for stretch marks, facial creams, room sprays,



body mists, foot soaks and scrubs and balm to ease cracked heels.

"Some of it is trial and error," said Bieda. "I hate wasting ingredients. If it doesn't work out, I get mad. I've chucked stuff in the garbage."

"The rule is now, when mother's making soap, nobody comes around for four hours. Don't talk to me, because when they're talking, then I can't concentrate on my measuring and that's when I always screw up. So now they've learned."

Christmas is the peak of the sales season for Misty Meadows, and Bieda had a long list of Christmas markets and craft shows where she plans to sell her wares.

She also has products in stores around northern Alberta.

Bieda said she is often asked about opening her own store, but she remains ambivalent. However, she does admit that inventing new products is sort of addictive.

"It can get like a drug. A good drug."

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ON THE FARM

Innovation keeps Moats farm on cutting edge

Family keen on conservation, good stewardship and the future of farming

BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU

RICETON, Sask. — Lee Moats recalls the day he sold the farm's tillage equipment and bought a no-till drill.

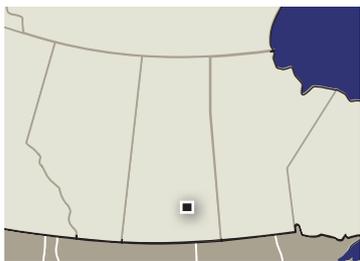
"My dad was the most uncomfortable I've ever seen him," he said.

Going from discers to a minimum tillage system was a huge step in 1990, but it was also a logical move on a farm where conservation and innovation have always been top of mind.

His grandparents settled the heavy clay land southeast of Regina after arriving in Saskatchewan in 1910.

In 1938, they brought a diesel tractor to the farm to join the horses and steam power. It was a huge innovation for the time and it still holds a place of pride on the farm.

ON THE FARM



THE MOATS FAMILY
Riceton, Sask.

Lee's parents took over the farm in 1950.

"My grandfather made his living on the richness of the soil," Lee said. "My dad started using fertilizer."

The switch to no-till when Lee and his wife, Laurie, took over in 1990 also came with a shift to a canola-winter wheat-red lentil rotation on what is now 2,700 acres.

"Our soil has become healthy," Lee said. "It's a system that if you're thinking about the prairie that my grandfather broke, we're trying to emulate that."

He said his parents were conservation oriented. Technological advancements in agriculture made it possible for him to take that to another level, and he understands that his son, Joshua, will likely take that even further.

A plant ecology course while studying at the University of Saskatchewan cemented Lee's beliefs and desire to work in conservation.

He became a provincial agricultural rep, starting in Rosetown where he met Laurie, then moved to Moose Jaw and Regina.

In 1989, he moved to Ducks Unlimited Canada where he spent 20 years.

"This was a whole different take on conservation," Lee said.

He saw a chance to take the objectives of a conservation organization and farmers, which sometimes conflict, and make them complementary.

"I am absolutely certain that if we in agriculture don't find a place for biodiversity, that we'll have society inflict its will on us," he said, looking back on his time at DUC.

"Agriculture is the solution, not the problem."

Lee was growing winter wheat before he joined DUC but his work there convinced him that it was a better way to meld annual cropping and duck habitat.

The organization's promotion of winter wheat has been successful but not as successful as Lee hoped. "Farmers need strong motivations to want to change," he said, citing fusarium issues in spring wheat and durum as a reason to look at alternative crops.

That's where the Moats' son, Joshua, who plans to maintain the family farm, comes in.

He is the seed portfolio co-ordinator at FP Genetics, where hybrid fall rye is proving to be a winner. It was the highest yielding crop the Moats' have ever had and they plan to add it to their rotation.

He, too, says sustainability is key. "We need to be economically sound but there's a level of care that probably needs to be emphasized more," Joshua said.

They use Greenseeker's crop sensing technology to more effectively manage inputs, and this year they straight cut almost all their canola.

Lee described Laurie as the head of finance for their incorporated farm.

She serves as the bookkeeper, and also seeds, swaths and combines.

"It was good to raise our kids here," she said. "There is always



Lee, left, and Laurie Moats are confident their son, Joshua, will continue to improve the land and keep the family farm near Riceton, Sask., sustainable in the future. | KAREN BRIERE PHOTOS

something to do."

Lee said the ultimate measure of sustainability is whether the succeeding generation wants in. Their daughter, Morgan, is pursuing music.

"We'll know our farm is sustainable on all fronts when Joshua takes over," he said.

Lee was recently re-elected to the board of Saskatchewan Pulse Growers and is the current chair of Pulse Canada.

"I'm still very excited about the potential of pulses," he said, but issues of grain transportation and other public policies also keep him involved in the organization.

Both Lee and Joshua are on the Riceton volunteer fire department. Lee is president of the Cross Country Co-op and on the recreation centre board.

Joshua said he can't imagine growing up in any other place.

"I feel a strong urge to protect this place and make it stronger."

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Lee Moats speaks to reporters from the U.S. and Canada when they stopped at the Pulse Canada chair's farm on a recent pulse tour.

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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ACCIDENT VICTIM

Rebuilding an emotional relationship after serious accident

SPEAKING OF LIFE



JACKLIN ANDREWS, BA, MSW

Q: Our daughter and her friends were in a drinking and driving accident about 1 ½ years ago.

One of the young people died in the accident. Our daughter was seriously injured. We were told that she might not survive the surgery, but she did and has had a remarkable recovery. She is still a little slow getting around but her rehabilitation team believes that she may have a full recovery, at least physically.

But that does not mean that her emotional well-being will be what it was before the accident and my husband and I wonder if the daughter we know now is the same one we knew before the accident.

She seems different. She will soon leave home again.

We would like her to leave on a good note, but when we feel so disconnected with her we are not sure that will happen. What can we do to resurrect our relationship with our daughter and ensure good times with her once she is back on her own?

A: I have no doubt that what you see and feel when you work

with your daughter around the house is frustrating. The problem is that you are hoping that she will recover emotionally and be the same girl she was years ago. But she is not the same girl. If nothing else, the trauma from the accident is likely having a permanent effect on her emotional well-being.

Add that to the precarious situation she was in while the medical team was attempting to help her recover in the hospital and the emotions she likely felt when she realized that one of her friends died in the truck.

If you want to continue to have a reasonable relationship with your daughter, you would do well to start over. Treat her for what she is, an unknown person to you and your husband.

You have to put aside all of those hopes and expectations you had for her years ago and, with her, reformulate your relationship. It is a momentous task. You would be wise to work with some of the personal counsellors attached to her rehabilitation unit and ask them to help you reconstruct your parent-child relationship.

To help you with this process, you and your husband might consider spending time alone with each other, to cry and grieve the part of your daughter that disappeared in the accident.

You need the right to feel sad, to let go of whatever guilt you are having, and to be proud of whatever good times the three of you had when she was growing up.

There are likely good memories there, but now it is time to let go of them and give all three of you the

chance to learn about each other all over again. And what an exciting time this could be.

Jacklin Andrews is a family counsellor from Saskatchewan. Contact: jandrews@producer.com.

PROLONGING LIFE

Treatment for cancer patients

HEALTH CLINIC



CLARE ROWSON, MD

Q: My cousin is dying from lung cancer, even though he never smoked. His adult son thinks he should get chemotherapy but my cousin does not really want to do this because he knows he doesn't have long to live and does not want the side effects. What is your opinion?

Do you think that chemotherapy in advanced lung cancer would extend his life for a reasonable period of time?

A: It is not unusual for a close relative to wish to extend their loved one's life as long as possible without necessarily looking out for the best interests of the affected person.

Sometimes it is for religious reasons and sometimes it is because they want to spend more time with the patient.

Unfortunately, most types of lung cancer have an extremely high mortality rate, and the sufferers generally die within six to 18 months of the initial diagnosis. Pancreatic cancer is not much better.

Even if chemotherapy is success-

ful in reducing the size of the tumour, life may be extended by only a few months, and those months may not be of good quality due to the nasty side effects of the medication.

Occasionally, chemotherapy may be used to reduce the size of a large tumour that may be pressing on surrounding organs or nerves, causing a great deal of pain. This might offer temporary relief, but not a cure.

Quality of life is sometimes preferable to quantity.

A recent article published in the *The British Medical Journal* looked at the economics of treating advanced cancer with expensive chemotherapy drugs.

They say using some of these drugs may not be the best use of resources for the British National Health Services.

Dr Peter Wise, an oncologist, said that hospitals in the United Kingdom are spending huge sums of money on new cancer-treating drugs that seem to have only minor benefits. He questioned whether it was cost effective. Worldwide sales of cancer drugs amounted to about \$130 billion in 2015.

I believe your cousin's wishes should be honoured, if possible. His son may not like it, but he should try not to attempt to keep his father around as long as possible.

Clare Rowson is a retired medical doctor in Belleville, Ont. Contact: health@producer.com.

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CHEESE LABELLING

What's in a name?

There is no easy answer when it comes to non-GMO labelling

BY ROBERT ARNASON
BRANDON BUREAU

Non-genetically modified certified cheese will be available for sale at Canadian grocery stores sometime in 2017.

But the company behind the new product wants to make something clear: It won't be selling non-GM cheese. It's more complicated.

The company will be using milk from cows fed non-GM grains and oilseeds to make its non-GM verified cheese.

"We're not verifying the milk, or saying that milk contains GMOs or doesn't contain GMOs.... We're giving transparency to what the cows eat," said Mike Raftis, vice-president of sales, marketing and communications for Bothwell Cheese.

In late November, Bothwell Cheese, based in the southeastern Manitoba town of New Bothwell, said it plans to launch a line of cheeses certified by the Non-GMO Project, a verification program located in Washington state.

"Individuals and families are telling us they would like to be given more choice and we are proud to be able to offer this as an option," said Kevin Thomson, president of Bothwell Cheese, which is sold in major grocery stores, as well as independents.

When it comes onto the market, likely in summer of 2017, Bothwell's Non-GMO Project verified cheese will likely be the first in Canada with such a label.

The label for the cheese is unlikely to say "non-GM" or "GM-free" because that would breach fed-

eral regulations.

"Meat, cheese, milk cannot be labelled as non-GMO," said Therese Beaulieu, Dairy Farmers of Canada's assistant director of policy communications.

"The milk itself, the cheese itself, there's not a genetic modification to it."

Non-GM verified milk is already available in Canada. Beaulieu said two firms are selling such milk in Quebec but the label is clear.

"From cows fed non-GMO."

Beaulieu said the DFC would tolerate non-GM verified cheese, provided the label on the product is accurate.

Bothwell may be introducing Canada's first non-GM verified cheese but the company isn't creating a market, Raftis said. It is responding to consumer demand.

"It's no different than if you look at other categories: omega, lactose free.... We're just adding another offer and another choice," he said. "We're all about choice."

Bothwell studied the marketplace before committing to its new product and cites the following as among the reasons for its decisions:

- Non-GMO Project verified is a booming label in the food industry, with more than \$19 billion in annual sales.
- Public opinion polls show Canadians are highly skeptical about

It's no different than if you look at other categories: omega, lactose free.... We're just adding another offer and another choice. We're all about choice.

MIKE RAFTIS, BOTHWELL CHEESE

GM foods. A 2015 Ipsos Reid poll found that 59 percent of consumers oppose genetically modified crops and animals to produce food.

- The same poll found that 88 percent of Canadians want mandatory labelling of GM foods.

As well, more European cheeses will soon be coming to Canada because of the Canada-Europe free trade deal. Many European dairy products carry a non-GM verified label, which will likely create competition for Canadian cheese makers.

"There are other products in the market and it's a matter of time before it makes its way to Canada,"

Raftis said. "So we're getting ahead of the curve."

It appears there is demand for non-GM verified milk in Quebec, but it's too early to say if other Canadians care if cows are fed genetically modified ingredients.

"I think that's what we'll find out," Beaulieu said.

"There is demand for grass fed, for example. There is demand for all kinds of things."

Dairy farms in southeastern Manitoba will supply Bothwell Cheese with the necessary milk, from cows fed non-GM grains and oilseeds.

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AGRICULTURAL EXCELLENCE CONFERENCE

Family dynamics called key to farm profitability

Producers also need to know cost of production, make a business plan and adjust to changing situations, say experts

BY BARB GLEN
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

CALGARY — When Richard Stamp listed the top five risks for farm operations, he realized he has changed perspective over the years.

The owner and operator of Stamp Farm and Stamp Seeds of Enchant, Alta., learned that family dynamics have to be managed if any other part of the agricultural operation can survive and thrive.

Stamp provided his insights Nov. 24 at the Agricultural Excellence Conference organized by Farm Management Canada.

His initial list of the top five risks looked like this:

1. operations
 2. access to capital
 3. fortitude
 4. education
 5. family business and dynamics
- Flip the order around and you get

Stamp's current list.

He and his wife and partner, Marian, started farming in 1978, with no cash and little business sense, said Stamp.

"Risk management, in those days, was nothing you talked about," he told the assembled crowd.

A venture into the seed potato business ended in disaster, but the farm business survived and now operates with Richard, Marian, and their three sons, Greg, Nathan and Matt, all part of the business.

He said having a market for commodities before producing them is key, and a marketing plan should include full knowledge of cost of production. Profits rather than size should be the focus.

"Don't get hung up on this big farm talk because at the end of the day it's all about profits," said Stamp.

Other tips include using equity to leverage expansion rather than

refinancing, using accrual accounting with quarterly analysis and treating customers as partners in the business.

Don't get hung up on this big farm talk because at the end of the day it's all about profits.

RICHARD STAMP
STAMP FARM AND STAMP SEEDS

But it all comes back to family dynamics, said Stamp. Allow family members to dream, and make sure each person is in the right job, one that they enjoy.

David Sullivan of Global Ag Risk Solutions, who grew up on a farm south of Moose Jaw, Sask., is another proponent of accrual accounting to reduce farm financial risk.

"A lot of farms, their accountant

produces the financial statements and then they put it in the filing cabinet and never look at it," said Sullivan.

Knowing cost of production is vital. He recommended getting the best agronomy advice possible, using it and keeping ruthless control on fixed costs.

"Bad things will eventually happen," he said. "You just have to have a business structure ... to get your way through it."

Scott Ross, director of business risk management and farm policy with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, said risk management involves planning, and more planning and then adjusting the plan to suit changing situations.

"When I look at what the biggest risks facing producers today are, one of the ultimate issues I see is that the risks today aren't the same as they were a year ago, aren't the same as they were a year before

that, and depending on what you're producing and where you're producing it, your risk profile facing your operation could be completely different," he said.

Farm managers face more challenges than ever and requirements change quickly, Ross added. Today's agricultural industry is increasingly consumer driven, and it is hard to predict trends. He suggested that farmers develop a team of people they can trust who have skills that supplement their own.

Ross said medium-sized farm operations are disappearing, while large and small farms are each becoming more common. Each of those has different risks and complexities.

"The more you can look forward, plan and have procedures in place, the better shape you're going to be in moving forward."

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PRAIRIE CASTLE | An ice artist who prefers to remain anonymous recently created this sculpture from slough ice near Rosetown, Sask.
| BETTY ANN DEOBALD PHOTO

GROSS MARGINS

Farmers need standard, easy-to-use accounting method: consultant

BY BARB GLEN
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

Figuring out how one farm's gross margin measures up against another is not like comparing apples to apples. It's more like comparing soup to nuts.

Standardizing accounting language, including methods of that calculation, could help farmers see how their bottom lines compare to others and then make changes accordingly.

That language doesn't exist, said David Sullivan, vice-president of sales and marketing for Global Ag

Risk Solutions and a former consultant for accounting firm MNP.

"Gross margins should be a simple thing to calculate," said Sullivan.

However, some farmers calculate it as yield multiplied by price to get revenue and then subtract the costs of seed, fertilizer and chemicals.

"Other farms will throw things in like fuel and off-farm labour," he said.

"There's different ways to calculate the same number, which creates confusion. Two guys might be talking about gross margin,

but they might not actually be talking about the same number. If everyone was on the same page, we could compare each other more easily."

Sullivan raised the point Nov. 24 at the Agricultural Excellence Conference. Several members of the audience agreed, noting there are attempts underway now by the Accounting Standards Board to revise the language and make it more consistent.

Financial Reporting and Assurance Standards Canada says on its website that it is now reviewing comments received regarding agri-

culture and how biological assets are recognized in accounting.

For example, should a crop be considered an asset, for accounting purposes, when it is standing, when it is harvested or when it is sold?

On a larger scale, the organization asked respondents if "authoritative guidance with respect to accounting for biological assets and agricultural produce by private enterprise should be developed."

Sullivan is one who thinks the answer is yes.

"It would be great if they come up with some standard method that's

easy and simple enough for farms to be able to do on their own. It doesn't need to be overly complex."

He favours the model used in the United Kingdom, which is the same one used by MNP.

"I'm a big believer in it because of its simplicity. It's quick and easy to calculate. It's pretty standard over in the U.K.," Sullivan said. "Instead of bragging about what their yield was, they brag about what their gross margin was, and everyone knows what they're talking about, which would be a great place to get to, someday."

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SERVICE AWARD

New names to hang in agricultural hall of fame

Saskatchewan producers recognized for contributions to industry locally and internationally

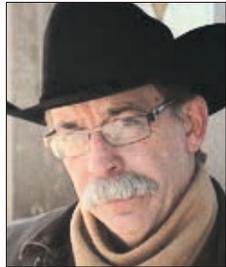
BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU

Three of the six 2017 inductees into the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame were announced at Canadian Western Agribition last month.

