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The Blade

"Creating an Awareness of Forages"



FEBRUARY 2015

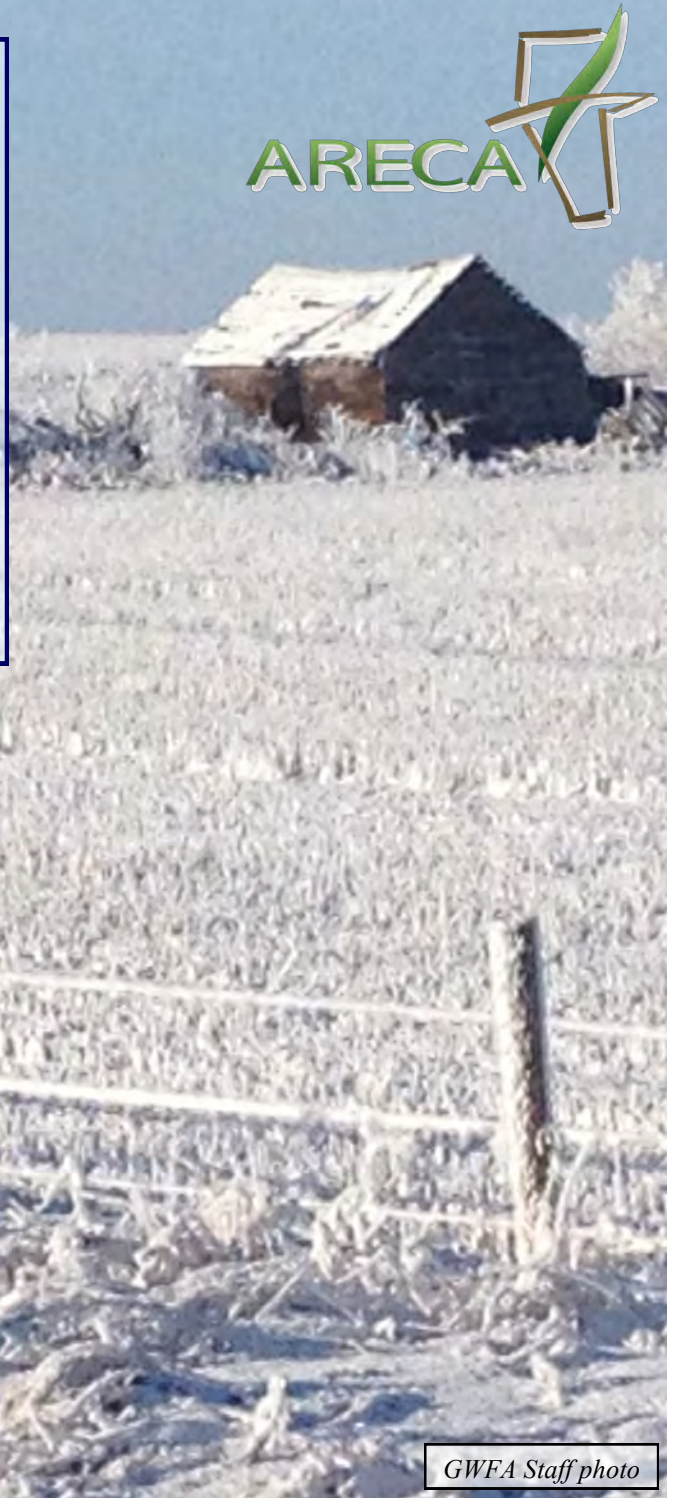
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VISION STATEMENT

GWFA – The centre of choice for gathering and dispersing of forage and livestock information, providing a strong link with producers and the research community.

MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance awareness of the organization as an information exchange centre, illustrating forage and livestock production practices that are environmentally and economically sustainable for the agricultural community.

Approved May 2012

GWFA Staff photo

Managing Information for Profit in Your Cow Herd

To register call the Ag-Info Centre at 1-800-387-6030.

Date	Location	Venue	Time
February 10, 2015	High Prairie	Days Inn and Suites	9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
February 11, 2015	Vermilion	Lakeland College	9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
February 12, 2015	Olds	Olds College	9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
February 13, 2015	Lethbridge	Lethbridge College	9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The workshops will train cow/calf producers and students to manage and analyze herd information to make informed business decisions in order to increase profitability in their cow herds. It will also provide training on current and future genetic tools that can improve profitability further.

