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Agriculture Services

NEWSLETTER



August 2008

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

Volume 9 No. 3

New Animal Protection Legislation Introduced

The province introduced legislation on May 27, that will improve the protection of animals in Nova Scotia.

An Act to Protect Animals and to Aid Animals That Are in Distress will replace the *Animal Cruelty Prevention Act*.

“A number of changes and improvements have been made to the act to ensure the welfare of animals in the province,” said Brooke Taylor, Minister of Agriculture. “The Department of Agriculture will look after all agriculture-related cruelty complaints while the SPCA will handle complaints concerning domestic animals.”

The Department of Agriculture and the SPCA will each have a head inspector to oversee inspectors throughout the province. All inspectors will meet criteria established in the act, as well as qualifications and standards to be appointed a special constable by the Department of Justice.

“The SPCA remains an independent society and will have the authority to do its work under the act as it relates to non-farm animals,” said Mr. Taylor. “The society will report to the department annually on its

investigations, enhancing its accountability.”

The new animal protection act will allow the minister to revoke the SPCA’s ability to enforce the act and designate another entity to fulfill that role if the SPCA fails to perform the duties set out in the legislation.

“We are also establishing an Animal Cruelty Appeal Board to hear

appeals of animal seizures and investigation issues,” said Mr. Taylor. “This is an opportunity for individuals to have the seizure of an animal reviewed by an independent board in a timely manner.”

Other changes include requirements that annual meetings of the SPCA must be open to the public and veterinarians must report animal neglect or abuse to the SPCA.

Minister Signs Five-Year Agriculture Agreement

Nova Scotia farmers will continue to have programs to help them adapt to changing consumer markets, enhance food safety systems, support environmental actions and prevent disease and track food to its original source.

Agriculture Minister Brooke Taylor, with his Canadian counterparts, signed a \$1.3-billion agreement on July 11, during the annual ministers conference in Quebec City.

The Growing Forward agreement will fund current programs and help develop new approaches for Nova Scotia’s agricultural industry.

“Growing Forward provides many benefits right across the value chain, from farm gate to fork,” said Mr. Taylor. “We have consulted with the

agricultural sector and involved them in discussions leading up to the signing of this agreement.

“Growing Forward is good for Nova Scotia farmers because it provides program flexibility to meet local needs.”

Nova Scotia will work with the federal government to determine the program details and implement them by April 1, 2009. The agreement is cost-shared 60-40 by the federal and provincial governments.

The agreement also includes agriculture business risk-management programs.



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

Nova Scotia Crop & Livestock Insurance Commission Production Insurance

Application 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 Annapolis, Kings and Hants West counties and September 20 for all other areas.

The deadline to apply for Forage Establishment is October 31. Fields of legumes and legume-grass mixes seeded by July 1, as well as grass seeded by September 1, are eligible for coverage.

Canada

NOVA SCOTIA

Nova Scotia Wildlife Compensation Program - a first in Atlantic Canada

On May 8, 2008 a new program that provides Nova Scotia farmers with compensation for damage to crops and livestock was announced by Agriculture Minister Brooke Taylor. The program provides assistance to farmers who experience damage to eligible agricultural products as a result of the activities of wildlife. Examples of eligible products include beehives, plants, trees and vines grown as commercial crops, and livestock such as cattle, sheep and goats raised for agricultural purposes. Fowl are excluded.

The Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission is administering the program, which is cost shared by the federal and provincial governments under the Agricultural Policy Framework. More information on specific crops and livestock currently covered under the program and application forms are available on the Commission's website at www.gov.ns.ca/agri/ci or by calling 1-800-565-6371. Information can also be obtained through regional agriculture offices.

Congratulations to Jill Rogers!

Jill Rogers, NSAC's Manager of Research and Graduate Studies, has accepted a new position with Agriculture Services in the Department of Agriculture as the senior planning and development officer.

In her new role, Jill will coordinate matters related to federal-provincial agreements and their amendments, with emphasis on the new Growing Forward agreement. She will also have responsibility for research, analysis and reporting of programs, implementation of legislative documents and general business planning and accountability across the Branch.

Client Obligations / Responsibilities

Crop insurance clients are reminded to:

- Report damage as soon as it occurs and within five days of any loss or damage. If damage is not noted until harvest you must provide a notice of damage within five days of harvest.
- Report accurate yield information within 30 days of harvesting an insured crop.

- If applying for a claim you must submit a proof of loss form within 30 days of harvest.
- Cancellation deadlines for insurance contracts are September 15 for strawberry and winter grain, November 14 for tree insurance, November 30 for tree fruit, and December 15 for blueberries.

- Dairy producers are reminded that claims for the loss of an animal must be made within 48 hours of the loss on the forms provided.

