

# Forage Facts



Published by the Peace Country Beef & Forage Association

October 2023, Volume 22, Issue 222

## In This Issue:

- Page 1,**  
Cattle Market Evening
- Page 2,**  
Research Updates
- Page 3,**  
Solar Water Buggy
- Page 4,**  
Upcoming Events
- Page 5,**  
Save The Date!
- Pages 6 - 8,**  
Member Information

## Cattle Market Evening 2023

On Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 Peace Country Beef & Forage hosted the annual Cattle Market Evening at the beautiful Rycroft Ag Society Hall in Rycroft, Alberta.

Despite Harvest being in full-swing for most producers, we saw 50 attendees come out to enjoy an evening of networking and education on marketing cattle.



Extension Manager Alaina Archibald set up & ready to host!



Producer Panel underway

The event started with a social hour followed by a Producer Panel. Three brave producers presented in a coffee-shop style format where they provided information and history on their experiences selling cattle and the lessons learned along the way.

Following the Producer Panel, we enjoyed a fabulous catered supper before Market Analyst Brian Perillat provided a detailed, deep-dive into Market Analytics and Trends in the Cattle Industry throughout North America. This event was sponsored largely in-part by Bullseye Feeds.



## DID YOU KNOW?

**Agriculture employs  
over 2.1 million  
Canadians**



# 2023 Research Program Update

## Cargill Supports On-Farm Agroecosystem Innovation & Research

led by the Peace Region Living Lab

The Peace Region Living Lab strengthens its on-farm innovation and research activities and knowledge, sharing events in the Peace Region with the support of a financial contribution from food and agriculture company, Cargill.

As a key connector of the food system, Cargill has the unique ability to drive sustainable impact at scale – from farm to fork, working with farmers and partners each step of the way. To feed a growing global population, partnership with farmers is critical and programs like Peace Region Living Lab does just that, providing farmers the opportunity to pilot sustainable agriculture practices, share insights on soil health measurements, and a forum to discuss with others.

The Peace Region Living Lab (PRL) is part of a federal initiative and network of living labs across Canada, which uses a producer centred approach to agricultural innovation. The program brings together farmers and ranchers with scientists and commodity groups to co-develop and test innovative practices and technologies focused on mitigating and adapting to climate change by sequestering carbon and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Other environmental co-benefits include protecting soil and water quality and maximizing biodiversity in agricultural landscapes. Funding for this project has been provided in part by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) through the Agricultural Climate Solutions – Living Labs program.

The PRL is unique in that it encompasses the BC and Alberta Peace region, making it the only interprovincial living lab in AAFC's network. The Peace Region Forage Seed Association is the lead organization of the PRL, which also includes eight other Peace Region producer groups: Peace River Forage Association of BC, BC Grain Producers Association, Fourth Sister Farm, North Peace Applied Research Association, Mackenzie Applied Research Association, SARDA Ag Research, the Peace Country Beef & Forage Association, and the Peace Region Food Action Hub & Agricultural Extension Institute.

Cargill and PRL believe that farmers are at the heart of the food supply chain, and their experiences and learnings are critical. This is why peer-to-peer sharing of sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices is a large part of this program. Farmers and ranchers need to know that new practices can work on their land given their unique climate and ecosystems. On-farm experimentation carries risks, and agricultural earning margins are narrow with little room for error. Being able to see practices applied is a key step in supporting farmers and ranchers who wish to adopt proven practices. The 57 farmers and ranchers partnering with the PRL have made a commitment to sharing their experience of applying, testing and improving beneficial management practices on their operations through on-farm tours and workshops, so others can see a practice firsthand to facilitate further adoption of these practices.

Learn more about upcoming on-farm tours, workshops and events at [peacelivinglab.ca](http://peacelivinglab.ca).



# Solar Water Buggy

By Clearfab Manufacturing



Located in Cleardale, Alberta, Clearfab Manufacturing has created Solar Water Buggies that are both functional and beautiful! With these wonderful products, no stone is left unturned when it comes to safety and durability! Recently, we have used one of these units for our Crop-Livestock Research Project recently, and it has worked flawlessly in extreme heat and light frosts.

The Solar Water Buggies from Clearfab are portable, professionally crafted, and most importantly - reliable! While the design remains the same, with a Green or Red Powder Coating option, they provide two options for optimal functionality and herd health.

There are two pump options available for Clearfab's Solar Water Buggies. The Standard Pump will easily pull from a water source up to 100' away while allowing up to 14' in lift, comfortably supplying water to up to 250 head. If that's not enough, they also offer a custom High Lift Pump option which will allow for a 35' lift to accommodate various water sources.



# Clearfab

780-834-7512  
clearfabmanufacturing.ca



# Upcoming Events

Event	Date & Time	Location
Forest Grazing Workshop Big Lakes County	November 10 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM	Triangle Hall High Prairie, AB
PCBFA AGM	November 25 3:30 PM	Holiday Inn Grande Prairie, AB
CultivateAg Annual Reception	November 25 5:30 PM	Holiday Inn Grande Prairie, AB
Wintering Cattle in the Peace	November 30 4:30 - 8:00 PM	Eureka River Hall Eureka River, AB

Want to know more about any of these upcoming events?  
Contact us at [info@pcbfa.ca](mailto:info@pcbfa.ca), or give us a call at 780-834-7256!



# BULLSEYE

[www.bullseyefeeds.ca](http://www.bullseyefeeds.ca)

## Thank You to Our Municipal Partners!



NORTHERN SUNRISE  
COUNTY





Save The Date!



