

Forage Facts



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DID YOU KNOW?

**There are 9 images
of Holly in this edition,
can you find them all?**

Holiday Greetings from our Interim Executive Director, Mimi Vanderheide!



'Twas the season so jolly, and all hearts did swell, To our members, board, partners,
we have tales to tell.

To our members so merry, you shine in our sight, Your devotion and spirit, pure
delight. In our mission, we journey through day and night, With you, our dear
members, our stars so bright.

To our board of directors, our guiding light,
With wisdom and insight, our future takes
flight. Together, we steer through the
challenges we find, With esteemed
directors, our vision's refined.

To our partners, we say, in this joyous
dance, Your support and camaraderie, a
perfect chance. Together, we've forged a
strong alliance, With valued partners, we
sing in jubilation.

As the holidays approach, so serene and
divine, Let's share love and warmth, like
sweet mulled wine. In the spirit of giving,
our hearts intertwine, With collective
compassion, our futures align.

Cherish moments with loved ones,
laughter's the key, In this season of peace,
let our spirits roam free. With you by our
side, the future we foresee, Happy holidays
to all, in harmony and glee!

With gratitude and heartfelt wishes for all,



Mimi Vanderheide,
Interim Executive Director





2023 Research Program Update

Harvest on the Research Farm

With thanks to Smoky Applied Research & Demonstration (**SARDA**), we were able to recently harvest several plots including multiple varieties of Wheat, Oats and Barley as well as Canola in the Saddle Hills County! SARDA also helped us combine the Peace Region Living Labs Biostimulant project in Fairview as well!



Northern Women In Ag



As a woman in ag herself, our Extension & Office Manager Alaina Archibald is VERY excited to announce our **First Annual Northern Women in Agriculture Conference!**

This is destined to be a special day, celebrating and educating women in Ag! This jam-packed day will offer something for everyone, including break-out workshops, several guest speakers focusing on their areas of expertise as well as a small and exclusively curated booth fair, bringing focus to local women in business.

Tickets to this sought-after event will be a fantastic Christmas Gift for that special woman in your life! Tickets will be on sale online or through a PCBFA representative on **December 15, 2023**.

**Pre-Registry will be required for this event.
Limited Space Available!**

More information will be provided through our various platforms as it becomes available.



SAVE THE DATE
**NORTHERN WOMEN
IN AGRICULTURE**
a conference to remember

JANUARY 19, 2024
FAIRVIEW, ALBERTA

Event	Date & Time	Location
Wintering Cattle in the Peace	November 30 4:30 - 8:00 PM	Eureka River Hall Eureka River, AB
Northern Women In Ag Conference	January 19, 2024 Time TBA	Dunvegan Inn & Suites Fairview, AB

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

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NORTHERN SUNRISE COUNTY



Merry
CHRISTMAS
& HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**PCBFA WILL BE CLOSED
DECEMBER 25TH - JANUARY 2ND**



EFP's & Grant Opportunities

When you hear the term “environmental farm plan” what goes through your mind? Does it feel like a daunting task? Does it make you feel a little uneasy, worried there may be repercussions? Don't worry, it is a much more positive experience than you may think!

The Alberta Environmental Farm Plan (**EFP**) is a great tool for producers to utilize not only to identify what they are doing well on their farm, and what could use some tweaking, but also opens the doorway when applying for grants. Some grant applications require an up-to-date EFP when applying for funding (ie: RALP program, S-SCAP Efficient Grain Handling and Farm Technology programs). While working to grow environmental stewardship in the ag industry, producers will also reap the long term benefits of efficiency and increased profit while learning and making changes to build a better, healthier farm by protecting soil, water and air quality. These are key factors in sustainable crop and livestock production.

To apply, visit www.albertaefp.com and either renew an existing application, or start your new account. This is a whole-farm assessment tool that is completely voluntary. You will be assigned a trained EFP Technician to assist you in navigating the entire process, brainstorm strategies and make improvements. This self-assessment tool helps producers seek out their environmental risks unique to their farm, and develop plans to mitigate these risks. Fill out your online workbook on your own time and make updates along the way. Once approved, you will receive a Letter of Completion and signage. This looks great to the public, government and consumers.

Keep in mind that with land ownership, comes ownership of these environmental drawbacks as well. What strategies will you implement to make your operation a better place?

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 & RALP Programs are Open!

If you're still interested in applying for funding, 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 cropland 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>

Welcome New Staff!



Meet our new Lead Agricultural Technician!

Madison Fox

BSc. (ABIO)
MSc. (ABSC)
Minor in nutrition

Madison grew up in Thunder Bay, ON and always had a passion for agriculture. Although she didn't grow up in agriculture, she always dreamed of being a farmer while growing vegetables in the backyard and volunteering out at farms.

Since it is a bit difficult to get started in farming, Madison decided to complete a Bachelor of Science in Animal Biology and then continued in research completing a Masters of Science specializing in Dairy Cow Nutrition and Genetics both at the University of Guelph.

After university Madison decided to chase her dream of getting into agriculture and moved to the Peace Country to work for PCBFA as the research technician intern.

Madison is excited to move into the Lead Research Technician position to learn and grow as an individual within the agriculture research field.



Did you know we have a Podcast? Tune in to **Coffee, Cows & Crops** where ever you get your Podcasts and enjoy an educational, inspirational and fun listen to all-things-agriculture with your host, Shelby Dillman!



Do you want to be featured on our Podcast? Reach out to us and we would be happy to chat!

E-Mail Inquiries can be sent to shelby@pcbfa.ca.



Member Information

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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.

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