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# Agriculture Services

## NEWSLETTER



August 2007

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

Volume 8 No. 3

### Select Nova Scotia

Select Nova Scotia is the theme of an exciting, new marketing campaign aimed at promoting locally grown and produced food.

The government's buy-local campaign, Select Nova Scotia, was announced by Brooke Taylor, Minister of Agriculture, on July 5. The event featured a logo unveiling, website introduction, details of upcoming promotional activities and the announcement of a Minister's Advisory Committee on Buy Local.

"Nova Scotia produces delicious, high-quality food and this logo will help consumers identify local produce and select it as their purchase," said Mr. Taylor at the historic outdoor courtyard at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, the site of Halifax's City Market in 1750. "Through our purchases of local products we invest in our provincial economy and show support for our agriculture industry."

The logo represents three elements of agriculture: green for the colour of crops, blue for the province's clean, crisp water; and a yellow sun representing energy, hope and vitality.

To help promote awareness, increase

consumer knowledge and encourage consumption of Nova Scotia agri-food products, a Minister's Advisory Committee on Buy Local has been created to review buy-local efforts and co-ordinate initiatives across the province.

"We have been actively pursuing buy-local initiatives for some time and this advisory committee enhances our efforts and heightens the importance we place on getting locally produced food to Nova Scotia consumers," said Mr. Taylor.

Committee members are:

Peter Swetnam, president, Chicken Producers of Nova Scotia (Chair), Federation of Agriculture representative, producer

Wayne Atwater, counsellor, Kings County Municipality

Jeanne Cruikshank, vice-president Atlantic, Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors

Sharon Lynk, president, Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia

Gordon Stewart, executive director, Restaurant Association of Nova Scotia

Natalie Webster, Director Communications, Nova Scotia, Department of Agriculture.

The committee will oversee a buy-local campaign during August and September.

The Select Nova Scotia website, [www.selectnovascotia.ca](http://www.selectnovascotia.ca), will continue to develop. It will offer information on events and where to find local products. The logo is available for industry and marketplace participants to download.

The department continues to work on a number of buy-local initiatives including needs assessments, government/industry partnerships, promotional materials and events.

The government has made changes in the past year to support local-product purchases in provincial health care and justice institutes. All dairy products; 90 per cent of processed dairy, such as butter and yogurt; 60 per cent of fresh produce and up to 80 per cent of fresh produce from storage; and 60 per cent of beef, chicken and pork purchased are produced locally.



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## Production Insurance

### Applications Deadlines

Winter Grain - August 31  
Forage Establishment - October 15  
Raspberries - October 31  
Strawberries - November 14  
Blueberries - November 14  
Tree Fruit - November 30

The application deadline is fast approaching for Winter Grain -August 31!

The deadline for planting is September 30 in the Annapolis, Kings and Hants West counties, and September 20 for all other areas.

The deadline to apply for Forage Establishment is October 15.

Fields of legumes and legume-grass mixes seeded by July 1, as well as grass seeded by September 1 are eligible for coverage.

For further information on these or any of our other insurance plans, please call Kentville: 902-679-6028/6015 or Truro: 902-893-6370 or 1-800-565-6371.

## Managing the Farm Landscape Workshop

In Nova Scotia, a wide variety of ecosystems can exist on a single farm. Yet, the role agricultural operations play in providing wildlife habitat and biodiversity is often overlooked. The purpose of the workshop is to look at the ecological services farms provide and to explore ways farmers can manage the landscape to achieve benefits for farms and wildlife.

Other topics include constructed wetlands, riparian area management, livestock watering, pasture biodiversity, multi-species grazing and shelterbelts.

### Host Farm:

Frank and Marguerite Phillips,  
Nature's Script Farm, Great Village,  
Colchester County

### Date:

September 12, 2007  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

For more information contact: Erica Versteeg: 902-896-2420

The workshop is a part of the

Atlantic Biodiversity Workshop and Farm Tours taking place across the Atlantic Provinces in September.

The event is sponsored by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Nova Scotia Government, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and the Nova Scotia Environmental Farm Plan.

## Staff Updates:

**Judy Grant** has been appointed Acting Agriculture Awareness Coordinator. Judy has worked at the NSAC for over 20 years with the Animal Science Department as an instructor and lecturer. She has also been involved with agricultural awareness outreach activities. Judy brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to this important position. Judy's office is located in the DeWolfe House at the NSAC. Phone: 902-893-6598 Fax: 902-893-2757

**Michael Kittilsen** has accepted the term position of Agricultural Regional Coordinator (ARC) for Colchester, Cumberland, East Hants and Halifax Regional Municipality. Michael was previously a 4H specialist in the Central Region.

Phone: 902-893-3645, Fax: 902-893-0244

## CFIA Feed Ban In Effect

The Canadian Food inspection Agency's enhanced feed ban on Specified Risk Materials (SRM) came into effect July 12. SRM are now banned from all animal feeds, pet foods and fertilizers. The restrictions affect how dead stock and abattoir wastes are disposed off. For most farms, dead stock disposal activities have not been affected by the ban. You can still dispose of your dead stock on your own property as you have done in the past however, if you transport SRM off your property, a CFIA permit is required. The final disposal of SRM's is being facilitated by the Department of Agriculture with the assistance of the NSFA's dead stock service. More information on the enhanced feed ban can be found at the CFIA web site [www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca) or by contacting your regional Department of Agriculture office.