- Beef Herd Management Software/Technology Booths
- BIXS 2 Update: "I've registered, now what?"
- Beef Herd Management Options – What info is important
- Genetic Selection Tools and Designing Breeding Programs
- Animal Health and Welfare Best Practices
- Nutrition – How to use Cowbytes to meet cattle requirements and save on feed costs
- Profiting from Information Management and Genomics
- Q/A Wrap up Discussion

Registration Fee: \$25/person, \$12.50/student, includes lunch for those who pre-register.

Space is limited so please register by **February 6th**.

To register call the **Ag-Info Centre** at 1-800-387-6030.





Forage & Crop Agronomy for Profit

Forshee Hall (North of Bentley)

February 17, 2015 - Registration & coffee 9:30am

Workshop 10:00am –3:00pm

What you will learn:

1. Controlling Weeds with Fertilizer
J.C.(Jack) Payne P. Ag. Agronomy Instructor
2. Herbicide (glyphosate) Resistant Weeds & Using Forages in Crop Rotation to Control Weeds
Neil Harker Ph.D Research Scientist
3. Understand Soil Quality/ Soil Testing & Interpretation.
J.C.(Jack) Payne P. Ag.
4. Tools to Assess Financial Benefits of Practise Change
*Ted Nibourg, Business Mgmt Specialist
AARD Ag-Info Centre*

Registration fee \$25.00 by February 12th & \$30.00
after the 12th. To register call GWFA office
at 403-844-2645 or email gwfa3@telus.net



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Manager's Notes:

By Albert Kuipers

Greetings, GWFA members and friends. It seems like budgetary constraints is the big topic of discussion these days. To that end, we are making a few changes so we can do more for you while reducing the costs of running the organization.



One of the biggest changes will be the loss of our Office Manager, Muriel Finkbeiner. Muriel has been with GWFA for seven and a half years, taking care of our financial and office administration duties. I will certainly miss Muriel and I'm sure many of you will too. We wish Muriel all the best for her future endeavors and we thank her for all the work she has done for our organization throughout the years she has been with us.

Another change we are making is in how we deliver The Blade to you. If your membership is current and paid up to date, you will continue to receive The Blade in the mail. We



will also be reviewing the costs of this service and will inform you if we need to make any adjustments to cover the costs of printing and mailing The Blade to you. If you are a friend and/or an associate, partner, or collaborator of GWFA, but not a paid member, you will begin to receive an emailed link to each new issue of The Blade as they become available. Some of you already receive The Blade this way. If you would really like to continue receiving The Blade in the mail, please contact our office so we can get that happening for you.

You may have recently received an email from our office with information on our up-coming **Forage & Crop Agronomy for Profit** workshop. We plan to increase the use of these kinds of emails as a way to get information to you from here on. Please let us know if you do not want information sent to you by email.

Over the next few months we will be informing you on any other changes we make to the services we provide for you. Our goal is to be able to continue to give you lots of valuable information to help you continue to improve your operation. If you're looking for information on any forage production, or grazing management topics, please feel free to contact me.



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Save the Date!

Ponoka Riparian Restoration Program Launch

Thursday, April 9, 4:30-8:30pm, Kinsmen Community Centre
Meeting Room, Ponoka, AB. Supper will be provided!

Join the Battle River Watershed Alliance and partners as we launch the Ponoka Riparian Restoration Program. This program is all about improving the health of the Battle River and its tributary streams in Ponoka County and the Town of Ponoka. We're interested in working with local landowners to make this happen, and are able to provide funding to support individual landowner projects that benefit riparian health, fish and fish habitat, and water quality improvement. Attend the program launch to learn more about the program and how you can get involved. All are welcome.

Battle River Watershed Alliance - *Connecting people to place for action.*

1-888-672-0276

www.battleriverwatershed.ca Join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

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Carbon Sequestration - The Climate Change Solution That Virtually All Climate Activists Ignore

By Dr. Mercola (As found on the website "www.mercola.com")

2015 has been declared the International Year of Soils, and few topics could be more important at this time. One of the objectives of the International Year of Soils is to "create full awareness of civil society and decision makers about the fundamental roles of soils for human's life."

