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# Agriculture Services

## NEWSLETTER



Fall 2004

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Volume 5 No. 4

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### CAIS Deadlines Extended

More Nova Scotia producers can take advantage of the farm income protection offered through the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS) program now that the deadline has been extended.

The deadline for submitting the CAIS Supplementary Forms for the 2004 program year has also been extended to September 30, 2005.

More information is available on the program web site at [www.agr.gc.ca/caisprogram](http://www.agr.gc.ca/caisprogram), or, contact Susan Simpson at 902-893-6378

The deadline extensions apply only in provinces where CAIS is delivered federally: Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador and the Yukon Territory.

Producers now have until November 30, 2004 to:

- select a level of protection and sign up for the 2003 CAIS program year.
- complete and submit the 2003 CAIS Supplementary Forms.
- select a level of protection and sign up for the 2004 CAIS program year.

Producers have until March 31, 2005 to:

- open a CAIS program account at a participating bank, credit union or other financial institution.
- deposit the higher of the 2003 or 2004 minimum deposit amount in the account.

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Nova Scotia cattle and sheep farmers have access to a \$10-million loan program to help them through the ongoing market problems associated with BSE. Chris d'Entremont, Agriculture and Fisheries Minister announced the loan on Sept. 28.

The loan program includes a two-year payment deferral within a seven-year payment period; a minimum interest rate at the Farm Loan Board's cost of borrowing plus one and one-quarter percent; and a trigger for loan repayment based on a market price for cattle.

The loan is available to the cattle industry for breeding cows/heifers and/or feeder cattle, and to the sheep industry for ewes and feeder lambs.

Information on the Cattle Loan Program is available at the Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board office in

Truro at 902-896-6506 or in Kentville at 902-679-6009.

#### Advance Payments Supported

The provincial government will also participate in the advance payments under the Canadian Agriculture Income Stabilization (CAIS) program. These payments would be reconciled when producers make their 2004 claim under the CAIS program for compensation.

#### Cattle Marketing Plan

The department has made it possible for Nova Scotia to join other Canadian provinces to improve the cattle industry through the establishment of a Cattle Marketing Plan. As a signatory to the Canadian Beef Cattle Research, Market Development and Promotion Agency Nova Scotia will be able to participate in national and provincial beef promotional and marketing initiatives.

  
**NOVA SCOTIA**  
Agriculture and Fisheries

For BRM information  
please call  
1-866-844-4BRM

Back issues of this newsletter are  
available on-line at  
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/rs/fs/arcs/>

## Government Announces Strategy to Reposition Canada's Livestock Industry

In September the Government of Canada announced a strategy to assist Canada's livestock industry in repositioning itself to ensure its long-term viability. The strategy has been developed in close consultation with the provinces, territories, the Canadian Cattlemen's Association, and other industry groups. Once consultations are complete, a federal investment of up to \$488 million will be made into the industry.

The strategy includes continuing efforts to reopen the US border, taking steps to increasing ruminant slaughter in Canada, introducing measures to sustain the cattle

industry until capacity comes online and expanding access to export markets for both livestock and beef products.

All elements of the strategy are important for addressing the challenges facing the industry, but the need for specific measures will vary from region to region. The strategy contains a number of elements, some of which are funded solely by the federal governments, some by the provinces and some in which governments have agreed to act together. For more information please visit the website [www.agri.gc.ca](http://www.agri.gc.ca).

## Co-operation Key to Beef Industry Improvements

Nova Scotia will work more co-operatively with Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick to improve the beef industry, Chris d'Entremont, Nova Scotia Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, said, following the annual meeting of federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Agriculture, September 20–22, 2004, in PEI.

Ministers gathered to discuss the federal cattle strategy to reposition Canada's cattle and ruminant industry, Canada's response to BSE and options for handling, alternate use, and disposal of animal waste.

Other discussions resulted in the establishment of an annual review process of the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF).



## Proper Manure Management Creates Valuable Resource

### Soil Conservation Council of Canada (SCCC)

No longer thought of as simply waste, manure is proving to be a valuable resource for farmers, and one that can play a key role in building a sustainable agricultural industry.

Proper handling of manure plays an important role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and in carbon sequestration, says Doug McKell, executive director of Soil Conservation Council of Canada (SCCC). Understanding the benefits of manure application and the ways to avoid mismanagement of the product leads to appropriate application rates and techniques.

SCCC is responsible for administering the federally funded Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program (GHGMP). The goal of the GHGMP is to promote the awareness of agricultural practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions or sequester carbon.

