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Agriculture Services

NEWSLETTER



October 2008

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

Volume 9 No. 4

Toll-Free Number for Farmers to Get Hay, Forage

1-866-606-4636

Nova Scotia farmers are now able to get hay and other forage for their livestock from farmers who have extra through a toll-free telephone number.

“Many farmers have been affected by poor weather this year and do not have enough feed for their livestock for the coming winter,” said Brooke Taylor, Minister of Agriculture. “AgraPoint will maintain a list of farmers with available hay and forage, and put them in touch with other farmers who need it through this toll-free number.”

The number, 1-866-606-4636, is operated by AgraPoint International Inc. from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Farmers can leave messages after hours and AgraPoint staff will respond the next business day. Farmers with extra forage can also provide their information by e-mail by sending it to r.hutchinson@agrapoint. Any changes in the listing will be posted on www.extensioncentral.com by 10 a.m. each morning, Monday to Friday.

Contact information, location and details about the hay and forage available are also posted online at www.extensioncentral.com.

“We understand that many livestock farmers are facing a difficult situation and we want to help them make it through these difficulties,”

said Mr. Taylor. “AgraPoint specialists can also discuss feeding and cropping options with producers as they manage these challenges.”

Program to Help Cape Breton Farmers

Cape Breton farmers affected by excessive amounts of rain this summer can apply for higher interim payments through the AgriStability program, Agriculture Minister Brooke Taylor announced on Sept. 25.

AgriStability, one of the new business risk-management programs for farmers, provides support after large income losses. The program is part of the five-year Growing Forward agreement signed by federal, provincial and territorial agriculture ministers in July.

“We recommended an increase in interim payments to 75 per cent, up from 50 per cent, under AgriStability, to help these farmers who have experienced extraordinary wet weather conditions this year,” said Mr. Taylor. “I am pleased with how quickly federal and provincial officials met with the Cape Breton farmers to discuss the situation and to provide this assistance.”

After evaluating the affected farms earlier this month, provincial and federal agriculture officials agree

that federal-provincial programs will assist with the cash flow needed to cover the loss of crops caused by the weather conditions.

AgriStability is available to all Canadian farmers, but those in Cape Breton are able to access a larger interim payment.

“I want to encourage the Cape Breton farmers who are enrolled in AgriStability to submit their applications for interim payments as soon as possible,” said Mr. Taylor. “These payments will then be processed in a timely manner.”

Producers enrolled in AgriInsurance, also known as Production Insurance, could have a significant portion of their crop losses covered through this program. They should contact the Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock and Insurance Commission staff if they have questions or to initiate a claim. AgriInsurance is also part of Growing Forward.

Growing Forward programs are cost shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially.

Nova Scotia Crop & Livestock Insurance Commission Production Insurance

2008 Application Deadlines

Raspberries - October 31
Strawberries - November 14
Blueberries - November 14
Tree Fruit - November 30

For more information on this or any of the other insurance plans contact us at: 1-800-565-6371, Truro or 1-902-679-6015/6028, Kentville.

Canada

NOVA SCOTIA

Important Rural Agriculture Business Receives Government Investment

A rural poultry processing plant that has been supporting the growth of Nova Scotia's agricultural industry for the past 65 years, will receive an investment from the province of Nova Scotia for working capital.

A \$3.5-million loan for ACA Co-operative Ltd. in New Minas, through the Department of Economic Development's Industrial Expansion Fund, will help the company maintain 650 jobs with an annual payroll that exceeds \$25 million annually. ACA also creates almost as many spin-off jobs.

"This sole poultry processor for Nova Scotia has grown significantly over the years and continues to seek and develop new markets for its quality products," said Economic Development Minister Angus MacIsaac. "This investment further demonstrates the province's commitment to supporting economic growth in rural areas of the province and maintaining important jobs."

Since 1943, ACA Co-operative Ltd. has grown to include seven divisions including eggs, feed, hatchery, poultry, retail farm equipment and processing. The company operates a processing poultry meat operation, breeder barns for producing selected genetic broiler chicken crosses, chick hatchery, feed mill, table egg division

and grading facility, a retail division for farm furnace and diesel fuel, farm equipment division, and an outlet store.

"ACA is an integral part of Nova Scotia's agricultural industry, which generates about \$450 million in the province," said acting Agriculture Minister, Ron Chisholm. "Along with chicken, it processes nearly all of the turkeys available in Nova Scotia and 25 per cent of our eggs, offering people the opportunity to buy local food products."

The company's major customers include Sobeys, Co-op Atlantic, Sysco Food Service and commodity markets in Ontario and Quebec. Its annual sales exceed \$110 million.

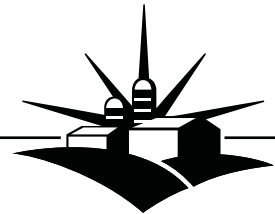
"We take great pride in producing top-quality products for our customers and playing an important role in our industry," said Sue Payne, chief executive officer of ACA Co-operative Ltd. "With this investment, we will continue to contribute to the industry and support our community."

The Industrial Expansion Fund is one method used by the government of Nova Scotia to support economic development in the province. The Industrial Expansion Fund has considerable flexibility in the amount and type of funding it can provide.

Has Your Address Changed?

Canada Post plans to eliminate rural route mailing addresses across the province by 2009. We would greatly appreciate receiving your change of address, so that we can update our mailing lists. This will help insure that you continue to receive this newsletter and other information from your Regional Agriculture office.

Please notify your Regional Agriculture office of your new civic address.



Get Direction! Canadian Farm Business Management Council

Looking for new opportunities to bring more value to your farm business? Attend a two-day Value Plus™ – A Quest for New Farm Value workshop and you will be headed in the right direction. You will take your value-added idea and follow it from conception through the development process to finding a specific niche in the marketplace.

Join us on February 17/18 in Truro, NS. Space is limited. Book your seat today. For more information and to register, go to www.farmcentre.com/workshops. If you are unable to register via our web site, please call 1-866-492-1172.

Programs and Business Risk Management Division

AgriInvest and AgriStability Deadline Reminder for 2007

The September 30, 2008 deadline to submit 2007 AgriInvest and/or AgriStability application(s) has passed. If you missed this 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.