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## Programs and Business Risk Management

### Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS)

#### Deadline to file 2006 CAIS information

Not everyone that has paid their 2006 CAIS fee has filed their income tax information (T1273 Statement A Harmonized CAIS Program Information and Statement of Farming Activities) or have not submitted their supplementary CAIS information (page 5 of the T1273).

These files will be considered incomplete if all CAIS information is not received by September 30, 2007. Please get all your information in as soon as possible. To make sure all of your information has been received, contact the CAIS office at: 1-866-367-8506.

#### Evening Sessions

Aug 27	Truro	Best Western Glengarry	7 p.m.
Aug 28	Baddeck	Inverary Inn Resort	7 p.m.
Aug 29	Antigonish	Keating Millennium Centre, room A	7 p.m.
Sept 4	Bridgewater	Wandlyn Inn, Bridgewater	7 p.m.
Sept 5	Digby	Digby Pines Resort, Conference Centre	7 p.m.
Sept 6	Kentville	Cornwallis Room, Agricultural Centre	7 p.m.
Sept 10	Amherst	Wandlyn Inn	7 p.m.

#### One -on-one appointments

Aug 27	Truro	NSDA office
Aug 29	Baddeck	Inverary Inn Resort
Aug 30	Antigonish	NSDA office
Sept 5	Bridgewater	Wandlyn Inn, Bridgewater
Sept 6	Digby	Digby Pines Resort, The Pine Room
Sept 7	Kentville	Agricultural Centre
Sept 10	Amherst	Wandlyn Inn

### CAIS Producer Sessions and One-on-One Appointments

For those who have not filed their 2006 CAIS information, sessions are being held to help you complete your application. Sessions are open to all.

In addition, information will be available on new federal programs such as AgriStability and AgriInvest, planned for 2007/08.

Please register for an individual appointment by phoning Steven Tattrie at the Programs and Business Risk Management office: 902-893-6374 or 866-844-4BRM.

## CAIS 2007 interim applications available

The Interim Application for producers who would like to apply for 2007 program year assistance earlier than normally are available. As a program participant, you cannot receive your full 2007 CAIS payment until your 2007 program year is complete. However, by using the Interim Application, you can estimate your 2007 income and receive a portion of this payment early.

To request an interim package, please contact CAIS at: 1-866-367-8506 or visit the website at: <http://www.agr.gc.ca/caisprogram>

### New Risk Management programs launched for 2007/08

Federal and Provincial Ministers have agreed to new business risk management programs. The new programs replace the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization program (CAIS). Further details on program design and how to sign up will be available this fall. The new programs include:

**AgriInvest** is a savings account for producers, supported by governments, which provides coverage for small income declines and allows for investments that help mitigate risks or improve market income.

**AgriStability (replaces CAIS)** provides support when a producer experiences larger farm income losses. The program covers declines of more than 15 per cent in a producer's average income from previous years.

**AgriRecovery** is a disaster relief framework which provides a plan for federal, provincial and territorial governments to respond rapidly when disasters strike, filling gaps not covered by existing programs.

**AgriInsurance** is an existing program which includes insurance against production losses for specified perils (weather, pests, disease) and is being expanded to include more commodities.

### New Entrants for AgriStability (CAIS) 2007

If you have not participated in the CAIS program before and are interested in participating for the 2007 program year you will need to request a 2007 AgriStability (CAIS) New Participant Package. To request a package, please contact CAIS at: 1-866-367-8506, or visit the website at:

<http://www.agr.gc.ca/caisprogram>

### Cost of Production Payment (COP)

Four hundred million dollars, provided through AAFC's Cost of Production Payment (COP), will be paid out to producers to offset high production costs experienced over the last four years. These funds are part of a \$1 billion federal commitment announced in the 2007 budget for improvements to national farm income support programs.

COP payments will be made in two installments. Initial payments will be based on 2.36 per cent of a producer's average net sales of qualifying commodities for the period of 2000 to 2004. A final payment will be issued later in 2007 after all program applications have been received and will be based on the balance of remaining funds.

### How to Participate:

Producers that participated in CAIS 2004 will automatically receive a letter from CAIS and payments will be automatically sent to you.

Producers who did not participate in the 2004 CAIS program or started farming in 2005 or 2006 can apply for funding by submitting an application to AAFC by September 1, 2007. COP applications are available online and can be requested at: [www.agr.gc.ca/cop](http://www.agr.gc.ca/cop), or by calling: 1-866-367-8506.

For producers that started farming in 2005 or 2006, you must have submitted your farm income tax to the Canada Revenue Agency before July 1, 2007 to be eligible.

Supply managed commodities are not eligible for COP. Producers of supply managed commodities who also produce eligible commodities may be eligible for a COP payment based on the non-supply managed portion of their farming operation.

### COP payments are in progress

Applications are being processed and producers are receiving payments. Records indicate that majority of producers that were in CAIS 2004 have already received their payment. If you believe you were in CAIS 2004 and did not receive a payment you should contact CAIS by calling: 1-866-367-8506. Additionally, most applications received from non-CAIS participants have also been processed.