Another is to "achieve full recognition of the prominent contributions of soils to food security [and] climate change adaptation." Rarely do you hear climate activists address the issue of soil and land regeneration, yet it is perhaps the most comprehensive solution to everyone's concerns.

Fighting over whether or not climate change is real; or whether climate change is manmade or not is completely irrelevant. Arguing over whether the temperature is actually rising or falling, or whether arctic ice sheets are shrinking or growing is a waste of time.

Why Agricultural 'U-Turn' Is Necessary

The fact of the matter is, the global landscape *is* changing, and food security is no longer a given, even if you have plenty of available land, and here's why:

- Water scarcity is getting worse as aquifers are drained faster than they can be refilled. In August 2014, the National Geographic reported that a four-year long drought in California had led to the depletion of snowpacks, rivers, and lakes. As a result, the state has been tapping into its underground aquifers to make up for the lack of water. At present, nearly 60 percent of California's water needs are met by groundwater that does not have time to recharge at the same rate it's being used.
- Soil erosion and degradation is rapidly getting worse.
- Air and water pollution are worsening.
- Land is turning into desert at a rapid clip, and with it, we're losing biodiversity of both plant and animal life.
- Everything is getting more toxic, and according to a wide variety of scientists, we are looking at no more than 50-60 years' worth of "business as usual" before we reach a

point at which nature will no longer sustain us on *any* front, be it water, air, or soil quality.

The World Has Only 60 Years' Worth of Topsoil Left

One striking example highlighting just how pressed for time we are is the news that the world only has about 60 years' worth of topsoil left.

In a 2012 Time Magazine interview, University of Sydney professor John Crawford discussed this issue, noting that about 40 percent of agricultural soils around the globe is currently classified as degraded or seriously degraded.

"Seriously degraded" means that 70 percent of the topsoil (the layer of soil in which plants grow) has already disappeared. The reason for the erosion and degradation is farming methods that remove carbon from the soil and destroy the microbial balance in the soil responsible for plant nutrition and growth.

At present, topsoil is being lost 10-40 times faster than nature can regenerate and replenish it naturally. According to Professor Crawford:

- "People don't always think about how [soil] is connected with so many other things: health, the environment, [food] security, climate, water. For example, agriculture accounts for 70 percent of our fresh water use..."
- "If soil is not fit for purpose, that water will be wasted, because it washes right through degraded soil and past the root system. Given the enormous potential for conflict over water in the next 20-30 years, you don't want to exacerbate things by continuing to damage the soil, which is exactly what's happening now..."
- "Under a business as usual scenario, degraded soil will mean that we will produce 30 percent less food over the next 20-50 years. This is against a background of projected demand requiring us to grow 50 percent more food, as the population grows..."

There's an obvious answer to all of these concerns. Unfortunately, too few are giving it the attention it deserves, if they're paying it any attention at all. The answer is to alter our agricultural practices in such a way as to return and

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confine organic matter and carbon in the soil. This will help:

Regenerate the soil	Limit agricultural water usage with no till and crop covers
Increase crop yields	Reduce the need for agricultural chemicals and additives, if not eliminate such need entirely in time
Reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide levels	Reduce air and water pollution by lessening the need for herbicides, pesticides, and synthetic fertilizers

2014 Saw a Rise in Sustainable Farming

As discussed in a recent Greenpeace article, 2014 saw an upshot in ecological farming—agricultural practices that protect, sustain, and regenerate the Earth’s ecology. Increasing numbers of farmers are indeed starting to recognize the value, if not necessity, for such modifications.

Eco-farmers have also started getting increasing support from international organizations—the United Nations in particular. As noted by Olivier De Schutter, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to food, last year:

- *"We cannot continue in this impasse of an oil dependent food production system. ... Agro-ecology is really common sense. It means understanding how nature works, to replicate the natural workings of nature on farms in order to reduce dependency on external inputs."*



GWFA Staff photo

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Director-General, José Graziano da Silva, has also said:

- *"Agroecology continues to grow, both in science and in policies. It is an approach that will help to address the challenge of ending hunger and malnutrition in all its forms, in the context of the climate change adaptation needed."*

At present, most governments around the world are subsidizing and/or promoting a food production system that is unsustainable. Moreover, it’s done at the cost of both human and environmental health.