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/ or contact the AgriStability or AgriInvest administration toll free at 1-866-367-8506.

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 pay the fee 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 must request a New Participant package before December 31, 2008. To request an AgriStability new participants package or for more information, visit the AgriStability web site at www.agr.gc.ca/AgriStability or call AgriStability toll free at 1-866-367-8506.

AgriStability 2008 Interim Applications Are Available

The Interim Application is available for producers who would like to apply for the 2008 program year assistance earlier than normally available. As a program participant, you cannot receive your full 2008 AgriStability payment until your 2008 program year is complete. By using the Interim Application, you can estimate your 2008 income and

expenses and receive a portion of this payment early. The deadline to apply for the interim is March 31, 2009.

To request an interim package, please contact AgriStability at 1-866-367-8506 or visit the web site at www.agr.gc.ca/AgriStability.

AgriInvest 2007

Details regarding the AgriInvest program for 2007 will be communicated to producers late this fall. If you selected to deposit your AgriInvest Kickstart payment into the federal account you have the option to withdraw this money at anytime by calling the AgriInvest Administration at 1-866-367-4276.

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

Programs Update

The Farm Investment Fund (FIF) is still accepting applications, with nearly 600 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 will help you finance multiple approved projects. There is no limit to the amount of claims you may submit.

The Agri-Food Industry Development Fund (AFIDF)

Applications are still being accepted for categories A through E with 78 applications to date. These include applications to the Specified Risk Material (SRM) Handling category and the Strategic Infrastructure Investment Fund (SIIF) category.

Orchard and Vineyard Transition Program (OVTP)

There has been good uptake of the OVTP program, with 98 applications received to date for the 2007-08 and 2008-09 program years. Applicants plan to remove 875 acres. Claiming can occur when plant material (stems, branches, and roots) are removed from site and destroyed. There is no limit to the number of claims you may submit.

To initiate the claiming process, send in your claim form that accompanied your Letter of Agreement. When the claim form is received, it will trigger a post inspection. Payment will follow shortly after verifying the

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completion of the project. The OVTP Program is scheduled to continue until 2011, as budget permits.

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

The Atlantic Pasture Advantage Conference

A conference on the use of pastures in livestock systems to reduce feed, fuel, fertilizer and a tour of current research at the Center for the Advancement of Pastures is being held October 24–25 at the NSAC. This two-day event will consist of a showcase of current research initiatives in pasture research at the NSAC Center for the Advancement of Pastures (October 24), as well as a conference featuring speakers on the Best Pasture Management Practices for Atlantic Canada (October 25). The conference and tour is a joint effort funded by the Sheep Producers' Association of Nova Scotia, the NSAC (with assistance from the Greencover Canada Technical Assistance Program), and in concert with the Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia, Soil & Crop Improvement Association of Nova Scotia and AgraPoint. It aims to promote strategies to improve pasture availability and quality throughout an extended grazing season. Information on speakers, itinerary and registration will follow soon. Please check www.extensioncentral.com for more details.

Open Farm Day in Nova Scotia – Why Do It?

The Nova Scotia Agricultural Awareness Committee was pleased to present the seventh annual Open Farm Day in Nova Scotia on September 21, 2008.

Open Farm Day is an Atlantic wide event which has grown since its beginning in 2001. In Nova Scotia, the number of farms participating was up from 40 in 2007 to 50 farms province wide in 2008 – the most of any of the Atlantic provinces.

The weather cooperated with a clear and crisp fall day. Nova Scotians came out in record numbers to visit the farms. One family reported that they visited seven different farms and enjoyed a different experience at each one.

The Nova Scotia Agricultural Awareness Committee would like to thank the sponsors - Sobeys, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, and especially the farmers and their families who were

so generous with their time and energy for this event.

The variety of farms participating in the program is what gives Open Farm Day its broad appeal. We are always looking for more farms to participate. Farms can join in by looking for the application form in Farm Focus (spring) or on the Agricultural Awareness web site www.gov.ns.ca/agri/agaware/ or by contacting: Judy Grant (902) 893-6598, grantjd@gov.ns.ca

So why do it? For the producers that are involved in direct marketing, the answer is obvious. For the others, it provides an opportunity to do your part in supporting the ground swell of “buy local” interest from the public. It opens your farm gate to your community and beyond. It helps build support for agriculture in Nova Scotia. Farmers tell us that, although it takes some extra work in preparation, it turns out to be a very rewarding day for all.

Stepping Up – Planning for the Challenges of Invasive Alien Species in Nova Scotia Workshop

December 3 and 4, Wolfville, NS

The impacts of invasive plants in Canada are extensive and well known. They pose direct agricultural, environmental and social costs from lost production values, higher management costs, reduced environmental and amenity values. It is estimated that invasive alien species cost the Canadian agricultural community \$2.2 billion each year. They have intense environmental impacts and are directly responsible for the decline of 44 species at risk in Canada. They can also seriously affect human health.

Invasive Weed Councils are stepping up across the country to address this issue. Councils exist in the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and are coming soon to Nova Scotia. The Nova Scotia Invasive Species Working Group is hosting a two-day workshop on December 3 and 4 at the K.C. Irving Environmental Centre, Acadia University. Called “Stepping Up-Planning for the Challenges of Invasive Alien Species in Nova Scotia”, it is designed to inform, engage, and coordinate stakeholders in addressing the issues of invasive alien species in the province.

Public Seminar

Preserving Agricultural Lands: Tools for Success

Learning About Land Trusts for Kings County

Land Trusts Seminar November 17, at the Old Orchard Inn, Greenwich, NS

The Kings County Federation of Agriculture, in partnership with the Municipality of County of Kings, the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations and the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, is hosting a one-day session on the option of using land trusts to preserve agricultural lands.

Preserving Agricultural Lands: Tools for Success (Learning About Land Trusts for Kings County) is intended to begin a discussion on the variety of land trusts available, and have an in-depth overview of the specifics required to establish a

successful land trust that will provide some financial incentive for farmers to keep land in agriculture as part of a broader strategy on sustainable land use planning. Speakers include Wayne Caldwell of the University of Guelph; Richard Hubbards from the Franklin Land Trust in Massachusetts; and Melissa Watkins from the Ontario Farmland Trust. Registration is \$25 (incl. HST) and lunch is provided. The session runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information or to register contact the Kings County Federation (902) 670-3277 or kcfa@live.com or visit www.extensioncentral.com. Register by November 7, 2008. Pre-registration is required.