For more information on any of the above points contact Steve Tattrie, Programs and Business Risk Management (NSDA) at: 902- 893-6374, or toll free: 1-866-844-4276.

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## Programs Update

Both the **Farm Investment Fund** and the **Agri-Food Industry Development Fund** for 2007-2008 are open and the flow of applications is steady. The **Technology Development 2000** program was released on June 29, 2007. Two calls for *Letters of Intent* are August 15, 2007 and January 15, 2008.

The guidelines and application forms may be accessed at the following web site: [www.gov.ns.ca/agri/prm/](http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/prm/) Questions? Contact Programs & Business Risk Management office at: 902-893-6510, or toll free: 1-866-844-4276.

For BRM information please call 1-866-844-4BRM
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## NSAC providing education for the organically minded

A recent study by the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada (OACC) showed that retail sales of organic food in Canada topped \$1 billion in 2006, and the Maritimes are experiencing some of the highest growth in sales of organic foods versus other Canadian provinces. Organically grown food has become widely accepted and continues to be a growing interest for both producers and consumers. To meet the needs of this growing trend, NSAC's Centre for Continuing & Distance Education offers a range of courses available online through distance education.

### Certificate of Specialization in Organic Agriculture:

The Certificate of Specialization in Organic Agriculture offers practical, hands-on experience and specialized skills in the field of organic agriculture. The courses will assist new and existing producers, as well as those interested in organic agriculture, to develop a strong understanding. Offered online through web-based study, the

Certificate of Specialization in Organic Agriculture provides the foundation on which to build a successful future in the field. Courses offered through the Certificate program are available for credit or non-credit. To receive the Certificate, students may choose four of the five available courses:

#### Fall 2007

##### Composting and Compost Use:

This course relies on activity based, hands-on learning. Students will have the opportunity to make their own composts and practice vital skills required to manage composting systems. This course examines how the principles of composting are applied, how to evaluate and manage an actively working pile and maintain optimum conditions for composting in organic agriculture and horticulture.

##### Transition to Organic Agriculture:

Producers considering switching to organic agriculture will benefit from this introduction to the subject. This course consists of five modules, enhanced by group discussions and the use of internet-based organic information resources. Students will be given a brief description of what is organic and why it is beneficial to the industry, as well as reasons for

choosing organic production methods. Certification methods and practical approaches to planning and managing organic systems are covered throughout the course.

##### Principles of Organic Horticulture:

The overall objective for this course is to introduce you to the principles for organic horticulture production systems. Students will have the opportunity to take a close look at soil fertility, organic soil amendments, compost and mulches, crop rotation, plant health, management of diseases and pests, marketing and more. Case studies, on selected organic farms and farmer profiles, build a real world understanding for the topic.



Nova Scotia  
Agricultural  
College

Continuing and  
Distance Education

Winter 2008

### **Organic Field Crop Management:**

Students will be introduced to organic principles and practices applied to the production and management of field crops. In this five module course you will learn how to optimize crop yield and quality organically, practice sustainable soil and nutrient management, as well as, review organic certification requirements.

### **Organic Livestock Production:**

Experienced producers and students new to organic livestock production can benefit from this course. In this five module course you will be given an introduction to organic livestock production, reasons for raising livestock organically, health management strategy, marketing methods, and a discussion surrounding ethical issues. Students will study during the term through discussion groups and internet-based organic information resources.

Along with our Certificate of Specialization in Organic Agriculture, we offer additional online courses to further your knowledge in specialized areas of agriculture.

### **Agricultural Ecosystems:**

This course introduces important parts of agriculture and food systems. It integrates agricultural production principles from animal science, plant science, agricultural engineering and soil science into a comprehensive view of agricultural ecosystems.

It will help give you a base in

understanding the application of science to agriculture as well as the nature of agriculture and food systems in both regional and global contexts. It is unlike the other organic courses offered in our certificate program as it is only offered every two years as a distance course, so do not hesitate if you have an interest in gaining knowledge in these topics.

### **Fall Semester 2007.**

#### **Global Seminar- Rural Sustainability:**

The Global Seminar in Rural Sustainability is a brand new course that will be offered at NSAC beginning this fall. The course consists of a learning community comprised of students and faculty from around the world who study key global issues of sustainability pertaining to the environment and food systems. The course uses a unique approach to global learning and evaluation based on real-world practices.

NSAC's Centre for Continuing & Distance Education (CDE) delivers life long learning opportunities to individuals for professional development and personal enrichment. We work to develop new courses that meet the growing needs for the industry that will upgrade individuals with professional skills and knowledge.

CDE can help expand your professional development in agriculture, environmental, plant and animal sciences, horticulture and more. Visit us online at: [nsac.ca/cde](http://nsac.ca/cde) or call: 902-893-6666.

## **Shelterbelt Training Workshop Moncton, NB**

**September 18 and 19, 2007**

As part of an eastern Canada shelterbelt education and demonstration program for livestock buildings, the Canadian Pork Council (CPC), in collaboration with the Ontario Pork Association, Grand River Conservation Authority and the Atlantic Swine Research Partnership have retained the services of the Institut de Technologie Agroalimentaire (ITA) in La Pocatiere to provide a training workshop covering all aspects of shelterbelts for the protection of livestock buildings.

