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SEE AGRIBITION COVERAGE ON P. 4-5, 54-56 AND ONLINE AT PRODUCER.COM



Serhienko Cattle Co. from Maymont, Sask., saw a pair of its Charolais bull calves bring \$55,000 and \$45,000, respectively, at Canadian Western Agribition's Charolais sale in Regina. The two calves, SVY Wizard 707E and SVY Omaha 709, which are flushed sons of the reigning Miss World Charolais SVY Starstruck 409B, also from the Serhienko herd, and HRJ Crowd Favourite 515C from Weinbenders in Canora, Sask., topped the sale. The big indoor cattle show, held Nov. 23, brought out larger-than-usual crowds, including more than 305 registered international buyers. The second calf went to a Mexican purchaser. All told, the sale brought in \$241,750. | MICHAEL RAINE PHOTO

World's farmland total bigger than expected

Satellite map shows 4.62 billion acres are farmed

BY SEAN PRATT
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Farmers around the world are growing more crops than previously thought, according to a new high-resolution satellite map.

Researchers at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) have pieced together a map using Landsat satellite imagery with 30-metre resolution that identifies every plot of land under cultivation around the globe.

The map shows that 4.62 billion acres are being farmed, which is 15 to 20 percent higher than previous estimates.

That finding did not surprise Prasad Thenkabail, USGS research geographer and principal investigator of the Global Food Security Support Analysis Data project.

He knew the higher resolution satellites would pick up on areas never before mapped or were inaccurately identified as non-crop-lands.

SEE WORLD FARMLAND, PAGE 5 >>

Agribition makes the most of its brand new facilities

'Benchmark' year for annual livestock show will set records, say organizers

BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU

Canadian Western Agribition will set records this year, say organizers. They just have to wait for final figures to make it official. "This has been a benchmark year for us in a lot of ways," said chief executive officer Chris Lane as the 47th annual show wrapped up last week. Cattle entries were up by more

than 200 to fill the facilities to capacity. Attendance was strong and will top the 120,000 mark. As well, international attendance will be an all-time high. About 1,200 guests from at least 83 countries came to the show. "They're just overwhelmed with the facilities and hospitality and generosity from everyone involved in Agribition," president Bruce Holmquist said of those visitors.

Exhibitors and visitors alike were impressed with the new International Trade Centre, which replaced old buildings with a modern, well-lit space that put the entire show under one roof. The show was able to use part of the space last year and the full 150,000 sq. feet this year. Lane said that interconnectivity helped with the goal of making it easier for people to see more of the event.

Cattle exhibitors used words like awesome, tremendous and outstanding to describe the ITC. Carlos Ojea from Argentina, who judges cattle around the world and did so at the RBC Beef Supreme Challenge, said the ITC is state-of-the-art. "This is really as good as you can get anywhere in the world," he told the crowd.

SEE AGRIBITION, PAGE 4 >>



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Weed seed predators
Some critters like eating weed seeds; make them welcome. | Page 50



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FEATURES



AGRITECHNICA SLIDE SHOW
If you weren't one of the 450,000 people to see AgriTechnica in person you're still in luck. Check out our photos of this amazing event here.



AGRIBITION SLIDE SHOW
Check out the collection of images shot by WP reporters during Canadian Western Agribition last week in Regina.



MACHINERY SALES VIDEO
The WP's Michael Raine is recently back from Agritechnica in Germany. Industry experts there say global sales of farm equipment are improving, despite low commodities.

VIDEOS

THREE GENERATIONS
Jeremy Simes talks to Nicholas Milkovich on the family farm near Rycroft, Alta.



AGRIBITION
Bruce Holmquist likes Agribition's growing international support.



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Invasive weed causes alarm in Alberta

Phragmites australis chokes out other plants, destroys wetland ecosystems and can pose a fire hazard when it dies

BY BARB GLEN
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

It's tall. It's nasty. It's invasive. "It scares the crap out of us," said Todd Green, director of agricultural services for the County of Newell.

Green was speaking about Phragmites australis, a member of the reed family that was found in the county last year and has since been found in 13 other Alberta locations.

Phragmites has spread widely in Ontario and parts of the United States but is assumed to be a relative newcomer to Alberta, although Green said there's no way of telling how long the pest had been growing in the province before it was identified.

Alberta has native varieties of Phragmites, but australis is an introduced species that can choke out other plants and destroy wetland ecosystems. It reduces habitat for fish and wildlife, and its dead stalks can be a fire hazard.



TODD GREEN
DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICES
FOR THE COUNTY OF NEWELL

It is tall, with feathery seed heads, and it favours standing water or generally moist conditions.

Green sounded a warning about the invasive plant at the Alberta Irrigation Projects Association conference in Lethbridge Nov. 22.

He thinks eradication is achievable in the province, but it will require close monitoring.

"My understanding from the province is that all the sites are containable," he said in a later interview. "They're not really large, widespread patches so we are still, we believe, in the eradication stage."

The species is not listed under the



LEFT: Nicole Skanderup of the County of Newell stands in a patch of Phragmites australis.
| CATHERINE CHRISTENSEN/COUNTY OF NEWELL PHOTOS

ABOVE: Phragmites australis is believed to be a relative newcomer to Alberta. It can be spread by seed, rhizomes and sprouting from nodes along its stalk.

Weed Control Act, which is a complicating factor that limits prescribed action against the weed.

However, it is listed as a threat in the fisheries act, which provides for Alberta Environment involvement in control and eradication efforts.

Green speculated that Phragmites australis arrived in the County of Newell, which is the region around Brooks, Alta., aboard a train because the first patch was found along the Canadian Pacific Railway right of way.

"We assume that's how it came in was from a CPR train that dropped off either a seed or a part of a plant," he said.

"It is very close to an EID (Eastern Irrigation District) canal, kind of a slow drain into a wetland, and there's a major canal just to the south, so not good news for us."

In 2016, county personnel cut down and removed a large patch of the reed within the EID using gar-

den shears and tree trimmers. Four truckloads of the plant were buried in a landfill.

In 2017, special permits were obtained to spray, a tricky proposition when dealing with plants in water bodies. Only two products are registered for control, imazapyr and glyphosate, but only the imazapyr product was used, Green said.

Sites were sprayed in Newell and within the city of Medicine Hat,

where another patch was found along the CP line near Ross Creek.

As of now, the pest has been found as far away as Grande Prairie, mostly at sites associated with railways and roads. Green said it may be spreading in shipments of grain, hay or straw.

Among its pesky properties is the reed's ability to spread by seed but also by rhizomes and sprouting from nodes along its stalks.

Green said it is taller than native varieties. Plants up to 13 feet high were found in Newell in 2017, even though it was a very dry year.

It can also be distinguished from native varieties because it has a tan or brown colour on the stalk below the leaf sheath. Native varieties are red in that area.

As well, the seed head is larger on the invasive type.

Green said anyone who thinks they've seen a stand of Phragmites australis should contact the agriculture services board in the region so quick action can be taken.

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Alberta dairy backs no appeasement on supply management

BY JEREMY SIMES
EDMONTON BUREAU

Alberta dairy farmers seem largely unfazed by American demands for an end to the supply management system as negotiators from Canada, the United States and Mexico continue talks over reworking the North American Free Trade Agreement.

At Alberta Milk's annual conference Nov. 22, producers learned from provincial officials that Canada is holding firm on supply management and Canadian negotiators won't even speak to American negotiators about it.

"They (Canadian negotiators) are not going to engage it in any way," said Peter Kuperis, director of the

domestic and international trade policy section at Alberta Agriculture, during his presentation on trade. "They're pretending it (this demand) doesn't exist."

Kuperis has been part of the NAFTA talks during the earlier rounds that were held in Washington, D.C., and Ottawa. He said Alberta has backed Ottawa's steadfast approach.

"With NAFTA we're holding our ground," he said. "It's way too important to give into these outrageous demands."

Dairy farmers at the event received that news with much delight.

"It's been really reassuring, from the Canadian government and provincially, that they are 100 percent behind us," said Jake Vermeer,



DEVON SIMMELINK
ALBERTA DAIRY PRODUCER

who produces dairy and grain near Camrose, Alta. "A lot of the political attacks on supply management are a non-starter, so that's huge for us."

As well, he said while American demands were initially worrying, it's been harder since for him to

take those demands seriously.

Devon Simmelink, a dairy farmer near Rocky Mountain House, Alta., agreed. He said the dairy industry has faced these threats before from the U.S.

"It's not a shock that they would want it gone," he said. "I've spent some time in Wisconsin, and I think the push is really coming from the political higher-ups, not the farmers I've spoken with."

However, the National Milk Producers Federation, a major U.S. dairy lobby group, called for an end to Canada's supply management system in September.

In the latest round of NAFTA discussions in Mexico City on Nov. 22, negotiators made no progress on resolving their differences.

U.S. President Donald Trump's threat to pull out of NAFTA has some worrying about the damage that might cause to Canadian exports, especially beef. Others suggest trade wouldn't change immediately because both arms of the U.S. Congress, the Senate and the House of Representatives, support NAFTA.

Most Canadian dairy farmers aren't worried if the U.S. pulls out of NAFTA because virtually all dairy in Canada is produced by Canadian farmers because of the supply management system. As well, little, if any, is exported.

Simmelink said things won't likely change quickly if NAFTA dies.

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Federal gov't announces new ag programs

Canadian Agricultural Partnership to focus on trade and sustainability

BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU



LAWRENCE MACAULAY
FEDERAL AGRICULTURE MINISTER

Federal agriculture minister Lawrence MacAulay has announced that Ottawa plans to spend \$1 billion on federal agriculture programs and share the \$2 billion cost of federal-provincial initiatives. The programs under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership begin April 1, 2018, after Growing Forward 2 programs expire.

However, some of the programs will take effect before then.

"These programs will roll out starting the first of the year," he told reporters at Canadian Western Agribition in Regina, where he made the announcement Nov. 24.

"What we heard is the agricultural sector did not want a gap in the programs. With that, we're going to be able to start well before April to make sure that the money will start flowing to the agricultural sector."

The federally funded programs under CAP include AgriMarketing, AgriCompetitiveness, AgriScience, AgriInnovate, AgriDiversity and AgriAssurance.

MacAulay said they address the three broader priorities of increasing trade, the sustainable

growth of the sector and supporting diversity.

AgriDiversity is designed to help under-represented groups such as women and First Nations become more involved in agriculture.

The AgriScience component includes the research clusters, for which funding applications are now being accepted.

AgriAssurance is for national industry associations and small and medium enterprises to make verifiable claims about the health and safety of products.

MacAulay said there is no better place to announce support for agriculture than at Agribition. It represents trade, innovation and adaptation, he said.

"Isn't that some picture?" he said, referring to the cattle displays visible behind him.

Earlier in the week, Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart announced the province would renew its \$50,000-a-year funding arrangement for Agribition for the next four shows.

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ALL IN A DAY'S WORK AT AGRIBITION



AGRIBITION'S NEW FACILITY

» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"This is so easy to judge here in this arena with this light and this environment."

Riley Lafrentz from Wheatland Cattle Co. at Bienfait, Sask., said breeders bring their best cattle to Agribition.

"It's nice to put them in a facility that showcases them and makes everybody really welcome," he said.

Lloyd Wright returned to the show from West Brome, Que., after 14 years.

"It's as nice a facility as you'll see anywhere," said the manager of Shadybrook Shorthorns.

"It's amazing."

Lane and Holmquist said they are already looking at how best to use the space next year. After observing how both cattle and people moved around in it, they will likely make some changes for 2018.

"We're making notes on things like show ring design, marshalling area, making sure we're doing as good a job as we can keeping the human traffic safe and the cattle



Kevin Dempsey from Shadybrook Shorthorns in West Brome, Que., leads Shadybrook Dream Lady 19D in the RBC Beef Supreme show ring at Canadian Western Agribition. The heifer, co-owned by Poplar Lane Farms, was the grand champion at the Royal Winter Fair. | KAREN BRIERE PHOTO

traffic safe when they have to intermingle," Lane said.

He said all exhibitors and vendors benefitted from the new building,

even if they weren't in it because of the increased traffic.

In addition to the ITC, the big draw of the week appeared to be goat

yoga. It was held only on the first two days of the show but proved to be far more popular than expected, especially with younger visitors.

Holmquist said the core of Agribition is always the same, but it is good to introduce new programs that draw different audiences. The show prides itself on educating an increasingly urban audience about agriculture.

"This is the real deal here," he said.

"We do it well as an industry and this is one of the few places that people get to see it and communicate with the actual producers."

In the sale ring, the top selling animal of the week was a Charolais bull calf consigned by Serhienko Cattle Co., which sold for \$55,000 to a group of four buyers.

The high-selling bison was a \$25,000 two-year-old bull, the high-selling horse was a sorrel mare for \$13,000 and the highest price in the sheep sale was \$900 for a Canadian Arcott ewe.

In the commercial cattle sale, the grand champion pen of five bred Simmental-Red Angus heifers topped the sale at \$3,400 each.

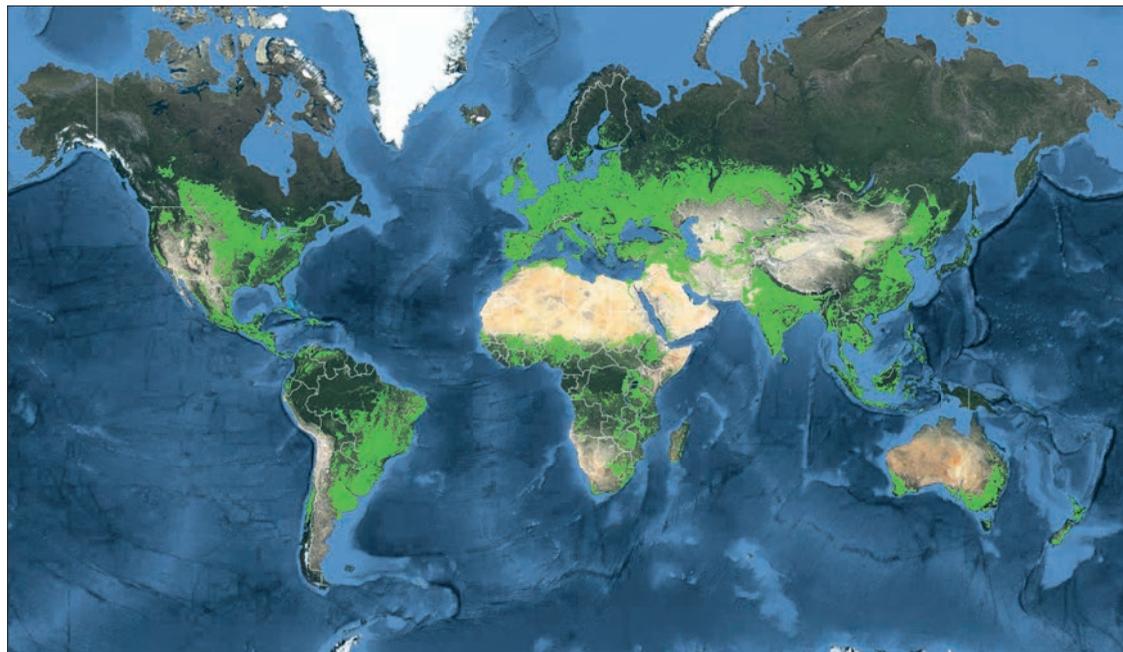
Agribition is conducting an economic impact study this year. Past studies have shown it pumps more than \$20 million into the local economy and more than \$50 million into the province.

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ABOVE: Steven Knutson of Wapella, Sask., bids, and buys for \$4,700, a Hereford heifer at Canadian Western Agribition's annual Hereford sale. A top selling bull brought \$45,000 a few minutes earlier, and a good selection of females, including one from Blair's selling for \$16,000, brought an average of about \$7,000 for the event. Total sales for the event were \$171,330. | MICHAEL RAINE PHOTO

LEFT: The Supreme all breeds event at Agribition brings winners from a year of competition to one show where they compete head to head. | KAREN BRIERE PHOTO



Researchers at the United States Geological Survey have pieced together a map using satellite imagery that identifies every plot of land under cultivation (shown in green) around the globe. | USGS MAP

WORLD FARMLAND

» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

For instance, the Landsat satellites can find farmland located along the margins of forests and deserts that previously went unnoticed.

"The map clearly shows individual farm fields, big or small, at any location in the world," said Thenkabail.

The map can be used to improve insights into global food security and water use.

When the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations produced its oft-cited 2009 study calling for 70 percent more food production by 2050, it used a baseline of 3.95 billion acres of farmland.

The FAO said land under cultivation would have to expand to 4.12 billion acres by 2050. The USGS map shows the world is already well above that number.

Thenkabail doesn't know how the FAO arrived at its 70 percent number, but he suspects it would

change given the new global acreage estimate.

"If you get your base line area wrong, then productivity is naturally going to be wrong," he said.

"It's very important to get this one right."

The new map shows India possesses the highest net cropland area, accounting for 444 million acres or 9.6 percent of total global farmland. Earlier studies showed that either China or the United States were tops.

The U.S. is second with 8.9 percent followed by China at 8.8 percent and Russia at 8.3 percent. Canada accounts for 106 million acres or 2.3 percent of global cropland.

Cropland makes up more than 80 percent of some countries such as Moldova, San Marino and Hungary. In Canada, it accounts for five percent of total land mass.

Thenkabail said it was painstakingly difficult to create the map. Researchers used composite data

from 2013 to 2015.

"One major challenge was obtaining cloud-free images in regions such as the tropics and during rainy seasons. That took multiple years in some areas," he said.

The map was created using machine learning algorithms on the Google Earth engine. It was validated by an independent team for 72 zones across the world.

"I call it kind of the mother of all big data," said Thenkabail.

The map can be updated annually or each season.

"This map is a base line and starting point for higher level assessments, such as identifying which crops are present and where and when they grow, their productivity, if lands are left fallow and whether the water source is irrigated or rain fed," he said.

"Comparisons can be made between the present and past years, as well as between one farm and another."

The map is free and can be found at croplands.org.

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Allowing hemp flower, leaf sales welcome change

Health Canada reverses decision to prohibit growers from selling all parts of hemp plant

BY ROBERT ARNASON
BRANDON BUREAU

Hemp growers in Canada may soon be able to sell the whole plant.

Health Canada currently prohibits growers from selling the leaves and flowers of hemp plants. Those parts of the plant can be used to make cannabinoids (CBD), compounds that provide pain relief and have anti-inflammatory properties.

On Nov. 21, Health Canada announced that it plans to reverse that rule.

"It is proposed that industrial hemp licences would authorize the intra-industry sale of leaves, flowers and branches (or the whole plant)," Health Canada said in a document that details the federal government's proposed approach to the regulation of cannabis.

In April, the feds introduced Bill C-45, the Cannabis Act, that permits the production and use of marijuana for medical and recreational purposes.

On Nov. 21, Health Canada



Canadian growers and hemp processors may soon be allowed to use the whole plant. | FILE PHOTO

launched a public consultation period to gather feedback on its proposed approach to cannabis regulations.

Production, processing and use

of industrial hemp, cannabis plants that contain less than 0.3 percent THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, is included in the regulations.

"The whole Controlled Substance Act and Health Canada Act has sort of been pushed aside. Hemp (is) now proposed to be handled under this new cannabis legislation," said Russ Crawford, president of the Canadian Hemp Trade Association, which represents companies and growers in the hemp business.

Crawford is pleased that Canadian growers and hemp processors may soon be allowed to use the whole plant. Industry leaders have been asking Health Canada to change the rule for a while because medical products like CBD may become a big business.

"My gut tells me there's going to be more value coming out of industrial hemp from the cannabinoids than the food and the fibre combined," Crawford said in 2016. "There is a medicinal application for this that could be global in nature."

The proposal around whole plant use was greeted warmly by the hemp industry, but other parts of the pro-

posed regulations for cannabis cooled off some of the enthusiasm.

Health Canada will continue to regulate the production of industrial hemp, and growers will still have to apply for a licence to grow the crop.

As well, industrial hemp producers are still required to go through a criminal background check.

The CHTA and other players in the trade say it's time to move away from such regulatory nuisances.

Industrial hemp should be treated like other crops, where it's under the purview of Agriculture Canada.

"I don't think we've quite been given the latitude that we'd like," Crawford said. "Why not let it stand on its own, as an agricultural crop?"

The public and industry groups have until Jan. 20 to comment on the proposed regulations. The CHTA plans to make a submission, asking for changes to the regulations for industrial hemp.

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MARKETS



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India's 50 percent import duty on peas will likely reduce Canadian acres but one analyst expects the lower prices will attract new buyers. | FILE PHOTO

Falling pea, lentil prices likely to take toll on acreage: analysts

Pea prices have plummeted and some experts expect a 30 percent drop in acres

BY SEAN PRATT
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Pulse acres are expected to plunge next year, losing ground to competing crops like canola and wheat, say analysts.

Brian Clancey, editor of *Stat Publishing*, forecasts that peas will be down about one million acres in the wake of India slapping a 50 percent import duty on the crop.

He said with India unlikely to be a big customer until 2019, farmers should probably cut back by two million acres to prevent a burdensome carryout but he doubts that will happen.

Farmers will still want to grow peas for rotational purposes and yellow pea prices have held up nicely after the initial \$2 per bushel drop following India's surprise announcement.

"The other thing is that historically whenever pea prices get low we always seem to find new demand somewhere," said Clancey.

He doesn't yet have a lentil planting estimate but believes there will be a substantial drop in reds, with some of those acres going to greens.

There is no Indian duty on lentils yet but exports are way down because India has a large stockpile of pulses and what looks to be a big

rabi or winter crop on the way.

Clancey said reducing pulse acres might not be such a bad thing because there have been agronomic challenges with peas and lentils due to the spread of root rot.

Chuck Penner, analyst with Left-Field Commodity Research, agrees with Clancey's pea estimate. He believes farmers will plant about three million acres, down from 4.1 million this year.

"You get these statements, 'nobody is going to plant peas,' but the reality is there are always enough contrarians out there," he said.

Penner also agreed that with red lentil bids of 16 cents per pound, a steep reduction in seeded acres is likely.

"For the past, I don't know how many years now, pulses have kind of been at the top of the ranking for gross margin projections and this year they're closer to the bottom," he said.

Hard red spring wheat, canola, oats and flax are all crops farmers may choose instead.

Penner believes growers may also switch out of red lentils and into greens because with prices above 30 cents per lb., greens remain profitable. But that is risky.

"If people rush from one side of the boat to the other, from reds to

SWAPPING PEAS FOR CANOLA?

India's big domestic pulse crops and its 50 percent tariff on pea imports has hit Canadian pea exports and prices hard. Analysts say as much as a million acres of peas in Canada might switch to other crops next year, likely most of them to canola, driving the oilseed up to a new record high well above 23 million acres.

Canadian seeded area (million acres):

Year	canola	dry peas
2013	20.3	3.3
2014	20.8	4.0
2015	20.7	3.7
2016	20.4	4.2
2017	22.9	4.1

Source: Statistics Canada | WP GRAPHIC

greens, you can swamp the boat," he said.

Brennan Turner, president of FarmLead, forecasts at least a 30 percent reduction in peas, or 1.2 million acres.

He believes canola will pick up the most of those acres because the current pace of exports and crushing volume means tight 2017-18 carryout stocks of about one million tonnes and that means continued profitable prices.

"It wouldn't surprise me if you saw even another record year of acres in 2018 for canola in Canada simply because the price continues to support it," he said.

Turner differs from the other analysts on lentils. He doubts farmers will reduce red lentil plantings because they can still make money on the crop at today's prices and it is more attractive than malt barley or spring wheat.

He added the caveat that many things can happen between now and spring of 2018 that could alter his forecast.

"There could be something that changes with the Indian market between now and March. You might see a terrible rabi crop," said Turner.

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Oil, meal touted in China talks

BY ED WHITE
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Canada's canola marketers are talking up the crop's unique oil benefits and better-than-assumed meal benefits in China.

The Canola Council of Canada has been holding seminars about canola oil and meal with Chinese processors and nutritionists.

As well, it has held what it called a "canola dialogue" in Beijing.

The canola council hopes it becomes the first of an annual canola dialogue with the Chinese industry and government, said CCC president Jim Everson in a conference call from Beijing.

Fortunately for Canada, Chinese importers and processors have not raised worries about blackleg, the disease the Chinese government cites as the reason for restrictions on imports of Canadian canola.

Blackleg was discussed at the meeting, but only in the context of explaining the efforts of Canada and China to study and limit the impact of any blackleg that arrives with Canada's canola shipments.



JIM EVERSON
CANOLA COUNCIL OF CANADA PRESIDENT

Canola oil's positive human health benefits and the value of canola protein meal for livestock are not well understood in China, Everson said.

China bought \$2.7 billion of Canadian canola last year, but Chinese consumers do not generally perceive the seed's oil as having a premium health value. Nor do pig feed companies and farmers realize that canola meal can be a significant part of their rations.

In a seminar with the Chinese feed industry, University of Manitoba feed scientist Martin Nyachoti and a Chinese scientist explained that canola meal can make up to 30 percent of a swine ration.

"I think it was pretty new news to them," said the CCC's market development vice-president, Bruce Jowett. That "is about double what they're putting in the ration (now.)"

The seminar highlighted canola oil's ability to provide fat that is not unhealthy, a focus that should find growing interest in China because "cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death.... Diabetes is climbing in China," said Jowett.

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China's soybean demand will eat higher U.S. yields

The growing appetite for more meat products will require feed imports — good news for U.S. soybean growers as yields top 50 bushels per acre

BY ED WHITE
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Soybean production in North America has likely started to surge, but that is OK because China's demand will keep pace.

Those thoughts were floating around the Grain World conference Nov. 15, as analysts and grain trade players tried to spot future trends.

Bill Lapp of Advanced Economic Solutions said he suspected soybean yields have begun diverging from their long-term growth trend, with increasing gains in recent years.

It does appear that, even with sub-optimal weather, we're getting a boost in yields. I think we might be in a new trend.

BILL LAPP
ADVANCED ECONOMIC SOLUTIONS

"It does appear that, even with sub-optimal weather, we're getting a boost in yields," said Lapp during an oilseeds outlook panel.

"I think we might be in a new trend."

U.S. soybean yield grains have trailed behind impressive gains in corn, with average yields in the mid-1980s of 32 bushels per acre reaching 42 bu. per acre by the early 2010s.

However, since 2013 several crops have surpassed that trend line, reaching to the 50 bu. level.

Crop production analyst Kurt Ahrens of Grainbot had earlier predicted that world soybean yields will grow by about 25 percent in the next 33 years.

Continued soybean production growth will depend on moving ever greater quantities of the crop, but Felix Muller of COFCO said that shouldn't be a problem.

Chinese people are eating ever more meat and protein products,

and that will demand a continued growth in soybean imports for feed.

"When people ramp up their consumption of meat a little bit more similar to the United States or Europe, you have a massive demand growth on top of what we see now," said Muller.

And what is seen now is steady growth in soybean import demand, as a growing Chinese feed industry sources raw materials

from the world.

Chinese consumers already eat similar amounts of pork as Europeans, but they eat only a fraction of chicken or dairy products that Europeans and Americans eat.

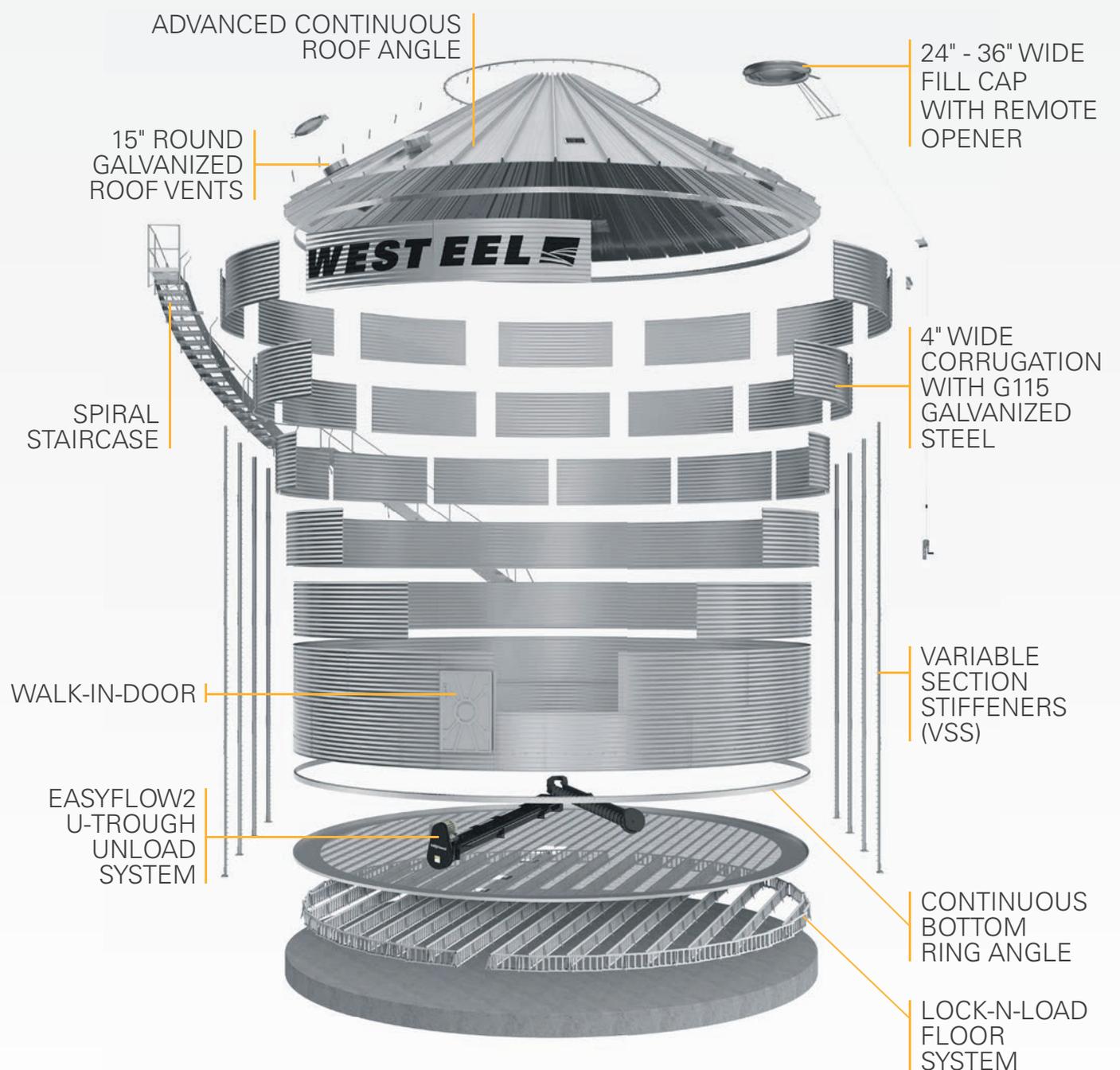
Muller said even the slowdown in Chinese economic growth hasn't crimped the growth of Chinese soybean imports.

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U.S. soybean yields have exceeded expectations but markets for protein and soybean meal are keeping pace. | FILE PHOTO

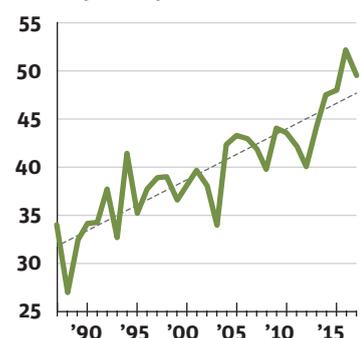
QUALITY TOP TO BOTTOM



SOYBEAN YIELDS EDGE UP

American soybean yields in the past few years have come in above the long-term trend line, even with less than ideal weather. Some analysts believe better crop genetics will lead to a steeper upward tilt in the trend in coming years.

U.S. soybean yields (bu./acre):



Source: USDA | WP GRAPHIC

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Low soybean yields may discourage growers

BY ROBERT ARNASON
BRANDON BUREAU

Soybean acres in Western Canada jumped a phenomenal amount this year, rising to 3.1 million in 2017 from 1.8 million in 2016.

But acres will likely shrink in 2018 because soybean yields were below average in Manitoba and awful in Saskatchewan.

Dennis Lange, Manitoba Agriculture soybean and pulse expert, holds that opinion. He projects 2018 area at two million acres in the province, down from 2.29 million in 2017.

"I think we'll see a bit of a drop this year. Just because of how dry things were... yields were a little more reduced," Lange said at a November meeting in Brandon on the potential of a soybean crushing plant being built in western Manitoba.

Lange said average yields in Manitoba will likely be 34 bu. per acre but Statistics Canada's final production estimates won't come out until December. His estimate will likely prove close to the final actual numbers because most producers reported yields from 20 to 50 bu. per acre.

"I think we might end up somewhere in the middle of the road there for average yield, like around 35ish," Cassandra Tkachuk, Manitoba Pulse and Soybean Growers production specialist, said in October.



CASSANDRA TKACHUK
PULSE AND SOYBEAN SPECIALIST

If Tkachuk and Lange are correct, yields will be down from 2016 when Manitoba growers averaged more than 40 bu. per acre.

Dry weather through the summer and lack of rain in August, a critical period for pod fill, hampered yields in Manitoba. Conditions were even drier in southern Saskatchewan where a drought hammered many soybean fields.

Statistics Canada's September production report pegged the average soybean yield at 24 bu. in Saskatchewan.

That may be generous. Saskatchewan Agriculture's final crop report estimated average yields at only 18 bu. per acre.

Poor yields usually lead farmer to reduce seeding the following year.

Acres may also retract next spring in Manitoba but Lange remains optimistic. He predicts that soybeans could reach three million acres in the province by 2023.

If beans hit those levels, they may overtake canola as the most popular crop in the province.

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FOR A RELATED STORY SEE PAGE 64



Chinese maltsters are importing barley from Canada but Australia's crop, although small, is coming on the market so exports may start to slow down. | FILE PHOTO

China snapping up barley exports

A smaller Australian crop is good news for Canadian exports

BY SEAN PRATT
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Bulk barley exports are more than double last year's pace despite a smaller overall crop.

Canadian exporters shipped out 542,000 tonnes of the crop through Week 15 of the 2017-18 crop year, compared to 240,000 tonnes the same time last year.

That is a 126 percent increase despite a drop in total supply of the crop to 9.53 million tonnes from 10.29 million tonnes last year.

Neil Townsend, senior market analyst with FarmLink Marketing Solutions, said farmers can thank China for the brisk export pace.

"One of the concerns probably in China is the smaller crop out of Australia," he said.

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences is forecasting eight million tonnes of Australian barley production, a 40 percent drop from last year's record crop.

The Australians have stolen market share from Canada in China by selling what they call fair

average quality (FAQ) barley that is not quite malting quality but much better than feed.

It has been a big hit with maltsters in southern China, who are not as discerning as some other maltsters around the world.

"That has really disrupted the market over the last say eight or nine years in barley exporting to China," said Townsend.

Canadian growers harvested a top-notch crop this year, and the country has plenty of barley that fits into the FAQ category, he said. That's what is being shipped to China, he added.

Townsend estimates Canada will export one million tonnes of barley to China in 2017-18. He figures half of that has already been shipped.

"That's quite a dramatic improvement over what we've done in the last three or four years but not unprecedented," he said.

If exports stay at the same pace for the rest of the campaign, it would result in a 1.9 million tonne shipping program, but that doesn't include the barley-equivalent of malt exports, said Bruce Burnett, director of markets and weather with Glacier FarmMedia.

In 2016-17, those malt exports amounted to the equivalent of another 845,388 tonnes of barley shipped overseas.

Assuming similar numbers for this year, that would be a total export program of 2.75 million tonnes.

Agriculture Canada is forecasting 2.25 million tonnes of exports. Burnett said it is unlikely barley exports will maintain the torrid early-season pace because Australia is now entering the market, so the Agriculture Canada number might be close.

"It is setting up for a fairly tight barley S&D coming into next year," he said.

That could help boost prices toward the tail end of the year, but feed prices are going to be kept in check by the plethora of U.S. corn on the market, said Burnett.

That is a concern shared by Errol Anderson, analyst for ProMarket Wire.

He believes 500,000 to one million tonnes of corn will come into southern Alberta from Manitoba and the United States this year.

Growers in Alberta who are holding out for malt will also be hitting the feed market with rejected malt barley in the new year.

That will likely keep a lid on feed barley prices unless it is a bitterly cold winter and cattle need to eat more than usual.

"If we get a rough winter, barley prices could go up, but if it stays benign, we're not going nowhere,"

said Anderson.

China has been busy importing feed barley in addition to malt-type product.

China imported seven million tonnes of barley between January and September, up 80 percent from the same time a year ago.

One possible explanation for the huge increase is that China is in the midst of a trade war with the U.S. over distillers dried grain with solubles (DDGS).

China has imposed anti-dumping and countervailing duties on U.S. DDGS in addition to ending an exemption on value added tax.

Those measures have hindered U.S. DDGS exports to China. Exports have plunged to 739,212 tonnes in 2016-17 from five or six million tonnes annually a few years ago. However, China recently reversed its stance on the VAT, announcing it was going to allow U.S. DDGS to enter the country without having to pay the 11 percent tax.

Tom Sleight, president of the U.S. Grains Council, applauded the policy shift in a recent news release.

"This change will immediately improve the competitiveness of U.S. DDGS in what was once our top market, which is a very positive thing," he said.

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China to subsidize grain transportation, storage

The government wants to increase storage capacity and reduce grain losses due to spoilage

BEIJING (Reuters) — China plans to subsidize grain transportation and storage facilities in the latest push by Beijing to modernize the world's largest agriculture sector.

Beijing will subsidize projects upgrading or building facilities to load and receive grains along main railways and ports for major

waterways including the Yangtze and Pearl rivers, a document issued by China's National Development and Research Commission (NDRC) said Nov. 24.

"Setting up the special funds ... will help to reduce the cost of grain distribution and improve efficiency," the document said.

Inadequate transportation

capacity for grain has caused backlogs in the north where corn and wheat are produced and spiked prices in the past, while poor storage facilities are a major cause of grain losses in China.

China, which aims to improve its grain logistics system and boost grain storage capacity by 2020, will also subsidize grain facilities that

offer storage, processing, trading and quality inspection services, the NRDC document said.