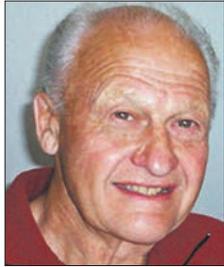
Tim Oleksyn, who ranches and farms near Shellbrook, said he was humbled to be recognized for his work to bring producers, industry and academics together to make sure beef research is on the right track.

"For some reason they just all take my calls," he said after the announcement.

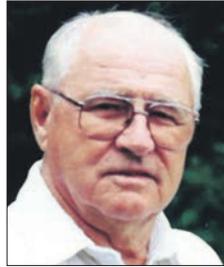
Oleksyn has been chair of the Western Beef Development Centre and the Beef Cattle Research Council. He has been on several other boards and committees and is currently on the fundraising committee for the new Livestock



TIM OLEKSYN



ART MAINIL



GEORGE COOPER

and Forage Centre of Excellence in Saskatoon.

He said he believed it was important to keep the information flowing between researchers and ranchers, and young people are now stepping into his role.

"We've got a lot to do yet," he said.

ART MAINIL

Dale Mainil isn't quite sure how

his late uncle, Art Mainil, would react to being inducted into the hall.

Art, who farmed near Benson, was often at the forefront, whether it was spearheading the first producer-owned inland grain terminal at Weyburn or challenging the Canadian Wheat Board's export monopoly.

"He was never looking for recognition," said Dale. "It wasn't about him. It was about results."

He would be honoured to know

that others thought he did his part to make agriculture more profitable and sustainable, his nephew added.

"He was very passionate about farming, and most people don't understand he believed in the youth."

Mainil was a founder of the Palliser Wheat Growers Association, founding president of Weyburn Inland Terminal and a promoter and user of producer cars. He died in November 2011.

GEORGE COOPER

George Cooper of West Bend will also be inducted posthumously.

He died in August after a lifetime of service to agriculture at local, provincial and international levels.

Cooper was a university agriculture student during the Second World War and, as the eldest son, ended up back on the farm, said his

son, Sheldon.

"His focus on the farm was always for more than the good of his own farm but the good of the community, the good of the industry, the bigger good," he said.

He likely obtained his work ethic from his immigrant parents, who worked hard to succeed in their new home.

Cooper was a board member of the Canadian Shorthorn Association, Saskatchewan Livestock Association, Canadian Western Agribition and the Regina Bull Sale. He also spent two years teaching farming practices to farmers in Sudan.

"We exhibited for many years at Agribition," said Sheldon. "It's sad that he's not here to see it himself, but there's no question in my mind he was a worthy individual, so he would be humbled."

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AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE

B.C. municipalities wrestle with 'mega-mansions' on farmland

BY TERRY FRIES
FREELANCE WRITER

SUMMERLAND, B.C. — The British Columbia government says there is a ready-made solution for municipalities in the province's Lower Mainland that are wrestling with how to control development on land in the Agricultural Land Reserve.

"We have a Minister's Bylaw Standard. It gives local governments a ready-to-use model that restricts building large residential homes in the centre of ALR lots," Agricultural Minister Norm Letnick said.

"It ensures that the majority of land is preserved for agricultural use."

He said local governments that want to restrict the large homes that have been causing controversy can pass a bylaw from the standards provided.

Many municipalities already use

the bylaw templates and have added bylaws of their own in some cases, he said.

The bylaw standards are designed to allow municipalities throughout the province the flexibility to deal with issues in different ways.

He said he hopes a recent initiative by Richmond council to prepare a report on the issue will prompt the municipality to apply the Minister's Bylaw Standard or the portions it deems appropriate to deal with the "mega-mansions" issue.

Letnick said province-wide zoning rules, which is what Richmond council is asking for, are the responsibility of local governments.

The council should first approach the Union of B.C. Municipalities to see if other municipalities agree, he added.

He said what Richmond sees as a solution may not fly in other areas.

The mega-mansion issue has

arisen mainly in the densely populated region south of Vancouver but has also appeared in other areas.

It's not just a Richmond problem, it's everywhere. So the province needs to be stepping up on this.

CAROL DAY
RICHMOND COUNCILLOR

The most recent situation arose when it was brought to light that massive residences were being built on land protected under the ALR, even though owners had no intentions of farming it.

The problem was particularly controversial in Richmond. The municipal council said it had trouble finding enough support

for a bylaw and asked the province to step in.

Richmond councillor Carol Day said she is not happy with the province's refusal to take action.

"These megahouses are ridiculously big, and Richmond takes the cake," she said.

"It's not just a Richmond problem, it's everywhere. So the province needs to be stepping up on this."

Some municipalities, such as Delta, Port Coquitlam and Surrey, have passed bylaws to restrict the size of buildings, but Day said that leads to a patchwork quilt of zoning regulations that vary from region to region.

However, she said Richmond is now preparing a report that explores limiting building size and location on ALR land, which is expected in January.

She said 20,000 sq. foot houses are being built on ALR land in Richmond, and council has turned

down houses of 41,000 sq. feet.

Speculation is that the developers are planning hotels. Most investors are from China, she said.

Meanwhile, houses are restricted to 5,500 sq. feet in nearby Delta.

A report issued by Metro Vancouver, which represents 21 municipalities and one First Nations government, said property taxes on ALR land vary from municipality to municipality, but there are significant tax breaks for land in the reserve.

Letnick said the B.C. government has increased the Agricultural Land Commission budget, which oversees the ALR, in his four years as agriculture minister to \$4.5 million from \$1.9 million.

The current government has added 32,000 net new acres to the ALR since it took power in 2001, he added.

He said the ministry also wants to increase farm production by 225,000 acres by 2020.

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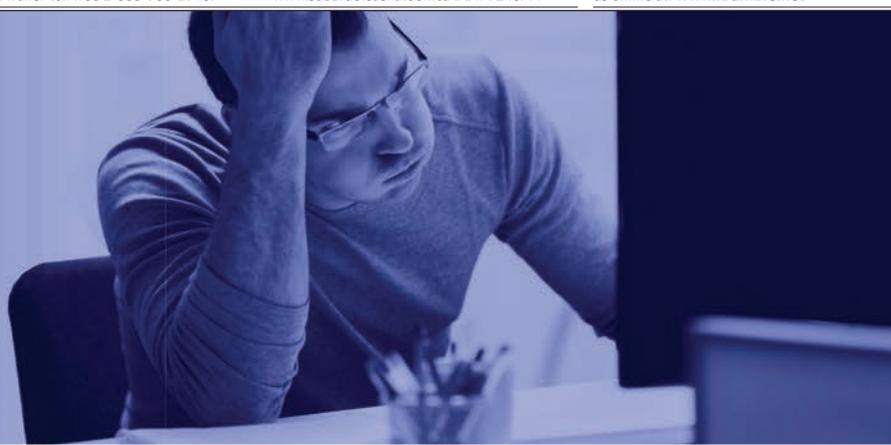
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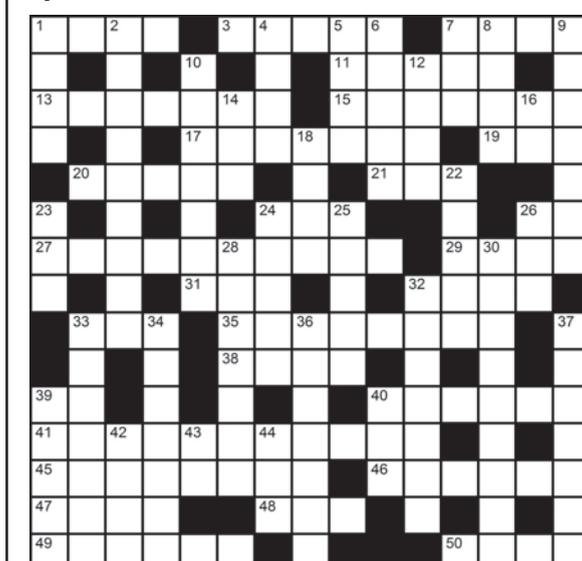
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Entertainment Crossword by Walter D. Feener



Last Weeks Answers

ACROSS

- Lead rat in *Ratatouille*
- Williamson who played Autumn in a recurring role on *A Gifted Man*
- ___ and *Yokels* (1919 silent Oliver Hardy film)
- He played Ellie's husband Andy on *Cougar Town*
- 1979 Farrah Fawcett film
- Academy Award nominee for Best Supporting Actress for *Crossfire*
- He played Sergeant Abraham Ford on *The Walking Dead*
- Billy ___ Williams
- Crawford of *Gossip Girl*
- Virginia from Australia
- O'Connor from Ireland
- Initials of one of the stars of *Storm in a Teacup* (1937)
- You ___* (1941 film) (3 words)
- Crash Goes the ___* (The Three Stooges film)
- Blood & ___* (2015 prime time TV soap opera)
- A Girl in Every ___* (1928 silent film)
- D.C.* (1983 film)
- 1946 biographical film starring Ida Lupino and Olivia de Havilland
- Actress Cannon
- TV medical drama series (1994-2009)
- ___'s *Honor*
- 1931 film starring Eddie Quillan and James Gleason
- She was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in *Dragon Seed*
- Title role for Jean Harlow
- Gupta of Bollywood films
- Class ___* (1992 Kid 'n Play film)
- Teenage sociopath who was to be married to Roman Grant on *Big Love*
- She played Penelope "Punky" Brewster on *Punky Brewster*

DOWN

- The Palermo Connection* director
- Academy Award winner for Best Director for *The English Patient*
- ___ *Me Guilty*
- Ieri, ___, domani* (Italian title of a Sophia Loren film)
- ___ *Country*
- ___ *Dillagi* (1994 Bollywood film)
- She played Padma Patil in the *Harry Potter* films
- Fictional pop star in *Taken*
- The Pursuit of Happyness* director
- The ___ Runner*
- She played Claude Casey on *Less than Perfect*
- Remember ___* (2010 film)
- She played Inspector Sheridan on *Charmed* (two seasons)
- Serious of Australia
- Olivia d'___
- Newhart* handyman George
- Burgess Meredith's role in *Clash of the Titans* (1981)
- ___: *Death Flight* (1977 made-for-television film)
- She plays Amanda Rollins on *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*
- She plays Chloe on *Zoo*
- He wrote *Dog Day Afternoon*
- Richard Pryor comedy
- Jason or Justine
- The Man Who Shot Liberty ___*
- ___ *Town* (1946 western)
- He played Oz on *The Listener*
- Al Bundy's wife
- Dollhouse "doll"
- One of the Kettles
- A View ___ Kill* (2 words)

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1990 EZEE-ON HD 47' disc, C flex gangs, 22" front cone, 1/4" blades, 23" back H double bearings, shedded, exc. cond., \$38,000. 250-262-6103, Charlie Lake, BC.

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

WANTED: USED 40' Kelly disc. 204-729-7630, Brandon, MB.

TILLAGE EQUIPMENT 4262

COMPACTED SUBSOIL ISSUES? Avoid "band-aid" solutions. Since 1984. Call Rick 403-350-6088, anytime.

KELLO-BILT 8' to 20' offset discs w/24" to 36" notched blades; Kello-Bilt 24' to 38' tandem wing discs w/26" and 28" notched blades and oilbath bearings. Red Deer, AB. www.kellohughs.com Call: 1-888-500-2646.

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

JD 330 discs, 24' with coned blades, lots of bearings replaced, good condition, \$9500. 780-603-5307, Vegreville, AB.

1992 37' CASE/IH 5600 HD cultivator, w/Degelman mounted 4-row harrows, \$25,000. A.E. Chicoine Farm Equipment, 306-449-2255, Storthoaks, SK.

HEAVY DUTY DISCER 25", in good shape. 780-853-2031, 780-581-4035, Vermilion, AB.

2016 JD 2410 63', 12" spacing, Raven NH3 autorate controller w/5 sectional control, Bourgault 3/4" NH3 knives, JD 3-bar heavy harrows with 1/2" tines. 306-231-8060, Englefeld, SK.

FLEXI-COIL 700 41' DEEP TILLAGE cult., 750 trips, new sweeps, exc. cond., \$7500 OBO. 306-946-8522, Saskatoon, SK.

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.

1982 7010 ALLIS CHALMERS tractor, c/w 795 Allied loader, vg cond., \$15,500. 306-865-3927, Hudson Bay, SK.

CASE/IH 4286

1983 CASE 2290 w/Leon 707 FEL, 4700 hrs., rebuilt PS and diff., 4 remotes, dual PTO, good tires, duals, \$19,500. Prince Albert, SK. 306-922-8155, 306-960-3230.

2008 CASE 165 Puma with loader and grapple, good cond., \$65,000. 306-547-5430, Endeavour, SK. rs.young@sasktel.net

530 CASEOMATIC, loader and 3 PTH, \$5500. Wanted: headgate, reasonable price. 204-799-5392, Russell, MB.

CASE IH 5230, MFWD, CAHR, bucket, grapple, bale fork, 3 PTH, 12,780 hrs., \$7300 w/o on rebuilt 16 spd. PS, good cond., \$29,500 OBO. 780-719-0264, Andrew, AB. spruceviewcharolais@gmail.com

1995 CASE 5240, 3900 hrs.; 1999 Case MX150, 3700 hrs. Both can be equipped with loaders. 204-522-6333, Melita, MB.



2008 CIH 485QT, 485hp Iyeco, 4230 hrs, 16 speed powershift, 30" tracks 70%, guidance ready. \$159,800
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1995 CASE 9270, 6400 hrs., 4 hyds. w/one return line, 12 spd. trans. set up for Out-Back AutoSteer, 5520/85R42 tires, new front fall 2014, new back tires fall 2015, recently serviced, \$65,000 OBO. Ph/text Dwayne at 306-662-8532, Fox Valley, SK.

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

CASE/IH 4286

WANTED: CAB DOOR for Case/IH 1070 tractor. Call 306-781-2775, Kronau, SK.

STEIGER 4289

STEIGER TRACTOR PARTS. New and used, from radiator to drawpin, 1969 to 1999. Give us a call 1-800-982-1769 or www.bigtractorparts.com

CATERPILLAR 4292

2000 CHALLENGER 95E tractor, 6450 hrs., 4 SCVs, JD AutoTrac, Extreme Duty tracks 80%, full weights, asking \$80,000. Ph: 403-443-2162, Three Hills, AB.

JOHN DEERE 4295

1999 JD 9400, 425 HP 24 spd., new rubber, 4 hyds. w/return line, exc. cond., \$85,000 OBO. 306-861-4592, Fillmore, SK.

LOOKING FOR JD 4430 TO 7000 Series tractors in good condition with mechanical issues. Call 403-876-2542, Big Valley, AB.



2014 JD 6125R MFWD, 125hp, 544 hrs, 340 FEL w/ bucket, PTO, 3PH, factory warranty. \$129,000

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1967 4020, 8500 hrs., rebuilt engine, factory canopy, all original, very nice shape, shedded. 403-876-2542, Big Valley, AB.

JOHN DEERE 8630, PTO, tires like new, excellent condition, \$19,500. 306-861-4592, Fillmore, 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.

1991 4955 MFWD, powershift, good rubber, 9000 hrs, recent rebuild on tranny and motor, shedded, excellent shape. 403-876-2542, Big Valley, AB.

1964 JD 4020, 2 WD, powershift w/cab and loader, 5800 hrs., Hinson cab w/RollGuard and heat, 46A loader in exc. cond. Tractor refurbished. Must be seen to be appreciated. 5' and 9' buckets incl., second owner, \$15,500 OBO. 306-537-3094, Maple Creek, SK. drew.bond@outlook.com

JD 7710 MFWD, with 740 loader, LHR, premium condition, 20.8x38 tires. Call 403-823-1894, Drumheller, AB.

WRECKING FOR PARTS, JD 2750, 3 PTH, vg sheet metal; 2390 Case, vg eng., vg sheet metal; 2090 Case c/w complete overhauled engine, very good sheet metal. 1-877-564-8734, Roblin, MB.

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1981 JD 8640, 4WD, 8300 hours, good condition, \$18,500. 250Z AutoSteer, \$3000. 306-739-2442, Moosomin, SK.

JD 6420 PREMIUM, 6100 hrs., w/640 loader and grapple, 2 hydraulics, 3rd w/joystick control, new rubber, very good condition, \$55,000 OBO. 780-871-8111, Lloydminster, AB. welclean@telus.net

JD 8440, PTO, 5800 orig. hrs., quad trans, premium condition, call Call 403-823-1894, Drumheller, AB.

2002 JD 8120, MFWD, powershift, 4650 hrs. can be equipped with duals; 2000 JD 7710 MFWD, 4900 hrs.; 2006 JD 7720, MFWD, 4600 hrs. Both can be equipped with loaders. 204-522-6333, Melita, MB.

1976 JD 1830, 145 FEL, CAHR, 3 PTH, live PTO, good rubber, very low hours, \$20,000 OBO. Call 306-357-2136, Wiseton, SK.

JD 8440, PTO, 5800 orig. hrs., quad trans, premium condition, \$26,000 OBO. Call 403-823-1894, Drumheller, AB.

2014 JD 7230 RW, 332 hrs., Premium cab, 1000 PTO, drawbar, 710/70R42, foot spd, 60 Mo/ 2500 hrs., warranty, ATG3 AutoTrac Act - GS3 Gen4 Cmd Ctr Display, GT3TAPC Starfire 3000, H480 MSL loader and 4-Way 12', 5700 Degelman blade. Excellent cond. 780-636-3768, Vilna, AB.