Training is free, but space is limited.

Contact Sabrina Ellsworth for more Information;

Phone: 902- 890-7637

Email: [sellsworth@nsac.ca](mailto:sellsworth@nsac.ca)

## **Maritime Beef Field Day**

Saturday, September 8, 2007 From 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Nappan Experimental Farm  
Nappan, Nova Scotia

The Maritime Beef Testing Society (MBTS) and Agri-Food Canada are pleased to invite all Maritime Beef Producers to a day filled with information sessions for improving genetics and marketing cattle. Numerous speakers will cover topics including current research at the Experimental Farm and the Carcass Value Discovery Program. Lunch will be available, free of charge.

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

## Maritime Feedlot and Carcass Value Discovery Program

Sponsored by the Maritime Beef Testing Society

The purpose of the program is to teach cow/calf producers and seedstock producers the value of their own calves based on performance in the feedlot, value of the carcass and economic performance.

Commercial cow/calf and seedstock producers interested in evaluating their breeding and sire selection programs, should consider participating.

Producers interested in the program will supply five feeder steers from the same sire (recommended) for consignment. They will be fed a typical Maritime feedlot ration to their optimal profit potential (OPP). The OPP will be determined by animal performance, cost of gain, market conditions, ultra-sound evaluation and visual evaluation by the Livestock Manager. The consigning beef producers will be retaining ownership of their animals on the program and assume all risks.

Cattle will be fed at the AAFC Nappan Experimental Farm located in Nappan, NS. Staff of the AAFC Nappan Experimental Farm will be responsible for the care and feeding of the cattle.

It is expected that all program cattle will be delivered to the Nappan Experimental Farm on the week of October 15, 2007.

For more information contact:

Bernadette Hoeg at 902-661-2855  
Brian Trueman at 902-667-6572  
John Duynisveld at 902-667-6570  
Guy LeBlanc at 506-453-2457  
Les Haliday at 902-569-7639

## New Extension Information Website Launched for Regional Farmers

AgraPoint has launched a new extension information website housing production guides, e-newsletters, fact sheets, online PRCP exams, articles, events, FAQs and links. The website address is: [www.extensioncentral.com](http://www.extensioncentral.com) The site is updated several times a week and has been designed by information type (eg. fact sheets) and then by commodity. The information is provided and recommended by the AgraPoint team and other content partners, including the Nova Scotia Environmental Farm Plan. Anyone interested in placing information on the site or linking from the site, with content that is relevant to Atlantic Canadian farmers, should contact AgraPoint's Agriculture Information Centre at 1-866-606-4636 (toll-free) or [info@agrapoint.ca](mailto:info@agrapoint.ca)

## Workshop Expressions of Interest

AgraPoint is in the initial stages of planning a workshop titled 'Are you ready for change? Agriculture of the Future'. This workshop will focus on introducing alternative agricultural practices that are cost effective, environmentally sound, and help

optimize productivity. Topics may include: 1) biodynamics; 2) bioenergetics; and 3) homeopathy (including some info on compost teas and effective microorganisms).

A programme with expert regional and North American speakers is being proposed. The date will be November 21, 2007 at the Tatamagouche Centre in Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia. The cost for the workshop is to be determined.

If you are at all interested in attending this workshop, or in receiving information as plans develop, please contact AgraPoint's Agriculture Information Centre at 1-866-606-4636 (toll-free) or [info@agrapoint.ca](mailto:info@agrapoint.ca)





## 4-H Members to Compete in Young Speakers For Agriculture Competition

4-H members have the opportunity to speak about their enthusiasm for the agriculture industry at the provincial 4-H Nova Scotia Young Speakers for Agriculture Senior Public Speaking Competition. This competition will be held on Friday September 28, 2007 at 7 p.m. during the Nova Scotia 4-H Show at the Hants County Exhibition Grounds in Windsor. All senior 4-H members and 4-H Alumni who are 16 - 24 years of age, as of the competition date, can enter either the provincial competition in Windsor or the national contest at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in November.

The competitors have five agriculturally related topics from which they can choose to speak: Then and Now: An Evolving Canadian Farmer

1. Go Green?... Exploring Canadian Agriculture in an Era of Environmental Sustainability
2. Buying Local: A Long Term Trend or Short Term Fad?
3. The Next Generation: Why Youth in Agriculture are Here to Stay
4. Feeding the World: A Survey of the Global Agricultural Landscape

Along with project work, 4-H members are taught public speaking skills during the year. Each spring 4-H clubs, counties and regions hold communications competitions. Many young people identify the communications training and the confidence that it has given them as their most memorable experience in 4-H.

The Nova Scotia 4-H Council will sponsor the winner of the provincial contest to take part in the Canadian Young Speakers of Agriculture National Senior Public Speaking Competition.

This will be held at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Ontario on Saturday, November 3, 2007. For more information please contact the nearest 4-H office or check out the website [www.cysa-joca.ca/](http://www.cysa-joca.ca/).