Mismanagement of manure can lead to a wide range of harmful social and environmental effects such as strong odour, leaching into groundwater, and the release of greenhouse gases, such as methane.

Despite the cautions, manure is an excellent fertilizer with the same nutrient benefits as commercial fertilizers. The rate of application is important to get the correct nutrient value for the crop. When a high

manure rate is applied, there is a risk of nutrients leaching into groundwater or surface water.

Specialists recommend getting a nutrient analysis test to determine the value of the manure. This analysis, combined with a soil test, will give producers an idea of how much manure and/or chemical fertilizer is required to meet crop needs.

The GHGMP supports a broad range of projects across Canada. Soil Conservation Council of Canada (SCCC) administers the delivery of the soil and nutrient management sector component of the program. For more information on activities, visit their web site at [www.soilcc.ca](http://www.soilcc.ca).

## Soil and Crops Conference

Plans are progressing for a Soil and Crop Conference – Feb. 22 – 23, 2005. The conference will be held at the Glengarry Best Western in Truro.

Speakers will include a corn specialists in corn, soybean and cereal, and a forage and grass agronomist. Other speakers will talk on wind power, strip tillage, winter wheat, new opportunities.

The conference is jointly sponsored by Soil and Crop Improvement Association of Nova Scotia and Atlantic Grains Council.

## Advance Payments Program

*Carol Versteeg*



**Soil & Crop**

**Improvement Association of Nova Scotia**

The APP is a federal loan program that facilitates access to credit for producers at or after harvest. With a government guarantee, producer organizations are able to negotiate a loan from financial institutions to make cash advances to producers. The intended benefit of the program is to provide producers with a cash advance on their stored crops at or soon after harvest, allowing them to meet their short-term financial obligations. Advances are available up to \$50,000 and are interest free. This gives producers the flexibility to spread the marketing of their crops throughout the year. As the crop is sold or fed, the producer repays the advance. The crops that are eligible for this year are: corn, oats, rye, barley, wheat, soybeans, sunflowers, and hay. Corn, soybeans

and sunflower advances are to be paid off by September 30 of the following year and all other crops by August 31.

Advance rates for this year are: corn - (\$95), oats - (\$77), rye - (\$69), barley - (\$82), wheat - (\$88), soybeans - (\$142), sunflowers - (\$125), and hay - (\$65).

The Soil and Crop Improvement Association of Nova Scotia will be administrators for the program for the 2004 crop year. If you would like more information on the program you can contact Carol Versteeg by phone (902) 758-3530 or e-mail ([carol.versteeg@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:carol.versteeg@ns.sympatico.ca))

## Production Insurance – Providing Peace of Mind!



Berry growers who have experienced low yields due to poor pollination and drought can minimize their financial risk with production insurance. The final date for application is November 15, 2004 for blueberry and raspberry producers and November 1 for strawberry producers. Production Insurance costs vary based on producers average yield over 10 years, and coverage level and price option selected.

For more details please contact either the department's Kentville office 902-679-6028 or Truro office 1-800-565-6371.

## New Staff

### Dr. Grant Spearman

We wish to welcome Dr. Grant Spearman who has recently joined the department of Agriculture and Fisheries. Dr. Spearman is a veterinary pathologist and will be working in Quality Evaluation, Hancock Building in Truro.

Previous to coming to Nova Scotia, Dr. Spearman was employed with the Veterinary Services Branch, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives and in private veterinary clinics in Ontario and PEI prior to that. Dr. Spearman received his DVM and Diploma in veterinary Diagnostic Pathology at the University of Guelph.

# Tomorrow's Farm - Challenges & Rewards

## Atlantic Farm Challenges Conference

Lisa Poehl, NSDAF

The 2004 Atlantic Farm Challenges Conference - "*Tomorrow's Farm - Challenges and Rewards*" is being hosted by Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Natural Resources, Agri-Foods Branch and will take place in Corner Brook, NL from November 18-20, 2004.

This year's conference features a great line up of speakers from various parts of Canada, including

Dr. John Fast, founder of the Centre for Family Business at the University of Waterloo, Dr. Gord Surgeoner, President of Ontario Agri-Food Technologies and Mr. Bill Barry of Barry Group Inc.

An optional, pre-conference tour of farms located in the Western region will take place on Thursday afternoon, November 18. The registration fee of \$160 per person, \$280 for two people from the same farm, includes admission to all

presentations, meals on Friday and Saturday, copy of conference proceedings and most important, the opportunity to network with fellow farm managers and speakers.

