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Agriculture Services

NEWSLETTER



August 2010

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

Volume 11 No. 3

Government Leads on Agricultural Land Use

by Agriculture Minister John MacDonell

Farming has been a good business for many generations, despite the ups and downs the sectors and farmers have had to endure along the way. Farmland is critical for our food system, so being able to access goods from a locally supplied industry is a privilege not to be taken for granted.

We are fortunate to have quality farmland so that we may grow food here to feed our families, as well as to export as market and free trade allows.

The question as to whether or not we should be doing more to protect agricultural land is an issue the government of Nova Scotia takes seriously as it strives to create good jobs and grow the economy especially in our resource sectors.

Agricultural land is a limited resource. Every year, we lose some agricultural land to housing and other forms of development, both urban and suburban.

As pressure to develop land for non-agricultural purposes increases, people continue to ask questions about the future of agricultural lands. What is government's role in protecting our agricultural resources?

Should we let this land be used for commercial development? Should preservation be the responsibility of our local governments or the provincial government? What will this mean for Nova Scotia's farmers?

The answers to those questions are not easy ones, as they have far reaching implications to just about everyone in the province. It is not hard to see how getting more involved in how agricultural land is to be used in the future is a complicated issue.

Government is not shying away from the questions. This government has been working to identify how to best move forward so that we can provide genuine leadership on this issue and continue to make life better for families in our communities.

Within months of becoming Minister of Agriculture I took action on this issue. Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations Minister

Ramona Jennex and I appointed an independent land review committee to advise this government on issues surrounding agricultural land preservation. The Nova Scotia Agricultural Land Review Committee was commissioned to conduct a review of agricultural land preservation issues in the fall of 2009.

Its mandate is to identify the steps to be taken and recommend processes to put in place regarding the preservation of agricultural land for the benefit of all Nova Scotians. A major part of the review process includes seeking public input and then to prepare a report so that the province is well informed in making decisions that would result in changes to existing legislation policies and programs, or that might affect the roles of municipalities and non-government organizations in the preservation of agricultural land.

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An Act to Manage and Develop Fur Industry in Nova Scotia

An act to help the Department of Agriculture manage and develop Nova Scotia's fur industry received Royal Assent on May 11, 2010.

The *Fur Industry Act* was developed in consultation with members of the fur industry, including the Nova Scotia Mink Breeders Association, and interested community groups.

"The Nova Scotia fur industry is a significant contributor to our provincial economy," said John MacDonell, Minister of Agriculture. "This legislation puts in place measures to ensure the appropriate management and development of the industry for years to come."

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Fur Industry Act continued...

The new legislation places more responsibility on ranchers to ensure operations take into account the effect on their neighbors and the environment. Specifically, the act requires that fur ranchers obtain a site approval permit before getting their operating licence.

Ranchers will also be required to have management plans that will cover environmental impacts such as waste, water management and disease prevention. The act also gives the Department of Agriculture inspection and enforcement authority.

“We feel confident that this legislation will help the mink industry in the long run,” said Earl Prime, president of the Nova Scotia Mink Breeders Association. “Mink farms offer valuable employment to rural communities through on-farm work, pelting plants, and feed kitchens.”

The Nova Scotia mink industry has seen a steady climb in profit in recent years with export sales exceeding \$65 million in 2008 and about \$80 million last year.

Land Use continued...

The provincial government has already taken a number of steps to help preserve agricultural land. Farmland for example, is exempt from municipal taxation - an incentive to keep land in production. The Department of Agriculture also has a number of programs in place to make farming more viable and help attract new farmers to the industry.

Public input obtained so far overwhelmingly supports the protection of farmland but emphasizes that costs associated with that protection cannot be borne by farmers alone. The Nova Scotia Agricultural Land Review

Committee public consultation process held this year drew 549 Nova Scotians to 12 meetings and 120 written submissions on preserving agricultural farmland, most of whom point to a desire for the province to take measures to further protect the land.

As is the case, with issues that involve many interested parties, there are no easy answers or quick solutions. We will continue to work with them to better understand the overall value of agricultural land to our communities, and to understand all the implications in which solutions might have on Nova Scotians.

A Resource for Farm Businesses: Q and A on Environmental Law (2010) – now available on line

Environmental law and land-use planning law are complicated areas that cover a myriad of requirements issued by the federal, provincial and municipal governments. As owner/operators of enterprises that use large tracts of land and interface with the environment on a daily basis, farmers find themselves in the throws of these complicated requirements. Although there are occasions where direct legal advice and communication with a lawyer is essential, there are situations where general information is all the farmer requires.