## Windsor to host 30th Annual Nova Scotia 4-H Show

At this time of year 4-H members are busy attending exhibitions with their 4-H projects and making preparations for the 30th Nova Scotia 4-H Show, September 28 - 30, 2007. Hosted at the Hants County Exhibition grounds in Windsor, this annual event is an excellent opportunity for 4-H families and the general public to come together to view the many talents of 4-H members across the province. "This year we are proud to be celebrating such a significant

anniversary. For thirty years the provincial 4-H show has grown into a showcase of over 40 different livestock and life skills projects such as rabbit, foods, dog, woodworking, computer, dairy calf and crafts. The Nova Scotia 4-H program boasts that there is a project that every young person can learn and enjoy," said Arthur Pick, Acting Manager, 4-H and Rural Organizations

In a national survey by the Canadian 4-H Council and Ispos-Reid, 1097 4-H Alumni were polled for their attitudes towards the 4-H program and it's impact on them. Seventy-four per cent of alumni said their experiences as a 4-H member was very beneficial in terms of contributing to personal or career experiences later in life. In particular, one thing they pin pointed was acquiring and building teamwork and interpersonal skills.

Each year a county or region hosts the 4-H Show and for this year's show the Hants County 4-H Council has the responsibility of making site arrangements, providing security, fund raising and promotion.

The 4-H Show is open to the public and admission is free. Competitions begin Friday, September 28 and continue until noon on Sunday, September 30.

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## Your 4-H Specialists

### Senior 4-H Program Coordinator:

Ruth Grant - Truro  
Tel:(902) 893-6584  
Fax: (902) 893-2757  
[grantra@gov.ns.ca](mailto:grantra@gov.ns.ca)

### Yarmouth, Digby and Annapolis Counties:

Teresa Van Oostrum/ Jean Ward -  
Lawrencetown  
Tel: (902) 584-2081/ (902) 584-2080  
Fax: (902) 584-3069  
[vanoostp@gov.ns.ca](mailto:vanoostp@gov.ns.ca)  
[wardje@gov.ns.ca](mailto:wardje@gov.ns.ca)

### Lunenburg, Queens and Shelburne Counties:

Valorie Oickle - Bridgewater  
Tel: (902) 543-0616  
Fax: (902) 543-0618  
[oickleva@gov.ns.ca](mailto:oickleva@gov.ns.ca)

### Hants and Kings Counties:

Jennifer Robinson - Kentville  
Tel: (902) 679-6027  
Fax: (902) 679-6062  
[robinsjc@gov.ns.ca](mailto:robinsjc@gov.ns.ca)

### Halifax-East Hants, Colchester and Cumberland Counties:

- Truro  
Tel: (902) 893-6586  
Fax: (902) 893-2757

### Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough Counties:

Dawn Barrington - Hodgson - Pictou/  
Antigonish  
Tel: (902) 485-7161/ (902) 863-7501  
Fax: (902) 485-4014/ (902) 863-7342  
[barrind@gov.ns.ca](mailto:barrind@gov.ns.ca)

### Inverness, Victoria, Cape Breton and Richmond Counties:

Rhonda MacDougall -Mabou  
Tel: (902) 945-2901  
Fax: (902) 945-2858  
[macdourm@gov.ns.ca](mailto:macdourm@gov.ns.ca)

Marina Gillis - Sydney  
Tel:(902) 563-2001  
Fax:(902) 563-3435  
[gillisma@gov.ns.ca](mailto:gillisma@gov.ns.ca)

## Your Agricultural Resource Coordinators

### Acting Senior Agricultural Resource Coord.:

**Andrew Cameron** – Truro  
Tel: (902) 893-7314  
Fax: (902) 893-0244

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

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

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

**Michael Kittilsen**–  
Tel: (902) 893-3645  
Fax: (902) 893-0244  
[kittilma@gov.ns.ca](mailto:kittilma@gov.ns.ca)

### Pictou, Antigonish & Guysborough counties:

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

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

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

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

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

## Annapolis County Federation Livestock Sales

Cattle Sales at the Lawrencetown Exhibition Grounds will be held on the following dates: September 15 and 29, October 13 and 27, November 10 and 24. Selling of miscellaneous items will begin at 11 a.m. Selling of livestock begins at 1 p.m.

## Local Community Fairs and Exhibitions

Don't forget about the local community fairs and exhibitions being held in our region:

**New Ross Community Fair** -  
August 17-18

**Dalhousie Community Fair** -  
August 25

**Western Kings Fair**, Tremont -  
September 1

**Hants Co. Exhibition** - September  
14-16 and September 21-23

## Valley Region 4-H Activities and Announcements

**August 20-25:** Hants County Light Horse Camp, Hants County Exhibition Grounds

**August 30:** Kings County Provincial Show Meeting 7 p.m. Kentville Agricultural Center

**September 4:** Kings County Council Meeting 7:30 p.m. Kentville Agricultural Center

September 10: Hants County Council Meeting 7 p.m., O'Brien Building Windsor

September 14-16: Hants County 4-H Exhibition Days, Hants County Exhibition Grounds

September 28-30: Provincial Show, Hants County Exhibition Grounds

October 1: Kings County Council Meeting 7:30 p.m. Kentville Agricultural Center

## Hants County Exhibition 4-H Days, Hants County Exhibition Grounds

### September 14 - September 16

Hants County Exhibition preparation is well underway. All life skills articles will be judged Thursday and will be on display all week. The evening of Friday, September 14 the Dog Obedience and Showmanship classes will be held. On Saturday, September 15, Beef, Dairy, Goat, Light Horse, Waterfowl and Poultry classes will be taking place, along with a variety of competitions. On Sunday, September 16 Sheep, Light Horse and the Grand Champion Livestock Showmanship class will be happening. Different competitions including the Bake-Off, Vegetable Preparation, Woodworking, Floral Arranging, Outdoorsman, Photography, Cake Decorating, Fashion Show Beef, Dairy and Sheep Clipping will be happening throughout the weekend. Also, tug-of-war pulls will be taking place among different clubs as well.