Livestock/Poultry Industry Seminar and Q and A



As part the Atlantic Poultry Conference 2009 taking place this coming February, a special session with Dr. Temple Grandin of Colorado State University has been added as a pre-conference event. As seating will be limited, this session is only open to livestock/poultry industry personnel and stakeholders. The session will take place at 2 p.m., Wednesday, February 18, at the Old Orchard Inn in Greenwich, NS. Dr. Grandin is recognized worldwide for her work on livestock handling facility design. In North America, half the cattle are handled in these systems. Other work has included research on cattle temperament, environmental enrichment for pigs, reducing dark cutters and bruises, bull fertility and effective stunning methods for cattle and pigs in meat plants. She is an animal welfare consultant for a number of fast food firms. Dr. Grandin has authored 300 or more publications, including a number of books on livestock handling and autism and her accomplishments have been recognized globally through media: ABC's PrimeTime Live; Today Show; Larry King Live; 48 Hours; 20/20; Time and People magazines; Forbes; US News and World Report, etc. A number of Dr Temple Grandin's books will be available for purchase. The registration fee is \$15/person if you are not registered for APC. If you are registered for APC, admission to the companion session is free. For more information visit www.atlanticpoultryconference.com or contact Lynn Cox at (902) 893-6657.

Plugging into energy solutions on the farm

An Atlantic conference is being organized for farmers looking to become players in alternate energy production, or who just want to reduce their own energy costs by producing and conserving some of it on the farm.

The Energy Solutions for our Farms and Communities conference, being held on November 18 and 19 in Moncton, will showcase the latest energy technology and energy solutions best suited to Atlantic Canadian agriculture.

The program will feature experts in the field, on-farm energy success stories, presentations, workshops and information on how farmers can access government support programs.

The four Atlantic Federations of

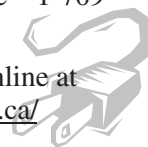
Agriculture are the organizers of the conference. They believe there are real opportunities to generate energy on the farm that can benefit both the agriculture industry and local communities in Atlantic Canada.

For more information, call 1- 877-666-7117 toll free or contact your provincial federation.

Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick – 1-506-452-8101
Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture – 1-902-893-2293

Prince Edward Island Federation of Agriculture – 1-902-368-7289
Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture – 1-709-747-1759

More details available online at www.atlanticfarmenergy.ca/



Making the Connection II: The Second Nova Scotia Food Security Gathering December 4 and 5, 2008

How does sustainable agriculture connect to climate change, obesity, vibrant rural and urban communities?

- How do we learn to cook with fresh, local ingredients again?
- What is the impact of fluctuating commodity and energy prices?
- How do we increase profitability for farmers and accessibility for eaters?
- How do citizens work together to create the food system we want?

To discuss these and other food questions, please join us for Making the Connection II: The Second Nova Scotia Food Security Gathering. It will be held December 4 and 5, 2008, at the Debert Hospitality Centre. It is presented by the Nova Scotia Food Security Network and the Living Earth Council. The Gathering will be an opportunity to network; learn about growing, cooking and marketing of food; share stories and collaborate on

solutions. It will feature Debbie Field (Executive Director of FoodShare.ca), Mary Beth Lind (Co-Author, Simply in Season cookbook) and a wide variety of workshops on Nova Scotia food security initiatives.

Registration forms and additional information available at www.nsfoodsecurity.org
For more information contact nsfoodsecurity@gmail.com

Government Invites Applications for Adjudicative Agencies, Boards and Commissions

In Nova Scotia, there are over 30 provincial adjudicative Agencies, Boards and Commissions (ABCs). These ABCs serve various roles and diverse interests. Adjudicative boards have quasi-judicial functions; these boards take evidence, make findings of fact and law, and make decisions affecting a person's liberty, security, or legal rights. Board members need to apply legal principles as well as sound professional and technical principles for the decisions under their consideration.

Applicants should describe in their application/resume how they have demonstrated the following in their work, volunteer, or other life experiences.

- Respect for the essential dignity of all persons regardless of their circumstances and commitment to diversity and employment equity
- Ability to apply a broad perspective on issues, and work with a team to listen to others, constructively solve problems,

make objective and fair decisions, and reach consensus in a timely manner

- Ability to deal professionally with confidential and sensitive information
- Ability to communicate effectively and write clear and concise board reports
- Peer/community recognition of high ethical standards and integrity in professional and personal interactions

Preference will be given to applicants with previous involvement/experience in matters related to the respective board's function. In addition to the above noted criteria, any head or chair of an adjudicative board should have a proven ability, preferably as a board or meeting chairperson, in leading groups to constructively solve problems and bring about fair and consensus-based decisions.

The following positions are available:

Agriculture

- Farm Practices Board (1) Member
- Natural Products Marketing Council (2), 1 Chair, 1 Member

If you are interested in making a valuable contribution to the province, please submit the Adjudicative ABC application form or a covering letter and resume clearly outlining your qualifications and relevant experience to:

Executive Council Office

One Government Place, 6th Floor,
1700 Granville Street
PO Box 2125, Halifax, NS B3J 3B7
Fax: (902) 424-0667

Email: execounc@gov.ns.ca

All applications will be kept on file for 2 years.

Closing Date: November 10, 2008

For further information about each board, position and an application form, visit Executive Council website at www.gov.ns.ca/exec_council or contact us by telephone at 902-424-4877 or toll free 1-866-206-6844.

REACT 2008

Rural Energy Action Conference and Trade Show

Friday, November 7 and Saturday, November 8,
at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre

REACT 2008 looks at the themes of energy conservation, renewable energy and rural sustainability from an agricultural perspective.