For conference registration form and agenda or for more information, please visit the conference website [www.gov.nf.ca/agric/afc2004](http://www.gov.nf.ca/agric/afc2004) or contact Lisa Poehl, Business Development and Economics at 902-679-6011 or [poehlla@gov.ns.ca](mailto:poehlla@gov.ns.ca)



## CANADIAN PRODUCE MARKETING ASSOCIATION (CPMA)

### Produce Solutions Seminar

November 25 and 26, 2004, Sheraton Hotel, 1496 Hollis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia

#### Traceability – tomorrow's challenge, today!

The Can-Trace initiative and the CPMA/PMA Traceability Task Force are preparing reports from their summer activities in produce pilot testing of the Can-Trace data standards, data flow model and the produce industry Traceability Best Practices. Under Can-Trace, additional information is being prepared around technology and the business case (including templates for use in your organization) with further work planned in integration of traceability into existing food safety solutions. If you are struggling with traceability, don't miss this opportunity in your region to learn more.



A limited block of rooms has been reserved for attendees. Please call the **Four Points Sheraton Halifax Hotel toll free at 1- 866-444-9494** or directly at **902-423-4444** and quote "**CPMA**" for the special rate of \$129 + taxes (single or double occupancy). To ensure the group rate, please call before **October 25, 2004**. After this date, requests will be accepted on a space available basis only, at the Hotel's published rate.

#### Registration Fees: (includes HST)

	Full Registration	Friday Only
<b>CPMA OR AFPA Member</b>		
By November 5, 2004	\$172.50	\$115.00
After November 5, 2004	\$201.25	\$143.75
<b>Non-member</b>		
By November 5, 2004	\$345.00	\$230.00
After November 5, 2004	\$402.50	\$373.75

For registration contact Canadian Produce Marketing Association, 9 Corvus Court, Ottawa, Ontario K2E 7Z4 Tel: 613-226-4187 Fax: 613-226-2984

# atlantic agricultural science and technology workshop



**November 17–18, NSAC, Truro**

## **Scientists to Look at Regional Opportunities in the Bio-Based Economy**

Have you considered what will happen when the world supply of petrochemicals runs out? Where will we get the energy needed to power our homes, our cars, our industries? How will we use biomass to replace petroleum-based products like plastics, industrial chemicals, and building materials, that are so critical to supporting our economy and our way of life?

This year's Atlantic Agricultural Science and Technology Workshop (AASTW), at Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, Nova Scotia, seeks to answer those questions on the bio-economy.

The theme for the two-day conference, scheduled for November 17 and 18, is "Agricultural Innovation - Powering the Bio-Economy." Delegates will be exploring Atlantic Canada's potential as a source for the biological materials to be used to produce energy, readily biodegradable industrial products, environmentally friendly agrochemicals, health foods, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and raw materials for manufacturing. The workshop will also feature sessions of novel agricultural and food technologies to improve the quality, safety and health benefits of food.

Canada is one of the most natural resource-rich countries in the world and is poised to become a world power in the bio-economy. In fact, bioproducts and renewable biomass resources are expected to account for \$100 billion of Canada's GDP by 2020. This workshop will bring together leading thinkers in science, technology, natural resources, and economic development, to help set

the course for the region. Delegates will be exploring Atlantic Canada's potential as a source for the biological materials to be used to produce energy, industrial chemicals, building materials, foods, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and raw materials for manufacturing.

In addition to plenary sessions, there will be a number of specialized sessions and workshops on the topics of: environment and sustainable agriculture; emerging agricultural technologies; food: quality, safety and health.

There will be a poster session for reports on new research findings and work in progress.

To ensure that the Atlantic region is a key player in the development of Canada's bio-economy, it is critical that there are opportunities for people

to gather to discuss progress, ideas and opportunities. For individuals with an interest and a role to play in the bio-economy, AASTW 2004 is the quintessential meeting place.

The basic fee for all participants is \$60.87 plus \$9.13 HST (total cost \$70). Students may attend for a reduced fee of \$30.43 plus \$4.57 HST (total cost \$35). The fee includes all sessions, lunch and the Wednesday evening buffet.

If you would like more information on this important event, please contact AASTW's Conference Coordinator, Barry Diamond, at [bdiamond@nsac.ns.ca](mailto:bdiamond@nsac.ns.ca), or call 902-893-6632. Fax: 902-897-9399. To check out conference details online, visit <http://www.nsac.ns.ca/conferences/aastw/>.

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## **Composting Manuals Now Available**

Two new publications, *On Farm Manure Management Through Composting*, and *On-Farm Livestock Mortality Management*, are now available at the regional Department of Agriculture and Fisheries offices.

