

Agriculture Services NEWSLETTER



November 2001

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Farm Practices Act

As you are probably aware, there is new "Right to Farm" legislation in Nova Scotia.

Main provisions of the Act include:

- protection of farmers who follow normal farm practices from civil lawsuits
- a mechanism for resolving farm activity issues between farmers and their neighbours
- protection for farmers who follow normal farm practices from nuisance by-laws that restrict farm activities

While the Act can help resolve concerns, it is important to keep in mind that the Act is not intended to replace communication, cooperation, and compromise among rural land owners.

A Farm Practices Board will receive applications, hear complaints, and decide on normal farm practices.

For more information contact Arthur Pick, *P.Ag.*, Administrator, Farm Practices Board, 176 College Road, PO Box 550, Truro, NS, B2N 5E3, or call (902) 893-7314.

Access Stabilization Funds Through NISA and CFIP Interim Programs

The **CFIP 2001 Interim** program provides assistance to producers who have experienced a sudden and severe drop in farming income this year for reasons beyond their control. Funds can be accessed now, instead of waiting until the CFIP final 2001 program application. The deadline for interim applications is March 1, 2002. To request CFIP interim applications, or for more information, contact Robin Bremner at (902) 893-6374 or bremnerl@gov.ns.ca

NISA 2001 Interim applications are available by contacting NISA toll-free at **1-800-665-6472**. To qualify, you must have received your 2000 Deposit/Withdrawal Options Notice (DWON) and have available funds in your account. The NISA 2001 interim deadline is March 1, 2002.

There is still time to apply to NISA for the 2000 stabilization year. The final deadline for NISA 2000 applications is December 31, 2001. For more information contact Robin Bremner at (902) 893-6374 or bremnerl@gov.ns.ca

Program Information Available

To arrange information sessions or group workshops in your area on NISA, CFIP, Crop Insurance and Provincial Companion Programs, please contact Robin Bremner, Promotion and Education Coordinator at (902) 893-6374, or bremnerl@gov.ns.ca

Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Application Deadlines

Strawberry	November 15
Blueberry	November 15
Tree Fruit	December 1
Tree Insurance	December 1

Contact : Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance
Commission, PO Box 1092, Truro NS, B2N 5G9
(902) 893-6370 1-800-565-6371

or:

Agricultural Centre, Kentville, NS, B4N 1J5
Tel: (902) 679-6015

Proposed Horticulture Nova Scotia Industry Levy Information Sessions

Horticulture Nova Scotia wants to implement an industry levy system. The levy would support marketing, research, administration and lobby functions necessary to ensure the future growth of the fresh stored vegetable, strawberry/bramble and strawberry/bramble nursery stock industry in Nova Scotia. Under the proposed levy all eligible producers, not just members of Horticulture Nova Scotia, would be required to register and submit the levy.

The proposed levy would be one quarter of one per cent of annual gross farm sales of eligible product.

Information sessions on the proposed levy will be held at 7 p.m. at the following locations:

- Nov. 19 Cornwallis Room, Kentville Agricultural Centre
- Nov. 20 Nova Scotia Community College, Room A-132, 79 High Street, Bridgewater
- Nov. 21 Point Edward Resource Centre, Point Edward
- Nov. 22 Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, Cox Institute, Room 43

Producers are encouraged to attend. For more information contact Donna Crawford at Horticulture Nova Scotia (902) 678-9335.

Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame Inductee Honoured

The late Douglas Bragg of Collingwood, Cumberland Co., was inducted into the Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame at an October ceremony.

“Doug Bragg was an entrepreneur, a visionary and a leader in the wild blueberry industry,” said Ernest Fage, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. “His contribution was evident not only in his successful production of blueberries but also in the development of harvest technology.”

The 2001 inductees from the other Atlantic provinces include Dr. George Wood, New Brunswick; the late Eric Williams, Newfoundland and Labrador; and Leo McIsaac, Prince Edward Island.

The Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame honours members of the agricultural community for outstanding contributions to the industry and to community and farm organizations.

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Product & Quality Development Division

Focused on developing innovative, value-added products in the agricultural and fisheries industries this division offers five programs to assist Nova Scotia fishers, farmers and food processors with new ideas, products and services.