The multi-faceted event appeals to a wide range of audience members – from business owners, to municipal and community leaders, youth and members of the general public. Farm producers who attend REACT 2008 will be introduced to individuals, organizations, and government departments that are at the forefront of change in the areas of:

- Renewable Energy Production
- Energy Conservation
- Emerging markets for new crop production related to the energy sector
- Programs that could assist farmers in transitioning operations to a less energy intensive format

The REACT 2008 Trade Show gives farm producers the opportunity to “touch and feel” new renewable technologies and to meet with the private sector companies that produce and market this equipment. The conference’s keynote speaker, Dr. Thomas Homer-Dixon, (www.homerdixon.com), is the award-winning author of *The Ingenuity Gap* and *The Upside of Down*. His presentation will focus on how a combination of global

forces is affecting economic stability, and how rural communities can prepare for change by focusing on rural sustainability. The Friday night keynote address will feature a three-course local food menu.

To register for REACT 2008 as a conference delegate or as a trade show presenter, visit the REACT 2008 web site at www.react2008.ca, or contact the REACT 2008 Project Office at (902) 625-5486. Registration discounts are available to Federation of Agriculture members.



REACT 2008 is hosted by the Inverness Victoria Federation of Agriculture. Partial funding for this project was provided by Service Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through Agri-Futures, Nova Scotia’s A.C.A.A.F. Council, Enterprise Cape Breton, the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, the Nova Scotia Department of Economic Development, the Nova Scotia Department of Energy, the Strait-Highlands RDA, AgraPoint, the Municipality of the County of Inverness, the Town of Port Hawkesbury, the Municipality of the District of Guysborough and the Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

Upcoming courses at NSAC through Continuing & Distance Education

On Campus Offerings

- Integrated Pest Management for Farmers (5PRCPs)
November 6
- Pesticide Applicator Certification Course
November 17-20
- Nutrient Management Planning Course
November 24-27

Off Campus

- NS Tractor Safety Certification
December 6-7
Van Oostrum's, Port Williams

For more information, or to register call (902) 893-6666 or visit our web site nsac.ca/cde



**Nova Scotia
Agricultural
College**

*Continuing &
Distance Education*

Your Agricultural Resource Coordinators

Acting Sr. Agricultural Resource Coord.:
Andrew Cameron – Truro
Tel: (902) 893-7314 | Fax: (902) 893-0244

Kings, West Hants, Lunenburg, & Queens counties:

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

Cumberland, Colchester, East Hants, & Halifax Regional Municipality:
Michael Kittilsen –
Tel: (902) 893-3645 | Fax: (902) 893-0244
kittilma@gov.ns.ca

Pictou, Antigonish & Guysborough counties:

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

Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness & Richmond counties:
Gary Koziel –
Tel: (902) 563-2000 | Fax: (902) 563-3435
kozielgj@gov.ns.ca

Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth, & Shelburne counties:

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



Nova Scotia 4-H Council Sponsors 4-H Members at International Events

With financial assistance from the Nova Scotia 4-H Council, two 4-H members will attend international 4-H events this fall.

Jamieson Ward from Annapolis County was one of three Atlantic delegates who attended the 54th National 4-H Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin, from September 28 - October 1. Each aspect of this program was designed to expand the 4-H member's understanding and appreciation of the dairy industry. Delegates participated in educational sessions at the University of Wisconsin Agricultural Campus, toured many interesting facilities such as Hoard's Registered Guernsey Farm, Hoard's Dairyman Magazine Publishing Co., National Dairy Shrine Museum and Nasco International. In all, 180 4-H members attended from across the US and Canada.

4-H delegates to the conference learned about production aspects, feeding, management, genetics, new concepts in dairy production, marketing and how to conduct hands-on dairy activities in their club. The highlight of the conference was attending the World Dairy Expo.

This November, Jesse Dowe from Cumberland County will represent Nova Scotia at the International 4-H Judging Seminar at the Canadian Western Agribition in Regina. Jesse won Reserve Champion in the Grand Champion Judging Competition at the Nova Scotia 4-H Show in September.

Jesse will be part of the three member 4-H Maritime team. The group will have training sessions on how the competition works, judging practice, competition and some free time to see the Agribition. Over the course of a couple of days the 4-H competitors in the judging

competition place a class of articles (such as cereals or grain) or livestock (from alpacas to beef) and give reasons on their placing. Judging serves to teach young people decision making, public speaking, and reasoning skills, as well as building their confidence.

Nova Scotia 4-H Members to Attend the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

Eighteen 4-H members will travel to Toronto to compete in two prestigious cattle shows at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto this November. Participants were selected at the Nova Scotia 4-H Show in September on the basis of the quality of their calf.

Nine 4-H dairy members will participate in the Royal Dairy Classic in November, where they will compete against 4-H members from across Canada. The Nova Scotia participants attending the 4-H dairy show are Bridget Wilson and Sarah MacDonell, Inverness County; Brianna Dillman and Andrew Eikelenboom, Halifax East Hants; Pat Thomson, Antigonish County; Luke MacLellan, Hants County; Nicole MacKenzie and the spare Nicole Lennerton from Colchester County. Neil Sargent, Inverness County, the winner of the Versteeg Memorial Award, will also be travelling to Toronto. This award is presented to a 4-H member based on a 50/50 split for the conformation of the calf and their showmanship ability.

The nine members who will represent Nova Scotia with their beef heifers at the Canadian Junior Beef Heifer Classic are Amanda Lowe, Inverness County; John Calvin Siddall, Cumberland County; Alex Parsons, Annapolis County; Randy Angenvine, Antigonish County; Cody Legge, Kings County; Emily Parsons, Annapolis County; Megan Robertson, Pictou County; and Jamie Fraser and Holly Morton from Colchester County.

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

4-H Member Wins Young Speakers for Agriculture Competition

4-H members had the opportunity to speak about their enthusiasm for agriculture at the provincial Young Speakers for Agriculture competition during the Nova Scotia 4-H Show in Windsor. Kaitlyn McAloney, Cumberland County, won the provincial competition and will represent Nova Scotia 4-H at the Canadian Young Speakers of Agriculture Competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in November 2008.



Kaitlyn's topic for her speech was Going Green: Environmental Efforts in Agriculture.

The winner of the provincial competition is sponsored by the Nova Scotia 4-H Council and must be 16–24 years of age as of the competition date to enter the national contest. During the competition each contestant gives a five to seven minute prepared speech on one of five selected topics and introduces and thanks another speaker.