*On Farm Manure Management Through Composting*, provides Nova Scotia producers with an improved understanding of on-farm composting of livestock manure. It provides a practical guide for establishing and managing on-farm composting systems. It emphasizes fundamental aspects of on-farm composting, including, basic principals, site assessments, monitoring, management, compost quality, regulations, as well as, standards relevant to the production and use of compost.

*On-Farm Livestock Mortality Management*, provides Nova Scotia livestock producers with an improved understanding of on-farm livestock mortality management. It is of specific interest to producers seeking alternative on-farm mortality disposal options to burial and rendering. It is intended to serve as a practical guide for establishing and managing on-farm mortality biopiles. The focus is on routine, day to day, livestock mortalities and is not intended for management of diseased carcasses.

## Nova Scotia 4-H Members To Compete in Prestigious Classes at the Royal



Sixteen 4-H members have won the honour of representing Nova Scotia in two prestigious cattle shows at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto this November. Participants were selected at the 4-H Provincial Show in October on the basis of the quality of their calf.

Eight 4-H dairy members will participate in the Scotiabank Hayes Classic Dairy Show on November 7 - 8, where they will compete against 4-H members from across Canada for top honours. The Nova Scotia participants are Holly MacCallum, Colchester County; Sandy Cole, Halifax East Hants; Andrea Crowe, Hants County; Peter Sinclair, Guysborough County (Ayrshire); Colin Maas, Antigonish County; David Hill, Hants County; Ben MacKenzie, Yarmouth County.

Denise MacKenzie, Colchester County, as the winner of the Versteeg Memorial Award, will also be attending. This award is presented to a 4-H member based on 50 per cent of the conformation of the calf and 50 per cent of their showmanship ability. The spare is Evan Greenough, Hants County with his Ayrshire calf.

The eight members representing Nova Scotia with their beef heifers at the Top Meadow Farms National Beef Heifer Show are: Jeff Sanford, Hants County; Keera Rousseau, Kings; Lindsay Killam, Yarmouth; Corey Winchester, Yarmouth; Cornelia Van Den Hoek, Colchester; Robert Lavers, Pictou; Kaitlyn McAloney, Cumberland and Meaghan Pike, Kings.

The dedicated work of the Scotiabank Hays Classic Committee and the Top Meadow Farms National Beef Heifer Show committee results in the 4-H members being able to attend the Royal Winter Fair. The committee members obtain funding sponsorship and organize this event

on a provincial and national level. Annual financial support from major sponsors, producers, individuals and businesses, provide the 4-H delegates with this tremendous opportunity.

### 4-H Young Speakers for Agriculture Competition



4-H members had the opportunity to share their enthusiasm for agriculture at the provincial *Young Speakers for Agriculture* competition held on Friday October 1, 2004 at the Nova Scotia 4-H Provincial Show in Truro. Jeff Sanford, from Hants County won the provincial competition this year and will represent Nova Scotia 4-H at the *Young Speakers of Agriculture* Competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, November 6, 2004.

## Nova Scotia 4-H Clubs Celebrate National 4-H Week

During National 4-H Week 4-H members, leaders and families will celebrate the positive impact the 4-H program has had on thousands of 4-H Nova Scotia members.

In a national survey conducted by the Canadian 4-H Council and Ispos-Reid, 4-H Alumni across Canada were polled for their attitudes towards the 4-H program and its impact on them. The results strongly indicated that the 4-H program has helped and continues to help, develop youth across Canada.

Seventy eight per cent felt the knowledge and skills gained in 4-H continue to benefit them in their adult years. Sixty-nine per cent said parents and families benefited from their children's membership in 4-H.

This November celebrate National 4-H Week with a 4-H club near you to see the impact the 4-H program continues to have on young people and their communities in rural Nova Scotia.

## 4-H Leaders and Members Attend Prestigious Conferences in Toronto

Fourteen 4-H members and leaders from Nova Scotia have been selected to attend two national 4-H conferences in Toronto from November 3–7 hosted by the Canadian 4-H Council.

Seven Nova Scotia 4-H members will be part of a 60 member delegation from across Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom attending the National 4-H Member Conference. Throughout the week, members will participate in educational sessions focusing on agricultural issues that encourage group discussion and problem solving.

The Nova Scotia members who won travel awards are: Colin Hirtle, Lunenburg County; Dwight Kouwenberg, Cumberland County; Melinda Daigle, Kings County; Jason Lewis, Cape Breton County; Mary Frances MacDonald, Antigonish County; Jessica Rankin, Inverness County; and Steven Nicholson, Cape Breton County



90 Years of 4-H in Canada!  
1913 - 2003

The National 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Conference, will run concurrently with the 4-H member conference. Nova Scotia 4-H leaders attending this conference are: Laurie Lewis, Cape Breton County; Janet Anderson, Hants County; Helena Cole, Halifax; Diane Barry, Lunenburg County; Marilyn Kaulbach, Annapolis County; Valerie Taylor, Colchester County; and Lois MacNeil, Cape Breton County.