WANTED: JD 4430, 30-50 Series, 110-140 HP, example 4240. Must be vg cond. and shedded. 780-853-7248, Dewberry, AB.

JD 4010, c/w FEL, new tires, batteries and injectors, very clean. Call 403-823-1894, Drumheller, AB.

KUBOTA 4298

2011 B3000, MFWD, 246 hrs., 30 HP dsl., 3 range hydro. trans., deluxe cab, CAH, PS, 3 PTH, mid and rear hyd. in dependant PTO, joystick loader lever, includes 63" Kubota snowblower (\$5700 value w/all options), always shedded. Mint! \$22,900. Cudworth, SK. call 306-256-3569, 306-230-4393.

MASSEY FERGUSON 4301

1997 MASSEY FERGUSON 6180, 4 WD, 6500 hrs, 110 HP, 3 PTH, loader/grapple, 3 hyds. 540/1000 rpm, quick release loader, good rubber, very good condition, \$42,500 OBO. 403-845-4914, Rocky Mountain House, AB. colinmanuel@hotmail.com

FORD 4307



1993 FORD 846, 7792 hrs., 230 HP, 4 WD, 18.4R38 duals, PTO, 4 hyds., diff lock, cab, AC, heat, 14 spd. std. trans., \$46,000 OBO. Call 204-743-2324, Cypress River, MB.

VERSATILE 4310

2003 VERS. 2360, AutoSteer, 20.8R42 duals, weights, 3710 hrs., very good cond., \$85,000. 204-736-2840, Brunkild, MB.

VARIOUS TRACTORS 4319



2013 LS P7040C, MFWD, 97 HP 525 hrs., with LL 7101 FEL, 40 gear shuttle shift trans., PTO, 78" QA bucket, like new cond., \$54,000 OBO. 780-482-5273, Edmonton, AB. Email: group.6@outlook.com

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LOADERS/DOZERS 4322



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.

DEGELMAN 5900 14' 6-Way dozer blade, c/w silage extension and brackets, to fit JD 8000 series tractor, \$13,900 OBO. 780-877-2191, Bashaw, AB.



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1-888-606-6362. www.combineworld.com

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.

LEON 606 FEL with 6' bucket, \$3200. Call306-960-3000, St. Louis, SK.



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.

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

2015 DEGELMAN 16' 7900, 6-Way blade w/ silage top, Grouser cutting edge, fits wide front Case QuadTrac or wheel tractor, exc., \$38,000. 250-262-6103, Charlie Lake, BC.

12' DEGELMAN 45/5700 4-Way dozer blade, QA, \$15,000; HLA snow wing dozer blade, trip cutting edge, \$17,000. Wandering River AB 780-771-2155, 780-404-1212

10' DEGELMAN DOZER and frame, manual angle, new cutting edge, fits most 2WD & FWA, \$5900. 306-948-7223, Biggar, SK.

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.

LOADERS/DOZERS 4322



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.

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2006 CAT D8T SU dozer, single shank ripper, cab air, 11,000 hours, work ready, \$150,000. 204-795-9192 Plum Coulee, AB.

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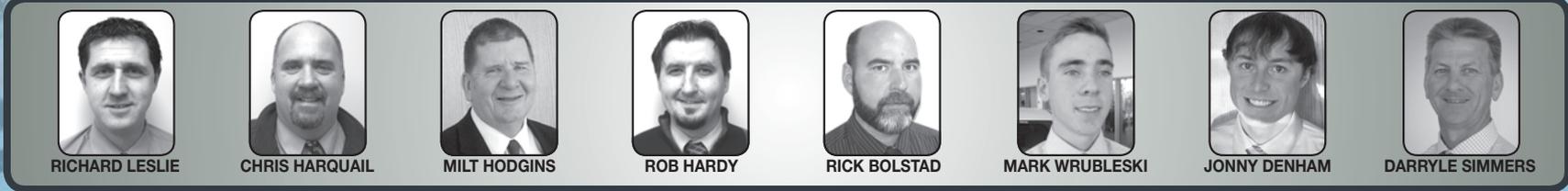
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MSRP \$78,599
Sale Price \$61,995
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Sale Price \$38,495
 Offer includes freight, air tax and fees. GST extra
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NEW 2016 **2016 F150 4X4 SUPERCAB XLT**
 Stk. #T16756.
 2.7L EcoBoost, Electronic 6 Speed Automatic, All Terrain, Oxford White, Grey Cloth.
MSRP \$45,099
Sale Price \$33,995
 Offer includes freight, air tax and fees. GST extra
Costco Members Add'l Savings (\$1,000)

NEW 2017 **2017 F350 4X4 CREW CAB XLT**
 Stk. #T17329.
 6.7L Power Stroke V8 Diesel, 6 Speed Automatic, All Terrain, Oxford White, Medium Earth Grey.
MSRP \$78,029
Sale Price \$68,995
 Offer includes freight, air tax and fees. GST extra
Costco Members Add'l Savings (\$1,000)

NEW 2017 **2017 F250 4X4 CREW CAB XLT**
 Stk. #T17361.
 6.2L EFI V8, 6 Speed Automatic, All Terrain, Oxford White, Medium Earth Grey.
MSRP \$63,749
Sale Price \$57,995
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\$85,000

Stock #V412864

2011 International 8600 SBA 6x4
Tandem Axle Grain Truck, MaxxFORCE 13 engine (430) HP, Eaton Fuller O/D transmission (10 speed), Air brakes, 400232km, 12000 lbs front axle capacity, 40000 lbs rear axle capacity, 4-Way rear lockup. Regina, SK



\$89,000

Stock #V423088

2012 International ProStar +122
Tandem Axle Grain Truck, MaxxFORCE 13 engine (450/450) HP, Eaton Fuller Ultra Shift transmission (13 speed), Air brakes, 302229 km, 12000 lbs front axle capacity, 40000 lbs rear axle capacity, 3-Way rear lockup, A/C, Getting a brand new 20 ft. grain box. Calgary, AB



\$89,900

Stock #V423085

2012 International ProStar +122
Tandem Axle Grain Truck, MaxxFORCE 13 engine (450/450) HP, Eaton Fuller Ultra Shift transmission (13 speed), 249049km, 12000 lbs front axle capacity, 40000 lbs rear axle capacity, 3-Way rear lockup, A/C, C/W new 20 foot Cancade grain box, hoist, & PTO. Brandon, MB



\$142,900

Stock #6761-16

2016 International 4400 6x4
Tandem Axle Grain Truck, N9 engine (330) HP, Allison (Auto) transmission (6 speed), Air brakes, 3524km, 14000 lbs front axle capacity, 40000 lbs rear axle capacity, 4-Way rear lockup, A/C, 20 ft. Cancade grain body/tarp/electric controls. Prince Albert, SK



\$145,900

Stock #: 9654-16

2016 International 4400 6x4
Tandem Axle Grain Truck, N9 engine (330) HP, Allison (Auto) transmission (6 speed), Air brakes, 2255km, 14000 lbs front axle capacity, 40000 lbs rear axle capacity, 4-Way rear lockup, A/C, 20 ft. Cancade grain body/tarp/electric controls. Regina, SK



\$49,900 USD

Stock #FB149304

2015 Timpte Grain Hopper
Grain, 3 hopper, Air suspension, Tridem axle, Aluminum (polished out) rims, 20 king pin, Tarp: Rollover Black, Hoppers: Ag Hopper w/3rd Hopper Black w/Interior Access steps, Width: 102 in, Length: 45 ft. Calgary, AB



CALL

Stock #HB156642

2017 Timpte Grain Hopper
Grain, Hopper, Air suspension, Tridem axle, Aluminum rims, 20 king pin, Tarp: Rollover Black, Hoppers: Ag Hopper Black w/Interior Access steps, Width: 102in, Length: 45ft, 24.5 all alum rims, dual cranks, high ag hoppers. Regina, SK



\$29,900

Stock #AR023328U

2010 Reitnouer Drop Miser
Deck, Stepdeck, Air suspension, Tandem axle, Aluminum rims, Alum floor, Width: 102in, Length: 50 ft, Winnipeg, MB

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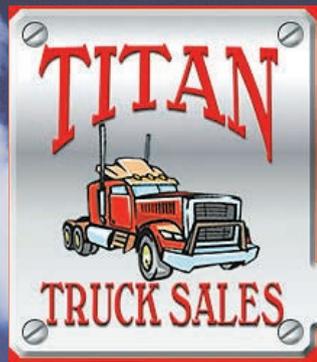
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2012 KENWORTH T660



485 HP Paccar MX, 18 sp, 12 front 46 rear, 3:91 gears, 22.5" alloy wheels, 4x4 diff. locks, 228" WB. 749,365 km

\$50,000

2010 FREIGHTLINER CASCADIA



500 HP Detroit DD15, 18 sp, 12 front super 40 rear, 4x4 diff. lock, 4:10 gears, 220" WB. 986,500 km

\$43,000

2007 FREIGHTLINER SD



515 HP Detroit, 18 sp, 16,000 lb front 46,000 lb rear, 191" WB, 22.5" alloy wheels, 4x4 diff. locks, 4:30 gears, 1,087,686 km

\$29,000

2012 KENWORTH W900L



500 HP Cummins ISX, 18 sp, 12 front 46 rear, 3:91 gears, 22.5" alloy wheels, 4x4 diff. locks, 244" WB, 663,904 km,

\$77,000

2011 MACK CXU613



445 HP Mack MP8, 18 sp Mack, 12 front 40 rear, 24.5" alloy wheels, 222" WB, 3:90 gears, 1,091,290 km.

\$39,000

2012 KENWORTH W900B



500 HP Cummins ISX, 18 sp, 12 front 46 rear, 3:91 gears, 22.5" alloy wheels, 4x4 diff. locks, 236" WB, 826,742 km

\$67,000

2012 KENWORTH W900B



500 HP Cummins ISX, 18 sp, 12 front 46 rear, 3:91 gears, 22.5" alloy wheels, 4x4 diff. locks, 236" WB, 832,553 km

\$67,000

2014 MACK CXU613



445 HP MP8, 18 sp, 12/40, 3:55 gears, 22.5" alloy wheels, 224" WB. 3x4 diff. locks, 454,332 km

\$77,000

2012 KENWORTH W900L



500 HP Cummins ISX, 18 sp, 12 front 46 rear, 3:91 gears, 22.5" alloy wheels, 4x4 diff. locks, 236" WB, 826,742 km

\$77,000

2012 KENWORTH T660



485 HP Paccar MX, 18 sp, 12 front 46 rear, 3:91 gears, 22.5" alloy wheels, 4x4 diff. locks, 228" WB. 816,785 km

\$50,000

2013 KENWORTH T800



500 HP Cummins ISX, 18 sp, Eaton Autoshift, 12 front super 40 rear, 22.5" alloy wheels, 224" WB, 4x4 diff. locks, 4:10 gears, 930,364 km

\$50,000

2012 PETERBILT 388



450 HP Cummins ISX, 18 sp, 12 front 40 rear, 3x4 diff. locks, 63" bunk, 244" WB, 22.5" alloy wheels, 3:90 gears, 781,522 km

\$67,000

2007 PETERBILT 379



430 HP Cat C13, 10 sp, 22.5" wheels, 12/40, 3:70 gears, 208" WB, 36" flat-top bunk, flex air suspension, wet kit, 1,299,607 km

\$29,000

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- 2016 Case IH 8240** - 520 Duals, Lat Tilt, Rocktrap, Ext Wear Rotor, Standard Chopper, Deluxe Cab, Leather Seat, Trailer Hitch, Pro 700, Accuguide Ready, Stk: 022147..... **\$405,000 (SC)**
- 2014 Case IH 7130** - 800 Singles, Deluxe Cab, Lateral Tilt, Extended Wear Rotor, Electric Folding Hopper Cover, Chopper, Yield & Moisture, 562 Engine & 409 Rotor Hours, Stk: 014705..... **\$279,500 (SA)**
- 2013 Case IH 7230** - 520 Duals, Ext Wear Infeed, Ext Wear Rotor, Lateral Tilt, Hopper Ext, Chopper, Deluxe Cab, HID Lights, Autoguidance, 1150 Engine & 850 Rotor Hours, Stk: 019635..... **\$294,500 (SC)**
- 2012 Case IH 7230** - 520 Duals, Lat Tilt, Ext Wear Rotor, Hyd Folding Cover, Std Chopper, HID Lights, Accuguide, Air Compressor, 1258 Engine & 986 Rotor Hours, Stk: 021503..... **\$269,000 (PA)**
- 2010 Case IH 8120** - 900 Singles, Leather Seat, Ext Wear Infeed, Fine Cut Chopper, HID Lights, Accuguide, Small Tube Rotor, 1345 Engine & 1000 Rotor Hours, Stk: 018938..... **\$205,900 (SC)**
- 2010 Case IH 7088** - 800 Singles, Lateral Tilt, AFX Rotor, Chopper, Yield & Moisture, Trailer Hitch, New radiator, 1200 Engine & 900 Rotor Hours, Stk: 017933..... **\$182,000 (SC)**
- 2006 Case IH 8010** - 14' CIH 2016 Pickup Header, 520 Duals, 600/65R28 Rear, Rocktrap, Pro 600 Monitor, Std Rotor, Maurer Topper, Fine Cut Chopper, Long Auger, Stk: 021412..... **\$155,500 (ME)**
- 2014 John Deere S670** - 520 Duals, 28L Rear Tires, Autoguidance, Fine Cut Chopper, HID Lights, 615 Pickup Header, Stk: 022003..... **\$375,000 (SA)**
- 2010 John Deere 9770STS** - c/w JD 615 Pickup, Deluxe Cab, Bullet Rotor, Long Auger, Fine Cut Chopper, 2600 Monitor, Hopper Topper, Steer Ready, Stk: 022038..... **\$245,000 (ME)**
- 2006 New Holland CX860** - c/w 76C Pickup, Duals, Redekop Chopper, Diff Lock, Small Grain Combine, Yield and Moisture, Stk: 021870..... **\$134,900 (LL)**

SPRAYERS

- 2015 Case IH 4440** - 120 Ft, Luxury Cab, Active Susp, 710 Floaters & 380/90R46, Pwr Mirrors, 3" Front Fill, SS Tank, Pro 700 Display, AIM PRO, Deluxe HID Lights, Accuguide, Accuboom, Autoboom, Fenders, Stk: 019629..... **\$480,000 (PA)**
- 2014 Case IH 4430** - 120 Ft, Luxury Cab, Active Susp, Pro 700 Monitor, Accuboom, Accuguide, AIM Command, 2 Sets of Tires, Stk: 021957..... **\$385,000 (ES)**
- 2011 Case IH 4420** - 120 Ft, 2 Sets Of Tires, Deluxe Cab, Pro 600, Aim Command, 262 Receiver, 2500 hours, Stk: 020293..... **\$240,000 (SC)**
- 2011 Case IH 3330** - 100 Ft, 380s & 650s, Deluxe Cab, Active Suspension, AIM Command, Pro 600 Monitor, Accuguide, Accuboom, Autoboom, HID Lights, Fenders, Stk: 021906..... **\$225,000 (SA)**
- 1998 Case IH SPX3185** - 90 Ft, 2 Sets Of Tires, Stk: 017817..... **\$79,000 (SA)**
- 2012 John Deere 4940** - 120 Ft, 1200 Gal, Boom Trac Pro 5 - Leveling, Chem Eductor, Fence Row Nozzles, Halogen Light Package, Sectional Control, GPS Receiver & Monitor, 1300 hours, Stk: 020967..... **\$297,000 (SC)**
- 2014 Case IH 4530 Floater** - 70 Ft, Luxury Cab, Power Mirrors, HID Lights, Fenders, Case IH Viper 4 Monitor, 1200 Hours, Stk: 022734..... **\$325,000 (SC)**
- 2005 Terragator 8104 Floater** - 70 Ft, Terra Shift Trans, Air Max 1000 w/Granny Bin, Smartrax Steering, Viper Pro, Electric Roll Tarp, 1000/50R25 Rear, New 48x31-20 Front, Stk: 022831..... **\$149,000 (SA)**
- 1998 Willmar 6400** - 80 Ft, 600 Gal, Light Bar, Foam Marker, Rinse Tank, Triple Nozzle Bodies, Sectional control, Stk: 022241..... **\$29,900 (LL)**
- 2009 Apache AS1010** - 100 Ft, 1000 Gallon, Envisio Pro, Smartrax, 2 Crop Dividers, Stk: 021934..... **\$149,900 (LL)**
- 2014 Case IH 3230** - 100 Ft, 520s & 380s, 800 Gal Poly Tank, Viper Pro, Raven Smartrax, Autoboom, Accuboom, AIM Command, HID Center Light, Fenders, 2 Front Crop Dividers, Stk: 021478..... **\$229,000 (ME)**

AIR DRILLS

- 2011 Bourgault 3310** - 55 Ft, Double Shoot, V-Packers, 6550 Tank, 4 Tank Metering, 591 Monitor, Double Shoot, Deluxe Auger, 900 Tires, Stk: 020803 .. **\$191,000 (SC)**
- 2009 Bourgault 3310** - 75 Ft, 12" Spacing, Paralink, 4.8" Semi-Pneum Press Whls, Double Shoot, S25 Hyd MRBs, Walking Castors, Barton Openers, Blockage, 6700 Cart, 3 Tank Meter, Conveyor, Bag Lift, 591 Monitor, Stk: 022282 **\$240,000 (ES)**