Programs

- Value-added and New Product Development
- Community Liaison and Support
- Agri-Aqua Tourism Development
- Agri-Fish Industry Information Transfer
- University Initiatives

For more details please contact:

- Gary Scott, *Program Manager*
(902) 424-0344
- Ken Campbell, *Development Officer*
(902) 485-7140
- George Carmichael, *Project Coordinator*
(902) 424-0339

Scotia Horticultural Congress 2002

January 23-24, 2002

“Field to Fork” – The Annual Convention and Trade Show of the Nova Scotia Vegetable, Berry, and Apple Industry will be held in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

For more information, please contact
 Donna Crawford, email horts@sympatico.ca,
 Tel.: (902) 678-9335
 or
 Helen Arenburg, email harenburg@nsapples.com,
 Tel.: (902) 678-1093.
 For more information
 see
<http://www.hortns.com>



Environmental Farm Plan Program

Review of Activities and Accomplishments

The Nova Scotia Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Program is a voluntary initiative to assist farmers in identifying and assessing environmental risk on their operations. Since 1999, there has been a tremendous increase in interest for this program. The federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada highlighted the importance of environmental issues on farms this past spring in expressing the need for every farm in Canada to have an environmental farm plan within the next five years.

The EFP Working Group met to discuss funding issues and a second meeting will be held to talk about the next phase: continual improvement, follow up visits, and upcoming challenges.

The focus this past year has been on working with farmers to provide a confidential assessment of



environmental risk for their operation. Highlights include:

- 67 new farms expressed interest, bringing the total to 98 farmers participating in the past two and a half years.
- 49 initial farm visits have been completed along with 30 on-farm environmental reviews. Many farms will be visited this fall with the remainder being completed next spring.
- 85% have been on operations where livestock and/or poultry have been the primary commodity.
- Most farm visits were in Annapolis, Colchester and Hants counties.
- The program has been promoted through presentations at county and commodity group meetings; meetings of various government

departments and agencies; articles in NSFA and commodity group newsletters and NSFA Annual Report; and participation in national workshops on environmental farm planning.

- Special projects have been initiated to investigate environmental concerns identified during on-farm environmental reviews and in the EFP program. Some of these projects include:
 - integration with a provincial nutrient management program
 - use and disposal of footbath solutions on livestock operations
 - hiring a summer student to create a promotional brochure and investigate on the use of farm gate signs
 - hiring a Research Coordinator to review farmers' perception of the Nova Scotia EFP Program.

*For further information, contact:
Sean Smale, EFP Coordinator
Tel: (902) 893-2293
Email: smales@ns.sympatico.ca*

Farm Family Support Centre Opens

The Farm Family Support Centre, a joint effort of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture and the Nova Scotia Farm Health and Safety Committee, offers free and confidential consultation and referral service for Nova Scotian farm families seeking assistance in areas such as financial consultation, family conflicts, anger and stress management and dispute resolution.

Farmers and their families can call toll-free 1-877-418-7555 to speak to a councillor who understands the challenges farm families are facing. Mirkwood Mediation Services, of Truro, will provide the services.

4-H Poultry Members

The fall poultry I.L.T. vaccination work will be carried out between November 26 – 30, 2001. Applications must be received at the Truro Quality Evaluation office by November 16, 2001. Late applications will have to wait until the spring vaccination period (June).

Any bird to be exhibited at **Nova Scotia spring shows** in 2002 **MUST** be wearing an approved wingband that has been issued during the fall 2001 or June 2001 blood test and vaccination period.

If you have birds you wish vaccinated this fall, please call (902) 893-6530 to get an application form.



On October 1, ADI opened the Resource Contact Centre (RCC). The centre is open Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Call (902) 896-2345, or fax 1-866-222-6609 (toll-free in Nova Scotia) or email info@adil.ca

The Resource Contact Centre offers expert advice on farming.

On October 11, ADI announced Agri-ville.com, a website with information written by ADI professionals with Atlantic news, links and discussion groups. Visit <http://www.agri-ville.com> and click on the ADI logo.

ADI announced its first conference, "Creating Momentum-Thinking Through Ideas" for February 28 and March 1, 2002 at the Holiday Inn Harbourview in Dartmouth. The key focus is providing participants with practical tools to get from the idea

stage to implementation. Keynote speakers are Frank MacKenna, former Premier of New Brunswick, and Dr. Lowell Catlett, renowned futurist at New Mexico State University. Other speakers will be booked.

