

Table of Contents

	Printed Page #'s	Acrobat Reader Page #
Main Newsletter <i>(for all regions)</i>		
Manure Management Guidelines 2005 Now Available	1	2
SCIANS Advance Payments Program	1	2
Programs and Business Risk Management – Update	2	3
Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission	3	4
Second Agrifest Slated for 2006	3	4
Controlled Atmosphere Storage Plant Operators and Packers of CA Storage Apples – Certification 2005	4	5
Upcoming Workshop Building Food Safety & Bio-security into Agriculture.	4	5
Do More Than Just Bring Them Back: Bring Them Back Clean	4	5
National Outstanding Young Farmer Conference	5	6
Scientists Demonstrate Brain Health Properties of Specific Apple Constituents	5	6
Potato Genomics Research at NSAC	6	7
Centre for Continuing & Distance Education, NSAC	6	7
4-H News	7	8
 Custom Newsletter Pages <i>(for individual regions)</i>		
West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg and Queens counties	9–10	10–11
Pictou, Antigonish, Inverness and Guysborough counties.	9	12
East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester and Halifax counties	9	13
Cape Breton, Victoria and Richmond counties	9–10	14–15
Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne counties	9	16

Agriculture Services

NEWSLETTER



Fall 2005

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Volume 6 No. 4

Manure Management Guidelines 2005 Now Available

Since manure management guidelines were last revised in 1991, many environmental laws, agricultural practices and technologies have changed. In consultation with the Department of Environment and Labour, the Department decided to make minor revisions to the guidelines to bring them up to modern standards. However, it

became apparent that there were many new issues that needed to be addressed. As a result, the revised guidelines include new sections dealing with issues relevant to manure management in today's world, including: Regulatory Considerations; Siting of Manure Storage Facilities; Manure Storage Design Considerations; Manure

Odour Management; Manure Transportation Guidelines.

The Guidelines are available on the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries website: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/rs/envman/pub.shtml>. The Department is inviting comments on the guidelines. Written comments can be forwarded until November 30, 2005 to: Lorne Crozier, Resource Management Specialist, Resource Stewardship Division, NSDAF, PO Box 550, Truro, NS B2N 5E3 or e-mail crozielm@gov.ns.ca

Hard copies will be available once the document is finalized.



Advance Payments Program (APP) Soil & Crop Improvement Association of Nova Scotia

RR No 1, Millford Station, Nova Scotia B0N 1Y0 • Tel: (902) 758-3530 • Fax: (902) 758-2974

The Advance Payments Program is a federal loan guarantee program that provides producers with a cash advance on their stored crops at or soon after harvest, allowing them to meet short term financial obligations. As the crop is sold or fed on farm, the producer repays the advance. The federal government pays the interest on loans up to \$50,000.

The Soil and Crop Improvement Association of Nova Scotia (SCIANS) has applied to Ottawa to administer this program for the fall

of 2005. To complete an application, producers must allow a credit check and a storage (of crops) check to be done. SCIANS will deduct a one per cent holdback from all advances to cover itself in the event of a default. This will be returned to producers when the advance has been paid back in full. A 1.5 per cent fee of the advance will be charged to each producer for the administration of the program. For more information contact Carol Versteeg - Phone: (902) 758-3530, Fax: (902) 758-2974 or email: carol.versteeg@ns.sympatico.ca



**Second Agrifest
Slated for 2006**
See page 3 for details

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/>

PROGRAMS AND BUSINESS RISK MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Programs Update

Farm Investment Fund

Frequently asked questions:

1. Is a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) needed for limestone transportation assistance?

Yes. The producer must have a completed NMP at the time of application to be eligible for limestone transportation assistance.

2. Which projects require a completed Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) to be eligible for assistance?

The following projects require a completed EFP:

- Category F - Biodiversity Initiatives - All eligible projects
- Category G - Canada/Nova Scotia Environmental Farm Stewardship Program - All Canada/Nova Scotia Environmental Program eligible projects (1-30)

3. Do I have to wait for all of my approved projects to be completed before I can submit a program claim?

No. Producers can claim on individual projects once completed. Keep in mind that most approved projects require a site visit prior to the fund being released.

Program Activities

As of September 23, 2005

# of Applications	
Received	Approved
621	592

Application turnaround times

All calculations are done based on application date of receipt

Average number of working days to approval	16.4
Average number of working days to correspondence*	14.4

* Correspondence includes Letter of Agreement or Third Party Assessment Letter.

Category G – Canada/Nova Scotia Environmental Farm Stewardship Program Activities

The Programs Office has received a number of inquiries regarding producer activities within this new program category.

Activity	Approved provincial funding		Approved federal funding	
	# of Projects	Assistance	# of Projects	Assistance
BMP	144	\$392,339	183	\$613,717
Tier 1	158	\$367,474	158	\$361,459

Agri-Food Industry Development Fund

The AFID program opened on June 2, 2005. There have been three committee meetings to review program applications.