The Q and A on Environmental Law (formerly, A Resource for Farm Businesses: Concise Answers to Legal Questions on Environment and Land Use) was originally released in May 2002 to provide a resource to allow farm managers to make basic decisions with respect to regulatory issues prior to seeking legal advice. This resource of 30 questions and answers has been updated and is now available online. The funding support of Agri-Futures Nova Scotia through the ACAAF program made this resource possible. Check it out on the NSFA website: <http://www.nsfa-fane.ca/environmental-law-2010>

Interest Rates		Three and five year interest rates are available to clients meeting risk, cashflow and collateral requirements		
		<i>July 1–September 30, 2010</i>		
Amortization Years	Years fixed			
	Full term	5-year term	3-year term	
1-5	3.81%	3.56%	2.72%	
6-10	4.94%	4.21%	3.04%	
11-15	5.56%	4.36%	3.70%	
16-20	6.94%	4.43%	3.76%	
21-25	7.20%	4.47%	3.80%	
26-30	7.29%	4.51%	3.82%	

For further information contact:
Maria McCurdy, Senior Loan Officer
Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board
Telephone (902) 893-6505
e-mail MCCURDMT@gov.ns.ca



Nova Scotia Crop & Livestock Insurance Commission

Production Insurance

Application Deadlines

Winter Grain - August 31

Strawberries - November 14

Tree Fruit - November 30

Blueberries - November 30

Forage Establishment - October 15

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

The deadline for planting is September 30 in Annapolis County, Kings County and Hants West 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.

Cancelling Crop Insurance

Most Crop Insurance contracts are

continuous. This means they do not terminate at the end of the cropping season unless a producer requests cancellation in writing by the deadline date.

This approach ensures that a client does not risk the chance of not insuring the crop for the season if an application is not made by the required date. If you do not cancel by the cancellation deadline, you will be expected to insure your crop during the current crop year.

Cancellation Deadlines

Blueberry - December 15

Winter Grain - September 15

Strawberry - September 15

Tree Insurance - November 14

Tree Fruit - November 30

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

Notice to Stakeholders Wishing to Have Credit Accounts with the NS Department of Agriculture:

New client accounts for the Department of Agriculture must first be approved by Financial Services along with the completion of a credit application. Please contact Financial Services with any questions at (902) 893-6602.

2010 Atlantic Vegetation Management Association Annual Meeting

Date: October 12 to 15, 2010

Location: Marriott Harbourfront
Hotel, 1919 Upper Water Street,
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Reservations can be made by calling (902) 421-1700 or by clicking <http://myavma.ca/blog/2010/02/09/2010-avma-agm-registration-form-now-online/>

Annual General Meeting Fees \$250
(annual membership dues included)
Annual Membership Dues \$50
First Time Membership Dues \$25

The registration form for the 2010 AVMA AGM is now online at the above web site.

If you have any questions, please contact: Michael Boucher (506) 458-0653 or Michael Cunningham (506) 451-9712.

Continuing Education (CE), NSAC - Modern Shepherd Course

Continuing Education (CE), NSAC is pleased to be able to offer the Modern Shepherd again, starting this fall!

The goal of this four module course is to increase the knowledge and skills of new and existing sheep producers throughout Atlantic Canada. With a practical, hands-on focus, participants will be exposed to all aspects of sheep production, from choosing what breeds of sheep to raise, feeding, breeding, and marketing the results. The course will combine tours, in-class and on-farm training.

Following are the module topics and dates:

Module 1: Husbandry, Handling, Pastures and Fences
September 18 - 19, 2010

Module 2: Nutrition and Breeding
November 13 - 14, 2010

Module 3: Health
Tentative Date: January 29-30, 2011

Module 4: Lambing and Marketing
Date: April 16 - 17, 2011

Other courses being offered by CE this fall:

- Online courses in Organic Agriculture
- Online courses in the Master Gardener program
- Pesticide Certification and Update courses
- Basic Welding
- Operant Conditioning Behaviour Analysis Level One: Animal Training in the 21st Century

For more information please visit nsac.ca/cde or contact Continuing and Distance Education at NSAC, (902) 893-6666.

Advance Payment Program for Livestock Offered by Pork Nova Scotia Now Available

Pork Nova Scotia (PNS) is accepting applications for the 2010/2011 APP program year. The federal government guaranteed Advance Payment Program (APP) for Livestock offers, hog, beef, mink and sheep producers in Nova Scotia 50 per cent of the livestock value in advance of sale. This enables the producer to better market their livestock. The first \$100,000 advanced is interest free and up to \$400,000 at an interest rate of prime minus ¼ per cent. This program is administered by PNS and has helped many producers.

To qualify for funds under the Advance Payment Program.

- A producer MUST be enrolled in AgriStability. This program provides security for the APP.
- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident. A corporation, cooperative or partnership of which the majority interest is held by Canadian citizens or permanent residents. One individual must be the age of majority, be principally occupied in farming, own the agricultural product, and be responsible for its marketing.