Show Your 4-H Colours! and Celebrate National 4-H Month

Show Your 4-H Colours! All 4-H members, volunteer leaders, parents, family, supporters and alumni across Canada are encouraged to wear green on November 5 to celebrate National 4-H Month. 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 offers youth, from 9–21 years of age, over 40 different livestock and life skills projects from which they can choose to participate in. 4-H focuses on teaching technical, leadership, public speaking and sportsmanship skills to youth so that they become confident and responsible citizens - our future leaders! Originally the 4-H clubs consisted mainly of farm children and livestock projects. Today the 4-H program still has an agriculture base but prides itself with moving with the times, developing projects to meet the needs of modern youth.

Along with learning responsibility, technical and record keeping skills,

youth take pride in doing their best, making decisions and seeing projects through to completion. 4-H members grow up with confidence in their own skills and talents, and the caring and sharing of community spirit. They also have the opportunity to travel on national, and international exchange programs, participate in cutting-edge provincial and national conferences, as well as, apply for more than \$100,000 in national scholarships.

So this November 5 celebrate all the good things that 4-H is about –

Checkout the contest on www.4-H-Canada.ca from mid October to mid November. 4-H members have the opportunity to show their 4-H colours by submitting creative stories, photos or videos to tell people how they are celebrating National 4-H Month.

Download the countdown widget to your web page at www.4-H-Canada/colours.ca

On November 5, wear green and Show Your 4-H Colours!!!

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Annapolis County Federation Livestock Sales

Cattle sales at the Lawrencetown Exhibition Grounds will be held on the following dates this fall: October 18, November 1, 15, 29. Selling of miscellaneous items will begin at 11 a.m. Selling of livestock begins at 1 p.m. Auctioneer will be Dean Manning.

Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture Cattle Sale

Lunenburg Queen's Federation of Agriculture cattle sale will be held on Saturday, October 25 at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds. Sale begins at 12:30. Dean Manning will be the auctioneer. Contact Peter Morine, Tom Frail or Wayne Silver for booking your cattle.

County Federation of Agriculture Annual General Meetings

Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture will hold their annual general meeting on Thursday, November 6 in the Cornwallis Room, Agricultural Centre, Kentville at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Lunenburg Queen's Federation of Agriculture will hold their annual general meeting on Thursday, November 6 at the Wandlyn in Bridgewater at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

2008 Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture Board Members

- Peter Morine, President, (902) 543-3011
- Wayne Silver, (902) 644-3889
- Georgina Veinot, Vice President, (902) 685-2699
- Dave Moore, (902) 483-7016
- Kim Moore, Secretary/Treasurer (902) 527-5236
- Stephen Faulkenham, (902) 685-2301
- John Vissers, (902) 543-8898
- Jim Crooker, (902) 682-2211
- Kevin Woodworth, (902) 644-3315
- Duane Crouse, (902) 685-3819
- Wayne Slauenwhite, (902) 644-2384
- Lynn Colp, (902) 685-3851

Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture Fall Social

Fall social will be held on Friday, November 1 at the Pleasantville Hall. Cost for this roast beef dinner is adults: \$12; children 5–12 years: \$6. Entertainment for the evening is Charlie Purcell. Contact Georgina Veinot or any of the board members to purchase tickets in advance.

Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture Dinner and Dance

The Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture will be holding their fall dinner and dance on November 15, at the Waterville Fire Hall. For more information and tickets, please call Ella Taylor at (902) 678-4043.

Kings Co. Farm and Rural Women

The Kings Co. Farm and Rural Women Committee is looking for new committee members. If you are interested in participating in this worthwhile committee, please contact Eleanor Tree, (902) 538-3379 or Ann Palmeter, (902) 542-3204.

Valley Region 4-H News

The 2008 Provincial 4-H show was held at the Windsor Exhibition grounds and was hosted by Kings County. Over 2,400 4-H members from across Nova Scotia gathered to showcase and compete with their 4-H projects.

A sincere thanks to all leaders, parents, members and friends of the 4-H program for volunteering their time to make sure that this event was such a huge success.

See next page for Show Results

Champion and Reserve Champion Results from the Provincial Show

Kings County

Reserve Champion 6 Showroom
Class Rabbit – Keegan Hiltz

Reserve Champion Market Lamb
– Sophie Brydon

Champion Dog Handling
– Andrea Horsnell

Reserve Champion Novice Dog
Obedience – Brittany Maxner

Champion Draft Horse Driving
– Colby Joyce

Champion English Dressage
– Savannah Maxner

Reserve Champion English Hunter
Hack – Ryley Hamm

Reserve Champion Other Purebred
Dairy Breeds – Amber Keddy

Champion Replacement Beef Heifer
– Cody Legge

Champion Beef Calf
– Cody Legge

Reserve Champion Simmental
Heifer – Sarah Morse

Champion Dairy Goat
– Wayde Pitts

Champion Limousin Heifer
– Andrea Horsnell

Champion Dairy Judge
– Corey Charleton

Champion Poultry Judge
– Laura MacBride

Reserve Champion Waterfowl Judge
– Keegan Fiske

Champion Draft Horse Judge
– Kylynne Sheffield

Reserve Champion Sr. Food Article
– Rebecca Dimock

Reserve Champion Sr. Cake
Decorating – Megan Lamb

Reserve Champion Sr. Outdoorsmen
Project – Emma Forsyth

Reserve Champion Exploring 4-H
Project – Nicole Martin

Reserve Champion Vet Science
Project
– Macall Robinson

Champion Poultry Trio
– Macall Robinson

Reserve Champion Draft Horse
Showman – Wayde Pitts

Murray Parker Memorial (Beef)
– Cody Legge

Canadian Junior Beef Heifer Classic
– Cody Legge

Sheep Clipping Competition
– Melody Sanford and Brittany
Bryden

Hants County

Reserve Champion 4 Showroom
Class Rabbit – Hailey McCallum

Reserve Champion Dairy Showmen
– Luke MacLellan

Reserve Champion Draft Horse
Mane and Tail Braiding
– Marley Blanchard

Reserve Champion Draft Horse
Driving – Marley Blanchard

Reserve Champion Western Poles
– Jeremy Graham

Reserve Champion Limousin Heifer
– Lisa Parker

Reserve Champion Shorthorn Heifer
– Matt Lyons

Reserve Champion Hereford Calf
– Wyatt Oulton

Champion Sheep
– Lisa Parker

Reserve Champion Beef Judge
– Jason Withrow

Reserve Champion Goat Judge
– Lindsay Parker

Reserve Champion Poultry Judge
– Bailey Corkum

Reserve Champion Dog Judge
– Ella Lentz

Reserve Champion Cake Decorating
Judge – Jennie Pick

Reserve Champion Computer Judge
– Emma McKee

Reserve Champion Sr. Scrapbooking
Article – Ashley Clark

Reserve Champion Sr. Heritage
Project – Chantel O'Brien

Reserve Champion Jr. Outdoorsmen
Project – Myles Wilbur

Champion Waterfowl Pair
– Gavin Verge

Champion Poultry Showman
– Bailey Corkum

Reserve Grand Champion Livestock
Showmen – Bailey Corkum

Royal Dairy Classic
– Luke MacLellan

Reginald and Donald Scothorn Dairy
Clipping Comp. – Andrea Crowe
and Connie MacLellan