## 4-H Provincial Show

### September 28 - September 30

The 4-H Provincial Show is a great event to attend and to see what 4-H is all about. It will be taking place September 28 - September 30 at the Hants County Exhibition Grounds in

Windsor. Some of the highlights of the weekend include tug-of-war, fashion show, market lamb, market steer and market turkey auctions, the Grand Champion Showmanship Class and the parade of champions. Hants County is very proud to host the 30th Provincial Show in Windsor.

### Interested In Joining 4-H?

As the summer comes to a close, the end of another 4-H year draws near. For people interested in joining 4-H this year, now is the time to get ready. With the variety of projects offered in 4-H there is definitely something for everyone! If anyone is interested in finding out more about the 4-H program, give the 4-H office a call at: 902 679-6027, and they will be more than happy to give some helpful information.

## Lunenburg Regional Community Recycling Centre

### NO CATTLE WASTE

In compliance with the CFIA ban on Specified Risk Material (SRM): no domestic ruminants, including cattle will be accepted for disposal at the Community Recycling Centre.

Meat wastes from grocery stores and other approved processors will still be accepted as compost.

This is as a result of Canadian Food Inspection Agency Regulations effective July 12, 2007.

For more information please call 902-543-2913.

## New Agriculture Resource Coordinator

Beginning a new career holds many opportunities. Since beginning the position of Agriculture Resource Coordinator (ARC) for the central region, I have been reminded of the opportunities that exist in agriculture and the importance of agriculture to all of humanity.

For the past 10 years, working with 4-H, I have come to know many farmers and rural residents. As I work with these and new clients, I find the increasing pressures farmers face astounding. The watchful eye of media, consumers and neighbours, have heightened interest in issues relating to food safety, security, the environment and markets. These all present challenges to agriculture in the traditional sense. As a result, producers have had to become aware and cautious in their approach to food quality, food safety, environmental and other issues. Fortunately Nova Scotia's pristine environment is populated by farmers who are recognized as being innovative producers of top quality food and good stewards of the land, giving them an advantage when it comes current issues facing the industry.

As the new ARC, I look forward to identifying opportunities which will assist and encourage industry development to strengthen the producer's position in the market. Be sure to drop in, give a call or just say hello at the next farm gathering.

## Central Nov Forage Masters Competition

Halifax East Hants Federation is pleased to announce the Central Nova Forage Masters Competition and following is information on the 2007 competition:

### Classes

1. Grass Hay; 2. Legume Hay;
3. Mixed Hay; 4. Haylage/Silage- (not greater than 30 per cent legume); 5. Corn Silage

### Rules

1. Only one entry per class per farm enterprise will be accepted.
2. Entries must be fair and unaltered.
3. Entries will consist of two samples, one for analysis and one for display.
4. A sample will consist of :
  - a. Hay - two 12 cm flakes or equivalent amount. Samples must be boxed (if placed in a plastic bag the sample will mold).
  - b. Silage – samples weigh one to two kg. Samples must be frozen immediately to maintain optimum quality.
5. Entries will be judged on visual and laboratory analysis. Not all samples will be displayed.

### Judging Criteria

#### Corn Silage:

Analysis – dry matter, ADF, TDN, NDF  
Visual – odour, length of chop, grain content

#### Hay:

Analysis – crude protein, ADF, NDF  
Visual – stage of development, leafiness, colour, odour, softness

#### Haylage/Silage:

Analysis – dry matter digestibility, digestible protein, crude protein, ADF, NDF  
Visual – colour, odour

How to enter – Samples can be taken to either Willy Versteeg: 902-758-2456 or R.J. Dillman: 902-384-2247. They will be forwarded to Bill Thomas in Truro

Cost - Chemical analysis will be performed by the Provincial Feed Testing Laboratory. Entrants will be charged the standard forage analysis fee for each sample provided.

Deadline – September 30, 2007

## Jersey Atlantic Fundraiser

First "Grand Prize" from Casino Nova Scotia a two night "Stay and Play" package.  
Second prize a \$250 gift certificate from Phillips Feeds (Shur-Gain) P.E.I.  
Third prize a \$150 semen voucher from A.B.S. area sales manager Brian Masters.  
Tickets available from Jersey members throughout Atlantic Canada and Dave Cole.  
\$5 each or 3 for \$12, draw is Sept 29 at the 4-H Provincial Show.  
Thank you to our sponsors

## Cape Breton-based Innovations and Development Consultant Added to Team

On July 9th, Amy Melmock joined **AgraPoint** as a consultant focused on agricultural innovations and development. Amy is based in Port Hawkesbury.

Amy will be working with all partners in the region to identify and develop innovative opportunities in Cape Breton and Nova Scotia.