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

Programs and Business Risk Management Division

AgriInvest and AgriStability deadline reminder for 2007

September 30, 2008 is the deadline to submit AgriInvest and/or AgriStability application(s) for the 2007 program year. Forms and guides are available from the Canada Revenue Agency or on the AgriStability and AgriInvest web sites at www.agr.gc.ca/AgriStability or www.agr.gc.ca/AgriInvest.

If you miss the September 30 filing deadline, you can still submit the form until December 31, 2008, but a penalty for late filing will be applied. For AgriInvest the allowable net sales used to calculate your matchable deposit will be reduced by five per cent for each month (or each part of the month) your form is submitted late. For AgriStability your payment will be reduced \$500 for each month (or each part of the month) your form is submitted late.

For more information on any of the above, contact the AgriStability or AgriInvest toll free line at 1-866-367-8506, or contact Steven Tattrie, Programs and Business Risk Management (NSDA) at (902) 893-6374 or toll free 1-866-844-4276.

The 2008 AgriStability Enrolment Fee Deadline

Most producers would have already received their enrolment notice for 2008 AgriStability. The deadline to pay the fee amount was April 30, 2008, or 30 days after the enrolment notice was dated. If you have missed the deadline you may still participate but a late penalty charge of 20 per cent will be added to your fee. Participants have until December 31, 2008 to pay the fee with penalty. If you have not received an enrolment notice for 2008 AgriStability and

believe you should have, contact the federal administration by calling 1-866-367-8506.

AgriStability 2009 Enrolment

Producers who did not participate in 2008 AgriStability or are new to farming must request a New Participant package before April 30, 2009. To request an Agristability new participants package or for more information, visit the AgriStability website at www.agr.gc.ca/agristability or call AgriStability toll free at 1-866-367-8506.

Presentations Schedule:

Date	Location	Time
September 2	Truro	Best Western Glengarry 7 p.m.
September 3	Baddeck	Presbyterian Knox Church 7 p.m.
September 4	Antigonish	Maritime Inn 7 p.m.
September 16	Bridgewater	Wandlyn Inn 7 p.m.
September 17	Weymouth Western Counties Regional Library	Weymouth Branch - 7 p.m.
September 18	Kentville	Old Orchard Inn 7 p.m.

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

Programs Update

The Farm Investment Fund (FIF) is still accepting applications, with nearly 550 received to date. There is still time to apply for projects that you wish to undertake this fall. You are encouraged to claim projects as they are completed, which may help you cash manage for multiple approved projects. There is no limit to the amount of claims you may submit.

AgriInvest and AgriStability Information sessions:

If you would like to learn more about the AgriInvest and AgriStability programs or need help filing your forms please attend an information session near you.

If you are interested in meeting one on one, staff will be available prior to the scheduled meeting in your area. To make an appointment phone Steven Tattrie at the Programs and Business Risk Management office (902-893-6374 or 1-866-844-4276).

The ONLY call for Letters of Intent for the Technology Development 2000 Program for this program year is September 30, 2008.

The Agri-Food Industry Development Fund (AFIDF) program is currently open, with 67 applications to date. These include applications to the new Specified Risk Material (SRM) Handling category and the Strategic Infrastructure Investment Fund

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(SIIF) category. Applications are still being accepted for AFIDF program categories A through E.

Orchard and Vineyard Transition Program (OVTP)

Program uptake has been brisk. More than 80 applications for funding to remove orchard or vineyard have been received to date. An onsite pre-inspection must be conducted before work begins. Once the plant material (including stumps and roots) has been removed from the site and destroyed, a claim can be submitted. A post-inspection will follow. A producer can claim individual blocks as they are completed. Multiple claims are convenient and aid in cash flow.

The guidelines and application forms for FIF, Technology Development 2000 Program, Agri-Food Industry Development Fund, and the Orchard and Vineyard Transition program may be accessed at the following web site: www.gov.ns.ca/agri/prm. Questions? Contact Programs & Business Risk Management office at 902-893-6510 or toll free 1-866-844-

Seeking an outlet to advertise your Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs)?

The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources is teaming up with representatives in all four Atlantic Provinces and the state of Maine to create a non-timber forest product (NTFP) directory called From Our Atlantic Woods where you can publish your NTFPs and services for FREE.

NTFPs consist of any goods or services that come from the forest excluding conventional wood products like timber and pulpwood. Examples include, fiddleheads, mushrooms, berries, maple syrup, and eco-tourism.

The goal of the From Our Atlantic Woods directory is to facilitate the development of a vibrant, diverse and sustainable NTFPs industry in the region. The directory, which will include photos, recipes, information

on historic and modern uses, harvesting information and more pertaining to NTFPs, will be available online and in a printed format. Copies will be distributed at Sobeys outlets, farmers' markets, NSDNR offices, tourism booths, craft fairs and other venues, as well as from the listed places of business. This is a great business opportunity for small scale producers, growers, and sellers of NTFPs to promote themselves across the Atlantic, and it is FREE!