What livestock qualifies for an advance?

- Beef, sheep, hogs, and mink, including post production.
- The production period of April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011, qualifies to receive an advance provided the livestock will be sold before September 31, 2011.
- Once the livestock is sold, a producer will repay the advance amount on that quantity and will be required to submit 'proof of sale'.
- Mink producers can receive funds on their inventory, including the post production period.

How to determine your eligible advance amount?

- Advances for hogs are given for a six month period at a per head bases, at which time the advance repayment is made. A producer can obtain two six-month advance terms for the program year.
- Advances for beef are given at a rate of cwt for weight classification groups. For example if you have a cow calf production and bring your calf to 600 lbs you would be advanced about \$285 per head and repay the advance upon sale.
- Advances for sheep are given per head for each weight classification.
- Advances for mink are given for your spring production volume. Your advance will be repaid once your pelts are sold at auction.

When is your advance paid back?

- For hogs, you repay the advance amount every six months.
- For beef and sheep, you repay once the livestock is sold.
- For mink, you repay the advance amount after the auction sale.

- For all advance amounts you repay 50 per cent within 15 days of the due date and the remaining 50 per cent within 45 days of the due date. All payments require proof of sale receipts.
- Any advance amount exceeding the interest free portion of \$100,000 will be charged an interest rate of prime minus ¼ per cent compounded and becomes due on your closing date.
- As your repayments occur they are applied to the interest free portion first.

How can you apply for APP program funds?

- Applications can be found at www.porknovascotia.ca under the APP tab or by contacting the office at (902) 895-0581.
- You can apply any time between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011.
- The application fee is a minimum of \$350 or two per cent of the advance amount to a maximum of \$750 plus HST and is deducted from your advance amount.



Programs and Business Risk Management AgriInvest and AgriStability

AgriInvest and AgriStability are business risk management programs designed to help producers protect their income and manage risks, such as drought, flooding, low prices, and increased input costs.

AgriInvest provides farmers with flexible coverage for small income declines as well as support for investments to mitigate risks or improve market income. Farmers deposit money into an AgriInvest

account and receive matching government contributions. If you receive an AgriInvest deposit notice you have 90 days to respond by making your deposit.

2009 AgriInvest Deposit Notices

2009 AgriInvest Deposit Notices are starting to be mailed out with information on how to make your 2009 deposit.

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AgriInvest and AgriStability continued...

For 2009 you can make your AgriInvest deposits at a participating bank of your choice. Once you receive your 2009 deposit notice, you can open an account at your financial institution and make the 2009 AgriInvest deposit by the deadline indicated on the Deposit Notice to receive a matching contribution from governments.

Existing funds currently held by the federal government will be transferred to your AgriInvest account with the financial institution. Producers can request a withdrawal from their AgriInvest account through their financial institution at any time throughout the year.

For more information, contact the AgriInvest administration 1-866-367-8506 or visit the website at www.agr.gc.ca/AgriInvest.

AgriStability is a margin-based program that provides support when a farmer experiences larger farm income losses. AgriStability covers declines of more than 15 per cent in a farmer's average income from previous years.

If you participated in AgriStability 2009 you will automatically be enrolled for 2010 and will receive a 2010 enrolment notice soon. If you have not received your 2010 enrollment notice and have not heard from AgriStability you should contact them at the number below.

New Participants or Farmers – AgriStability 2010 Enrolment

Producers who did not participate in 2010 AgriStability and wish to participate in 2011 must request a New Participant package before April 30, 2011. To request an AgriStability New Participant 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.

AgriStability 2010 Interim Applications Are Available

The Interim Application is available for producers who would like to apply for an advance for the 2010 program year. As a program participant, you cannot receive your full 2010 AgriStability payment until your 2010 program year is complete. By using the Interim Application, you can estimate your 2010 income and expenses and receive a portion of this payment early. The deadline to apply for the interim is March 31, 2011.

To contact the AgriInvest or AgriStability administration call 1-866-367-8506 or visit the website at www.agr.gc.ca/AgriStability or www.agr.gc.ca/AgriInvest

For more information contact the Programs and Business Risk Management office (NSDA) toll free at 1-866-844-4276.

Programs Update

The Farm Investment Fund (FIF) is closed as of August 4, 2010. Due to the positive uptake, the funds have been fully committed for the 2010-11 program year.

The Agri-Food Industry Development Fund (AFIDF) program is currently open, with 40 applications to date. Applications are still being accepted for the AFIDF program categories A through C.

The Innovation Fund is currently open on the PBRM website. Category A: Technology Development has two call dates of **September 1, 2010** and **December 1, 2010**. Category B:

Supporting the Innovation Capacity of Farmers has a deadline for a call for proposals of **August 27, 2010**. Category C: Innovation and Commercialization of New Opportunities for Agri-based Products has a deadline for a call for Letters of Intent of **August 27, 2010**.