For the past three-and-a-half years, Melmock has been the Executive Director of the Hants Regional Development Authority. In that position she worked closely with government, not-for-profit, academic and community representatives on issues pertaining to rural sustainability. Projects undertaken during her tenure include the economic development initiative 'Hants Advantage', which identified agriculture as a priority development sector for the region, an Organic Agriculture Forum, an Agricultural Prospectus for Hants County and a Local Foods Guide for East Hants, produced in partnership with Sunroot Farms.

Amy can be contacted at her Port Hawkesbury office at: Phone: 902-625-1140, Cell: 902-631-0027  
E-mail: [a.melmock@agrapoint.ca](mailto:a.melmock@agrapoint.ca)

## Disposal of Used Farm Sharps

The Agriculture offices in Sydney and Mabou still have a supply of sharps containers available at no cost for producers. Remember, sharps must not be discarded in regular household garbage, sharps should be collected on farms in rigid, puncture resistant containers with tightly secured lids. Drop in to pick up your containers during our regular office hours or for more info contact 902-563-2000.

## Northside Exhibition

Come visit the 90th Annual Cape Breton Exhibition.  
August 13 - 18, 105 Regent Street,  
North Sydney  
Come for all the Exhibition Fun and Excitement in Newly Renovated Facilities!

Featuring: Commercial Displays; Arts and Crafts and Home Baking Exhibits; Livestock and Horse Competitions; Agriculture and Forestry Displays; Full Size Midway with Ride for all ages ...and many special features and events.

The Cape Breton Exhibition, There's No Place Like It. For info call: 902-794-7633.

## 2007 CAPE BRETON COMMUNITY FAIRS

The season for community fairs and exhibitions is fast approaching. The following are the fairs scheduled for Cape Breton Island. Now is a good time to reserve the date on your calendar, or to plan your entry for the fair.

Community Fairs are excellent opportunities for rural communities to get together for a fun and entertaining day, and to show off some of their talent. Anyone can enter articles from homemaking, garden, woodworking to livestock (check with fair for specifics). If you have never been to a fair, why not plan to attend this year.



## 4-H: A Lasting Impression

The Summer and Fall months are always a busy time, especially for those involved in the 4-H program. For the rest of 2007, members, parents, and leaders have a lot to look forward to and participate in. 4-H Nova Scotia may be 85 years old, but it is obviously still going strong and most definitely leaving a lasting impression on all those involved.

# Community Fair Schedule

FAIR	DATE	CONTACT	PHONE
Mira Ferry	Sept. 15	Gladys Lever Cheryl Macintyre	902-562-6310 902-562-2089
Christmas Island	Sept. 15	Kevin Mackenzie	902-622-2667
Port Morien	Sept. 15	Margie Macqueen	902-737-2478
Marion Bridge	Cancelled 2007		
Baddeck	Sept. 8	Angus Nicholson	902-295-3139

## Upcoming 4-H Events

### Inverness County Show

Looking for something to do during the month of August? The Inverness County Show is an excellent event for everyone. It is being held at the Brook Village Hall on August 23 to 25. 4-H members are asked to drop off projects from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday, August 23. The Show is open Saturday, August 25 at 9 a.m., to the general public. There will be non-live stock competitions in the morning, followed by the livestock show. The afternoon will start off with an auction at 1 p.m., followed by the presentations of Achievement Day Certificates, starting at 1:30 p.m. Bring the whole family and community, everyone is welcome!

### Record Keeping Competition

The Record Keeping Competition is open to all 4-H Members. It was introduced to teach members to be brief, concise, accurate, and to draw conclusions and practical information. It is a provincial competition sponsored by the Farm Credit Corporation, Canada. Record sheets have to qualify through the members county level first and then

mailed to the 4-H office (so that they are received in August) to qualify. The deadline is September 1, so members should make sure to allow enough time for the local 4-H office to receive and mail record sheets to the Provincial office. This competition not only teaches members great skills, but has some great cash prizes as well. More information is available at your local 4-H office. Good luck to all members participating.

### Victoria County Show

With the kids getting ready for school, it might be nice to get them out of the house for a while. Why not take them to the longest running fair in Cape Breton History? Take them to the Victoria County Show, September 6 through 8. This will be the 77<sup>th</sup> year for the fair and is being held at the Baddeck Forks Hall. 4-H members must drop off their projects on Thursday, September 6 between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. On Saturday, September 8, the show will open to the public with competitions, livestock shows, and awards presentations. The day will run between 12 noon until 3 p.m. Following the Show, there will be a Council Meeting for the 4-H Leaders. Baddeck Valley 4-H Club invites everyone to join the fun and

see what 4-H has done for the youth of Victoria County.

### TD 4-H Agriculture Scholarship

TD Bank Financial Group and the Canadian 4-H Council are proud to sponsor up to ten scholarships valued at \$2000 each. These are for 4-H members in their last year of highschool who are planning to enroll in post-secondary education in an agriculture or agri-business related discipline. Applicants must submit an application form by October, along with a typed letter of recommendation from a 4-H leader, a transcript of marks for the 2006-2007 academic year (with an average above 85 per cent), proof of enrollment in a Canadian university or college, and a recent photograph of their self. Applications can be obtained at the 4-H offices throughout Nova Scotia.