These so-called logistic parks must occupy at least 50 acres of land and have more than 100,000 tonnes of storage capacity, the document said, adding that a single project could receive as much as US\$15 million.

Canadian processors strangely quiet on online grocery opportunities

MARKET WATCH



D'ARCE McMILLAN

It appears consumers around the world are increasingly turning to online venues to do their shopping.

The headlines out of the United States about the big Black Friday retail push this past weekend emphasized the growing market share of online retail.

Groceries are not excluded from this trend, and major food companies are starting to gear up to sell more online at home and abroad.

Giant Chinese online retailers are at the forefront of the trend. Online sales in China top \$800 billion a year, and that is expected to rise rapidly.

There are more than 500 million active e-commerce users in the country, which is more than the combined population of Canada and the United States.

The biggest online retailer in China is Alibaba.

This summer, the huge European pork producer Danish Crown signed an agreement to sell its pork on one of Alibaba's e-commerce sites.

Danish Crown is planning on increasing its sales of pork in China, the world's largest pork consumer, by building a processing plant near Shanghai to supply the pork it sells through Alibaba.

Alibaba's rival in China is JD.com.

The Montana Stockgrowers Association this fall signed an agreement with JD.com and the Bank of China that will see JD.com buying US\$200 million of Montana beef, the equivalent of about 90,000 head, over the next three years.

The deal is fairly small, but proponents hope it will lead to bigger things in the future, including a



Alibaba Group executive chair Jack Ma and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau hold lobsters, representing one of the most popular Canadian foods available on the giant Chinese online retail platform.

| ALIBABA PHOTO

beef slaughter facility in the state.

U.S. Smithfield Foods, which was bought by China-based WH Group in 2013, also said this fall it will start selling pork products in China through JD.com.

In the first half of 2017, gross merchandise volume from direct sales of meats on JD increased more than 780 percent year-on-year, according to the news release announcing the Smithfield deal.

Alibaba held a big educational day in Toronto in September this year to promote its platforms to Canadian companies.

A key sector that Alibaba targeted was Canadian agribusiness.

You might have heard of one success from a few years ago when 90,000 Canadian lobsters were sold through Alibaba in a single

day during one of its big annual promotions.

Those annual promotions are amazing. Its Singles Day sale on Nov. 11 this year, a sort of anti-Valentines Day that celebrates singles in China, generated \$32 billion in sales in 24 hours.

Here in North America, online food retailing is also a growing business. Amazon bought the Whole Foods grocery chain this summer, underlining its commitment to building its market share in food retailing.

Online grocery shopping is a pretty small category in Canada with sales around \$2 billion a year focused mainly in the Toronto and Vancouver markets.

Offerings will likely grow with Walmart saying it plans to expand its home delivery service as well as

Loblaws, but it could be a slow rollout because Canadians have been less quick to adopt online shopping than Americans.

However, just because online groceries are not top of mind here does not mean Canada's food processors can ignore the trend, particularly in China.

There will be hurdles to overcome. Designing a supply pipeline for fresh, chilled food to get from Canada directly to Chinese homes will be part of it, but Alibaba and JD say they are prepared to help make it happen.

It is a massive market opportunity, one that Canada can't afford to miss.

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

WP LIVESTOCK REPORT

HOGS DOWN

Packers were cautious buyers while they waited to see the U.S. Thanksgiving demand for pork.

The U.S. national live price average for barrows and gilts was US\$44.17 per hundredweight Nov. 24, down from \$45.69 Nov. 17.

U.S. hogs averaged \$57.10 on a carcass basis Nov. 24, down from \$56.96 Nov. 17. The U.S. pork cutout was \$82.32 per cwt. Nov. 24, up from \$80.96 Nov. 17.

The estimated U.S. weekly slaughter to Nov. 25 was 2.163 million, down from 2.46 million the previous week. Slaughter was 2.152 million last year at the same time.

In Canada, the average Signature Five price for the week to Nov. 25 was C\$141 per 100 kilograms, down from \$144.91 the previous week. The average price was \$63.96 on a per cwt. basis, down from \$65.73 the previous week.

LOONIE WEIGHS ON BISON

The Canadian Bison Association said Grade A bulls in the desirable weight range sold at prices up to C\$6 per pound hot hanging weight with the stronger loonie taking the top of the market. U.S. buyers are offering US\$4.75 or more with returns dependent on exchange rates, quality and export costs.

Grade A heifers sold up to C\$6. U.S. buyers are offering US\$4.50.

LAMBS STRONGER

Ontario Stockyards Inc. reported that 936 sheep and lambs and 83 goats sold Nov. 17. Good new crop lambs sold at a premium. Heavy lambs sold spotty at barely steady prices. Good lean sheep sold \$5-\$10 per cwt. higher while other were steady. Good goats were steady.

Beaver Hill Auction in Tofield, Alta., reported that 663 sheep and 96 goats sold Nov. 20.

Wool lambs lighter than 54 pounds were \$184-\$20 per cwt., 55-69 lb. were \$210-\$230, 70-85 lb. were \$194-\$220, 86-105 lb. were \$186-\$209 and 106 lb. and heavier were \$174-\$184.

Wool rams were \$100-\$129 per cwt. Cull ewes were \$75-\$179.

Hair lambs lighter than 54 lb. were \$150-\$190 per cwt., 55-69 lb. were \$173-\$220, 70-85 lb. were \$194-\$215, 86-105 lb. were \$170-\$196 and 106 lb. and heavier were \$165-\$178.

CANFAX REPORT

FED CATTLE RISE

The Canfax weighted steer average was \$149.96 per hundredweight, up \$2.50, and the heifer average was \$148.06, up \$1.40.

The fed market regained all that it lost the previous week, and in the process fed steer prices established new second half highs.

Fed prices have rallied 13.9 percent from the September lows, which is close but not all the way to the five-year average of 15 percent, so a little upside might be left in the market yet.

Feedlots were willing sellers because of stronger fed prices and basis level. The Alberta to Nebraska cash basis was -\$2.30 from -\$4.52 the previous week.

Sale volumes were light with most of the dressed sales reported at \$252 per cwt. delivered.

Packers were looking for cattle to be delivered in the two following weeks. Quick lift times are helping keep weights from getting too far out of hand.

Weekly western Canadian slaughter to Nov. 18 totalled 33,110 head, the smallest non-holiday slaughter since the first week in April. However, slaughter for the year is nine percent larger than last year and 18 percent larger than the five-year average.

Weekly fed cattle exports were strong at about 8,000 head.

Prices for delivery in January are stronger than in December and some feedlots might push sales into the new year.

In the United States, live sales in Colorado and Nebraska ranged from US\$120-\$120.50, while dressed sales were reported from \$188-\$190. Prices in the north were

steady with the previous week.

COWS LOWER

Large volumes of non-fed cattle overwhelmed demand, pressuring prices lower. D1, D2 cows ranged C\$78-\$92 to average \$84.50, down \$2.83. D3 cows ranged \$65-\$83 to average \$75.08.

Rail grade cows were \$163-\$168. Slaughter bulls were \$93.88, down \$2.68.

Western Canadian cow slaughter fell to 8,000 head, but it should be strong for the next two to three weeks. Cow prices have risen into December in eight of the past 10 years.

FEEDERS LOWER

Calf and feeder prices fell for the third week. Heavy steers were

under the most pressure.

Steer calves were mostly \$2-\$4 per cwt. lower, while heifers were down \$1-\$3.

The fall run is winding down and sales fell by 20,000 head.

Some feedlots are full while others still have ample space.

Ontario buyers are still active in the West.

The market's premium over last year's prices is narrowing. Calves were \$50-\$60 per cwt. higher than a year ago at the end of October, but the premium is now down to \$30.

Barley prices are well supported, which has added some caution to the market. Bred cattle volumes are starting to rise.

While calf prices are well above last year, the bred market has not risen due to ample supply and fairly tight feed supplies.

Bred cows were \$1,400-\$2,300

per head. Bred heifers were \$1,750-\$2,500.

US BEEF MIXED

U.S. Choice to Nov. 22 was down \$1.23 at US\$209.01 and Select was up 81 cents at \$188.64. Rib and loin products will become the focus of the market, and prices usually rise.

In Canada, the AAA cutout to Nov. 18 was C\$249.28, down 68 cents, and AA was \$240.64, down \$2.70.

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.

India's pea import duty best addressed by closer ties

There is justifiably much concern about India's sudden decision to impose a 50 percent import duty on peas, leaving Canadian farmers wondering what hit them. While the size of the duty — rather than the policy itself — was a surprise, this is how India works.

The government is using import duties available to it under World Trade Organization rules to bolster its push for self-sustainability in some agricultural products. Wheat, vegetable oil and soybeans are also being hit with higher duties, albeit not at the level as peas.

It's easy to see why this is a shock to Canadian exporters. Canada ships \$1 billion worth of pulses to India annually, and India is the largest market for Canada's pea exports. There is now fear that lentils may also be targeted for import duties.

India changes its policies to accommodate crop sizes — often determined by monsoon seasons — and to address its domestic politics. (The U.S. could do so as well, if President Donald Trump gets his way in the North American Free Trade Agreement talks.)

Canada also faces fumigation fees for pulses that result in higher costs, which looks suspiciously like a trade impediment since the pest in question doesn't exist here.

Canadian yellow pea prices have dropped 25 percent since India's announcement, and several shipments were already en route, so they could be subject to the new duty.

There have been calls for Canadian officials to howl from the hilltops to broadcast their wrath to India, but screeching voices won't carry the day. Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale, who is from Saskatchewan, said Canada is raising the issue "aggressively" with India, and he expects Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to do so as well.

Canada and India have been working on a trade agreement since 2010. The Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, presumably, would help to address this kind of thing in the future. There is a fair

amount of communication in trade between India and Canada. Agriculture Minister Lawrence MacAulay was in India earlier this year, and three senior ministers visited just after the import duty on peas was announced.

India produced a record pea crop last crop year, and this year's production is expected to be similar. With such abundance, prices were falling below the minimum support price for farmers, hence the import duty to keep Canadian peas out of the Indian market.

It's short-term thinking. From 2013-15, the value of pea exports to India increased 40 percent to \$547 million, in part because pulses are becoming more popular with Canadian farmers, and India faced difficult monsoon seasons that damaged crops.

Now it looks like Canadian farmers will plant 30 percent fewer acres of peas next year. Those acres will likely go into other crops, leading potentially to oversupply that will hurt Canadian farm incomes.

If India's monsoon disappoints next summer, hurting crop yields, it won't be able to turn to Canada to top up its supply. Prices of the staple food will rise, hurting the poor.

The market will eventually play a role in addressing India's behaviour.

Regardless, it is a challenge to trade with a country that acts in such a mercurial manner, but the opportunity presented by trade with India is too tempting to ignore. India's economy is growing so fast, about 7.2 percent this year, that Canadian farmers saw an opportunity to meet the growing demand for pulses.

Canadian officials can howl about import duties if they want, but deepening our relationship with India — especially through a trade agreement — will have the better outcome.

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



SALTY SOIL

If you do anything to manage your soil salinity, you have to think about your water table. And if you're managing your water table, you're managing your salinity.

MARLA RIEKMAN

MANITOBA AGRICULTURE'S AG RESOURCE BRANCH, PAGE 23

Life without NAFTA? Canada, U.S. ag sectors brace for worst

CAPITAL LETTERS



KELSEY JOHNSON

Is it time to start preparing for a post-NAFTA world?

Canadian, American and Mexican negotiators gathered in Mexico City for a fifth round of North American Free Trade Agreement talks earlier this month. They met without their political counterparts — a scenario observers had hoped would help depoliticize the ongoing negotiations, allowing for some substantive progress.

Instead, the stalemate — and its resulting trade uncertainty — continues.

The Americans continue to dig in their heels, staunchly defending their numerous non-starter asks.

They're demands that Canada and Mexico will never agree to in areas including dairy, dispute resolution, government procurement, rules of origin for automobiles and a five-year sunset clause on the entire trade deal.

Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland used a news conference in Ottawa to repeat Canada's insistence that any renegotiation of NAFTA must be fact-based.

"I think it's important for us to be approaching these negotiations in the spirit of goodwill, a spirit of seeking win/win solutions and compromises and that is what we are doing," Freeland told reporters.

"Having said that, I think our approach is to hope for the best and prepare for the worst, and Canada certainly is prepared for every eventuality."

Every eventuality — including a U.S. withdrawal from NAFTA. It's an outcome several provincial ministers, including Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart, have warned is a real possibility.

What Ottawa's preparations look

like remains anyone's guess.

International Trade Minister Francois Philippe Champagne has said his mission is to diversify Canada's trade portfolio and broaden its market access.

However, in an increasingly protectionist world, that's easier said than done.

International trade rules prohibit countries from signing sector-specific trade agreements — forcing nations to negotiate overarching trade agreements that usually take several years to complete.

Longstanding trade issues and spats over such things as regulatory compliance show no signs of resolution, while others are escalating.

For example, a three-minister trade trip to India in mid-November failed to secure an extended fumigation exemption for Canadian pulses.

A surprise 50 percent tariff on pea imports, a major Canadian export to the region, also remains in place.

Ottawa has floated the idea of negotiating a bilateral trade agreement with India.

Still, a U.S. withdrawal from NAFTA would deliver a severe economic punch — one that will shock the North American economy regardless of how many alternative trade deals are signed.

Even the Americans are reportedly preparing for a possible NAFTA doomsday.

Earlier this month, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue told Politico he and his staff at the U.S. Department of Agriculture are working on a contingency plan for farmers and ranchers should U.S. President Donald Trump's administration pull the plug on NAFTA. He later pulled back his comments, saying he misspoke.

Whether he misspoke, or simply let the cat out of the bag too early, is unclear.

Perdue, a staunch supporter of free trade, is acutely aware of the economic blow a NAFTA withdrawal would deal to the agriculture sector.

Remember, he was the cabinet member who managed to walk back Trump from the NAFTA with-

drawal cliff the first time.

At least 80 U.S. farm groups have publicly warned that the slightest sniff of a NAFTA withdrawal will send commodity markets crashing. In a letter to U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, they said a NAFTA withdrawal would cost the American agriculture and agri-food industry 50,000 jobs and deliver a \$13 billion hit in gross domestic product for the farm sector alone.

North of the border, Agriculture Minister Lawrence MacAulay won't say whether Ottawa is working on a contingency plan that's agriculture-specific.

Meanwhile, Agriculture Canada insists Ottawa remains focused on ensuring NAFTA is successfully renegotiated. The department would not say whether a post-NAFTA contingency plan for Canadian farmers, ranchers and processors is in the works.

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

& OPEN FORUM

Feds' daft tax plan shows people power

BY DAN KELLY

You can't blame business owners for feeling like they're being bombarded by government.

Increased employment insurance premiums, new environmental levies, minimum wage hikes: announcements about new taxes and regulations became a common occurrence in 2017.

But perhaps the most significant tax announcement of the year, maybe the most significant in decades came this summer, when Finance Minister Bill Morneau introduced a series of proposals that would dramatically change the way small businesses in Canada are taxed.

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business began consulting tax professionals and what we learned was alarming.

The proposals if implemented would have restricted small business owners from sharing income with family members, hiked taxes on some investments, and would have made it more difficult for entrepreneurial families to transfer their businesses to their sons and daughters.

And, contrary to the government messaging (which seemed to characterize small business owners as fat-cat tax cheats), we learned that these changes would have hurt the vast majority of middle-income business owners including those who earn as little as \$50,000 in annual income.

The CFIB also helped organize opposition, and played a role in forming a coalition of more than 75 business groups representing



The uproar against the federal government's tax proposals shows small businesses have a powerful voice and need to keep pushing for change. | FILE PHOTO

hundreds of thousands of small businesses with one unified message: take these proposals off the table and, instead, work with the business community to address any shortcomings in tax policy affecting private corporations.

The outcry by individual businesses was incredible. Business owners took direct action, including reaching out to their MPs, setting up special websites, expressing their outrage on social media and packing local meeting halls.

Following a hurried 75-day consultation period, the government retreated, at least partially.

They reinstated a 2015 election promise to reduce the small business corporate tax rate to nine percent.

The government also made some

important changes to their original proposals. Most notably, they dropped provisions to limit the use of capital gains in business succession. It also said they will allow small businesses up to \$50,000 in annual income from passive investments (the equivalent of a five per cent return on a \$1 million investment) and clarified rules around sharing income with family members.

Are the changes enough? The short answer is no.

While the government has backed away from its original bluster, these are still new tax measures which will likely make it more difficult for business owners to grow their businesses, innovate and create jobs.

Specifically, the \$50,000 threshold for passive investment is still

very low: barring any further concessions, larger passive investments will be largely taxed away, denying a growing farm the resources it needs to expand or to buy that new piece of equipment needed to improve its productivity.

Also, the current provisions around sharing business income among family members are still worrisome, especially for farmers who traditionally employ family members.

If the provision is passed, it will be up to the Canada Revenue Agency to determine if the spouse or adult children made a "meaningful" contribution to the business. This is the same agency that recently ruled a dishwasher's 50 per cent off a pizza lunch following a shift should become a taxable benefit.

We are still fighting for the government to release an impact assessment on all remaining tax changes and to allow for an additional period of consultation.

What this tax fight has demonstrated is that there is a growing sense on the part of entrepreneurs that governments don't understand them or appreciate their contributions.

This is significant.

The tax fight was also evidence that there is strength in numbers. A unified opposition and strong push back were able to gain significant changes to the original unfair tax proposals.

Dan Kelly is president and chief executive officer of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.

Purchasing has power

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK



MICHAEL RAINE
MANAGING EDITOR

HANOVER, Germany — When most of us think about buying new machinery, the high cost of acquiring it quickly comes to mind. Often forgotten is the high cost of not buying it.

The world's largest farm show was held recently in Germany. Technology drips out of every pore in this event's 80-acre skin. The 1,600 exhibitors from around the globe are more than ever offering a great deal of technology in the equipment they are marketing.

Major shifts in technology don't just happen overnight. There are many steps along the way, and when the market doesn't take them up, the development has a way of slowing.

Those are called market signals. Gaining market share in agriculture is important because those sales translate into research dollars, which in turn the companies use to invest in more technology, which is then consumed by the public generating more sales and more research dollars, and the cycle repeats. It means success for the companies and ultimately for farmers.

The problem is that machinery research budgets might start to run leaner if market signals are not being sent through sales.

The technologies being developed now are on the fast track to delivering additional productivity, which sometimes improves margins. But spending in many parts of the world has been on hold because many producers had a good run of prices and yields before 2015.

Their sheds are full of newer machinery so producer motivation to upgrade, from a tax or from a standpoint of being able to more efficiently farm, might not be there.

The problem comes in not rolling it over. Farmers in the U.S. corn and bean game are hurting with negative margins or at the very least break-even numbers.

Like producers in other farming sectors, they too have newer lines of machinery but just can't see their way clear to investing right now.

However, farmers will need to buy if the research and development cycle is going to roll on in publicly traded machinery companies. They will need to do so, even if some of what is available today is only partway down the path to super-productive technologies.

Remember, you can always roll it over again in a few years when the really good stuff comes out.

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Consumers are receiving mixed messages

HURSH ON AG



KEVIN HURSH

Consumer engagement and education has become an agricultural growth industry, but as the famous adage goes, "we have met the enemy and he is us."

Public trust, or more accurately the lack of public trust, is now recognized as one of the biggest threats facing agriculture. We all know the story. Fewer and fewer consumers have any real contact with agriculture so they're vulnerable to those who oppose modern farming practices.

Surveys rank farmers at or near the top of the list of those most trusted by the general public, so who better to take the "correct" message to consumers.

Farm and Food Care organizations do a tremendous amount of work. So does Agriculture in the Classroom. Farm Credit Canada has had great success with enlisting industry partners in its Ag More Than Ever campaign. At industry-government roundtables, public trust is now regularly on the agenda.

Farmers, by most counts, are only two or three percent of the general population, but if we all take to social media, open our farms to public tours and keep our noses clean, collectively we'll be able to manage this public trust challenge, right?

The approach has a great deal of merit, but as a farming community we're not all on the same page. Actions speak louder than words and dissenting actions are visible in the plethora of ways in which food is being promoted.

Products are often being labelled non-genetically modified even when the ingredients clearly contain no GM crops. Why do we need a non-GM label on wheat or oat based breakfast cereal when there is no GM wheat or oats?

Labels proclaiming meat to be hormone and antibiotic free promote sales. Consumers assume a health or quality benefit when none exists. In the case of A&W, rather than filling a consumer demand, the company has helped create an unreasonable distrust among consumers to drive its sales.

I cringe every time I see an A&W commercial and I wish consumers knew that a lot of their highly touted beef isn't even Canadian.

Most consumers can't explain the difference between all-natural, organic and sustainably produced, but they're pretty sure those labels somehow make a food healthier. At least certified organic food has an actual rule book that producers need to follow.

Many producers complying with the various protocols actually believe in the superiority of their products, but some do it for purely economic reasons.

On one hand, you can argue that production with different protocols is just filling a demand. Providing what the consumer wants is good business. Live and let live;

there's room in the marketplace for everyone.

Unfortunately, every non-GM label makes consumers believe that GMOs must be bad. Every claim for meat that's hormone and antibiotic free has consumers certain that other meat must be laced with scary-sounding chemicals.

Every sale of organic, all-natural or free range product casts aspersions on regular practices. Organic used to be a relatively small niche. Now it's mainstream. You can scarcely avoid it at major supermarkets or at high-end restaurants.

Don't get me wrong. All the people working hard to educate consumers and build public trust should be applauded for their valuable work. However, it's an uphill battle because farmers are not all on the same page. And we're certainly losing ground in the retail and restaurant industry, which has a much more direct link to consumers than we do as farmers.

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

EU sticks with glyphosate

BRUSSELS, Belgium (Reuters) — Germany defeated its key European Union ally France in a very tight vote Nov. 27 to clear the use of glyphosate for the next five years after a heated debate over whether it causes cancer.

After months of indecisive votes among the 28 member states in Brussels, Germany, where Chancellor Angela Merkel has yet to form a new coalition after a September election, came off the fence after abstaining in previous meetings. It said it backed a European Commission proposal against the wishes of France.

French President Emmanuel Macron, who was elected in May on a platform of pursuing deeper EU integration alongside Germany, had wanted a shorter extension and a rapid phasing out of the product, which is a mainstay of farming across the continent.

The commission, which is the EU's executive arm, said in a statement that 18 countries had backed its proposal to renew the chemical's licence, with nine against and one abstaining — a "positive opinion" by the narrowest of possible margins under rules requiring more than a simple majority.

Europe has been wrestling for the past two years over what to do with the chemical, a key ingredient in Monsanto's top-selling Roundup, whose licence was set to expire Dec. 15.

Farmers have used the chemical for more than 40 years, but its safety was cast in doubt when the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer concluded in 2015 that it probably causes cancer.

The EU agreed to roll over the licence for 18 months pending the results of a study by the European Chemicals Agency, which said in March this year that there was no evidence linking glyphosate to cancer in humans.

However, protest groups seized on the IARC report, questioned the science in other studies and complained about the influence of big business.

"The people who are supposed to protect us from dangerous pesticides have failed to do their jobs and betrayed the trust Europeans place in them," Greenpeace said after the Nov. 27 vote.

In theory, the commission could have pushed through a licence extension, but it said it wanted governments to make the call on an issue that has become so politically charged. After a series of indecisive votes, they finally produced a clear majority in favour of the commission's proposal.

"Today's vote shows that when we all want to, we are able to share and accept our collective responsibility in decision making," said Health and Food Safety Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis.

The farmers association Copa-Cogeca said it was glad a decision had been taken, but regretted the licence renewal had not been for 15 years, given strong scientific evidence of EU agencies.

The key swing vote came from Germany, whose government is still operating in an acting capacity following an indecisive September election. Berlin abstained earlier but threw its weight behind a decision opposed by France.

Poland, Bulgaria and Romania all did likewise, leaving only Portugal

still on the fence Nov. 27. Had any of the others continued to abstain, the deadlock would have continued. An extension required 16 states representing 65 percent of the EU population to vote in favour. The 18 supporters account for 65.7 percent.

The German vote exposed internal divisions in Berlin, where Merkel is preparing for talks this week on renewing a coalition with the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD). Environment Minister Barbara Hendricks from the SPD accused the chancellor's centre-right group of renegeing on a deal to continue abstaining.

French Agriculture Minister Stephane Travert told reporters that Paris would push to change farming practices that embraced alternatives to glyphosate so that its use could be ended.

OPEN FORUM

PIPELINES NEEDED

To the Editor:

Canada should run an appraisal on its unlimited natural resources with the inclusion of prime agricultural, food-producing land.

Canada's northern region, with thousands of square miles, possesses only a non-economic, surface covered with moss. Beneath its surface exists one of the world's richest undeveloped mineral and energy fields in the world.

Financial reports by the Fraser Institute detail financial debt and reckless spending by the various forms of government. In addition, the cancellation of pipeline transportation and sea-port infrastructure has added to high taxation and deep national debt. In consid-

eration of Canada's surplus minerals and energy, every form of production requires an upgrade in management at higher levels - especially Canada's federal government, with natural resource development neglect. Canada could be a country in acceptable financial condition, free from debt, with reasonable taxation.

We must consider trillions of dollars of Canada's undeveloped northern wealth and relate it to Canada's combined debts.

Thoughts must return to 1974, whereby the Mackenzie Valley pipeline, a corridor to the north, was cancelled. Today, after 43 years of delay, the northern gateway corridor is again being discussed.

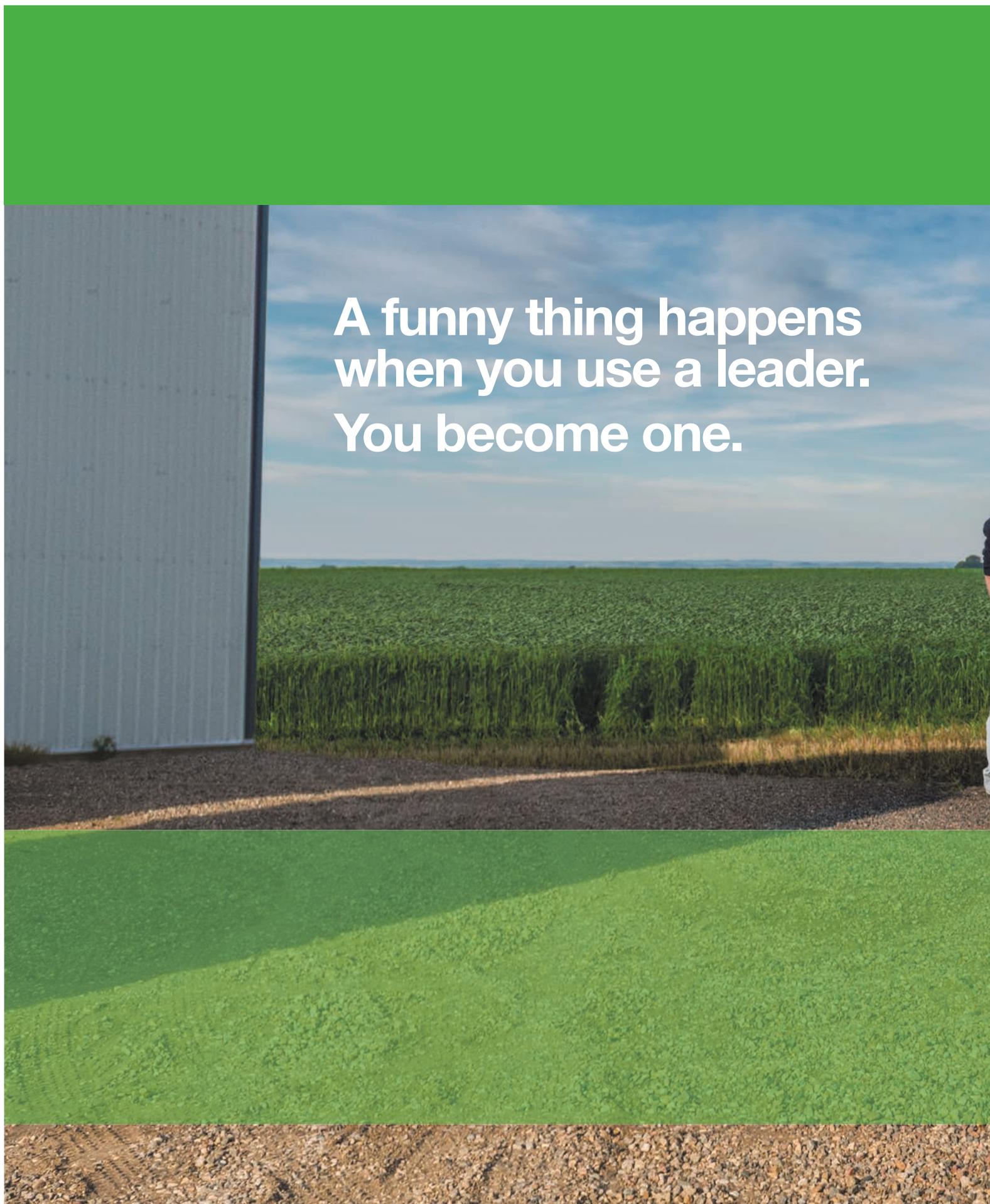
Canada has a distinct advantage to access the Asia Pacific markets

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involving populated density of countries like China and India. If delivery and port loading facilities were available, major benefits would follow. It must always be remembered, Canada has the third largest energy field in the world next to Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. Unnecessary delays in future Canadian energy development should be forbidden.

Please inform your MP.

John Seierstad
Tisdale, Sask.



DWARFED BY BIG GIANTS



Parked combines look small with big bins in the back at a farm near Chamberlain, Sask.

| MICKEY WATKINS PHOTO

Imidacloprid decision expected Dec. 2018

BY ROBERT ARNASON

BRANDON BUREAU

Health Canada proposed last November to ban imidacloprid, an insecticide applied to fruit, vegetables, potatoes and many other crops across the country.

Twelve months have passed since the announcement, but Canadian farmers who use the insecticide will have to wait another year to know if it's banned or not.

"Health Canada is reviewing an extensive amount of data and information, including recently submitted water monitoring data," a Health Canada spokesperson said.

"Once this information is reviewed, the proposed decisions will be subject to a public consultation period and final decisions are anticipated by December 2018."

Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency has proposed phasing out agricultural and outdoor uses of imidacloprid over three to five years. The PMRA said the phase-out is necessary because the insecticide was accumulating in water near agricultural land.

The concentrations in water were reportedly putting aquatic insects at risk and threatening animals that rely on those insects for food.

The mode of action of imidacloprid is similar to two other neonicotinoids: clothianidin and thiamethoxam. Those products are used as a seed treatment on nearly every canola and corn crop grown in North America and a portion of the soy crop.

PMRA scientists are also reviewing those insecticides to determine if they threaten aquatic life.

A number of agricultural groups have said banning imidacloprid is an extreme response because other policies could limit the use of the insecticide and reduce the threat to aquatic insects.

Many growers depend on the Bayer product for insect control. Fruit, vegetable and potato producers are the main users of imidacloprid, but prairie growers use it on wheat crops to control wireworm.

The PMRA is going slow with its decision on imidacloprid, which gives scientists time to publish new research on the insecticide.

In November, toxicologists at the University of Saskatchewan released a paper on imidacloprid and songbirds in *Scientific Reports*.

The scientists fed canola seed coated with imidacloprid to white-crowned sparrows. They observed detrimental effects in birds that consumed only four canola seeds.

"These chemicals are having a strong impact on songbirds," said Margaret Eng, a post-doctoral researcher who led the U of S study.

"We are seeing significant weight loss and the birds' migratory orientation being significantly altered."

The toxicologists said exposure to imidacloprid could compromise the health of songbirds and their ability to reproduce.

A spokesperson for Bayer said the study is misleading because it doesn't represent real world conditions for white-crowned sparrows.

"The repellent properties of the (insecticide) seed treatment would normally deter birds from ingesting whole canola seeds treated with imidacloprid," said Paul Thiel, vice-president of product development and regulatory science for the crop science division of Bayer in Canada.

"Previous studies of caged birds indicated a lack of interest in imidacloprid treated seed if other food sources were available."

Thiel said imidacloprid is rarely used as a seed treatment for canola, reducing the chance of birds eating such seeds.

A Health Canada spokesperson said PMRA scientists are considering the U of S study.

"It is too early to tell what impact it may have on the final decision."

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Livestock producers are urged to test feed for toxins and mould that can cause cattle to lose weight and lead to reduced milk production. | FILE PHOTO

Mycotoxin testing urged despite dry year on Prairies

Areas that harvested high-moisture grain and forages could contain DON

BY SEAN PRATT
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Farmers should be testing their grains and forages for mycotoxins before feeding them to livestock, says an animal nutrition company. Canadian harvest samples submitted for Alltech's 2017 analysis

show that grains and forages contained mixtures of mycotoxins such as deoxynivalenol (DON), zearalenone (ZEA) and T-2/HT-2. "On average there was higher levels of DON than previous years," said Alexandra Weaver, Alltech's mycotoxin management technical specialist.

That finding surprises Daryl Beswitherick, program manager of quality assurance standards with the Canadian Grain Commission.

"Wow. That's not what we have seen this year," he said.

The commission doesn't test for mycotoxins in its harvest sample program, but it does monitor grain shipments.

"We haven't heard any concerns about mycotoxins at this point. Fusarium is non-existent on the Prairies," said Beswitherick.

"I would be surprised if there are any levels of DON."

Ochratoxin A (OTA) can develop in the bin, but again he doubts that will be a problem.

"With this year's crop being as dry as it was when it was harvested, that lowers the likelihood of having OTA in this year's crop," said Beswitherick.

Weaver acknowledged that most of the samples Alltech has analyzed come from an Ontario lab, and it was a wet growing season in that province.

However, it has also looked at samples from the prairie region and some mycotoxins are appearing. For instance, recent barley samples from Alberta and Manitoba contained average DON levels of slightly more than one part per million.

Weaver said Saskatchewan had lower than average DON levels in grains but higher than average in forages, while Manitoba was the reverse.

She said there are pockets of clean grain and then some areas where it is highly contaminated, which is why growers should have their grain tested.

Alltech offers tests that range from a simple US\$10 on-farm test for one specific type of mycotoxin to a sophisticated \$250 lab test for 40 mycotoxins.

Feeding DON-contaminated feedstuffs to cattle can lower dry matter intake, change rumen function and gut health and lead to reduced milk production.

Alltech encourages growers to be proactive rather than reactive when it comes to managing mycotoxins. Proper storage of feed, especially silage, reduces the risk of further mycotoxins developing.

"Although they can't really do anything with what they already have from the field, if they can prevent further moulds and mycotoxins, that's really helpful," said Weaver.

Alltech Canada is hosting two webinars Dec. 6 to discuss its 2017 harvest results.

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'It was a panic situation,' says rancher of B.C. fires

Communities are still rebuilding from the ashes after wildfires tore through the province this summer

BY JEREMY SIMES
EDMONTON BUREAU

The wildfires that rocked British Columbia earlier this summer were still in the minds of ranchers who attended Farmfair earlier this month.

Even though they consider themselves among the luckier ones, they recall it being a fight they won't ever forget.

"It was pretty scary," Rob Swaan of Pinnacle View Limousin said in an interview during the Edmonton farm show Nov. 10.

Swaan lives near Quesnel, B.C., where lightning strikes sparked 19 fires that merged into one massive blaze in July. It was roughly 4,674 sq. kilometres, the largest wildfire in B.C. history.

Though the fires came close to his ranch, Swaan didn't lose any cattle or structures. He did, however, help some of his neighbours who were in a worse situation.

"That night a bit of wind was moving fast and different directions," he recalled. "It's not a panic situation, but you try to get prepared the best you can."

Erin Kishkan, who's also with Pinnacle View Limousin, said she and her father prepared for the blaze.

She said when they first learned of the fire on the news, they rushed to the store and bought two pumps and as many fire hoses as they could.

"We had to be fully prepared because it was seven or eight kilometres away," she said.

"It was basically a fire storm and it was a panic situation."

She said they moved their cattle to an area that was safer for them and opened the gates in case they had to flee.

As well, they turned on their irrigation system to soak everything.

"We were very blessed to be where we were," she said. "We actually thought we were safe, but the fire was so aggressive that it was jumping the Fraser River and Highway 97."

"That couple of days was absolute chaos. People were running everywhere. Fortunately for us, we were only on evacuation alert. We were never ordered to leave, but we were prepared to stay because this is our livelihood."

Others weren't so lucky.

There are no official numbers on how many cattle died, but it's estimated that hundreds of the 35,000 head in the fire-affected regions were scorched.

"We pretty much prepared ourselves to help anyone who needed it," Kishkan said.

Communities are still rebuilding from the ashes, and funding through AgriRecovery is helping

ranchers with feed costs for breeding livestock and compensation for dead stock.

As well, funding is being applied to help with labour costs for rebuilding fences, for preconditioned calves in poor condition that wandered, vet bills and the replacement of infrastructure.

Swaan commended the efforts of neighbours, community volunteers and firefighters.

"It's one of those things you can

deal with and they've been improving in their reaction to fires because there has been so many," he said.

Kishkan echoed that.

"There were losses and maybe there were decisions made that resulted in losses, but overall there was so much saved," she said. "I cannot thank those firefighters and those people who didn't sleep for a week for so much of their help."

jeremy.simes@producer.com



That couple of days was absolute chaos. People were running everywhere. Fortunately for us, we were only on evacuation alert.

ERIN KISHKAN, PINNACLE VIEW LIMOUSIN

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4,674
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Grain sellers enjoying easy export sales pitch

Ninety-five percent of Canada Western Red Spring wheat is grading No. 1 this year, compared to only 50 percent last year

BY ED WHITE
WINNIPEG BUREAU

Canada's international wheat marketers are enjoying making their sales calls this year.

"It's a much better story that we're telling customers," said Cam Dahl, Cereals Canada president, after arriving at an airport in South Korea.

"This year is really one of the best crops from a quality perspective that I have ever seen."

As usual for this time of year, Canadian grain industry representatives, including farmers, are fanning out across the globe to update Canada's customers on the qualities and quantities of the 2017 crop.