As noted by Professor Crawford, modern crop breeding and genetic engineering is also exacerbating malnutrition and hunger rather than alleviating it. Take wheat for example, which today contains *half* the micronutrients of older strains. The same goes for fruits and vegetables of all kinds. Most are bred or engineered to withstand pests. Very little attention has been paid to the nutrient content, which has precipitously fallen. In a previous interview with Dr. August Dunning, he presented data showing that in order to receive the same amount of iron you used to get from a single apple in 1950, by 1998 you had to eat 26 apples!

The reason for this is in part due to the excessive use of glyphosate. The United States alone applies 200 million pounds of glyphosate to croplands each year. Worldwide, more than one *billion* pounds of glyphosate are used each year. This broad-spectrum herbicide effectively chelates minerals from the soil, making the minerals unavailable for plants. It’s also a potent antibiotic that decimates crucial soil biology responsible for nutrient uptake. As stated by Professor Crawford:

- *"The focus has been on breeding high-yield crops which can survive on degraded soil, so it’s hardly surprising that 60 percent of the world’s population is deficient in nutrients like iron. If it’s not in the soil, it’s not in our food...Significant progress is technically quite straightforward... First-off I’d focus on getting carbon back into the soil, by reversing bad farming practices like tillage, nutrient mismanagement, removing stubble and over-grazing...*
- *In the longer term, breeding targets need to focus more on human nutrition as well as productivity, and on traits that improve the soil... From a policy standpoint, probably the most important thing is to find pricing mechanisms that take into account the environmental, health and other costs of a broken system. Farmers need to be appropriately rewarded for regenerating the environment and producing food that supports a healthier society."*

This publication is made possible by funding from Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development & Alberta Environment and Water via the Agriculture Opportunities Fund (AOF).



The Solution for Reversing Soil Degradation

A recent paper in the journal *Sustainability* presents “an optimistic strategy” for reversing soil degradation. By examining how soil biology influences soil quality, and how biological properties and processes contribute to agricultural sustainability, the authors discuss how, by focusing on soil health, a number of pressing problems can be successfully addressed:

- Nutrient availability in soil can be increased, producing high yielding, high quality crops
- Crops can be naturally protected from pests, pathogens, and weeds
- Factors that might otherwise undermine production, such as drought, can be ameliorated

According to a US Department of Agriculture (USDA) 2012 report titled: *Climate Change and Agriculture in the United States*, our current agricultural system, which is dominated by corn and soy, is **unsustainable in the long term**. Should temperatures rise as predicted, the US could expect to see significant declines in yields by the middle of this century. We do not have the time to ponder these problems much longer. We must begin to address the health and quality of our soils, as this can solve virtually every single dilemma we’re currently facing.

In the featured lecture, Judith Schwartz discusses the transformative effects of various water management approaches around the world. While many claim that climate change is responsible for droughts and land masses turning into desert, Schwartz notes that one can easily argue that our agricultural methods have also *contributed* to this change in climate. Arguing about which came first, the climate change or the environmental destruction, is pointless. Instead we need to focus on strategies that will bring us closer to a system that works.

Restoring the water cycle in our environment—by sequestering carbon in our soils—will not only make our food supply more secure, it can also help moderate changes in climate. Sequestering carbon in the soil will not only lessen the carbon dioxide load in the atmosphere. Once in the soil, the carbon does many beneficial things, including holding water. A mere one percent increase in organic soil carbon means an acre of land can hold an additional 20,000 gallons of water. “If water can be kept in the soil, that land is supporting life,” she says. Moreover, any rain that falls will also be more effectively absorbed and used, rather than evaporating and eroding the exposed soil.

Reducing the Environmental Hoofprint of Feedlot Operations

Holistic grazing is a crucial part of regenerative land management. Done properly it can radically increase cover crop diversity, top soil and soil microbes. At present, a staggering two-thirds of the landmass on earth is turning into desert, and cattle grazing is part of the answer to stop and reverse this loss of land. It’s also an important principle that improves the nutrition of our food.