The delegation from Nova Scotia will be part of 40 outstanding 4-H leaders from across Canada that will strengthen their leadership skills and exchange ideas at the national conference. Leaders will hear speakers, participate in tours and attend joint sessions with national 4-H member conference delegates.

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## Provincial Show 2004

*Michael Kittilsen*

Now that the last curtain has come down and projects taken home, it's time to say thanks to all who helped make this year's Provincial 4-H Show a great success. There have been lots of great compliments about the show recently held in Truro. The Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds were greatly improved this year with the addition of the AgriDome and conversion of the Dairy Barn for horses. Organizers of the grounds deserve a lot of credit for taking that step!

The Central Region crew that organized the event deserve full credit for how well the Show ran. It was great to see all the leaders, members and other volunteers pitching in to lend a hand. From the very beginning, setting up pens, moving tables and putting up signs, the crew worked with great enthusiasm to show the public what 4-H is all about.

## Your Agricultural Resource Coordinators

### Senior Agricultural Resource Coord.:

**Arthur Pick** – Kentville – Truro  
Tel: (902) 679-6005 (Tues./Thurs.)  
Tel: (902) 893-7314 (Mon./Wed./Fri.)  
Fax: (902) 893-0244  
pickaa@gov.ns.ca

### West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg, & Queens counties:

**Brian MacCulloch** –  
Tel: (902) 679-6006  
Fax: (902) 679-6062  
macculbc@gov.ns.ca

### East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester, & Halifax counties:

**Bill MacLeod** –  
Tel: (902) 893-3645  
Fax: (902) 893-0244  
macleobj@gov.ns.ca

### Pictou, Antigonish & Guysborough counties:

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

### Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness & Richmond counties:

**Gary Koziel** –  
Tel: (902) 563-2000  
Fax: (902) 563-3435  
kozielgj@gov.ns.ca

### Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth, & Shelburne counties:

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



## Lameness Workshop

### Identifying Hoof Injuries and Gait Abnormalities in Cattle

**November 2004** – AgraPoint and Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia

AgraPoint, in partnership with Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia will be delivering a one day workshop on lameness in cattle. Join Dr. Shawn McKenna from the Atlantic Veterinary College for an informative session of the identification of hoof injuries in cattle. Learn the critical skills needed to detect early stages of lameness.

This workshop is designed to enable producers and other individuals within the dairy industry to play a major role in minimizing lameness in cattle.

Lameness is a common condition in cattle that can result in significant economic loss. Lamé cows do not eat as much as healthy cows thus they produce less milk. They also may not show visible signs of estrus or may even become anestrus. Treatment costs associated with lame animals also add to the expense of lame cows. All of these concerns result in premature culling. Research has shown that only one in four lame animals is actually identified as lame.

#### The topics to be covered include:

- Hoof health assessment (anatomy/structure and growth/development injury and disease)
- Gait (assessing lameness with use of video)
- Environment and management
- What to look for in a hoof trim

#### Seminar Dates, Location and Fees:

Registration at 9:30 a.m. and Workshop 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

- Tuesday, November 9, Antigonish, Claymore Inn

- Wednesday, November 10, Cape Breton, Sky Glen Community Centre
- Tuesday, November 23, Amherst, Wandlyn Inn
- Wednesday, November 24, Wolfville, Old Orchard Inn
- Thursday, November 25, Truro, Howard Johnson Hotel

#### Early Registration:

\$20 per person  
Includes lunch and a manual  
\$25 registration at the door  
Cash or cheque only (cheques can be made out to AgraPoint)

For registration or for more information contact:

Resource Contact Centre, AgraPoint International  
199 Innovation Dr., AgriTECH Park, Truro, NS B2N 6Z4  
Phone: (902) 896-2345 • Toll Free Phone: 1-866-606-4636  
Fax: (902) 896-7299 • E-mail: Info@agrapoint.ca



## RBC Agricultural SPEAKING SERIES

# You're invited!

**Join us at the RBC Agricultural Speaking Series, featuring Dr. David Kohl; hosted by the RBC Royal Bank Agriculture Team, AgraPoint and the Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board.**

One of the brightest minds in agriculture and business will share his insights into what is happening in the agricultural sector. Learn about global strategies for successful farm expansion and succession planning from Dr. David Kohl, North America's leading agricultural economist.