If interested in advertising a Nova Scotian NTFP business in the directory, please contact Simon Mutabazi, mutabasp@gov.ns.ca, 1-866-266-7577. If you want additional information on this project, please visit www.ntfp.infor.ca.

Dr. Rob Gordon appointed Dean of OAC at University of Guelph

Dr. Rob Gordon, Nova Scotia Agricultural (NSAC) professor and Dean of Research, has been appointed Dean of Ontario Agricultural College (OAC). Dr. Gordon began his five-year term with the OAC in August.

Dr. Gordon has a long history with agriculture and NSAC. Graduating from NSAC in 1985, he joined the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Marketing in 1988

as a provincial climatologist. In 1999 he became an associate professor at NSAC and has since served as dean, department head, and Canada Research Chair. Dr. Gordon was named Dean of Research in 2006. In this position, he advanced the research goals of the NSAC by actively promoting the research and technology transfer efforts on campus and helping to foster research growth and excellence.

Mineral and Trace Element status of Grass and Legume Silage in Nova Scotia Impact on Dairy Production

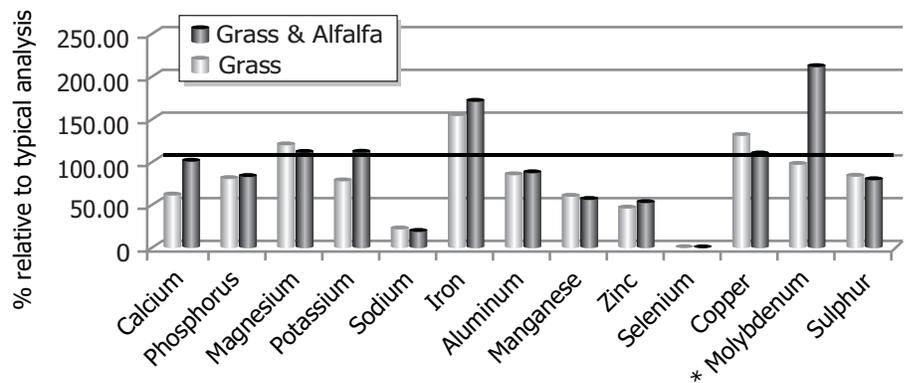
By: Dan Mosley, Dairy Specialist, AgraPoint

Many factors affect the health and performance of the dairy herd, one of which is the mineral and trace element status of the diet. Since forage makes up around 60 per cent of a cow's diet, it has a huge potential impact. Typically there are many minerals and trace elements in great excess in dairy diets. At best this is a waste, and at worst it has a negative effect on animal health and performance.

Forage Samples

Samples were taken from across the province. These figures are typical forage values, not animal requirements. The 100 per cent line is the average amount expected of those elements in the forage.

Grass and Grass Alfalfa Mix Silage



* Molybdenum value divided by 4 to fit the graph

Molybdenum binds onto copper to prevent the cow absorbing it. Since copper plays an important role in fertility, this can lead to poor breeding signals or cows not showing signs of heat.

AgraPoint has a wealth of experience in understanding all aspects of dairy nutrition, including what has been discussed here – minerals and trace elements. Dan Mosley spent four

years with the global mineral premix company Trouw Nutrition working on animal requirements and interactions between feeds on-farm. In order to see what these nutrient levels mean in a practical situation get in touch with Dan to assess the minerals and trace elements.

For more information on this subject, contact Dan Mosley at (902) 890-9665.

Grazing Mentorship Project for Maritime Producers

Producers in the Maritimes interested in enhancing profits and the environment through grazing management will be interested in the Grazing Mentorship Project.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Cattlemen's Association, through the Greencover Technical Assistance Program, are funding this unique mentorship program that connects producers

with a Grazing Mentor who will come to the farm to discuss your grazing resources, opportunities and challenges. The Mentor will make suggestions about fencing, watering systems, grazing systems, plant growth, forage species, winter grazing options; be available for phone follow-up to help you in decision-making and the implementation of your new grazing management choices.

AgraPoint is co-ordinating the program in the Maritimes. To find out more and to get introduced to a grazing mentor, contact Jonathan Wort, Ruminant Specialist, AgraPoint, 1-866-606-4636
E-mail: j.wort@agrapoint.ca
Website: www.extensioncentral.com

Agricultural Awareness Activities

Agriculture in the classroom got out of the classroom this spring in Central Nova Scotia. The AgZone event in May at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College brought about 400 grade eight students, with their teachers and chaperones, into the barns and labs to get a glimpse of modern agricultural education and research. They worked their way through short workshop sessions where topics ranged from extracting DNA from strawberries to measuring egg quality with colorimetry. Student groups were pitted against each other in some friendly competition. The day was designed in the style of the “Amazing Race” complete with “roadblocks” and “check-in mats”. The heat of competition kept the groups moving at top speed around campus – often with their guides lagging behind! Evaluation of this new program which targeted an older age group than in the past, was excellent, with teachers as well as presenters at NSAC agreeing on the effectiveness of the event. Part of the success may be due to planning of the workshops sessions, which was guided by curriculum connections for science in grade eight. We look forward to offering the program again next year, with the possibility of adding a similar session for students in the Halifax area based in the Museum of Natural History.