Kevin Auch, a Carmangay, Alta., farmer who is chair of the Alberta Wheat Commission, said he enjoyed filling people in on this year's crop compared to the damaged 2016 crop that couldn't meet some clients' needs.

"We're really happy with the uptake," said Auch, as he waited at the Lima, Peru, airport for a flight to Colombia.

"We can assure them what they're looking for we can provide."

This year, 95 percent of Canada Western Red Spring wheat is grading No. 1 or No. 2. Last year, only about 50 percent of it graded that high.

Durum this year is about 75 percent No. 1 while last year only nine



A high-quality crop this year is making it easy for Canadian grain marketers to make deals abroad. | FILE PHOTO

percent hit the top grade.

In fact, the biggest challenge this year might be finding Canadian grain for buyers who want lower qualities.

"One was asking for lower quality than what we have," said Auch, who has also visited Chile on this trip.

In South America, Canadian high quality grain is often used to blend-up lower quality domestic grain or cheap imported grain.

In Asia, most buyers in Japan and South Korea want top quality grain to produce top quality products.

Dahl noted that Asian buyers are

Pesticide residues do come up. That's something we need to pay attention to.

CAM DAHL
CEREALS CANADA PRESIDENT

becoming increasingly concerned about possible pesticide residues on grain, so growers must ensure they're not doing anything to jeopardize Canada's reputation.

"Pesticide residues do come up," said Dahl. "That's something we

need to pay attention to."

Glyphosate has become a particular concern for buyers, not because of problems with too-high residues, but because of growing consumer concerns about the chemical.

Buyers also bring up concerns about ochratoxin A, deoxynivalenol (DON), and general pesticide residues.

Canada is not having a particular problem with these crop quality concerns, but is noting the heightened concern from buyers, Dahl said.

Being able to go out to customers overseas with a high quality, relatively abundant crop is a relief to the fears that Dahl and many others expected while crops in some parts of Saskatchewan and Alberta were being scorched by drought this summer.

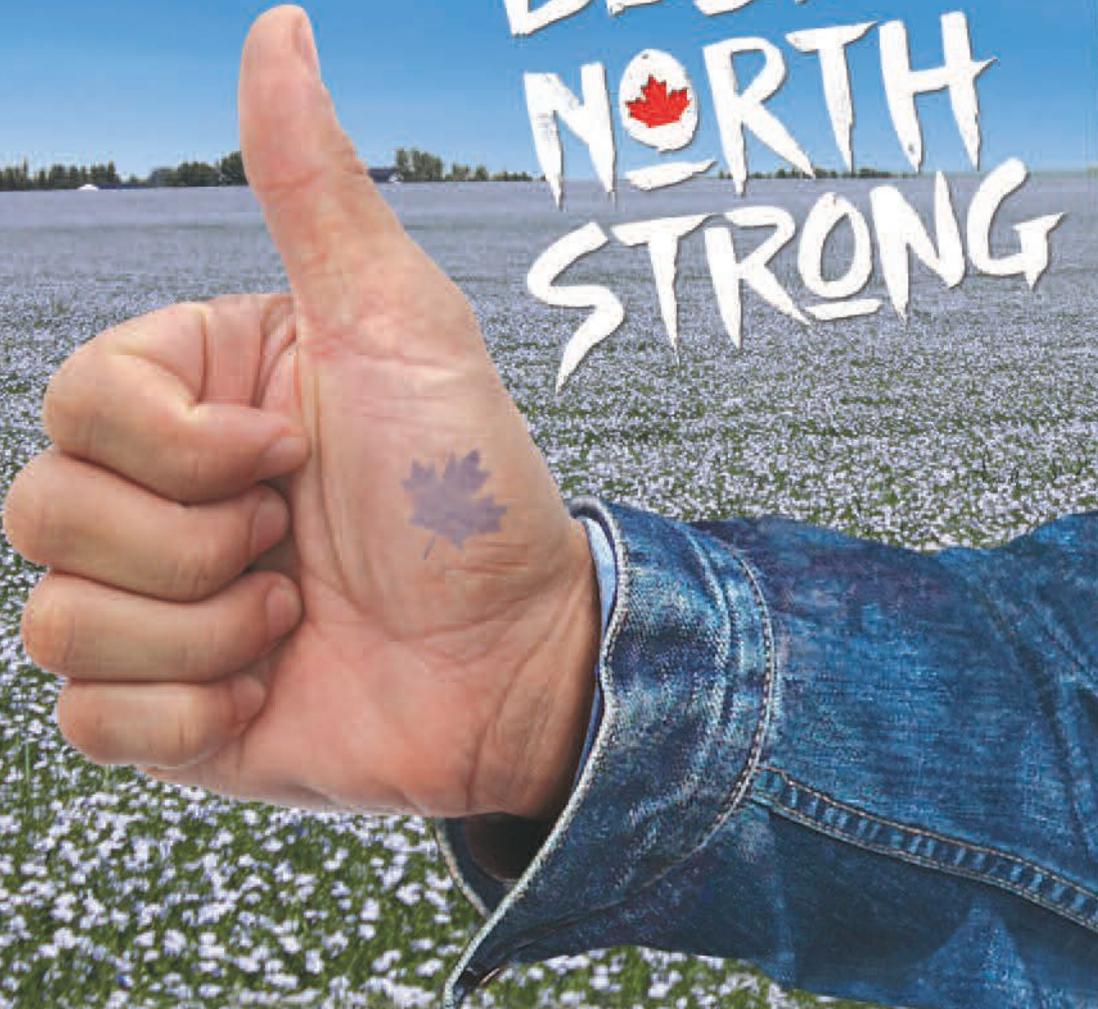
"If you go back 20, 30 years, if we would have had the same level of drought there would have been no crop," said Dahl.

"That's a testament to modern agriculture."

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PUBLIC SPEAKING CHAMPION

Lois Schultz went from a provincial to a national public speaking contest winner. Her latest accolade came during the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. | **Page 18**



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Alberta community builds a legacy

The hall that almost never got built is now a jewel of the Peace region

BY JEREMY SIMES
EDMONTON BUREAU

DEMMITT, Alta. — The Demmitt community is breathing easier these days after years of tension, persistence and sweat.

It's been two years since they built the grandiose Demmitt Hall, an energy efficient, straw walled and timber-framed community centre in one of the Peace Region's most secluded areas.

It's a project some believed would never get built. They thought it was too big for their little community, too outside-the-box and too isolated to bring in enough people from larger towns and cities.

However, there were others like Peter von Tiesenhausen who believed in the hall project.

"This has been one of my wildest dreams," he said, sitting beside the hall's crackling fire during a snowy November afternoon.

"I feel like I can sit back and say, 'OK, we're OK.'"

The idea to build the hall was spurred some 10 years ago when the community debated demolishing the aging and usually vacant Quonset hut built 30 years earlier.

"Everything was collapsing. The building was done and almost all of our members left," he said.

"You couldn't rent the hall for \$100."

Members decided it was best to shutter the old space, but von Tiesenhausen realized he needed to increase the membership to convince people a larger space was needed.

That's where Lance Cornock, the current board chair of the Demmitt Cultural Society, came into the picture. Von Tiesenhausen recruited him to work the sound systems for Demmitt's new open stage nights, the initiative he had hoped would draw in crowds.

"We needed a way to bring in membership," he said.

"There's only 30 or 40 people living in this valley in a four-mile radius, so we needed the help of (Cornock) and other members to spread the word and bring people here."

Within one year of launching open stage night, the cultural society had about 200 members. People were coming mainly from nearby Beaverlodge, Alta., but some came from other communities in the province and nearby British Columbia.

"People really wanted a place to go out to," Cornock said. "They wanted live music."

Now all the cultural society needed was cash, donations and



Lance Cornock stands inside the new community hall in Demmitt, Alta. He says the building, valued at \$1 million more than it cost to build, is the culmination of private and public fundraising efforts and volunteer labour. | JEREMY SIMES PHOTOS

But people wouldn't come here for weddings and events if this was just a box. It all ties together in that this is a welcoming place for people to come together.

LANCE CORNOCK, DEMMITT CULTURAL SOCIETY

volunteers to get their new community hall off the ground.

Von Tiesenhausen said there was a lot of misinformation during construction.

"People would come here during construction and ask where our straw bale walls were, but they didn't realize we were going to

cover them, so you can only imagine what people were thinking if they just thought this would be built out of straw."

They got \$735,000 in funding from all levels of government, \$300,000 cash from corporations and private donors, lumber from the pine trees affected by the pine

beetle, a donated crane and countless hours of labour from volunteers.

The building is valued at \$2.5 million and was built for \$1.3 million, von Tiesenhausen said.

"That really shows how much volunteer work we got."

As well, the building has been turning a profit for each year since it opened. Money to support the hall comes from weddings, which occur at least once a week during the summer, as well as private functions such as yoga sessions and pizza nights.

"Our costs are pretty low for a space this size," Cornock said, noting that the hall is equipped with compostable toilets and solar panels.

"But people wouldn't come here for weddings and events if this was just a box. It all ties together in that this is a welcoming place for people to come together."

He said the building will serve generations to come.

"It's a legacy," he said. "We built it to last and we're here to stay. Now let's continue to build community."

jeremy.simes@producer.com

Three generations going strong in Peace region

Grandfather sees grandson carry on farming tradition

BY JEREMY SIMES
EDMONTON BUREAU

RYCROFT, Alta. — Keegan Milkovich said he tries not to take what he has today for granted because he realizes his grandpa had it tough in the farm's early days.

"People say you worked hard, but you really didn't because all you did was put a lot of hours in. There are so many stories where people actually worked hard, like Grandpa, so you really do have an appreciation."

Keegan's mother, Colleen, said younger ones don't realize how tough the older ones had it.

"They know it was hard but, when they hear the personal stories, that's when they really understand what life was really like," she said.

At the Milkovich home at Rycroft, Alta., three generations of farmers sit around the dinner table and discuss how life on their land has changed drastically since 1923.

That's when Nick, now 94, was born. He grew up remembering the Peace region as a place with lots of bush and countless rocks that he had to clear.

"We dug roots and, in those days, at 12, you had to work," he said.

"There were no tractors to work the field. We had horses and oats was the source of energy, not gas."

Nick's son, Nicholas, remembers a similar experience. When his parents bought the land he now farms, they also had him digging out roots at a young age.

"It was good because we all had to work," Nicholas said. "We picked roots after school and on weekends, helped with the chores and that was life."

Nick's wife, Anne, would likely be doing the laundry by hand, milking the cows, feeding or butchering the chickens, watching over her garden and later preparing dinner for the family while the men were out



Nicholas, left, Colleen, Keegan, Nick and Anne Milkovich represent three generations on their farm near Rycroft, Alta. | JEREMY SIMES PHOTO

harvesting on the field.

"Nothing was bought," Anne said. "We lived off the land and everyone made bread, but I enjoyed it."

The family didn't get electricity until 1955, and Nick got his first tractor about 10 years earlier. The John Deere Model D still sits in their yard.

If he wants to move somewhere or grow his trucking company, that's fine. The land will never be sold and there's always someone looking to rent.

COLLEEN MILKOVICH
ALBERTA FARMER

"(Nick) would fall asleep out there," said Colleen.

"He would have to be on the wagon. It's life, and the young ones sometimes don't realize how tough it was in the olden days. It's really amazing. Things had to get done."

As time went on, the family would

try to keep up to date on equipment without breaking the budget.

"I was always afraid of debt, so I stayed out of it," Nick said.

For the most part, lots of work was done by hand such as shovelling grain into a wagon. Horses would help haul lumber from the nearby valley to build granaries.

With help from Nick, Nicholas would eventually begin farming his own land in 1970 after his grandfather bought him a quarter section.

He would then acquire more land in 1977, farming cereals, peas, lentils, flax and clover while also working in the oil patch to pay the bills.

Nicholas and Colleen raised three children: Keegan and twins Whitney and Rebecca. Colleen handled much of the house work, while Nicholas worked mainly outside.

Nicholas used the newer combines and equipment that Nick still feels somewhat wary of using today.

"Going from what they had in the

ON THE FARM



THE MILKOVICH FAMILY
Rycroft, Alta.

'30s and '40s to what we have now was intimidating," Colleen said.

"(Nick) just isn't comfortable with all the buttons and lights and is still fine with that old and dusty one."

In 1995, Nicholas and Colleen took over Nick and Anne's farm.

Keegan, now 26, has his own small farm nearby. Nick bought him that land a few years ago. It's become a tradition in the family, where the grandfathers buy land for a grandson.

The generations help each other

out by sharing equipment and investing in one another.

"It all just works," said Keegan, who also operates a trucking business. "Nobody nickels and dimes."

The family has now begun talking about succession planning, with Keegan hoping to take over his parents' farm one day.

"It's his choice and we told him from the get-go that he doesn't need to feel like he always has to be here," Colleen said.

"If he wants to move somewhere or grow his trucking company, that's fine. The land will never be sold and there's always someone looking to rent."

His sisters are also welcome to move up, but have careers off farm. Whitney works as a dental hygienist while Rebecca is an optometrist.

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Speaker credits 4-H for award-winning delivery technique

Lois Schultz suggested using well-known public figures to join the campaign against global food waste



Lois Schultz won the 2017 Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture competition in Toronto. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

BY KAREN MORRISON
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Lois Schultz wants people to focus more on feeding the hungry rather than obsessing about food choices in the grocery store.

She made food waste, its global impact and creating change the topic for her winning speech in the senior event at the 2017 Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture competition in Toronto this month.

Schultz launched her speech by reporting that one-third of food produced globally is wasted.

"It's a bit of a shocker. I want to get people to pay attention."

In France, supermarkets are not allowed to throw out waste food, she said, noting that unspoiled or excess products can then be donated to

soup kitchens and food banks.

She suggested using influential well-known and respected figures such as Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield to share the food waste message and help create change.

It hurts me to see consumers being really picky about food when so many people don't have any.

LOIS SCHULTZ
CANADIAN YOUNG SPEAKERS
FOR AGRICULTURE WINNER

"If he said we really needed to work on this, people would listen," she said.

Schultz is troubled by good food going to waste because of misconceptions.

"Just because it's not organic or genetically modified free doesn't make it bad," she said.

"It hurts me to see consumers being really picky about food when so many people don't have any."

She credits 4-H for her winning speech techniques, including an opening "shocker" statement, an introduction and addressing key points before wrapping it all up within the seven minute time limit.

"Instead of ranting on these few points, if you can start it up and draw it to a close, people will take home those three points and remember them. That's my success," she said.

Schultz, who participated in the Coal Lake 4-H Light Horse Club, now belongs to the Rosebrier Beef Club near Wetaskiwin, Alta.

In an interview, Schultz offered

irradiation as one technology that could extend the shelf life of food and make food resistant to mould, E. coli and salmonella.

"They'd be safe and usable even if people wouldn't buy them at the store," she said.

Schultz, who is also Alberta 4-H's current public speaking champion, competed against 14 others during the competition held during the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

Schultz was homeschooled since Grade 2 and is currently completing high school online. She hopes to attend university and work in agribusiness marketing.

Rosemund Ragetli of the Headingley 4-H Club in Manitoba was named the junior champion.

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Little remains of rural community

Echoes and Sentinels: Jackfish, Sask., a once-thriving town

BY DUANE MCCARTNEY
FREELANCE WRITER

JACKFISH, Sask. — The road sign on Highway 26, the church with the historic bell and Rev. Father Leon Bondoux's log cabin are all that remain of the once thriving Saskatchewan community of Jackfish.

The first missionaries in the area were Oblates of Mary Immaculate, with Bondoux forming the first mission in 1890-92.

Roman Catholic families from Quebec and France settled in the area where Bondoux built a log house that served as a rectory and a chapel.

In 1904, a church was built and a church bell was shipped from France, crossing the ocean and the Prairies to call the faithful to worship.

In 1927, another church was built that became a landmark for the area, with its high steeple being visible for miles around.

Joseph Dion bought the old church and convinced Alec Nolin to organize relocating the building, which involved 72 horses to move the heavy log building.

Jackfish formed around the new church. A store and post office were built and later a blacksmith shop. Over the years, the general store became known for stocking almost everything.

"If the store didn't have it, you really didn't need it," longtime area farmers reported.

Tragedy struck in December 1976 when the church was destroyed by fire. The community rose to the challenge and built a new one two years later.

The bell from the old church was damaged but is now preserved on a special stand outside the new building.

Situated at the north end of Jackfish Lake, the community has a European history dating back to 1857. Geologist James Hector of the John Palliser expedition and his accompanying men visited the area in the dead of night on Dec. 16 of that year.

The *Papers of the Palliser Expedition* talks about the group seeing a small twinkling light across the lake and following it to the campfire of William McMurray, an early fur trader with the Hudson's Bay Co.

The Footsteps in Time history book from the district indicates that nothing much happened in the area until 1881 when John Macoun, a professor of agriculture and an explorer, reported: "Saskatchewan grasses growing in the area would fatten cattle."

That year, Robert Wyld and Fred Bourke trekked 75 head of Durham heifers from Calgary.

However, prior to 1881, the development of the livestock industry was hampered by a heavy federal import duty on livestock entering the area that was once part of the Northwest Territories.

Fortunately, the import duty was dropped and Wyld and Burke convinced other would-be cattle producers in the North Battleford River Valley that raising cattle was a



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: The once flourishing Jackfish General Store is just a memory of great times in the community.

Father Leon Bondoux's original cabin, above, is marked with a plaque commemorating its place in history.

The Jackfish church bell was shipped from France in 1904.

| DUANE MCCARTNEY PHOTOS

viable enterprise.

By 1892, Wyld had a large herd of purebred cattle, employed several local labourers and had contracts for beef with several federal government departments. He also bought local cattle and kept the money in the community where it was most needed.

In 1894, *The Saskatchewan Herald* published an article predicting a future for the area with many small ranches and families raising small herds of cattle and making a good living.

By the 1890s, there was a growing settlement along the north end of today's Jackfish Lake. It was a ranching community with hay flats along the lake, a stopping house, a North West Mounted Police barracks and a flourishing creamery.

In 1897, Moise L'Heureux opened the first post office for the area in his home. He travelled east and brought back a Clydesdale stallion and two mares but the stallion died.

The next year, he brought a grey

Percheron stallion and four purebred Percheron mares.

Two of the mares died while making hay on a hot day before he realized that the mares were too fat and shouldn't have been worked so hard.

Moise skinned the mares, tanned the hides and used their colourful dapple gray hides as accents on his front room chairs.

Undaunted, he continued raising horses and within a few years, the countryside was full of gray and white horses.

Agriculture flourished in the area, with the *Herald* in 1900 reporting fresh baled hay selling for \$5 per ton, dressed beef at five to seven cents per pound and No. 1 wheat at 66 cents per bushel.

Records indicate that 16-year-old Joe L'Heureux in 1908 helped drive 300 head of cattle to Saskatoon from St. Walburg.

It took four people one month to herd the cattle for their payment of \$1.50 each day. Their cook was a 14-year-old who travelled in a covered wagon with the grub.

Keep holiday plans simple and enjoy your company

TEAM RESOURCES



JODIE MIROSOVSKY, BSHEc

It's no fun spending time alone in the kitchen preparing an elaborate meal during the holidays. Instead, make the menu simple and invite guests to the kitchen island or table to help prepare while chatting over a cocktail.

Try to use fresh ingredients that are not processed.

I recently picked up a food item that was advertised as "made fresh for you," with a label of ingredients that included artificial flavour and colour and bleached flour.

Check labels and avoid extra ingredients when cooking. Be mindful and stick to the basics and shop mainly on the grocery store's perimeter where fresh menu options are found.

Bring seasonal colours to the menu with red and green fruit and vegetables.

DRINKS TO START

Since receiving a carbonated drinks system last year, I love experimenting with beverages. Simply bubble your water and add pure fruit juices.

In a glass or container, mix three-quarters water with one-quarter cranberry juice (no sugar added), a squeeze of fresh lime, ice and a garnish of berries. Kick things up with a shot of vodka or gin, if desired. Club soda can also be used.

GREEN SALAD WITH SOUR SWEET OIL DRESSING

Toss a high fibre fresh green salad to accompany the main course.

8 to 10 c. fresh torn salad greens (lettuce, spinach or kale) 2 L to 2.4 L
1 c. dried cranberries 250 mL (soak in water to plump before using if desired)
1 1/2 c. pumpkin seeds 125 mL
1 carrot shredded
1/2 small red onion thinly sliced
bacon bits, optional

Dressing:

1 c. oil 250 mL
1/2 c. vinegar 125 mL
1/2 c. honey 125 mL
1 tbsp. Dijon mustard 15 mL

Combine the first five ingredients in a large salad bowl. Set aside.

In a jar or shaker, thoroughly mix the dressing ingredients together and pour over the greens mix when ready to serve. Serves eight.

Store leftover dressing in the refrigerator for later use.

Source for dressing: www.chefmichaelsmith.com.

ONE PAN ROAST CHICKEN DINNER

Chef Michael Smith shared this comforting dish at a recent conference I attended. It reminded me of the tradition of Sunday night chicken that many families gather for, but



with the ingredients all in one pan.

He said to forget being perfect and just experiment. The procedure is so simple and the beauty of this dish is that the taste comes from the roasting chicken.

Start with a five pound (2.2 kg) roasting chicken and about three pounds (1.3 kg) of your favourite roasting vegetables prepared and cut into bite-sized pieces.

To begin, preheat your oven to 375 F (190 C). Rinse and dry the chicken. In a large roasting pan, toss your vegetables and season with salt and pepper.

The vegetables should cover the bottom of the pan in an even layer. Be sure that there is enough for each of your guests to have a large spoonful, then season the chicken with salt and pepper and place on top of the vegetables.

Roast for approximately 90 minutes in the oven until all is golden and a meat thermometer inserted into the thickest part of the thigh and breast reads 170 F. When the roasting is complete, remove from the oven and let the chicken dish rest.

Before serving, use tongs to pull the meat from the bones of the chicken and stir into the vegetables. This pan meal serves six people.

Garnish with green onions and parsley or dill weed. Offer cranberry sauce, pickled beets or asparagus and buns.

Note: Make broth by putting the bones into a stockpot, covering with water and a lid and simmering for one hour.

Strain and discard the bones, then add in chunks of leftover chicken meat, chopped onion, vegetables, seasonings and egg noodles. Simmer until the vegetables are tender and serve this homemade chicken soup.

OLD-FASHIONED APPLE PIE CRUMBLE WITH TART CRANBERRIES

This less fussy dessert is an alternative to traditional apple pie. The

aroma while baking is tantalizing.

8 to 10 peeled cored and sliced apples, (I like Granny Smith, but any variety will do)

1/2 c. fresh or frozen cranberries 125 mL
1/2 c. brown sugar 125 mL
1 tsp. cinnamon 5 mL
2 tbsp. flour 30 mL
dash of salt
1/4 c. broken pecan or walnut pieces, optional 60 mL

Topping:

1 c. flour 250 mL
1/2 c. brown sugar 125 mL
dash of nutmeg
1/2 c. butter or margarine, melted 125 mL

Preheat the oven to 375 F (190 C). Prepare the apples and add to a large mixing bowl, toss in the cranberries and coat with the first amount of brown sugar, flour, cinnamon and a dash of salt and nuts. Place the fruit in a nine x 13 pan or large casserole dish, then set aside.

In a mixing bowl, combine the flour, brown sugar, nutmeg and butter.

Mix with a fork until the ingredients are crumbly. Spread over the fruit and gently press down. Bake for approximately 45 minutes or until fruit is tender. Serve warm with ice cream.

PUMPKIN ANGEL FOOD CAKE

1 c. canned pumpkin 250 mL
1 tsp. vanilla extract 5 mL
1/2 tsp. cinnamon 2 mL
1/2 tsp. nutmeg 2 mL
1/4 tsp. ground cloves 1 mL
1/8 tsp. ground ginger .5 mL
1 pkg. angel food cake mix
whipped cream or topping

In a large bowl, combine the pumpkin, vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and ginger. Prepare cake mix according to package directions.

Fold a fourth of the batter into



TOP CLOCKWISE: Sour sweet oil dressing adds tang to a green salad.

One pan roast chicken dinner makes cleanup easy.

Cranberries add colour to this bubbly drink

Finish the meal with old-fashioned apple pie crumble.

| JODIE MIROSOVSKY PHOTOS

pumpkin mixture; gently fold in the remaining batter.

Gently spoon into an ungreased 10 inch (25 cm) tube pan. Cut through batter with a knife to remove air pockets.

Bake on the lowest oven rack at 350 F (180 C) for 38 to 44 minutes or until top is golden brown and cake springs back when lightly touched and entire top appears dry. Immediately invert pan, cool completely.

Run a knife around side and centre tube of pan. Remove cake to a serving plate.

Garnish each slice with one tablespoon (15 mL) whipped topping, then sprinkle with cinnamon if desired. Yields 14 servings.

Source: *Light and Tasty Magazine*.

SNACKS

Incorporate healthy lentils to add nutritional value.

PULSE PUREE

1 c. lentils 250 mL
2 1/2 c. water 625 mL

Wash dry pulses, then place in a pot and cover with water. Bring to a boil and then simmer for 40 to 50 minutes.

Drain reserving stock. Blend pulses adding only enough stock to make a puree similar to canned pumpkin.

This makes 1 1/2 (375 mL) to two cups (500 mL) and freezes well.

LENTIL OATMEAL CHOCOLATE CHIPPERS

Here's a tasty way to introduce people to lentils.

1 c. brown sugar 250 mL
3/4 c. butter or margarine 175 mL
1 egg
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla 7 mL
3/4 c. lentil puree 175 mL
1 1/2 c. flour 375 mL
1/2 tsp. salt 2 mL
1 tsp. baking soda 5 mL
2 c. rolled oats 500 mL
1 1/2 c. dark chocolate chips 375 mL
1 c. chopped walnuts, 250 mL pecans or almonds

Preheat the oven to 375 F (190 C) and grease a cookie sheet. Cream sugar and butter, then add the egg and mix. Add the vanilla and puree. In a separate bowl, combine the flour, salt and soda together.

Add the flour and mix a third at a time to the creamed mixture. Then add the oats, chocolate chips and nuts. Drop by the spoonful onto the cookie sheet about an inch apart and flatten slightly with your hand or a fork. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes. Makes 36 cookies.

Source: The Saskatchewan Pulse Crop Development Board.

Jodie Mirosovsky is a home economist from Rosetown, Sask., and a member of Team Resources. Contact: team@producer.com.

Inability to finish tasks

SPEAKING OF LIFE



JACKLIN ANDREWS, BA, MSW

Q: Four years ago, my husband and I got into a terrible row after he came home from an evening in the bar. It was so bad that he hit me. That scared both of us. My husband is a gentle man. The thought of him hitting someone, especially me, is simply right out of character. That night, my husband, the alcoholic, stopped drinking. He joined Alcoholic Anonymous and I joined Alanon and the two of us have put that awful moment behind us.

But now we have a different problem. My husband is a stonemason and makes fireplaces, stone walls and driveways. The problem is that he does not finish what he starts. He must have at least a half dozen fireplaces that need attention, our own driveway is half done and countless other commitments are not being met. He is so unreliable that people do not want to hire him. We need him to work to help support our home and children. What can I do?

A: Many alcoholism researchers believe that alcohol abuse may have a genetic base to it. In other words, some people inherit a disposition to alcohol addiction that is stronger than the average and you cannot do much about that.

That does not mean that all alcoholics are the same. I think that it is important to understand that alcoholism is a generic term that can refer to any number of different kinds of alcohol abuse.

For some, the road to alcoholism has been a neurological journey. They get some kind of a neurological blast when they drink and the hit is so rewarding they keep on drinking in hopes that it will continue. That leads them into addictions.

For others, alcoholism is a substitute for growing up and maturing into those responsibilities expected from any reasonable family/professional person. Their addictions are diversions to continued irresponsibilities.

There are also those whose commitment to alcohol abuse is an irrational attempt to resolve other psychological problems.

Alcohol is self-medicating. These alcoholics do not admit to or try to resolve psychological or emotional problems they are experiencing.

Alcohol eases their problems enough for them to carry on with whatever it is that they need to do. Without the alcohol, they would be more lost than they are with it.

The most common difficulties alcoholics try to resolve through substance abuse are personal depression and attention deficit disorders.

Your husband may fall into the third category. He may have been self-medicating all of these years, trying to resolve an attention deficit disorder. Now that he is sober, he is unable to stick with a task. He does not know what to do and spends a great deal of time wander-

ing from chore to chore without accomplishing anything.

If he continues as he is now, the chances of him trying again to self-medicate through alcohol are high. The best bet is for you and your husband to make an appointment with your family doctor and ask for both an assessment from a neurologist and a referral to your local mental health clinic.

With an appropriate prescription and continued counselling and support from a mental health therapist, your husband can continue his journey to recovery, finishing those tasks he has started and helping raise the children in a peaceful home setting.

Jacklin Andrews is a family counsellor from Saskatchewan. Contact: jandrews@producer.com.



CHILLY CHORES | On a blustery November day near Lacombe, Alta., Nick Kuipers operates a skid steer at his parents' dairy, Royal Hill Farm, to move straw bales that will be ground and added to grain or silage for cattle feed. | MARIA JOHNSON PHOTO

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS BEAN?

DIDN'T COME HOME WITH THE HARVEST



Species:
Soybean

Colour:
Fuzzy golden coat

Last seen:
Dangling low on the home section

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SHARING BODY HEAT



A herd of donkeys on Burro Alley Ranch near Millarville, Alta., bask in the morning sun after a night of temperatures dropping to -15 C. | WENDY DUDLEY PHOTO

AG NOTES

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE RESEARCH RECEIVES FUNDING

The University of British Columbia will receive \$1.8 million in federal funding to determine carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emissions and develop beneficial management practices for increasing the efficiency of fertilizer use in blueberry, potato and forage crops.

The research team will use state-of-the-art instrumentation and automated measurement techniques to quantify annual greenhouse gas emissions.

The joint project is one of 20 new research projects supported by the \$27 million Agricultural Greenhouse Gases Program, a partnership with universities and conservation groups.

The program supports research into greenhouse gas mitigation practices and technologies that can be adopted on the farm.

FCC BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED

The federal government has made several appointments to the board of directors of Farm Credit Canada. They have experience in fields related to the agriculture industry, including farming, finance, law and science.

- Del Anaquod: newly appointed as director for a three-year term
- Bertha Campbell: newly appointed as director for a four-year term
- Laura Donaldson: newly appointed as director for a four-year term
- Michele Hengen: newly appointed as director for a three-year term
- James Laws: newly appointed as director for a three-year term
- Govert Verstralen: newly appointed as director for a four-year term
- Jane Halford: re-appointed as director for a three-year term

SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY HELPS MANAGE FEED CROPS

A study to explore the use of new technology that tracks hay and pasture production will receive \$988,000 in federal funding.

The Warren Centre for Actuarial Studies and Research at the University of Manitoba's I.H. Asper School of Business will work with the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association on a project that consists of collaborative research with Alberta Beef Producers to use new satellite-based technology to estimate forage growth at the farm level in each province.

It will develop a forage production index that would form the basis for the development of new insurance tools.

Grass and hay insurance participation rates on the Prairies are much lower than for annual crops.

Perennial crops may be moved closer to a competitive balance with annual crops for insurance programs offered.

SASK. CHIEF VET WINS PREMIER'S AWARD

Dr. Betty Althouse has been awarded the Saskatchewan Premier's Award for Excellence in the Public Service.

The chief veterinary officer with Saskatchewan Agriculture was one of six recipients of the award.



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Jonathan Gill is a robotic engineer with Harper Adams University, UK and part of the research team at the National Centre for Precision Farming working on Hands Free Hectare.



Dr. Joe Schwarcz, a.k.a. Dr. Joe, a.k.a. Office for Science and Society Director- McGill University. His strength is in teaching, interpreting and demystifying chemistry.



Brian Innes, Canola Council of Canada Vice President, Government Relations and President Canadian Agri-food Trade Alliance



Aaron Pritchett, after dinner diversion

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Marla Riekman from Manitoba Agriculture's ag resource branch spoke about managing soil salinity at the Saskatchewan Farm Stewardship Association's annual general meeting and conference in Yorkton, Sask., earlier this month. | WILLIAM DEKAY PHOTO

Salinity solutions begin with water management

Farmers may need to consider managing their crops from a different perspective and financial bottom line

BY WILLIAM DEKAY
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Farmers who want to manage their soil salinity must first manage their water, a land management specialist told participants at a farm stewardship meeting.

"If you do anything to manage your soil salinity, you have to think about your water table. And if you're managing your water table, you're managing your salinity," said Marla Riekman from Manitoba Agriculture's Ag Resource Branch.

Salinity can be subtle or in places very obvious.

It's not typically seen in wet years, but excess moisture raises the water table, which brings salts

closer to the surface, Riekman said at the Saskatchewan Farm Stewardship Association's meeting in Yorkton, Sask., Nov. 16.

She described Saskatchewan as "pothole country" and many areas suffer from high salinity as seen by the "bathtub ring affect around the wetlands," compared to the flatter land and milder salinity around Manitoba's Red River Valley.

She said installing drainage tiles might lower salinity by artificially altering how water moves through the soil.

However, it's not necessarily the most appropriate situation for every farm, she said.

"It's an inherent soil problem and it's just making sure that we manage water. And the best way that we

can do that is by managing crops," she said.

Many farmers may need to consider managing their crops from a different perspective and financial bottom line, she said.

"The tricky part about it is because salinity is so landscape directed, around those low-lying areas or along the edge of fields, it means that we have to not necessarily think of the field as edge to edge, corner to corner," she said.

"If you're losing 20 percent of your crop to saline creep, but you take out five, maybe 10 percent of land to put into some kind of forage that's going to manage that water and you get back that 10 percent, is that not better?"

PASS THE SALT

Researchers have categorized forage grasses, weeds and crops according to their soil salinity tolerance. Farmers should test their soil in several locations to understand each field's salinity levels and plant accordingly.

Very saline (>8 dS/m):

- tall wheatgrass
- beardless wild rye
- salt meadow grass
- AC Saltlander
- red samphire
- sea blight

Moderately saline (8 dS/m):

- slender wheatgrass
- Altai wild rye
- Russian wild rye
- western wheatgrass
- tall fescue
- kochia
- foxtail barley
- Russian thistle

Slightly saline (4 dS/m):

- alfalfa
- sweet clover
- birdsfoot trefoil
- s. bromegrass
- meadow fescue
- crested wheatgrass
- intermediate wheatgrass
- barley
- wheat
- fall rye
- oats

Non-saline (2 dS/m):

- alsike clover
- red clover
- white clover
- timothy
- m. bromegrass
- perennial and annual ryegrass
- reed canary
- canola
- soybeans
- beans
- corn
- flax
- peas
- sainfoin

Did you know ...

Salts within the soil can move with water and can leach through the soil profile with heavy rainfall or irrigation.

Salts wick to the soil surface where the water table is high. Activities that encourage evaporation such as tillage will draw more salt, increasing the problem.

Soil salinity is usually measured in a lab, where soil is mixed with water at a 1:1 ratio and an electrical current is passed through the solution. The results are reported in deciSiemens/metre (dS/m).

Source: Manitoba Agriculture | WP GRAPHIC

Riekman compared it to variable rate fertilizer that divides the soil based on upper, middle and lower slopes instead of going up and down the field in a straight line.

"If you're willing to give up yield in that area, you just keep farming through it, but if you're not, you might have to drive around that spot," she said.

"If you can manage that little spot and the salinity draws down everywhere else and you gain those acres back, is it worth it to drive around that spot from now on. So, do you give up that piece in order to gain on the rest of it. It's a different kind of math."

However, before planting forages, soil testing is an important first step to managing salinity.

And determining the level of salinity in the soil will dictate what forage is best suited to grow in it.

"If you are going to target something growing in there, you may want to match up the appropriate

salinity tolerance of the forage with the amount of the salinity that you're dealing with at the current time," she said.

Wheat and canola handle saline conditions much better than field corn and particularly better than soybeans.

Riekman urged producers to do the research to see if the legume can be added to their rotation.

"I often joke that the most expensive salt map that you can create is by seeding an entire field from corner to corner to soybeans and then take a picture of it afterwards. Because everywhere that it goes yellow or does not grow is most likely going to be your salt spots," she said. "It's useful but unfortunately it's an expensive test because there's a lot of inputs that go into that as opposed to just doing an EM38 map or Veris soil mapping."