Program Activities

As of September 28, 2005

# of Applications Received	41
# of Applications Approved	27
# of Applications Pending next review meeting	12

Applicants have access assistance from all program categories

Category	% of Approved Funding
Business Development	27
Market Development & Industry Expansion	49
Regulatory Compliance, Food Safety & OHS	8
AFP - Food Safety & Quality Initiative	16

For more information on the programs above, please contact the Programs and Business Risk Management office at (902) 893-6510 or toll free 1-866-844-4276.

Canadian Agricultural Income Support Program (CAIS)

CAIS Deadline Extension

The deadlines for the 2004 CAIS Supplementary Form and T1163 – Statement of Farming Activities have been extended to November 30, 2005.

If producers/accountants have not filed their T1163, or if a T2042 was filed in error, they still have time to send it to Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) for the 2004 Program Year.

Those producers who got the CAIS Supplementary forms already have an advantage as processing occurs on a first in, first out basis.

The CAIS administration will be sending out letters to producers in mid-October telling them what forms they must submit in order to be eligible for a 2004 benefit.

CAIS Workshops

The CAIS Supplementary Form workshops in September were well attended. Close to 130 producers made time during the busy harvest season to attend one of seven sessions across the province. The most common difficulty among producers was how to correctly fill out the livestock inventory form. Examples of the forms were presented in a step by step manner. Although cumbersome, the examples seemed to help producers realize what CAIS requires on the form. According to CAIS, there has been improvement in the quality of information provided for 2004, compared to 2003. As producers become more comfortable with the detailed record keeping practices, and the reporting system, the data provided will be more complete. This will increase the processing speed. CAIS is also addressing feedback about the forms being too difficult, too lengthy, and requiring unnecessary detail. The CAIS administration is considering changes in the information required on the Supplementary Form.

Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission Production Insurance

2005 Application Deadlines:

Raspberries – November 1
Strawberries – November 15
Blueberries – November 15
Tree Fruit – December 1

For information on all insurance plans, contact us at
Truro 1-800-565-6371 or Kentville (902) 679-6015/6028



Second Agrifest Slated for 2006

The outdoor celebration of agriculture and food that captivated 10,000 visitors in 2004, will be held on August 10-13, 2006. The same 50-acre site in Canning will be used again for Agrifest.

Agrifest 2006 will offer seminars, workshops and plot tours in, vegetables, berries, field crops and ornamentals. The popular family pavilion will return, along with an exhibitor trade show, landscaping component and machinery demonstrations, which will be expanded to a daily event.

Food and music will be a key component of the event, with food vendors, musical acts and cooking demonstrations. The event's contest and competition components will be enhanced with unique ways to involve the livestock sector. Evening events will also be added.

Information on the event will be posted at www.agrifest.com as it becomes available.

For more information, contact:
Lynne Godlien, AgraPoint (902)
678-7722 l.godlien@agrapoint.ca

Upcoming CAIS Sessions

CAIS producer sessions that were to be held by the federal CAIS administration will take place in the new year, as they await decisions on changes to the program. A CAIS accountant session will be held this fall/winter to introduce the CAIS Harmonized Form (T1163 harmonized with the Supplementary Form)

For more information, contact the CAIS toll free line at 1-866-367-8506, visit the CAIS website at www.agr.gc.ca/caisprogram/, or contact Christine Moore, Programs and Business Risk Management (NSDAF) at (902) 893-6374 or toll free 1-866-844-4276.

UPCOMING WORKSHOP – Building Food Safety and Bio-Security into Agriculture

Wednesday, November 23, 2005
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Old Orchard Inn,
Wolfville, Nova Scotia

Safety Authority of Ireland; and
Rachel Okhama of Curtis Chicks
Ltd.

Food Safety Topics

- A Retailers Perspective
- Making the Connection Between the Farm and the Consumer
- European Perspective on Food Safety

Pre-register at 1-866-606-4636 and qualify for an early bird draw. Registration fee: \$60 + HST includes meals and workshop manual.

Bio-Security Topics

- Build a Bio-Security Plan for Your Farm
- What are the Risks on Your Farm
- Bio-Terrorism
- A Producers Perspective

Registration at the door, 8 a.m. – \$80 + HST

For more information contact AgraPoint, Phone: (902) 896-0277 or (902) 678-7722

Join AgraPoint specialists and other food safety/bio-security experts in a learning-friendly, interactive environment. Speakers include: Jim Wyatt of Sobey's; Rae Ellard of Food

An agenda and printable registration form is also available on the AgraPoint website www.agrapoint.ca

Controlled Atmosphere Storage Plant Operators and Packers of CA Storage Apples Certification 2005

Alexander Shalin, NSDAF

In accordance with the Packaged Apples Controlled Atmosphere (CA) Designation Regulations made under Part XVII, Section 164 of the *Agriculture and Marketing Act*, the re-certification of CA Storage Plants has been provided by the Resource Stewardship Division (Pest Management Regulations Coordinator).

All CA Storage Plants that applied for re-certification have been checked for technical conditions and records of the atmospheric and temperature regimes. All inspected CA Storage Plants satisfy the standards of an operational practice.

The following CA Storage Plant Operators have been certificated for five years (2005 - 2010).