Date:	<b>October 27, 2004</b>	<b>October 28, 2004</b>
Time:	1:30 pm to 4:30 pm	2:30 pm to 5:00 pm
Location:	Old Orchard Inn Exit 11, Hwy 101 Wolfville, NS	Best Western Glengarry 150 Willow Street Truro, NS

**Space is limited at both events so please RSVP to Nicole at 1-888-633-0549 for Truro and to David at 1-888-633-0506 for Wolfville.**



## Livestock Sales

Annapolis Co. Federation Livestock Sales in Lawrencetown will be held on the following dates: October 23, November 6, November 20, and December 4

### Fall and Winter Sessions

If you have any ideas for topics you would like to see covered this fall and winter, please contact our office and we will try to accommodate.

## Coming Events

- October 22 **Lunenburg/Queens Co. Federation of Agriculture Fall Social**, Wileville Fire Hall, 7 p.m.
- October 26 **Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting**, Cornwallis Room, Agricultural Centre, Kentville, 7 p.m.
- October 27 **Hants Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting**, O'Brien Building, Windsor, 7:30 p.m.
- November 3 **Lunenburg/Queens Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting**, Wandlyn Inn, Bridgewater, 7:30 p.m.
- November 20 **Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture Fall Dinner and Dance**, Kentville Legion. Contact Ella Taylor, 902-678-4043, for more information or tickets. Tickets will also be available at the door.
- January 27-28 (2005) **Scotia Horticultural Congress**, Old Orchard Inn  
Contact Donna Crawford, Hort NS, 902-678-9335, for more information.

## 4-H News on the South Shore

### NS 4-H Annual 4-H Meeting

The 2004 NS 4-H Annual Meeting will be taking place November 19 – 20, in Truro. One leader and one senior member are eligible to attend and vote on behalf of their county. Delegates are selected at county council meetings. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity for members and leaders to make changes to the 4-H program.

### National Award Winners

Over the past year the South Shore Region has been recognized with several National Awards. Sara Mahaney of Shelburne County has received the Interprovincial Exchange Award. Tiffany Boehner in Lunenburg County will be attending the National Citizenship Conference in Ottawa. Colin Hirtle makes his way to Toronto to the National Members Conference, and Diane Barry, also out of Lunenburg County, will be attending the National Leaders Conference in Toronto this year. Congratulations to all award winners!

### National 4-H Week

During November 1–7, 4-H celebrates National 4-H Week, and the 91st year of 4-H in Canada. Bridgewater's CKBW radio station will be airing an interview with 4-H members, as well as a 4-H trivia contest throughout the week. Listen daily for your chance to win a prize! National 4-H week is a great opportunity to be an ambassador of the 4-H program in your school, community and media. Get active and show others what 4-H has to offer.

**A Farm Succession Planning and Financial Planning For Income Seminar** has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 24, 2004. The sessions will be presented by Neil Bysterveldt, C.A. and Rob McDowell, FMA, CIM, at the Museum of Industry, Stellarton between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. For more information or to register, contact Laureen or Lois at 902-863-4705 or 902-755-6363.

## **New deadlines for CAIS**

- November 30 is the new deadline for submitting the 2003 supplementary forms.
- March 31, 2005 is the new deadline for making your deposit for 2003-04.

## **Annual Meetings**

**Antigonish/Guysborough  
Federation of Agriculture** –  
November 9, 2004 – Antigonish  
**Pictou North Colchester  
Federation of Agriculture** –  
November 17, 2004 – Scotsburn

## **Upcoming 4-H Dates**

### **Antigonish/Guysborough Counties**

National 4-H Week	Nov. 1 – 5
Review NS Resolutions, Council Meeting and set 2005 dates	Nov. 9
NS 4-H Council Meeting (Truro)	Nov. 12 – 13
Annual Council Meeting	Nov. 23

### **Pictou County**

National 4-H Week	Nov. 1 – 5
Celebration of 4-H, W.A. MacLeod School, Riverton, 7 p.m.	Nov. 3
4-H Council Annual Meeting and review resolutions, Northumberland School, 7 p.m.	Nov. 18
Pictou Executive and Planning Meeting, Northumberland School, 7 p.m.	Nov. 24

## **Help Support a Local Farmer**

As many may know, Doug White and family, of the River John area, recently lost their barn, some animals and personal belongings in a tragic fire.