- 2006 Bourgault 5710** - 40 Ft, 9.8" Spacing, Steel Packers, 6200 Cart, Single Fan, Splitter, Stk: 020500..... **\$60,000 (SC)**
- 2010 Bourgault 3310** - 55 Ft, 12" Spacing, V-Style Packers, MRBs, 6550 Cart, 900 Tires, Bag Lift, 4 Tank Metering, Deluxe Auger, Stk: 021101..... **\$216,000 (SC)**
- 2012 Bourgault 3320-66QDA** - 66 Ft, 12" Spacing, Single Shoot, Liquid Kit, 6550 Cart, 3 Tank Metering, Duals, Blockage, Bag Lift, X20 Monitor, Stk: 021606..... **\$198,900 (ES)**
- 2001 Bourgault 5710** - 47 Ft, 9.8" Spacing, 3" Rubber Packers, Single Shoot, 5350 TBH Cart, 3 Tank Metering, Stk: 020088..... **\$71,000 (SC)**
- 2010 Case IH ATX700** - 70 Ft, Rubber Packers, High Float Tires, Double Shoot, Dutch Openers, 3430 TBH Cart, 30.5/32 Duals, VR Cart, ISO Bus, No Monitor, Stk: 020407..... **\$94,000 (SC)**
- 2010 Case IH PH800** - 70 Ft, 10" Spacing, New Dutch Paired Row, Single Shoot, High Flotation Tires, CIH 3430 TBH Cart, VR Drive, Dual Fan, 20.8/38 Duals, 10" Auger, Stk: 012985..... **\$190,000 (LL)**
- 2013 Seed Hawk 60-12** - 60 Ft, Twin Wing, Semi Pneumatic Packers, Double Shoot, Seed Hawk 800 TBH, Sectional Control, 10" Auger, Bag Lift, Viper SCT monitor, Stk: 017840..... **\$335,000 (PA)**
- 2009 Seed Hawk 66-12** - 66 Ft, 12" Spacing, Single Knife, Pneumatic Packers, 30.8 Rear Tires on Drill, 800 TBH Cart, Conveyor, Duals on Cart, VR Hyd Drive, Viper Pro Monitor, SCT, Upgraded Ladder, Stk: 021475..... **\$205,000 (PA)**
- 2009 Seed Hawk 72-12** - 72 Ft, 12" Spacing, Twin Wing Openers, Pneumatic Packers, 600 TBT Cart, 10 Inch Auger, VR Hyd Drive, Viper Pro Monitor, SCT, Upgraded Ladder System, Duals on Cart, Stk: 021477..... **\$205,000 (PA)**
- 2015 Seed Hawk 84-12** - 84 Ft, 12" Spacing, Steel Seed & Fert Knives, 30.5L32 Singles, Clevis Hitch, Double Shoot, Intelligent Ag Blockage, 600 TBT Cart, SCT, Conveyor Kit, Extra Bean Roller, Stk: 021294..... **\$390,000 (SA)**
- 2004 SeedMaster 50-10** - 50 Ft, 10" Spacing, Duals Front And Back, Liquid Kit, Triple Shoot, Single Knife, No Cart, Stk: 019856..... **\$59,000 (PA)**
- 2010 SeedMaster 72-12** - 72 Ft, 12" Spacing, JD 1910 Air Cart, 3 Tank Metering . Stk: 020958..... **\$132,000 (SC)**

TRACTORS

- 2015 Case IH Steiger 420** - 520/85R46 Firestone Triples, Deluxe Cab, HID Lights, Pro 700 Monitor, Accuguide, 372 HP/XP Receiver, Hi-Cap Drawbar, 4 Remotes, High Capacity Hyd Pump, PTO, Stk: 019872..... **\$379,000 (SC)**
- 2014 Case IH Steiger 500** - Quadtrac, Luxury Cab, Power Mirrors, HID Lights, Single Beacon, Adj Wide Marker Lights, Electric Armrest Adjust, Accuguide, Pro 700 Monitor, 372 Receiver HP/XP, Stk: 020529..... **\$470,000 (SA)**
- 2015 Case IH Steiger 540** - Triples, Diff Lock, Hi-Cap Pump, Full Hyd GPS w/ Pro 700, 4 Remotes, Tow Cable, Front Weight Bracket, 284 Hours, Stk: 019374..... **\$384,500 (SC)**
- 2014 Case IH Steiger 620 Quadtrac** - Lux Cab, HID Lights, Pro 700, Accuguide, High Cap Drawbar, 2 Hi Cap Hyd Pumps, 6 Remotes, PTO, 36" Tracks, Tow Cable, Front Bumper Weight, Stk: 023110..... **\$497,000 (SA)**
- 2014 Case IH Steiger 600** - Quadtrac, Luxury Cab, Power Mirrors, HID Lights, Single Beacon, Adj Wide Marker Lights, Elect Armrest Adj, Accuguide, Pro 700 Monitor, 372 Receiver HP/XP, Stk: 020526..... **\$490,000 (ME)**
- 2013 John Deere 9560R** - Triples & Full Wheel Weights, 15 Rear Suitcase Weights, JD Steering c/w Receiver & Monitor, Dual Hyd Pumps, 5 Remotes, Xenon Lights, Tow Cable, Stk: 020587..... **\$400,000 (ES)**
- 2012 John Deere 9560RT** - 36" Tracks, High Flow Hyd Pump, PTO, 6 Remotes, Electric Mirrors, Full Weights, Hydraulic Hitch, HID Lights, Steer Ready, Stk: 020937..... **\$396,500 (SA)**
- 2014 New Holland T9.700** - Michelin 800/70R38 Duals, Full Weight Pkg, Luxury Cab, HID Lights, Twin Hyd Pumps, 6 Remotes, Autoguidance, Stk: 019952..... **\$459,000 (SC)**
- 2015 Case IH Magnum 180** - 480/70R30 Frt Singles, 620/70R42 Rear Singles, Luxury Cab, HID Lights, Hi Flow Hyd, 4 Remotes, MMV Joystick, L785 Loader, 102" Bucket & Grapple, 540/1000 PTO, Stk: 019967..... **\$210,000 (SC)**
- 2015 Case IH Magnum 280** - 480/70R34 Frt Duals & Weights, 710/70R42 Rear Duals & Weights, Luxury Cab, 360 LED Worklights, Powershift, 540/1000 PTO, 4 Remotes, Accuguide, Pro 700 Monitor, Stk: 019944..... **\$275,000 (SC)**
- 2011 Case IH Magnum 340** - 480/80R50 Michelin Rear Duals, 480/70R34 Michelin Front Duals, 335 HP Tier 4A, Powershift, Deluxe Cab, Cab Suspension, HID Lights, Beacon, Electric Armrest Adjust, Cloth Seat, ISO Ready, Cat 4N/3 Hitch, 43" Lower Links, Hi Flow Hyd, 5 Remotes, 1000 PTO, Stk: 017948..... **\$215,000 (PA)**

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25 PUREBRED HEIFERS for sale. Sired by Skaggs, Lanza, Stout, Blue Value and Eldorado, \$2,500. 306-227-3607, Vanscoy, SK.

GELBIEH 5075



DAVIDSON GELBIEH & 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.davidsongelbieh.com**

HEREFORD 5090

BRED COWS, HEIFERS, COW/CALF pairs exc. herdsires bought in AB and SK. Elm Creek, MB., 204-745-7894, 204-436-2284.

SELLING PKG. OF polled Hereford bred heifers. Top quality, bred to easy calving Hereford bull. Corey Lees 306-577-9971 or George Lees at 306-577-5578, Arcola, SK.

9 HEREFORD HEIFERS selling at Candiac Auction Mart, Dec. 16, Candiac, SK. Bred Hereford or Red Angus. For info contact Herman Bieber 306-727-3127 Wolseley SK

25 BRED HEIFERS bred Hereford. February calving, balance due March/April. Excellent group. Registration papers available. Call Duncan or Jeff Lees at: 306-455-2619 or 306-577-1375, Arcola, SK.

HEREFORD 5090



Pioneer® brand canola D-SERIES Only from DuPont

Available at:
Blairs Fertilizer Lanigan, SK
306-365-3150
www.dseriescanola.ca



SQUARE D HEREFORDS: Hereford females bred Hereford, registration papers available. Herd bull prospects, 2yr. old, fall born yearlings and bull calves. Quiet, performance tested. Delivery can be arranged. Jim Duke 306-538-4556, 306-736-7921, Langbank, SK. square.d@sasktel.net square-dpolledherefords.com

HOLSTEIN 5100

FRESH AND SPRINGING heifers for sale. Cows and quota needed. We buy all classes of slaughter cattle-beef and dairy. R&F Livestock Inc. Bryce Fisher, Warman, SK. Phone 306-239-2298, cell 306-221-2620.

LOWLINE 5118

BIG ISLAND LOWLINES Premier Breeder. Selling custom designed packages. Name your price and we will put a package together for you. Fullblood/percentage Lowline, embryos, semen. Black/Red carrier. Darrell 780-486-7553, Edmonton, AB.

SIMMENTAL 5205

PB OPEN HEIFERS, sired by S.V. Dakota. Also Black BLF heifers. All top cut heifers. Curtis Mattson 306-944-4220 Meacham SK



TWIN BRAE SIMMENTALS Bred Female Dispersal, Wednesday, Dec. 21, Virnden, MB. 110 bred cows- majority are under the age of 6, 43 bred heifers, 20 bull calves, 15 open heifer calves, 2 herdsires. Call for catalogue or go online at www.chescu.com Barry and Glenda Chescu, Inglis, MB., 204-564-2509. www.goo.gl/pF4keh Sale managed by: Transcon Livestock Corp.

WELSH BLACK 5235

WELSH BLACK- The Brood Cow Advantage. Check www.canadianwelshblackcattle.com Canadian Welsh Black Soc. 403-442-4372.

COW HERD DISPERSAL

BRED HEIFERS | FOUR YEAR OLDS
FIVE AND SIX YEAR OLDS | SEVEN TO NINE YEAR OLDS

- Cows have been on the Zoetis Select Vac Program (Calves eligible for 0% BRD guarantee From Zoetis)
- Calf Buy back options
- Summer pasture can be transferred to new owner
- Winter Feeding available
- May calving
- 2000 Bred to Black Simmental Bulls --300 Red Cow Bred to Charolais Bulls
- Arrangements can be made for year round management of the herd or a portion of it
- Herd Bulls and Virgin 2 year old Bulls available

Contact: Lyle 403-888-3973 or Scott 403-857-9703

CATTLE VARIOUS 5240

GOOD QUALITY BRED HEIFERS. Red Angus, Red Angus cross Hereford and Red Angus cross Simmental. Bred Red Angus. Ferguson Stock Farm Ltd., 306-895-4825, Paynton, SK.

44 TOPCUT ONE IRON Red Angus cross bred heifers, AI'd to low birthweight Red Angus bull, very impressive group of heifers. Call 306-937-2880 or 306-441-5010 Battleford, SK.

BRED COW HERD REDUCTION, by half. 150 head. Would trade for light or tough feed grain. Call 306-432-4803, Lipton, SK.

RK ANIMAL SUPPLIES - Be on target.
Use the products endorsed by the professionals. **RK & SULLIVAN SUPPLIES**
For a free catalogue: **1-800-440-2694**
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www.rkanimalsupplies.com

BRED HEIFERS: Approx. 200 big, strong top of the line, one iron Simmental and Simmental Red Angus cross, bred Red or Black Angus. Exposed May 24th, 2016. Full vaccination program plus Ivomec. Contact 3J Simmental Farms, 306-325-4622 or 306-327-8005, Lintlaw, SK.

20 EXCELLENT HOME raised Simm/Angus bred heifers, very quiet, exposed to Red Angus bull June 1st. Mitch 306-467-4975, 306-467-7912, Duck Lake, SK.

CHAROLAIS COWS BRED polled Charolais, purebred and commercial, calving Feb.-April. Call Layne and Paula Evans, 306-252-2246, Kenaston, SK.

Consider it SOLD! 1-800-667-7770



H. S. KNILL TRANSPORT, est. 1933, specializing in purebred livestock transportation. Providing weekly pick up and delivery service across Canada/USA and Mexico. Goose-neck service available in Ontario, Quebec and USA. US and Canada customs bonded carrier. Call 1-877-442-3106, fax 519-442-1122, hsknill@pppoe.ca or www.hsknilltransport.com 155 King Edward St., Paris, ON. N3L 0A1.

BRED HEIFERS: 75 Red and Black Angus; 25 Hereford. Exc. ranch raised females. Bred to top quality bulls. Call Dean at 780-855-2580, New Norway, AB.

25 EXCELLENT SIMMENTAL Angus cross-bred heifers, Red and Black, bred to proven easy calving Simmental bull, due Feb. and March. Pheasantdale Cattle Co., 306-335-7553, Balcarres, SK.

RED ANGUS- GELBIEH cross heifers, bred July 10, Black Angus. Good big heifers, bought as calves from one ranch. Full vaccination, asking \$1990 each. Chanig Ranch, 306-478-2658, Mankota, SK.

5 YOUNG RED Angus cows; 15 Red Angus bred heifers, bred Red Angus; 4 Hereford bred heifers, bred Hereford. Exposed May 20 to July 10. T Bar K Ranch, Kevin, 306

CATTLE WANTED 5245

WANTED: CULL COWS and bulls. For bookings call Kelly at Drake Meat Processors, 306-363-2117 ext. 111, Drake, SK.

HORSES

BELGIAN 5325

CROSSBRED BELGIAN mares, bred back to Belgian Stallion, \$2500/ea.; 1- set of brass harness, \$1800; 4- Red Belgian yearling mules, \$1200/ea. 780-363-2216, Chipman

CANADIAN 5327

PUREBRED 9 YEAR old Canadian mare, ground driven, \$1500 negotiable. Call 306-889-3015, Tisdale, SK.

HAFLINGER 5345

10 YR. OLD reg. Draft type stallion ready for 2017 season; Well broke to drive mare in open, but can be bred; 2 and 3 yr. old fillies started in harness. Transportation available. Call 519-319-8021, Zurich, ON

MORGAN 5375

QH SORREL GELDING from Doc O'Lena and Pistol, cutting horse, broke requires experienced rider; Paint gelding, brown and white, 15 HH, well started, ride and drive; Arabian sorrel mare, started. 780-853-2031 780-581-4035 Vermilion AB

SHETLAND 5420

PONY GELDING, SADDLE and harness trained, \$1500; To give away: 3 pony mares. Bamford Pony Farm, La Riviere, MB, call 204-242-2369 or 204-825-7830.

HARNESS/VEHICLES 5470

HORSE COLLARS, all sizes, steel and aluminum harnesses. We ship anywhere. Keddies', 1-800-390-6924 or keddies.com

SHEEP

SHEEP VARIOUS 5590

SELLING LAMBS AND GOATS? Why take one price from one buyer? Expose your lambs and goats to a competitive market. Beaver Hill Auctions, Tofield, AB. Sales every Monday, trucks hauling from SK, BC, AB. www.beaverhillauctions.com Call: 780-662-9384.

SUNGOLD SPECIALTY MEATS. We want your lambs. Have you got finished (fat) lambs or feeder lambs for sale? Call Rick at: 403-894-9449 or Cathy at: 1-800-363-6602 for terms and pricing. www.sungoldmeats.com

SHEEP WANTED 5595

WESTERN SHEEP MARKETING LTD.
a division of
SOUTHERN ALBERTA LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE
Buying all classes of sheep, lambs and goats.
Contact **Darren Shaw 403-601-5165**
Same Day Trade Payment. Farm Pickup.
Competitive Pricing.
darren@livestock.ab.ca

SHEEP SERVICE/SUPPLIES 5598

SASK. SHEEP DEV. BOARD sole distributor of sheep ID tags in Sask., offers programs, marketing services and sheep/goat supplies. 306-933-5200, Saskatoon, SK. www.sksheep.com

POULTRY

POULTRY VARIOUS 5740

READY TO LAY pullets. Taking early bookings on white and brown egg layers for June pickup. 306-435-3530, Moosomin, SK.

SPECIALTY

ELK 5760

NORTHFORK- INDUSTRY LEADER for over 15 years, is looking for Elk. "If you have them, we want them." Make your final call with Northfork for pricing! Guaranteed prompt payment! 514-643-4447, Winnipeg, MB.

BUYING ELK for local and international meat markets. Call us for competitive pricing and easy marketing. Phone Ian at 204-848-2498 or 204-867-0085.

LIVESTOCK VARIOUS 5785

BRED HEIFERS: TOP quality Red Angus heifers, bred to three star calving ease Red Angus bulls, to start calving April 1st. 306-784-3547, Herbert, SK.

LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT 5790

RENN PTO GRAIN ROLLER, 22" rollers, 12' unloading auger, mounted on trailer, \$3800. Call 306-562-7615, Buchanan, SK.

LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT 5790

CATTLE SHELTER PACKAGES or built on site. For early booking call 1-800-667-4990 or visit our website: www.warmanhomecentre.com

SILAGE/GRAIN FEED BUNK panels 30' feed panels, w/wo trough or paint. Slant bars or adjustable height bar - same price. Delivery avail. \$670. 204-556-2000, Cromer, MB. Email: miller300j@gmail.com or visit our website: www.acritewelding.com

2014 HIGHLINE BALE PRO CFR651, with chopper and grain tank, processed 1000 bales, asking \$27,000. Call 306-397-2653, 306-441-2663, Edam, SK.

2002 521DXT CASE payload w/grapple fork. Call 306-773-1049 or 306-741-6513, Swift Current, SK.