Not only do pastured animal foods (meat, eggs, dairy) have a superior nutrient profile, they also do *not* contain many of the contaminants associated with poor health and disease, found in CAFO-raised animals. This includes antibiotics and

other growth promoters, and genetically engineered feed grains and the pesticides associated with them. According to the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC):

- “*The US beef supply chain suffers from poor management practices that impact our climate and degrade our grazing lands while adversely influencing public health, animal welfare, and worker safety...*
- “*Fortunately, an extensive body of science has shown that improving supply chain management has the potential to dramatically benefit ecosystem health across the country. This is because, for example, well-managed grazinglands provide society with economically valuable “ecosystem services”, including biodiversity, sequestered carbon, filtered nutrient runoff, recharged ground and surface waters, recreational opportunities, and scenic landscapes.*”

According to the NRDC, there’s only one comprehensive program serving American beef producers, and that is Food Alliance, which is still quite small. To strengthen efforts, the NRDC has partnered with Food Alliance, Rainforest Alliance, and a number of other stakeholders to create a new, more comprehensive program to help improve beef production in the US. According to the NRDC:

- “*This new program will account for the health of America’s grasslands and other grazed ecosystems, how ranchers and farmers grow grass and feed crops, how feedlots are managed, and whether cattle are treated humanely and workers are treated fairly.*”

You Are What You Eat... And Health Begins in the Soil

Aside from the environmental harm being done by confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs) and chemical-dependent agriculture, the current food production system also takes an incredible toll on human health. Many kids are not getting the nutrients they need in order to thrive, especially in the US where nearly 40 percent of children’s diets come from added sugars and unhealthy fats. Only 21 percent of youth aged 6-19 eat the recommended five or more servings of fruits and vegetables each day.

Ingredients that are of poor nutritional quality to begin with, and often contaminated with hazardous chemicals, are being further destroyed via extensive processing. Sugars, harmful processed fats, and chemicals are then added for taste. And people wonder why diseases that once appeared only in middle-age and beyond, such as severe obesity, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and even liver disease, are now so prevalent among our youth...

Processed foods, which were once seen as a godsend for busy parents are now one of the leading causes of disease, and there’s nothing convenient about that! The sustainable solution for good human and ecological health is to focus on carbon sequestration. It’s a solution that can address most of the pressing problems we currently face, including climate change, water shortages, and lack of food security. So why don’t major climate activists get on board with regenerative farming enthusiasts? I hope in 2015 - the International Year of Soils—they will.



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ALBERTA ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLAN

News release

We are pleased to introduce **Paul Watson, the new Director of Alberta's Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)**. "EFPs have a place in securing markets for our commodities, and we know that Paul will take the Alberta industry in that direction" says ARECA Chair, Bill Gaugler.

The EFP program is a joint project of the governments of Canada and Alberta. ARECA (Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta) has delivered EFPs in Alberta since 2013. In that time, 470 EFP's have been conducted by Alberta farm families. Farmers are soil and water stewards and need to demonstrate that stewardship to the world. EFPs capture the essential elements of stewardship and communicate them to customers.

"I would like to welcome Paul Watson into the position of EFP Director with ARECA" says Dale Chrapko, Environmental Programs Manager with Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD). "ARD is committed to the EFP process and we look

forward to supporting Paul and the whole EFP delivery team in achieving great things in the future".

Paul holds a BSc in Environmental Science, a PhD in Weed Ecology and has a background in research science, extension and project planning. His experience comes from working with Agriculture Rural Development Network, Alberta Research Council and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

"We look forward to Paul joining the ARECA/EFP team in 2015 and the advances that are sure to follow. Paul knows the industry and will be a strong asset to EFP delivery in Alberta" says ARECA Chair Gaugler.



Alberta Ag-Info Centre

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Alberta Forage Industry Network Annual General Meeting February 12, 2015 at Olds College

For more info go to www.albertaforages.ca or email info@albertaforages.ca

Contact Grant Lastiwka at 403-556-4248 to register.

Find out what's happening in our forage industry, locally, provincially and nationally!

An Organization of Stakeholders in Alberta's Forage Industry

Burning Questions of the Season!

Q.If someone sells feed with a noxious weed in it and doesn't tell the buyer, is the seller liable? Whether they know it or not?"

A. We received the following answer from Peter Dobbie, QC, Farmers' Advocate Office:

I understand your question relates to a sale in Alberta of hay (as feed) by a farmer or rancher to another farmer or rancher. Our office does not provide legal advice, but we can provide some guidance and direction. In general, there is no specific legislation governing this type of sale of hay in Alberta. In such a case, the provisions of the Sale of Goods Act:

http://www.qp.alberta.ca/570.cfm?frm_isbn=9780779765874&search_by=link

["the Act"] would likely apply to the transaction.