- * Scotian Gold Cooperative Ltd.
- * Van Meekeren Farms Ltd.
- * Stirling Fruit Farms (2000) Ltd.
- * J.W.Mason and Sons Ltd.
- * Noggins Corner Farm Ltd.
- * Kimberlee Farms
- Blomidon Produce Ltd.
- 2508415 Nova Scotia Ltd. (Mountain Crest Farm)
- Sarsfield Foods Ltd.

The Companies marked with (*) have also been certificated as Packers of CA Apples.

Packers of CA Apples certificated for 2005–2010 include:

- East Coast Apples Ltd.
- Stirling Apples Ltd.

DO MORE THAN JUST BRING THEM BACK: BRING THEM BACK CLEAN

CropLife Canada

Agricultural producers have been returning pesticide containers for recycling for more than 15 years through a very successful program administered by CropLife Canada.

Canada leads the world in this recycling initiative with more than 70 per cent of all containers being returned (over 60 million), but there is room for improvement. Not all returned containers are completely clean. Those that are not rinsed and drained contaminate the rest, resulting in a 'Hazardous Recyclable Waste' designation and significantly higher recycling costs.

Growers are urged to follow the three Rs of the pesticide container recycling program:

1. Pressure rinse or triple rinse containers (up to 23 L) thoroughly to eliminate all pesticide residue;
2. Remove paper booklets, sleeves and caps;
3. Return the clean empty containers to your regional collection site.

Please do your part to create a healthier, safe rural environment and bring them back clean.

For more information, visit the CropLife Canada website at www.croplife.ca or contact Cam Davereux at CropLife Canada, phone (416) 622-9771, fax (416) 622-6764.



Scientists Demonstrate Brain Health Properties of Specific Apple Constituents

New studies, by the Tree Fruit BioProducts research program at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), in collaboration with Dr. George Robertson of Dalhousie University, have demonstrated that a specific group of phenolic compounds present in apple skin may contribute to the protection of brain cells from oxidative stress.

Researchers presented their preliminary results at the first International Symposium on Health Effects of Fruits and Vegetables, last month in Quebec City. According to the study, among nine major phenolic compounds present in apples, a subfamily of phenolics called flavinols, may protect brain cells from injurious conditions.

Dr. Rupasinghe, chair of the recently established Tree Fruit BioProducts research program, is looking at apple and processing by-products as possible bio-resources to develop value-added food ingredients and natural health products. In particular, he is investigating a group of phytochemicals called flavinoids, which are believed to provide a wide array of health benefits.

Although the apple is not the fruit with the highest antioxidant capacity, the apple is unique in its phytochemicals. For example, an apple could be categorized as one of the dietary sources richest in the above-mentioned flavinols. Other fruits and vegetables rich in flavinols include onions, cranberries and spinach.

Antioxidants, such as dietary phenolics, neutralize the negative by-products of our metabolism called free radicals, which can damage DNA, leading to cancer. They also counteract environmental carcinogens, protect against cardiovascular diseases and potentially prevent the early occurrence of age-related diseases such as Alzheimers.

The apple is one of the top dietary sources for flavinoids in the North American diet. Among many nutritional sources, apples also provide plenty of dietary fiber, primarily pectin and cellulose. Pectin gives dieters a sense of fullness to make them feel they've eaten heartily. It helps reduce blood cholesterol and aids in digestion of fat. Apples also provide plenty of potassium, which helps regulate body fluids and neuromuscular activity.

In recent years there has been a significant decline in the market value of apples due to a variety of factors including global over-production and a drastic increase in the amount of imported apples. Local growers have been impacted by this global shift with a loss of profits that have forced some to quit production. In addition to the apple surplus, an estimated 12 million pounds of apple by-products are wasted annually, which has created great concern for the apple industry. The Nova Scotia Tree Fruit Growers Association, with support from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and the federal government, has hired Dr. Rupasinghe to explore new market opportunities for the tree fruit industry.

National Outstanding Young Farmer Conference to be Held in Atlantic Region for the First Time

This November will mark a milestone for celebrating and recognizing the achievements of farmers in this region and across the country.

The National Outstanding Young Farmers Conference will be held November 16-20 in Halifax, the first time the conference has ever been held in the Atlantic region.

The Outstanding Young Farmers Program recognizes those who demonstrate excellence in their field. Celebrating its 25th year, the program boasts more than 150 farm couple alumni. The country is divided into eight regions with each holding an event where local nominees are judged on specific criteria. The regional recipients from across Canada attend the national event where they are recognized for their contribution and achievement to agriculture. A panel judges and selects two honourees to be named

Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers. The Atlantic region has won the national award the last two years and has had 13 national winners since 1980. Representing the Atlantic region for 2005 are Steve and Jessica Reeves from Freetown, PEI.

The national program is sponsored by John Deere, CIBC, Bayer CropScience and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Sponsors of the Atlantic Canada National Conference include Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Shur-Gain/Maple Leaf, Eden Valley Farms / ACA Co-operative, AgraPoint, Farmers Dairy, Pioneer Hi-Bred Ltd, Kings Mutual Insurance and Purina (Clarence Farm Services).