PAYSAN LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT INC. We manufacture an extensive line of cattle handling and feeding equipment including squeeze chutes, adj. width alleys, crowding tubs, calf tip tables, maternity pens, gates and panels, bale feeders, Bison equipment, Texas gates, steel water troughs, rodeo equipment and garbage incinerators. Distributors for El-Toro electric branders and twine cutters. Our squeeze chutes and headgates are now avail. with a neck extender. Ph 306-796-4508, email: ple@sasktel.net Web: www.paysen.com

FREESTANDING PANELS: 30' windbreak panels; 6-bar 24' and 30' panels; 10', 20' and 30' feed troughs; Bale shredder bunks; Silage bunks; Feeder panels; HD bale feeders; All metal 16' and 24' calf shelters. Will custom build. 306-424-2094, Kandal, SK.

STOP WASTING GRAIN! Try our grain troughs: 30' c/w skids, made of conveyor belting and pipe, \$750 ea. 306-538-4685, 306-736-7146, Kennedy, SK.

HI-HOG CATTLE SQUEEZE and hi-hog grain dispenser. Call 306-773-1049 or 306-741-6513, Swift Current, SK.

GREG'S WELDING: Freestanding 30' 5 bar panels, all 2-7/8" drill stem construction, \$470; 24'x5.5' panels, 2-7/8" pipe with 5-1" sucker rods, \$350; 24'x6' panels, 2-7/8" pipe with 6-1" rods, \$375; 30' 2 or 3 bar windbreak panels c/w lumber. Gates and double hinges avail. on all panels. Belting troughs for grain or silage. Calf shelters. Del. avail. 306-768-8555, Carrot River, SK.

STEEL VIEW MFG. Self-standing panels, windbreaks, silage/hay bunks, feeder panels, sucker rod fence posts. Custom orders. Call Shane 306-493-2300, Delisle, SK. www.steelviewmfg.com

FROSTFREE NOSEPUMPS: Fully sustainable livestock watering. No power required to heat or pump. Prevents contamination. Grants available. 1-866-843-6744. www.frostfreepumps.com

RENN 1355 SILAGE feed wagon, 4 augers, new scale, 540 PTO, stored inside, exc. cond., \$16,500. New Concept 22" roller-mill, PTO drive, transport wheels, vg cond., \$7500. Farm King 18" roller/mill, 10' discharge auger, PTO drive, transport wheels, vg cond., \$2900. 204-937-2922, Roblin MB

SVEN ROLLER MILLS. Built for over 40 years. PTO/elec. drive, 40 to 1000 bu./hr. Example: 300 bu./hr. unit costs \$1/hr. to run. Rolls peas and all grains. We regreave and repair all makes of mills. Call Apollo Machine 306-242-9884, 1-877-255-0187. www.apollomachineandproducts.com

2002 BALE KING 2000 bale processor, good condition, \$5500. Call 306-723-4867, 306-545-5007, Cupar, SK.

GRAIN PROCESSING: 16" Sven roller/mill, 10 HP quick release, 6' cross auger, 2 leg, overhead processed grain tank, all wiring, asking \$7500. 306-862-4849, Aylsham, SK.

1982 TW20 FORD tractor, FWA, w/FEI and grapple fork. Call 306-773-1049 or 306-741-6513, Swift Current, SK.

OILFIELD EQUIPMENT 5935

2008 MOD FIELD office complex, 16 units, 12x60. Can be sold in 4, 8 or 16 units. 90 offices total. Call 780-983-0936, Clyde, AB.

ORGANIC PRODUCTS

CERTIFICATION SERVICES 5943

WANT THE ORGANIC ADVANTAGE? Contact an organic Agrolgist at Pro-Cert for information on organic farming: prospects, transition, barriers, benefits, certification and marketing. Call 306-382-1299, Saskatoon, SK. or info@pro-cert.org

GRAINS 5947

WANTED: ORGANIC LENTILS, peas and chickpeas. Stonehenge Organics, Assiniboia, SK. 306-640-8600, 306-640-8437.

TRADE AND EXPORT CANADA BUYING all grades of organic grains. Fast payment and pick up. Call 306-433-4700.

WANTED ORGANIC FEED GRAIN. Call DMI 306-515-3500, Regina, SK.

GRAINS 5947

Bioriginal

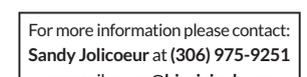
Bioriginal Food & Science Corp. is actively purchasing:

- Organic Flax Seed
- Organic Hemp Seed and;
- Borage Seed

(from the 2016 crop year)

We are also contracting for the upcoming growing season.

For more information please contact: Sandy Jolicoeur at (306) 975-9251 or email crops@bioriginal.com



PERSONAL VARIOUS 5952

DO YOU KNOW an amazing single guy who shouldn't be? Camelot Introductions has been successfully matching people for over 22 years. In-person interviews by Intuitive Matchmaker in MB and SK. www.camelotintroductions.com or phone 306-978-LOVE (5683).

PETS

THE ANIMAL PEDIGREE ACT

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, Ont.

WORKING DOGS 5973

PUREBRED BORDER COLLIE pups. From good working and personable parents. Contact 306-553-2213, Swift Current, SK.

TRUE BLUE HEELER has a litter of Blue Heeler pups ready January 12, 6 females, 2 males, out of Violet by Jaxon. Excellent working dogs. 306-492-2447, 306-290-3339, Clavet, SK.

BORDER COLLIE PUPS red and white, from working parents, ready to go, \$500. 306-587-7169, Success, SK.

REAL ESTATE

B.C. PROPERTIES 6110

COWICHAN BAY, VANCOUVER Island farm. 14.5 acre hay farm w/cozy uniquely quiet brick home. 3 bdm 2 bth, oak kitchen cabinets, granite propane f/p, sunroom. Potential for visitors suite in basement. Sit on the deck and watch your horses grazing on the cleared mountain view acres. 3-stall barn w/shelter and tack room plus 3 solidly built clean sheds. Mins. to fishing and shopping. 30 mins. to Victoria, \$980,000 plus GST. MLS 416977. Sutton West Coast Realty, 250-715-6400. www.marvinwoodsold.com Email: mlwsold@shaw.ca

CONDOS/TOWN HOUSES 6120

SASKATOON EAST SIDE Townhouse, 1,030 sq. ft. in Wildwood. 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Attractive bungalow style in gated community w/vaulted ceilings, finished basement and attached garage. Shows well. Vacant, \$329,900. MLS 590588. 306-227-1887, Saskatoon, SK. Visit: russwalker.ca or Email: rwalker@realtylexecutives.com

COTTAGE/LOTS 6125

LOG HOMES AND CABINS, sidings, panning, decking. Fir and Hemlock flooring, timbers, special orders. Phone Rouck Bros., Lumby, BC. 1-800-960-3388. www.rouckbros.com

HOUSES/LOTS 6126

FARMHOUSE TO BE MOVED, 1200 sq. ft., 3 bdrm, 1 bath. Selling older house with a newer furnace/oil tank, electric water heater, oven, wood burning stove, dishwasher, washer and dryer. For sale by owner, \$20,000 OBO. 306-230-8968, 306-380-9926, Warman, SK. area. edfhr71@gmail.com

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



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.

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.traskrealty.com or please call Dwein 306-221-1035, Amanda 306-221-5675 or Victoria 306-270-9740.

DOUBLE RV LOT for sale, Yuma, AZ. With RV support building - washer/dryer, toilet, shower etc. 403-871-2441, 928-503-5344.

MOBILE HOMES 6127

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

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.

1996 OPEN, BRIGHT 16x76, 12x20 heated addition, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 5 appl., new shingles and eavestroughs. Where is or moved, \$57,000 OBO. 306-834-8287, Major, SK.

MODULAR HOME CLEARANCE!! Immediate delivery for all 16', 20' and 22' wide SRI showhomes in stock. 1-855-358-0808. www.westerncanadianmodular.com

1987 REGENT 16x72, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, new windows and shingles, 25x32' addition, \$32,000 OBO. 306-252-2901, Kenaston, SK

READY TO MOVE 6128

J&H HOMES: Western Canada's most trusted RTM Home Builder since 1969. View at www.jhhomes.com 306-652-5322

RTMS AND SITE built homes. Call 1-866-933-9595, or go online for pictures and pricing at: www.warmanhomes.ca

READY TO MOVE: CELEBRATING 40 Years! Your RTM Home Builder since 1976. Avail. immediately 1560 sq. ft. homes starting at \$95,000. 3 bdrm, 2.5 baths, main floor laundry, master bdrm with full ensuite and walk-in closet. Spacious living area, large kitchen with island. Marvin Homes Inc., Marvin Vogt, Mitchell, MB. 204-326-1493, 204-355-8484. marvinhomesinc@live.com www.marvinhomes.ca

RANCHLAND, 2400 ACRES, 2240 lease and 160 deeded, plus \$10,000 surface rights. Additional land and buildings available for rent. Price \$1,450,000. Sunnybrook, AB. Call Bruce Little 403-807-7485.

WATER PROBLEMS? ELIMINATE rust, smell, bad taste, hardness, sodium odor. The Water Clinic, 1-800-664-2561, www.thewaterclinic.com

HALF SECTION FARMLAND: West of Viking, AB. 310 acres cultivated. Contact Barb Chrystian, Realtor, Swan City Realty 780-385-0631. MLS# ca0093984.

HOG FINISHING BARN, 4400 HEAD incl. 160 acres of land. 1 quarter of good producing land. Land rented on yearly basis. Buildings incl. 2 barns 90'x200', both wood buildings with metal clad, capacity totals 4400 head. Surface lease revenue \$4000/yr. Excellent water well, good lagoon. Could combine with ID#1100378 MLS#. ID#1100503 GRANDE PRAIRIE, AB. MLS#. Call Real Estate Centre, 1-866-345-3414. For all our listings: farmrealestate.com

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RESORTS 6129

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, house, 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@ocul.com

ALBERTA 6132

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER: Approx 10 miles East of Viking, AB. The following are offered for sale by tender subject to the encumbrances and interests as are recorded on the existing Certificate of Titles. SE 16-48-11-W4, 155.4 acres, approx. (130 crop land and 25.4 slough/native land); NW 16-48-11-W4, 160 acres (approx. 140 crop and 20 slough/native); NE 16-48-11-W4, 155.7 (approx. 90 tame grass, 65.7 slough/native). All have newer 4 wire fence. For more info. 780-777-5227 (leave message). Bids will be considered on the total package or by individual quarter section. The highest and/or any bid will not necessarily be accepted. If the successful bidder does not complete the purchase after the acceptance of the tender, the deposit shall be forfeited. Cheques from unsuccessful bidders shall be returned to them. Tenders in sealed envelopes marked 'Camp Lake Lands' must be received by 11:00 AM on Dec. 19, 2016 in the office of Nickerson, Roberts, Holinski & Mercer, 608-10th St, Wainwright, AB, T9W 1E2, accompanied by a certified cheque or bank draft in the amount of 10 percent of the value of the bid payable in trust to Nickerson, Roberts, Holinski & Mercer, Barristers and Solicitors.

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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.

12 QUARTERS IN ONE BLOCK. Just 1 hr SE of Kindersley. Mostly native grass and crested wheatgrass, in really good shape. Water available on all sections by dugouts. Surface revenue of \$5000/year on a yearly basis. Good access. No house on property. 2 community water wells and a water pipeline are within a couple of miles. Incl: 2 older cattle chutes, good calf feeder, steel feeder, lots of free standing steel corral panels, 2 fuel tanks, windbreaks, 2 older discs (approx. 48"), some steel fence posts, 1 steel feeder trough, 1 auger, water tank and water hauler. ID#1100513 KINDERSLEY, SK. MLS#. Real Estate Centre, 1-866-345-3414. For all our listings visit www.farmrealestate.com

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WATER PROBLEMS? ELIMINATE rust, smell, bad taste, hardness, sodium odor. The Water Clinic, 1-800-664-2561, www.thewaterclinic.com

HALF SECTION FARMLAND: West of Viking, AB. 310 acres cultivated. Contact Barb Chrystian, Realtor, Swan City Realty 780-385-0631. MLS# ca0093984.

HOG FINISHING BARN, 4400 HEAD incl. 160 acres of land. 1 quarter of good producing land. Land rented on yearly basis. Buildings incl. 2 barns 90'x200', both wood buildings with metal clad, capacity totals 4400 head. Surface lease revenue \$4000/yr. Excellent water well, good lagoon. Could combine with ID#1100378 MLS#. ID#1100503 GRANDE PRAIRIE, AB. MLS#. Call Real Estate Centre, 1-866-345-3414. For all our listings: farmrealestate.com

RANCHLAND, 2400 ACRES, 2240 lease and 160 deeded, plus \$10,000 surface rights. Additional land and buildings available for rent. Price \$1,450,000. Sunnybrook, AB. Call Bruce Little 403-807-7485.

WATER PROBLEMS? ELIMINATE rust, smell, bad taste, hardness, sodium odor. The Water Clinic, 1-800-664-2561, www.thewaterclinic.com

HALF SECTION FARMLAND: West of Viking, AB. 310 acres cultivated. Contact Barb Chrystian, Realtor, Swan City Realty 780-385-0631. MLS# ca0093984.

HOG FINISHING BARN, 4400 HEAD incl. 160 acres of land. 1 quarter of good producing land. Land rented on yearly basis. Buildings incl.

SASKATCHEWAN 6133

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Anne Morrow
Fort Qu'Appelle, SK
(306) 435-6617
Anne.Morrow@HammondRealty.ca
HammondRealty.ca
Saskatchewan's Ag Real Estate Professionals

LAND AUCTION, Stoney Run Cattle Corp., Thursday, December 22, 2016, Days Inn, Estevan, SK., 7:00 PM. Join Mack Auction Company, Dec. 22 for your chance to own 6 quarter sections of prime grass and hay land in RM of Ennis-killen #3. There is unlimited potential for this land with the close proximity of The Ceres Northgate Terminal, a multi-commodity logistics center strategically located on the Canada/US border in SE Sask! The tame hay, native grass, water sources and perimeter barb wire fences are in ex. condition. 1. NW-8-1-3-W2 RM#3, FVA 64,800. 160 acres tame hay and native grass, partially fenced. 2016 taxes \$380.28. 2. NE-8-1-3-W2 RM#3, FVA 58,200. 160 acres tame hay and native grass, partially fenced, shallow dugout. 2016 taxes \$341.55. 3. SW-8-1-3-W2 RM#3, FVA 80,600. 160 acres tame hay, partially fenced, dugout. 2016 taxes \$473.00. 4. SE-8-1-3-W2 RM#3, FVA 67,800. 160 acres tame hay, partially fenced, dugout. 2016 taxes \$397.88. 5. NW-1-1-3-W2 RM#3, FVA 49,000. 160 acres native grass, partially fenced. 2016 taxes \$234.13. 6. NE-1-1-3-W2 RM#3, FVA 48,100. 160 acres native grass, partially fenced, dugout. Direct access to Hwy 9, located adjacent to Ceres Commodity Logistics Hub. 2016 taxes \$230.29. Visit www.mackauctioncompany.com for sale bill and photos. Join us on Facebook and Twitter. Mack Auction Co., your land Auctioneers. 306-421-2928 or 306-487-7815. PL #311962.



RM OF ROSEMOUNT #378: Starter farm/ranch! Older 1 3/4 storey character home approx 2000 sq. ft. Heated detached garage, quonset, open front shelter, corrals, bins. 186 acres of land. (70 cultivated remainder pasture and yard site). NW 36-36-16 and part of SW 36-36-16 W3 \$349,000. For more info, phone Duane Neufeldt, RE/MAX Saskatoon - Biggar 306-948-8055. www.duaneneufeldt.com

FARMLAND FOR TENDER RM Kinistino #459. SE and SW 14-46-20-W2. 309 cult. acres. Submit written tenders to Box 186, Melfort, SK S0E 1A0. Closing date Sat., Dec. 17, 2016. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Call 306-752-3884.

FARMLAND FOR TENDER RM #321. NW 31-32-25-W3; SW 31-32-25-W3; SE 08-33-25-W3; NW 16-33-25-W3; SW 16-33-25-W3; SW 17-33-25-W3. Tender deadline 12:00 noon, January 4, 2017. For particulars email jones.law@sasktel.net or telephone 306-446-2211. Jones Law Office, Box 1179, North Battleford, SK. S9A 3K2

FARMLAND FOR TENDER RM #321. NW 31-32-25-W3; SW 31-32-25-W3; SE 08-33-25-W3; NW 16-33-25-W3; SW 16-33-25-W3; SW 17-33-25-W3. Tender deadline 12:00 noon, January 4, 2017. For particulars email jones.law@sasktel.net or telephone 306-446-2211. Jones Law Office, Box 1179, North Battleford, SK. S9A 3K2

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Phone: 306-782-7423
Fax: 306-786-6909
Email: info@potzus.com

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER RM of Winslow #319. SE-17-32-20-W3, 160 acres, 154 cultivated, assessment 99,000; NW-01-32-21-W3, 160 acres, 156 cult., assess 89,900; NW-12-33-21-W3, 160 acres, 160 cult., assess. 114,700. **Conditions of Offers:** 1.) All offers to be submitted to Edge Realty Ltd., on or before **December 22, 2016 at 3:00 PM.** 1000B Main Street, Kindersley, SK. Box 1324, SOL 150. 2.) Deposit cheque to 3% of the offered amount must accompany the offer. Cheques will be payable to Edge Realty Ltd. (Cheques will be returned to unsuccessful bidders.) 3.) Offers accepted on any or all parcels. 4.) Highest or any offer not necessarily accepted. 5.) Persons submitting offers must rely on their own research, inspection of land, and improvements as to condition and number of acres. 6.) No offers will be considered which are subject to financing. 7.) Please forward all bids and inquiries to: Brad Edgerton, Edge Realty Ltd., Box 1324, Kindersley, SK. SOL 150. Ph 306-463-4515. Fax: 306-463-4516. brad@edgerealty.ca

RM OF GLENSIDE 377: Prime ranching opportunity! 1296 sq. ft. bungalow built in 1988. Detached garage, metal shop/riding arena, horse barn and newer corrals. 308 total acres of land. (Both native and tame grass, cross fenced into many paddocks). SE 04-40-14 W3 and SE 33-39-14 W3. \$499,000. For more info, phone Duane Neufeldt, RE/MAX Saskatoon - Biggar 306-948-8055. www.duaneneufeldt.com

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.