The Act provides certain implied conditions in a contract for sale of goods. Assuming that there is no written contract to evaluate, and that this was not a door to door type sale, the implied conditions set out in sections 15 and 16 of the Act could apply to the sale. It is likely the case that the buyer advised the seller (directly or impliedly - what else would feed be for?) that the feed would be used for livestock. If so, the provisions of section 16(2) of the Act might apply:

"16(2) Implied conditions re quality, etc. - *When the buyer expressly or by implication makes known to the seller the particular purpose for which the goods are required so as to show that the buyer relies on the seller's skill or judgment and the goods are of a description that it is in the course of the seller's business to supply, whether the seller is the manufacturer or not, there is an implied condition that the goods are reasonably fit for that purpose."*

If the Act applies, the buyer would have a right to sue for damages, or for rescission (cancellation of the contract) with repayment of money paid and a return of goods. The remedies may apply in the case of fraudulent, negligent or even innocent misrepresentation, but are very fact dependent. Another possible remedy would be commencing legal action for damages based upon the negligence of the seller. This would be an approach if additional costs beyond the loss of value of the hay purchased are incurred or anticipated. In many cases, both types of claims are advanced in the alternative, as it is difficult to know at the outset which remedy to pursue.

In simple terms, the logical first step is to keep samples, take pictures and document the history of the transaction. If noxious weeds are involved, you should consider obtaining legal advice as to your remedies as the purchase of the feed may bring noxious weeds into your operation and you are obligated to control those weeds and may incur additional costs for which you can consider seeking recovery.

To avoid this type of problem, exercise as much caution as possible by testing or dealing with known, reputable sellers; consider adding specific representations (promises) of the seller and a right to return or refuse infested hay in any agreement for

purchase of feed; or purchase certified hay

Link: [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$Department/deptdocs.nsf/All/prm1325](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$Department/deptdocs.nsf/All/prm1325)

Advice provided by the Farmers' Advocate Office, including this email, is provided for general information only. This information may not be relied upon as legal advice or as substitute for it. You are responsible for applying any general information provided to your particular situation, if appropriate, and deciding upon a course of action.

The Farmers' Advocate Office and Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development make no warranty, expressed or implied, and do not assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information provided to you.

For all important business and personal matters, you should consider obtaining independent legal and other professional advice to properly assess and understand your options and obligations.

Please email questions to Albert at gwfa2@telus.net, or to Ginette at gwfa3@telus.net. If emailing doesn't cut it for you, you can phone us with your questions, or drop in at the office if you're in the neighborhood.

Thanks, *Albert*.



Planning Your Mineral Program



FEEDS

**Logan Williams, M. Sc.
Ruminant Nutritionist**

Forage alone will not provide adequate levels of vitamins and minerals for cattle; therefore supplementation is required for optimal immunity, lactation, growth, and reproduction. As we learned last month, having a quality vitamin and mineral program is an inexpensive way to prevent costly problems and get the most out of your herd. But how do you decide which product to feed?

Minerals are divided into macro and micro minerals. The macro minerals calcium, phosphorous, magnesium, potassium, sodium, and sulfur are required in large amounts. Cobalt, copper, iodine, iron, manganese, molybdenum, selenium, and zinc

are micro minerals. Though they are only required in minute amounts, they are still important. If cattle are deficient in any minerals problems will arise, presenting as depressed reproduction, growth, immune function, and milk production. A mineral deficiency can occur for three reasons: the diet is low in a mineral, that mineral has low availability, or another nutrient is tying it up and making it unavailable to the animal.

When deciding which mineral product to feed, attention must be given to stage and level of production of the animal, diet, and water source. While minerals and vitamins are required year round, there are times when mineral requirements are increased, such as breeding, calving, and weaning. These increased requirements can be met by feeding chelated minerals. Chelated minerals have been bonded to a small protein to increase absorption. The body easily absorbs the protein and the mineral gets carried along with it.

Chelated minerals are also useful when water quality is poor. Cattle consume 3 pounds of water for every 1 pound of feed, therefore it can greatly impact which mineral product is right for your herd. Some minerals found in water, such as sulfur, can make other minerals unavailable. In this case chelated minerals are a good option, particularly during times of increased mineral requirement.