The guidelines and application forms for the Farm Investment Fund, Agri-Food Industry Development Fund, and the Innovation Fund may be accessed at the following web site: www.gov.ns.ca/agri/prm. Questions? Contact Programs & Business Risk Management (PBRM) office at (902) 893-6510 or toll free 1-866-844-4276.

THINKFARM – Celebration of Small Scale Farming

The THINKFARM Working Group



Initiative, in partnership with AgraPoint and the Nova Scotia Department of Economic and Rural Development, is sponsoring a Celebration of Small Scale Farming. It will be held on Sunday, September 12, 2010 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Halifax County Exhibition Grounds (Middle Musquodoboit). This event features farmer-led workshops on a variety of topics of interest to small-scale farmers, including farming with

horses, small farm equipment, buying used tractors, beekeeping, livestock health, and seedling management. Admission is \$15 per person (includes a \$5 coupon for use with food vendors) or \$30 per family (includes a \$5 coupon for use with food vendors). Children under 12 are free.

Preregister by August 31 for a chance to win a Taste of Nova Scotia gift basket. For more information, visit www.gov.ns.ca/thinkfarm or call (902) 893-5649. To register, call (902) 893-6575.

The Atlantic Agricultural Riparian Health Workshop “Living on the Edge”

September 28, 29, and 30, 2010
Ramada Plaza Crystal Palace, Moncton, NB

Strategic Planning for the Organic Sector in Nova Scotia

This two day work shop will aim to provide both basic and advanced education to those working in the field to improve riparian management on agricultural land, as well as highlight work currently going on in the Atlantic region. Whether you are new to riparian management or an old hand, you will find something of interest.

Registration Fee:

Until August 27: \$100

After August 27: \$150

Includes: Tuesday evening: Informal Meet and Greet with hors d'oeuvres and cash bar.

Wednesday and Thursday: Full hot breakfast, lunch and nutrition breaks.

NOTE: Water shed groups will receive one free registration

Tour of riparian management demo site: \$35 (must be confirmed by August 27)

Includes: Transportation to and from the site, and on-site BBQ.

To register, please contact RiparianHealth@gmail.com or call (902) 969-3927

Conference Room Rate: \$129.95
Until August 27 (Riparian Health Workshop)
(www.crystalpalacehotel.com or 1-800-561-7108 or 1-506-858-8584)

Special Half Day Course: Tuesday September 28, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.: \$90 until Aug 27 or \$125 after Aug 27

The Stream and Valley: Functional Linkages Between Channel Dynamics and Riparian System Diversity

Limited Seating! Register early by contacting rjenkins@parishgeomorphic.com by August 27.

The Organic Council of Nova Scotia has entered into a partnership with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Kings Regional Development Agency to prepare a strategic plan for the provinces organic sector over the coming months.

“The organic community is eagerly anticipating this planning activity. We need a solid plan to guide the growth of our sector and to attract new entrants into organic production. This plan will allow producers to see the opportunities in growing organic and encourage them to seek certification,” says Organic Council of Nova Scotia Chair, Angela Patterson.

The exercise will begin with a widely distributed survey in August. A series of four regional focus group meetings are planned for the fall.

Atlantic Agrology Workshop FROM FARM TO THE FUTURE

The practical information and tools you need to do your job. On the ground. Every day.

November 4 and 5, 2010

Best Western Glengarry, Truro, NS

Keynote Speaker: Michele Payn-Knoper, Cause Matters Corp. www.causematters.com/

Science, Soundbytes and Sex Appeal Michelle is the founder of two popular, weekly moderated Twitter chats, #agchat and #foodchat. She speaks professionally about agriculture, food, nutrition and social media as the voice behind Cause Matters Corp. She is a mom who has lived on a farm her entire life.

The program includes a poster

presentation of current research of interest to Atlantic agriculture!

Event Details:

Registration includes the Nov. 4 evening reception and a full day of exciting speakers and lots of interaction and networking on Nov. 5 (breakfast and lunch included).

Book your room by contacting The Best Western Glengarry at reservations@bwglengarry.com (902) 893-4311 or 1-800-567-4276

Register by contacting Bob Vair at nsagrologists@eastlink.ca (902) 897-NSIA (6742)

Brought to You by Your Atlantic Institutes of Agrologists



Are Nova Scotians eating local? Where is our food coming from?

The Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture in collaboration with the Ecology Action Centre released the final report of a study on food miles on July 27, 2010. This report takes a closer look at the real cost of our food and what it might take to make a more locally based food system.