Help get them back on their feet by making a donation to a trust fund for Doug White at any branch of the BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA in the Maritimes. This fund has been set up by the Pictou North Colchester Federation of Agriculture for anyone to make a donation. Contact Jeff at 902-485-3468 or Nancy at 902-396-4590 for more information.

## Upcoming Events

- October 25 Stewiacke District Federation Annual Meeting at 8:15 p.m.
- November 8 Cumberland County Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting, 8 p.m. in Nappan
- November 17–18 Atlantic Agricultural Science and Technology Workshop, NS Agricultural College, Truro
- November 6 & December 4 Feeder Sales at Maritime Cattle Market

## Courses/Workshops

- November 4 NSAC Pest Management Update for Farmers, 9 – 3 p.m., Cost \$80, pre-register by October 20
- November 22–25 NSAC Nutrient Management Planners Course, Cost \$200, pre-register before November 5

## Looking for New Ideas?

If you are looking for a new approach, new ideas or tools to help diversify your farm, why not check out the Department's "Business Development and Economics" site called "Innovation and Opportunity Digest". This resource is updated monthly and provides many different ideas and opportunities.

To access the site, go to [www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/bmed/digest](http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/bmed/digest)

## *Rick Russell Memorial Service*

A memorial service will be held for the late Rick Russell on October 27, 2004 at the Langille Athletic Center, NSAC. The service will begin at 7 p.m.

The Rick Russell Memorial Bursary Fund has also been set up at the NSAC. This fund will award Bursaries to eligible students involved with the NSAC woodsmen team. For more information, visit the website [www.nsac.ns.ca/athletic/rick](http://www.nsac.ns.ca/athletic/rick)

## New 4-H Specialist

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the agricultural community in the Cape Breton region. My name is Jolene (Van den Heuvel) MacEachern and I am the Acting 4-H Specialist for the Cape Breton region. Rhonda MacDougall is on her well deserved maternity leave.

As some of you may know, I am a born and raised Cape Bretoner. I grew up on a dairy farm in Brook Village, Inverness County. I am excited to return and work in my home communities. I graduated in 2002 from the Agricultural College with a degree in Agricultural Economics. My 4-H experience includes 10 years as a member, involvement in numerous projects and programs including dairy, public speaking, Tug-of-War, and a National Award trip to Madison, Wisconsin.

I am excited for the upcoming year to work in the agricultural industry in Cape Breton while providing our youth with a great program. Drop in and visit if you have any ideas or suggestions for the upcoming year. I work out of the Mabou and Pt. Edward offices and make a mean pot of tea!

## 2004 Pro Show Results

The Provincial Show was held at the exhibition grounds in Truro the week-end of October 1-3. The Cape Breton Region had a great week-end at the Provincial 4-H show. The program ran smoothly and I know I had a busy, but exciting week-end. I just wanted to take this opportunity to mention some of our region's members who became champions in their fields:

### *Cape Breton County*

Champion Computer Judge, *Sara Ernst*  
Champion Sr. Sewing article, *Kelsey MacNeil*  
Champion Great Outdoors article, *Andrew Lewis*  
Champion Sr. Fisheries article, *Natasha MacDonald*  
Champion Vet Science article, *Jason Lewis*  
Champion Sr. Craft competitor, *Kelsey Mac Neil*  
Champion Sr Photography competitor, *Holly Samson*

### *Inverness County*

Champion Lt. Horse Judge, *Matthew van Zutphen*

### *Richmond County*

Champion First Aid Judge, *Lindsey McDonnell*  
Champion Dairy Goat and Champion Goat Showman, *Adam Scanlan*  
Champion Jr. Photography competitor, *Kristie MacDonald*

These are just a few of our members who did us proud this week-end. There were many others who placed well in their individual classes and represented our region well in 4-H enthusiasm and friendly, competitive spirit. I would like to congratulate Ian MacNeil from Cape Breton Co. who is the Provincial Host for 2004. He had a busy week-end and performed all of his duties in a professional manner while dazzling audiences with his Cape Breton charm.

I would also like to thank all 4-H families, volunteers and sponsors for making my first provincial show as your representative an enjoyable experience. I would not have made it through without your support and understanding and I am excited for the upcoming year as we do it all over again.

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## Reminders

**NATIONAL 4-H WEEK** – National 4-H Week runs November 1–7. We encourage members and leaders to plan a special promotion for your club during this week. If you see promotions advertised in your area, take a minute to drop by and learn what 4-H is doing for the youth in your communities. Spread the good word — success is contagious!