### National Conferences

There are two National Conferences happening on October 31 until November 4. There is the National 4-H Volunteer Leaders Conferences and the National Members Conference, both being held in Toronto, Ontario. These are both great opportunities for to learn new

skills as well as meet other 4-H enthusiasts throughout Canada.

Anyone interested in taking part in the Leaders Conference in 2008, can download an application form online or from your local 4-H office.

Applications must be returned to Arthur Pick, the Acting Manager, by December 15.

### **The Royal Agriculture Winter Fair and CYSA**

A big event for some 4-H members is "The Royal". This year The Royal is going to be taking place on November 2 to 11 in Toronto, Ontario. This is the largest indoor combined agricultural, horticultural, canine and equestrian event in the world.

### **4-H Month**

November is the National 4-H Month. This is a great time for all 4-H members, volunteers, and families to take the time to appreciate 4-H and all that it does. 4-H has been around in Nova Scotia since 1922, and since then, has been helping youth become responsible members of society. Members meet new people, get involved in the community, increase their knowledge and skills, broaden their interests and talents, have fun, and accept new responsibilities. 4-H has come a long way since it was the "Boys and Girls Club" 85 years ago. This month we should take the time to enjoy the opportunities that 4-H has, and is, offering us all.

### **Canadian Western Agribition**

Canadian Western Agribition is Canada's premiere agriculture show and marketplace, being held in November. Over 4000 livestock will be on display including cattle, horses, bison, llama, sheep, and goats. Other events to look forward to is the CCA Finals Rodeo, light and draft horse events, grain and forage events, agri-trade/technology and western craft trade show, stock dog trials, Agri-Ed showcase, food fair, and much more. A number of members from Nova Scotia will be invited and will be traveling to Regina, Saskatchewan. This is definitely a major event to take part in, but also to watch. Nova Scotia always represents the East Coast well, good luck to all those who will be participating at the Royal this fall.

## **Dates to Mark on the Calendar**

August 23-25	Inverness County Show	Brook Village Hall
September 1	Scotia Bank Volunteer Deadline Record	
September 1	Keeping Competition Deadline	
September 4	Cape Breton County Council Meeting	Esplanade, Sydney
September 6-8	Victoria County Fair	Baddeck Forks Hall
September 8	Victoria County Council Meeting	Baddeck Forks Hall
September 10	Substitution Deadline for NS Pro. Show	
September 19	Scratch Deadline for NS Pro. Show	
September 28	Deadline for CYSA	
September 28-30	NS Provincial Show	Hants Co. Exhibition Grounds
October	TD 4-H Scholarship Deadline	
October 31-4	National 4-H Leaders Conferences	Toronto, ON
October 31-4	National Members Conference Royal	Toronto, ON
November 2-11	Winter Fair/CYSA	Exhibition Place. Toronto, Ont
November 16-17	Annual NS 4-H Council Meeting	
November 19-24	Canadian Western Agribition	
November 22-25	National 4-H Skills Conference 4-H	IPSCO Place. Regina, SK.
December 15	Leaders Conference Deadline	Brandon, MB

Feel free to contact your local 4-H offices if you have any concerns or questions. Your 4-H Specialists and Summer Assistant can be reached through the Mabou office at: 902-945-2901 (Rhonda or Bailey) or the Sydney office at: 902-563-2000 (Marina).

There has been some recent inquiries regarding farm plates and general Motor Vehicle regulations applied to Agriculture. While there are some obvious questions unanswered, I will quote some of the *Motor Vehicle Act* as applied to Agriculture.

Section 302 of the Act - refers to a farmer as a person who resides on farm and derives a major part of his income from that farm or employs one or more full time people.

The annual fee is based on weight, for example, 3200 kg is \$10.25, 15000 kg is \$95 for one year, provided the truck bears the following endorsement.

The within described truck with or without farm implement, farm trailer or farm wagon is authorized to be operated on a highway for the transportation of the owners farm products and farm supplies only.

This also allows a farm truck to tow a farm wagon or implement that does not require a registration as long as its being used exclusively for agricultural purposes.

Operating farm plates outside these parameters does not necessarily result in a fine, however, it might result in the privilege being revoked.

**Note, fishermen operate under the same rules.**

Other interesting agricultural references. All tractors require a slow moving sign on all implements being towed by a tractor or farm truck not capable of maintaining 25 mph.

There are fines for the following violations and they are similar to the fine for exceeding the speed limit.

### ***Motor Vehicle Act.***

Section 117(3) - Farm Tractor failing to exhibit a slow moving emblem.

Section 117(4) - Failing to exhibit a slow moving emblem on a motor vehicle.

Section 4(6) - Operating or causing to be operated upon a highway a farm vehicle exceeding four meters in overall width (\$157.50)

Securing loads on vehicles - based on, first, second or third offence.

There was a committee of NSDA, NSDT and federation working on transportation issues.

## Soil testing/Forage Samples:

The local Antigonish/Guysborough Federation of Agriculture recently purchased two soil augers and a forage testing auger ideal for round bales.

Soil samples should be collected at least every two years in all fields being replanted. Generally it is better to take samples at the same time each year. August is usually the best month for this. Contact the Department of Agriculture in Antigonish to sign out the augers.