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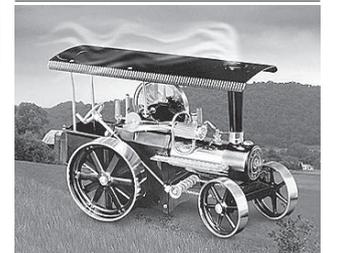
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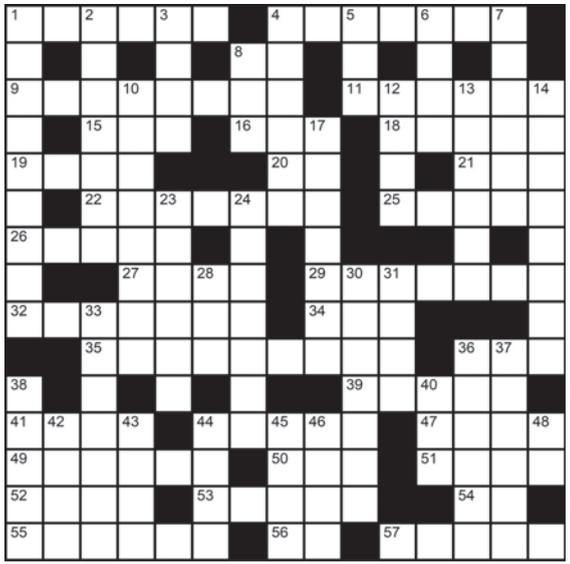
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Entertainment Crossword
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Last Weeks Answers

ACROSS

- The Quiet director (2005)
- She played Etienne's girlfriend, Françoise in *The Beach*
- My ___ - Called Life* (1994-1995)
- 2013 film starring Bruce Dern and Will Forte
- Sophia Bush's character on *One Tree Hill*
- Kevin ___ *Wait* (sitcom starring Kevin James)
- She played Tomika in *School of Rock*
- He starred in *Nightcrawler* (2014)
- Vaya con ___* (2002 German film)
- TV series Tom Cavanagh and Julie Bowen starred in
- Phillips who played Ruth-Anne Miller on *Northern Exposure*
- 1963 film starring Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn
- ___ in *Love* (1973)
- Dinner at Eight* director (1933)
- Transformers: Dark of the ___* (2011)
- She played Mama on *That's My Mama* (1974-1975)
- Carnival ___* (1962) (2 words)
- Lonely ___ the Brave* (1962)
- McCord of *90210*
- Under the Tuscan ___* (2003)
- Ennis who was born in Turkey
- TV series starring Hank Azaria (2004-2006)
- Gabel and Rogen
- ___ of *Eden* (1955)
- House ___* (1996)
- In & ___* (1997)
- Elliott from *Scotland*
- Film that received six Oscar nominations at the 89th Academy Awards
- Young ___* (2011)
- Initials of the actress who played Albertine in *Prêt-à-Porter (Ready to Wear)* (1994)
- She plays Debbie Gallagher on *Shameless*
- Australian actress Chapman
- Julie Christie's character in *Demon Seed* (1977)

DOWN

- She played Carrie Turner on *24*
- She played Dorothy Jennings on *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*
- Dixon of *Hogan's Heroes*
- Herbie: Fully ___* (2005)
- Night of the Living ___* (2015)
- She starred in *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*
- Class of ___ High* (1986) (2 words)
- October ___* (1999)
- 1950 Japanese period film told from four differing points of view
- David James Elliott's character on *JAG* (1995-2005)
- He Starred in *City of Joy* (2 words)
- He played Patrick, DEVGRU (SEAL Team 6) team leader in *Zero Dark Thirty* (2012)
- He played Arthur's ex-husband on *The Golden Girls*
- The Shop ___ the Corner* (1940)
- Middle name of Canadian actress Victoria Pratt
- Swedish actor Rapace
- Mayberry mountain man (2 words)
- Pariah* director (2011)
- Burrows from *England*
- Marty McFly's ancestor in *Back to the Future, Part III*
- Address from *Switzerland*
- He plays young Lucius Fox on *Gotham*
- Benjamin's last name in *We Bought a Zoo*
- He played Marc St. James on *Ugly Betty*
- Twin Peaks* Emmy nominee
- 2005 film starring Ewan McGregor, Naomi Watts, and Ryan Gosling
- The End of the ___* (2015)
- 1927 Clara Bow film
- Initials of the actor who played Gus Esmond in *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*

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2016 FORD F-150 Lariat White Platinum, crew cab, only 25,750 kms., PST paid, was \$48,850 now \$47,200. Call 306-728-5457 or visit www.futureford.ca

2016 CHEVY SILVERADO LTZ, crew cab, 7905 kms., new 20" wheels, NAV, heated/cooled seats, PST paid, now \$49,000. 306-728-5457, www.futureford.ca

2015 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLT all terrain, fully loaded, \$32,995. Greenlight Truck & Auto, 306-934-1455, Saskatoon, SK. DL #311430. www.GreenlightAuto.ca

2015 DODGE RAM 3500, crew, Longhorn, 6.7L Dually, Aisin auto., 58,500 kms, \$64,995. Hendry's Chrysler 306-528-2171, Nokomis, SK. DL #907149.

2014 FORD F-150 FX4, Sport package, 3.5L EcoBoost, power, locally owned, PST paid, was \$38,900 now \$33,500. Call 306-728-5457 or visit www.futureford.ca

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2013 FORD F-150 Lariat, crew cab, sold/serviced at Future Ford, clean SGI report, PST paid, was \$33,995 now \$31,900. 306-728-5457, www.futureford.ca

2013 FORD F-150 crew cab, one owner, topper, PST paid, clean. Priced to sell: was \$25,725, now \$24,600. Call 306-728-5457 or visit www.futureford.ca

2012 FORD F-150 Platinum, crew cab, 3.5L EcoBoost, white w/dark grey leather, loaded, was \$32,900 now \$30,500. Call 306-728-5457 or visit www.futureford.ca

2011 FORD F350 Lariat diesel, dually, 2 to choose from! \$37,995. Greenlight Truck & Auto, 306-934-1455, Saskatoon, SK. DL #311430. www.GreenlightAuto.ca

2008 DODGE RAM 2500 Laramie, diesel power, low kms., priced to sell - \$29,900 PST paid. Call 306-728-5457 or visit www.futureford.ca

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE 1670

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2004 CHEV SILVERADO 2500HD, 6.6L diesel, 4x4, loaded, \$12,995. Greenlight Truck & Auto, 306-934-1455, Saskatoon, SK. DL #311430. www.GreenlightAuto.ca

2011 DODGE RAM 1500 4x4 loaded, \$21,995. Greenlight Truck & Auto, 306-934-1455, Saskatoon, SK. DL #311430. www.GreenlightAuto.ca

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2013 KENWORTH T370 TANDEM GRAIN TRUCK, Paccar PX-8, 350hp, 1000lb ft, Torque Allison, 6spd, 3000RDS Air seat, dual pass. seat cloth interior ACT P.W. PL. 22" Alum Wheels, Front Tires 315/80R22.5 Rear tires 11R22.5 Power-Heated Aerodynamic Mirrors AM/FM/CD/ Radio Full Gauges 100 Gal. Alum Fuel Tank 14,600F.Axle 40,000R.Axles with Air Suspension Jacobs brake Trailer Brake Controls 8-1/2X20"X65" CIM ULTRACEL ELECTRIC TARP TAILGATE & HOIST, Cloth Interior, Red, 38,035km, Stk#M7368A \$133,395

2009 GMC C8500 TANDEM GRAIN TRUCK Isuzu Diesel 300 HP Allison Transmission 14+40 Axles Rubber Block Rear Suspension, Alum wheels A-C-T P.W. PL. PM Air ride seat. CIM 20" Box and hoist w/Remote hoist and end gate. 12R22.5 Front and 11R22.5 Rear Tires, Red Cab & Red Box, 19,950km, Stk#M7346A \$89,995

2001 INTERNATIONAL 9100 SERIES TANDEM GRAIN TRUCK C-12 CAT 375-450 HP, 10 speed fuller trans, air ride, CIM 20"x65" Grain Box, Michels electric roll tarp. Remote hoist, endgate and tarp, white with teal box, 531,158kms, Stk#G1440A \$69,995

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CAN-AM TRUCK EXPORT LTD., Delisle, SK. 1-800-938-3323. 2004 Freightliner day cab, 60 Detroit 13 spd. Eaton, SmartShift, 46 rears, low kms., \$36,000; 2006 Lode-King Super B, new safety, \$37,000; 2006 Lode-King tridem, 4 hoppers, new safety, \$35,000; 2016 Canuck tridem, end dump, like new, \$54,000; 1992 Volvo tandem w/3000 vac. unit, low kms., \$19,000; 1997 FL80, 5.9 Cummins, auto, 40 rears w/lock, air ride, 16' grain box, new tires, \$30,000; 2006 IHC 4200, VT365, auto, 12' deck, 200,000 km., \$12,500; 1985 IHC \$17,000, 6.9 diesel, 582, w/45' manlift bucket, ex-SaskPower unit only 109,000 km., \$14,000; 1998 Timpte 48' convertible grain trailer, tandem, air ride, \$17,000; 2009 Western Star C&C, 60 Detroit, 18 spd., 46 rears w/4-way lock, 460,000 km., \$50,000; 2003 Freightliner Columbia, 60 Detroit, 13 spd., 40 rears, \$18,000; Gen sets avail. from 45KW to 800 KW. Financing available OAC. DL # 910420. www.can-amtruck.com

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 100 GALLON FUEL tank w/tool box combo, Delta model 498000, rated for 50 psi. 25"x33"x48"bottom, vg cond., \$1000. 403-837-7559 email: rumscheid@telus.net

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2015 CASE/IH 4440 120', AIM, Auto-Boom, AccuBoom, Pro 700 Stk: 023153 \$475,000. 1-888-905-7010, Swift Current, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

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Stock #: 1452-09A

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Stock #V492771

2009 International ProStar

Tandem Axle Day Cab Tractor, Cummins ISX engine (450) HP, Eaton Fuller D/O transmission (18 speed), Air brakes, 891395km, 12000 lbs front axle capacity, 40000 lbs rear axle capacity, A/C, 3 way rear lock up. Regina, SK



\$39,900

Stock #V492766

2009 International ProStar Premium

Tandem Axle Day Cab Tractor, Cummins ISX engine (450) HP, Eaton Fuller D/O transmission (18 speed), Air brakes, 883021km, 12350 lbs front axle capacity, 40000 lbs rear axle capacity, 3-Way rear lockup, A/C, X GFS unit out of Regina. Saskatoon, SK



\$55,000

Stock #3468-12A

2012 International 5900i SBA 6x4

Tandem Axle Day Cab Tractor, MaxxForce 13 engine (475/475) HP, Eaton Fuller O/D transmission (18 speed), Air brakes, 346638km, 14000 lbs front axle capacity, 46000 lbs rear axle capacity, 4-Way rear lockup, A/C, heavy haul. Brandon, MB



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Grain, Hopper, Air suspension, Tandem axle, Aluminum rims, 20 king pin, Tarp: Rollover Black, Hoppers: Ag Hopper Black w/Interior Access steps, Width: 102in, Length: 36ft. Winnipeg, MB



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2018 Timppte Tridem Grain Hopper

Grain, 3 hopper, Air suspension, Tridem axle, Aluminum (polished out) rims, 20 king pin, Stainless Steel rear door, Tarp: Rollover Black, Hoppers: Ag Hopper w/3rd Hopper Black w/Interior Access steps, Width: 102in, Length: 45ft. Winnipeg, MB



\$27,500

Stock #7F046015U

2007 Lode King Grain

Grain, 2 hopper, Air suspension, Tandem axle, Steel rims, 24 king pin, Height: 6ft, Width: 102in, Length: 40ft, Traps operate from both sides. New paint. Winnipeg, MB

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Sale Price **\$39,995**
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 Stk. #T17838.
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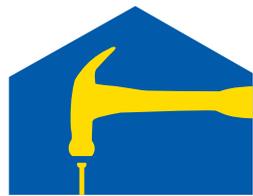
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- 2016 Case IH 8240** 520 Duals, Lat Tilt, Rocktrap, Ext Wear Rotor, Standard Chopper, Deluxe Cab, Leather Seat, Pro 700, Accuguide Ready Stk: 022117 (SC)..... **\$405,000**
- 2014 Case IH 8230** 900 Singles, Lat Tilt, Deluxe Cab, GPS, Folding Auger, Pivot Spout, Hyd Fold Hopper Cover, 865 Engine & 640 Rotor Hrs Stk: 025289 (SC)..... **\$335,000**
- 2013 Case IH 9230** 620 Duals, Lux Cab, Lat Tilt w/Rocktrap, Accuguide, Hyd Grain Tank Cover, Magnacut Chopper, HID Lights Stk: 021990 (ES) **\$350,000**
- 2011 Case IH 9120** 2016 P/U Header, 900/60R32 & 600/65R28, Pro 600 Monitor, Rocktrap, Small Tube Rotor, 24 Ft Auger, MagnaCut Chopper Stk: 022637 (ME) **\$215,000**
- 2012 Case IH 7230** 520 Duals, Lat Tilt, Ext Wear Rotor, Hyd Folding Cover, Std Chopper, HID Lights, Accuguide, Air Compressor Stk: 021503 (PA)..... **\$269,000**
- 2010 Case IH 8120** 900/75R32, Ext Wear Rotor w/Bars & Spikes, Fine Cut Chopper, Leather, HID Lights, Folding Cover Stk: 024410 (LL)..... **\$189,900**
- 2009 Case IH 7120** 520 Duals, Lateral Tilt, Accuguide, Power Mirrors, Std Cut Chopper, 3016 Header w/SwathMaster Pickup Stk: 205692B (LL) **\$189,000**
- 2006 Case IH 8010** 14' CIH 2016 Pickup, 520 Duals, Rocktrap, Pro 600 Monitor, Std Rotor, Maurer Topper, Fine Cut Chopper, Long Auger Stk: 021412 (ME)..... **\$155,500**
- 2013 John Deere S680** c/w JD 615 Pickup, 520 Duals, 28L Rear Tires, AutoSteer, Folding Hopper Stk: 024686 (SA)..... **\$355,000**
- 2008 New Holland CR9070** c/w 76C Pickup, 20.8/42 Duals, MAV Chopper, Color Display, 7.3 M Unload Auger, Deluxe Cab Stk: 025314 (LL)..... **\$149,000**
- 2003 New Holland CR960** c/w NH 76C Pickup Header, Beacon, Service Lights, Yield & Moisture Stk:023071 (PA) **\$102,900**

SPRAYERS

- 2016 Case IH 4440** 120 Ft, AIM Pro, Active Susp, Pro 700, Accuguide, Accuboom, Autoboom, Front Fill, Wide Fenders, Trelleborg 710's Stk: 022565 (SA) **\$495,000**
- 2014 Case IH 4430** 120 Ft, Lux Cab, Active Susp, HID lights, AutoBoom, Accuboom, Viper Pro Monitor, AIM Pro, 380's & 620's, Raven Smartrax Steering Stk: 023711 (PA) **\$380,000**
- 2013 Case IH 4430** 100 Ft, Deluxe Cab, AIM, Pro 700, 372 Receiver, 2 Sets Of Tires, HID Lights, Autoboom, Accuboom Stk:024786 (SC)..... **\$305,000**
- 2011 Case IH 4420** 120 Ft, Dlx Cab, 380's & 650's, HID Light, AirComp, ViperPro, Smartrax Auto Steer, AutoBoom, AccuBoom, Crop Dividers, Fan Reverser Stk: 021959 (ME).... **\$213,000**
- 2009 Case IH 4420** 100 Ft, AIM, 1200 Gallon, Norac Boom Height Control, Sectional Control, Autopilot, 380's & 520's, Ag Leader Monitor Stk: 020576 (ES) **\$199,500**
- 2013 Case IH 3330** 100 Ft, 380 & 650 Tires, Active Susp, Front Fill, AIM Command, Deluxe HID Lighting, Accuboom, Autoboom Stk: 022510 (SA) **\$249,900**
- 2000 Case IH SPX2130** 78 Ft, Auto Steer, 2 Sets of Tires, 660 Gallons Stk: 024745 (SA)..... **\$69,900**
- 2014 Case IH 4530** Floater 70 Ft, Lux Cab, Power Mirrors, Deluxe HID Lights, Fenders, Double 6" Auger 50 CF, Viper 4 Monitor, 1550 Hours Stk: 024242 (SC)..... **\$320,000**
- 2011 Case IH 3230** 100 Ft, Dlx Cab, Active Susp, HID Lights, Pro 600, Accuguide, Fenders, Accuboom, Autoboom Stk: 028123A (LL) **\$229,000**
- 2010 John Deere 4830** 100 Ft, 1000 Gallon Tank, Autosteer, Swath Pro, Autoboom, 2 Sets Of Tires, Crop Dividers Stk: 021520 (SA)..... **\$215,000**
- 2014 New Holland SP240F** 120 Ft, 1200 Gal SS Tank, Intelliview IV Monitor, AccuBoom, AutoBoom, 2 Sets of Tires Stk: 024111 (LL)..... **\$299,000**
- 2009 Apache AS1010** 100 Ft, 1000 Gal, Raven Control & GPS, 5 Way Nozzle Bodies, 1800 Hrs Stk: 026632 (SC)..... **\$190,000**
- 1998 Rogator 854** 100 Ft, 800 Gal SS Tank, Ez-Guide Auto Steer, Rate Controller, Rinse Tank Stk: 023420 (LL)..... **\$49,000**

TRACTORS

- 2014 Case IH Steiger 620** Quadtrac Luxury Cab, PTO, Twin Flow Hyd, 36" Tracks, 6 Remotes, Pro 700, Accuguide, HID Lights Stk: 025032 (ME)..... **\$489,000**
- 2010 Case IH Steiger 535** 800 Duals, Accuguide, 4 Remotes, Weight Pkg, Tow Cable, 2300 Hours Stk: 025747 (ES)..... **\$250,000**
- 2016 Case IH Steiger 580** Quadtrac Lux Cab, LED Lights, Pro 700, Accuguide, 2 Hyd Pumps, 6 Remotes, PTO, 36" Tracks, Tow Cable Stk: 022922 (SC) **\$565,000**
- 2014 Case IH Steiger 550** Quadtrac Luxury Cab, Dual Hyd Pumps, PTO, HID Lights, Tow Cable, HID Lights, 6 Remotes, Viper Pro, Raven AutoSteer Stk: 023776 (PA)..... **\$481,000**
- 2016 Case IH Steiger 500** 520 Triples, Deluxe Cab, HID Lights, Accuguide, Pro 700, 4 Remotes, Hi-Cap Hyd, 342 hours Stk: 023022 (SC) **\$380,000**

- 2016 Case IH Steiger 420** 520 Triples, Deluxe Cab, HID Lights, Pro 700, Accuguide, 4 Remotes, High Capacity Hyd, PTO Stk: 023173 (SC) **\$379,000**
- 2009 Case IH Steiger 485** Quadtrac Dlx Cab, Hi Cap Hyd, PTO, 30" Tracks, Cab Suspension, Accuguide Stk: 023118 (SA) **\$255,000**
- 2012 John Deere 9510RT** 36" Tracks, Leather Seat, 4 Remotes, SF2 GPS, Greenstar Display, High Capacity Hyd 58 GPM, 2070 hours Stk: 024350 (SC)..... **\$350,000**
- 2013 New Holland T9.615** 36" High Idler, Lux Cab, HID Lights, GPS Autoguidance, Twin Pump Hyd, Radar, PTO, 2700 hours Stk: 025507 (SC) **\$410,000**



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 84 Ft, Hyd Tine Angle Stk: 022120 (PA)



\$295,000
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\$189,000
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2011 SEED HAWK 50', 12" sp., tool bar with 600 cart dual wheels auger and bag lift. \$229,000; 1997 39' Morris Magnum air drill, 10" spacing, Atom openers w/Morris 180 cart, \$18,000. A.E. Chicoine Farm Equipment, 306-449-2255, Storthoaks, SK.

2013 SEED HAWK 60-12 60', twin wing, semi pneumatic packers, DD, SH 800 TBH, Stk 017840, \$335,000. Prince Albert, SK., 1-888-905-7010. redheadequipment.ca

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2010 JOHN DEERE 1830 61', 10" sp, DS dry, Poirier openers, Alpine liquid kit Stk: 023964, \$67,500. 1-888-905-7010, Swift Current, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2009 SEED HAWK 66-12 66', 12" sp., single knife, pneum. pkrs. 30.8 rear tires, Stk: 021475, \$205,000. 888-905-7010, Prince Albert, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2010 CASE/IH ATX700 70', rubber packers, high float tires, double shoot, Stk: 020407, \$94,000. 1-888-905-7010, Swift Current, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2012 BOURGAULT 3320 QDA 66', 10" sp., c/w L6550 tank, MRB, NH3 kit, duals Stk: 02317, \$295,000. Call 1-888-905-7010, Saskatoon, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2010 SEEDMASTER 72-12 72', 12" space, JD 1910 air cart, 3-tank metering, Stk: 020958, \$132,000. 1-888-905-7010, Swift Current, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2012 BOURGAULT 3320, 76', 10" space, 2" tips, 4.5" packers, DS dry, MRB #3's; 2014 Bourgault 7950 air tank, 5 tank meter, saddle, conveyor, scale, rear hitch. \$340,000 for both. 204-648-7085, Grandview, MB.



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2010 JOHN DEERE 1830 61', 10" sp, DS dry, Poirier openers, Alpine liquid kit Stk: 023964, \$67,500. 1-888-905-7010, Swift Current, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2013 SEED HAWK 60-12 60', twin wing, semi pneumatic packers, DD, SH 800 TBH, Stk 017840, \$335,000. Prince Albert, SK., 1-888-905-7010. redheadequipment.ca

2010 SEED HAWK 60' Toolbar, 12" sp., w/Seed Hawk 400 cart, 2 fans, seed & fertilizer distributing kit auger. Also NH kit & winch \$175,000. 306-449-2255, A.E. Chicoine Farm Equipment Ltd., Storthoaks SK.

2009 SEED HAWK 66-12 66', 12" sp., single knife, pneum. pkrs. 30.8 rear tires, Stk: 021475, \$205,000. 888-905-7010, Prince Albert, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2006 BOURGAULT 5710 40' 9.8" spacing, steel packers, 6200 Stk: 020500, Cart \$60,000. www.redheadequipment.ca or 1-888-905-7010, Swift Current, SK.

2015 SEED HAWK 84-12 84' 12" spacing, steel seed and fertilizer knives, Stk: 022334, \$352,000. 1-888-905-7010, Saskatoon, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2012 BOURGAULT 3320 QDA 66', 10" sp., c/w L6550 tank, MRB, NH3 kit, duals Stk: 02317, \$295,000. Call 1-888-905-7010, Saskatoon, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2010 CASE/IH ATX700 70', rubber packers, high float tires, double shoot, Stk: 020407, \$94,000. 1-888-905-7010, Swift Current, SK. www.redheadequipment.ca

2001 BOURGAULT 5710 series II w/3170 tank, 29.5", single shoot, 9.8" sp., 3.5" steel packers, 3" openers, 277 monitor, \$26,500 OBO. Call 306-539-3083, Balgonie, SK.

2014 Salford 525 w/2014 Salford AC2465, 40', 7.5" spacing, double shoot w/MRB's, TBT cart, 180/65/220 bu tanks, 10" fill auger, Dickey John IntelliAg control system, hyd. variable rate, \$210,000 OBO. 780-214-5251, Lloydminster, AB.

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

2010 BOURGAULT 3310 65', Paralink, 12" spacing, mid row shank banding, double shoot, rear hitch, tandem axles, low acres, \$135,000. A.E. Chicoine Farm Equipment, 306-449-2255, Storthoaks, SK.

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CIH ATX700, 60', 12" sp., 5.5" rubber packers, Raven NH3, closers and single bar harrow. \$28,000. 204-648-7085, Grandview.

2006 BOURGAULT 5710 40' 9.8" spacing, steel packers, 6200 Stk: 020500, Cart \$60,000. www.redheadequipment.ca or 1-888-905-7010, Swift Current, SK.

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AIR SEEDERS 4253

54' 2008 BOURGAULT 5710, good shape, new points, c/w 2013 6550 tank, X30 monitor, \$125,000 OBO. 306-567-7703 or 306-567-7184, Davidson, SK.

2009 SEEDMASTER, 4 product VR, 50', 12' 8370XL 440 bu. Morris TBH, 1600 liq. cart, Raven monitor, \$165,000. For more info, call Arne at 306-335-7494. Lemberg, SK.

HARROWS/PACKERS 4256

2015 DEGELMAN STRAWMASTER Plus, 100', 30" carbide tines, \$78,000. Please call 306-398-7688, Cut Knife, SK.

SEEDING VARIOUS 4259



2014 MERIDIAN 375RT Seed Tender, mint. all options, always stored inside. Asking \$27,500. 204-825-0173, Crystal City, MB.

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BREAKING DISCS: KEWANEE, 15' and 12'; Rome 12' and 9'; Towner 18'-40' blades; Wishek 14', 18', and 30'. DMI 5, and 7 shank rippers. 1-866-938-8537.

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2009 CIH FLEX-TILL 600, 54', 9" spacing, heavy shanks, 4 bar harrows, Bourgault QA shovels, \$75,000. 306-542-7684, Kamsack.

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TRACTORS

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1983 CASE 2290, 4700 hrs., rebuilt PS, orig. owner, w/2014 10' front mount Erskine 1080FM snow blower - has been used 10 hrs. 403-529-7134, Medicine Hat, AB.

2016 CIH FARMALL 75A, MFWD, 20 hrs., 8 forward gears/2 reverse, 3PTH, 540 PTO, \$29,000 OBO. 204-648-7085, Grandview

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2014 CASE QUADTRAC 600, 1931 hrs., PTO, 6 SCV, 30" tracks, leather, AutoSteer. \$325,000 OBO. 306-730-7871, Killaly, SK.

CASE/IH 4286

2001 MX120 w/loader; 2000 MX135; and 2008 Maxim 140 w/loader. 204-522-6333, Melita, MB.

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



2012 CIH 500HD, 1915 hrs., 4 remotes, tow cable, luxury cab, red leather heated seats, 16 spd. PS, 57 GPM hyd. pump, 710 tires, buddy seat, gd cond., \$248,500 OBO. Ph/tx Brandon 306-577-5678, Carlyle, SK.

1980 IH 1086 w/2350 loader, \$10,500; 1979 Case 2290, \$10,500. A.E. Chicoine Farm Equipment Ltd., 306-449-2255, Storthoaks, SK.

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2000 JD 7710, 5130 hrs; 2000 JD 8310; 2001 JD 7810; 2008 JD 7830, 5200 hrs. All MFWD, can be equipped with loaders. 204-522-6333, Melita, MB.

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JOHN DEERE 4295

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2000 JD 7810, FWA, Powershift, c/w 360H loader, GPS, new tires, \$65,500. Call Henry 403-588-0958, Alix, AB.

2017 JD 6120M w/new 623R loader, 225 hrs, new tooth bucket w/grapple, 3 SCV's, AutoQuad 24/24 40K, MFWD, 114L/min PFC pump, TLS axle (\$10,000), 540/540E/1000 PTO, \$132,500. 403-638-1904 Sundre

2017 JD 6155M, MFWD, w/new 643R loader, 174 hrs., new tooth bucket w/grapple, 114L/min PFC pump, 540/540E/1000 PTO, PowerQuad 20/20 40K, TLS axle (\$10,000). 403-638-1904, Sundre, AB.

MASSEY FERGUSON 4301

2010 MASSEY FERGUSON 7485, MFWD, 2260 hours, 975 loader, \$110,000. Call 403-308-0815, Lethbridge, AB

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LOADER TO FIT TV140 New Holland bi-directional tractor. 780-625-5227 or 780-625-1674, Peace River, AB.

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VARIOUS TRACTORS 4319



2014 CHALLENGER MT765D, 620 hrs., 3502 HP, Trimble Autopilot, 18" tracks, PTO, 3 PTH, \$229,800. 1-800-667-4515, www.combineworld.com

2005 MCCORMICK MTX120 with Quicke loader, 3100 hours; 2006 MTX150; MTX 140. Call 204-522-6333, Melita, MB.

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DEGELMAN 6900 4-WAY blade, 16' off JD 9630, little use, good shape, S/N #26153, \$21,500. 306-389-7733, Maymont, SK.

CAT DOZER BLADE: 12'x3', good shape, cutting edge never been turned, good bolts, C-frame for blade, \$1200. 306-722-7770, Osage, SK.

DEGELMAN 4600 12' 4-way blade, mounts JD 4450, \$8000; Degelman 4600, 12' 4-way blade, mounts JD 6430, \$11,000. Call 780-352-3012, Wetaskiwin, AB.

JOHN DEERE 36A FEL, 60" bucket, new lift cylinder shafts (to be installed), \$750 OBO. Phone Paul, 306-233-7921, Wakaw, SK.

12' DEGELMAN 46/5700 4-Way dozer blade, QA, \$15,000; HLA snow wing dozer blade, trip cutting edge, \$15,000. Wandering River AB 780-771-2155, 780-404-1212

ESTATE SALE: 1989 JD 245 loader, 1 owner. Will remove self leveling. All cab controls included, excellent condition, \$4500. Please call 780-312-4629, Bittern Lake, AB. ian.stewart@telus.net

LOADERS/DOZERS 4322

2 BLADES: Degelman 7200, 14' 6-way, mounts JD 9320 4WD, \$19,500; Degelman 5700, 12' 4-way, mounts JD 6150, \$9500. Call 780-679-7795, Camrose, AB.

MISCELLANEOUS 4325

ODESSA ROCKPICKER SALES: New Degelman equipment, land rollers, Strawmaster, rockpickers, protill, dozer blades. 306-957-4403, 306-536-5097, Odessa, SK.

SUNFLOWER HARVEST SYSTEMS. Call for literature. 1-800-735-5848. Lucke Mfg., www.luckemanufacturing.com

5 BUILDING JACKS, 15 ton mechanical lift; 605A Vermeer baler, good belts, \$600; Portable fuel tank fits in half ton or bigger, \$125. 204-825-2784, Pilot Mound, MB.

THREE POINT HITCH: Massey Harris 226 7' blade, \$725; John Deere 205, 60" cut, new clutch/blades, \$650; 7" cultivator, \$475. 306-221-0087, Grandora, SK.

RETIRING - SMALLER FARM EQUIPMENT: 1999 MX220 Case/IH tractor; 27' Flexi-Coil air drill w/7120 tank; 1995 Ford S/A dsl., grain truck; Plus more! 306-842-5036, 806-861-6466, Weyburn, SK.

11' ROTARY MOWER, \$2000. Phone 306-395-2668 or 306-681-7610, Chaplin, SK.

FEED MIX CARTS w/scales: Knight 280 bu., \$5000; Gehl 500 bu., \$10,000; Kelly Ryan and Roorda feeder cart, \$2000; JD 785 spreader, \$11,000; New Idea 362 spreader, \$6500. 1-866-938-8537, Portage

JOHN DEERE FORKS for 740 loader, very good condition, \$750. Call 204-745-8700, Elm Creek, MB.

WANTED: SLIDE-IN TRUCK SPRAYER. 306-640-8034 cell, 306-266-2016 res, Wood Mountain, SK. gm93@sasktel.net

FLAX STRAW BUNCHER and land levelers. Building now. Place orders and don't delay! 306-957-4279, Odessa, SK.

WANTED 4328

WANTED MF 36 & 360 Discers

All sizes, any condition, also parts discers, Premium Price paid for 12Ft with 19" blades.

SK Farm Boys - Honest Prompt Service: Call Anytime

306.946.9669 or 306.946.7923

LOADER TO FIT TV140 New Holland bi-directional tractor. 780-625-5227 or 780-625-1674, Peace River, AB.

WANTED

MF #36 DISCERS. Will pay top dollar and pick from anywhere. Phone Mike 306-723-4875, Cupar, SK.

LOOKING FOR CASE Magnum 7230, 7240, or 7250 with FWA. Call 306-463-7627, Wilkie, SK.

WANTED: USED, BURNT, old or ugly tractors. Newer models too! Smith's Tractor Wrecking, 1-888-676-4847.

GENERATORS 4725

ROTARY PHASE CONVERTERS, 25 HP, TEFC, CSA, \$2000. Phone 204-800-1859, Winnipeg, MB.

GENERATORS BUY DIRECT!

Generator Sets for your farm available with low monthly payments.

Free help with sizing.

Call **800-687-6879**

and use discount code **WESTERN**

Diesel and Natural Gas



NEW AND USED GENERATORS: 500KW Caterpillar, Perkins, Cummins, Magnum - In stock. Call 250-554-6661, Kamloops, BC. Email: denis@bcdieselgenerators.com www.bcdieselgenerators.com

NEW AND USED generators, all sizes from 5 kw to 3000 kw, gas, LPG or diesel. Phone for availability and prices. Many used in stock. 204-643-5441, Fraserwood, MB.

HEATING/ AIR CONDITIONING 4850

OUTDOOR WOODS BOILER, manufactured by company in Roblin, MB. Approx 400,000 BTU/hr. Will heat any size of house/shop and some additional outer buildings. Similar model retails for \$13,500 new from dealer. Very simple operation, no complicated devices/controllers. \$3800 OBO. For more information or viewing, please call 306-764-7214. Prince Albert, SK.

WWW.NOUTILITYBILLS.COM - Indoor & outdoor - coal, grain, multi-fuel, gas, oil, pellet, propane and wood fired boilers, cook stoves, fireplaces, furnaces, heaters and stoves. Athabasca, AB, 780-628-4835.

IRON/STEEL 4960

TUBING FROM 1-1/4" to 3-1/2". Sucker rod 3/4", 7/8" and 1". Line pipe and Casing also available. Phone 1-800-661-7858 or 780-842-5705, Wainwright, AB.

DRILL STEM for sale: 200 3-1/2", \$45/ea; 300 2-7/8", \$40/ea. Call 306-768-8555, Carrot River, SK.

CHAINLINK FENCE PANELS, 6x13, fair condition, \$60. 403-265-7337, Calgary, AB. mary@onsitefence.ca

2 & 7/8" OILFIELD TUBING, cement and plastic lined, \$25. Call 306-861-1280, Weyburn, SK.

IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT 4980

BLUE WATER IRRIGATION DEV. LTD. Reinke pivots, lateral, minigators, pump and used mainline, new Bauer travelers dealer. 25 yrs. experience. 306-858-7351, Lucky Lake, SK. www.philsirrigation.ca

8" to 6" MAINLINE; 6 - 5"x5" wheelies; Bauer 1160' w/4.5" hard hose reel. 306-858-7351, Lucky Lake, SK.

LANDSCAPING

NURSERY/GARDENING SUPPLIES 4990



SPRUCE FOR SALE!! Beautiful locally grown trees. Plan ahead and renew your shelterbelt or landscape a new yard site, get the year round protection you need. We sell on farm near Didsbury, AB. Also can deliver in Western Canada. 6 - 12' spruce available. Now taking spring orders while supplies last. Phone 403-586-8733 or visit: www.didsburysprucefarms.com

LIVESTOCK

BISON/BUFFALO 5001

BISON WANTED - Canadian Prairie Bison is looking to contract grain finished bison, as well as calves and yearlings for growing markets. Contact Roger Provencher at 306-468-2316, roger@cnbison.com

BISON/BUFFALO 5001

BISON CALVES WANTED. Harmony Natural bison. Call or text 306-736-3454, SE Sask.

QUILL CREEK BISON is looking for finished, and all other types of bison. COD, paying market prices. "Producers working with Producers." Delivery points in SK. and MB. Call 306-231-9110, Quill Lake, SK.

BRED BISON HEIFERS for sale. 85 pasture raised, top cut. Ready to go Dec. 15. Call or text 306-495-8800, SE Sask.

KEEP JOBS IN CANADA. Elk Valley Ranches a Canadian Co. finishes bison in Canada. We are now buying cull cows, cull bulls, yearlings and calves. Paying top \$ with prompt payment. Kitscoty, AB, Frank at 780-846-2980. elkvalley@xplornet.com www.elkvalleyranches.com

WANT TO PURCHASE cull bison bulls and cows, \$5/lb. HHW. Finished beef steers and heifers for slaughter. We are also buying compromised cattle that can't make a long trip. Oak Ridge Meats, McCreary, 204-835-2365, 204-476-0147.

WANTED ALL CLASSES of bison: calves, yearlings, cows, bulls. Willing to purchase any amount. dreyelts1@rap.midco.net Call 605-391-4646.

NILSSON BROS INC. buying finished bison on the rail, also cull cows at Lacombe, AB. For winter delivery and beyond. Smaller groups welcome. Fair, competitive and assured payment. Contact Richard Bintner 306-873-3184.

NORTHFORK - INDUSTRY LEADER for over 15 years, is looking for finished Bison, grain or grass fed. "If you have them, we want them." Make your final call with Northfork for pricing! Guaranteed prompt payment! 514-643-4447, Winnipeg, MB.

215 - 2017 Bison Calves: Taking offers for December/January weaning, to be picked up. Started calving in March. Started finishing ration November 1st. 306-331-7563, Craik, SK. trewett.whbp@sasktel.net

MFL BISON RANCH Ltd. selling 20 bred 2015 plains heifers at Kramer's Season Opener Sale, Dec. 6, North Battleford, SK., 403-747-2500 or 403-307-7553.

COMPLETE BISON COW herd dispersal Productive herd, culled annually, 125 cows, 50 yearling heifers. Royal Black Bison Ranch Inc. 306-441-7128, Paynton, SK

BUYING: CULL COWS, herdsire bulls, yearlings and calves. Now dealer for Redmond Bison mineral. Call Elk Valley Ranches, 780-846-2980, Kitscoty, AB.

BREEDING STOCK: BORN 2016 Breeder bulls available March 2018 and bred heifers available for Nov 2018. Visit our website for pictures or call for pricing. 780-581-3025, Vermilion, AB. irishcreekbison@gmail.com irishcreekbison.com

100 BISON COWS, \$5000 each; 100 bison calves (50 heifers and 50 bulls), taking offers. Call 250-263-3152, Melville, SK.

2 TROPHY WOOD BISON BULLS for sale, 10-12 years old. Located near Esterhazy, SK. Phone 306-745-2743.

BELDON BISON RANCH is offering 30 Select bred 2 y/o heifers. Call Nathan for more information. 306-812-7092, Nipawin, SK. beldonbisonranch@gmail.com

CATTLE

AUCTION SALES 5005

ONE STOP CATTLE FINANCING BC, ALBERTA, SASK.

"Farmers Helping Farmers"

FOOTHILLS LIVESTOCK CO-OP Bred cow program! Feeder Program!

Toll Free 1-866-848-6669 No Restrictions; Purchase and marketing - Your choice www.foothillslivestock.ca

Rocky Mountain House, AB

WHITEWOOD LIVESTOCK SALES HIGHWAY#1 WEST OF WHITEWOOD, SK.

BRED COW & HEIFER SALE SATURDAY DEC 9 @ 11am.

- Calico Cattle Co & Glen Mill Farms 40 simm/angus X Heifers. Bred black angus, March Calving.
- 37 Speckled Park Heifers bred Speckle Park.
- Plus 40 other heifers and 200 cows.

For more info www.facebook.com/whitewoodlivestock or call 306-735-2822

AUCTION SALES 5005



MONDAY DECEMBER 11, 2017 1PM CST

New Location** BIRCHAM RANCH LTD. 8 miles south of Piapot, SK.

530 TOP CUT HEIFERS

- Black Angus • Black Baldies • Red Angus
- Red Baldies • Black Simm X Black Angus
- Tan • Red Angus Simm

Video Sale - Broadcast/Bid Live on DLMS Videos of sale lots available a week prior on DLMS

For More Information Call: Wayne Bircham 306-662-7940 Donnie Peacock 306-662-8288 or visit our Website: rocksolidbredheifer.com

DISPERSALS, BRED HEIFERS and more Saturday, December 9th, 1:00 PM at Johnstone Auction Mart, Moose Jaw, SK. R&R, Lipsett, Beitel, Fahman, Gray, Stevens, Weisbeck, McInnis bred heifers; Sebastian, Bakke, Strickland dispersals 425 + altogether. View details and pictures online at www.johnstoneauction.ca PL#914447.