Upcoming Ag Awareness events:

September 21 – Open Farm Day.

On this day 50 farms from across the province will open their farm gates to visitors. Look for information on Open Farms on the website: www.gov.ns.ca/agri/agaware and watch for the Live at Five coverage of the event on Friday Sept 19.

October 10 -19 – AgCot Center at the Maritime Fall Fair. We are expanding our presence at the Fair with a new exhibit, highlighting our Environmental Farm Plan program. Commodity groups will also be featuring their products with the spotlight on our cooking stage with Chef Hans Wikki.

For information on these or any other agricultural awareness events contact: Judy Grant Ag Awareness Coordinator (902) 893-6598



— SELECT NOVA SCOTIA —

PRESENTS THE

INCREDIBLE PICNIC

Sunday August 24, 2008 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A local food picnic – it’s a simple idea: Nova Scotians get together with family and friends to eat fresh, local food. What’s easier or more enjoyable, especially on a beautiful summer afternoon?

Promoting the concept of eating what is available from local farmers, fishers, and producers to Nova Scotians, Select Nova Scotia launches the Incredible Picnic. It will take place simultaneously at several locations across the province on Sunday August 24, 2008 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

They include:

Annapolis Royal – Farmers market and wharf
Antigonish – Chisholm Park
Guysborough – Rare Bird Pub courtyard
Halifax – Garrison Grounds, Citadel Hill
Hubbards – Hubbards Barn and Community Park

Kings County – Prescott House Museum
Liverpool – White Point Beach Resort
Sydney – Petersfield Park
Truro – Victoria Park
Tatamagouche – Community field, Main St.
Windsor – Cocoa Pesto Bistro and Victoria Park

Consumers are invited to bring a picnic lunch or purchase local foods from farmers and chefs. There will be live music and childrens’ activities. Enter to win prizes for picnic photos. And do not forget to bring a blanket!

Visit www.SelectNovaScotia.ca for more information and activities.

By choosing local foods, Nova Scotians are making a difference for our farmers, for our economy and for our way of life.

Rural Energy Action Conference and Trade Show (REACT 2008)

November 7 and 8, 2008 at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre



In rural Nova Scotia, conservation and renewable energy production are being touted as the key to sustaining regional farms, local businesses and communities. Find out:

- who is leading the charge when it comes to building “greener” communities.
- how conservation and emerging renewable energy technologies can help farms, local businesses, homeowners and municipalities save money.
- what funding resources are available for using and producing alternative forms of energy, bio-fuel and bio-heat.
- what the investment and career opportunities are in the emerging renewable energy sector

Who should attend the conference and trade show?

- Farm producers and other small business owners *Students and educators *

- Not-for-profit groups and community service organizations
- Local government leaders
- Community economic development staff
- Renewable energy companies, energy consultants and retail businesses
- Anyone who has an interest in energy issues

Detailed Conference and Trade Show information is available on the Strait-Highlands RDA website at www.strait-highlands.ca, the REACT 2008 website www.REACT2008.com or by contacting the REACT 2008 office at (902) 625-5486.

REACT 2008 is supported by the Inverness Victoria Federation of Agriculture, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Nova Scotia Department of Economic Development, Nova Scotia Department of Energy, AgraPoint, Agri Futures Nova Scotia, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Service Canada, and the Strait-Highlands RDA.

Upcoming courses at NSAC through Continuing & Distance Education

Introductory Welding Course:

November 18 – December 4 (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

This course is for beginners or welders who would like more hands-on practice. It covers the theory, techniques and shop practice of arc-welding from project start to finish.

Integrated Pest Management for Landscapers* : October 30, 2008

This training session for landscapers will focus on sustainable landscape practices, the elements of an integrated weed management approach, pesticide safety practices, pesticide performance, water quality, new products and technologies.

Integrated Pest Management for Farmers* : November 6, 2008

This training session for farmers will focus on pesticide safety practices, pesticide performance and the effect of water quality, developing an IPM strategy, new products and technologies.

** Eligible course participants will be awarded five points in the Nova Scotia Pesticide Re-certification Program.*

Pesticide Applicator Certification : November 17-20, 2008

This course teaches you the basic principles and practices of safe use, handling and storage of pesticides. It is excellent preparation for those writing the Pesticide Applicator's Examination. Course content ranges from integrated pest management principles to doing your own calibration and calculations.