Champion Consolation Tug-of-War
Team – Hants

Atlantic Outstanding Young Farmers

It's time again to begin thinking of nominees for the Atlantic Region Outstanding Young Farmers award. It's a great opportunity to honor the up and coming farmers in the agriculture community. Anyone can nominate a young farmer or farm couple, provided the nominee meets

three basic requirements: they must be between the ages of 18 and 39, be farm operators and derive a minimum of two-thirds of their income from farming. For more information or to obtain nomination forms, go to: www.oyfatlantic.ca/

Tractor Safety Certification

The Nova Scotia Tractor Safety Certification Program will be held in various locations around the province. This course is targeted, but not limited to, youth aged 14-16. Topics such as safety, highway regulations, pre-operation checks, safe starts and stops, connecting and hauling various implements will be covered.

Any current tractor operator who holds a class 8 license or higher, and has at least 10 hours tractor driving experience is welcome to attend. At the end of the course, written and driving skills tests will be completed.

Participants who obtain 70 per cent on both the written and skills will receive a certificate of achievement from NSAC.

A special thanks to the Nova Scotia Farm Health and Safety Committee for partially covering tuition costs for the Tractor Safety Training Program!

Keep your eyes open for more information on the Tractor Certification course. Locations, time and cost will be available at a later date.

Local Federation Meetings

- Halifax East Hants, November 3, at 8 p.m., St. Bridget's Church Hall, Panel Discussion: N-VIRO: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly
- Cumberland, November 5, at 8 p.m., Nappan Pavilion
Speakers: Mike Horwich, NSDA, Maritime Slaughter inspection
Kathleen Johnson, NSDE, Wetland Legislation Alternative Energy (Speaker TBA) Cumberland's Federation meeting is open to all **Zone Three** cattle producers.
- NSFA, November 28 and 29, Glengarry Convention Centre, Truro

Other Events

Maritime Sheep Producer Conference, October 30 – November 1, Holiday Inn Express, Dieppe, New Brunswick. Contact Beth Barczyk at (506) 536-1177.

Sheep Producers Association of Nova Scotia (SPANS) annual meeting, November 22, Glengarry Convention Centre, Truro, NS. For more information Matthew Crouse, Phone: (902)639-1674

First Aid Training

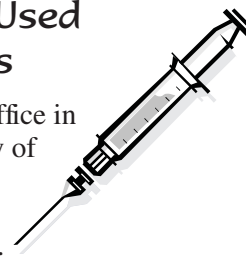
St. John Ambulance offers several first aid courses throughout the province. To obtain more information on first aid training, or to register for a course, visit their web site www.sja.ca/, or call toll free at 1-800-565-5056

Many courses are offered, designed to meet industry and business requirements. Emergency level first aid is a state-of-the-art, modular, course of basic first aid skills and other select subjects needed to sustain life and manage the scene of an injury. Emergency First Aid is recommended for work sites with 1-19 employees per shift.

Disposal of Used Farm Sharps

The Agriculture office in Truro has 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.



HortEast 2008, November 24–26, Cunard Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia. For more information you can call 1-866-383-4711 or visit www.horteast.ns.ca to register.

Maritime Beef and Pork Conference, December 4–6, Delta, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. For more information call (902)368-2229.

Upcoming 4-H events in the Central Region

October

Colchester County's annual scholarship auction and county banquet will be held on October 18 at 7 p.m., at the Bible Hill Junior High School. All proceeds will go to the county scholarship fund.

Cumberland County's annual banquet is being held on October 18 at 7 p.m., at the Lion's Den in Amherst.

Colchester County exhibition meeting – October 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Farm Loan Board boardroom
Halifax County will hold their annual banquet on October 23 at 7 p.m., in Musquodoboit.

Colchester County Council meeting – October 27 at 7 p.m. at the Farm Loan Board boardroom

November

Cumberland County Council meets on November 4 at 8 p.m. at the Shinimicas Fire Hall.

November 5–9, Nine 4-H members from across the province will travel to Toronto for the National 4-H Members conference.

Nova Scotia 4-H Council annual meeting will be held November 14-15 in Truro.

Colchester County Council meeting – November 24 at 7 p.m. at the Farm Loan Board boardroom.

December

Cumberland County Council meets on December 2 at 8 p.m., at the Shinimicas Fire Hall.

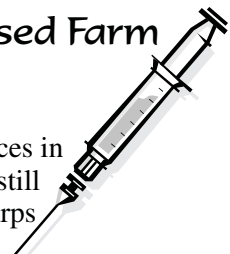
Attention: Recycling Used Pesticide Containers Here's What to Do:

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

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

The United Farmers Co-Op on Keltic Drive, in Sydney River, is now accepting properly cleaned pesticide containers for recycling. You can drop off containers at the Co-op Country Store for recycling, please see staff prior to dropping off containers. No five gallon buckets or plastic bags accepted.

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 information contact (902) 563-2000.

Event Reminders:

Small Acreage Wild Blueberry Management Workshop

Where: Skye Glen Community Hall, Skye Glen

When: Saturday, December 13, 2008 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

What: A workshop that aims to empower the small acreage blueberry grower to manage their land using size appropriate equipment and efficient techniques. This workshop will focus on growers with less than 30 acres of blueberries.

Pre-Registration is required. Please contact the Agriculture office at (902) 563-2000 to register or for more information. A small fee will be charged to cover the cost of lunch.