FARM/RANCH, 3200 ACRES, house, shop, storage shed, cattle facilities. 30 minutes from Saskatoon. \$5,600,000. 306-280-6408 Jeff Kwochka, Realty Executives Saskatoon

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: ejkwalsh@gmail.com or c/o Walsh, 6984 Hagan Road, Brentwood Bay, BC. V8M 1B3.

160 ACRES near Regina with yard and business opportunity; 15 acres w/large character home, plus 2nd home on property within 35 miles of Regina or Weyburn on Hwy. #35; 160 acres w/large home, 3 car heated garage, large shop, horse barn, plenty of water, 20 min. NE of Regina.; Near Pilot Butte, 80 acre development land; 90+ acres, Hwy. #11, 7 mi. North of Saskatoon, development; RM Perdue, 2 quarters W. of Saskatoon on Hwy #14; 2 miles East of Balgonie Hwy. #1, 145 acre development land. Brian Tiefenbach 306-536-3269, Colliers Int., Regina, SK. www.collierscanada.com

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER RM #321. NW 31-32-25-W3; SW 31-32-25-W3; SE 08-33-25-W3; NW 16-33-25-W3; SW 16-33-25-W3; SW 17-33-25-W3. Tender deadline 12:00 noon, January 4, 2017. For particulars email jones.law@sasktel.net or telephone 306-446-2211. Jones Law Office, Box 1179, North Battleford, SK. S9A 3K2

SASKATCHEWAN 6133

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Many References Available
SUMMARY OF SOLD PROPERTIES
North.....10 1/2's
North East.....14 1/2's
North West.....12 1/2's
South.....97 1/2's
South East.....43 1/2's
South West.....65 1/2's
Central.....229 1/2's
East.....57 1/2's
West.....49 1/2's

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NEVER...HAUL OR purchase those heavy bags of water softening salt or expensive bottle water again! The Water Clinic, www.thewaterclinic.com 1-800-664-2561.

FARMLAND AND YARD SITE, RM of Prince Albert #461 (Hamlet of MacDowall, SK). 406.12 acres. 1975 mobile home. Nicely treed yard - great building site. 8 Westeel grain bins (10,000 bu.), barn, outbuildings. Power, NG, phone, well, city water runs by property. \$497,000 OBO. 306-922-3104, email: macdowallfarmland@outlook.com

RURAL WATER, FARMS, acreages. Multi-pure membrane system, 2000 gal./day. The Water Clinic, www.thewaterclinic.com 1-800-664-2561.

RM DOUGLAS- 6 quarters high assessed farmland, 1800 sq. ft. house, quonset, and 30,000 bushel grain storage. MLS 584933; **RM MEETING LAKE- 1** quarter grassland fenced. MLS 588573. Great Plains Realty Inc. contact Mike Janostin at 306-481-5574, mike@greatplainsrealty.ca or greatplainsrealty.ca

THE UNDERSIGNED will accept offers for the purchase of: NW-31-26-10-W3M, SW 31-26-10-W3M located in the RM of King George #256. All offers must be submitted in writing to the undersigned on or before January 6, 2017, accompanied by a certified cheque in favour of Concentra Trust, Executor of the Estate of Kenneth Arthur Bogner, for ten (10%) percent of the offer. All tenders will be opened at the address listed below at Saskatoon on January 6, 2017. Highest or any offer not necessarily accepted. Sale subject to all beneficiaries' approval. Unsuccessful applicants will have their deposits refunded without interest. Sealed envelopes containing tenders must be clearly marked "Tender re: Kenneth Arthur Bogner Estate" and mailed by Registered Mail or delivered to the undersigned. Concentra Trust, 333 - 3rd Ave. North, Saskatoon, SK. S7K 2M2.

255 ACRES in RM of Cote #271: Approx. 160 acres seeded to cereal crop, balance in tame hay. Close to Duck Mountain Provincial Park. Municipal water pipeline runs through property. Located approx. 8 miles from Kamsack, SK. \$1693/acre. E-mail: pmcsdd266tech@telus.net



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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, Eatonia, SK. SOL 0Y0. Home 306-967-2768, cell 306-463-9768.

17 DEEDED QUARTERS of grassland/hayland, some with aggregate. Buy 1 quarter or buy all. Call 306-531-8720, Lipton, SK.

FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

R.M. OF MONTROSE NO. 315
Legal Description:
SE Sec 21 Twp 33 Rge 06 W3 Extension 0
Conditions of Offers:

- All offers to be submitted on or before 3:00 p.m. on January 16, 2017 to:
Mathiason Valkenburg & Polishchuk Barristers & Solicitors 705-230-22nd Street E. Saskatoon, SK S7K 0E9
Attention: Calvin D. Ursaki
- Deposit cheque of 3% on the offered amount must accompany all offers. Cheques to be made payable to Mathiason Valkenburg & Polishchuk. Cheques will be returned to unsuccessful bidders. Highest or any offer not necessarily accepted. Persons submitting offers must rely on their own research and inspection of land and improvements as to condition and number of acres. Mineral rights included. No offers will be considered which are subject to financing.

FARMLAND FOR SALE in RM No. 2: 1 quarter, SW 35-01-34 W1. Offers. Mail to: Box 188, Camduff, SK. S0C 0S0. 306-483-7477



RM CANWOOD #494- \$990,000. 1202 acres good pasture w/Little Shell River running thru it. Approx. 660 acres cult. tame hay and the balance main natural and bush pasture. Fairly good fence, also the seller has done some gravel test holes. What was found is very interesting on approx. 400 acres. The buyers would responsible for their own testing. As well, there is some spruce timber. MLS#574209. Info. call Lloyd Ledinski, Re/Max of the Battledowns, 306-446-8800, 306-441-0512.

8 QUARTERS GRAIN LAND for rent in RM Kellross 247. Located 5 miles N of Leross, SK. 306-736-9018, 306-736-3272.

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Dave Molberg
Biggar, SK
(306) 948-4478
Dave.Molberg@HammondRealty.ca
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SASKATCHEWAN 6133

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 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.

MANITOBA 6134

EXCELLENT LIVESTOCK FARMS: 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. Call Jim McLachlan 204-724-7753, HomeLife Home Professional Realty Inc, Brandon, MB., www.homelifepro.com

RM RUSSELL. 3400 acres. For more details please go check out our website at www.hcventures.ca Regina, SK.

QUARTER SECTION NE-20-3-28, Pearson, MB. area. 120 acres broke, 40 acres hayland. Call/text for price 306-551-7186.

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 0A0. Info: 204-376-2971.

WATER PROBLEMS? Multi-Tech no salt softening system. Never purchase or haul water or softener salt ever again! Call The Water Clinic, 1-800-664-2561.

ETHELBERT MB. 150 acres fertile cropland. 816 sq. ft. 2 bedroom bungalow, full basement, 40x60' Zipperlock quonset, 4 steel grain bins, double detached garage, cattle shelter, older barns and buildings w/metal roofs. Well maintained. Call 204-638-7947 Century21macmillan.com Dauphin, MB.

RURAL water, farms, acreages. Multi-pure membrane system; 2000 gal./day. No more water softeners. The Water Clinic, www.thewaterclinic.com 1-800-664-2561.

PASTURES 6136

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ACREAGES 6139

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32 ACRES 2 homes, outbuildings, and much more. \$1,250,000. 403-703-5548, Calgary, AB. Email gerardchiasson@gmail.com or visit www.gerardchiasson.com

DWEIN TRASK REALTY INC. Very good selection of acreage building sites currently available within 5 min. to 45 minutes of Saskatoon. Sizes range from 10 acres to 160 acres and most have reasonably close utilities. Resale acreages are available as well. Call Dwein 306-221-1035, Amanda 306-221-5675 or Victoria 306-270-9740. Pics and details at www.traskrealty.com



RM OF BIGGAR, BIGGAR, \$580,000. This acreage has 9.8 acres with a 3 bdrm, 2 bath home with a double attached garage. This home has been 90% renovated inside and outside over the past 2 years. 32x50 heated shop with 3 bays. Back yard has 60x100' metal clad pole shed, 33x66 steel quonset, and 30x75 wood straight wall older shed. Excellent location, 8 miles north and 3 miles west of Biggar, SK. MLS#586422. Wally Lorenz, Realtor, Re/Max of the Battledowns, 306-843-7898.



RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

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2007 OKANAGAN ECLIPSE 28.5' 5th wheel, bunk beds, big shower, winter pkg., low mileage, Mumbo hitch, \$25,000. Call 780-221-3980, Leduc, AB.

MOTOR HOMES 6166



2016 TUSCANY XTE 40 AX, #GCHH8907, \$269,900. AMVIC Lic. Dealer. Call 1-866-346-3148 or shop online 24/7 at: Allandale.com

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SCALES 6380

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The Seeds Regulations prohibit the advertisement or sale of common seed of the major crop kinds by variety name. A variety name may only be applied to pedigreed seed that has been grown, processed, sampled, tested and graded as set out in the Seeds Regulations. Furthermore, seed of unregistered varieties of the crop kinds subject to variety registration may not be sold in Canada even when labelled as common seed.

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TOP QUALITY CERT. #1 CDC Copeland, AC Metcalfe, Newdale. Frederick Seeds, 306-287-3977, Watson, SK.

CERT. #1 AAC Synergy, CDC Copeland, excellent quality. Northland Seeds Inc., 306-324-4315, Margo, SK.

CERTIFIED CDC COPELAND, rough sample has 97% germ., 95% vigor. Special pricing on early booking and pick up before end of January. Contact for more specs. Delivery available. Call 306-795-7691, Ituna, SK.

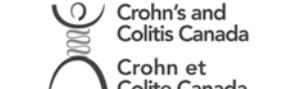
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NIPAWIN 158 acres - owned by Joanne & Merlin Covlin
BEECHY 160 acres - owned by Donna & Joseph Redmond
BALCARES 390 acres - owned by Bob Middleton
LIPTON 484 acres - owned by Abid Najib
ABERNETHY 639 acres - owned by Bob Middleton & Claire Middleton
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CERTIFIED CDC SANCTUARY, CDC Bethune, CDC Sorrel, AAC Bravo. Call 306-741-0475, Pambrun, SK. Email: foc@sasktel.net

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REG. AND CERT. CDC Calvi, great standability, excellent quality. **Northland Seeds Inc.**, 306-324-4315, Margo, SK.

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In the 2014-15 avian flu outbreak, researchers used genomic technology to detect viruses found in samples of wetland sediment taken near the outbreak in the Fraser Valley.

AVIAN INFLUENZA

Message in a bottle: detecting bird flu

Genome project gathers samples of bird feces, wetland sediment and water to test for viruses and provide early warning

BY TERRY FRIES
FREELANCE WRITER

SUMMERLAND, B.C. — Scientists hope that a new system of detecting and identifying avian influenza viruses will lead to a new warning system that better protects poultry farmers.

A pilot project that explored molecular and genomic methods to detect and identify virus types during the avian influenza outbreak of 2014-15 found traditional testing methods fall well short of what genomic technology could offer.

Researchers hope it eventually leads to an avian influenza warning system similar to a homeland security threat level, Chelsea Himsworth told the B.C. Agrifood and Seafood Conference in Kelowna, B.C.

"The idea if you tell people like the poultry industry, 'you should be on high alert,' every six months of the year, every year (during bird migratory periods), it leads to complacency," she said.

"That's well-accepted, no matter what sector you're in."

Himsworth, who is head of veterinary science and diagnostics with the provincial agriculture ministry's Animal Health Centre, said

she hopes the new research will ultimately provide an annual inventory of what viruses are being brought into North America by waterfowl, which will then enable a surveillance system to be set up to provide more effective warnings for producers.

She said British Columbia's Fraser Valley was the first region hit by the 2014-15 pandemic with 13 farms affected and more than 250,000 birds killed.

"Most of you are probably familiar with the bird flu hysteria because there were ongoing concerns that avian influenza could be the source of the next major global pandemic in people," she said.

"But I would argue, even now, it is a global pandemic in poultry."

Specific numbers are not available for Canada, but Himsworth said the 2014-15 outbreak in the United States caused estimated damages of US\$3.3 billion, although that figure does not account for the food shortages and price increases that also occurred.

"This was incredibly frustrating to us when this outbreak occurred because despite ongoing investment in wild bird surveillance, we had failed to detect the incursion of this virus into North America at all in advance of the poultry out-

break," she said.

Himsworth and her team realized that existing testing systems were ill equipped to detect this type of outbreak.

The traditional system relied mainly on testing individual birds, which involved rushing out to collect dead waterfowl when they were discovered or convincing hunters to turn in birds for testing.

OF 345 SAMPLES
COLLECTED IN 2014-15,

102

HAD SOME STRAIN OF
THE FLU VIRUS

However, those methods had drawbacks in getting representative samples, particularly when considering that the H5 avian influenza strain, which was behind the outbreak, affected only wild birds.

Himsworth said testing only dead birds was akin to monitoring for human diseases by testing only human car crash victims.

"If that sounds like it doesn't make a lot of sense, it's because it doesn't."

So under a project called Genomic Analysis of Wetland Sediment as a Tool for Avian Influenza Virus Surveillance in Wild Waterfowl, the team explored ways to gather samples from the environment: bird feces, wetland sediment and water.

Sediment was seen as theoretically ideal, but researchers had to overcome the problem of how to find influenza viruses in the massive amounts of organic material found in wetland sediment.

"If you can imagine trying to sort through what is at the bottom of a wetland and detect what is really a needle, or the head of a needle, in a haystack, that's what sediment is."

This is where genomic technology proved its worth. It gave researchers the ability to detect and characterize viruses in wetland sediment.

With the 2014-15 outbreak underway, Himsworth quickly managed to put a team together to put the new system to the test.

The results surprised everybody. Researchers gathered 300 samples from 15 major wetlands near infected farms in the Fraser Valley. They also collected 45 samples from mini wetlands on infected farms.

Samples were put through a targeted resequencing genomic plat-

form, which enabled researchers to detect and characterize specific flu viruses in 102 samples, including the outbreak H5 virus in 16 samples.

The team found that 29.6 percent of samples were positive for any type of influenza, which includes 22.7 percent of wetland samples and 75.6 percent of the farm samples.

Himsworth said the H5 type, which attracts the most attention because it tends to be a dangerous subtype, is not commonly detected in wild birds, but this test showed that in 2014-15 the H5 type was one of the highest occurring types, which is probably why the outbreak occurred.

The virus was not detected using the traditional surveillance technique of testing individual birds, which was in place before the outbreak.

The national detection rates for the H5 type were previously at one percent.

However, cost is one possible limiting factor of this new testing system. Himsworth said it is far more expensive than traditional methods, but a two-year study is now underway to explore cost efficiencies and further develop and refine the techniques.



PhD student Michelle Coombe collects sediment samples, which she will take back to the laboratory to test for presence of the avian influenza virus. | B.C. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE PHOTOS

HOPS PRODUCTION

Hops business keeps family farm alive

The farm has been in the family since the 1930s and the rising cost of land meant finding higher returns per acre

BY TERRY FRIES
FREELANCE WRITER

Dwayne Stewart returned home to Abbotsford, B.C., with a plan. He was going to try and save the family farm.

However, his idea to grow hops probably raised more than a few eyebrows.

Hops weren't exactly a common sight in the region, or anywhere in the province for that matter.

"Not only was there not anything thing around, there was no processing, there was also no knowledge," he said.

"The biggest thing we lost in 20 years of not having much or any crops growing is the knowledge associated with commercial hops production (that) exists in other countries.

"It doesn't exist natively in Canada anymore. We don't have bankers that get it. We don't have accountants that get it. We don't have lawyers that get it. We don't even have insurance companies that get it. We don't have crop insurance, we don't have agrologists that are attuned to hops as a specific crop. We don't have the secondary hops processing facilities."

However, where many people might have given up, Stewart embarked on a quest to return his part of the country to what it once was.

During the Second World War, British Columbia's Fraser Valley was the largest hops producer in the British Commonwealth.

Stewart, along with his wife, Diane, his cousin, Brian Zaborozan, and his brother-in-law, Bob Williams, pushed forward and formed the B.C. Hops Co. It now has one of the most modern hops processing facilities in the country, where they dry and bale hops before shipping them to Oregon to be made into pellets.

"Our overriding mandate, really, is to help preserve family farms by providing a new source of revenue," Stewart said.

He likens the business model to a co-operative in the sense that everybody uses the infrastructure of the B.C. Hop Company to advance the interests of their farms.

"Most of the farms we have brought on board are other families that have the same problem as us," he said.

"How do we retain this property, this farm, in the family, despite having children who are professionals of another ilk, who may or may not be interested in farming, but want to maintain this historical link to the land?"

The B.C. Hops Co. takes care of the crop, it starts it, manages it, processes it and then shares the revenue on it.