For more information on the event, visit www.oyfatlantic.ca or call (902) 678-7722.



Potato Genomics Research at NSAC

by Gefu Wang-Pruski and Leslie MacLaren

Potato is the most widely grown vegetable crop in the world. Currently it is the fourth most important world food crop after rice, wheat, and corn. Canadian potato production and processing is of vital economic significance, particularly in Atlantic Canada. In Nova Scotia, approximately 55,000 tonnes of potatoes are produced, primarily for the fresh market and for chip processing. The important characteristics for a potato variety are yield, cooking and processing quality, as well as resistance to diseases. The industry is also concerned with reducing the environmental impacts of potato production and processing. Dr. Wang-Pruski, in the Department of Plant and Animal Sciences at NSAC, leads an active research program targeting many of these areas. She collaborates with scientists and industry throughout the region and abroad. She uses traditional plant physiology as well as modern molecular biology techniques to develop new strategies to improve our potato products and methods of production.

Research Area 1: Reducing the chemical usage in french fry processing. The chemical sodium acid pyrophosphate is currently used for preventing darkening in french fries. Projects included in this area address the genetic factors (genes and proteins) affecting darkening and the optimal environmental conditions (soil, storage, fertility) to reduce the chemical usage.

Research Area 2: Improving the processing quality of potato. There are three projects in this area that focus on nitrogen usage, soil iron impact, and the impact of sprouting treatments.

Research Area 3: Improving the nutritional value of potatoes. Dr. Wang-Pruski and her associates are working to increase the vitamin C content of potatoes to improve both their nutrition and storage quality. They are also investigating the antioxidant activity of chlorogenic acid, the most abundant phenolic compound in potato.

Research Area 4: Improving disease resistance. Two major projects in this area are: 1) using a biocontrol agent to promote resistance of potato to *Phytophthora infestans* which causes late blight; and 2)

identification of genes responsible for biotic and abiotic stresses.

Research Area 5: Development of molecular markers and maps. This is a basic research area which focuses on finding genetic markers for identification of quantitative trait loci for tuber quality and disease resistance. The results will be used for marker assisted breeding and cultivar selection purposes, in turn decreasing the time to commercialization of improved cultivars, as well as helping reduce inputs and costs.

CENTRE FOR CONTINUING & DISTANCE EDUCATION, NSAC

Continuing Education Units for Certified Crop Advisors

Certified Crop Advisors in Atlantic Canada are able to continue to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) through a variety of courses offered at the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education at NSAC.

Nutrient Management Planning is being offered from November 14 – 17, 2005. This course has been developed for agricultural professionals and others whose work is impacted by nutrient management planning. It will teach the basic concepts of nutrient management planning and highlight local applications and issues. The study guide and exam are included in the tuition fee. Those wanting to write the exam only may do so on the last day of the course. Certified Crop Advisors will receive 24.5 CEUs in the Nutrient Management Educational Area for attending the course.

NSAC offers a variety of organic agriculture courses via distance learning that also offer international CEUs.

- Organic Field Crop Management (AGRN1000), offered in the winter semester from January 4 to April 20, 2006, introduces learners to organic principles and practices applied to the production and management of field crops. Students learn how to optimize crop yield and quality in the context of organic farming principles, sustainable soil and nutrient management, and organic certification requirements. This course offers 33.5 CEUs from five educational areas.
- Principles of Organic Horticulture (HORT2001) will be offered in the fall semester of 2006. The overall objective of this course is to introduce the student to the principles that form the basis for organic horticultural production systems. This course offers 66 CEUs from five educational areas.

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- Composting and Compost Use (ENVS1000) was offered in the fall semester of 2005. This course relies heavily on activity based learning. A “hands-on” composting component is a requirement for all students taking the course for credit. Students will be required to construct a composting unit and select materials for composting. This course offers 39.5 CEUs from five educational areas.

Schedule and Fees – Fall 2005

Integrated Pest Management Update for Landscapers

Thursday, October 27

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tuition: \$80

Decision Deadline: October 13

Integrated Pest Management Update for Farmers

Thursday, November 4

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tuition: \$80

Decision Deadline: October 20

Nutrient Management Planning

November 14 - 17

Monday – Thursday

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tuition: \$300

Decision Deadline: October 28

Pesticide Applicator’s Certification

November 21 – 24

Monday – Thursday

Tuition: \$350

Decision Deadline: November 4

Note: A minimum number of students is required for each course. The “Decision Deadline” is the date on which courses with insufficient enrolment will be cancelled.

Visit www.nzac.ca/cde for more information on these and other courses offered by The Centre for Continuing and Distance Education at NSAC. You can also reach the Centre at (902) 893-6666 or email cde@nsac.ca.

4-H News



Judy Wile Named Provincial 4-H Volunteer of the Year

4-H leaders across Canada were honoured for their dedication to youth as winners in the fourth annual The Co-operators / 4-H National Volunteer Leader of the Year Award. More than 32,000 4-H members across the country depend on more than 9,500 volunteer leaders to run clubs and oversee projects. The award was established through a partnership between The Co-operators and Canadian 4-H Council to celebrate the dedication shown by 4-H volunteers in helping youth achieve their goals.