For more information about the conference visit the website at www.agri-ville.com/adi/

Provincial Events

- Nov. 15 **Field Day – Nova Scotia Mink Breeders Association**
Little Brook - Club House. Start – 2 to 3 p.m.
- Nov. 16-17 **4-H Provincial Council Annual Meeting**
Howard Johnson Hotel, Truro
- Nov. 16-17 **Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia Annual Meeting**
Best Western Glengary, Truro, NS
For further information contact WBPANS at (902) 597-8484
- Nov. 28 **Nova Scotia Fruit Growers Association Annual Meeting**
Cornwallis Room, Agricultural Centre, Kentville, NS
For further information contact NSFGA at (902) 678-1093
- Dec. 6 **NSFA pre-annual meeting conference on AgrFood Outlook 2001**
Best Western Glengary, Truro, NS
For further information contact NSFA at (902) 893-2293
- Dec. 7- 8 **Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting**
Best Western Glengary, Truro, NS
For further information contact NSFA at (902) 893-2293

Innovative Ideas

FOR THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY

Come learn about business planning, market intelligence, new generation co-ops, patents, marketing plans, and steps to exporting. Visit with over 20 exhibitors from the public and private sector. This one-day event is available on two dates. Free registration.

Wednesday, November 7, 2001
AgriTECH Park, Truro, NS
9:30 am to 3:30 pm
and

Thursday, November 8, 2001
Wandlyn Inn, Coldbrook, NS
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more details call Ken Campbell,
Development Officer, Department of
Agriculture and Fisheries,
Tel: (902) 485-7140.

4-H Still Strong after 80 years!



4-H in Nova Scotia will be 80 years old in 2002 and Eastern Region is proud to be the birthplace of the Nova Scotia 4-H program. From the rural beginnings in Heatherton, 4-H in Nova Scotia has grown to 2,400 young people and 1,000 adult leaders.

4-H is a leadership development organization for young people from 9-21 years which encourages care and responsibility for our resources and builds positive life skills to secure the future of rural communities.

4-H members can choose from over 40 projects and still “learn to do by doing.” Projects help develop technical and record keeping skills in youth while teaching them responsibility. They take pride in their best, making decisions and

seeing projects through to completion. They grow up with confidence in their own skills and talents, and the caring and sharing of community spirit.

Clubs are organizing for the 2001-2002 year. For more information contact your Regional 4-H Specialist listed below. New 4-H Clubs can be started at any time.

Rhonda MacDougall, Cape Breton
563-2000 / 945-2999

Dianne Crawford, Eastern
485-7161 / 863-7501

Mike Kittilsen, Central
893-6586 / 661-2855

Beverly Palmeter, Valley
679-6027

Dawn Barrington, South Shore
543-0616

Teresa Campbell, Western
584-2081 / 742-7267

On the Go...

Eleven Nova Scotia 4-H members and leaders participated in a conference in Toronto during National 4-H Week, held Oct 31. to Nov. 4, 2001.

Each year Nova Scotia sponsors a group of 4-H members and leaders to attend the conferences, hosted by the Canadian 4-H Council. Sixty delegates from across Canada, six from the United States and three young farmers from the United Kingdom attended the National 4-H Member Conference. The theme for the conference was Agri-Food Spread the Word.

The Nova Scotia members who were selected:

Dianna Murphy, Yarmouth County
Sarah Lowe and Shauna Wile, Lunenburg County
Jennifer Biggs, Kings County
Scottie Colpitts, Colchester County
David Allen, Pictou County
Elsie Read, Cumberland County
Sisca Bekkers, Antigonish County
Patricia Veinot, Lunenburg County
Holly Hebb, Annapolis County
Stuart Carter, Richmond County

Your Agricultural Resource Coordinators

West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg, & Queens counties:

Arthur Pick –
Tel: (902) 679-6005 (Tues./Thurs.)
pickaa@gov.ns.ca
Weldon Smith –
Tel: (902) 679-6006
Fax: 679-6062
smithwe@gov.ns.ca

East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester, & Halifax counties:

Arthur Pick –
Tel: (902) 893-7314 (Mon./Wed./Fri.)
pickaa@gov.ns.ca

Pictou, Antigonish, & Guysborough counties:

Kevin Bekkers –
Tel: (902) 863-4705
Fax: 863-7342
bekkerkf@gov.ns.ca

Cape Breton Island:

Bill MacLeod –
Tel: (902) 563-2000
Fax: 563-3435
macleobj@gov.ns.ca

Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth, & Shelburne counties:

Dennis Moerman –
Tel: (902) 837-5161
Fax: 837-7696
moermade@gov.ns.ca

We Need Your Input

There has been some interest in several courses for the fall and winter. We want your input into programs and courses you would like to see happen in Cape Breton. Several people have asked if a pesticide certification course could be held again this year. As well, a few producers have inquired about First Aid training. If you or anyone on your farm are interested in either of these programs, please contact the Agriculture office. Once enough people call we will arrange a course. If there are any other course topics, ideas or programs you would like offered, please let us know.

CFIP Canadian Farm Income Program

Canadian Farm Income Program (CFIP)

The Canadian Farm Income Program (formerly known as AIDA) is a federal/provincial safety net program that provides income protection, on a whole farm basis, to producers who have experienced drastic reductions in income caused by circumstances beyond their control.

To be eligible, producers must be actively farming, must have completed at least six consecutive months of farming activity,

including at least one production cycle and must report farming income or loss to Canada Customs and Revenue Agency.

There is a specific and detailed formula for calculating eligibility for a payment under this program. As a very general guide, if you have noted a 30% drop in your income, then you should consider utilizing this program.

For more information contact CFIP directly at 1-888-343-1064 or at www.agr.ca/cfip/

Cape Mabou Pasture Update

The cattle have now been rounded up and taken home from the Cape Mabou Pasture after a successful year. This was the first year under management as a Co-op. There were just under 300 head of cattle and calves on the pasture. While the numbers were less than what was hoped for by the directors, the cattle had ample feed supplies. While many other pastures were significantly stressed this year, the pastures at Cape Mabou produced well through the growing season. Cattle also did well with steers and heifers maintaining an average daily gain of 2.34 lbs. Cows also did well.

The directors of the Pasture Co-op are already planning for next season. New members to the Co-op are always welcome, and it is hoped producers will support the pasture by placing cattle on the Cape. The benefits to you include daily supervision, controlled breeding and good cattle growing conditions, and reduced pressure on your home pastures. To remain viable and to

maintain this resource the Co-op needs support from the cattle industry. The annual meeting of the Pasture Co-op will be held in the winter (date to be announced). Please plan to attend and support the Co-op. For more information or to obtain a membership application contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries office or a director, listed below

Martin Rooyakkers	625-2131
Georgina MacKenzie	622-2552
John MacLellan	248-2642
Michael/Delia MacIntyre	736-0167

The directors would like to thank all those who have supported the Pasture. A special thank you to the Pasture staff, Alex MacDougall and Charles Fraser, who did an excellent job.

Annual Meeting

Inverness – Victoria Federation of Agriculture, Wednesday, November 7th, 2001 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Skye Glen Community Hall.

Manure Storages

This fall several producers have taken a proactive approach to improving their manure management systems. There has been considerable construction of new manure storage and improvements made to existing ones in the eastern area. These initiatives are good examples of sustainable agriculture.

Soil Crop Tour Successful

Pictou North Colchester Federation held a successful Soil Crop Tour in September. Over 30 attended including ADI specialists Sean Firth and Bill Thomas, and NSDAF and NSAC staff. The tour consisted of managing forests under drought at George Smith's beef pasture; Army Worms on fare cutting at William Dykster; lunch at Stoneham; new seeding at Ralph Daling's; and a custom operator demonstrating forage system of big square bales at Gerald Battist's. Thanks to all participants. We look forward to doing similar co-operative events in the future.

4H Club Contacts:

Antigonish & Guysborough

Goshen – Dianne Sinclair , 783-2093
 Foremost – Carl MacNeil, 863-1403
 Heatherton – Mary Ellen Mac Donald, 386-2687
 Lower South River – Elizabeth VanDenHeuvel, 386-2035
 St.Andrews – Kim Langille, 863-9122
 St.Josephs – Tiffany MacNeil, 8634243
 Tracadie – Lee Boyle, 386-2627
 West River – Eileen Gavel, 863- 1637

Pictou

Hopewell – Ilze Firminger, 923-2859
 Middle River – Edie Saunders, 396-4231
 River John – Kelly MacKenzie, 485-8286
 S.B.I. – Brian Sharpe, 923-2197
 Saltsprings – Betty Lou Scott, 925-2057
 Scotch Hill Lyons Brook – Andrea Haughan, 485-6006
 Scotsburn - Cathy Lavers, 485-8204
 Sunrise Trail - Sheila Grant, 485-5568
 Sutherlands River - JoAnne VanKessel, 755-5507

Winter Programs – Now's the time for planning winter programs. Contact us with your ideas.