Fall Semester

AGRI 3001: Issues in Agricultural Health and Safety

A series of on-line modules in agricultural health and safety

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designed for agricultural students, farm managers and owner-operators, who wish to obtain a better understanding of the health and safety issues present on Canadian farms. The focus of the program is to describe the health and safety situation in the agriculture industry, the major health and safety risks in this industry and highlight the importance of improving the current situation.

SPEC 4013: Global Seminar-Rural Sustainability

The course uses a unique approach to global learning and evaluation based on real-world practices. The goal of the Global Seminar is to prepare future leaders and citizens of the global community to articulate policy agendas that will lead to a sustainable environment and a stable food supply.

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 of many areas within the field. 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:

Beginning Fall 2008

Composting and Compost Use

This course relies on activity based, hands-on learning. 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 of organic horticulture production systems. Students will 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.

Beginning Winter 2009

Organic Field Crop Management

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

Organic Livestock Production

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

NSAC's Continuing & Distance Education can help expand your professional development in agriculture, environmental, plant and animal sciences, horticulture and more. Visit us online at nsac.ca/cde or call (902) 893-6666.



**Nova Scotia
Agricultural
College**

*Continuing &
Distance Education*

Your Agricultural Resource Coordinators

Acting Sr. Agricultural Resource Coord.:

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moermade@gov.ns.ca



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

If you are a 4-H member and would like the opportunity to speak about your enthusiasm for the agriculture industry and challenge your public speaking skills then why not enter the Young Speakers for Agriculture Senior Public Speaking Competition? This competition will be held on Friday, September 26, 2008 at 7 p.m. 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:

- Leadership in Agriculture: What Does it Take?
- Going Green? Environmental Efforts in Agriculture.
- Food, Fuel and More: Exploring the Future of Agriculture.
- Organics: A Trend or a Tremendous Opportunity?
- Agriculture Around the World: Where Does Canada Stand?

Along with project work 4-H members are taught public speaking skills during the year and each spring 4-H clubs, counties and regions hold communications competitions. Many young people often 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 member that wins the provincial contest will be sponsored by the Nova Scotia 4-H Council and will take part in the Canadian Young Speakers of Agriculture National Senior Public Speaking Competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Ontario on Saturday, November 8, 2008.

For more information contact the nearest 4-H office or check out the website www.cysa-joca.ca.



Windsor to Host 31st 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 Nova Scotia 4-H Show on September 26 – 28, 2008. Each year a county or region hosts the 4-H Show. Kings County 4-H Council has the responsibility of making site arrangements, providing security, fund raising and promotion this year.

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 view the talents of 4-H members across the province. The Nova Scotia 4-H show has grown into a showcase of over 40 different livestock and life skills projects proudly displayed by 4-H members.

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 its 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 pinpointed was acquiring and building teamwork and interpersonal skills.

The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is open to the public and admission is free. Competitions begin Friday, September 26 and continue until noon on Sunday, September 28.

4-H and Rural Organizations Staff

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Communications & Resource Coord.

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Employment Opportunity: Farm Safety Consultant

The Canadian Agricultural Health and Safety Program (CAHSP) awarded the Nova Scotia Agricultural College a grant for a project entitled: A Safety Resource for Farmers: Building Nova Scotia's Capacity to Farm Safely. As a result of this grant, the Rural Research Centre of the NSAC is inviting applications for a Farm Safety Consultant.

Qualifications:

- A Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture is preferred.
- Possess knowledge of agricultural production practices, machinery, storage, and animal housing/handling facilities commonly used in Nova Scotia.
- Keen interest in agricultural safety.
- Excellent communication skills, presentations skills.

Responsibilities:

- Conduct training sessions in farm health and safety.

- Develop material (print and on-line) about on-farm health and safety.
- Upon farmer request, carry out on-farm safety reviews.
- Provide recommendations for future farm safety efforts in Nova Scotia.

Location: Truro, Nova Scotia

Salary: \$20/hour

Duration: This is a seven (7) month (29 week) position from September 2008 to March 2009, Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, 35 hours per week.

Application Deadline: Monday, September 8, 2008

Please submit resume (including 3 references) and cover letter detailing your suitability for this position to:

Career Services Office

Nova Scotia Agricultural College
11 River Rd. PO Box 550
Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 5E3
Fax: (902)895-4547
Email: cso@nsac.ca

More Energy Beet Field Days!

Over 225 farmers came to the energy beet field days in Truro and Falmouth in July. It was a great opportunity to learn about the Nova Scotia energy beet growing experience. For those of you who missed the July tours or would like to come back and hear more, come and learn why more growers are considering planting energy beets in 2009. Join us at one of the locations below and enjoy a James Lamb barbeque.

RSVP Lise LeBlanc by Friday, August 22 1-866-720-2338 (BEET)
Tuesday, August 26, 2008 – Peter and John Swetnam, Northville
Wednesday, August 27, 2008 – Doug Bacon, Amherst
Thursday, August 28, 2008 – Sandy Stewart, Scotsburn
For directions to the field day locations and more info visit:
www.atlantecbioenergy.com

Annapolis County Federation Livestock Sales

Cattle sales at the Lawrencetown Exhibition Grounds will be starting in September. The dates for sales for the remainder of the year are: September 20, October 4 and 18, November 1, 15 and 29. Selling of miscellaneous items will begin at 11 a.m. Selling of livestock begins at 1 p.m.