# Save the Date

PEACE COUNTRY BEEF & FORAGE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
3:30 PM

&

CULTIVATEAG ANNUAL RECEPTION  
5:30 PM

NOVEMBER  
25, 2023

HOLIDAY INN  
GRANDE PRAIRIE, AB





Shelby Dillman grew up outside of Fairview in an oilfield, logging and farm background and was a local 4H member for many years

until beginning her rodeo career. She has recently moved back after living in southern Alberta for several years. While down south she went to college a second time and became a 2020 graduate of the Olds College Environmental Reclamation program. Over the years she spent time gathering vast experience in many different areas of the cattle industry including nutrition, feedlots, auction marts, genetics, community pasture and various custom ranching opportunities.

Working at Alta Genetics (formerly known as Western Breeders) as a bull handler was one of her most intriguing careers. With her knack to share knowledge and passion, one of her most fulfilling careers was coaching 4H riding lessons in Crossfield and Didsbury. She is excited to utilize all of her unique past experiences and schooling to bring a distinctive insight to the PCBFA.

From a young age, Shelby has always loved animals - particularly horses and cattle. To this day, Shelby embraces time spent outdoors/hiking, coaching riding lessons, training and competing with stock dogs, and working on barrel and ranch horses. She has been affectionately known by some as "The Girl With A Pet Bull" and can be found spending countless hours in the pen with her polled red Brahman, a gentle giant who goes by the name CAN Under The Radar 4H.

## On-Farm Funding Opportunities:

### OFCAF Program on Hold

As of May 10th the OFCAF program will be on pause.

Intake is expected to resume in 2024.

### The SCAP Program is Open!

If you're still interested in applying for funding this spring, the Sustainable Canadian Agriculture Partnership and Resilient Agricultural Landscapes Programs are open. These two programs are the successors of the CAP and Growing Forward Programs and will require an active EFP to receive funding.

Some of the activities funded are: Cross Fencing, Offsite Watering Systems, Converting Crop-land to perennial pasture, Farm technology (soil sensors etc), and shelter belts.

More information and full funding lists can be found at:

<https://www.alberta.ca/sustainable-cap-programs.aspx>

## Interested in becoming a PCBFA Director?

PCBFA is a producer-led charity dedicated to moving forward the agriculture industry in the Peace – by enhancing its environmental, social, and economic sustainability. Our board of directors represent the voices of the producers from across the Peace Region and work together to develop long-term strategy, direction, and goals for the association.

### Director Responsibilities

Directors are expected to attend as many board meetings as possible. We meet monthly, with a target of 8 meetings per year occurring over Zoom, and 4 meetings per year in person. Directors are expected to attend the Annual General Meeting. Directors are encouraged to host a PCBFA Project or Event on their farm. Directors are also expected to represent PCBFA and advocate for PCBFA when needed.

### Director Perks

Directors receive expense reimbursements for meeting costs, including mileage and meals. Directors also get expenses reimbursed for agriculture-related training and conferences. Best of all, directors have the ability to influence the direction of PCBFA - you have a voice!

We would like to express our appreciation for your interest in serving as a director of our association. There are many exciting challenges ahead and we are grateful that you are willing to accept the responsibility of being a member of the board.

We serve an important mission and we believe that you will find serving on the board a rich and rewarding experience. Thank you for your interest in joining us!

If you are interested, please join us at our AGM on November 25, 2023 and have someone prepared to nominate you. If you are unable to attend, please send a letter expressing your willingness to let your name stand for nomination, either with someone attending the meeting or via e-mail [executivedirector@pcbfa.ca](mailto:executivedirector@pcbfa.ca)





# Member Information

## Follow Us



/peacecountrybeef



@PCBFA



@peacecountrybeef



Peace Country Beef & Forage Association



peacecountrybeef.ca

## Member Feed Testing Service

PCBFA Members receive 2 free basic feed tests with their membership.

All feed tests are sent to Central Testing Labs in Winnipeg. Nutrients and minerals are tested by wet chemistry.

Nitrate, Mold, and Mycotoxin tests can be added and will be invoiced at lab cost.

### Feed Test Pricing:

Feed Tests for Members (after 2 free)

OR Non-Members

Billed at Lab Cost

**Rush Shipping**

\$50

**Hay Probe Deposit**

\$200

### Feed Test Drop Off Sites:

Fairview Research Farm, County of Grande Prairie's Clairmont Office, MD of Greenview's Valleyview Office, Saddle Hills County Office, Big Lakes County Office.

## 2023-24 Board of Directors

### Chairman:

Jordan Barnfield

### Vice Chairman:

Andrew Hale

### Treasurer:

Dan Martin

### Secretary:

Louise Liebenburg

### Directors:

Allan McLachlan

Bonnie Wanchuk

Garth Shaw

Kasity Bilous

Kyle Davies

Michael Strebchuk

## Contact Us

### Mimi Vanderheide

Interim Executive Director

P. 250-794-7414

E. mimi@pcbfa.ca

### Alaina Archibald

Extension & Office Manager

P. 780-834-7256

E. alaina@pcbfa.ca

### Chelsey Hostettler

Farm Projects Coordinator

P. 780-834-8780

E. chelsey@pcbfa.ca



### Coming Soon!

Lead Agricultural Research Technician

### Shelby Dillman

Agricultural Extension Coordinator

P. 780-523-4033

E. shelby@pcbfa.ca

### Dr. Akim Omokanye

Science Director

P. 780-835-1112

E. akim@pcbfa.ca

### Dr. Blasius Azuhnwi

Research Scientist

P. 780-835-6799

E. blasius@pcbfa.ca

### Buthaina Al-Maqtari

Research Coordinator

P. 403-667-2219

E. buthaina@pcbfa.ca

PCBFA is a  
Proud Member of



**AFIN**  
ALBERTA FORAGE  
INDUSTRY NETWORK