Committee to Form

Antigonish/Guysborough Federation is forming a small committee to explore the affects of the proposed annexation of agricultural land by the town of Antigonish. The committee hopes to develop information concerning changes in the commercial tax rate, land use by-laws, zoning implications and other issues. Please contact Paul Corsten for comments.

Beef Information Session

The department and the Agricultural Development Institute will host a Beef Information Session in Pictou County providing a market update and future outlook on the industry. Keep an eye out for this event and please provide comments you would like discussed.

Regional Events

- Nov. 6 **Antigonish/Guysborough Federation Meeting.** Guest speaker discussing annexation and expropriation.
- Nov. 20 **Pictou North Colchester Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. at the Scotsburn Fire Hall. Guest speaker Lise Leblanc. Presentation will include managing manure application, calculating commercial fertilizer, optimal use and cost and current and new environmental regulations proposed.
- Dec. 7 & 8 **Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting**

4-H Events

- Nov. 7 **Pictou 4-H Annual Meeting**, 7 p.m., Stellarton High School
- Nov. 13 **Antigonish 4-H Annual Meeting**, 7 p.m., CACL, Kirk Street
- Nov. 16&17 **NS 4-H Council Annual Meeting**, Truro
- Nov. 21 **Pictou Executive and Planning Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., West Pictou High
- Dec. 27 **4-H Family Skate**, 1 – 2 p.m., Antigonish Arena

Central Region producers faced many challenges again this past growing season with drought, insects, the labour issues, and the market place. It has been said that “when the going gets tough, the tough get going” and Central Region farmers have again proven their “toughness”!

4-H Awards

Senior 4-H members should note that National Award applications have been sent out and if you did not receive one, please contact your general 4-H club leader. Completed applications are due in the 4-H office on Wednesday, November 21, 2001.

Agriculture Awareness

John Suidgeest with the Stewiacke District Federation of Agriculture reports that they held a very successful 5th Annual “Great Garden Contest” on October 6. Several children competed for heaviest pumpkin and tallest sunflower. This is a good agricultural awareness activity encouraging children to grow plants in a fun way.

Regional Events

- Nov. 6 **Halifax East Hants Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting**, Cooks Brook Fire Hall, 8 p.m. Please note: Lise LeBlanc of Casey Consulting will be making a presentation on Nutrient Management Planning
- Nov. 9 **Halifax East Hants 4-H Banquet**, 7 p.m. Please note that supper is potluck.
- Nov. 14 **Cumberland Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting**, Pavillion, Nappan Experimental Farm, 8 p.m.
- Nov. 15 **Colchester Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting**, 7 p.m. Location to be announced
- Nov. 16-17 **4-H Provincial Council Annual Meeting**, Howard Johnson Hotel, Truro
- Nov. 21 **Halifax East Hants New Leader Training Session**, Hardwood Lands Community Hall, 7 p.m. This is a mandatory session for all new 4-H leaders starting in 2001.
- Nov. 22 **Proposed Horticulture Nova Scotia Industry Levy Information Session**, NS Agricultural College, Cox Institute, Room 43, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 26 **Colchester Co. 4-H Council Meeting**, Farm Loan Boardroom, Truro, 7 p.m.

Winter Programs

If you or your farm organization want to organize a winter program and would like help with the planning, please let me know. This can be as simple as scheduling a “kitchen” meeting in your community to discuss local issues.

Valley producers faced many challenges again this past growing season with drought, insects, labour issues, and the market place. It has been said that “when the going gets tough, the tough get going” and Valley farmers have again proven their “toughness”!

Pumpkin King Honoured
Howard Dill of Windsor was made an associate of the NSAC at the annual Autumn Assembly. The NSAC honoured Howard for his work with genetics in developing his giant pumpkin variety, Dill’s Atlantic Giant.