BRED SALES

MONDAY DEC 4 - 400 Head Six Mile & Customer

400 Red & Black Angus Influence Fancy

THURSDAY DEC 7 - 500 Head Feature:

Denis & Arlene Unvoas Dispersal 140 Sim Angus Cross cows Closed herd, no brands, special rare opportunity includes 5 herd bulls which were sale toppers when bought.

Maurice Bartzen Dispersal 50 Char Cross Cows, Bred Char. 10 Hfns, bred easy calving Red Char. July 1st turnout.

John & Ruth Magee Purebred Red Angus Production Sale, 50 head includes 20 bred hfns and all the X and Y year cows bull turn out July 22. Sold in groups for commercial people but papers available.

Darwin Dueck & Marcy Thoresen Dispersal.

16 young Black & Red Cows. Colin & Dodie Greenwald 30 home raised powerful black brockle hfns. No brands. Turn out June 15.

Wittman Farm 30 Black Hfns - Turn out June 1st. Wayne Flaherty 40 Red 3-4 yr old cows.

MONDAY DEC 11 13th Annual Rock Solid Bred Hfr Sale 550 head Canada's Finest

*New Location at Bircham Ranch

THURSDAY DEC 14 - 600 Head Feature:

Tom Graham Production Sale - 80 Black Hfns Steve Gillis - 100 Black Hfns Gary Chamberlan - 120 Red Cow Dispersal

Peak Dot Ranch - 35 Cows Trevor Platt Reduction - 40 Black Cows

Bill McKetiak - 10 Black Hfns, 20 Tan Hfns, Bred Red Angus June 15th

THURSDAY DEC. 21 - 600 Head Feature:

Norman Amthor (Poverty Valley Farms) Dispersal 150 Black Cows & 5 Rising 3 yr. Old Herd bulls.

Lawrence & Kathryn Olson Dispersal 200 Fancy Black Cows + 2 herd Bulls Todd Dunham 40 home raised red hfns - 1200 lbs. Turn out June 10. Pulled Aug. 15.

Donnie 306-662-8288 Lee 306-741-5701

"Canada's Source for Quality Bred Cattle" FOR MORE INFO CALL (306) 773-3174

AUCTION SALES 5005

Take a Look

Y COULEE LAND & Cattle You Be the Judge Bull and Bred Heifer Sale, Dec. 11, 2017, 1:00 PM, NCL, Vermilion, AB. 60-2 year old Red Angus bulls. 180 traditional Simmental heifers bred to start calving Feb. 15th. 450 Red Angus/Simm. heifers bred to start calving March 15th. 120 Red Angus/Simm. heifers bred to start calving Apr. 1st. Bulls pulled after 45 days. All heifers preg. checked. Heifers on a full health program. Call 780-205-8269, 780-205-2680, thougham@littletoon.ca

WHITEWOOD LIVESTOCK SALES HIGHWAY#1 WEST OF WHITEWOOD, SK.

FRIDAY DEC 15 @ 11am MANNLE FARMS "BALDIES ARE BETTER" PRODUCTION SALE

- 250 top quality, top sorted Red & Black heifers & 2nd calvers.

For more info www.facebook.com/whitewoodlivestock or call Scott Mannle: 306-735-7180 Rhett: 306-735-7813 Chad: 306-735-7810 or WLS: 306-735-2822

BLACK ANGUS 5010

BLACK ANGUS BULLS, two year olds, semen tested, guaranteed breeders. Delivery available. 306-287-3900, 306-287-8006, Englefeld, SK. www.skinnerfarms.ca

PUREBRED BLACK ANGUS long yearling bulls, replacement heifers, AI service. Meadow Ridge Enterprises, 306-373-9140 or 306-270-6628, Saskatoon, SK.

JOHNSON LIVESTOCK FEMALE SALE, Tuesday December 12th, 1:00PM at the ranch near Peebles, SK. This sale features 350 head, which includes 100 bred heifers, cow/calf pairs & bred cows. Mostly AI sired and AI bred. These females will sell individually and in groups accommodating all buyers and all price ranges. There are also 200 commercial bred heifers selling from D&N Livestock, many of which are AI sired and AI bred to the great calving ease sire Final Answer. For more information or a catalogue contact Andrew at 306-736-7393 or T Bar C Cattle Co. at 306-220-5006. View the catalogue online at: www.buyagro.com. Watch and bid online at: www.dlms.ca

ROYAL ANGUS COMPLETE DISPERSAL, Saturday December 16th, 1 PM at SLS, Saskatoon, SK. Selling over 100 head of proven Angus genetics, cow/calf pairs, bred heifers plus bull calves and herd bulls. Calving ease with performance. For more information or a catalogue contact T Bar C Cattle Co. 306-220-5006 or Mel Sisson at 306-852-9047. View the catalogue online at: www.buyagro.com. Watch and bid online at: www.dlms.ca PL# 116061

GLENNIE BROS. are selling 25 purebred Angus females bred to excellent bulls, at Heartland Swift Current, December 14th. Includes 16 bred heifers, and cows 4 years old and younger. Call Wes at Carnduff, SK. 306-339-7578 or 306-482-3813.

100 BLACK ANGUS heifers, bred to registered Black Angus bulls. Can winter and calve out. 306-322-7905, Archerhill, SK.

CROOKED CREEK ANGUS Production Sale, Tuesday December 19th, 1:00PM at Innisfail Auction Mart, Innisfail, AB. Guest consignor K & L Angus, Linda Weins. Offering: 40 top end bred heifers, 20 bred cows, 15 yearling bulls, 15 Red Angus bred cows, 10 Red Angus bull calves. Contact: Rick & Sharon Gabert 780-998-1963, Valentina Gabert 780-916-7218, Linda Weins 780-678-6547 or Mark Holowaychuk OBI 403-896-4990. View online catalogue at: www.cattlemanagement.ca On-line bidding at: www.dlms.ca

SELLING: BLACK ANGUS BULLS. Wayside Angus, Henry and Bernie Jungwirth, 306-256-3607, Cudworth, SK.

RIGHT CROSS RANCH Commercial Bred Heifer & Long Yearling Bull Sale December 4, 1:30. Right Cross Ranch sale facility, Kisbey, SK. Offering 20 long yearling Red & Black Angus bulls and 100 + commercial Black & Red Angus cross Simmental heifers, bred to calving ease Angus bulls. For catalogue or more info, contact Jim at 306-575-7608 or T Bar C Cattle Co. at 306-220-5006. View the catalogue online at: www.buyagro.com PL# 116061

20 YOUNG PUREBRED Black & Red Angus cows: 1 PB Black Angus bull. For more info, call 306-865-4168 Hudson Bay, SK.

20 FANCY HEIFERS, bred Black Angus, bull turned out June 20, polled in 45 d., preg. checked, \$2000. 306-281-8224 Delisle, SK.

SWAN HILLS RANCH Pure bred Angus/Simmental cows. AI for Feb/Mar calving. 204-734-0210, Swan River, MB.

60 BRED BLACK HEIFERS bred Black, bulls out June 27th. Call 306-629-7575 or 306-629-3594, Morse, SK.

BLACK ANGUS 5010



PRODUCER REPRINTS: See a photo you want to own in your Producer? Order professional reproductions of photos or whole newspaper pages for your own walls at reasonable prices. 1-800-667-6978 or email us at photos@producer.com

RIVERBEND DISPERSAL SALE on Friday December 15th, 2:00 at Innisfail Auction Mart, Innisfail, AB. Offering over 200 PB Angus consisting of: 70 cow/calf pairs, 37 bred heifers, 37 bred cows, 14 long yearling bulls and 25 commercial bred females. Contacts: John McBride 403-505-6607, Bud McBride 403-304-2762 or Mark Holowaychuk OBI 403-896-4990. View online catalogue at: www.cattlemanagement.ca On-line bidding: www.dlms.ca

BIRCHAM RANCH BRED HEIFERS: 210 Top cut first cross black brockle face, 35 3/4 Angus black and black brockle face and 35 top cut first cross Black Simm X Black Angus heifers. Bred Black Angus. Bred June 10th to August 6th. All vaccinations. Will deliver. Selling at the Rock Solid Bred Heifer Sale at the new Bircham Ranch Sale Barn, Piapot, SK. December 11, 2017. Call Wayne Bircham at 306-662-7940, or visit www.rocksolidbredheifer.com

29TH ANNUAL Keystone Classic Black & Red Angus Sale, Saturday December 2nd, 2017 at 1:00 PM, Keystone Centre, Brandon, MB. Offering 75+ females, including an elite selection of foundation bred heifers and fancy heifer calves, herd prospects and cow calf pairs. Junior discounts available. For a catalogue or more info, contact T Bar C Cattle Co. Ltd. at 306-933-4200. View the catalogue online at: www.buyagro.com PL# 116061

8th Annual Gehl Ranch & Raymond Land & Cattle Bred Heifer Sale
Saturday, December 2, 2017
At Gehl Ranch - 2:00 PM
Hodgeville, SK
Live Online Sale Day at: DVauction.com

250 Top Quality Black Breds
110 Red Angus/Simmental Bred Heifers
•Pregnancy Tested •Complete Herd Health

For More Information Please Contact:

Richard Gehl 306.677.7077	Dave Raymond 306.741.9408
Taylor Gehl 306.677.7079	Alan Raymond 306.588.2548
Bob Switzer 306.588.2545	Beau Switzer 306.627.3444

Auctioneer Bruce Switzer - 306.773.4200
See Website for more details
www.switzerauction.ca/GehlRay_Auction.htm
See us at Agribition

24 RED ANGUS Heifers bred Red Angus, start calving April 1st, \$2200 each. 306-421-6416, 306-636-2213, Estevan, SK.

29TH ANNUAL Keystone Classic Black & Red Angus Sale, Saturday December 2nd, 2017 at 1:00 PM, Keystone Centre, Brandon, MB. Offering 75+ females, including an elite selection of foundation bred heifers and fancy heifer calves, herd prospects and cow calf pairs. Junior discounts available. For a catalogue or more info, contact T Bar C Cattle Co. Ltd. at 306-933-4200. View the catalogue online at: www.buyagro.com PL# 116061

RETIREMENT DISPERSAL of Angus genetics. 305 straws of semen from 7 Angus sires. 45 embryos from 4 high profile Angus cows. Ph/text for list 780-216-0220.

RED ANGUS 5015

24 RED ANGUS Heifers bred Red Angus, start calving April 1st, \$2200 each. 306-421-6416, 306-636-2213, Estevan, SK.

29TH ANNUAL Keystone Classic Black & Red Angus Sale, Saturday December 2nd, 2017 at 1:00 PM, Keystone Centre, Brandon, MB. Offering 75+ females, including an elite selection of foundation bred heifers and fancy heifer calves, herd prospects and cow calf pairs. Junior discounts available. For a catalogue or more info, contact T Bar C Cattle Co. Ltd. at 306-933-4200. View the catalogue online at: www.buyagro.com PL# 116061

24 RED ANGUS Heifers bred Red Angus, start calving April 1st, \$2200 each. 306-421-6416, 306-636-2213, Estevan, SK.

HERD DISPERSAL: PUREBRED Red Angus cow herd. Established 1982. Never before dispersed or divided. 70 females bred to start calving March 1. 25 top cut 2017 born replacement heifer calves. 15 July-August born pairs, currently being bred for 2018 calving. Herd sires also available. 1-800-667-2251, Cleardale, AB. Email: clearrivergroup@gmail.com Website: clearriverredangus.com

RED ANGUS BULLS, two year olds, semen tested, guaranteed breeders. Delivery available. 306-287-3900, 306-287-8006, Englefeld, SK. www.skinnerfarms.ca

CHAROLAIS 5055

GERRARD CATTLE CO. Complete Dispersal: 120 PB Charolais on offer, incl. 40 yearling & 2-yr-old bulls. This is the entire 2016 & 2017 crop of bulls! Sale is December 14, 2017 at the Ranch in Innisfail, AB. Contact Bouchard Livestock for more details or to request a catalog. 403-946-4999

STEPPLER FARMS - A Piece of the Program Sale, Wednesday, December 13th, 1:00 PM, at the farm, Miami, MB. An elite offering of 45 genetic leading Charolais females. Proven producers, bred heifers & heifer calves with a Junior incentive program. For catalogue or info contact Andre Stepler, cell 204-750-1951 or view catalogue online: www.stepplerfarms.com

NO BORDERS CHAROLAIS SALE, Tuesday Dec. 5th, 1:00 PM, Heartland Livestock, Virden, MB. 48 head of registered females from 12 breeders. Polled, Full French, Red Factor from fancy heifer calves to proven producers. For catalogue or info., contact Helge By, 306-536-4261, or view the catalogue online at: www.bylivestock.com

38TH STERLING COLLECTION Charolais Female Sale, Friday, December 1st, 1:30 PM, at Saskatoon (SK) Livestock Sales. Over 54 head of quality breeding stock. Fancy show prospects to proven producers. For catalogue or info., contact Helge By 306-536-4261, or view the catalogue online at: www.bylivestock.com

WILGENBUSCH CHAROLAIS Volume II Female Sale, Monday, December 11th, 1:00 PM, at the ranch, Halbrite, SK. 35 bred heifers & 9 heifer calves of breed leading genetics from the largest Charolais herd in Saskatchewan. For catalogue or information contact Craig Wilgenbusch 306-458-7482 or view catalogue & videos online at: www.wilgenbuschcharolais.com

TULLY & ARLENE HATCH'S, Pleasant Dawn Charolais Dispersal Sale, Saturday, December 9th, 1:00 PM, Heartland Livestock, Brandon, MB. 194 head including: bred cows & heifers, heifer calves, bull calves and herd bulls. Great polled, maternal herd developed over 35 years of breeding. Excellent opportunity to start a new Charolais herd with proven cow families. For catalogue or info contact Tully Hatch 204-855-2402 or view the catalogue online at: www.bylivestock.com

HEREFORD 5090



BIG GULLY FARM BULL SALE Thursday, Dec. 14th, 5:00 PM MST. 12 miles North of Maidstone, SK. Horned and Polled, long yearlings and bull calves. FREE wintering, delivery, BSE and carcass ultrasound. Volume Discount of 5% on 2+ head. Repeat Buyer Discount of 2%. View videos, info, and catalogue at: www.bigullyfarm.com Lance Leachman: 306-903-7299 or email: bigullyfarm@gmail.com Online bidding at: www.LiveAuctions.tv

HOLSTEIN 5100

BREED HOLSTEIN HEIFER, and some jerseys for sale. Call 519-323-3074, Heifer Ville Holstein Inc., Holstein, Ont.

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.

SALERS 5185

PUREBRED SALERS HERD DISPERSAL

SIMMENTAL 5205

DECEMBER 9TH LWC RANCH are selling approx. 180 Simmental Cross heifers at NCL Vermilion, AB. Bred to Angus. Calving March and April. Contact Scott at 780-214-1198, or Blaine at 306-821-0112.

DOUBLE BAR D FARMS Sharing The Herd Fall Female Sale, Wednesday December 6th, 1:00PM, at Double Bar D Sale Barn, Grenfell, SK. Offering 58 lots of the finest Fleckvieh, Red & Black Simmental, & Simm-Angus females available. Featuring fancy open heifers, powerful bred females and exclusive semen packages. For more information or a catalogue contact Ken Dimler 306-697-7204 or T Bar C Cattle Co. Ltd. at 306-220-5006. View the catalogue online: www.BuyAgro.com PL # 116061

FULL FLECKVIEH & PB bred heifers, most due in Jan., bred to Captain Morgan son, top quality deep heifers. Curtis Mattson, 306-944-4220, 306-231-9994, Meacham.

LWC RANCH SELLING Simmental bulls by private treaty. 2-year-old, yearling, and off-age bulls. Traditional, reds, blacks, Simmental Cross Angus. Contact Scott at 780-214-1198, or Blaine at 306-821-0112.

TEXAS LONGHORN 5225

TEXAS LONGHORN PB Herd Dispersal by Bon's Texas Longhorns - In purebreds since 1990. 22 cows w/calves born Aug. & Sept. 14 yearling heifers & 2 red herd sires. Lots of solid black and red. Will turn bulls out November 10-15th unless buyer wishes to hold breeding until spring. All papers are TLBAA and will transfer that way. 403-566-2232, 403-363-5732, Sunnynook, AB. E-mail: lstringer@xplornet.com

WELSH BLACK 5235

WELSH BLACK- The Brood Cow Advantage. Check www.canadianwelshblackcattle.com Canadian Welsh Black Soc. 403-442-4372.

CATTLE VARIOUS 5240

50 SIMMENTAL & SIMMENTAL Cross bred cows and heifers, bred Simmental, start calving March 1st. 306-762-4723, Odessa.

3J SIMMENTAL FARMS has for sale 200 plus Simmental and Simm./Red Angus cross bred heifers, bred to Red or Black Angus. All one iron, excellent quality. They don't come any better! Call Gordon 306-327-8005, 306-327-9211, Lintlaw, SK

110 BRED RED ANGUS Simmental cross heifers, bred Red Angus for 30 day calving period, bulls out July 1st. 306-355-2700, 306-631-0997, Mortlach, SK.

21 BRED HEIFERS, RWF, BWF, black. Bred Polled Hereford Red Angus, very quiet. Erwin Lehmann 306-232-4712 Rosthern SK

29 RED ANGUS Simmental Cross Heifers, bred Red Angus, calving ease bull, due April 1st. 306-283-9276, Langham, SK.



COZY CAPS! Ear protection for newborn calves! 306-739-0020, Wawota, SK. Email cozycaps@outlook.com

BURGESS RANCH will be selling top cut Black Baldy heifers at the Rock Solid Bred Heifer Sale, December 11, 2017, 1:00 PM at Bircham Ranch. For more info, call Joe 306-558-4705 or 306-662-7818.

HERD DISPERSAL Dec 15, 2017, 12 noon, Heartland Livestock Services, Virden, MB. 145 Angus Simmental cross cows, 120 are 5 yrs., old or younger. Calving from mid Feb. to end of Apr. Bred to high performing Simmental and Angus bulls, complete health protocol avail. Cattle can be viewed on the farm after Dec. 1 till sale time. Contact Sundance Valley Ranch, Marcel and Jean Fouillard 204-683-2208. Heartland Livestock Services, Robin or Rick 204-748-2809.

BURNETT 4TH ANNUAL Bred Heifer Sale, Sunday December 3, 2017 at 2:30 PM at the Ranch, 12 miles south west of Swift Current, SK. Featuring 70 Heifers bred to Black Angus and Red Angus calving ease bulls; 10 purebred Black Angus; 30 commercial Black Angus; 17 F1 Black Angus cross Tarentaise; 10 Red Angus cross Hereford; 3 Black Angus cross Shorthorn. Pregnancy tested, sound and quiet. For more info: Wyatt 306-750-7822 or Bryce 306-773-7065, wburnett@xplornet.ca

CATTLEMAN'S FINANCIAL CORP. Programs for cow/calf operators and feedlots, proceeds as you sell and equity draws. 780-448-0033 or www.cattlefinance.com

50 BRED HEIFERS, black and BBF, easy calving, due April 10th, \$2300 OBO. Phone 403-862-7674, Strathmore, AB.

EXCELLENT SET of hand picked Red, RWF, & Black heifers. 112 red and RWF, exposed 45 days, start calving Feb 1st. 160 red and RWF, exposed 60 days, start calving April 1st. 40 black, exposed 60 days, start calving April 1st. Average weight 1200 lbs. Bred to top of the line Red Angus low BW bulls. 403-740-5197, Big Valley, AB.

100 BLACK ANGUS 3rd and 4th calvers; 250 Black & Red Angus 2nd calvers. Swift Current, SK. 306-773-1049, 306-741-6513.

CATTLE WANTED 5245

CUSTOM CATTLE FEEDING, back-grounding, finishing; also bred cattle. 403-631-2373, 403-994-0581, Olds, AB.

WANTED: CULL COWS and bulls. For bookings call Kelly at Drake Meat Processors, 306-363-2117 ext. 111, Drake, SK.

HORSES

PAINT 5390

STALLIONS, GELDINGS, MARES. Phone: 306-283-4495 (evenings), Langham, SK. www.livingwaterpaintsandquarters.com

HORSES VARIOUS 5460

30 HORSES FOR SALE; Plus a Brown & White team of Gypsy Vanner, broke to ride and drive; and 4 saddle horses. Call 306-435-3634, Moosomin, SK.

HARNESS/VEHICLES 5470

HORSE COLLARS, all sizes, steel and aluminum horseshoes. We ship anywhere. Keddie's, 1-800-390-6924 or keddies.com

ATTENTION HARNESS MAKERS: I have a quantity of harness', hardware & a Pearson sewing machine for sale. Give me a call 780-879-2385 for more info., Alliance, AB.

SWINE

SWINE VARIOUS 5670

OUTSIDE BUTCHER PIGS for sale. Dress out 200+ lbs. Can butcher. Phone 306-369-7449, Bruno, SK.

PIGS VARIETY ETC. Butcher and Weaners, range fed, no hormones. 306-342-4662, Glaslyn, SK.

SPECIALTY

ELK 5760

FOR SALE: Small closed young Elk herd, 10 bulls & 12 females. Call 306-839-7794

ELK WANTED! If you have elk to supply to market let AWAPCO be your first choice. \$11.50/kg. Call our office at 780-980-7589, info@wapiitriver.com

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FFS- FUCHS FARM SUPPLY is your partner in agriculture. Stocking mixer, cutter, feed wagons and bale shredders. We are industry leaders in **Roil-Oyl** cattle oilers. 306-762-2125, Vibank, SK. www.fuchs.ca

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PAYSEN 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

Misc. ARTICLES 5850

USED PIPE AND SUCKER RODS: 2-3/8", 2-7/8", 3-1/2" used pipe, \$36/ea; 7/8", 1" sucker rods, \$12/ea. Call 306-460-7966 or 306-460-4166, Kindersley, SK.

NEW 8' TRUCK cap, white in colour; Wheelchair new; Scooter; Treadmill, like new. 306-233-5241, Wakaw, SK.

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

CERTIFIED ORGANIC YELLOW FLAX. Also Wanted: Organic Producers under contract. Reynald 204-878-4839 or 204-794-8550, reynald@milletking.com St. Claude, MB.

CERTIFIED Organic Red Proso Cerise millet seed. Wanted: Organic Producers under contract. Reynald 204-878-4839 or 204-794-8550, reynald@milletking.com St. Claude, MB.

WANTED: ORGANIC LENTILS, peas and chickpeas. Stonehege Organics, Assiniboia, SK., 306-640-8600, 306-640-8437.

PERSONAL VARIOUS 5952

ARE YOU SINGLE and would rather be in love? Camelot Introductions has been successfully matching people for over 23 years. In-person interviews by Intuitive Matchmaker in MB and SK. Call 306-978-LOVE (5683), 204-257-LOVE (5683) www.camelotintroductions.com

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, On.

NON REGISTERED 5971

PUREBRED FOX RED Lab puppies, ready to go for Christmas, 4 males, 3 females. Will be vet checked, dewormed, and have first shots. 306-368-2515, Lake Lenore, SK.

WORKING DOGS 5973

PUREBRED BORDER COLLIE pups for sale, Elvin Kopp bloodlines, can be papered, c/w 1st shots, vet checked, micro chipped, \$850. Call 403-575-1309, Consort, AB.

LARGE PUREBRED ALASKAN malamute/cross pups. Born Oct 10, these well marked pups, possess strong stamina, and loyalty, reasonably priced at \$350. Call 306-947-2190, Heppburn, SK.

REGISTERED BORDER COLLIE pups from working parents. Call Richard Smith 780-846-2643, Kitscoty, AB.

REAL ESTATE

B.C. PROPERTIES 6110

RETIRING/SNOWBIRD? Call local realtor Bob Granholm to help you find your new home in the south Okanagan of BC. Mild winters and only true desert area of Canada! 250-983-3372, rbgtroper@gmail.com RE/MAX Wine Capital Realty, Oliver.

SOOKE, BC.: 1 hour west of Victoria. 4200 sq. ft., 4 bdrm., 3 bath, 1/2 acre, ocean view; Plus adjoining 1/3 acre C3 commercial with buildings. MLS® 378889 & MLS® 381189. Call 250-642-5172.

SAVE up to \$17,000 on your J&H ready-to-move **Show Home** or **SAVE up to \$8,000** on the move of your J&H **Custom Home**. We'll send you to the Paradise of your choice **FREE** * \$3,000 Travel Voucher with Vacations Away Inc. Offers valid until Dec. 31, 2017. 2505 Ave C North, Saskatoon 306-652-5322 1-877-665-6660 www.jhhomes.com WESTERN CANADA'S MOST TRUSTED RTM HOME BUILDER SINCE 1969

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COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS/LAND 6115

2 ACRES COMMERCIAL property w/20'x70' trailer: Trailer is 1/2 office space, 1/2 resident space. Includes 20'x20' work shed & twenty 20 amp plug-ins on rack w/yard lights, \$500,000. Will sell trailer separate. All structures only 5 yrs. old. Phone 780-691-9552, 867-536-7718, Fort Nelson, BC. E-mail: pnesunset@yahoo.ca

LAND FOR SALE: RM Fertile Valley #285: NW-3-27-9-W3, NE-21-27-9-W3, SW-10-27-9-W3, SE-26-27-9-W3; NW-21-27-9-W3; **LAND FOR CASH RENT:** RM Mildren 286: N-1/2 7-29-11-W3. (Includes 5000 bu. storage). LSD 5,6,7, 7-29-11-W3. RM of Fertile Valley 285: NE-22-27-9-W3, NE-14-27-9-W3, SE-14-27-9-W3, NE-15-27-9-W3, SW-14-27-9-W3, SE-15-27-9-W3, NE-10-27-9-W3, NW-14-27-9-W3, NE-27-26-9-W3; RM of Coteau #225: NE-27-26-9-W3 (Incl. 5000 bu. storage). Tenders close March 31, 2017. Contact: Doug Lammers 306-867-7227. Email: djammers@xplornet.com

COTTAGE/LOTS 6125

LOG SIDING, LOG cabin logs, Fir timbers, Fir flooring, Cedar. Special orders. Check out more info. at: ruckerbro.com Lumby, BC., 1-800-960-3388.

MOBILE HOMES 6127

WWW.MEDALLION-HOMES.CA modular homes/lake houses/RTM's. Visit our sales lot, or check online for stock, homes and all other plans. Factory direct orders built to your specs! Trade-ins welcome, buy and sell used homes. Hwy 2 South, Prince Albert, SK. Call 306-764-2121 or toll free 1-800-249-3969.

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RESORTS 6129

DELUXE, MOVE-IN READY, Park Model, Yuma, AZ, 55+ gated park. One owner, 9' ceilings, 17x34' screened/covered patio, 8x15' finished shed. Hardy board ext. 40x55' lot, completely landscaped. \$5,500 CAD. Phone 587-416-7289.

VEGAS TIMESHARE: INT'L exchanges, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, full kitchen, laundry, fireplace, pools, selling due to health. 306-453-2958, Carlyle, SK.

WINTER GETAWAY In Arizona for Sale, Park Model & Lot in 55+ gated community. Access to pools, golf course, all recreation, art & hobby facilities. 520-868-4134, winterfun@juno.com

RECREATIONAL PROPERTY 6130

2002 CAVCO MANUFACTURED Home, Tuscany MH Park, Yuma, AZ., 1066 sq. ft., 2 bed, 2 bath, new AC and heat unit (Nov. 2016). Unique park w/only mobile homes. All offers considered. Call 306-325-4450.

FARMS & RANCHES

ALBERTA 6132

Take a Look
ORGANIC LAND in MD of Mackenzie: 1200 seeded ac., 1800 sq.ft house w/garage, 6800 sq.ft. shop, 60x120 cold storage, 100,000+ bu. grain storage, on school bus route, power, phone, natural gas, dugout. 780-928-2538 or 780-841-1180.

150 ACRES WITH 238,070 sq.ft barn near Cardston. ID# 1100616. Unique property on 150 acres features: 238,070 sq. ft. of barn space, 2 state of the art vet rooms w/full line of handling equipment, 6,448 sq. ft. office complex & laboratory, 102.8 acres of water rights (plus a good dugout) & a 1200 sq. ft. well-kept home on a full basement; **Central Alberta 477 acres of prime land, ID#1100566.** Prime Farm Land! Excellent location only 15 minutes west of Olds. 477 acres of #2 soil is a rare find! There are 5 separate titles, a very nice 1384sq.ft. home, 2 car garage, and numerous out-buildings. Current production of all the land is hay with 3 cuts sometimes possible. Real Estate Centre, 1-866-345-3414. View all of our listings: www.farmrealestate.com

SASKATCHEWAN 6133

NEAR KRONAU SK, 1/2 hr. from Regina 80 acres w/character home and outbuildings; Near Pilot Butte 68 acres with yardsite; Near Pilot Butte 80 acres with yardsite. Brian Tiefenbach, 306-536-3269, Colliers Int. Regina, SK. www.collierscanada.com

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LAND FOR RENT: 132 ac., NW 1/4 5-35-4 W3, RM of Corman Park No.344, 10 miles from Saskatoon. Call/text 403-462-0570.

FOR SALE BY TENDER: RM of Eagle Creek No. 376, NW 11-38-11 W3, NE 11-38-11 W3. Tenders accepted until midnight December 13, 2017. Submit Tenders to: K. Enns, Box 577, Shellbrook, SK., S0J 2E0. jettamyrna@gmail.com. The highest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

SALE BY TENDER RM 271: SE 17-29-32 W1. Tenders to close Dec. 15, 2017. Possession date Feb. 15, 2018. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Submit tenders with 10% deposit marked "RM 271 Tender" to Stooshinoff Law Office, 300 416-21st St East, Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0C2. Deposit will be returned if offer not accepted, taxes will be adjusted as of possession date.

BY TENDER: NE 1/4 02-35-15-W2, 145-150 arable ac. Send Tender to: Accent Credit Union, c/o Denise Krockner, Commissioner of Oaths, Box 520, Quill Lake SK., S0A 3E0. A certified cheque must accompany the Tender in the amount of 5% of the bid payable to Lawrence Omelian. Highest or any Tender not necessarily accepted. Closing date is January 12, 2018.

WANTED: GRAIN LAND for rent in Northern/Central Saskatchewan. Call Mike 306-469-7741, Big River, SK.

SASKATCHEWAN 6133

LAND FOR SALE by Tender: RM of Hoodoo, NE 14-43-26-W2. Approx. 150 cult. acres. Approx. 6 miles NE of Wakaw. Title clear, taxes paid 2017, currently rented. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Send tenders to: PO Box 302, Wakaw, SK. S0K 4P0. markowskym@gmail.com

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RE/MAX SASKATOON

QUARTER SECTION IN RM of Bjorkdale, SK. #426. SW 19-45-09 W2. 147 acres, approx. 100 cultivated. Phone 306-864-7922.

TOM@SASKFARMLAND.COM Kenaston, 958 acres. Individual 1/4's available. Tenant available. \$930,000 MLS. Coldwell Banker Signature. Tom 306-260-7838.

SASKATCHEWAN 6133

PRIME FARMING LOCATION!!! Great opportunity for the start-up farmer who wants to be not too far out of a major city. This farm is perfect if you're in the market for a start-up farm or want to add more land to your existing land base. Property has a 1/4 section of good cultivated land and an older dairy with other outbuildings complete the package. ID#1100599 Oiler, SK. MLS@. Real Estate Centre, 1-866-345-3414. For all our listings visit: www.farmrealestate.com

TOM@SASKFARMLAND.COM Meadow Lake hunting land. Pines, heavy big game, trails. 160 acres. \$84,500 MLS. Coldwell Banker Signature. Tom 306-260-7838.



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Call Wade Berlinic for full details and how this option may fit YOUR farmland.



SASKATCHEWAN 6133

FARMLAND NE SK (Clemenceau) 4 qtrs plus 36 acre riverside parcel with 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, exc. elk hunting and other big game and goose. 580 acres wheat, mustard, barley and peas. Full line of farm and sawmill equipment also available. Will separate. Reg Hertz, 306-865-7469.



MACK AUCTION CO. presents a land and oil revenue auction for the Estate of Elizabeth Debusschere. Thursday Dec. 7, 2017 at the Stoughton Legion Hall, Stoughton, SK, 7:00 PM. Up for auction are 5 quarters of farm land and pasture in the heart of the oil patch near Stoughton, SK. 1) NE 26-08-08 W2, RM of Tecumseh No.65: 160 titled ac., approx. \$331.45, 2017 crop canola, 2 Westeel 1650 bu. bins on wood floors, surface lease revenue \$23,250; 2) SE 26-08-08 W2, RM of Tecumseh No.65: 157 titled ac., approx. 120 cult. ac., FVA 77715, 2017 taxes \$330.05, dugout, surface lease revenue \$6750; 3) NW 06-09-06 W2, RM of Brock No.64: 160 titled ac., FVA 30420, 2017 taxes \$171.26, pasture, partially fenced, surface lease revenue \$6800; 4) NE 06-09-06 W2, RM of Brock No.64: 160 titled ac., FVA 54450, 2017 taxes \$306.55, pasture, partially fenced; 5) SW 06-09-06 W2, RM of Brock No.64: 160 titled ac., FVA 34200, 2017 taxes \$192.55, pasture, partially fenced, surface lease revenue \$6400. 10% non-refundable down on sale day, balance due in 30 days. For sale bill & pics visit www.mackauctioncompany.com Join us on Facebook and Twitter. 306-421-2928 or 306-487-7815. Mack Auction Company, PL#311962.

RM CANWOOD #494, 3 quarters: Grain, pasture and hay, 265 acres cult. On school bus route. UG power and phone on 2 good yard sites, 2013 assessment \$203,700. 306-747-2775 after 6 PM, Shellbrook, SK.

TOM@SASKFARMLAND.COM Interested in the value of your farmland and considering selling? Up to date market evaluations done at your farm. Coldwell Banker Signature. Tom Neufeld 306-260-7838.

MANITOBA 6134

1) LARGE DAIRY FARM west of Brandon; 2) 1/2 Section close to and west of Winnipeg. Henry Kuhl: Farmland Specialist, Royal LePage Alliance, Winnipeg, MB. 204-885-5500, 204-856-3140.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION IN RM of ARMSTRONG. Cozy mid 1950's farmhouse on 80 acres of fenced pasture and hayland. Asking \$160,000 OBO. Call after 6:00 PM, 204-643-5697, Fraserwood, MB.

EXCELLENT LIVESTOCK FARMS: 1) Horse ranch in Erickson, MB., Riding arena & buildings in fantastic condition. 2) 320 acre farm, Carnduff, SK. Jim McLachlan 204-724-7753, Re/Max Valleyview Realty Inc., Brandon, MB.

MANITOBA FARMS: 1. Excellent mixed farm, 5 quarters; 390 cultivated acres, class B soil. Very good 1400 sq. ft. 3 bdrm home, garage, good water. Possibly more land available. Located in Shoal Lake area. 2. Half section of good grain land. Class B Newdale clay loam, yardsite w/machine shed and 13,400 bushels storage. North of Shoal Lake. 3. 3 quarters of pasture land on same section. Cross fenced with dugouts and well for winter watering. SW of Rivers. Contact listing agent Rick Taylor, 204-867-7551 RE/MAX Valleyview Realty, ricktaylor@remax.net www.remax.ca



CHATFIELD/POPLARFIELD: Opportunity to run your own cattle & grain farm. 1240 sq. ft. bungalow. 800 ac. owned, 1920 leased. 200 acres cult. balance hay & fenced pasture. Many outbuildings, \$799,000. Call Claudette: 1-888-629-6700. LJBaron.com

PASTURES 6136

MULCHING - TREES, BRUSH, Stumps. Call today 306-933-2950. Visit us at: www.maverickconstruction.ca

WANTED 6138

LOOKING FOR CROP/HAY/PASTURE in Central Alberta. Paying above average rates. Call 403-742-9469.

LOOKING FOR CROPLAND to rent between Olds and Calgary. Prefer west of Hwy. 56. Call 403-994-0085, Didsbury, AB.

WANTED TO PURCHASE FARMLAND with lots of oil wells and battery sites on property. 780-499-2367, Edmonton, AB.

LOOKING FOR FARMLAND to cash rent in the RM's of: Kindersley, Oakdale, Prairiedale & Milton. Call Brennan 306-460-0276.

ACREAGES 6139

RM OF SPIRITWOOD No. 496- 36.8 acres featuring a 2 storey house, 3 bdrms, 2 baths, 2100 sq. ft. and attached double garage! All major appliances including a fireplace are natural gas and included! 32 x48 heated shop w/cement floor, 40x60 steel quonset w/dirt floor, 2 water wells plus 3 water bowls. MLS# 610213. Lloyd is in need of good grain land/livestock operations with early spring or earlier possession! Call Lloyd Ledinski, RE/MAX of the Battlefords, North Battleford, SK, 306-446-8800 or 306-441-0512.

ACREAGES 6139



32 ACRES: 2 homes, outbuildings and much more! Now reduced to \$995,000. Call 403-703-5548 or www.gerardchiasion.com

DWEIN TASK REALTY INC. Saskatoon/Conquest: Mint 1560 sq. ft. bungalow on 10 acres. Absolutely all the bells and whistles! 40x60' straight wall shed, c/w 16' wall. Mature yard. MLS SK. 709771 \$599,900; Saskatoon/Asquith: Nicely updated 1504 sq. ft. bungalow on 80 acres, 40x60' dream shop and 32x100' storage building. MLS SK 707238. \$549,900. Call Dwein 306-221-1035.

29 ACRES FOR SALE: South of Craik, SK. Well treed yard w/1200 sq. ft. 3 bdrm. bungalow, 45' carport, 1.5 baths, sand point well, high efficiency wood burning fire place, new metal roof & vinyl siding. New septic system. 32x40 heated shop w/new metal roof. Steel quonset 35x50. Garage 25x50 w/cement floor & new metal roof, \$350,000 OBO. Call 306-734-2932.