Transition Cow Session in Cape Breton

Where: Dellside Farm, at 9988 Route 19, Port Hood, Cape Breton.

When: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

What: This presentation/hands-on session will focus on creating improved nutrition outcomes for cows during the weeks leading up to calving and evaluate the condition and health of the transition cow. The session will provide valuable information on what to look for and be aware of during the transition period. Recommendations will be given on what to feed and the impact on lactation depending how the transition cow is managed. Please confirm your attendance by e-mailing Amy Melmock in our Port Hawkesbury office at (902) 625-1140 by Friday, October 17.

Calling all Farmers' Markets...

Where: Baddeck

When: Tuesday, October 21 (evening)

What: Brent Warner, executive director of Farmers' Markets Canada, partner in White Loaf Ridge Management Company (North American Farm Direct Marketing Association conference organizer), Canadian Farm Business Management Council Marketing Caravan speaker, and recently retired from the BC Ministry of Agriculture (direct marketing and agri-tourism) is coming to Nova Scotia! He will be giving a short presentation and answering questions on opportunities for direct marketing and how to maximize sales and profitability at farmers' markets - e.g. displays, techniques, product, value adding, promotion, sales techniques. Contact: Amy Melmock. a.melmock@agrapoint.ca or (902) 625-1140.

4-H Fall Update 2008

4-H: Provincial Success for Cape Breton Region 4-H!

4-H members from across the province attended the Nova Scotia 4-H Show September 26 - 28, 2008 at the Hants County Exhibition Grounds in Windsor. The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is an excellent venue to see 4-H in action where

young people compete in all the exhibition classes.

The program included dairy and beef selections for the Royal Winter Fair, tug of war, a fashion show, dog obedience and handling, the Young Speakers for Agriculture competition, livestock classes and auctions, life skills competitions and

a special guest performance at the opening ceremonies by JD Clarke, a talented local country singer.

Cape Breton region showed their spirit and skill in both livestock and non-livestock events.

Pro- Show results for the region were as follows:

Cape Breton Regional Results – 2008

Champion Dairy Showman –
Bridget Wilson, Inverness
Champion Western Reining –
Jennifer Murphy, Richmond
Champion Western Trail –
Jennifer Murphy, Richmond
Reserve Champion Western Trail –
Anna VanZutphen, Inverness
Champion Beef Judge –
Amanda Lowe, Inverness
Reserve Champion Light Horse
Judge – Rebecca Mackeigan,
Cape Breton
Champion Waterfowl Judge –
Lauren Morine, Richmond
Reserve Champion Sewing Judge –
Darcie Wilson, Inverness
Reserve Champion Crafts Judge –
Kathryn Ryan, Inverness
Reserve Champion Scrapbooking
Judge – Bridget Wilson,
Inverness
Champion Computer Judge –
Sarah Ernst, Cape Breton
Champion Senior Scrapbooking
Article – Bridget Wilson,
Inverness
Champion Jr. Garden Article –
Bryan Berk, Victoria
Reserve Champion Sr. Garden
Article – Bridget Wilson,
Inverness
Reserve Champion Jr. Floriculture
Project – Bryan Berk, Victoria
Reserve Champion Jr. Photography
Item – Hilary MacAoly,
Inverness

Reserve Champion Exploring 4-H
Project – Nicole Martin, Kings
Reserve Champion Jr. 1st Aid
Project – Allison MacDonald-
Campbell, Cape Breton
Champion Sr. First-Aid Project –
Crystal Siddall, Cumberland
Reserve Champion Jr. Welding
Project – Jory MacDonald, Cape
Breton
Champion Jr. Computer Project –
Dyllan MacMullan, Cape Breton
Champion Sr. Computer Project –
Sarah Ernst, Cape Breton
Reserve Champion Jr. 4-H Showcase
– Logan Rankin, Inverness
Reserve Champion Poultry Trio –
Steven Maufort, Victoria
Champion Beef Showman –
Amanda Lowe, Inverness
Reserve Champion Waterfowl
Showman – Lauren Morine,
Richmond
Champion Overall Judge –
Bridget Wilson, Inverness
Vegetable Preparation Competition
Junior – 2nd place: Iain Gillies,
Inverness
Vegetable Preparation Competition
Senior – 1st place: Bridget
Wilson, Inverness
Fashion Show Competition Junior –
1st place: Emma Simpson, Cape
Breton
Fashion Show Competition Senior –
1st place - Emma Ferguson,
Richmond

Cake Decorating Competition Junior
– 2nd place: Amber Lovell,
Cape Breton
Craft Competition Junior – 2nd
place: Emily VanderHoogen,
Inverness
Wool Competition Senior – 2nd
place: Kathryn Ryan, Inverness
Photography Competition Junior –
2nd place: Maria VanZutphen,
Inverness
Small Engines Article Junior – 1st
place: Bruce Sutherland,
Inverness
Canadian Junior Beef Heifer Classic
– 9th place: Amanda Lowe,
Inverness
Versteeg Memorial Dairy Award –
Neil Sargent, Inverness
Royal Dairy Classic
– 1st place: Bridget Wilson,
Inverness (Champ Showman)
– 2nd place: Neil Sargent,
Inverness
– 7th place: Sarah MacDonell,
Inverness
Oulton Fuels Beef Clipping
Competition, 1st place team:
Amanda Lowe, Becky Lowe,
Inverness
Top Livestock Display – Inverness
County, Inverness
Wonderful representation of the
Island's 4-H program. Well done
everyone!

Craft Workshop

4-H members will have the opportunity to participate in a craft workshop to be held on November 1, in Port Hawksbury. With spaces filling up quickly, members, leaders and friends of 4-H are encouraged to register early. Workshops offered include various crafting selections. Craft items made at this event can be used to count towards their project completion. Please contact the 4-H office for your registration form for the event.