Jen Scott, co-author of Are Nova Scotians Eating Local says, "In 2008, we estimate that 13 per cent of the food dollar Nova Scotians spend is being earned by Nova Scotia farmers. Over the last 11 years, this proportion has gone down. In 1997 it was 17 per cent."

If we are eating less local products, then where are Nova Scotians spending their food dollars, we ask? Marla MacLeod, co-author of the report and Food Action Committee Chair indicated that, "The study examined over 60 products and found that, on average, the food products were traveling nearly 4000 km from farm to plate." "There is potential for reducing transport-related greenhouse gas emissions by switching to locally grown foods, provided that they are produced by methods of similar or increased energy efficiency compared with imports," she adds.

At the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, Richard Melvin, President is pleased with the report, "We see a great opportunity to increase local food consumption by strategically working with producers and retailers on how to increase locally grown produce in a sustainable way."

The Federation of Agriculture has also put together a new website, being launched in conjunction with this report. The website; www.meetyourfarmer.ca is full of

farm personalities from across the province, telling their own stories about what they do and how they do it. Mr. Melvin says, "This online portal will create and improve the relationship with us, Nova Scotia farmers and our consumers. Strengthening the consumer - food connection through

www.meetyourfarmer.ca will be one more step in increasing local food consumption."



\$46 million Poultry Processing Plant Announced for Kentville, NS

The Nova Scotia Poultry Industry Strategic Planning Committee and Maple Lodge Farms Holding Corporation are pleased to announce plans to build a new chicken and turkey processing plant in Nova Scotia.

"This is very exciting news for the Nova Scotia poultry industry," said Ian Blenkarn, chair of the Industry Strategic Planning Committee. "We have been working with Maple Lodge and the chicken and turkey farmers in Nova Scotia and PEI to find a long term solution for a profitable poultry processing industry. Our announcement today also brings stability to both the farmers and the employees in the industry."

The new \$46 million plant will be built in the Kentville Industrial Park and is expected to be operational by the spring of 2012. It will process the chickens and turkeys from the farmers in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The need for a new, efficient plant resulted from the closure of the Maple Leaf Foods plant in Canard, Nova Scotia in the spring of 2007 leaving approximately 45 per cent of the provinces' chicken farmers without a processing plant. Recognizing a need to have Nova

Scotia chicken and turkey processed in a Nova Scotia plant provided an opportunity for the farmers and Maple Lodge Farms to create a partnership for a new plant.

"Maple Lodge Farms is proud to partner with the Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island farmers in building a new, efficient and profitable processing plant in the Annapolis Valley," said Michael Burrows, CEO of Maple Lodge Farms. "This venture will ensure the long term viability of the poultry processing industry in Nova Scotia and will benefit the farmers of both Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island through ownership in the plant."

The new plant will be owned 50/50 between Maple Lodge and the farmers. This partnership is unique in Canada. The farmers are making a commitment to ship their production to the new plant and Maple Lodge will provide much needed national marketing reach for the processed product. The new plant will have modern, efficient equipment and design. The end result will be a primary processing plant in the Annapolis Valley providing stability to the farmers and jobs in the community.



33rd 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 33rd Nova Scotia 4-H Show, October 1 - 3, 2010. Hosted at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds in Bible Hill, this annual event is an excellent opportunity for 4-H families and the public to view the talents of 4-H members across the province.

Nova Scotia has the largest 4-H Show in Canada, with all the exhibitors being 4-H members from 9 - 21 years of age. Each year a county or region hosts the 4-H Show. For this year's show Central Region 4-H Leaders Councils have the responsibility of making site arrangements, providing security, fund raising and promotion.

"The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is an excellent opportunity for people to see what the 4-H program offers - public speaking with the Young Speakers for Agriculture competition, technical livestock and life skills training during competitions and a superior leadership development program for all youth," said Arthur Pick, Manager, Regional Services.

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.

"Over the years one comes to realize just how important something like the 4-H program really is in shaping the

youth of our communities. 4-H has existed in Nova Scotia since 1922. The purpose of the program is to develop well rounded, responsible, and independent citizens," said Brenton Arnold, a 17 year old 4-H member from the Western Kings 4-H Club. "In my case I believe the program has succeeded. By affording me the opportunity to flourish in an environment that encourages community development with a focus on responsibility, accountability and

independence I can move forward with important knowledge and newfound abilities that are a vital component of everyday life and can successfully use them in any of my future endeavours. I would not be the individual that I am today had I not been involved in the 4-H program."

The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is open to the public and admission is free. Competitions run from Friday, October 1 to Sunday, October 3.

Young Speakers For Agriculture Competition

4-H members who are interested in challenging their public speaking abilities and want to discuss their enthusiasm for the agriculture industry are encouraged to enter the Nova Scotia Young Speakers for Agriculture Competition. All senior 4-H members and 4-H Alumni who are 16 - 24 years of age as of the competition date, Oct. 1, can enter. It will be held during the Nova Scotia 4-H Show at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds in Bible Hill.