Local Community Fairs and Exhibitions

Do not forget about the local community fairs and exhibitions being held in our region:

- New Ross Community Fair - August 15-16
- Dalhousie Community Fair - August 23
- Western Kings Fair, Tremont - August 30
- Hants Co. Exhibition, Windsor - September 12-14 and September 19-21
- Queens Co. Exhibition, Caledonia - September 16-20

Valley Region 4-H Activities and Announcements

- August 26: 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 8: Hants County Council Meeting 7 p.m., O'Brien Building Windsor
- September 12-14: Hants County 4-H Exhibition Days, Hants County Exhibition Grounds
- September 26-28: Provincial Show, Hants County Exhibition Grounds

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

September 12 - September 14

Hants County Exhibition preparation is well underway. All life skills articles will be judged on Thursday. They will be on display all week. The evening of Friday, September 12 the Dog and Draft Horse Classes will be held. On Saturday, September 13, beef, dairy, goat, light horse, waterfowl and poultry classes will be taking place along with a variety of competitions. On Sunday, September

14, 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, and beef, dairy and sheep clipping will be happening throughout the weekend.

Update of Mailing List

We are once again trying to update our mailing list. If you receive this newsletter and do not wish to receive it any longer or if your address is incorrect, please notify Cheryl Theriau by phone (902) 679-6021 or e-mail, ctheriau@gov.ns.ca. Thanks for your help in this task.

Provincial Show

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 26 – 28 at the Hants County Exhibition Grounds in Windsor. The show displays the top projects, articles, and livestock from each county in Nova Scotia. Some of the highlights of the weekend include tug-of-war, a fashion show, market lamb, market steer and market turkey auctions, the Grand Champion Showmanship Class and the parade of champions. Kings County is proud to host the 31st 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.

The 2008 Canadian Agri-Food Awards of Excellence

Canadian agriculture certainly has its champions and the Canadian Agri-Food Awards of Excellence is a great opportunity to recognize their efforts. There are six areas that are recognized: youth leadership; innovation in agriculture and agri-food; agri-food export; agricultural awareness and education; agricultural voluntarism and environmental stewardship.

For more information call 1-800-410-7104 or go to <http://www.agr.gc.ca/>.

Local County Exhibitions:

Cumberland County Exhibition
Oxford, August 26-30
Eastern Nova Scotia Exhibition
Antigonish, August 27-31
Pictou/North Colchester Exhibition
Pictou, September 3-6
Hants County Exhibition
Windsor, September 12-14
Nova Scotia 4-H Show
Windsor, September 26-28
Maritime Fall Fair
Halifax, October 10-19

AgriInvest and AgriStability Deadline Reminder

Reminder: September 30, 2008 is the deadline to submit AgriInvest and AgriStability program information for the 2007 program year.

To learn more, visit www.agr.gc.ca/agriinvest or call 1-866-367-8506.

Upcoming Events

Atlantic Sheep Sale Sponsored by PSBANS
Saturday, August 30, 2008 Truro NS:
28th Annual Sale of Breeding Stock,
for further information/catalogues
Rosamary Wort (902) 671-2410 or
herngatefarm@ns.sympatico.ca

Open Farm Day – Sunday, September 21

Sobeys is a major sponsor for this event and have provincial maps showing all the great destinations. Why not pick up a map and offer to help a farmer in your community with their visitors?

For additional details and information regarding the program you can contact Michael Kittilsen or Judy Grant (902) 893-6598
grantjd@gov.ns.ca

Upcoming Central Region 4-H activities

September 2 – Cumberland County 4-H council meeting

September 6 – Colchester Pro-Show member and parent information meeting 6 p.m. at 4-H barn in Truro

September 8 – Colchester County 4-H council meeting

September 9 – Halifax Regional Municipality, 4-H council meeting in Musquodoboit

September 26-28 – 4-H Provincial Show in Windsor

2008 Cape Breton Community Fairs

FAIR	DATE	CONTACT	PHONE
Mira Ferry	September 6	Gladys Lever Cheryl Macintyre Florence Macintyre	(902) 562-6310 (902) 562-2089 (902) 562-1056
Christmas Island	September 13	Kevin Mackenzie	(902) 622-2667
Port Morien	September 13	Margie Macqueen	(902) 737-2478
Baddeck	September 6	Wendell Macphee	(902) 295-2494

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.

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.