You must next look at what your herd's diet consists of so you can fill any vitamin and mineral gaps. A good way to do this is to send your forages in for testing. The total diet should never have less than 1 part calcium to 1 part phosphorous. This is called the calcium to phosphorous ratio. This ratio should also never get above 7 parts calcium to 1 part phosphorous. Cereal grains and forages have low levels of calcium, so when feeding diets high in these a mineral with a high calcium-to-phosphorous ratio, such as a 3:1 mineral, is necessary. To supplement native or grass pasture or forages a 2:1 mineral is generally sufficient, and when feeding legume forages or pasture, a 1:1 mineral is recommended.

In summary, during times of increased mineral requirement or in situations of poor water quality, consider feeding a chelated mineral. The optimal ratio of calcium-to-phosphorous in the total diet is between 1:1 and 7:1; choose a mineral that will balance the ration as such. Most importantly, if you have any questions at all, do not hesitate to ask your feed consultant.



For more information contact your local Co-op Feeds Representative, Kallie Lamb 780-235-0810.

A vertical advertisement graphic for CO-OP CATTLE MINERALS. It features a large, bold, orange "CATTLE" text on the left. In the center is a photograph of a black cow's head. Above the cow is the "CO-OP" logo in red. Below the cow is a red banner with the word "MINERALS" in white. At the bottom, there is a circular seal with "SINCE 1945" and a cow's head, flanked by the words "PREMIUM" and "NUTRITION" in white on a red background.

Free Buy & Sell Classified

FOR SALE:

1964 IHC 1600 grain truck needs tune up to run. Box unusable. Good 14' hoist & tires. Cab is straight. V8 motor 4 speed transmission, 2 speed axle. Reasonable offers. **403-556-2282.**

Horses for sale. Contact Doug or Merv Cooper at **403-722-2605. SOLD**

Reg Cox feed mixer wagon - 1316 TMR Dairy Master by Renn in good condition. Call **403-638-4173.**

Square bale accumulator by Kuelker (Didsbury). Call **403-638-4173. SOLD**

Ford and Dodge truck parts '84 & '87 vintage. Call **403-722-2605**

For Sale: Large tight round bales of wheat, barley & canola straw. Call David at **403-546-5050**

Border Collie Pups born Dec 25. Father purebred border collie, mother crossed with Red Healer. Will have 1st shots & be vet checked. Ready to go Feb 6. \$300 each. Video of pups on Kijiji Red Deer. Call **403-507-5478**

Harsh 4 Auger Feed Wagon Model 375H. Heavy tandem axles & electronic scale. **403-556-2282**

12' Pull Type Brillion Seeder on hydraulic transport. Needs large & small seed boxes. **403-895-1722**

WANTED:

Would like to talk with a young couple, or gentleman who has a passion to go cattle farming. Email: **rjfarm1@telus.net**

You are invited to submit ads of up to 150 characters in length to our Free Buy & Sell section of the Blade.

To submit an ad, call **Ginette at 403-507-5478** or email it to her at gwfa3@telus.net

Two year old hay for roughage in the Caroline area. Also looking for a Jersey milk cow. Contact Doug or Merv Cooper at **403-722-2605.**

Looking for an '04 to '09 Chevy 1 ton dually diesel truck. **403-728-3992.**

JD 3600 or Kverneland plow, 5 or 6 bottom c/w all coulters variable width, trip beam, auto reset if possible. **403-895-1722.**



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Ben Wilson, Videographer for **FarmOn.com**

GWFA Staff photo



Foragebeef.ca

Technical Information
for the Canadian
Forage Beef Industry

New publications added in January!

Good day forage and beef people from across Canada! Note the following fine works by the finest of the bunch!

[Foragebeef.ca](#) has added the following research papers for your review and benefit.

The work done by Donald Thompson of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, at the Lethbridge Research Centre in Alberta and published in the Canadian Journal of Plant Science, 2013, 93: (5), 799 - 807, "[Yield and nutritive value of irrigated tall fescue compared with orchardgrass: In monocultures or mixed with alfalfa](#)" has been placed into the Species – [Grasses](#) folder.