The Nova Scotia 4-H member that wins the provincial contest will be sponsored by the Nova Scotia 4-H Council to participate in the 26th annual Canadian Young Speakers of Agriculture National Senior Public Speaking Competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Ontario on Saturday, November 6, 2010.

Each contestant will give a five to seven minute prepared speech on one of following topics, as well as introduce and thank another speaker. Contestants may choose to use a flip chart, or appropriate posters to illustrate their talk. Slides, films, videos or overhead projectors will not be allowed. A complete set of rules, as

well as the score sheet, will be sent to all applicants prior to the Nova Scotia competition.

The competitors have five agricultural related topics to choose from:

1. Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame - profile someone and share their impact.
2. Who will feed the world in 50 years?
3. What is the biggest challenge in agriculture today?
4. Exploring First Nations agriculture in Canada.
5. What are the biggest events in Canadian agricultural history?

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

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

Nova Scotia's 4-H Camp Being Restored

It is often said that it takes a community to raise a child. For 38 years Camp Rankin, Nova Scotia's provincial 4-H camp, has had a proven reputation of providing Nova Scotia 4-H members with a positive educational program and lasting memories that keep them coming back each year. The camp was built by volunteers as a Centennial project of the Richmond County 4-H Leader's Council and was the first 4-H camp to be built in the Atlantic provinces.

Each year 200 4-H members from 9 - 15 years of age embark on a summer adventure at Camp Rankin where they experience healthy living, leadership and skills development in a scenic setting on 60 acres of land situated on the on Bras d'Or Lakes, near St. Peters on Cape Breton Island.

Camp Rankin's facilities include hiking trails, beach and a dining and recreation hall. Trained camp counselors with 4-H experience lead the youth through all traditional camp activities.

Although the original intention of the camp was to accommodate the 4-H clubs of Richmond County and surrounding area, it now hosts five,

five-day summer camps. Richmond County 4-H Leaders Council maintains the camp.

For the past year the Camp Rankin 4-H Association board of directors and volunteers have been raising money in an effort to fund a major two- year structural expansion costing \$135,000. The board believes very much in the 4-H movement, its ideals and the life skills that 4-H members learn during their time with the program.

"Camp Rankin has been the summer home for 1000's of Nova Scotia 4-H members since 1972. These 4-H members have become educators, business people, government officials and community leaders," said Doug Landry, Chairperson, Camp Rankin 4-H Association.

"The Camp Rankin 4-H Association board and volunteers have worked hard over the years to keep the camp in an acceptable condition. After reviewing the summer camp surveys, the board feels now is the time to bring the camp to the next level. We are very excited with the response from the public and three levels of government regarding this project and encourage anyone interested in

helping with the project to contact us."

With funding from Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection, FCC, the ECBC- RINC program, contributions from county 4-H Councils and \$20,000 donated in labour and materials, the project is well underway. The Camp Rankin 4-H Association still requires some money to fully fund the project and donations are gratefully accepted.

Work has begun on the camper's cabins and ground work for a large outdoor recreation area with upgrades to electrical work, showers, trails, the kitchen and several roofs of buildings in the work plan.

In the spirit of the 4-H community, Camp Rankin will host Raise the Roof on September 18 - 19 where 4-H leaders, parents, senior members and friends are asked to donate labour and time to help re-roof several buildings. Work days run from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., lunch will be provided. If you would like to volunteer and can lift, carry or swing a hammer your help is needed! Please contact your 4-H office if you are able to help with this important camp renovation.

Your Agricultural Resource Coordinators

Acting Senior Agricultural Resource Coordinator:

Arthur Pick – Truro
Tel: (902) 893-6587
Fax: (902) 893-2757

West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg & Queens counties:

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

East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester & Halifax counties:

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

Annapolis County Federation Livestock Sales

Cattle sales at the Lawrencetown Exhibition Grounds will start in September. The dates for the sales are: September 11 and 25, October 9 and 23, November 6 and 20. Selling of miscellaneous items will begin at 10:30 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:

Dalhousie Community Fair - August 28
Western Kings Fair, Tremont - September 4
Hants Co. Exhibition, Windsor - September 17-19 and September 24-26
Queens Co. Exhibition, Caledonia - Sept. 21-25
NS 4-H Show, Bible Hill - October 1-3

Valley Region 4-H Activities

September 7 Kings County Joint Achievement Day Wrap Up, 6:30 p.m.
September 7 Kings County Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Kentville
Agricultural Center
September 13 Hants County Council Meeting, 7 p.m., O'Brien Building
Windsor
September 17-19 Hants County 4-H Exhibition Days, Hants County
Exhibition Grounds
October 1 - 3 Provincial 4-H Show, Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition
Grounds

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! For more information about the 4-H program, contact the 4-H office at (902) 679-6027 and they will be more than happy to give some helpful information.