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4 WHEEL BOMBARDIER Rotax, 250 hrs, like new, \$4000; Wanted: 14' bumper hitch dump trailer. 306-304-1959, Goodsoil, SK.

MOTOR HOMES 6166



2018 THOR ARIA 3901, 39' diesel pusher, quad slides, Allison trans. # JQJP4904, \$289,000. Call 1-866-346-3148 or shop online 24/7 at: allandale.com

2012 FORD EXPLORER LTD. Brown. Extras: Blue OX hitch & wiring for towing, 90,000 kms., \$23,000 OBO. 306-272-7333, Foam Lake, SK.

SNOWMOBILES 6168

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LEASE RIDER. Gem Grazing Association is seeking a summer pasture rider for approx 2500 cow/calf pairs. Employment is April to Oct. 31 yearly. Year round housing is provided. Interested applicants can submit resume to gemgrazingassoc@outlook.com or by mail: Box 7, Gem, AB. T0J 1M0 or fax 403-641-2485 on or before Dec. 4, 2017. Only those who are short listed will be contacted for an interview. For more info. call 403-633-0530.

MCDONALD CREEK PASTURE is accepting tenders for Pasture Manager, 1640 head pasture, Tenders closes Dec. 31, 2017, for info contact Allan 306-222-3915, Email: a.lqutaerhorse@sasktel.net. Mail: Box 1, Grandora, SK, S0K 1V0.

DAIRY HERD MANAGER wanted on a progressive dairy farm. Milking 240 cows in a new facility with an automated milking system in SE Manitoba. Management responsibilities include herd health, breeding program and some barn equipment maintenance. Be part of a management team that includes the owners, a veterinarian, a nutritionist and equipment specialists. For more info. contact Charles at 204-371-0711 or David at 204-371-6081.

HELPER WANTED ON mixed farm. Steady job for right person. Room and board avail. 403-631-2373, 403-994-0581, Olds, AB.

HELP WANTED on grain & cattle operation. Must have valid drivers license and experience with cattle and machinery. 780-582-2254, Forestburg, AB.

FARM/RANCH 8016

FARM LABOURER REQUIRED for livestock available on small feedlot grain farm at Crossfield, AB. Experience with livestock and equipment required. Clean Class 3 driver's licence or willingness to obtain a must. Varied work that's never boring. Housing available if needed. Good wages for experienced person. Contact Dan, 403-369-2296, westridgefarm@gmail.com

PERMANENT FULL-TIME POSITION available on small feedlot grain farm at Crossfield, AB. Experience with livestock and equipment required. Clean Class 3 driver's licence or willingness to obtain a must. Varied work that's never boring. Housing available if needed. Good wages for experienced person. Contact Dan, 403-369-2296, westridgefarm@gmail.com

FULL-TIME FARM LABOURER HELP. Applicants should have previous farm experience and mechanical ability. Duties include operation of machinery, including tractors and other farm equipment, as well as general farm laborer duties. \$25/hour depending on experience. Must be able to cross US border. Location: Pierson, MB. Feland Bros. Farms, Greg Feland and Wade Feland, Box 284, Pierson, MB. R0M 1S0. 701-756-6954.

RANCH HAND REQUIRED on a large Southern Alberta cattle ranch. Must be experienced at moving cattle on horseback and able to work with others. The job entails feeding and treating cattle, haying and riding horses to move cattle throughout the year. Accommodation available on site. Resume and references required. 403-344-2205, 403-344-4333.

RANCH HAND: 50,000 acre ranch seeking full-time ranch hand. General duties include: Riding, fencing, haying, machinery maintenance and animal husbandry. Located SE of Medicine Hat, AB. Accommodations provided. Competitive wages. Email resume to: mbarranch@gmail.com

FULL-TIME HERDS PERSON REQUIRED on organic dairy farm. Duties include monitoring cattle health, artificial insemination & milking. Exp. required, 3 yrs. minimum as herd manager and diploma, \$15.50/hr. Mail resume: St. Brigids Dairy Ltd., 42352 Brandon Road, Brussels, Ont., N0G 1H0. stbrigidsdairy@gmail.com

FORESTRY/LOGGING 8018

BUTT & TOP LOG Loader Operator needed for Northern Alberta. Will train if you have excavator experience or log picker truck experience. Text 780-689-7917 or email: woodcoll@mcsnet.ca

HELP WANTED 8024

CLAYTON AIR SERVICE LTD is seeking 2 Professional Turbine Helicopter Ag Pilots for the 2018 spray season flying a Jet Ranger, from June 1st - September 27th, completing aerial application on fields across Sask & occasionally other provinces. Requirements: Must be committed to entire season or make prior arrangements; Commercial helicopter licence; Provincial pesticide licence; Current aviation medical; Endorsement on Jet Ranger considered an asset and turbine experience preferred. Turbine experienced pilots will be given preference based on hours of experience, (500 hrs. Ag spraying required). If no suitable candidate is found training, mentorship and/or apprentice program will be considered for the right individual. Strong ability to adapt to changing situations and maintain a positive attitude with customers, co-workers, and supervisors. Strong communication and problem solving abilities, with quality service delivery as the utmost priority. Proficiency in English reading and writing. Capable of operating Satlock guidance systems or equivalent. Must be insurable. Accommodations and vehicle provided during employment. Wage \$60/hr. 40 hrs./week. Bonuses based on performance. Workers compensation provided. Contact Clayton Repek, Clayton Air Service Ltd., Box 87, Leask, SK. S0J 1M0. Phone 306-497-7401, Fax 306-466-9994. Please e-mail resume to: applyclaytonairsk@gmail.com

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HELP WANTED 8024

MEIJER HONEYFARM is looking for applicants for the 2018 season. **8 Apiary Technicians:** NOC 8431 required with minimum two years (seasons) experience at a large scale Canadian beekeeping operation. Job duties per NOC 8431. Wages start at \$16/hour (or current wage according to NOC code). We require **9 Apiary workers:** NOC 8431 with minimum one year beekeeping experience. Wages start at \$14/hour (or current wage according to NOC code). Job duties as per NOC 8431. All positions are full-time on a seasonal basis from March through October and can expect minimum 40 hrs./week. All wages are negotiable depending on experience. **All applicants must be physically fit and accustomed to working w/honeybees.** Apply to: m@magtech.ca Meijer Honeyfarm, 181072 Twp. Rd. 32-4, Box 295, Delia, AB. T0J 0W0.

MANAGEMENT 8025

RANCH MANAGER NEEDED: Bar K Ranch is seeking an experienced Ranch Manager with exceptional administrative, planning, communication, veterinary and cattle handling skills. The successful candidate will manage all aspects of the cow-calf ranch, calving 1000 cows and farming 8000 acres for feed. Researching new technologies & mechanization is a must. Position is full time with a competitive benefits package, lakefront family home on-site, vehicle and cellphone. Submit your resume to: resumes@carrierlumber.ca or please fax 250-563-9371.

TRADES/TECHNICAL 8044

JOURNEYMAN AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT Technician needed at Pentagon Farm Centre in Lacombe, AB. We need someone who has experience repairing all types of farm equipment. Please send your resume to: hr@pentagonfarm.com

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EXPERIENCED CLASS 1 DRIVERS wanted to haul livestock or gravel. Health plan and safety bonuses. Year round work. 403-625-4658.

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OILFIELD TRUCK DRIVER Farmers wanted for seasonal employment. Work on the farm during the summer and make extra cash in the winter. Winter season starts in November and ends in March. Earnings average over \$10,000 per month. Must have Class 3 or 1 drivers license. Willing to be away from home for long periods of time. Job training is provided. Submit your resume with driver's abstract. 403-504-1711, sschwab@patsoffroad.com

TRUCK DRIVERS 8046

Winter Cereals Canada Inc. is the management organization responsible for the operation of Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc. and the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission, both of which represent the growers of winter cereals in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and manage provincially collected levy. We are looking for a dynamic individual to assume the responsibilities of Executive Director of Winter Cereals Canada and the two provincial organizations under ongoing management contracts. The successful candidate will have a good understanding of winter wheat, fall rye and winter triticale production in western Canada. Duties will include: Day to day office management, maintenance of finances for all three organizations, liaison with Levy Central concerning levy collection, liaison with provincial and federal regulatory agencies, liaison with other levy collection agencies in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and coordination with research institutions funded by both provincial bodies. The executive Director also designs and edits a three issue per year full color newsletter and coordinates annual general meetings and board meetings. The successful applicant will live in Manitoba or Saskatchewan and may choose to work from a home office environment. The successful candidate is preferred to be a member of or become a member of the Saskatchewan or Manitoba Institute of Agrologists. This position is equivalent to approximately 60% full time employment. Salary commensurate with experience. Some travel is required. Interested parties should e-mail applications and resumes to apply@wintercerealscanada.org by December 15, 2017. Only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Additional information if required is available by contacting Winter Cereals Canada Inc. at 866-472-4611.



Ranch Manager Needed

Bar K Ranch is seeking an experienced Ranch Manager with exceptional administrative, planning, communication, veterinary and cattle handling skills. The successful candidate will manage all aspects of the cow-calf ranch, calving 1000 cows on 8000 deeded acres. Researching new technologies & mechanization is a must. Position is full time with a competitive benefits package, lakefront family home on-site, vehicle and cellphone.

Bar K Ranch



Submit your resume to resumes@carrierlumber.ca or fax 250-563-9371

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NAFTA talks have U.S. farmers on pins and needles

Producers worry U.S. President Donald Trump may eventually pull out of the deal if he's not satisfied with negotiations

BY ROBERT ARNASON
BRANDON BUREAU

Maria Zieba knows when U.S. President Donald Trump has tweeted about the North American Free Trade Agreement.

For hours after the tweet, Zieba's cellphone doesn't stop beeping.

"Every time there is a tweet or some sort of article on NAFTA, my (email) inbox gets inundated," said Zieba, director of international affairs with the National Pork Producers Council in Washington, D.C. "And I get hundreds of text messages from producers saying, 'what's going on, Maria?'"

Zieba and many other people in Washington are trying to find out "what's going on" when it comes to NAFTA.

They are confused because the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers and nearly every agricultural association in the United States supports NAFTA, even as the Trump administration seems determined to kill the deal.

"Our producers are really concerned," Zeiba said.

"They really want us to be involved and active (on NAFTA)."

Representatives of Canada, Mexico and the U.S. met in Mexico City earlier this month for the latest round of NAFTA re-negotiations.

The three countries began formal talks to update and modernize NAFTA in August after Trump



Union workers protest against the North American Free Trade Agreement negotiations outside of the fifth round of NAFTA talks in Mexico City Nov. 17. The negotiations are also worrying the American agricultural sector. | REUTERS/CARLOS JASSO PHOTO

promised to rip up or renegotiate the deal during his 2016 campaign.

Analysts are concerned the U.S. is on track to terminate NAFTA because American negotiators have put forward proposals that are untenable for Canada and Mexico, such as changing rules of origin around automobile manufacturing so that half of all content comes from the U.S. and eliminating a mechanism to resolve disputes.

There was minimal progress in

Mexico City to push a deal forward, and hog farmers in the U.S. are getting worried, Zieba said.

They are concerned because 40 percent of U.S. pork exports go to Canada and Mexico.

"They are really scared about withdrawal," she said.

"They've looked at the numbers and (it's) \$12.40 per pig lost if we withdraw from the NAFTA market. It's going to put a lot of people out of business."

Pork producers and many other American farmers are worried that if NAFTA falls apart, competitors will step in and seize their two best markets for exports.

In mid-November, before the negotiations in Mexico City, 168 agri-food groups and businesses sent a letter to all 50 U.S. governors. The letter, signed by Fortune 500 companies such as CHS, Cargill and John Deere, reminded the governors of the importance of NAFTA

and the consequences of a U.S. withdrawal.

"(It) would fuel additional uncertainty among our North American trading partners, creating a sense of urgency to explore non-U.S. origin sources of supply," the letter said.

"Contracts would be renegotiated or cancelled, sales would be delayed or lost altogether, able foreign competitors would rush to seize our export markets, and litigation would abound even before withdrawal took effect."

The letter even contained estimates of economic impacts, assuming the U.S. pulls out of NAFTA.

"(The result would be) a net loss of at least 50,000 jobs in the U.S. food and agriculture industry and a drop in GDP of \$13 billion from the farm sector alone," it said.

U.S. farmers and agricultural groups may be getting more and more frustrated with Trump's position on NAFTA, but so far they haven't marched through the streets of Washington.

Zieba said that's unlikely to happen — for now.

The sector wants the NAFTA renegotiation to succeed and is willing to give the administration a chance to get it right.

"We want to give room to our negotiators," she said.

"(But) if there is a complete breakdown I think you will see more movement from our side."

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FOLLOW ON:

Sask Pool reignites push in 1992 to amalgamate prairie wheat pools

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: NOV. 26, 1942

The dominion government was urged to begin negotiating a trade deal with the Soviet Union that could see Canada ship 300,000 head of cattle a year to that country for the next 10 years.

Donald G. McKenzie, chief commissioner of the Board of Grain Commissioners, said Ukraine's livestock herd had been "pretty well depleted" by war, which presented Canada with significant export opportunities.

Leonard D. Nesbitt, director of publicity for Alberta Wheat Pool, made an argument for Canadian farmers to take a "wheat holiday." He said a huge carryover and bumper crop had left Canada with a wheat inventory of one billion

bushels, which would drop to only 700 million bu. by the following summer. Nesbitt said this would be enough to take care of export and domestic needs for two years. The government was spending \$50 million a year to carry this wheat, he added, which could be better spent paying farmers bonuses to grass or summerfallow their land or grow other crops.

50 YEARS AGO: NOV. 30, 1967

New federal Progressive Conservative leader Robert Stanfield weighed in on wheat marketing, criticizing a lack of markets for Canadian wheat and urging the country to not be stampeded into selling top quality crop at bargain basement prices.

Saskatchewan Wheat Pool president Charles W. Gibbing said farms were getting bigger every year but added large corporation farms were unlikely to squeeze out family operated ones because they continued to be more efficient.

25 YEARS AGO: NOV. 26, 1992

Provincial governments were considering a federal proposal to pay 90 percent of the \$721 million transportation subsidy to farmers, but Saskatchewan wasn't budging. "It's impossible for us to commit on them (the proposals) because we

had no mandate," said Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister Darrell Cunningham. "Most of the proposals there we don't think were very positive from a Saskatchewan point of view."

Sask Pool president Garf Stevenson said it was time to reconsider amalgamating the three prairie wheat pools. Serious amalgamation talks had broken down in 1989, and Stevenson said the companies had no choice but to try again because the conditions that had made such a move necessary three years ago still existed.

10 YEARS AGO: NOV. 29, 2007

The hog industry warned the federal government that the sector would begin melting down if quick action wasn't taken to get financial assistance to producers. High feed costs and a strong dollar meant producers were losing \$50 a hog.

Shipping wheat by rail to Mexico was proving to be lucrative for the Canadian Wheat Board, but it was having trouble finding enough cars to meet the demand.

"We're maximizing what we can ship there by rail, and once that capacity's gone, then basically that's it," said CWB wheat and barley marketer Rhys Doyle.

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An unidentified cowboy competed in the Lethbridge and District Exhibition Rodeo in 1960. | FILE PHOTO

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Alberta councillors reject OHV registration

Sixty percent of rural delegates opposed the resolution for licensing, saying the fee would hurt rural residents and involve more government red tape

BY JEREMY SIMES
EDMONTON BUREAU

Alberta's rural leaders won't be lobbying the provincial government to institute a licensing system for off-highway vehicles anytime soon.

The decision came about following much debate during the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMD&C) annual convention on Nov. 15.

Rod Shaigec, the mayor of Parkland County, brought forward the resolution to lobby the province to launch a licensing system for OHVs.

He said the system would work like car licensing, where recre-

ational users pay fees to operate OHVs. Non-recreational users, like farmers and ranchers, would be exempt from fees.

Shaigec said a licensing system is needed because the number of OHV users is increasing but there is little in place to ensure people comply with rules and are not disrupting land or wildlife habitats.

"There are people coming from the urban centres and thinking that rural municipalities are an open playground," he said.

"They are not respecting our municipal reserves, our environment reserves and our agriculture community."

Many farmers are calling him about OHV users being on their



A resolution was defeated at the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties convention asking to lobby government for off-highway vehicle licensing. | FILE PHOTO

property and cutting fences, he added.

"There is livestock that have gone on to road right-of-ways," he said. "In the winter, you've also got snowmobiles causing damage. So, we felt one of the ways to address it

would be to have this user-pay format."

But 60 per cent of rural delegates were opposed to Shaigec's resolution.

Dale Gervais, who voted against licensing, argued it was a bad idea

because it would involve more government regulation.

"I recognize this is a problem in certain areas in the province, but I don't agree that we should take the hammer and hit everyone with these fees," said Gervais, the reeve of the Municipal District of Greenview.

"Money being controlled by politicians is not a very reassuring situation, and there's no guarantee that money would go to the areas that need it most."

Shaigec disagreed.

"Nobody likes regulation, but is anyone complaining that you need to register your vehicle?" he asked. "No, they aren't."

"This is about who pays the cost at a time when provincial budgets, federal budgets and municipal budgets are getting tighter."

Going forward, Shaigec said it might come to the point where Parkland County might have to ban recreational OHV use to curb the problems.

"It's what we might have to do, and that might force the issue," he said.

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AAMD&C discusses lottery funding, workplace safety

BY JEREMY SIMES
EDMONTON BUREAU

Alberta's rural leaders spent much of the recent convention debating what they will and won't advocate for when dealing with the provincial government.

Here's a breakdown of some of the key topics that were discussed:

- Rural representatives voted in favour of requesting that the province implement a communications plan to advise the agriculture sector of changes to workplace legislation. The mover of the resolution argued that without an effective communication plan, farmers and ranchers may not fully understand the proposed changes and could be penalized for things they weren't aware of.
- Rural leaders voted in favour of the AAMD&C advocating for the government to provide long-term financial supports to agriculture boards and societies through the Alberta Lottery Program. Those in favour of this resolution said agriculture boards and societies provide economic and social benefits to their communities. The societies and boards work on challenges involving weeds, pests, invasive species, soil erosion and other environmental issues. The societies recently received emergency funding from the province, and there is no word yet on if more funding will become available for the long-term.
- AAMD&C delegates voted in favour of municipalities and counties collaborating on issues involving caribou recovery in Western Canada. Those in favour of the resolution argued that planning hasn't been collaborative, and that caribou travel across multiple districts, so it would make sense for rural communities to work together.
- Rural representatives hotly debated the issue of merging with the Alberta Urban Municipi-

palities Association. Those against the resolution to refuse a merger argued that while they weren't in favour, the language of the motion could give the impression that rural folks don't want conversations with city dwellers. However, those in favour of the resolution argued they still want a relationship with AUMA, but don't want to merge because they felt rural voices could get drowned out. The resolution to refuse a merger passed with 70 percent.

- AAMD&C delegates voted in favour of lobbying the provincial government to create and staff a health unit that would provide specialized clinical counselling and therapy for distressed emergency first responders. Those for the effort argued that current counselling services in place aren't adequate. They said healthier first responders mean better services for the people they serve.

- Rural representatives were overwhelmingly opposed to a resolution that called for the AAMD&C to advocate for the return of the pesticide Lindane. Those in favour of Lindane's return argued it would be allowed only by certified seed cleaning plants and it would help control the spread of wireworms. Those opposed said the pesticide is bad for the environment and does more harm than good.

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Alberta premier vows to cut spending as debt mounts

The province is expected to run a \$10.3 billion deficit in 2017-18

BY JEREMY SIMES
EDMONTON BUREAU

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley told rural representatives earlier this month that the province will “carefully and compassionately” tighten its belt on spending next year as it gears to balance the books by 2024.

Notley made the remarks during her speech at the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties annual convention on Nov. 16.

She said that while much has been done to rein in spending, there’s still more work to do. She hasn’t yet said what government departments will be affected by the spending reductions.

“I would call it a reality,” she told

reporters following her speech, pointing to numerous economic indicators that show Alberta is leading the country in economic growth.

“As the indicators change, as the economy is growing, we obviously have an important obligation to continue that strategic approach in our fiscal plan to find a responsible and careful way into bringing the budget into balance. That’s always been our plan.”

The Alberta NDP has faced mounting pressure to get its fiscal books in order, following its election win a little over two years ago.

The province is slated to run a \$10.3 billion deficit in 2017-18, and debt is projected to climb to \$71.1 billion in three years.

Lots of that money has gone to

pay for everyday services, but the rest has gone to pay for new infrastructure projects, particularly in cities.

But during her speech, Notley highlighted projects in rural areas that she said are getting major funding. That includes the twinning of the Peace River Bridge, a new courthouse in Fort Vermillion, replacing a bridge in the County of Vermillion, repairing a bridge in Cardston Creek and building the Highway 43X bypass in Grande Prairie.

“Our cities stand on the shoulders of our rural communities,” she told rural representatives. “It is in everyone’s interest to make sure our rural infrastructure is modern, safe and efficient.”

As well, much of Notley’s remarks



Alberta Premier Rachel Notley, who spoke at the recent Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties convention, didn’t say what government departments will be affected by spending reductions. | JEREMY SIMES PHOTO

focused on building relationships with rural communities.

She said she believes the relationship is improving, although she added that it will never be perfect.

“I think through a certain degree, through our record of authentic and collaborative problem solving and decision making, that we’re earning a little bit of a better rela-

tionship,” she told reporters.

“It’s not going to be perfect, but I think it’s improving and maybe we see a little bit of that as people get more familiar with who we are.”

She also discussed her plans to promote the Trans Mountain pipeline as part of a cross-country tour.

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Speedier new technology approvals could help with climate change: CropLife

BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU

Canadian farmers could better deal with climate change if new technologies were approved more quickly, industry representatives told the standing agriculture committee.

Dennis Prouse, vice-president of government affairs for CropLife Canada, said farmers have been dealing with the effects of climate change for years. The next step is to help them be more sustainable and more productive on less land.

They will need new technologies to do that but Prouse said the regulatory system is too slow.

It takes two to three years for approvals, he told the committee, and sometimes an application sits for a year before it is even looked at.

He said it would be better to get approval time down to a year to get the technology into farmers’ hands sooner. Simply eliminating that 12-month wait in a file could do that.

“The reality is that the regulatory system is failing to deliver innovation to farmers,” he said.

“We’ve seen the most time-consuming part of getting a biotech trait to market is actually outside the developer’s control. The cost and time involved in regulatory science and registration has increased 50 percent in the last decade.”

Prouse said that the predicted introduction of new biotech crops hasn’t happened and 84 percent of crops grown are still among the four majors.

“What’s more, the growth we had expected to see in public sector-developed products has not materialized,” he said. “Seventy-five percent of commercialized products are still coming from the leading private sector technology developers.”

He said all types of traits are in development to deal with all types

of issues, including those that will come about due to the changing climate.

Private sector developers can afford the extra time and cost that the regulatory system imposes but public sector developers cannot.

Conservative committee vice-chair Luc Berthold noted that the industry talks about increasing production, and the government has targets to do so.

“We’ve seen the most time-consuming part of getting a biotech trait to market is actually outside the developer’s control.”

DENNIS PROUSE
CROPLIFE CANADA

“When people talk to us about those objectives, they say nothing about the constraints associated with climate change,” he said. “Everything seems fine and dandy and there seem to be no fears as to the ability to double production, to deliver the product and to achieve the objectives.”

Prouse agreed that industry is excited about taking Canada from the fifth top agricultural exporter in the world to number two.

“That’s a tremendous goal,” he said. “But there needs to be a road map to get there.”

“There won’t be that expansion without a regulatory system that is responsive enough.”

NDP agriculture critic Ruth Ellen Brosseau asked what the turnaround time is in the United States.

Ian Affleck, executive director of plant biotechnology at CropLife, said it is slightly shorter, but that country also has a process that allows new technologies similar to existing products to be approved in four to six months.

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Environmental farm plan programs fit well together

Proponents of national plan want to make provincial plans equivalent rather than replace them

BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU

OTTAWA — Preliminary work indicates that existing provincial environmental farm plans align fairly well and that could make it easier to establish national EFP stands, a recent conference heard.

The idea isn't to replace the provincial programs but ensure they are equivalent by establishing a base line. A national EFP is one way that Canada could assure sustainability to customers and consumers.

A committee established after

last year's first meeting on the topic chose to measure the Ontario plan against the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform's Farm Sustainability Assessment tool to see if the provincial plans could meet a standard.

SAI Platform is a voluntary membership global organization of about 90 stakeholders, including farm organizations, end users and processors working together on on-farm sustainability. It is already used in 25 countries.

"We're talking about setting a basic benchmark for what is sustainable on farms and how can we help



A committee is measuring Ontario's plan against the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform's Farm Sustainability Assessment tool to see if provincial plans could meet a standard. | FILE PHOTO

farmers do that," said Nick Betts of SAI Platform program.

The FSA tool is a 112-question document designed so that farmers around the world are able to answer them. Standards in Africa will vary from those in South America and those in Canada, he said.

The questions are essential, basic and advanced, and responses determine whether a farmer falls into bronze, silver or gold performance categories.

The Ontario plan was assessed against the bronze criteria.

Bronwynne Wilton of Wilton Consulting Group said it was a bit tricky because the FSA tool uses a yes or no answer system while the EFP uses a scale of one to four.

However, the benchmarking did find that the EFP could meet at least the bronze level.

Wilton said there were still gaps even when assuming that a farmer answered a three on the one-to-

four, worst-to-best scale for every question.

Part of the issue is that the FSA tool also includes economic and social sustainability questions while the EFPs only focus is on the environment.

She said gaps are partially filled by Canadian legislation.

Canadian Federation of Agriculture president Ron Bonnett asked how the FSA tool deals with regulations in different countries. For example, Europe has a different position on genetically modified plants than North America.

Betts said one of the industries already using the tool is the European sugar beet sector.

In Europe, GM beets aren't allowed while in North America they are preferred.

"The challenge that we face is, to be sustainable you also have to meet local regulations," he said.

Wilton is also working with the Sustainable Farm and Food Initia-

tive in Ontario, which is a collaboration of farm organizations and food processors who are looking at all the sustainability pillars, not just environment.

She said a national EFP could definitely be the environmental pillar, but there are data sharing and verification issues to address.

"We know and hear anecdotally that Canada is known for its trusted sustainable based food supply, but where's the piece of paper?" she said.

The SFFI wants to increase transparency and reduce duplication in assuring sustainability.

Wilton said stakeholders say they want a unified approach across provincial, national and international borders.

"Twenty-five years ago when EFP was initiated, the food system wasn't as integrated world-wide," she said.

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Cold winter forecast, plentiful snow may offer needed moisture

BY SEAN PRATT
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

Farmers can expect a “wild ride” this winter, according to The Weather Network’s 2017 winter forecast.

“It is potentially a very harsh winter ahead with widespread below seasonal temperatures and lots of shots of Arctic air,” said meteorologist Michael Carter.

The Prairies will experience the worst winter weather in the coun-

try with below normal temperatures throughout much of the region.

A developing La Nina event in the equatorial Pacific is responsible for the chilly forecast because it will affect the strength and positioning of the Pacific jet stream.

“We’re going to get parting shots of cold air that will last for a few days and then perhaps the pattern will relax for a little while,” he said.

La Nina winters tend to have a bit

of reprieve from the cold air somewhere around mid-winter.

Predictions for above average snowfall in southern Alberta, southern Saskatchewan and southwestern Manitoba may provide a silver lining to the forecast.

Carter said an area from about Edmonton and Saskatoon south to the United States border will have plenty of snow.

“It’s going to put us in a good position heading into the spring in

terms of the soil moisture that is going to be available. Certainly, that is a relief after a very dry season through much of 2017,” he said.

The temperature forecast is consistent with AccuWeather’s winter forecast calling for prairie temperatures 1C to 4C below normal.

“We’re most confident this is going to be a colder than usual winter,” meteorologist Brett Anderson said in October when AccuWeather released its winter forecast.

AccuWeather’s precipitation forecast differed slightly from The Weather Network. It said Arctic air is dry, so while the cold will bring snow it won’t contain much moisture. Western Alberta will get decent winter moisture but the eastern Prairies will not. Areas that were dry heading into winter will be dry coming out of it.

AccuWeather said biting winds will accompany the frigid Arctic air.

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PRODUCTION

NEW HOLLAND BUMPS UP ITS HORSEPOWER

Peak horsepower on the new Revelation will be 700, compared to 653 h.p. on its previous model. | **Page 52**



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

Farmers must foster weed seed eaters

Crickets and ground beetles are effective predators, often found in shelterbelts and outer strips of the field

BY ROBIN BOOKER
SASKATOON BUREAU

If farmers hear crickets out in their fields they should consider themselves fortunate because that's the sound of free weed-seed control.

"If you hear the crickets, that means the carabids are out. All of the sounds you hear in the evenings, that's weed-seed predation," said Chris Willenborg during his presentation at the Saskatchewan Pulse Growers Pulse and Soybean Agronomy Workshop in Saskatoon.

Willenborg said weed-seed predation is responsible for up to 90 percent of all weed-seed losses.

Weed-seed predators are so effective at managing weed seeds, that some scientists are beginning to re-examine their assumptions on why cover crops are so effective at suppressing weeds.

"There is debate in the weed science world of whether these cover crops are competing with the weeds, or whether that better weed control is a function of increasing habitat for seed predators. That's how effective they are," Willenborg said.

Weed-seed predators include earthworms, carabid beetles, invertebrates, voles, mice, rodents and farmland birds such as sparrows and chickadees.

In Western Canada, the most effective weed-seed predators are crickets and ground beetles.

"For ground beetles, there is a specific type of ground beetle called a carabid beetle. There are about 900 of these species across Canada, 300 of them call the Prairies home and 30 are present in your fields," Willenborg said.

The amount of seed predation seen on a field depends on the crop.

In corn and soybean fields, there tends to be less seed predation than in smaller grain crops such as wheat or canola. Alfalfa tends to give even better weed-seed predation.

Weed-seed predators can be abundant, but their timing varies based on the time of year.

"Their peak activity is late July through August and declines through early September," Willenborg said.

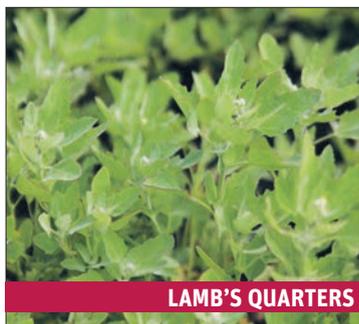
Carabid beetles are located on field margins that provide habitat. They also tend to be where the



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actively growing weeds are located, more so than where weed seeds are on the field, Willenborg said.

This is likely because they tend to go where the seeds will be shed, or because they are seeking cover from their predators.

Studies on how to encourage carabid beetles have been conducted through Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences, and they show diverse crop rotations bolster the carabid beetle activity.

Different types of beetles feed at different times of the year, and the timing of peak seed predation also varies depending on the crop.

So "by incorporation of these diverse crop rotations you are essentially, over a three or four year period, maximizing the different niches these seed predators are occupying so you can maximize the amount of seed predation," Willenborg said.

TARGETING SEED BANK GAINING TRACTION IN THE WORLD OF WEED SCIENCE

Some weed seeds can survive for most of a farmer's career once released into the seed bank. This chart shows weed seed production and longevity that have been assessed with a ranking. Growers combating weeds with the highest overall problem ranking (7 and 6) may want to use seed bank management strategies, such as chaff collection and promotion of weed seed predation.

"I think the main message is those on the low to very low side generally you want to prevent seed bank production because they don't have much of a seed bank. Anything that is ranked medium high to high I would argue that you need to prevent seed escapes and definitely try to manage the weed seed bank," said crop researcher Chris Willenborg with the University of Saskatchewan.

overall problem ranking	weed species	Seed production				Longevity			
		min.	max.	avg.	rating	min.	max.	range	rating
7	Redroot pigweed	5,000	100,000	10,000	VH	10 yrs	40 yrs	10-20 yrs	VH
7	Stinkweed	2,000	20,000	10,000	VH	8 yrs	30 yrs	10-20 yrs	VH
6	Lamb's quarters	2,000	100,000	7,500	H	6-8 yrs	39 yrs	8-20 yrs	VH
6	Wild mustard	500	5,000	2,000	VH	20 yrs	60 yrs	20-30 yrs	H
6	Curled dock	100	50,000	2,000	VH	10yrs	80 yrs	10-30 yrs	H
5	G. Foxtail	500	12,000	2,500	H	4-5 yrs	30 yrs	5-15 yrs	H
4	Wild buckwheat	100	15,000	500	H	6 yrs	>6yrs	6-10 yrs	M
4	Chickweed	500	2,500	1,000	H	6 yrs	10 yrs	5-10 yrs	M
4	Perennial sowthistle (seed)	1,000	50,000	3,000	M	2 yrs	5 yrs	2-5 yrs	H
3	Volunteer canola	50	3,000	750	M	1 yr	14 yrs	3-5 yrs	M
3	Canada Thistle (seed)	100	5,000	1,000	M	1 yr	21 yrs	2-3 yrs	M
3	Dandelion	1,000	25,000	2,500	L	1 yr	2 yrs	1-2 yrs	H
3	Kochia	1,000	12,000	5,000	L	0 yr	2 yrs	0-2 yrs	H
2	Wild Oat	10	500	100	M	3 yrs	7-9 yrs	4-5 yrs	L
2	Cleavers	50	3,000	500	L	1 yr	5 yrs	1-3 yrs	M
1	Quackgrass (seed)	15	400	50	L	1 yr	4 yrs	1-3 yrs	L
1	Foxtail barley	10	300	100	L	1 yr	7 yrs	1-2 yrs	L
1	Volunteer wheat	10	250	100	L	0 yr	3 yrs	0-2 yrs	L

Source: University of Saskatchewan | MICHELLE HOULDEN GRAPHIC

VH = very high H = high M = medium L = low

Another way to encourage weed-seed predation by beneficial insects is by using a beetle bank.

"This is essentially a trap crop or a trap strip usually permanent in nature, some form of broadleaf or grassy strip in the centre of a field that provides habitat. This is becoming common in Europe," Willenborg said.

These beetle banks, often seeded every 100 metres, allows beneficials to congregate and overwinter. Shelter belts and field margins serve the same purpose, although many of these areas have been removed in Western Canada and it is unknown how their removal has affected seed predators, he said.

Cover crops also help promote weed seed predation by sheltering seed predators.

"These cover crops are providing protection for our seed predators because they are on the menu for

many of our different predators, especially birds of prey when it comes to rodents, and farmland birds when it comes to insects."

Decreasing tillage helps increase seed predators numbers, and multiple studies show seed predator activity is substantially lower on tilled fields.

Willenborg said seed predators require four things: food, water, overwintering habitat and shelter from adversity, and when soil is tilled three of these four things are removed.

"You bury the seeds usually to a depth so that they can't access them. You remove overwintering habitat because you strip the land bare, there is no shelter."

Willenborg is working with a graduate student who is looking into how the timing of canopy closure can also affect weed-seed predator activity. They are examining if the wider row

spacing now commonly used affects seed predators.

"What we think is happening, by providing a narrow row spacing or a confined spatial arrangement you change the microhabitat..., things like soil moisture, ambient humidity, relative air temperature. All of these things matter to our weed-seed predators," Willenborg said.

Carabid beetles can significantly benefit crop production beyond eating weed seeds. They also consume many common pests.

Carabid beetles can consume up to their body weight daily, and in doing so can significantly decrease costs associated with pest control.

For more information on carabid beetles in agriculture, visit bit.ly/1ZcISUr.

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Bearings: grease 'em and grease 'em again

Autogreaser gives grain cart bearings a shot of lubricant every hour

BY RON LYSENG
WINNIPEG BUREAU

FARGO, N.D. — In a perfect world, we would stop every hour to shoot a spot of grease into the bearings. But it's not a perfect world, so maybe let automation do the job for you.

The automated greasing system is called Autogreaser, and it's standard equipment on every Unverferth grain cart equipped with Equalizer rubber tracks, says Unverferth's Shawn Berry.

"It's not that guys don't want to grease their equipment. Just the opposite. They do. They understand the importance of regular greasing," said Berry.

"But if you give it five shots of grease in the morning and then nothing until the next morning, that's not what the bearings want.

"Autogreaser gives the bearings a small shot of grease every hour, throughout the day, as long as the cart is in the field working. Five years down the road when your main pivot points are starting to get a little loose and need replacing, you'll see that those bearings have been well lubricated their whole life."

The half-gallon reservoir holds enough grease for 160 hours of field work. The system automatically engages only when the cart is working. All main pivot points are addressed in the Autogreaser system.

Berry said temperature at the time of greasing is also a factor. If you do your greasing in the morning, as many farmers do, the bearings and hubs are cold. Even if the grease itself is warm, it doesn't flow



ABOVE: The new Unverferth Equalizer tow tracks feature an automated grease system that gives the bearings a quick shot of grease once per hour whenever the cart is moving.

BELOW: The half-gallon reservoir holds enough grease to service all bearings and pivot points of the Equalizer track system for 160 hours of field work. | ROBIN BOOKER PHOTOS

.... if you give it five shots of grease in the morning and then nothing until the next morning, that's not what the bearings want.

SHAWN BERRY
UNVERFERTH

as well against the cold steel. On the other hand, when the cart is in the field working, the bearings are turning and generating heat, thus allowing grease to flow and fully penetrate every microscopic nook and cranny in the hub.

"Another thing is our bogey wheels and large end wheels. There we use greaseable bearings,

but they're purgeable so you can't over-grease them or blow out the seals. That's always a concern for guys.

"Working in wet conditions, we recommend you grease them every day. If conditions are dry, once a week is enough. We looked at oil bath hubs, but decided against them. The problem is you have to rotate them often. If the cart sits for 10 months of the year, eventually the seals start to leak and they all have to be replaced. So we stayed with greaseable hubs on the bogies and end wheels. You grease these manually.

"It's not the cheapest way to build tracks, but definitely worth the money."

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Camso's upgraded tow tracks designed for durability

A long working life is important in the highly competitive rubber track industry

BY RON LYSENG
WINNIPEG BUREAU

FARGO, N.D. — When Camoplast Solideal did a name change two years ago to become just plain Camso, it also did a complete re-engineering job on its popular TTS series of ag tow tracks.