Judy Wile of Lunenburg County was selected as Nova Scotia’s provincial leader. Judy has been a leader for 28

years with the Hill n’ Dale 4-H Club and is presently the Co-General Leader. This past year she taught projects on dairy, vet science, sewing, and small engines. Judy has held various positions on the Nova Scotia 4-H Council and is currently Nova Scotia’s representative on the Atlantic 4-H Committee.

A national winner was selected from the ten provincial winners. Provincial winners receive a certificate, \$100 cash prize, plus Co-operators and Canadian 4-H merchandise. The grand prize of a \$1,100 cash award goes to national winner Regina Hach, of St-Isidore, NB.

Nova Scotia To Be Well Represented at National 4-H Conferences

Seven 4-H members and five 4-H leaders from Nova Scotia have been selected to attend two prestigious 4-H Conferences in Toronto. The National 4-H Members and the National 4-H Leaders conferences, hosted by the Canadian 4-H Council, run from November 2 – 6.

Sixty-three delegates will attend the National 4-H Member Conference including 55 from across Canada, three from the United Kingdom and six from the USA. The theme for the conference is ‘Capture the 4-H Spirit - Celebrating Youth Achievement’. Throughout the week, members will participate in educational sessions focusing on agriculture and the food continuum from the farm gate to the plate. Through presentations, workshops, and interaction with industry leaders, delegates will learn about the

integrated complex food chain that includes primary agriculture and inputs, processing, distribution, food safety, transportation, wholesale and retail of food and other products derived from agriculture.

The Nova Scotia members who won travel awards are: Rachel West, Port Williams, Kings County; Holly Samson, Bras d’Or, Cape Breton; Justin Sharpe, Pictou, Pictou County; Connie MacDonnell, Enfield, Halifax East-Hants; Abby Fiendel, Bridgewater, Lunenburg County and Nicole Comeau, Yarmouth, Yarmouth County and Niels Kouwenburg, Cumberland County.

The National 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference, will run concurrently with the 4-H member conference.

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The theme of this year's leaders' conference is 'Capture the 4-H Spirit - Leading the Way'.

Thirty -three outstanding 4-H leaders from across Canada will work toward this important goal. Conference sessions for 4-H leader will concentrate on communication, working with committees, team building, maintaining 4-H membership, planning for success, networking and motivation. Volunteer leaders will participate in a number of joint sessions with national 4-H conference delegates.

Nova Scotia 4-H leaders attending this conference are: Karen Cleveland, Digby County; Brenda Sharpe, Pictou County; Bev Mason, Cumberland County; Jacqueline Melvin, Kings County; Lorraine Gates, Richmond County; and Kelly MacInnis, Pictou County.

Your Agricultural Resource Coordinators

Senior Agricultural Resource Coord.:
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Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness & Richmond counties:
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Tel: (902) 563-2000 • Fax: (902) 563-3435

Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth, & Shelburne counties:
Dennis Moerman – moermade@gov.ns.ca
Tel: (902) 837-5161 • Fax: (902) 837-7696

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 in November. Participants were selected at the 4-H Provincial Show in September on the basis of the quality of their calf.

Eight 4-H dairy members will participate in the Scotiabank Classic Dairy Show, competing against 4-H members from across Canada for top honours. Participants are Derek Yuill and Melissa Fulton, Colchester County; Andrea Crowe and Derek Adema, Hants County; Sheila Sundborg and Josh Van der Linden, Antigonish County and Ria Van der Linden, Guysborough County.

Nathan Dickie of Colchester County, 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 Carolyn Murphy, Inverness County with her Guernsey calf.

The eight members representing Nova Scotia with their beef heifers at the National Junior Beef Heifer Show are Emily Parsons, Annapolis County; Carolyn Vanden Heuvel, Antigonish County; Megan Robertson, Pictou County; Nicole Greeno and Laura Coulter, Cumberland County; Justin Beck and Jane Ogilvie, Kings County; and Cornelia Van den Hoek, Colchester County.

While at the Winter Fair, 4-H members will compete in the showmanship and conformation cattle classes, participate in a provincial display contest, and spend a day enjoying the events at the exhibition.

4-H Young Speakers for Agriculture Competition

4-H members had the opportunity to speak about their enthusiasm for agriculture at the provincial 4-H Young Speakers for Agriculture competition. Held during the Nova Scotia 4-H Provincial Show at the exhibition grounds in Bible Hill, the competitors had five agriculture related topics from which they could choose to speak.

Megan MacBride of Canning, Kings County, won the competition this year and will represent Nova Scotia 4-H at the Young Speakers of Agriculture Competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in November.

The provincial winner is sponsored by the Nova Scotia 4-H Council. Participants must be 16 – 24 years of age as of the competition date to enter the national competition.

4-H members are encouraged to participate in public speaking and demonstrations, along with their project work during the 4-H year. Each spring 4-H clubs, counties and regions hold communications competitions. This skill is invaluable in so many facets of life that 4-H members often credit 4-H for giving them the opportunity for that specific training.