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

September 17 - September 19

Hants County Exhibition preparation is well underway. All life skills articles will be judged Thursday and be on display all week. On Friday evening the dog and draft horse classes will be held. On Saturday, beef, dairy, goat, light horse, waterfowl and poultry classes will be taking place, along with a variety of competitions. On Sunday, sheep, light horse and the grand champion livestock showmanship class will be happening along with the parade of clubs. Different competitions, including the bake-off, vegetable preparation, woodworking, floral arranging, outdoors man, photography, cake decorating, fashion show, beef, dairy and sheep clipping will be happening throughout the weekend.

New Central Region Agriculture Services Office

Growing Your Farm Profits

In May 2010 the Dewolfe House on the NSAC campus became a new Agriculture Services office housing the Agricultural Resource Coordinator, Transition Officer, Agriculture and 4-H Leadership Coordinator and Administrative Support. DeWolfe also houses NS 4-H Council staff, WINS staff and the provincial New Entrant Coordinator. We are a one-stop shop for Department of Agriculture services and information. If you have an agricultural need, question or opportunity you'd like to discuss, feel free to contact us.

We have a great group of people working here as a team. All are participating in making this new central region field office a valuable resource for the farming community. The Central Region includes the counties of Colchester, Cumberland and Halifax East Hants.

Michael Kittilsen, Agricultural Resource Coordinator, (902) 893-3645
kittilma@gov.ns.ca

Dr. Vimy Glass, Agriculture Transition Officer, (902) 893-6557
glassvm@gov.ns.ca

Janette McDonald, Agriculture and 4-H Leadership Coordinator, (902) 893-6586
mcdonajk@gov.ns.ca

Marlene Allen, Administrative Support, (902) 893-6575
allenmm@gov.ns.ca

DeWolfe House: 157 College Road,
P.O. Box 550, Truro, NS, B2N 5E3

Growing Your Farm Profits is an educational tool designed to help farmers improve their business planning and maximize their long-term farm business goals. There is no charge for this event.

- Do you need to improve your profits?
- Have you started planning for succession?
- When was the last time you were in a room with your peers and had the opportunity to share new ideas?
- Do you have an action plan for each priority of your farm business?

While excellent production is important to the farm, planning is required to help farmers successfully meet their business and personal goals. Growing Your Farm Profits can show you how. You will learn how proactive planning can influence effective decision making today, and bring you closer to the success you deserve. Give yourself every chance to reach your goals by attending this one-day workshop. It will give you the tools to assess where you are now and where you could be in the future. Nappan, Pavillion: November 10, 2010, daytime event
Truro, AgriTECH Park: December 8, 2010, daytime event
For more information contact (902) 893-3645

Cumberland Local Food Directory

Cumberland County producers do not miss the opportunity to have your product(s) on the minds of all Cumberland County residents, restaurants and retailers. Whether you do direct sales or wholesale to grocery chains, all producers can benefit by promoting their operation. The Federation of Agriculture, the Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association, the Cumberland Health Authority and the Department of Agriculture are in the planning stages of creating a county level, local food directory.

This new guide will promote the benefits of buying local and direct from Cumberland producers (agriculture and seafood) - freshness,

quality, and meeting the increasing consumer demand for locally produced foods. The guide will also educate chefs and food buyers about the seasonal availability of Nova Scotia products and provide useful information about the producers who supply them.

We will be gathering information from all producers for the guide. A direct mailout to registered producers will contain information about the process, application form and a sample of another local county directory. Look for the opportunity to promote your operation.

Do You Have the Proper Drivers Licence?

If you have a farm tractor trailer combination over 14,000 kg you need a Condition 23 Endorsement. If you are hauling any trailer (with a truck or tractor) that has a weight over 4500 kg you need a Condition 15 Endorsement on your licence to legally drive on Nova Scotia roads. These regulations apply to a class 5 licence. If you are interested in obtaining these endorsements there is an opportunity for you on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at the NSAC Farm.

Process For Condition 15:

1. Purchase a Road Test Receipt which costs \$47.68 (HST included) This can be purchased at an Access Nova Scotia Center or online at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/>

Process For Condition 23:

1. Complete a Condition 23 application prior to testing.
2. Have Driver's Medical Exam completed by your doctor.
3. Purchase a Road Test Receipt, which costs \$47.68 (HST included). This can be purchased at an Access Nova Scotia Center or online at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/>

You must register with the Central office first and have a valid drivers licence ("N" removed) to be eligible for testing. The Condition 23 application, the form for the Medical Exam and more information is available by calling (902) 893-3645 to speak to Michael or Marlene.