The work done by P. G. Jefferson of the Western Beef Development Centre of Humboldt, Saskatchewan, F. Selles from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Brandon, Manitoba, R. P. Zentner and R. B. Muri of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Swift Current, Saskatchewan and R. Lemke of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Saskatoon,

Saskatchewan and published in the Can. J. Plant Sci. 93: 809_816, "[Barley yield and nutrient uptake in rotation after perennial forages in the semiarid prairie region of Saskatchewan](#)" has been placed into the [Soil Improvement](#) folder.

The work done by M. P. Schellenberg and B. Biligetu of the Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre, Agriculture

and Agri-Food Canada, Swift Current, Saskatchewan and Y. Wei of the Department of Plant Science, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon and the College of Life Sciences, Northwest A&F University, Yangling District, Shanxi Province, P. R. China and published in the Can. J. Plant Sci. 93: 793_798. "[Predicting seed germination of slender wheatgrass\[Elymus trachycaulus \(Link\) Gould subsp. trachycaulus\]using thermal and hydro time models](#)" has been placed into the [Seed Production](#) folder.

If you've found these research papers interesting, feel free to pass them on to your friends! If you would like enhanced exposure to the papers that you've published, feel free to pass them on to [Foragebeef.ca](#) and we'll post them.

Alberta



RANCHING OPPORTUNITIES

FEBRUARY 26 2015

Conference Schedule:

8:30 to 4:00 Olds College Alumni Centre
Registration 8:30 to 8:50, Parking is Free!

THE BEEF INDUSTRY IS INHERENTLY SUSTAINABLE...
So how do we convince our opponents?
Sean Royer, Executive Director Environmental Stewardship Division

GENOMICS
Dr. Mike Coffey - Professor of Livestock Informatics

"HANDS-ON" BREAKOUT SESSIONS
Choosing a watering system that works for you
→ *Sundog Solar, Promold, Cap Solar, FrostFree Nosepumps*
Corn & Swath Grazing Demonstration - Olds College
Feed Efficiency - Dr. Susan Markus, Beef Research Scientist

PRODUCER PANEL
Off-Site Watering Systems: do they really work?
BSE SURVEILLANCE - Gordon Krebs, Veterinarian

Building To The Future...

Discover new ways to manage your livestock, explore options for marketing your product and learn about the challenges and achievements of successful ranchers.

REGISTRATION
\$40 includes lunch, coffee and snacks
Student price \$20

For more information or to register & pay contact Fiona at Mountain View County Agricultural Services:
Ph: 403.335.3311 Ext. 143 E-mail: fmccarthy@mvccounty.com
or contact your local agricultural department.
Registration closes February 18th

TRADESHOW
The Ranching Opportunities Tradeshow is an opportunity for producers to meet local organizations, businesses, industry groups and other key contacts.

HOSTING PARTNERS
Olds College, M.D. of Bighorn, Red Deer County, Kneehill County, Rocky View County, Wheatland County, Mountain View County, Alberta Agriculture, & Foothills Forage & Grazing Association

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The Alberta Livestock & Meat Agency (ALMA)

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or RENEW your membership!

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and run from April 1,2015 to March 31,2016

For more information phone 403-844-2645

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- Receive discounts on Controlled Grazing Courses, seminars, workshops, tours
- Free farm calls and consulting on grazing management, pasture rejuvenation, feed production (annual forages)
- Receive *The Blade* monthly
- Receive up-to-date information on GWFA activities via The Blade

Please mail the portion below with a cheque for \$20.00 to:

Grey Wooded Forage Association
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PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY: Renewal____ or New Member____ Your preference: Canada Post____ or Email____

Name _____ Phone _____

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Postal Code _____ Confirm Email _____

Please give us an idea of what area of forage production you are interested in:

Controlled Grazing & Pasture Management:_____

Growing Annual Forages for Extended Grazing or Swath Grazing:_____

Growing Annual Forages for Silage or Greenfeed:_____

Growing Hay:_____ Ration Balancing:_____

Soil Biology:_____ Pasture Rejuvenation or Renovation:_____

Low Cost Cow/calf Production:_____

Environmental Sustainability:_____ Economical Sustainability:_____

COMMENTS:_____

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- all sizes available for any size of operation



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- calf feeders, calf shelters, stand alone panels and windbreaks
- Verified Beef Program reimburses 70% (up to \$5,000.00) of the cost of a new squeeze, load bars, scale and RFID reader.



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Email: lonestarranchsales@gmail.com