Livestock Sales

Annapolis County Federation of Agriculture

Livestock Sales at the Lawrencetown Exhibition grounds will continue this fall. Miscellaneous items must be registered by 10:45 a.m.; selling begins at 11 a.m. Livestock selling begins at 1 p.m. sharp. The following are the dates for the remainder of the year: October 22; November 5, 19; December 3.

Lunenburg-Queens Co. Federation of Agriculture

There will be a cattle sale at the Bridgewater Exhibition Grounds on October 29 at 12:30 p.m. There will be a new deck and ring in place for this sale. Contact Peter Morine at (902) 543-3011, or Tom Frail at (902) 682-2400 for booking your cattle.

Lunenburg-Queens Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Fall Social

The annual fall social will take place on October 21 at the Wileville Fire Hall. There will be a bean and salad supper starting at 7 p.m. Entertainment for the evening will be Greg Ernest and Family Singers. The cost for this wonderful evening of food and entertainment is only \$8/person. For more information or tickets contact a director.

Annual Meetings

Hants Co. Federation of Agriculture

The Hants Co. Federation of Agriculture will hold their annual meeting on October 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the O'Brien Building, Windsor.

Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture

The annual meeting of the Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture will be held on November 8 from 7 – 10 p.m. in the Cornwallis Room, Kentville Agriculture Centre.

Lunenburg-Queens Co. Federation of Agriculture

The annual general meeting, November 10 at 7 p.m. at the Wandlyn in Bridgewater.

Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Dinner and Dance

Mark November 12 for the Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture annual dinner and dance at the Berwick Lions Club, 6:30 p.m. Kings Co. 4-H clubs are selling tickets for the dinner and dance as a fundraiser. To purchase tickets and help local 4-H clubs, call (902) 582-7419. For more information e-mail kcfa@canada.com.

Chicken Farmers of Nova Scotia

Effective October 1, 2005, the CFNS office will be moving to 448 Main Street, Suite 2, Kentville, B4N 1K8; Phone (902) 681-7400; Fax (902) 681-7401.



We would like to extend our sympathy to the family of the late Allister Marshall. Allister was part of our Kentville office for 26 years as a Loans Officer and later Sr. Loan Officers for the Farm Loan Board.

We all have special memories of Allister.

Our sincere sympathy to Susan, Ross, Nancy and families.

Valley Region 4-H Update

Kings County Joint Achievement Days, Hants County 4-H Exhibition Days and Nova Scotia Provincial Show are over for another year. Thank you to all the supporters, volunteers, leaders, parents and members that help to make these events such great successes!!

Results from the county events:

Kings County

Heidi Daniels Memorial – Outstanding Leadership in the Kings Co.

Lt Horse – Jane Ogilvie

Stephanie Curran Memorial – Outstanding Sportsmanship in the Kings Co.

Lt. Horse – Lindsay Ballentyne Champion Club Reporter- Matthew Peill, Western Kings

Champion Community Project – Western Kings

Contribution Award – Rebecca Crowell, Horton

Top Junior Member – Phillip Daigle, Harmony Nicholasville

Most Outstanding Senior Member – F. Waldo Walsh Award – Justin Beck, Harmony Nicholasville Jean Ann Mitchell Memorial Award – Allan Melvin, Cornwallis

Dairy Member Showing Most Improvement – Janet MacLean Memorial – Allison Kennie, Horton

Grand Champion Livestock Showman – Stephanie Stirling, Western Kings

Hants County

Champion Floral Arranging Competition – Brittany Mailman, Avon

Champion Model – Talia Greenough, Newport

Champion Bake Off Competition – Adam MacLeod, Newport

Champion Crafts Competition – Rebecca Mosher, 3-Cornered

Champion Cake Decorating Competition – Breagh Wallebeck, Rawdon 2 way

Champion Woodworking Competition – Justin Clark, Newport

Champion Outdoors Competition – Zachary Wilbur-Knight, Rawdon 2 way

Champion Photography Competition – Jessica Clark, Newport Beef

Clipping Competition – Meagan Sanford and Lisa Parker, Newport

Dairy Clipping Competition – Lindsay Greenough and Derek Adema, Newport

Sheep Clipping Competition – Whitney Morash and Emily Manning, Burlington Workers

Tractor Driving Competition – Lindsay Greenough, Derek Adema, Michelle Brown, Newport

Grand Champion Livestock Showman – Meagan Sanford, Newport

Upcoming Valley Region 4-H Events

Kings County 4-H Council

Meeting, November 7, 7:30 p.m., Kentville Agricultural Centre

Hants County 4-H Leaders

Council Meeting, November 14, 7 p.m., Hants West Middle School, Brooklyn

Nova Scotia 4-H Council Annual Meeting, Truro, November 18 – 19

Coming Events

October 21 – Lunenburg-Queens Co. Federation Annual Fall Social, Wileville Fire Hall

October 22; November 5 and 19; December 3 – Annapolis Co. Federation Livestock Sale, Lawrencetown

October 26 – Hants Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting, O'Brien Building, Windsor, 7:30 p.m.