Windsor West Hants Pumpkin Festival and Weigh-Off was held October 14. Ben Hebb of Bridgewater was the big winner taking both the squash and pumpkin categories - 948 lbs. for the pumpkin and 917 lbs. for the squash.

Fields, Farms and Vineyards – *New Adventures in the Land of Evangeline* is a follow-up to the 2000 model, the Great Hants County Countryside Adventure. The activities include opening farms up for visitors, involving instructive, interpretative or observational tours of the premises, wine tasting, accommodations, festivals, exhibitions and other agricultural attractions and events. This will allow guests to experience first-hand the operations and components of the agricultural businesses they visit. A total of 20 participants in Hants, Kings and Annapolis Counties are involved in 2001.

Regional Events

- Sept. 15-Nov. 15 **Fields, Farms & Vineyards – *New Adventures in the Land of Evangeline***. Agricultural and Aquacultural Tourism along the Evangeline Trail
- Nov. 3 **Livestock Sale**, Bridgewater Exhibition Grounds, sponsored by Lunenburg Co. Federation of Agriculture. Sale begins at 12:30 p.m. For information contact Ronald Silver, 543-2796, Robert Pernette, 688-2898, or Wayne Silver, 644-2474.
- Nov. 4 **Hants Co. 4-H Church Service**, St. James United Church, Hantsport, 11:15 a.m.
- Nov. 5 **Kings Co. 4-H Council Meeting**, Cornwallis Room, Agricultural Centre, Kentville, 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 6 **Hants Co. 4-H Council Annual Meeting**, Hants West Rural High, 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 8 **Taking Nova Scotia Agricultural Innovations to the World**, Wandlyn Inn, Coldbrook, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Nov. 9 **Hants Co. 4-H Awards Banquet**, Uniacke District School, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 13 **Lunenburg Co. 4-H Leaders’ Council Meeting**, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Bridgewater, 8 p.m.
- Nov. 17 **Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture Social**, Berwick Legion Hall. Tickets are available from Directors. Have a look at the new hats, t-shirts and sweatshirts with the Kings Co. logo.
- Nov. 19 **Proposed Horticulture Nova Scotia Industry Levy Information Session**, Cornwallis Room, Agricultural Centre, Kentville, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 20 **Proposed Horticulture Nova Scotia Industry Levy Information Session**, NS Community College, Room A-132, 79 High Street, Bridgewater, 7 p.m.

Winter Programs

We are interested in participating in any winter information meetings addressing issues of concern and interest to the farming community. If you or your farm organization want to organize a winter program and would like help with the planning, please let us know. This can be as simple as scheduling a “kitchen” meeting in your community to discuss local issues.

New Agricultural Resource Coordinator for Southwestern Region

The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Dennis Moerman, P.Ag. as the new Agricultural Resource Coordinator for the southwestern region.

Dennis has over 17 years experience in the agriculture industry. He has been with the department since 1986, most recently as a Resource Management Specialist. Prior to joining the department he worked with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada at the Research Center in Fredericton. His work has been primarily focused on soil, water, environmental issues, and land use planning.

Based out of Weymouth, Digby Co., Dennis is looking forward to working with the Federations of Agriculture, producer groups, individual farmers, municipalities, community groups, and others to continue the sustainable development of the agricultural industry in the region.

If you or your organization want to discuss these functions with Dennis, please call him at (902) 837-5162 or send him an email at moermade@gov.ns.ca

Dennis Moerman is a Professional Agrologist and member of the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrology, and a

member of the Ethics Practitioner's Association of Canada.

Winter Programs

If you or your farm organization want to organize a winter program and would like help with the planning, please let us know.

Regional Events

- Nov. 8 **Annual Meeting – Annapolis County Federation of Agriculture**
Lawrencetown – Agricultural Demonstration Building
8 p.m.
- Nov. 12 **Annual Meeting – Digby County Federation of Agriculture**
Grosses Coques – Claire Service Club
7 p.m.
- Nov. 15 **Field Day – Nova Scotia Mink Breeders Association**
Little Brook – Club House
2 to 3 p.m.
- Nov. 17 **Information Session – South West Shore Development Association**
Shelburne
9 a.m.
Registration information – 742-3210 (Yarmouth)
or 637-2847 (Barrington)
- Nov. 24 **Information Session - South West Shore Development Association**
Yarmouth
9 a.m.
Registration information – 742-3210 (Yarmouth)
or 637-2847 (Barrington)