National Members/Leaders Conference – Winners

Congratulations to our national award members and leader attending the national conferences being held at the beginning of November. Our regional winners will get an opportunity to attend the Royal Winter Fair and tour the Toronto and surrounding agricultural areas. Delegates attending are:

- Marlene Maufort, Victoria County
- Leah Gillis, Inverness County
- Carolyn Saunders, Cape Breton County

Dates to Keep in Mind:

October 19	Richmond County 4-H Sign-Up, Brookville
October 26	Richmond County, banquet, Camp Rankin, 5 p.m.
November	National 4-H Month
November 1	Craft Workshop
November 3	Richmond County Council meeting, 7 p.m., Iris MacLean's
November 4	Cape Breton New Leader Training Session, 6 p.m., Civic Center
November 4	Cape Breton Co. meeting, 7 p.m. at Civic Centre
November 12	Inverness 4-H Council meeting, 4-H office
November 15	Deadline: National Members Awards
November 16	Cape Breton annual meeting and banquet
December 15	Deadline: Leaders Travel Award, Truro 4-H office

As the 4-H season winds down, we would like to recognize the efforts of our 4-H leaders, members, parents and friends of 4-H. On behalf of myself and Rhonda, we would like to thank all for your energy and dedication this year. Your efforts are obvious in the quality of the members that our region is showcasing locally and at a provincial level. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the 4-H office in Sydney at: (phone) (902) 563-2000 ; (fax) (902) 563-3435; or the Mabou 4-H office at: (phone) (902) 945-2901; (fax) (902) 945-2858.

Antigonish/Guysborough Federation of Agriculture

Annual general meeting, planned... Deputy Minister, Paul LaFleche has been invited to attend. All members are encouraged to attend.

When: Wednesday, November 12

Where: St. Ninian's Place, Antigonish
7:30 p.m.

The Antigonish Farmers' Market — A Great way to spend Saturday morning

The Antigonish Farmers Market continues to be a busy spot each Saturday morning. Many products are now in their prime. The Market will continue in its current location until the end of October. On November 1 they will move to their warmer location at the Antigonish Education Centre, where they will serve all their patrons until December 20. The Market's new fall hours are 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

The AFM will be hosting the Farmers Markets of Nova Scotia Fall Conference. The conference will be held at the St. Joseph's Community Centre October 21, 2008. Invited guests and presenters will have an

opportunity to attend a morning workshop hosted by Brent Warner, the new (interim) executive director of Farmers' Markets Canada, as well as enjoy a luncheon of local foods prepared by Shana McKenna. In the afternoon, guests will view presentations from Brent Werner, as well as others involved in our local food system, Department of Agriculture – Kevin Bekkers; Producer/Vendor AFM – Te Boyle; Food Security and Voices Good Food Box – Christine Johnson; Produce Manager Braemore Co-op – Dave Tellum. For market/vendor inquires contact Shana our Market Manager at (902) 867-7479

First Aid Course – Has your first aid card expired?

The Department of Agriculture in Antigonish will be arranging a first aid course for all farmers, family members and hired help. The course has not yet been scheduled, however, we are taking names and plan to offer courses late in the fall. Registered farmers are eligible to apply for safety training at 50 per

cent assistance under category D of the Farm Investment Fund (page 9 in the booklet). Consider applying for first aid training when filling out your 2008-2009 FIF application. Please call the Agriculture office at (902) 863-4705 to have your name added to the list of participants.

Gardening Advice

- Fall provides the success for next year's garden.
- All the debris should be removed i.e., old plants, tops, etc.
- The soil should be reviewed for growing requirements.
- The garden plan or rotation will indicate which plots need compost or manure.
- If you have excessive weeds or grass you many want to turn over the soil and mix in the manure or nutrients.
- Avoid using a rotor tiller or heavy equipment unless you are fall plowing.
- Excessive soil work when it is wet will cause compaction.
- Prevent grass and weeds from getting well rooted and starting in the spring.

Fall Planting

- Garlic has become increasingly popular and is great for fall planting.
- Other crops such as strawberries may require some protective coverage. If straw is unavailable, try some spruce bows. Bows can also be used to hold down straw.

As gardening seems to be a growing trend, I am hoping to collect some information for another workshop for late fall.

Reminder - REACT 2008 - Rural Energy Action Conference and Trade Show
REACT 2008 will take place November 7 and 8 at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre

Upcoming 4-H Events:

ANTIGONISH

October 26	2 p.m.	Antigonish County Awards – St. Andrews Community Center
November		National 4-H Month
November 4	7 p.m.	Meeting to review NS Resolutions and Council meeting to set 2009 Dates
November 14-15		N.S. 4-H Council Meeting - Truro
November 18	7 p.m.	Annual General 4-H Meeting

PICTOU

October 30	7 p.m.	Council Meeting - 4-H office
November		National 4-H Month
November 6	7 p.m.	Pictou County Awards - WA MacLeod School
November 13	7 p.m.	Annual meeting and review of NS Resolutions
November 14-15		N.S. 4-H Council Meeting, Truro
November 23		Pictou Church Service, Location TBA
November 27	7 p.m.	Council meeting and set 2009 Dates, 4-H office
December 5		Leaders Christmas social, Location TBA

Upcoming Events

County Federation Meetings:

Annapolis County Federation of Agriculture - November 10, 8 p.m. at the Lawrencetown Fire Hall upstairs meeting room (access from rear of fire hall)
Digby County Federation of Agriculture - To be announced
Yarmouth County Federation of Agriculture - To be announced

4-H News and Events

Annapolis County:

October 26, 2008 Royal Beef meeting at the Elmsdale Superstore, 3 p.m. (all 4-H members who are attending the Royal Winter Fair and their parents are expected to attend).
November 12, 2008 Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council annual meeting 4-H office, Lawrencetown, 7 p.m.

Yarmouth County:

November 19, 2008 Yarmouth County 4-H Leaders Council annual meeting, 7 p.m., at the 4-H office, Lovitt St.

NS 4-H Leaders Council annual meeting, Truro, November 14–15, 2008

Fall and Winter Information Sessions

The time is here to start planning information sessions for this fall and winter. If you have any ideas for topics you would like to see covered please call me at (902) 827-5162 or send an e-mail to moermade@gov.ns.ca .

Environmental Farm Planning

This past summer has seen some heavy algal blooms in local lakes and rivers. The Department of Environment is taking a closer look at farming activities in these watersheds. If you have not already done so, I would strongly encourage you to register for the Environmental Farm Plan. This is a free service of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture in cooperation with the NS Department of Agriculture, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. To register for the service please call the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture at (902) 893-2293.