October 29 – Lunenburg-Queens Co. Federation Livestock Sale, Exhibition Grounds, Bridgewater

November 8 – Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting, Agricultural Centre, Kentville

November 10 – Lunenburg-Queens Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual General Meeting, Wandlyn, Bridgewater, 7 p.m.

November 12 – Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture Annual Dinner and Dance, Berwick Lions Hall

November 23 – Building Food Safety and Bio-Security into Agriculture, Old Orchard Inn, Wolfville, Contact AgraPoint for information or see notice in this newsletter.



Sharp Containers

Livestock producers generate medical waste on a regular basis. These wastes include sharps such as syringes, needles, broken glass tubes, lancets and scalpel blades. If not disposed of properly they can injure livestock and family members; increase risk of infection spread; pollute the environment; and put waste handlers at risk. Sharps must not be discarded in regular household garbage.

Sharp containers have been specifically designed for disposing of sharps. When the container is full of sharps, the contents should still be considered potentially infectious to humans and animals but the risk is low. For disposal in any municipality, you must first check with your local disposal site to see what they have in place to accept sharps. These containers can be picked up at the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries office in Antigonish and at the local Co-op store in Antigonish. They will also be available at the Antigonish/Guysborough and Pictou Counties Federation of Agriculture annual meetings.

Upcoming Meetings – 2005

- November 1 Cattlemen's Zone meeting - 7-10 p.m., East Pictou Middle School
- November 14 Antigonish/Guysborough Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting - 7:30 p.m., Ninian Place (upstairs)
- November 22 North Colchester Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting – 7:30 p.m. Scotsburn Fire Hall

Upcoming 4-H Dates – Antigonish/Guysborough Counties

- November 2-8 National 4-H Week
- November 2-6 National 4-H Volunteer Leaders Conference, Toronto, Ont.
- November 2-6 National 4-H Members Conference, Toronto, Ont. (*Tentative*)
- November 8 Antigonish County 4-H Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- November 18-19 Nova Scotia 4-H Council Annual Meeting
- November 22 Antigonish County 4-H Council Annual Meeting, 7 p.m.

Upcoming 4-H Dates - Pictou County

- November 9 Pictou County Celebrate 4-H Night, Dr. WA MacLeod School
- November 13 Pictou County 4-H Church Service - 10:30 a.m., Pictou United Church
- November 16 Pictou County 4-H Council Annual Meeting - 7 p.m. Northumberland
- November 18-19 Nova Scotia 4-H Council Annual Meeting

FIRST AID COURSE

First Aid Courses will be offered in the fall and early winter. Anyone interested in taking a First Aid Course can call the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries in Antigonish at (902) 863-4705. When enough names are collected, a date will be set and participants will be notified.

Farm Drivers Licenses

A reminder to all farmers and their employees that November 30, 2005 is the deadline for obtaining free drivers license upgrades from the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

This upgrade allows for the addition of a Condition 15 Endorsement to your existing license. This endorsement is necessary for any driver with a Class 2, 3, 4, or 5 license who haul trailers, manure spreaders, etc. weighing more than 4500 kg.

This upgrade does not apply to a Class 6, 7, or 8 license.

For more information or to obtain forms, please contact your Agriculture Resource Coordinator or the NS Federation of Agriculture office.

4-H Award Recipients

Congratulations to Central Region 4-H'ers who were award recipients at the 2005 Nova Scotia 4-H Show.

Colchester

Mathew Kent
Jessica VandenHoek
Melissa Tattrie
Lauren Johnson
Alexander Burrows
Wolsen VandenHoek
Erica Jackson
Derek Yuill
Melissa Fulton
Nathan Dickie
Cornelia VandenHoek
Caitlyn Congdon
Kate Bates
Lisa MacDonald
Sam Gillis
Tasha Carter
Andrea McLean
Dane Stewart
Consolation Tug of War

Cumberland

Kaitlen McAloney
Travis Smith
Danielle Dorn
Nathan MacLeod
Crystal Siddall
Laura Mason
Blaine Read
Emily Ripley
Ben Cattrill
Elizabeth Sperry
Emily MacDonald
Jessica Earle
Melanie Angus
Nicole Matheson
Nicole Greeno
Andrea Carter
Laura Coulter
Ashley Smith
Brittney Lyons
Kelsey Boone
Amanda Skidmore
Melissa Thompson
Alisha Shipley
Christie Verstraten
Christy Waalderbos
Jessie Dowe
Tractor Driving Team

Halifax East Hants

Lacey Risser
Megan Smith
Lindsay VandeRiet
Kyley Cole
Rebecca Gilby
Lindsay Davis

Notice

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries expresses condolences on the passing of Johannes (John) Van Dommelen, a resident of Southside Boularderie, Cape Breton.

Mr. Van Dommelen was from Holland and recently celebrated 50 years in Canada. He and his family have been active in Cape Breton agriculture up to his death at 95 years of age. Our thoughts and sympathies go out to his family, friends and community.