"But the risk is still significantly (the property owners)," he said.

"They own the property, they own the infrastructure, they're carrying the costs."

The company is looking for more land on which to grow hops, but for now it manages 130 acres of hops on 10 farms, nine of them family farms.

Stewart said he understands that is not a lot of acres by prairie stan-



Dwayne Stewart checks hops on his Abbotsford, B.C., farm. He and members of his family formed the B.C. Hops Co., which dries and bales hops for further processing into pellets. It says expansion in craft beer is a major driver in looking to expand acres.
| DWAYNE STEWART PHOTOS

Our overriding mandate, really, is to help preserve family farms by providing a new source of revenue.

DWAYNE STEWART, HOPS GROWER

dards, but hops is an expensive and time-consuming crop to manage. He said he doubts reports that say it can take 500 man hours a year to manage an acre of hops, but he confirmed it is labour intensive.

"It certainly is not 10 man hours a year."

He said farmers looking to get into growing hops should look at the international market as their main competitors rather than their neighbours.

Even though growers might be selling to a local brewery that emphasizes locally sourced material, hops growers also have to satisfy large brewers that buy in huge volumes, and that means meeting international quality standards.

"You have to come to the table with the same level of quality, consistency, quality selection, variety type and chemical analysis that they're used to seeing from the major international providers," Stewart said.

"You're playing in a very developed, sophisticated market that doesn't need you because they're already growing, already expanding, they're already meeting the demands of the growing craft beer movement."

It's a craft beer movement that shows no signs of slowing down.

As of mid-November, there were 125 craft breweries in B.C.

Demand for local

Ken Beattie of the B.C. Craft Brewers Guild said last month during the B.C. Argifood and Seafood Conference in Kelowna that the boom is sparked by a desire for locally grown, locally made products and more relaxed government restrictions.

He said craft breweries' market share in B.C. increased to 25 percent this year from 19 percent in 2014.

"People ask, 'is the bubble burst-

ing?' There is no bubble bursting here," said Beattie.

Stewart said he has no doubts that his decision to leave the real estate development business after 22 years surprised a lot of people, but the family thought it important enough to make it work.

"It's something that we felt strongly about, being a lot of family history in the farm," he said.

"We wanted to try to keep it for the next generation."

The farm was started by Stewart's grandfather in the 1930s and has been in the family for four generations.

Stewart decided in 2000 that he had to find another way to make money on the farm or it might not survive.

He said the challenge of farming in the Fraser Valley is that land is overly expensive and planting fields of hay, corn or soybeans or renting will generate \$500 to \$700 per acre, which isn't enough.

"On land that costs \$60,000 to \$80,000 per acre, a \$600 return is (one percent)," he said.

"Your cost of carrying it is too significant."

He said he was looking for a crop that had potential to return thousands of dollars per acre.

On the other hand, Stewart said, although hops are a higher value crop, they also require a high infrastructure investment. The cost of putting in an acre can cost \$20,000 or more, and there are also maintenance costs. As well, hops do not provide a full revenue until their third year of production.

Stewart said 2016 marked the third year for most of B.C. Hops' fields — the first full harvest — which he considered a big success.

The farm has also set itself up as a focal point where consumers can learn about hops and the craft of making beer. It held the first ever B.C. Hop Fest in October and also stages a Beer Competition in July.

GENOME RESEARCH

Beef researchers developing genomic prediction tool

Scientists want purebred and crossbred producers to submit hair, tissue and blood for the project

BY CHRIS YATES
FREELANCE WRITER

Researchers with Agriculture Canada and the University of Alberta's Livestock Gentec are working together to develop a genomic prediction tool that could help Canadian beef producers build more efficiency, carcass quality and profitability into the national herd.

Livestock Gentec research scientist Changxi Li said they're asking producers to submit hair, tissue or blood samples as well as birth dates, birth weights and age from both crossbred and purebred animals for the trial.

"Beef genomics analyzes the relationship between genetic makeup of cattle and traits and uses the data to develop tools to assist in beef

herd breeding and management," Li said.

He said the process links DNA markers already on record with the accompanying traits.

"Then we use these DNA markers to predict another animal's traits if they have the same or similar DNA markers," he said.

Traditional expected progeny difference measurements are similar, but Li said the predicted values determined using molecular genetics are called molecular EPD.

Li said using Canadian cattle DNA is important.

"Accuracy improves if you use a reference population which is closely related to the animal you're trying to predict," he said.

"The more Canadian cattle test results that are available for study, the more accurate the Genomic



CHANGXI LI
LIVESTOCK GENTEC

Prediction tool for the Canadian herd will be.

"The accuracy of genomic prediction of most economically relevant traits in Canadian beef cattle ranges from .30 to .60 depending on how related an animal is to the reference population.... These prediction equations provide a means

for producers/breeders to start improving important traits such as feed efficiency (residual feed intake, dry matter intake) and growth (average daily gain) as well as carcass traits including carcass weight, rib-eye area, lean meat yield, average back fat thickness and marbling, some of which are currently expensive and difficult to measure."

Project research assistant Michael Vinsky said one of the greatest advantages of this tool is not needing a pedigree to predict an animal's traits, which is the case with traditional EPDs.

"This means unregistered cattle,

crossbred cattle or cattle with no performance records can have their traits predicted."

He said commercial producers with unregistered animals would then be able to predict their cows' feed efficiency, growth and carcass traits to some degree when they might otherwise have nothing.

Vinsky said producers will be able to collect data on trait prediction as early as a few weeks after birth and be able to make decisions faster about which animals to keep to optimize the traits they most want.

For more information, contact Vinsky at mvinsky@ualberta.ca.

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Warren Kaeding, PAg
MLA Melville-Saltcoats
Churchbridge, SK

In the April 2016 provincial election, Warren was elected as the Sask Party representative for the constituency of Melville-Saltcoats. He was recently appointed as the Legislative Secretary to Agriculture focusing on irrigation as well as holding numerous government and caucus committee responsibilities.

"As a representative in the provincial government, being registered as a professional agrologist (PAg) has been important, as it demonstrates professionalism and integrity to the general public."

Warren has worked in the agriculture and food sector for nearly 30 years in both the agriculture industry and as an owner/operator of a large pedigreed seed business. He has been involved in many local community and provincial organizations providing leadership in policy and governance. Warren received a BSA in agronomy from the University of Saskatchewan.



Carl Lynn, PAg
Consultant and Advisor
Carl Lynn Ag Solutions
Saskatoon, SK

Carl provides contract support for agriculture research and development, product and market development, agronomic assessments, and organic crop inspections. He is licensed to sample hempseed for THC levels and is currently training to be an organic inspector with the Prairie Organic Grain Initiative in order to offer agronomy advice for both conventional and organic needs.

"The professional agrologist (PAg) designation is assurance that my education and experiences I provide are current. It is my duty and commitment to continue my education and professional development so that I am better able to advise clients."

Carl was raised on a mixed farm near Castor, AB. He received a BSA in plant sciences and economics from the University of Saskatchewan. Carl previously worked with the SK Ministry of Agriculture, CBC, Ag Canada, SK Pulse Growers, and Bioriginal.

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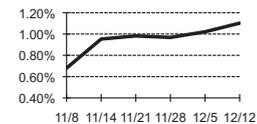
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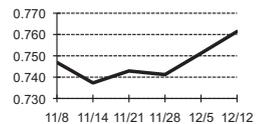
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American farmers could face a financial storm as weak crop prices fail to cover costs. It might be a few years before profits return. | FILE PHOTO

DTN AG SUMMIT

Sky isn't falling, but it's dark

Financial analyst says it's not Armageddon but predicts poor agricultural returns until 2019

BY SEAN PRATT
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

CHICAGO, Ill. — The downturn in the American farm economy will continue for a while, says a U.S. banker.

"This is not going to be over at the end of 2017," Curt Hudnutt, chief commercial officer of Rabo Agrifinance, told delegates attending the 2016 DTN Ag Summit.

Rabo sees worsening losses next year in corn and soybean producing states. By 2018, half of American growers will breakeven and the other half will lose money.

Profitability will return to the farm sector in 2019 because of declining costs, in particular falling land rent. Rental rates are always slow to respond to a slumping farm economy.

American farm incomes are being hit by the strong U.S. dollar that limits exports, while producers in countries with weaker currencies enjoy stronger exports and more attractive farmgate prices.

Hudnutt said American farmland values have dropped by 10 to 12 percent the last couple of years and will likely tumble another 10 to 12 percent in the next two years.

"So you're looking at about a 20 to 25 percent total downturn," he said.

The value of good quality land is down only five to six percent. Discounts are steeper on marginal land.

It also varies by state. Iowa is seeing the biggest declines in farmland value because it experienced the largest appreciation before the downturn.

Hudnutt said this is all part of the normal cyclical nature of agriculture. The good news is the problem is related to excess supply rather than slumping demand.

"This is not Armageddon. This is not 1985 again," he said, referring to the period when farm bankruptcies were a major problem.

Farmers are in better shape to weather the storm this time around.

interest rates will rise under a Donald Trump presidency.

Growers can also expect more price volatility with a Trump government, but that's not necessarily a bad thing.

"In low commodity price times, volatility is actually our friend."

Hudnutt warned growers not to count on subsidies to save their farms. The 2014 farm bill got it backward, he said. It doled out the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) payments when farmers were doing well and now there is nothing left in the program when they really need it.

OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, AN AMERICAN ANALYST EXPECTS U.S. LAND PRICES TO DROP

10 to 12 percent

They own fewer acres and rent more than they did in 1985, and that helps protect their balance sheets. They also have plenty of net worth and working capital.

In the 1980s, almost none of the long-term debt held by farmers was at a fixed rate. Today 75 percent is fixed, which shields that debt against the threat of rising interest rates.

Interest rates are low compared to the 1980s. Hudnutt encouraged farmers to switch any variable rate debt they have to a fixed rate because he believes American

One of the things he would like to see in the 2018 farm bill is a bolstered Conservation Reserve Program because farmers need to take three to six million acres out of production, and that isn't going to happen under the existing CRP.

The only way the farm economy can return to profitability by 2019 is if those acres come out of production, forcing grain prices higher.

One factor that can change the entire outlook is the weather, but Hudnutt said a drought in the U.S. would be the worst thing that could happen.

"It will make it worse and it will make it longer because we won't take the actions we need to take," he said.

Those actions include renegotiating rental rates with landlords and being prepared to walk away from marginal acres if the landlord is unwilling to budge.

Farmers should consider selling excess equipment and using what remains better. Do they really need two combines when one could do the job?

They need to think about liquidating non-core assets such as cabins and airplanes.

Growers should partner with niche and emerging food companies and consider growing unconventional crops such as edible beans, where there can be big premiums.

Hudnutt said they should hire professionals to assist them with managing their finances and steer clear of taking advice from yes-men or fellow farmers on coffee row.

"Avoid group think. You don't want to surround yourself necessarily with those like-minded folks," he said.

He also advised farmers to talk to their lenders early and often because bankers see lots of producers and know what works and what doesn't.

If they are not helpful, it is time to find a different lender, he added.

sean.pratt@producer.com

AG STOCKS DEC. 5-9

Expectations of infrastructure spending and reduced regulation from a Trump presidency kept stock prices rising. For the week, the TSX composite rose 1.7 percent, the Dow and the S&P 500 both climbed 3.1 percent and the Nasdaq jumped 3.6 percent.

Cdn. exchanges in \$Cdn. U.S. exchanges in \$U.S.

GRAIN TRADERS

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
ADM	NY	46.56	44.00
AGT Food	TSX	35.66	36.35
Bunge Ltd.	NY	73.36	69.12

PRAIRIE PORTFOLIO

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
Ceapro Inc.	TSXV	1.57	1.41
Cervus Equip.	TSX	16.52	16.22
Input Capital	TSXV	1.98	1.75
Rocky Mtn D'ship	TSX	9.73	9.47

FOOD PROCESSORS

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
ConAgra Brands	NY	38.44	36.89
Hormel Foods	NY	34.39	33.81
Lamb Weston	NY	36.38	32.99
Maple Leaf	TSX	28.24	27.77
Premium Brands	TSX	66.78	67.47
Tyson Foods	NY	61.92	57.05

FARM EQUIPMENT MFG.

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
Ag Growth Int'l	TSX	55.50	54.56
AGCO Corp.	NY	60.35	56.83
Buhler Ind.	TSX	4.75	5.00
Caterpillar Inc.	NY	95.53	95.14
CNH Industrial	NY	8.75	8.59
Deere and Co.	NY	103.62	101.50
Agrium	TSX	144.13	133.02

FARM INPUT SUPPLIERS

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
BASF	OTC	90.20	86.33
Bayer Ag	OTC	100.04	93.06
Dow Chemical	NY	57.71	55.42
Dupont	NY	74.85	73.13
BioSynt Inc.	TSXV	7.75	7.76
Monsanto	NY	104.59	103.91
Mosaic	NY	31.42	28.82
PotashCorp	TSX	26.04	24.00
Syngenta	ADR	80.44	78.38

TRANSPORTATION

NAME	EXCH	CLOSE	LAST WK
CN Rail	TSX	91.64	89.60
CPR	TSX	205.68	200.76

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.

China ships flour to Canada

SASKATOON NEWSROOM

China's state-owned grain handling and processing company COFCO has shipped its first international export of flour and the destination was Canada.

The quantity was small and focused on the needs of expatriates stocking up for the Chinese spring festival holiday in late January.

But the company said it wanted to increase wheat and rice flour exports to draw down China's enormous stocks of the grains.

CAPITAL GAINS EXEMPTION

Land rental structure affects future tax qualifications

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS



COLIN MILLER

There are important tax considerations landowners should consider when deciding whether to rent out farmland.

The structure could affect the ability to use the lifetime capital gains exemption (ability to save tax on \$1 million in gains) and tax-deferred rollover to the next generation.

Maintaining the land as qualified farm property according to the Income Tax Act is key for landowners to take advantage of the possible benefits.

Cash rent and crop share are common rental structures that could jeopardize the ability to roll over land to the next generation without tax or the ability to sell the land and qualify for the capital gains exemption.

To avoid losing this status, a careful analysis is needed to determine if the landowner needs to continue to be actively involved in farm operations on the land.

Arrangements in which landowners remain involved in operational decisions and bear risk may enable them to still be considered farmers.

Historically, the government has been strict on considering crop sharing to be like rent rather than active farming.

It is important to know the criteria the government uses to determine who is deemed a farmer under tax law.

One factor is the degree of involvement the landowner has in the farm. Is the landowner involved in determining what crops to seed, timing of work, amounts of chemical and fertilizer to be applied and marketing of the crop?

In fact, the key factor is often involvement in decision making, rather than performing any manual labour.

Another important factor is how the landowner is paid. Do they get a fixed amount, a percentage of the crop or do they bear risk that goes beyond that?

The tax department has been clear that the risk must be greater than a percentage of the crop to qualify for active farming status. Some items to consider in addition to crop sharing include paying a portion of the expenses, providing a portion of the machinery or providing employees.

As you can see, it can be impor-

tant that farming agreements are negotiated in a manner that clearly shows the land is not simply being rented to a third party.

Of course, it is also important to consider the impact on the third party when setting up the best structure to ensure it is fair to both parties.

In practice, many producers would prefer to have autonomy in their operations. This may make it difficult to convince tenants to give up a degree of decision-making abilities. Therefore, landowners may have to provide incentives to structure an agreement in this manner. A good agreement should lead to both good tax results and a productive business relationship

that will stand the test of time.

The key is to get proper advice in structuring the farming arrangements to avoid falling into a trap that could impact tax paid on any future sale or transfer to the next generation.

Even if the land is rented out and you are no longer considered to be farming for tax purposes, you may qualify for special tax treatments based on the prior farming of the land. Consult a qualified tax adviser to address your particular situation.

Riley Honess and Lauren Gallimore of KPMG contributed to this article.

Colin Miller is a chartered accountant and partner with KPMG's tax practice in Lethbridge. Contact: colinmiller@kpmg.ca.



The degree of involvement in decision making is a key factor in determining if a person is a farmer under tax law. | GETTY IMAGE



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EARN \$2.00-\$2.75/ACRE ON SEED



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EARN \$0.10-\$0.75/ACRE ON CROP PROTECTION PRODUCTS



EARN \$1.00-\$2.00/ACRE ON TANK-MIX PARTNER PRODUCTS**



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*Monsanto will not issue a cheque for amounts less than \$100. **Payout to a maximum of 2x of Genuity® Roundup Ready® canola acres purchased.

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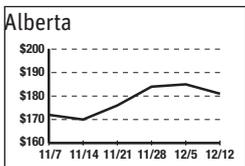
ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS. Roundup Ready® technology contains genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate, an active ingredient in Roundup® brand agricultural herbicides. Agricultural herbicides containing glyphosate will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate. Compatibility tests are conducted with registered seed treatments to ensure the viability of our inoculants is not compromised by pesticides and other seed treatments. Cell-Tech™, Genuity®, Optimize®, Real Farm Rewards™, Roundup Ready®, Roundup Transorb®, Roundup WeatherMAX®, Roundup Xtend™, Roundup® and TagTeam® are trademarks of Monsanto Technology LLC, Monsanto Canada, Inc. licensee. BlackHawk®, Conquer® and GoldWing® are registered trademarks of Nufarm Agriculture Inc. Valtera™ is a trademark of Valent U.S.A. Corporation. ©2016 Monsanto Canada Inc.