**REGISTRATION 2004** – It is hard to believe, but it is time to think about the upcoming 4-H year.

**Registrations must be in to the 4-H office by December 1.** Inverness County will host an Information Session and sign-up day after their annual church service on Sunday, October 24, in Brook Village. Other counties will be holding registration sessions over the next two months as well. We encourage anyone interested in attending these sessions to call their nearest 4-H office for more information. If you know of someone who you think would enjoy

the program or seems interested, pass on our contact information and urge them to join one of the largest youth organizations in Canada.

Until next time, enjoy the turkey and the last few frost free days!!

Jolene MacEachern, *Acting 4-H Specialist*, Cape Breton Region  
Mabou Office, 902-945-2999  
Pt. Edward, 902-563-2000  
Email: [maceacjm@gov.ns.ca](mailto:maceacjm@gov.ns.ca)



## *New Computer Club Offered for Older Workers at local C@P Sites*

The “C@P Society of Cape Breton County” with the support of the “Office of Learning Technologies”, “Victoria C@P Association”, and local community partners has commenced with the “Cape Breton Seniors’ Community Learning Network” (CBSCLN). Over the next three years this network intends to assemble resources of the senior community, C@P site personnel and community partners into an active network focused on the well being of those fifty-five and older and reducing their barriers to full access to Information Technologies.

The CBSCLN has started to offer courses at various C@P sites in both Cape Breton and Victoria Counties. The courses are anticipated to provide learning experiences, which will be both informative and enjoyable. A guide has been assembled that will lead participants through the easy steps to computers and the Internet. The courses will include easy-to-follow instructions and practice exercises.

By becoming a member of CBSCLN you will have the opportunity to socialize weekly at your local C@P site with fellow members to share computer knowledge. The CBSCLN invites you to a new adventure of learning while meeting new friends.

Anyone within the farming community that would like to learn more about the benefits of becoming a member can call 902-564-2729.

## **SOIL TESTING – “Have you had your soils tested lately?”**

Up to date soil tests are the corner stone to developing profitable nutrient management plans that minimizes risk.

Fall is the ideal time for taking soil samples; after the crop has been removed and in preparation for the coming spring. It is important that soils be tested at least every three years to provide accurate information for fertilizer and lime applications, and to assess the health of your soils.

Information on taking samples, soil sample boxes and soil information sheets can be picked up at your local Dept. of Agriculture and Fisheries office or call Point Edward at 902-563-2000; Mabou at 902-945-2999.

## **Notice: Online WHMIS Course**

The Point Edward Resource Centre C@P Site, (located in the previous Devco farms property), is offering online WHMIS courses. This course is beneficial and important in identification and safe handling of various chemical substances used in the workplace. Cost of this course is \$20 includes HST. For more information or to register please call 902-564-2729.



### **St. John Ambulance Canada FIRST AID TRAINING**

St. John Ambulance offers first aid courses in various locations around Cape Breton several times per month. For more information on First Aid Training near you please call their main office in Sydney at 902-564-4189.

The Mabou Harbour Coastal Management Planning Committee will be holding an open house on Monday, October 18 at 7 p.m. at the Mabou Fire Department. All are welcome to attend to learn of the activities of this group. Contact John MacInnis for more information at 902-945-2999.

## Regional Events

- November 18 Annapolis County Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting  
8 p.m., Agricultural Demonstration Building, Lawrencetown
- November 18 Nova Scotia Mink Breeders Association Field Day  
Clare Social Club, Little Brook  
Time and details to be announced

## Western Region 4-H ~ Upcoming Events

- October 17 Annapolis 4-H Awards Banquet, Lawrencetown Fire Hall,  
4 p.m.
- October 18 Yarmouth 4-H Awards Banquet, Lion's Hall, Yarmouth,  
6:30 p.m.
- October 20 & Yarmouth 4-H Leaders Council Meetings at 7:30 p.m.  
November 17 at the 4-H Office , 101-3 Lovitt Street.
- October 21 & Digby 4-H Leaders Council Meetings, at 7 p.m. at the  
November 18 Digby Fire Hall boardroom.
- October 30 Provincial 4-H Light Horse / Draft Horse Meeting, Truro
- November 1-7 National 4-H Week, All clubs are encouraged to plan a  
special event to celebrate National 4-H Week!
- November 10 Annapolis 4-H Leaders Council Meetings, at 7 p.m.  
at the Demonstration Building in Lawrencetown.
- November 19-20 NS 4-H Council Annual Meeting, Truro

## Lawrencetown Cattle Sales

October 23, November 6,  
November 20 and December 4

Miscellaneous items must be  
registered by 10:45 a.m. Selling  
begins at 11 a.m.

Livestock selling begins at 1 p.m.  
sharp

Sales Office: 902-825-7256