NEW LOCATION

We've moved! The Cape Breton Regional office of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, which includes the Agricultural Resource Coordinator, 4-H and Food Safety, has moved to the Cape Breton regional Municipality's Civic Centre in Sydney. Our new address is: 320 Esplanade Suite 303 Sydney, Nova Scotia B1P 7B9.

Our contact numbers remain the same: telephone (902) 563-2000 and fax (902) 563-3435.

Soil and water samples for testing may be dropped off at our new offices in the Civic Centre.



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, call the Sydney office at (902) 564-4189.

SUCCESSION PLANNING

Farm succession planning, the process by which the ownership and management of the family business is transferred to the next generation, is one of the most critical and inevitable issues in the life of any farm family. Many postpone acting upon a plan for succession; it can be somewhat intimidating in its complexity and magnitude. However, broken down into manageable steps, a methodology can be developed for understanding the issues and preparing a succession plan project for execution.

One of the keys is to start early. Broaching the subject with family members, knowing the interests and aspirations of the succeeding generation, understanding what you need to about the business, and personal issues of succession and retirement — these things are the result of a life experience that usually takes years to accomplish.

The Cape Breton agriculture office is developing workshops to address the issue of succession planning for presentation in January. If you are interested and have specific requests for information, contact our offices so that we may make your input a part of our workshop. Contact Gary Koziel at (902) 563-2000 or John Murray at (902) 893-4701.

ATTENTION

Strawberry Growers of Cape Breton

Producers interested in creating a Cape Breton Strawberry Growers Association will be organizing meetings for the winter in preparation for next season. Bringing local strawberry growers together as group can provide advantages on bulk purchasing, advertising and promotion, sales and marketing and give a stronger voice to Island strawberry producers. If interested in finding out more or getting involved, contact Gary Koziel at (902) 563-2000.

ATTENTION

Recycling Used Pesticide Containers

HERE'S WHAT TO DO:

1. Allow the formulation to drain from the container into the spray tank for at least 30 seconds.
2. Add at least 20 per cent of the contents of water to the container, replace lid, and rotate so that the interior of the container is rinsed.
3. Empty the rinse water into the spray tank and drain for 30 seconds.
4. Repeat the above procedure twice more.
5. Render containers unuseable by puncturing.
6. Leave label on the container.

Containers that have been handled in this way are suitable for disposal.

The United Farmers Co-op on Keltic Drive in Sydney River is now accepting properly cleaned pesticide containers for recycling.

National Awards for Leaders and Members

The opportunity to travel to a national 4-H program has been a highlight for hundreds of senior 4-H members and leaders on Cape Breton Island. This fall, 4-H members 16 years of age and older and 4-H leaders will be completing applications to vie for the chance to travel to Toronto, Ottawa, Winnipeg or elsewhere as part of the national awards program. Applications have been sent to 4-H families. The deadline for members to apply is November 1 and December 15 for leaders. If you need more information or an application, contact the 4-H office at (902) 945-2901 or (902) 563-2000.

Annual Meetings and Banquets

It's the time of the year when we recognize the accomplishments of members, leaders and clubs in the region. Banquets are planned for the following dates and locations:

- November 12 Christmas At The Camp ~ Camp Rankin
Richmond County Banquet
- November 13 Inverness County Banquet ~Sign up/Church Service
Fire Hall, Port Hood
- November 20 Cape Breton County Annual Meeting

Reminder

The Inverness-Victoria Federation of Agriculture will be holding its annual general meeting on November 2 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Skye Glen Hall. Reports from Directors, NSFA and Provincial staff.

Come out and support your local federation and see what's new in the Cape Breton agriculture industry. For more information, contact Anne VandenHeuvel at (902) 945-2039.

Winter Programs

We are now in the process of planning information sessions for the fall and winter seasons. If there are specific topics that you would like to see covered at these sessions please contact the Weymouth office.

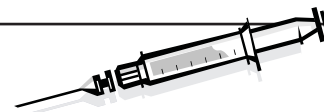
Land Use Planning Update

Land use planning has been a major issue in the region for the last several years. The the current status of land-use planning initiatives by local municipalities is:

- Municipality of the District of Clare – public hearings on the proposed Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-laws were held on September 26 in Little Brook.
- Municipality of the District of Digby – following heated public

meetings in late spring and early summer on the draft Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Laws, the council has sent these documents back to the planning advisory committee. It has included four farmers as advisors to this committee.

- Municipalities of Annapolis, Yarmouth, Barrington, Argyle, Shelburne – no active land use planning, update cycles only.



NSFA Sharps Containers

Livestock producers generate medical waste on a regular basis. These wastes include sharps such as syringes, needles, broken glass tubes, lancets and scalpel blades. If not disposed of properly they can injure livestock, workers and family members; increase the risk of infection spread; put waste handlers at risk; and pollute the environment.

In response, the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture initiated a “Sharps” project. Through this project, proper disposal containers for sharps are provided free of charge to livestock producers in Nova Scotia.

The sharps containers are still available for pick-up. All producers who have not yet picked one up, please drop into any of the county offices (Lawrencetown, Weymouth, Yarmouth) and do so.