The upgrades are intended to increase the longevity of the tracks, says Troy Amundson of Premium Ag Solutions in Hiterdahl, Minn.

Amundson brought the TTS to the Big Iron farm show in Fargo so that farmers could inspect the new design for themselves.

"This was a complete re-think to make the system more robust. For example, they've gone away from the turnbuckle design completely and put all the strength into the



Camso has reduced maintenance on its TTS series of tow tracks by using oil bath hubs instead of greaseable bearings.

module itself," said Amundson.

"They've gone from greaseable bearings to all oil bath hubs, which stretches the longevity of every-

thing else. Most other tracks on the market still have greaseable bearings. That's a major maintenance issue for farmers.

"There's been a minor increase in price, of course, because it costs more to build like this. But that's more than offset by the increased

Most other tracks on the market still have greaseable bearings. That's a major maintenance issue for farmers.

TROY AMUNDSON,
PREMIUM AG SOLUTIONS

durability and longer working life of the tracks."

TTS tracks are available in widths of 15 to 30 inches with load capacities of 40,000 to 100,000 pounds. The unit on display had 15 inch tracks and 40,000 lb. capacity.

"In any line of farm equipment, guys are looking more and more at the time and money spent on maintenance," Amundson said.

"Things like oil bath bearings go a long way toward keeping your cart working without major maintenance."

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New Holland claims the updates in the CR Revelation improves capacity by up to 10 percent and lowers the power needed to separate the grain by up to 75 horsepower over the previous Elevation series of combines.

NEW HOLLAND PHOTOS

New Holland tweaks latest class of combines

Peak horsepower on the Revelation will be 700, compared to 653 h.p. on its previous model

BY ROBIN BOOKER
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

RED DEER — New Holland has a 700-horsepower combine coming off of its 2018 production line, the CR10.90 Revelation.

There are updates common to all classes of the Revelation model combines, but only the largest CR10.90 series will receive a bump in horsepower.

“The Class 10 combine does get a power bump for model year 18. Prior to 18, the horsepower in the 10.9 was 600 rated h.p., peaking out at 653. That changes for model year 18. It is going to get 640 rated and peak out at 700 h.p.,” John Thompson of New Holland said during Agri-Trade in Red Deer.

The CR10.90 is the most powerful combine on the market that already holds the world record for the most wheat harvested within eight hours — and that was before receiving a 50-h.p. boost.

The Revelation series of combines offer enhancements over the previous Elevation series, including adjustable rotor vanes controlled from within the cab while on the go, which the company dubbed Dynamic Flow Control.

Operators now have another setting they can choose to use to enhance separating, and New Holland claims the adjustable rotor veins enable higher productivity and can reduce power consumption by up to 20 percent.

“The in-cab adjustable veins have been added to the rotor tunnel for improved crop flow. It will also allow the operator to slow down crop flow in tough threshing conditions to be able to properly thresh the grain,” Thompson said.

Dynamic Flow Control is powered by electric actuators and is available as an option on the three 22-inch models at the top of the Revelation series range.

The optional Dynamic Feed Roll,



a beater that helps transfer the crop mat from the feeder house to the rotors, has also been updated.

“The Dynamic Feed Roll has been changed to have a deep serration to give it more capacity, thus decreasing the amount of power needed to run it,” Thompson said.

The new in-cab concave reset will help reduce downtime after a wad of crop plugs the combine’s rotors.

“A big change that has been made is the concave shear pin has been replaced with an in-cab resettable device that is spring loaded, decreasing downtime from 30 minutes to under two minutes,” Thompson said.

With the concave reset mechanism, operators will no longer need to find a grain truck to dump the grain and another person to help change the shear pin.

“When the concave falls down, the mechanisms will pull away. Then you would just run the motor and it would just go down and grab them and pull them back up again.”

An option for the CR10.90, called TwinPitch Plus rotors, has three inch rasp bars that New Holland claims provide the combine 38 h.p. of efficiency gain versus conventional rotors.

The Revelation paint scheme has been changed, including adding more New Holland yellow to inside and underneath the grain tank, to

the beater grate, the rotor frame, and to the grain pan inside the combine.

“There’s more yellow on the side of the machine for better visibility for service work,” Thompson said.

“It makes it easier to see condition of your belts and to spot oil leaks and generally easier to work on.”

There is a new feeder chain for all Revelation combines that has an evenly staggered slot that increases the service life of the feeder chain.

A new chaff spreader on the CR combine is capable of spreading chaff up to 45 feet and is in-cab adjustable.

“With the in-cab adjust, you have the ability to change the direction of the chaff. For example, if you have a side wind you can pitch it more into the wind to keep your spread pattern even,” Thompson said.

The chopper has also been changed.

“We have increased the speed of it to be able to chop the straw finer. The drum was reinforced to be able to do that, and there is longer stationary knives installed to go deeper into the chop,” Thompson said.

The 2018 Revelation combine is available to order for spring delivery.

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Kim was born in Esterhazy and grew up in Rose Valley. He received a BSA in Ag Economics from the U of S and has his CCA certification. Kim has invested over 25 years in the area, with previous work experience with SK Wheat Pool, Tri-Way Fertilizer, and Cargill.



Prasanna Yennawar, AAg
Environmental Project Consultant
Outcome Consultants Inc.
Saskatoon, SK

Prasanna is contracted by Outcome Consultants Inc. as a project control manager for environmental projects across Canada. His responsibilities include soil, water and oil sampling, inspections, field safety, project operations such as record keeping and cost tracking, and he provides support for project management.

“Being registered as an agrologist (AAG) provides a networking platform to generate and develop new business contacts within the agrology industry, and holds me accountable to upgrade my knowledge.”

Prasanna was born and raised in India. He received a PhD in Environmental Biology from India and is currently taking a few classes at the College of AgBio at the University of Saskatchewan. Prasanna has over 20 years of combined experience in environmental biological research, aquatic biodiversity, site evaluation and impact assessment, compliance and project administration & management.

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Farm machinery sales may shift out of reverse

Global sales of farm equipment are improving, despite low commodities

BY MICHAEL RAINE
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

HANOVER, Germany — Tough times on the farm caused by poor crop prices have left the farm machinery industry struggling under the weight of shareholder expectations and market instability.

Many in the industry hope that recent improvements in sales might be marking a turning point.

“Farmers have had to make tough choices. Not just in North America, but also around the world ... and we (at Claas) have done better than expected, lately. But times have been challenging,” said Hermann Lohbeck of Claas, during the Agritechnica farming event in Hanover.

Overlooking a sea of farmers, industry watchers and other machine companies from a second-floor vantage point at the big farm show, Lohbeck said European Union farmers are spending again, despite lower grain and oilseed prices and a loss of supply management in the dairy sector.

“That is stable with some growth. In Kazakhstan, Turkey, the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States), we did better than expected. North America was acceptable, under the circumstances it was a good year,” he said.

“Farmers are seeking out new technology that improve their (efficiency) but also their soils and future productivity,” he said.

Klaus Braunhardt agrees with the sentiment that farmers are looking for technology “not just power to replace power.”

“And we are seeing those investments, especially in places like Western Canada, where the economy is a bit better and farmers are seeking new ways to increase margins with each generation of machinery,” said Braunhardt, head of precision agriculture for John Deere in Europe. Previously he worked in North America and focused on machinery design for markets like Western Canada.

He said farmers are looking for less down time, and telematics technology, which can provide remote diagnostics and data transfer, delivers on that.

“But you need the latest equipment to fully take advantage of it,” he said, while showing off Deere’s European Technology Innovation Centre in Kaiserslautern, Germany, earlier this month.

Deere last week reported its first increase in year-over-year sales in four years. The company forecasts an improving revenue picture for 2018 that includes boosts to sales and earnings.

Jim Wood handles operations at Rocky Mountain Equipment in Western Canada and feels producers are starting to turn in machinery that has been out in the field for as many as four or five seasons.

“It’s been reliable for them, but there is better technology available, the value of the trades is important. But ensuring that they won’t be facing service issues in-season and that they can take advantage of all the latest tools is becoming a bigger part of their business plans,” said Wood, whose company deals in CaseIH and NewHolland.

“For sure the (telematics) side of things is starting to become more

important in their plans. We know how big it is in construction. It’s starting to show how it pays and so it makes it onto their balance sheets,” he said.

Martin Richenhagen, head of Agco, said the North American market presents a challenge for all equipment companies because of low grain and oilseed prices. However, his company has also seen improvements in sales despite this, especially in Western Canada.

At the Agritechnica show, he said sales had improved in most markets, except Germany.

As Deere reported its numbers, Tony Huegel of the company’s investor relations department confirmed the trend of farmers having

to once again start investing.

“The strength that we’re seeing in large ag is not coming from improved fundamentals (related to profits from farm production).”

He said machinery sales have been generally very low, “so the equipment has begun to age a bit.”

Deere said North America will be the hot spot for 2018 farm machinery sales, climbing as much as 10 percent overall. He predicted European and South American sales would each rise five percent, while Asia will remain flat after some relatively strong seasons.

For the company itself, Deere expects to see a 22 percent increase in 2018 sales.

mike.raine@producer.com



Hermann Lohbeck of Claas says the farm machinery market is improving around the globe, due in part to new technologies. | MICHAEL RAINE PHOTO

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LIVESTOCK

SPECKLE PARK BREED SHOWS OFF

A Neilburg, Sask., family has success at Canadian Western Agribition with a breed developed in Saskatchewan. | Page 56



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Agribition recognizes excellence

Limousin bull makes an impact as supreme champion at Canadian Western Agribition showdown

BY BARBARA DUCKWORTH
CALGARY BUREAU

REGINA — Two elated families made history at Canadian Western Agribition Nov. 25 when they won the supreme championship award.

Prairie Cove Charolais of Bowden, Alta., won the top female banner with PZC Lily 5013 Et and her calf at side, while Greenwood Limousin and Angus of Lloydminster, Sask., won with a two-year-old red Limousin bull named Canadian Impact.

The parade of champions, which was held Nov. 25, had 36 females and 37 bulls from livestock exhibitions across Canada.

Tyler Bullick led out the structurally correct white cow-calf pair, which has been campaigned across the West and won wherever they were shown.

The pair was declared national Charolais champions at Manitoba Ag-Ex in October and two weeks ago won supreme champion at Edmonton Farmfair.

There are more cattle here from all over the country so this is extra special. I am not sure if it has been done very often to win both Supremes.

TIM BULLICK
PRAIRIE COVE CHAROLAIS

"I couldn't be more excited. I have never won this before and I didn't think I would ever win it," said Bullick.

His father, Tim, appreciated the achievement for a family that has been in the Charolais business since 1967.

"There are more cattle here from all over the country so this is extra special. I am not sure if it has been done very often to win both Supremes," he said.

The calf was sold privately to another Charolais breeder during Agribition, but the cow is going back to the farm in central Alberta. She will never be for sale, said Tyler.

The Limousin bull, Greenwood Canadian Impact ET exhibited by Scott and Jackie Payne's Greenwood Limousin and Angus, was also a multiple winner. This is the first time a Limousin bull won the Agribition showdown.

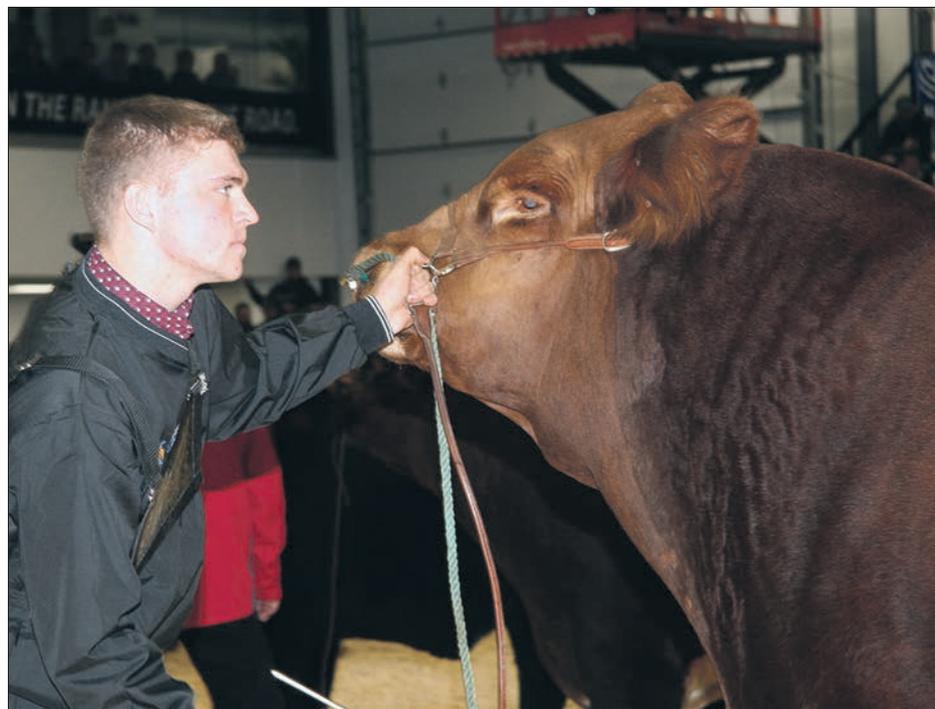
"We never expected this. We just try our best, and that is about all you can do," said Jayden Payne, who led the big red bull into the arena, which is owned with Nordal Limousin of Simpson, Sask.

"We already have calves from him and we have full sisters that are exceptional cows," he said.

The family has stood in the top 10



Carman Jackson, one of the RBC Beef Supreme judges, gives Canadian Impact the winning slap on the back. The bull, led by Jayden Payne in the show ring, is the first Limousin to win the supreme. | KAREN BRIERE PHOTO



ABOVE: Tyler Bullick and Justine Schneider of Prairie Cove Charolais of Bowden, Alta., share a moment after winning \$10,000 for their supreme champion.

LEFT: Jayden Payne of Greenwood Limousin at Lloydminster, Sask., watches the judges.

| BARBARA DUCKWORTH PHOTOS

spotlight multiple times but never won the Agribition supreme. The bull also won the supreme at Farmfair and was grand champion at Lloydminster Stockade Round-up.

Five judges evaluate the cattle

and score each of the entrants. These cattle have been champions at shows across Canada and many of them are multiple winners.

Judge Carlos Ojea of Argentina, a cattle consultant who has judged 72 shows in the last 10 years, was

full of praise for the quality presented in Regina.

"I have been honoured to judge almost every big show in the world and this is as good as it can get," he said.

"The genetic pool you have here

in your country is so powerful, it (is) so good, it was worth travelling 23 hours to get here. We travel here every year searching for new genetics to take back to our country."

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Purebred beef show highlights several breeds

A 2016 Simmental was in the winner's circle for top female, while a Charolais took top spot in the bull calf show

BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU

Four different breeds took home banners from Canadian Western Agribition's first purebred beef shows of the event last week.

The interbreed First Lady Classic and President's Classic each drew more than 90 entries.

Rising to the top on the female side was SFI Miss Seein Purple, a 2016 Simmental entry from Wheatland Cattle Co. at Bienfait, Sask., and additional owners Schaaque Farms and Michelson Land and Cattle.

Riley Lafrentz from Wheatland said winning the Classic was a great way to kick off Agribition.

"We exhibit cattle at various shows, and Agribition is our big main show that we target ourselves for every fall," he said.

"It's really, really tough (to win). There's lots of good heifers. You're not going to find any better quality anywhere but here at Agribition."

The family has won the Classic before and taken reserve honours several times. Lafrentz said the wins make all the time and hard work at home worthwhile.

The Lafrentzes run about 240 purebred and commercial Simmental and Angus cattle. They have an on-farm bull sale in March and show at Agribition as a marketing tool.

Lafrentz, who is 23, said he has been attending the show since he could walk. He just returned to the farm full time after obtaining an animal science degree at Kansas State University, where his brother,



Congratulations were given all around for Baxter Blair of McLean, Sask., and his reserve champion Red Blair's Monique 572D in the First Lady Classic interbreed competition at Canadian Western Agribition. | KAREN BRIERE PHOTO

Cody, is currently in third year. Both of them chose the school for its livestock judging program.

Another young exhibitor showed the reserve champion red Angus female, Red Blair's Monique 572D. Baxter Blair, 15, is from Double B Angus at McLean, Sask.

The First Lady also includes a futurity. The winner was a Black Angus, Merit Socialite 5121C with

calf at side, Merit Sting 7047E, from Merit Cattle Co. of Radville, Sask.

Red Ter-Ron Diamond Mist 26C with calf Red Ter-Ron Six Mile Misty 7E, was the reserve winner. The exhibitors were Ter-Ron Farms from Forestburg, Alta., and Six Mile Ranch of Fir Mountain, Sask.

A showing veteran took top honours in the bull calf show. Mike Elder from Elder Charolais Farm at

Coronach, Sask., said his win with Elder's Honcho 72E is good for the breed.

"Our Charolais tan calves and buckskins and the silver calves are top of the market right now, so it's very, very good for the Charolais breed," he said.

The Elders run about 150 registered females and have their own bull sale in March.

"We've been coming (to Agribition) for 25 years and we'll continue to come for 25 years," he said.

"The facilities here are second to none now that they've done everything."

The reserve winner was a Black Angus, PM Executive Decision 5'17 from Poplar Meadows Angus of Houston, B.C.

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Reputation nets Merit Cattle Co. high selling Angus calf

BY BARBARA DUCKWORTH
CALGARY BUREAU

REGINA — When the bidding reached \$40,000 Kelly Feige decided to jump into the Angus Masterpiece sale and buy a popular calf offered by the Liebreich family at

Merit Cattle Co.

The final bid at the Canadian Western Agribition sale held Nov. 22 was \$52,000 for a half interest, full possession deal.

Feige, who owns Double F Cattle Co. at Parkside, Sask., had bought a bull from Trent and Janelle Liebreich

of Radville, Sask., before and liked their program. This young prospect could be even better, he said.

"I think he is going to be good. I loved the mom and it is fresh genetics and nobody else has those fresh genetics."

The young cow is named Merit Socialite 5121C and the calf is Merit Sting 7047E by the American bull, EXAR One-Iron 3889B.

"It is mind boggling for a heifer's first calf," he said.

He has already sold semen on the bull.

Feige normally sells about 50 bulls a year and sees this calf as a feature sire.

"It seems like a lot of money now, but realistically, in the big picture, it is not that much," he said.

The Liebreichs knew they were raising a special calf, said Janelle Carles-Liebreich.

The mother was the 2017 First Lady Classic Futurity champion at Agribition, grand champion Angus at the Lloydminster Stockade Roundup and grand champion at the Junior Angus Showdown open division held this summer. The calf was champion bull calf at the same event.

The Liebreich family runs about 200 Angus cows at Radville, Sask.

Everyone in the family is involved full-time in the ranch.

Their dream is to open up the business to enable the three children, Macy, Garrett and Carson, to

join in the future.

"We are extremely fortunate and blessed to do what we do," said

Carles-Liebreich.

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Merit Sting 7047e from Trent and Janelle Liebreich, owners of Merit Cattle Co. of Radville, Sask., sold a half interest, full possession in this Angus bull calf for \$52,000 to Kelly Feige of Parkside, Sask., at the Angus Masterpiece Sale held Nov. 22 at Canadian Western Agribition in Regina. | BARB DUCKWORTH PHOTO

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Speckle Park breeders in it for the beef

Father and son ranchers use Speckle Park genetics to get better beef grades from commercial herd

BY BARBARA DUCKWORTH
CALGARY BUREAU

REGINA — Curtis and Dustin McAleer think like commercial beef producers when it comes to raising their Speckle Park purebred cows.

"We were commercial cattlemen as long as the family has been around," said Dustin.

The family homesteaded at Neilburg, Sask., around 1913-14 but did not get into the purebred business until 2012 when Dustin wanted to raise registered cattle.

They knew of Speckle Park breeders in their area who could sell them bulls, but they weren't sold on the breed until they tasted the beef from the animals, which were officially recognized as a breed in 2006.

A breeder told them they could cut Speckle Park steaks with a fork. McAleers were dubious but were so impressed after a single meal, they decided this was the breed for them.

"I ate that whole steak and never needed a knife," said Curtis.

They started using a Speckle Park bull on their mixed breed commercial cows. Their commercial cattle with Speckle Park breeding yielded better and graded AAA or Canada Prime.

The purebred herd is 35 females and Dustin transferred 27 embryos into recipients to expand the herd. He was able to jumpstart the herd when a retiring breeder wanted to disperse and he bought out the cows.

Dustin started showing four years ago.

"When you go to these shows, you never know what is going to happen. We knew we had improved our cattle from last year, but then so did everybody else," said Dustin.

"You don't know what the judge is going to be looking for, so when he likes your animals it is definitely a good feeling and a nice surprise,"



LEFT: Dustin McAleer shows the grand champion Speckle Park bull Notta 151A Cause N Effect 309C during Canadian Western Agribition.

BELOW: Curtis and Dustin McAleer of Unity, Sask., are a father-son team who got into the purebred Speckle Park business in 2012. They cleaned up at the Canadian Western Agribition, winning grand champion bull and female.

BARBARA DUCKWORTH PHOTOS

he said.

Judges Daryl and Leila Hickman of Vermilion, Alta., awarded the McAleers with grand champion bull and female, reserve bull calf champion and best pair of bulls at Canadian Western Agribition held Nov. 20-25 in Regina.

Their grand champion bull was also champion at the recent Farmfair International show in Edmonton.

The McAleers sold semen rights on the champion bull earlier this year and have started marketing embryos.

After Agribition, the McAleer operation moves into calving. The purebreds start in February and commercial cows calve from April to June.

Dustin wants to shift the purebred calving period to January and February so the cattle are starting to mature by the end of the year. When it comes to management, all have to thrive under local conditions.

"We raise them like commercial cattle. Our females don't see any grain and they have to produce on hay in winter. If they don't produce enough, we have to get rid of them," he said.

Early next year they plan to offer 10 bulls at a special Speckle Park sale at Veteran, Alta.

The Speckle Park sale at Agribition held Nov. 22 drew an international crowd.

The high seller from Outback Farm of Sturgeon County in Alberta sold for \$20,000 to a syndicate of buyers called Global Speckle Park Elite Ltd. for a March 2017 heifer named Outback Ms Flash Dancer 112E.

Other high sellers included a bred female from River Hill Farms at Neilburg, Sask. It sold for \$17,000.

A homozygous polled heifer from Colgan's Cattle Co. of Lashburn, Sask., fetched \$15,500 from a New Zealand buyer.



Live cattle and embryo packages sold to buyers across Canada, England, Australia, New Zealand, Oklahoma and New York State. The sale totalled \$222,000 and 14

female lots averaged \$11,634. Eleven embryo packages averaged \$5,113.

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Bison sale sees more animals, higher prices

BY KAREN BRIERE
REGINA BUREAU

Brian and Eleanor Brown bolstered their bison herd last week after taking home both the grand champion bull and the high selling animal.

Sixty-seven animals sold during the Canadian National Sale at Canadian Western Agribition Nov. 21.

The Browns have operated High Plains Drifters at Hodgeville, Sask., since 1998. Brian Brown said he spent money on good quality sires for his 150 cows because he had previously bought from the consigner and knew he would get results.

He spent \$25,000 on a two-year-old bull and \$18,000 for the grand champion, a yearling bull, from XY Bison Ranch from Fort St. John, B.C.

"I like the conformation and

stuff," Brown said.

"I've bought from him in the past and they've performed well."

The sale averaged \$7,935, down just slightly from last year's \$8,032.

However, prices for bred heifers were much higher than last year, averaging \$9,350 compared to \$5,085.

Sale manager and consigner Nolan Miller said the prices were generally consistent within the categories of animals.

"We had lots more animals than last year and it was good to see that there was lots of different buyers as well," he said.

Two-year-old bulls averaged \$11,458, yearling bulls averaged \$10,107 and yearling heifers averaged \$5,038.

Pens of two bred heifers averaged

\$7,125 while yearling pens were \$4,057.

Miller said meat prices have been steady for a few years, which gives producers confidence to spend money on quality stock and increase their herds, which is what the industry needs.

He said there are about 230,000 head in Canada and twice that in North America.

Brown has raised bison long enough to have gone through the tremendous ups and downs as the industry established itself.

"There was a time that we really struggled," he said.

"The prices have rebounded now. I hope that this isn't going to be one of like the times I got into it that the price is high, high and then the bottom dropped out and you

could hardly get rid of animals."

Brown said he thinks market demand is strong enough now so that won't happen.

Asked why he stuck with the industry during the rough times, his wife, Eleanor, said, "he believed in the animal."

Added Brown: "I listen to the wife."

In the show ring, the reserve champion male was a two-year-old bull from Silver Creek Bison, which is Miller's family operation at Binscarth, Man.

The champion female was a two-year-old bred heifer from Bison Spirit Ranch of Oak Lake, Man., and the reserve was also a two-year-old bred heifer from Prairieland Bison of Hodgeville, Sask.

The champion female sold for \$18,000 to Shale Creek Bison of Russell, Man.



Auctioneer Brennin Jack appears between the big screen and the small screen during Agribition's bison sale. For the second year in a row the bison were filmed in their pens and shown to bidders by video. | KAREN BRIERE PHOTO

Bred heifers sold for more than \$4,000 above last year

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Respiratory disease: temperature doesn't lie – or does it?

ANIMAL HEALTH



ROY LEWIS, DVM

Many techniques are being researched around early detection of respiratory disease. Many of these techniques have to do with determining body temperature.

This is true for many bacterial and viral cattle diseases. Temperature increase is one of the first measurable changes, indicating either response to treatment or a further worsening of the disease.

Temperatures should be taken initially if disease is expected and then later after treatment to measure response.

Devices such as rumen temperature boluses, temperature-recording ear tags and thermography cameras make this task easier.

Thermography cameras can measure inflammation but can also detect elevated temperatures around the eye as a predictor of impending body temperature increase. These cameras can also measure the internal and external temperatures of other parts of the body such as the scrotum or udder. The scrotum is normally below body temperature.

Normal temperature in cattle is generally 38.5 to 39.5 C. Cattle can become hyperthermic on a warm day or if exerting themselves, so veterinarians will use a different cut-off to decide when to initiate treatment.

Temperatures of 39.5 to 40 C may be considered in the grey zone, and many feedlot veterinarians' protocols start after 40 C. Below 38 C is heading toward hypothermic.

Temperatures used to be taken on all cattle entering the feedlot but the advent of macrolide antimicrobials and mass metaphylactic medication has replaced this.

Many of the electronic thermometers, although expensive, were fast and accurate. Producers should all have a normal thermometer to use for treating.

There are cheap digital ones that are fairly fast, easy to read and often beep when they are ready. Most veterinary clinics have them, and I have seen them as promotional items from pharmaceutical companies.

You may still see the old mercury thermometers, but they are hard to read and easy to break. In the old days I spent a lot of time showing producers how to roll the thermometer to read it. Unless your eyesight is really good, use the digital version.

Stick the thermometer far enough in when using it and wait the required time.

Ambient outside air may alter the reading and produce a false low if the animal has diarrhea and sucking air or if a rectal exam was just conducted. If in doubt, take the temperature again later.

False readouts are rare but do happen. Check with a second thermometer if in doubt.

I always carry a spare thermometer in case the original is lost (hopefully not inside the cow) or broken or if the batteries go dead.

The thermometers are flared on the ends, which allows most of them to be pushed in and left until ready to be read. Disinfect between uses with a cloth wipe.

Temperature can indicate the degree of sickness or the acuteness. The response to treatment and a lowering of temperature can indicate a better prognosis. We always tie this back to clinical signs, but temperature is a very objective measurement and repeatable. I have never seen a thermometer out of calibration, but I suppose that is always possible.

Increased body temperature is what essentially makes the cattle sick and off feed. That is why many veterinarians prescribe non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs either by themselves or as an adjunct to antimicrobials to bring

the temperature down. You can often measure a change as soon as a couple hours after administration. As well, there are situations where body temperature goes down below normal, which is also not good.

For example, body temperature will fall during toxemias in situations such as severe mastitis, cellulitis or clostridial disease. This shock situation often occurs because of the toxins that are produced.

One must warm up the animal, but the temperature will often continue to drop, and a comatose situation may occur before death.

It is always good to take the temperature of a severely dehydrated scouring calf in early spring. Poor circulation because of the dehydration means we must do what we

can to warm up the calf as well as treat the disease if body temperature is very low. This may involve warm fluids either intravenously or orally, blankets, hot water bottles or blowing warm air.

You may see shivering if all these things start working. This is a good sign because the calf is then starting to shiver to warm itself up. If shivering does not happen, it means the calf was very cold and prognosis is a lot poorer.

The only time temperature may be misleading is if cattle are pulled very early and have some signs but body temperature is still normal. Is body temperature normal but heading to hyperthermia or hypothermia? We either treat on a hunch or recheck the temperature in a few hours. A change indicates closer examination.

We can learn a lot and make many decisions on treatment when we use temperature as one of the clinical signs. An inexpensive thermometer and only a little effort will give us a number that means a lot.

Have a thermometer or two on your place and use them whenever possible. The decision to treat or not is often based on it.

The temperature, together with respiratory rate and rhythm, heart rate and rhythm and rumen motility, tells us many things. If veterinarians and producers have only one sign to go on, most would pick body temperature. I know I would. Next time an animal is sick, record and report its body temperature.

Roy Lewis works as a technical services veterinarian part time with Merck Animal Health in Alberta.

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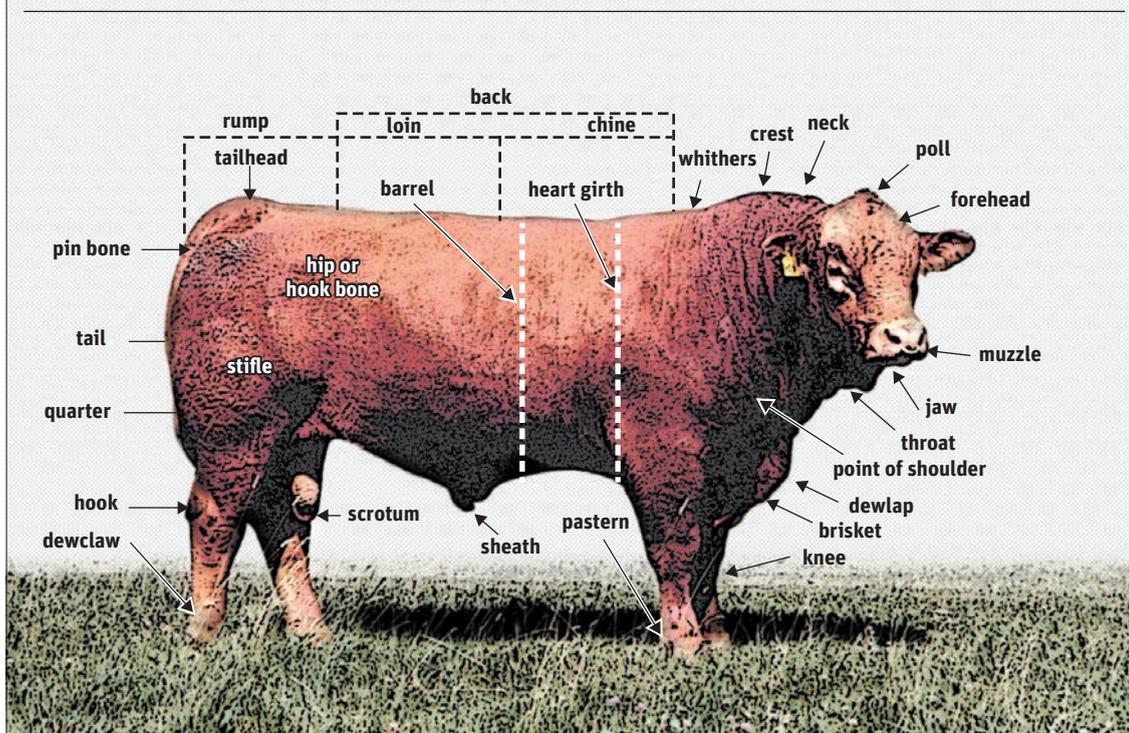
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Bulls not equally prolific in the pasture

BULL ANATOMY



Study found one bull sired only one calf while another produced 53; the average was 21 per bull

BY BARBARA DUCKWORTH
CALGARY BUREAU

Producers expect breeding duties among their cows to be shared when they use multiple bulls in a pasture.

However, DNA parentage data collected over three years at the Western Beef Development Centre near Lanigan, Sask., showed that some bulls are far more prolific than others. Some bulls sired as few as three calves while others did more than their share.

"There was a lot more variation in what bulls were actually doing and how many calves were sired by a bull," said Stacey Domolewski, whose master's degree involved testing bull prolificacy.

She is the science and extension co-ordinator for the Beef Cattle Research Council.

"We were surprised by how uneven it was," she said in a Nov. 16 webinar organized by the council.

The recommendation is one bull per 25 cows, but results from the first year showed that one bull produced just one calf while the highest was 53 calves. The average was 21 calves per bull.

The researchers created a bull prolificacy index to account for pregnancy rate, bull-to-cow ratio and the number of bulls in the pasture.

Bulls that do not pull their weight do not pay their own way.

Making parentage information available allows producers to track the calves' successes or failures back to the sire.

For example, one might be responsible for calving difficulties and could be removed to prevent dystocia. It has been found that of all the calves that die at or around calving, more than half had a difficult birth. Calving difficulty may be the fault of either the bull or management.

Producers looking for specific traits such as improved weaning weights could trace that quality back to a specific bull.

Parentage testing could also prevent inbreeding and be another way to remove non-prolific sires.

"He still costs the same room and board, so it may be a way to get rid of those freeloader bulls," said Domolewski.

Bulls can depreciate like any other asset. The cost of a bull includes purchase price, feed, bedding, veterinarian bills and minerals.

A bull that sires only one calf does not cover the cost of its upkeep. The WBDC offers a herd sire calculator to figure out the costs on an operation and whether an individual bull pays its way.

Producers also want improved weaning weights because they are paid on a per pound basis.

The assumption that some bulls may sire fewer calves but pass on desirable traits such as improved weights may not be enough.

This research found that the most prolific also had the highest calving percentage and more calves survived to weaning.

The study also looked at the age of

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EPDs not high on the list for commercial bull buyers

Though they contain valuable information, EPDs are among many factors that go into decisions about sires

BY BARB GLEN
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

It's impossible to say how many commercial cow-calf producers consider the expected progeny differences (EPD) statistics of bulls they plan to buy.

Dr. John Basarab, beef research scientist with Alberta Agriculture, suspects that it isn't very many. He thinks EPD data is a few levels down on the list of bull-buying considerations.

First on that list is a bull that fits the herd's management and environment.

Then it's breed selection and desired characteristics.

Next is consideration of the breeding objective, whether to raise replacement heifers and expand the herd, or raise calves for the beef market. Maybe both.

After that, reputation of the breeder comes into play; whether that breeder has similar management style or whether bulls purchased from that person in the past performed well in the buyer's herd.

Then, and maybe only then, EPDs enter the equation.

"Some very astute cow-calf managers will look at a variety of EPDs, everywhere from calving ease to birth weight to weaning weight to yearling rate, even to dry matter

intake and RFI, residual feed intake," said Basarab.

He estimated about 85 percent of commercial cattle producers use purebred bulls, for which EPD data is available.

But when those bulls are used in a commercial herd, which may have a variety of crossbreds, EPD data is less reliable in terms of outcome.

"The EPD has been trained on a purebred population, so that's fine. The genetic effect should still be there. But when I take it to an unknown crossbred cow, the predictability is down."

The results of breeding an Angus bull to a mostly Angus cow are

highly predictable, said Basarab in giving an example. Results from that same bull, used in a herd of crossbred Hereford, Angus and Simmental cows, are much harder to predict.

"The resulting offspring, their performance is going to be less than predictable from the EPD," he said.

"The next thing is, hybrid vigour comes in there and messes things up."

An Angus bull bred to a Hereford-Simmental crossbred cow will provide a big hybrid vigour boost, especially in fertility traits. EPDs won't account for that. Unpredict-

able results like these, and other surprises, might be why relatively few commercial cattle producers rely on EPDs.

"Over the years, cattle producers observe this and maybe some of the more skeptical ones go, 'EPDs don't work.'"

"Well, they work, but in a variable cross breeding program they may be less predictable, or there needs to be more variables coming into play before you can actually predict the performance of the offspring."

The result is that cow-calf producers rely more heavily on what they know, what they've

observed over the years and what they've learned from other experienced cattle people, said Basarab.

"We would hope that our EPDs would become more useful for commercial cattle producers and of course those are some of the things we're working on."

And although the quality of the Canadian cow herd has improved over the years, he said it has been relatively slow, especially compared to the dairy industry where genomic technology has been embraced.

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» CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

bulls that are turned out.

They found mature bulls tended to sire the most calves, but there was still considerable variation among the yearlings, two year olds and mature sires. The mature bulls tended to sire the most, but there were still variations in their success.

"Because a bull is older does not necessarily mean he is going to sire more calves, and there may be a lot of other factors at play here," she said.

The first year of the study found a group in which the yearlings sired the most, but usually the mature bulls were producing more. In the second year of the study yearling bulls were often the least prolific while the two years olds produced the most calves.

While the mature bulls seemed to sire more calves, further research is needed to see if yearlings develop and become more prolific as they age. The researchers also want to know if a bull that was highly prolific in one season repeats that performance the following year.

All the bulls in the study had to pass a breeding soundness test that assessed scrotal circumference and sperm scores.

Researchers also looked at the production cycle.

Sixty percent of the herd should be calving within the first 21 days for a more consistent set of calves, and cows should then rebreed as soon as possible to produce a calf every year. Researchers wanted to know if certain bulls were responsible for producing the most calves in the early part of the season, but this needs more work.

They also need to look at cattle management, dominance of certain bulls and libido.

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Who's your daddy? Find the answers via sire parentage verification

BY WILLIAM DEKAY
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

LANIGAN, Sask. — A sire parentage verification study is beginning to bear fruit for researchers and ranchers.

"The producers co-operating in this study have learned as much as we've learned," said Bart Lardner from the Western Beef Development Centre in Lanigan.