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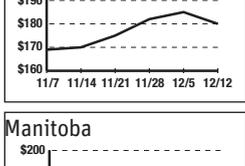


CATTLE & SHEEP

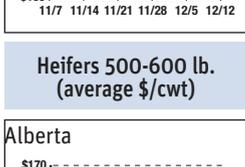
Steers 600-700 lb. (average \$/cwt)



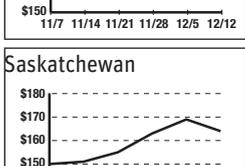
Saskatchewan



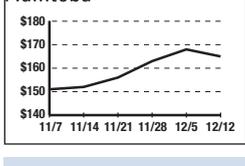
Manitoba



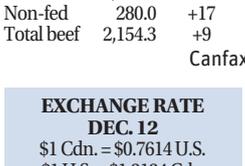
Heifers 500-600 lb. (average \$/cwt)



Saskatchewan



Manitoba



Canadian Beef Production

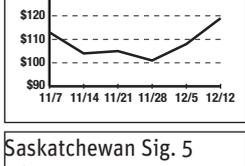
million lb.	YTD	% change
Fed	1,874.3	+8
Non-fed	280.0	+17
Total beef	2,154.3	+9

Canfax

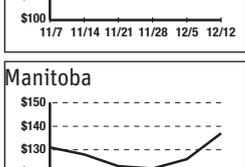
EXCHANGE RATE

DEC. 12
\$1 Cdn. = \$0.7614 U.S.
\$1 U.S. = \$1.3134 Cdn.

Index 100 Hog Price Trends (\$/c/kg)



Saskatchewan Sig. 5



Manitoba



ELEVATOR SHIPMENTS

(000 tonnes)

	Dec 4	Nov 27	YTD	Year Ago
Alta.	305.3	304.1	4,949.1	4,970.3
Sask.	444.9	493.1	8,098.3	8,353.4
Man.	174.6	172.5	3,215.5	2,992.5

Slaughter Cattle (\$/cwt)

Grade A	Live		Previous	Year ago	Rail		Previous
	Dec 2 - Dec 9	Nov 25 - Dec 1			Dec 2 - Dec 9	Nov 25 - Dec 1	
Steers							
Alta.	149.25-151.00	148.00-151.75	n/a	153.01	251.00-252.50	246.50-250.50	
Ont.	125.40-144.22	117.96-138.22			228.00-235.00	220.00-229.00	
Heifers							
Alta.	149.25	147.50-151.25	n/a	151.35	250.50-252.50	246.50-250.00	
Ont.	124.89-139.40	118.76-141.27			227.00-234.00	219.00-228.00	

*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	
Steers	155-165	155-165	158-167	145-165	159-170	157-173	161-173	no sales	145-165	159-170	157-173	161-173	no sales	145-165	159-170	157-173	161-173
Heifers	145-155	144-161	152-164	136-161	146-161	140-159	150-164	137-163	145-165	144-161	152-164	136-161	137-163	145-165	144-161	152-164	136-161

Canfax

Average Carcass Weight

	Dec 3/16	Dec 1/15	YTD 16	YTD 15
Canfax	935	942	919	893
Steers	848	855	842	821
Heifers	711	712	752	723
Cows	999	989	1,018	1,005
Bulls				

Canfax

U.S. Cash cattle (\$/cwt)

	Dec 8	Dec 1	Yr. ago
US Choice (uss)	189.48	190.51	203.08
Cdn AAA (cs)	253.34	248.39	263.58

Beef Cutout (\$/cwt)

	Dec 8	Dec 1	Yr. ago
US Choice (uss)	189.48	190.51	203.08
Cdn AAA (cs)	253.34	248.39	263.58

Sheep (\$/lb.) & Goats (\$/head)

	Dec 5	Nov 28
Wool sheep	1.92-2.20	2.11-2.24
55-69 lb	1.86-2.11	1.90-2.12
70-85 lb	1.80-1.99	1.85-2.06
86-105 lb	1.68-1.85	1.70-1.85
> 106 lb		

Beaver Hill Auction Services Ltd.

Cattle / Beef Trade

	Exports	% from 2015
Sltr. cattle to U.S. (head)	523,620 (1)	+15.9
Feeder C&C to U.S. (head)	175,718 (1)	-38.2
Total beef to U.S. (tonnes)	229,796 (3)	+18.0
Total beef, all nations (tonnes)	301,541(3)	+13.1

	Imports	% from 2015
Sltr. cattle from U.S. (head)	n/a (2)	n/a
Feeder C&C from U.S. (head)	17,493 (2)	-39.9
Total beef from U.S. (tonnes)	113,250 (4)	-3.3
Total beef, all nations (tonnes)	173,759 (4)	-7.4

(1) to Nov 26/16 (2) to Oct 31/16 (3) to Oct 31/16 (4) to Dec 3/16
Agriculture Canada

Chicago Hogs Lean (\$/cwt)

	Close	Close	Trend	Year ago	Close	Close	Trend	Year ago
	Dec 9	Dec 2			Dec 9	Dec 2		
Dec	56.73	50.75	+5.98	56.00	Jun	76.58	72.15	+4.43
Feb	61.55	54.03	+7.52	60.55	Jul	76.65	73.13	+3.52
Apr	65.95	60.15	+5.80	64.70	Aug	77.03	74.08	+2.95
May	71.93	67.63	+4.30	72.00	Oct	65.80	62.65	+3.15

Chicago Hogs Lean (\$/cwt)

	Close	Close	Trend	Year ago	Close	Close	Trend	Year ago
	Dec 9	Dec 2			Dec 9	Dec 2		
Dec	56.73	50.75	+5.98	56.00	Jun	76.58	72.15	+4.43
Feb	61.55	54.03	+7.52	60.55	Jul	76.65	73.13	+3.52
Apr	65.95	60.15	+5.80	64.70	Aug	77.03	74.08	+2.95
May	71.93	67.63	+4.30	72.00	Oct	65.80	62.65	+3.15

Hog Slaughter

	Canada	U.S.
To date 2016	18,940,826	107,806,985
To date 2015	18,546,495	105,125,908
% change	+2.1	+2.6

16/15 Agriculture Canada

Hogs / Pork Trade

	Export	% from 2015	Import	% from 2015
Sltr. hogs to/fm U.S. (head)	887,653 (1)	-12.4	n/a	n/a
Total pork to/fm U.S. (tonnes)	331,233 (2)	-10.1	162,932 (3)	-3.2
Total pork, all nations (tonnes)	1,018,524 (2)	+5.9	184,847 (3)	+0.5

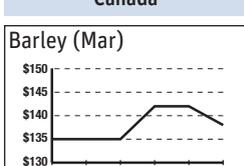
(1) to Nov 26/16 (2) to Oct 31/16 (3) to Dec 3/16
Agriculture Canada

Chicago Hogs Lean (\$/cwt)

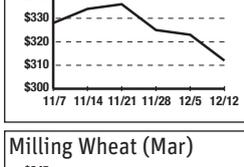
	Close	Close	Trend	Year ago	Close	Close	Trend	Year ago
	Dec 9	Dec 2			Dec 9	Dec 2		
Dec	56.73	50.75	+5.98	56.00	Jun	76.58	72.15	+4.43
Feb	61.55	54.03	+7.52	60.55	Jul	76.65	73.13	+3.52
Apr	65.95	60.15	+5.80	64.70	Aug	77.03	74.08	+2.95
May	71.93	67.63	+4.30	72.00	Oct	65.80	62.65	+3.15

GRAINS

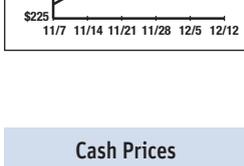
ICE Futures Canada



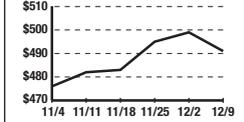
Durum (Mar)



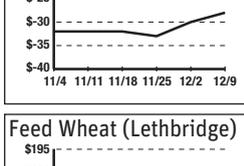
Milling Wheat (Mar)



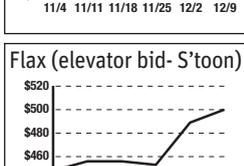
Cash Prices



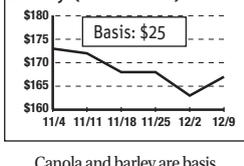
Canola (basis - Jan)



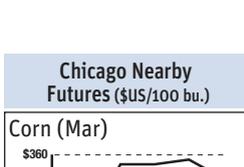
Feed Wheat (Lethbridge)



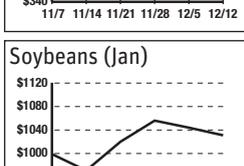
Flax (elevator bid - S'toon)



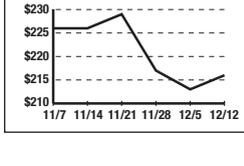
Barley (cash - Mar)



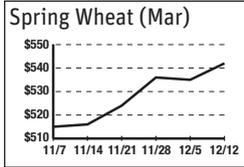
Chicago Nearby Futures (\$/100 bu.)



Soybeans (Jan)



Oats (Mar)



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 9	Dec 2	Nov 11
Laird lentils, No. 1 (c/lb)	67.00	66.00	63.00
Laird lentils, Xtra 3 (c/lb)	51.00	51.00	46.00
Richlea lentils, No. 1 (c/lb)	56.00	56.00	53.00
Eston lentils, No. 1 (c/lb)	68.00	65.00	60.00
Eston lentils, Xtra 3 (c/lb)	50.00	50.00	46.00
Sm. Red lentils, No. 2 (c/lb)	32.50	32.50	36.00
Sm. Red lentils, Xtra 3 (c/lb)	29.00	29.00	31.00
Peas, green No. 1 (\$/bu)	9.50	9.50	9.00
Peas, large, yellow No. 1 (\$/bu)	9.00	9.00	8.50
Peas, sm. yellow No. 2 (\$/bu)	9.00	9.00	8.50
Feed peas (\$/bu)	7.10	7.10	6.35
Maple peas (\$/bu)	15.00	15.00	15.00
Mustard, yellow, No. 1 (c/lb)	25.00	25.00	26.00
Mustard, Oriental, No. 1 (c/lb)	31.00	29.00	29.00
Mustard, Brown, No. 1 (c/lb)	31.00	29.00	29.00
Canaryseed (c/lb)	33.00	31.00	33.00
Desi chickpeas (c/lb)	35.00	35.00	31.00
Kabuli, 8mm, No. 1 (\$/mt)	1,433.00	1,433.00	1,322.80
Kabuli, 7mm, No. 1 (\$/mt)	925.90	925.90	925.90
B-90 ckpeas, No. 1 (\$/mt)	992.10	992.10	992.10

Cash Prices

	Dec 7	Nov 30	Year Ago
No. 3 Oats Saskatoon (\$/tonne)	175.31	160.20	164.23
Snlwlr NuSun Enderlin ND (c/lb)	14.75	15.00	17.05

U.S. Grain Cash Prices (\$/bu.)

	Dec 9
USDA	
No. 1 DNS (14%) Montana elevator	4.86
No. 1 DNS (13%) Montana elevator	4.40
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 12	Dec 5	Trend	Year ago
Wpg ICE Canola (\$/tonne)				
Jan	518.10	527.30	-9.20	477.50
Mar	523.70	533.20	-9.50	487.30
May	527.90	537.70	-9.80	494.90
Jul	530.30	537.80	-7.50	500.20
Wpg ICE Milling Wheat (\$/tonne)				
Mar	239.00	238.00	+1.00	242.00
May	243.00	242.00	+1.00	245.00
Jul	244.00	243.00	+1.00	249.00
Wpg ICE Durum Wheat (\$/tonne)				
Mar	319.00	323.00	-4.00	315.00

SEEING DOUBLE?

Great horned owls sit together on the branch of a tree southwest of Cayley, Alta., Nov. 30. | MIKE STURK PHOTO



THE WESTERN PRODUCER

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EDITOR: BRIAN MACLEOD
MANAGING EDITOR: MICHAEL RAINE

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 e-mail: advertising@producer.com
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 Classified sales mgr: **SHAUNA BRAND**

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 Classified display: \$6.70 per agate line
 ROP display: \$9.50 per agate line

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 e-mail: newsroom@producer.com

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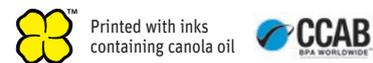
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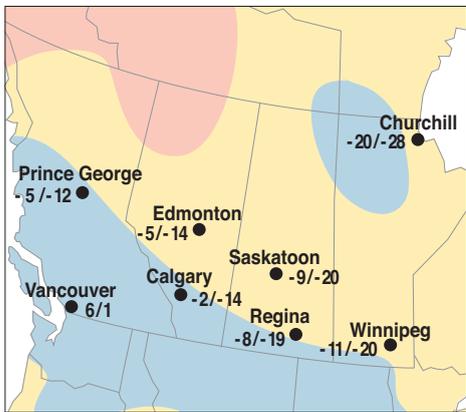
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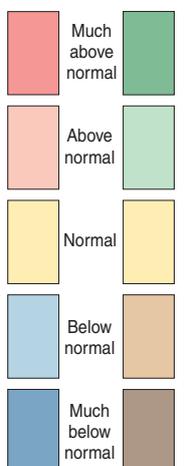


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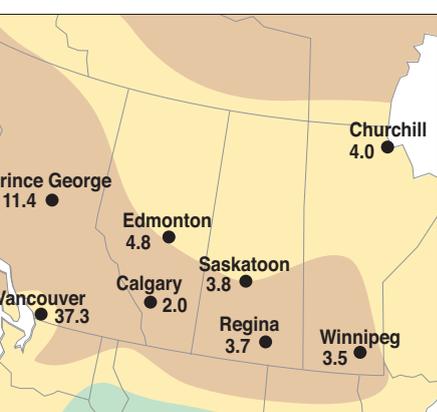
TEMPERATURE FORECAST
 Dec. 15 - 21 (in °C)



TEMP. MAP



PRECIPITATION FORECAST
 Dec. 15 - 21 (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.weathertec.mb.ca n/a = not available; tr = trace; 1 inch = 25.4 millimetres (mm)

LAST WEEK'S WEATHER SUMMARY ENDING DEC. 11

SASKATCHEWAN

	Temperature last week		Precipitation since Nov. 1		
	High	Low	mm	mm	%
Assiniboia	-4.1	-26.9	3.4	17.0	99
Broadview	-6.0	-34.1	4.7	16.4	59
Eastend Cypress	-7.8	-26.3	8.1	26.7	111
Estevan	-5.9	-31.4	18.0	36.7	150
Kindersley	-7.5	-26.9	1.7	8.8	54
Maple Creek	-5.7	-27.2	3.5	10.1	46
Meadow Lake	-9.0	-32.3	1.0	10.6	40
Melfort	-4.9	-29.5	1.0	20.6	96
Nipawin	-5.0	-31.0	0.4	18.2	74
North Battleford	-7.2	-30.2	0.7	13.5	59
Prince Albert	-4.3	-30.9	1.6	21.8	92
Regina	-6.0	-28.5	0.6	8.2	41
Rockglen	-2.3	-24.7	7.7	17.4	94
Saskatoon	-5.0	-27.3	0.4	9.6	47
Swift Current	-7.2	-24.6	0.6	5.3	28
Val Marie	-4.9	-35.3	8.5	11.5	65
Yorkton	-5.2	-29.0	0.5	11.7	41
Wynyard	-6.3	-28.3	1.7	12.4	51

ALBERTA

	Temperature last week		Precipitation since Nov. 1		
	High	Low	mm	mm	%
Brooks	-7.0	-26.5	1.6	3.9	25
Calgary	-10.5	-26.3	1.6	6.9	41
Cold Lake	-12.2	-29.6	2.7	13.2	49
Coronation	-12.8	-27.9	0.8	10.5	66
Edmonton	-14.5	-29.2	3.0	22.8	97
Grande Prairie	-14.1	-32.6	1.9	31.3	94
High Level	-12.8	-32.6	0.5	6.5	18
Lethbridge	-5.8	-30.4	2.9	6.0	30
Lloydminster	-12.4	-30.7	0.5	6.5	27
Medicine Hat	-5.5	-29.0	4.4	6.1	33
Milk River	-6.8	-29.3	7.0	10.6	46
Peace River	-16.4	-32.2	1.6	14.6	44
Pincher Creek	-7.6	-31.1	6.2	20.6	52
Red Deer	-13.2	-28.7	0.3	17.5	88
Stavely	-9.8	-24.9	2.4	12.4	50
Vegreville	-13.5	-26.6	1.0	8.4	39

All data provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's National Agroclimate Information Service: www.agr.gc.ca/drought. Data has undergone only preliminary quality checking. Maps provided by WeatherTec Services Inc.: www.weathertec.mb.ca

MANITOBA

	Temperature last week		Precipitation since Nov. 1		
	High	Low	mm	mm	%
Brandon	-3.1	-29.8	11.2	26.6	94
Dauphin	-3.7	-32.8	6.0	22.5	80
Gimli	-0.4	-33.2	4.5	47.3	149
Melita	-3.4	-32.1	6.5	16.5	57
Morden	-1.5	-26.5	14.6	48.8	142
Portage La Prairie	-1.2	-29.2	5.7	39.7	112
Swan River	-5.0	-28.4	1.5	13.0	38
Winnipeg	-0.5	-25.8	6.3	37.1	112

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Cranbrook	-4.1	-26.3	13.9	44.9	69
Fort St. John	-15.8	-31.4	2.5	39.7	103
Kamloops	-2.9	-14.8	8.0	29.8	76
Kelowna	-1.2	-13.5	8.3	41.5	80
Prince George	-7.9	-26.6	1.2	43.3	62

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