The Cape Breton Farmer's Market - Then and Now

Amy Melmock

The Cape Breton Farmers' Market has been in operation for nearly three decades. It began as an organization that was committed to bringing the products grown by regional agricultural producers to the public. This focus continues to the present day. The market has operated at a number of venues in downtown Sydney, including the George Street seasonal outdoor market and at the CBRM Round Room, where the market evolved into a full-time year-round market. In 2004, the market moved to the Marine Terminal Building in downtown Sydney. At this location, the number of vendors and customers at the market increased substantially.

In June 2008, the market relocated to its current location at a former food warehouse on Keltic Drive in Sydney. The move required the CBFM to complete a series of leasehold upgrades to its current

6,000 square foot location. These upgrades were supported by three levels of public sector funding. They included the installation of hand washing facilities and electrical outlets at each vendor station to support food safety and food storage requirements. They also included the addition of a provincially inspected kitchen at the site, and the development of public washroom facilities.

During the past month, a record number of customers have been attracted to the new site, which has the capacity to support approximately 32 vendors. The CBFM currently brings together the products and services of 28-30 year-round and seasonal vendors. Visitation to the market is expected to fluctuate between upwards of 1,200 visitors per week during the peak summer and autumn seasons to approximately 600 visitors per week during the winter and spring seasons.

Primary producers currently constitute about one-third of the market's membership, while secondary agricultural producers and crafts people make up the balance of vendors. Vendors come from throughout Cape Breton. They form an integral link between urban and rural constituents of the Island.

Fridays 3-7 p.m. and Saturdays 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., year round.
340 Keltic Drive, diagonally opposite Coxheath Road on the former site of W. A. MacLeod Wholesale in Sydney River.

For more information on the Cape Breton Farmers' Market and how you may get involved contact Charles MacDonald 902-564-2080 or visit their website at: <http://www.capebretonfarmersmarket.com/>

Welcome to 4-H in Cape Breton

Cape Breton region is proud to have over 600 members, leaders and many volunteers that help out with this hands on program. 4-H in Cape Breton is a family affair, where being part of a club you work together to complete project work, community services and many other

skills. Cape Breton Regional 4-H offers many interesting extras like Junior Member Workshops; livestock and life skills clinics; regional and county rallies and of course is the home of 4-H Camp Rankin, in Richmond County. Members learn to work independently and together



to grow into responsible, mature leaders by just participating in the 4-H program.

A Bit About the Regional Program

Cape Breton County is home to the oldest continuous 4-H club in Canada, the Grand Mira 4-H club. This county's program offers a variety of projects, especially homemaking projects, but also many different livestock projects. All the clubs welcome new membership and are strong supporters of the local as well as provincial program. This county hosted the Junior Member Workshop, regional horse clinic and rabbit clinic this year. Local clubs and general leaders found in Cape Breton County are:

Arm of Gold – Carol MacDonald
Bayside – Verna Johnson
Grand Mira – Barbara MacKinnon
Northside – Ruth MacNeil
Rising Sun – Bev Kirk
Twin Lighthouse – Joan Leroy

Inverness County has Cape Breton's largest club this year, Port Hood Island View club and is also the county with the largest number of members. It is our biggest county for livestock projects, mainly dairy, beef, horse and poultry. This county hosted the Junior Member Workshop this year. General leader contacts include:

4-H Lakers – Natasha MacDonald
Brook Village – Mary MacPhee and Janine Wilson
Green Point – Darlene Rankin and Clare MacEachern
Margaree – Ruthanne Hart
Port Hood Island View – Joanne Schmidt

South West Mabou – Carol Van den Hoogen

In Richmond County, there is a strong 4-H leader base in the three clubs. These clubs are strong supporters of their community and 4-H programs. This county plays an important role in taking care of the provincial 4-H camp. Richmond County 4-H is always looking for more parent volunteers and members. You are encouraged to contact your local 4-H office or the below clubs if you would like to join.

County Line – Adrienne Smith
Lakeside – Stewart Carter
River Bourgeois – Lorraine Gates

Victoria County has only one club, but what they lack in numbers they make up for in community spirit.

They hold the biggest poultry membership in the region and host the Regional Public Speaking and Demonstration Rally every year. This county also hosted the regional first aid workshop held at the Alexander Graham Bell Historic Site. This club works closely with Victoria County fair which is the longest running fair in Cape Breton history. Please feel free to contact the club if you are interested in joining their 4-H family.

Baddeck Valley 4-H Club – Nelson Peterson

Fall registration for new membership starts in October and November in many counties, so contact your local 4-H office for detailed contact information on a club near you.

Close Up Look at What's New this Year

Scrap Booking Competition

A scrap booking competition has been added to the Provincial Show schedule for 2008 and Hants County will volunteer to be responsible for the competition in 2008. The scrap booking competition will run similar to the crafts competition. Members are only responsible for bringing straight scissors, all other necessary supplies will be provided. Items will be judged on the final article only (no score sheet). The competition

will run for one hour per junior and senior and theme will be one junior and one senior entry per county.