Year two of the three-year study just wrapped up, which is evaluating the use of DNA sire parentage verification in multi-sire breeding pastures.

For the 2015 through 2017 calf crops, five co-operating ranches across Saskatchewan plus one breeding pasture at the beef and forage research centre have been providing DNA samples of their calves for sire parentage at Quantum Genetix Lab in Saskatoon.

The bull to cow ratio varies between operations depending on a number of factors (like bull's age), but generally it's about 25 cows to a bull, said economist Kathy Larson.

"Some of you push the limit and put out 40 to 50 cows for a bull. Depending on topography, maybe you're at 17 cows per bull," she said.

Larson said WBDC's breeding pasture put out 100 cows and four bulls.

"We had a breeding pasture here at 25 to one and I guess the expectation is if we had four bulls out there that each of them is going to service 25. What we've learned through DNA parentage testing is that just isn't so," she said.

"So the whole point is we make assumptions on these 25 calves per cow, but we may end up in situations where that bull is costing us significantly more."

Testing is anywhere between \$12 to \$20 per animal and in order to make the investment pay it depends on the bull's purchase price related to the number of cows serviced.

Using a modified Y-Tex ear tagger, tiny plugs of flesh are punched from the calf during tagging, branding, vaccinating or any routine management process. Samples then need to be kept cold and dry for accurate lab analyze.

Collecting DNA from a bull is done using hair samples from the tail. The hair root must be attached for accurate testing.

"They prefer tissue samples on the younger animals because they can get a better DNA sample from it simply because the tail hair isn't as developed as a root ball to grab the DNA from," she said.

A large variation between bull performances is one of five key points researchers and producers have learned over the past two years of study.

"We had as low as 15 calves per bull on our 100 cow pasture, but we had operators that had bulls that only sired one calf. So they're going out there expecting to sire 25 to 30 and they only threw one," said Larson.

However, she said they also expected some bulls would sire well over 25 and that did occur. One bull sired 66 calves.

"So it's not unreasonable to

expect your bulls to breed that 50 cows, but some of the producers have said they expect that the way they make their breeding pastures," she said.

Good record keeping is a prerequisite in order to make the best use of the DNA parentage testing.

Breeding groups need to be recorded to provide the lab with potential sires for each calf. Calf date of birth, birth weight and wean weight is also helpful.

However, record keeping was one

of the biggest challenges in making the parentage testing work, said Karmen McNabb.

She and her husband, Jason, were one of the five ranches that partnered with the WBDC during the three-year study.

They have a 450 commercial cow-calf and backgrounding operation in the Cypress Hills. Typically, they use four breeding groups with three to seven bulls in each group.

Calving is on pasture, newborns are tagged daily and they use a calf

table for branding. Calves are usually kept until approximately 900 pounds.

"I thought I had pretty good records. I had a little calf book and I took that information and put it in an Excel spreadsheet. So I had stuff listed out pretty well, but if you're going to do this in detail — this seems crazy, but you need to actually know which cows gave which calves. And if you're calving on pasture that's not as easy as it looks," she said.

McNabb said 98 percent of the time they would know which cow had which calf.

"The other two percent — there's one wandering over there or there's a twin from over there — so there are some that are a lot tougher than it looks," she said.

Another issue for complete accuracy is knowing which breeding pasture the cows were in the previous year.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>



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Kathy Larson shows Jerry Sopatyk from Meacham, Sask., how to take a DNA tissue sample from an ear to determine parentage at the Western Beef Development Centre's summer field day in Lanigan, Sask., earlier this year. | WILLIAM DEKAY PHOTO



It's been suggested by previous researchers if you just test the calves born in the first 21 days you can get results back in time and still end up with results that can tell you which are the most prolific sires in your group.

KATHY LARSON
ECONOMIST

"That's fine for 95 percent of your cows, but the fine detail is a little bit tougher," she said.

She said if a producer really wants to know how many calves the bulls threw, then dead calves also need to be sampled, which isn't easy.

"On our place sometimes a dead calf doesn't last long. There's not much left of it by the time you find it. So you pick out a piece that

doesn't have too much coyote DNA on it and bring it home," she said.

Tight timelines are another key factor to consider in getting calf samples. Larson said producers will not be able to get results back before the next breeding season if testing all calves after a 60 day breeding season.

"It's been suggested by previous researchers if you just test the calves born in the first 21 days you can get results back in time and still end up with results that can tell you which are the most prolific sires in your group," she said.

Another major point learned is that non-matches do occur and it happens 5.4 percent on average in every herd.

"What that means is that we've used sibling bulls in our breeding pastures. You'll end up with inconclusive results," said Larson.

She said submission of dam DNA can help resolve the issue.

"Some of you make selections like that, buying bulls that are brothers because you want a more uniform calf crop and might end up in a little bit of a hurdle to get through."

Larson uses a bull prolificacy index (BPI) to compare "apples to apples."

She said producers are using cow to bull ratios and different lengths of breeding seasons, but the BPI brings all the data sets and different operations together to compare them.

The BPI is essentially the number of calves that a bull sired divided by the number of calves he was expected to sire, adjusted for conception.

"So if the bull threw you 25 calves and that's kind of what his equal share would have been — you had him in a field of 100 cows and four bulls — then his BPI would be one," said Larson.

"(The data) showed that there was definitely a lower number of calves sired by the younger bulls and more sired for the more mature bulls but there was also more variations amongst the older bulls.

"Some very interesting results there."

McNabb said after the samples come back from the lab it's important to put the data to work.

"There's two main avenues you're looking at. One would be how many calves are those bulls siring, but the next thing is, now that you know who actually sired those calves, maybe you could use that data as well," she said.

"We had a bull whose feet grew out badly and we said, are we keeping his heifers? I don't want feet like that. So we've gone back and looked at our yearling numbers to see who he sired and make sure we don't keep any of those heifers," she said.

"We have culled a couple of bulls because of poor performance.... The trouble with that is timing. We only keep a bull for maybe four seasons. His results come back the first season and he's only sired 15 calves so we keep him one more year, but the results don't come back until three days after bull turnout (July 16). So really you've kept him another year and you discover his second year results were bad too ... the timing is challenging," she said.

"You have to actually do something with the data to add value."

Lardner said the next step is to look at repeatability of results from two years of study and also look at other technologies that may help producers interpret the findings.



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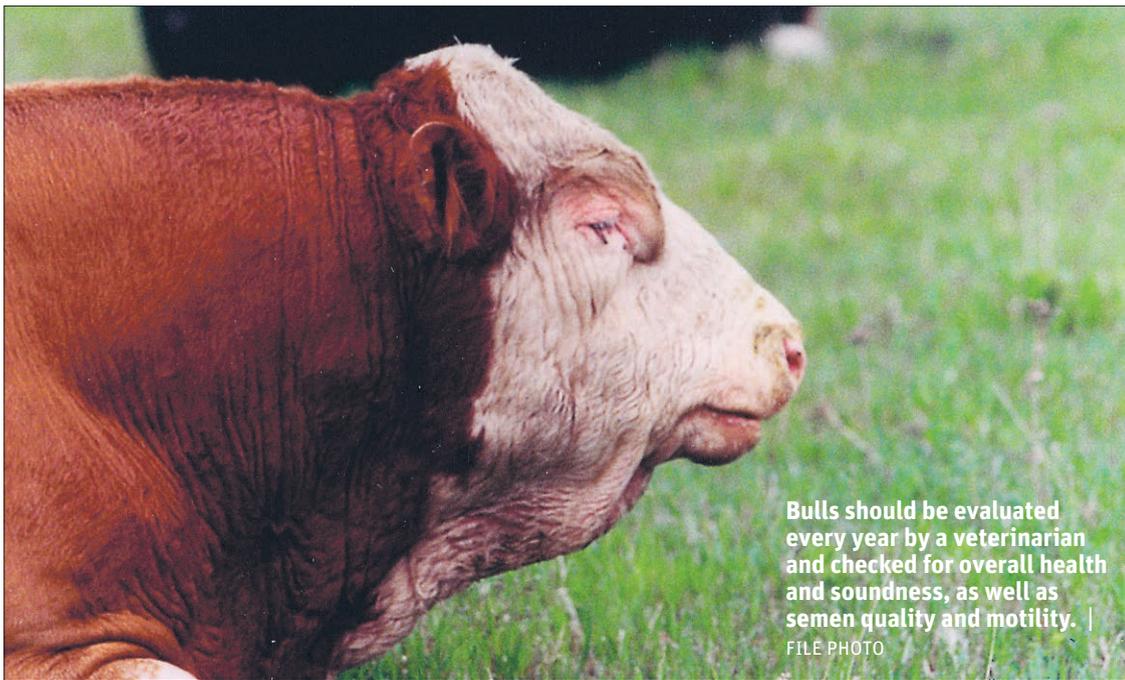
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Bulls should be evaluated every year by a veterinarian and checked for overall health and soundness, as well as semen quality and motility. | FILE PHOTO

Ferdinand bad example of acceptable bull

Bulls that pack on a few extra pounds may not have the stamina to breed the needed number of cows

BY BARB GLEN
LETHBRIDGE BUREAU

Ferdinand, the bull famous in children's fiction, just wanted to sit and smell the flowers.

With that kind of attitude, Ferdinand wouldn't be wanted in commercial beef herds. In fact, Ferdinand would sooner find himself in a batch of bologna than in the shade of a tree.

There are several reasons bulls may not be doing the job cow-calf producers want, namely breeding cows and siring healthy and vigorous calves.

Maybe Ferdinand is too fat.

"When you have a bull that's over condition, he's just overfat, what's going to happen is, for the first 30 days of the breeding season, if that is in June or July, all he's going to want to do is maybe breed a few cows but he's going to sit underneath a tree in the shade and burn off his fat. He's not going to do his work," said Alberta Agriculture livestock specialist Barry Yaremicio.

"He can have a higher core body temperature than one that's a little bit thinner, so that may impact the quality of the semen."

However, a thin bull isn't desirable either.

"You put a bull out with 30 cows, at the end of a breeding season he's pretty thin. There's not much extra weight on him because he's spending all his time working rather than eating so that can be a problem as well," Yaremicio said.

A number of factors come into play when deciding how long to keep a bull in the herd. Performance is naturally the biggest factor. Genetic tests can tell producers how many calves a bull has sired, although that can be expensive.

Yaremicio said bulls should be evaluated every year by a veterinarian and checked for overall health and soundness, as well as semen quality and motility.

Health issues that arise after that

evaluation must also be managed with caution. For example, foot rot or other inflammation can cause fever.

"That higher temperature will greatly reduce or eliminate the number of live sperm that have motility," said Yaremicio.

"Even though you may have treated that bull with some sort of antibiotic to get the foot rot down and he's walking normally and he seems to be jumping and doing his work, he's shooting blanks for 60 days."

He advises removing that bull from the herd, either temporarily or permanently.

Bull size in relation to the size of the cows or heifers in the herd is another consideration. They should be relatively compatible in size or injuries can result.

Temperament is another factor. "Sometimes a bull will get snarky. There's been too many people injured or killed by rangy bulls. We don't need that," Yaremicio said.

A bull's success in the herd is also greatly affected by its winter feeding program. Bulls need trace minerals — copper, manganese, zinc, selenium, iodine and cobalt, to name a few, and those are typically deficient in western Canadian feeds.

Providing bulls with blue salt over the winter is not sufficient, and without trace minerals, semen quality may be insufficient for conception.

Attention must also be paid to vitamins A, D and E, Yaremicio added. Vitamin E is particularly important because it is often deficient in commercial mineral programs.

He also advised caution when buying an older bull at auction or from someone else's herd. Though this can save money, it comes with risk.

"You have to know the health history of the previous herd so that you're not bringing in something that's going to create troubles for you in the long run."

Buyers should ask for health records on the bull and inquire about herd health issues in the bull's former herd in the recent past.

The National Animal Disease Information Service notes on its website that bull purchase is a common way for disease to enter a farm.

"Too many farms think they are closed but buy bulls. A bull is as likely to be infected with an important disease as a cow and, because of the close contact during mating, far more likely to spread it," NADIS reports.

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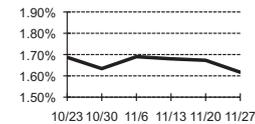
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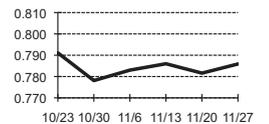
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Construction costs for the proposed soybean processing plant, with a capacity of 850,000 tonnes per year, is about \$330 million. | FILE PHOTO

Push is on for soybean plant

Investors are being sought to build a processing facility to provide western Canadian hog producers with meal

BY ROBERT ARNASON
BRANDON BUREAU

Farmers in Manitoba and Saskatchewan grew more than three million acres of soybeans this year. Almost all of those beans are exported to places like China, where they are processed into soybean meal and fed to livestock.

Meanwhile, every year hog farmers in Western Canada import hundreds of thousands of tonnes of soybean meal from the United States to mix into feed rations for their pigs.

Since Western Canada is exporting a product it needs for livestock feed, it seems logical to build a soybean crushing plant on the Prairies and produce soybean meal for the regional market.

The logic is straightforward, but a few questions must be answered first, including the most important one: who is going to invest \$300 million in the plant?

The Western Opportunities Leadership Group (WOLG), a coalition of community leaders in western Manitoba, is hoping to convince a company to build a soybean processing plant in the region.

For now the WOLG is focused on building a team and getting all players on the same page so that it can make a comprehensive pitch to prospective investors.

"To ensure the best case possible is made to the companies," Richard

Pauls, a consultant working with the group, said at a mid-November WOLG meeting in Brandon about the soybean plant.

Bob Woodward, another consultant for WOLG, presented specs for the potential plant at the meeting.

- It would process 2,500 tonnes of soybeans per day, which is about 850,000 tonnes of beans a year.
- Construction cost would be around \$330 million, including rail access, hydro and water infrastructure.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan farmers produced about 2.7 million tonnes of soybeans this year, based on Soy Canada data, so the proposed plant would need about 30 percent of soybean production.

Soy acres are predicted to expand, particularly in Saskatchewan, but the plant would still require a substantial chunk of all the beans in Western Canada.

"One thing you absolutely have to do, if you're going to have a successful plant here, is you have to control the bean supply," said Bob Stroup, a soybean processing plant expert from the United States, who spoke at the meeting.

"You can't decide you're going to build the plant and then (approach farmers)."

Stroup said one solution is forming a co-operative, which would act as the soybean supplier to the plant.

Another concern is that existing oilseed plants in Western Canada can crush soybeans, so a new plant might have to compete for beans.

"You should know that in Yorkton, at least the Louis Dreyfus plant, is what we call a switch plant," Stroup said.



ANDREW DICKSON
MANITOBA PORK COUNCIL

"It would be pretty easy to switch that into soybeans."

A participant at the Brandon meeting said the proposed plant in western Manitoba would have to pay a small premium for the beans and possibly pay growers to store the soybeans on the farm.

On top of securing a bean supply, the owners of a prospective plant would also need buyers for the soybean meal.

Manitoba pork producers truck in soybean meal from southern Minnesota and South Dakota. They would welcome the shipping savings from a local plant.

"When feed costs are something like half to two-thirds the cost of the pig, any saving on freight ... is going to translate to increased (profits)," said Andrew Dickson, Manitoba Pork Council general manager.

Manitoba farmers raised about 4.5 million pigs to market weight last year, not enough to consume all the meal from the proposed plant.

Dickson estimated that Saskatchewan and Alberta farmers produce two million and three million pigs, respectively.

"They buy soy meal as well ... now you start to see a marketplace for this (plant)."

However, it's unlikely that a soybean crusher in western Manitoba would capture 100 percent of the hog market in the region. Plant operators would need to find buyers in North Dakota and Montana or poultry and other livestock buyers in Canada.

Of course, it's premature to fret about the soybean supply and who will buy the meal because the plant is still hypothetical.

The crucial part of the process is making a business case to a major investor. The WOLG is still getting its ducks in a row, but representatives of the group have approached a few companies, Pauls said.

"We're talking to them now ... in a preliminary way."

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AG STOCKS NOV. 20-24

Stronger oil prices and hopes for a good Christmas retail season lifted stock markets. For the week, the TSX composite rose 0.7 percent, the Dow rose 0.4 percent, the S&P 500 rose 0.6 percent and the Nasdaq rose 1.4 percent.

Cdn. exchanges in \$Cdn. U.S. exchanges in \$U.S.

GRAIN TRADERS

Name	Exch	Close	last wk
ADM	NY	39.14	39.42
AGT Food	TSX	19.99	19.94
Bunge Ltd.	NY	65.25	65.50

PRAIRIE PORTFOLIO

Name	Exch	Close	last wk
Ceapro Inc.	TSXV	0.56	0.56
Cervus Equip.	TSX	15.14	15.29
Input Capital	TSXV	1.57	1.61
Rocky Mtn D'ship	TSX	12.74	12.71

FOOD PROCESSORS

Name	Exch	Close	last wk
ConAgra Brands	NY	35.46	35.71
Hormel Foods	NY	34.41	33.12
Lamb Weston	NY	54.44	53.21
Maple Leaf	TSX	34.17	33.54
Premium Brands	TSX	109.05	97.23
Tyson Foods	NY	80.47	77.97

FARM EQUIPMENT MFG.

Name	Exch	Close	last wk
AGI	TSX	51.24	50.82
AGCO Corp.	NY	69.99	66.66
Buhler Ind.	TSX	4.45	4.45
Caterpillar Inc.	NY	137.39	136.13
CNH Industrial	NY	13.12	12.53
Deere and Co.	NY	145.50	135.77

FARM INPUT SUPPLIERS

Name	Exch	Close	last wk
Agrium	TSX	138.47	136.44
BASF	OTC	28.39	27.16
Bayer Ag	OTC	32.22	31.79
DowDuPont Inc	NY	71.16	70.74
BioSyent Inc.	TSXV	10.30	10.23
Monsanto	NY	118.13	118.33
Mosaic	NY	23.85	22.94
PotashCorp	TSX	24.70	24.38
Syngenta	ADR	92.42	92.31

TRANSPORTATION

Name	Exch	Close	last wk
CN Rail	TSX	101.71	101.85
CPR	TSX	221.07	215.31

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.

Deere results beat predictions

Deere & Co. shares surged last week after it reported higher than expected quarterly earnings and forecast stronger results next year.

Net income rose 79 percent to US\$510.3 million in the fourth quarter while total net sales rose 25.5 percent to \$1.09 billion.

Deere expects sales in 2018 will rise as much as 10 percent as farm equipment bought during the boom period of a few years ago begins to wear, even though U.S. farm income is struggling with low crop prices.

Desired future, reality must align

PERSPECTIVES ON MANAGEMENT



TERRY BETKER

There are two futures for farms and farm families.

One is the future that is defined by what will happen, simply as a matter of course, year by year.

The other is the future that is defined by what farm families set out to purposefully work to accomplish.

One isn't necessarily any better than the other, but they are quite different approaches. I think it depends on how farm families think about their businesses and their situations.

I have no statistics upon which to base this opinion, but I think most people would prefer the future that they could try to make happen as opposed to accepting the future that was "dealt" to them.

The inherent challenge is that individual family members will each have ideas and opinions about the future that they would like to see. That, in part, is what makes the process of working within family to define a desired future difficult not impossible, but difficult. I think it's worth the effort.

There are rewards in situations where a future has been defined and where progress toward it has been made. Farm families can celebrate successes when a plan comes together.

There will often be changes associated with the defined future. The more substantive the changes required, the greater the need for planning.

The planning should keep three important components in alignment: business direction, financial performance and management structure.

Business direction

This alignment consideration is about strategic direction. Farm families should have written statements that provide longer-term direction. They define what farm families are working toward: vision and goals and a common purpose. Consensus on purpose is an extremely important part of the planning process.

Financial performance

All farms have a financial direction. The reality is that they are headed somewhere financially.

For most farmers, this is a reactive function, meaning that their financial position in the future — say five years from now — will be an outcome of what will happen over that time frame.

The preferred approach is to define what they want, or need, their financial position to be, and then determine what needs to be done to achieve it. It can be thought of as being a financial vision and should include financial management goals and targets.

There is a business adage that says you can't manage what you can't measure. How do you know if

you are moving to where you want to be financially if you haven't defined the goal?

Logically, there should be a significant degree of alignment between a business vision and a financial vision. I find myself in discussions with farm families where there sometimes is a disconnect between their ideas of where they want their farm to be in the future and their ability to get there financially.

Having a dream and then after a time realizing you can't afford it can be discouraging.

Management structure

The importance of understanding a farm's management structure as farms get bigger and straddle generations has never been greater.

The basic management functions on a farm are mostly unchanged, but what's involved in attending to those functions has changed and is changing. For many farms, this is a new and evolving reality.

Simply stated, what does the management structure of a farm need to look like five years from now so that it is appropriately aligned with the stated financial and business vision?

Putting some structure around the management functions on a farm can be a very powerful exercise and doesn't have to be overly complex.

Start by drawing an organizational chart that best represents how the business is being managed. Determine who has responsibility for operations, marketing and financial and human resource



Farm families need to define goals and outline a business strategy and structure to meet them. | FILE PHOTO

management. Next, define what the tasks are in each of those management areas and then repeat the process that best represents the management structure that will be required five years from now.

Successful outcomes correlating to a desired future will be positively

affected by keeping the three planning components outlined above in alignment.

Terry Betker is a farm management consultant based in Winnipeg. He can be reached at 204-782-8200 or terry.betker@backswath.com.

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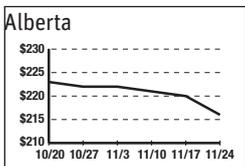
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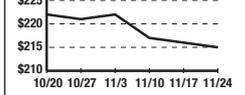


CATTLE & SHEEP

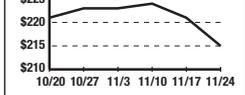
Steers 600-700 lb. (average \$/cwt)



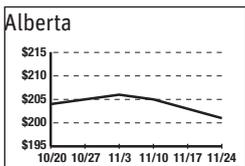
Saskatchewan



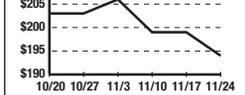
Manitoba



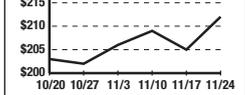
Heifers 500-600 lb. (average \$/cwt)



Saskatchewan



Manitoba



Canadian Beef Production

million lb.	YTD	% change
Fed	1,828.6	+2
Non-fed	294.9	+12
Total beef	2,123.4	+3

Canfax

EXCHANGE RATE

NOV. 27
\$1 Cdn. = \$0.7859 U.S.
\$1 U.S. = \$1.2724 Cdn.

Slaughter Cattle (\$/cwt)

Grade A	Live		Previous	Year ago	Rail		Previous
	Nov 17-Nov 23	Nov 10-Nov 16			Nov 17-Nov 23	Nov 10-Nov 16	
Steers							
Alta.	n/a	n/a	145.15	128.92	249.00-251.00	244.00-247.00	
Ont.	130.77-141.10	133.86-145.40			237.00-242.00	237.00-245.00	
Heifers							
Alta.	n/a	n/a	144.47	125.29	245.50-250.75	246.25-247.00	
Ont.	132.31-144.34	131.80-144.27			236.00-241.00	236.00-244.00	

*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	178-185	175-198	185-196	175-183	178-185	175-187	172-189	180-194	175-186	175-187	172-189	180-194	167-186	175-186	172-189	180-194
Heifers	175-185	no sales	177-192	165-186	175-185	175-187	172-189	180-194	167-186	175-185	175-187	172-189	180-194	167-186	175-185	175-187

Canfax

Average Carcass Weight

	Nov 18/17		Nov 19/16		YTD 17		YTD 16	
	Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers
Canfax	925	846	935	862	892	821	919	841
Steers	925	846	935	862	892	821	919	841
Heifers	846	862	821	841	821	841	841	841
Cows	702	704	735	755	735	755	755	755
Bulls	984	1,049	1,031	1,018	1,031	1,018	1,018	1,018

U.S. Cash cattle (\$/cwt)

	Nov 23		Nov 16		Yr. ago	
	Nov 23	Nov 17	Nov 16	Nov 10	Nov 16	Nov 10
US Choice (uss)	209.01	210.21	186.64	186.64	186.64	186.64
Cdn AAA (cs)	249.28	249.96	244.79	244.79	244.79	244.79

Beef Cutout (\$/cwt)

	Nov 23		Nov 16		Yr. ago	
	Nov 23	Nov 17	Nov 16	Nov 10	Nov 16	Nov 10
US Choice (uss)	209.01	210.21	186.64	186.64	186.64	186.64
Cdn AAA (cs)	249.28	249.96	244.79	244.79	244.79	244.79

Sheep (\$/lb.) & Goats (\$/head)

	Nov 20		Nov 13	
	Nov 20	Nov 13	Nov 20	Nov 13
Wool sheep	2.10-2.30	1.90-2.26	2.10-2.30	1.90-2.26
55-69 lb	2.10-2.30	1.90-2.26	2.10-2.30	1.90-2.26
70-85 lb	1.94-2.20	1.94-2.15	1.94-2.20	1.94-2.15
86-105 lb	1.86-2.09	1.78-2.02	1.86-2.09	1.78-2.02
> 106 lb	1.74-1.84	1.78-1.84	1.74-1.84	1.78-1.84

Beaver Hill Auction Services Ltd.

Cattle / Beef Trade

	Exports		% from 2016	
	Nov 24	Nov 17	Nov 24	Nov 17
Sltr. cattle to U.S. (head)	451,942 (1)	451,942 (1)	-9.4	-9.4
Feeder C&C to U.S. (head)	110,144 (1)	110,144 (1)	-36.7	-36.7
Total beef to U.S. (tonnes)	209,074 (3)	209,074 (3)	+3.0	+3.0
Total beef, all nations (tonnes)	282,710 (3)	282,710 (3)	+7.0	+7.0

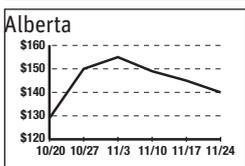
	Imports		% from 2016	
	Nov 24	Nov 17	Nov 24	Nov 17
Sltr. cattle from U.S. (head)	n/a (2)	n/a (2)	n/a	n/a
Feeder C&C from U.S. (head)	50,693 (2)	50,693 (2)	+249.8	+249.8
Total beef from U.S. (tonnes)	107,294 (4)	107,294 (4)	-0.1	-0.1
Total beef, all nations (tonnes)	154,589 (4)	154,589 (4)	-7.9	-7.9

(1) to Nov 11/17 (2) to Sep 30/17 (3) to Sep 30/17 (4) to Nov 18/17
Agriculture Canada

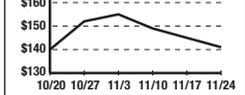
HOGS

Due to wide reporting and collection methods, it is misleading to compare hog prices between provinces.

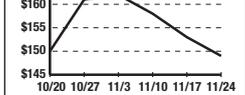
Index 100 Hog Price Trends (\$/c/kg)



Saskatchewan Sig. 5



Manitoba



Fixed contract \$/c/kg

(Hams Marketing)	Maple Leaf Sig 5		Thunder Creek Pork	
	Nov 24	Nov 17	Nov 24	Nov 17
Week ending				
Jan 06-Jan 13	140.24-144.13	140.24-144.13	138.62-142.33	138.62-142.33
Jan 20-Jan 27	146.88-151.58	146.88-151.58	145.19-147.43	145.19-147.43
Feb 03-Feb 10	152.15-155.19	152.15-155.19	149.29-154.28	149.29-154.28
Feb 17-Feb 24	154.85-155.19	154.85-155.19	153.29-154.41	153.29-154.41
Mar 03-Mar 10	154.09-154.94	154.09-154.94	157.85-158.56	157.85-158.56
Mar 17-Mar 24	154.71-157.69	154.71-157.69	157.07-159.15	157.07-159.15
Mar 31-Apr 07	161.78-161.81	161.78-161.81	158.90-160.32	158.90-160.32
Apr 14-Apr 21	161.67-161.67	161.67-161.67	162.95-163.31	162.95-163.31
Apr 28-May 05	161.67-165.17	161.67-165.17	162.70-167.98	162.70-167.98
May 12-May 19	169.06-175.80	169.06-175.80	175.51-178.37	175.51-178.37

Hogs / Pork Trade

	Export		% from 2016		Import		% from 2016	
	Nov 24	Nov 17	Nov 24	Nov 17	Nov 24	Nov 17	Nov 24	Nov 17
Sltr. hogs to/fm U.S. (head)	741,857 (1)	741,857 (1)	-12.3	-12.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total pork to/fm U.S. (tonnes)	283,516 (2)	283,516 (2)	-4.5	-4.5	162,619 (3)	162,619 (3)	+5.5	+5.5
Total pork, all nations (tonnes)	959,115 (2)	959,115 (2)	+4.7	+4.7	181,388 (3)	181,388 (3)	+3.3	+3.3

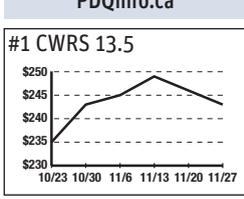
(1) to Nov 11/17 (2) to Sep 30/17 (3) to Nov 18/17
Agriculture Canada

Chicago Hogs Lean (\$/cwt)

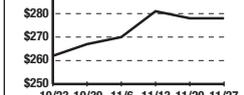
	Close		Trend	Year ago	Close		Trend	Year ago
	Nov 24	Nov 17			Nov 24	Nov 17		
Dec	63.25	60.65	+2.60	47.80	63.25	60.65	+2.60	47.80
Jan	69.40	67.08	+2.32	54.18	69.40	67.08	+2.32	54.18
Feb	63.58	71.15	+2.43	61.13	63.58	71.15	+2.43	61.13
Mar	79.00	76.65	+2.35	68.63	79.00	76.65	+2.35	68.63

GRAINS

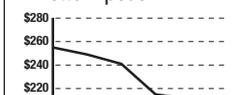
Cash Price for SE Sask PDQinfo.ca



#1 Durum 13.0



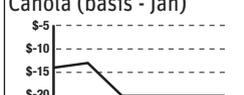
#2 Yellow peas



Cash Prices



Canola (basis - Jan)



Feed Wheat (Lethbridge)



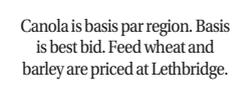
Flax (elevator bid- S'toon)



Barley (cash)



Chicago Nearby Futures (\$/100 bu.)



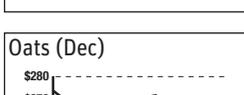
Corn (Dec)



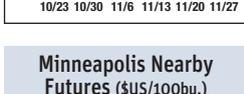
Soybeans (Jan)



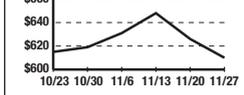
Oats (Dec)



Minneapolis Nearby Futures (\$/100bu.)



Spring Wheat (Dec)



Pulse and Special Crops

Source: STAT Publishing, which solicits bids from AGT Inc., Canpulse Foods, CGF Brokerage, Maviga NA, Parrish and Heimbecker, Scoular Canada and Simpson Seeds. Prices for dressed product at plant.

	Nov 24	Nov 17	Oct 20
Laird lentils, No. 1 (c/lb)	34.00	35.33	37.88
Laird lentils, No. 2 (c/lb)	29.36	30.50	34.63
Laird lentils, Xtra 3 (c/lb)	25.00	25.00	25.75
Richlea lentils, No. 1 (c/lb)	28.80	28.80	34.80
Eston lentils, No. 1 (c/lb)	29.00	29.00	32.71
Eston lentils, No. 2 (c/lb)	26.20	26.33	30.40
Eston lentils, Xtra 3 (c/lb)	20.25	20.25	24.70
Sm. Red lentils, No. 2 (c/lb)	16.19	16.53	20.03
Sm. Red lentils, Xtra 3 (c/lb)	13.40	13.40	17.80
Peas, green No. 1 (\$/bu)	7.50	7.70	8.20
Peas, medium, yellow No. 1 (\$/bu)	6.38	5.90	7.64
Peas, sm. yellow No. 2 (\$/bu)	6.29	5.35	6.98
Feed peas (\$/bu)	6.02	6.02	6.12
Maple peas (\$/bu)	15.63	15.63	14.40
Mustard, yellow, No. 1 (c/lb)	40.00	42.00	37.50
Mustard, Oriental, No. 1 (c/lb)	32.60	32.60	33.50
Mustard, Brown, No. 1 (c/lb)	40.33	41.00	39.33
Canaryseed (c/lb)	19.79	19.88	20.96
Desi chickpeas (c/lb)	27.67	27.67	29.67
Kabuli, 8mm, No. 1 (c/lb)	45.58	61.58	59.58
Kabuli, 7mm, No. 1 (c/lb)	35.58	41.58	41.58
B-90 cpeas, No. 1 (c/lb)	39.50	48.00	47.50

Cash Prices

WILY HUNTER |

A coyote in a field near Millarville, Alta., pauses to look around during its search for small rodents scurrying beneath the snow. |

WENDY DUDLEY PHOTO



THE WESTERN PRODUCER

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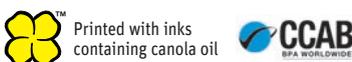
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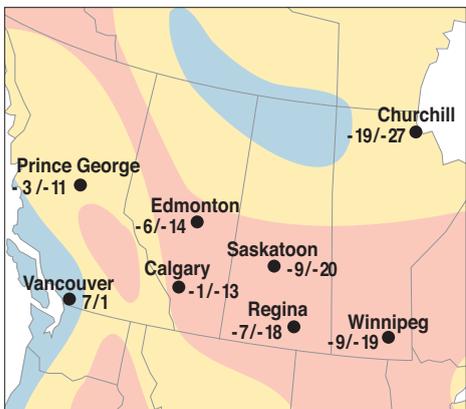
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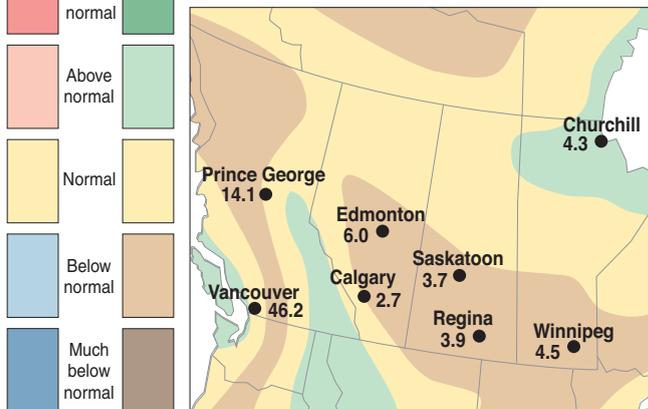
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TEMPERATURE FORECAST
 Nov. 30 - Dec. 6 (in °C)



PRECIPITATION FORECAST
 Nov. 30 - Dec. 6 (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.weatherotec.mb.ca n/a = not available; tr = trace; 1 inch = 25.4 millimetres (mm)

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.



LAST WEEK'S WEATHER SUMMARY ENDING NOV. 26

SASKATCHEWAN

	Temperature last week		Precipitation since Nov. 1		
	High	Low	mm	mm	%
Assiniboia	13.7	-23.8	3.3	18.0	156
Broadview	8.6	-23.5	4.4	19.3	114
Eastend Cypress	16.2	-19.3	0.9	10.4	66
Estevan	15.0	-19.2	0.5	9.7	59
Kindersley	5.9	-26.2	0.9	15.3	139
Maple Creek	19.4	-16.9	0.9	12.0	84
Meadow Lake	3.1	-18.6	0.6	9.2	52
Melfort	1.4	-21.6	0.5	10.8	77
Nipawin	1.2	-21.4	1.5	16.6	101
North Battleford	4.0	-21.2	0.9	18.3	122
Prince Albert	0.1	-20.8	1.8	22.8	143
Regina	8.2	-20.0	0.4	11.2	91
Rockglen	17.4	-22.4	0.0	13.6	105
Saskatoon	2.9	-22.5	1.4	15.4	121
Swift Current	13.1	-21.8	3.5	13.7	111
Val Marie	19.2	-22.2	0.2	8.2	66
Wynyard	7.4	-22.2	1.8	14.3	95
Yorkton	4.6	-20.4	0.2	12.0	74

ALBERTA

	Temperature last week		Precipitation since Nov. 1		
	High	Low	mm	mm	%
Brooks	15.1	-19.1	0.3	18.2	161
Calgary	14.6	-12.1	0.6	14.3	121
Cold Lake	3.3	-16.1	1.1	25.8	148
Coronation	4.8	-26.9	0.0	15.8	148
Edmonton	7.3	-24.9	6.0	15.3	92
Grande Prairie	4.7	-27.3	24.0	56.0	246
High Level	-11.0	-27.1	10.0	20.9	88
Lethbridge	17.3	-10.3	1.9	8.0	58
Lloydminster	3.8	-21.9	0.5	10.4	68
Medicine Hat	17.3	-15.6	1.9	21.1	160
Milk River	16.1	-10.3	2.7	12.7	77
Peace River	3.8	-29.2	12.8	33.8	157
Pincher Creek	14.7	-10.7	4.4	30.3	105
Red Deer	8.0	-22.0	0.4	10.2	72
Stavelly	14.2	-11.6	2.8	15.8	88
Vegreville	5.6	-21.8	1.3	13.7	103

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.weatherotec.mb.ca

MANITOBA

	Temperature last week		Precipitation since Nov. 1		
	High	Low	mm	mm	%
Brandon	5.1	-20.2	1.5	22.5	132
Dauphin	3.8	-16.6	3.1	9.4	54
Gimli	2.6	-18.8	1.2	10.5	46
Melita	10.3	-17.4	0.4	10.1	52
Morden	9.7	-14.0	0.7	13.5	56
Portage La Prairie	7.9	-14.6	2.4	16.7	69
Swan River	3.4	-17.8	1.0	13.1	60
Winnipeg	5.2	-15.8	0.7	9.2	39

BRITISH COLUMBIA

	Temperature last week		Precipitation since Nov. 1		
	High	Low	mm	mm	%
Cranbrook	13.0	-2.0	13.7	61.9	149
Fort St. John	4.2	-24.2	23.0	91.0	341
Kamloops	14.9	-2.3	4.5	15.0	59
Kelowna	11.3	-0.5	12.5	31.2	93
Prince George	8.2	-9.5	33.4	55.3	112

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

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