4-H Resource Material

The new resource list of materials is coming around with development of a new Foods Leader Manual and/or CD option. This will also include an activity guide and recipe book which will be formatted and print ready for

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membership in 2008/09. Communications and Resource Coordinator, Cheryl Chandler is also looking at future 4-H manuals for the province including updated outdoorsman, sheep, photography, woodworking and brand new a scrap booking leaders guide. Keeping members and leaders current in project information is one of the many goals of provincial staff.

Upcoming Food Handler Courses

There are several dates for food safety courses that become available to 4-H leaders, parents and members. You are encouraged to take advantage of these programs when they become accessible to you, since food preparation and handling is a big part of meetings and events. Here are some course dates for the future.

September 1	Marconi Campus
October 8	Marconi Campus
November 12	Marconi Campus
December 10	Marconi Campus

You must pre- register for these courses in order to attend. Call Catherine at Department of Agriculture in Sydney at (902) 563-2000. Registration forms are available at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/pdfs/foodhandlersyd.pdf>

Poultry Clinic

All poultry project members and leaders are invited to attend a regional poultry workshop to be held at Victoria County's show on September 6 at Baddeck Forks Hall. Members can learn about caring for poultry as well as showmanship and judging tips. The workshop instructor is Wilfred MacLean from the Sydney area. He has been a long time supporter of the industry, 4-H and agri-awareness in our local schools. Please register at your local 4-H office.

Provincial Show 2008

The 4-H Provincial Show will occur on September 26 to 28 at the Windsor exhibition grounds. A reminder to general leaders that if you cannot bring your club projects to the show, please inform the 4-H office by September 10 in order to find a substitute or by September 17 to scratch. Life skills projects must be in by no later than 5:30 p.m. on Friday, September 26 and the livestock projects must be on the

grounds by 8:30 p.m. This weekend will be filled with the project judging, member judging competitions, tug-o-war, a mud stomp dance and livestock auctions. Remember, the theme for this year is "4-H 2008 : A Step to the Future." We encourage counties to celebrate our rich 4-H background with our communities. Come out and see the excitement that 4-H members, leaders and families have to offer.

Nova Scotia 4-H Clubs Celebrate National 4-H Month

Capture the 4-H spirit this November as 4-H members, volunteer leaders and supporters celebrate National 4-H Month across Canada. The month-long celebration provides an opportunity to showcase the many benefits of the 4-H program, which continues to help thousands of youth in Nova Scotia reach their full potential. 4-H has been bringing leadership and development programs to Nova Scotia's rural young people since 1922 when the first 4-H club began in Heatherton, Antigonish County as a young Boy's and Girl's Club. This 4-H club was an Ayrshire heifer and swine club comprised of fourteen members. Since its early beginnings, the 4-H program has evolved to offer leadership training, public speaking, technical and life skills to youth from 9-21 years of age.

And we have so much to celebrate! In a national survey conducted by the Canadian 4-H Council and Ispos-Reid, 4-H Alumni across Canada were polled for their attitudes towards the 4-H program and the impact on them. The results strongly indicated that the 4-H program has helped and continues to help, develop youth across Canada. Seventy eight percent felt the knowledge and skills gained in 4-H to continue to benefit them in their adult years. Sixty-nine percent said parents and families benefit from their children's membership in 4-H. The kick-off date is November 5, 2008 and will be the first Wednesday of November each year. Show your support for 4-H families by wearing green on November 5th.

Upcoming Events

Here are some important dates to add to your calendar

- Inverness County Show – August 21 -23, at Brook Village Community Hall
- Cape Breton County Council Meeting – September 7 at 7 p.m., Community Room
- Record Keeping Competition – contact 4-H offices for county deadlines
- Royal Classic Dairy Chaperone Application – September 1
- Victoria County Days 4-H Day/ Council Mtg. – September 6 at Baddeck Forks Hall
- Poultry Workshop – September 6 at Baddeck Forks Hall
- Pro-Show Substitution – September 10, 4-H offices
- Pro-Show Scratch – September 17, 12 p.m., 4-H offices
- Richmond Council – September 10, Landry’s
- Inverness Co. Banquet, Church Service and Registration – October 19
- “Tentative” Homemaking Workshop – October 25
- Richmond Co. Banquet – October 26
- National 4-H Volunteer Leaders Conference – November 5-9, Toronto, Ontario
- National 4-H Members Conference – November 5-9, Toronto, Ontario
- Nova Scotia 4-H Council Annual Meeting – November 14-15, Truro
- Cape Breton County Annual Banquet – November 16 - hosted by Rising Sun 4-H Club

Please call the 4-H offices if you have any questions (902) 563-2001 or (902) 945-2901. If you would like to get involved with the 4-H program as a volunteer parent, member or leader, contact your local 4-H office in either Mabou or Sydney. Remember to check out our provincial website at www.gov.ns.ca/agri/4h