There is an information session on Tuesday, September 7, 2010 to become familiar with equipment being used on test day.

Halifax East Hants Federation Information

The summer is just flying by! Hopefully everyone can spare a little bit of time to not only catch a little bit of rest and relaxation, but to have quality time with your families before it is time to go back to school!

Just a reminder to those who have used the HEHFA rental equipment (land levelers, cow lift and lime spreader) that the fees and contacts for usage of the equipment are as follows:

Equipment	Rental Cost	Contact Information
Lime Spreader	\$4/ton (member) \$4.50/ton (non-member)	Allen Benjamin (902) 758-2427
Land Leveler	\$100 (member) \$125 (non-member)	Dave Cole (902) 384-2403 or John van de Riet (902) 758-3874
Cow Lift	\$ 10 initial day + \$5 every day after (member) \$15 initial day \$10 every day after (non-member)	Corey Fraser (902) 758-2262

Any fees due can be mailed to: Lindsay van de Riet, 234 Mill Village Road, Shubenacadie, B0N 2H0.

Do not forget to catch the local exhibition and continue to have a safe and happy summer!

30th Annual Atlantic Sheep Sale

Sponsored by Purebred Sheep Breeders Assoc. of Nova Scotia
Saturday, September 4, 2010 beginning at 11 a.m.
(Animals on view from 7 p.m., Friday, September. 3)
NS Provincial Exhibition Grounds, Truro, NS
For further information/catalogues contact: Rosemary Wort (902)671-2410 or herngatefarm@ns.sympatico.ca or visit www.sheepnovascotia.ns.ca, closer to the date.

Open Farm Day 2010 - Sunday, September 19

Sobeys, as a sponsor for this event, have provincial maps showing all open farm 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 contact Michael Kittilsen or: Judy Grant (902) 893-6598 grantjd@gov.ns.ca

Local County Exhibitions:

Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition, Truro, Aug. 24-28
Cumberland County Exhibition, Oxford, Aug. 31 – Sept. 4
Eastern Nova Scotia Exhibition, Antigonish, Sept. 1-5
Pictou/North Colchester Exhibition, Pictou, Sept. 8-11
Hants County Exhibition, Windsor, Sept. 17-19 and Sept. 24-26
Maritime Fall Fair, Halifax Oct. 7-11



Central Region 4-H News

Hello 4-H Enthusiasts!

Lots of 4-H activity has happened in the Central Region this summer! The 18 4-H Clubs in the Central Region have all held successful Achievement Days. Congratulations to all 4-H members on a great 4-H year! Thank you to all leaders, parents and volunteers who help to make the 4-H program possible!

The Central Region is busy preparing for the Nova Scotia Provincial 4-H Show. We are happy to be hosting this year's event at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds on October 1-3, 2010! The hosting committee are selling tickets on a John Deere lawn mower, stainless steel barbeque and a patio furniture set. The draw will take place at the show so be sure to get your tickets! The Committee has been working hard and are excited to share a great

Provincial Show with you this year. Make sure to come on out and see a great display of 4-H from all across Nova Scotia!

Registration will be happening throughout the fall in 4-H Clubs. If interested in becoming a 4-H member please contact me to help locate the 4-H Club nearest you!

Once again, thank you to everyone who helps to make 4-H possible in the Central Region. I had a great summer traveling to Achievement Days and exhibitions and as always, was impressed with the quality of work and enthusiasm 4-H members exhibit in their projects. Be proud!

Yours in 4-H,

Janette

Upcoming 4-H Council Meetings

Colchester County 4-H Leaders Council Meetings:

Sept. 27, October 25, and Nov. 22, Upstairs at the Agridome at 7 p.m.

Cumberland County 4-H Leaders Council Meetings:

Oct. 5, Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, at the Shinimicas Fire Hall at 8 p.m.

Halifax-East Hants County 4-H Leaders Council Meetings:

Oct. 12, Nov. 9, at Hants East Rural High School at 7 p.m.

Provincial 4-H Events

Oct. 1-3 - Nova Scotia Provincial 4-H Show, Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds

Nov. 1-30 - National 4-H Month

For further information on any of these events or the 4-H program, contact:

Janette McDonald, at (902) 893-6586 or mcdonajk@gov.ns.ca, Central Region Agriculture and 4-H Leadership Coordinator

2010 Cape Breton Community Fairs

Fair	Date	Contact	Phone
Mira Ferry (Albert Bridge)	Sept. 11	Florence Macintyre Gladys Lever Cheryl Macintyre (Chair)	(902) 562-1056 (902) 562-6310 (902) 562-2089
Christmas Island (C.B. County)	Sept. 11	Kevin MacKenzie	(902) 622-2667
Port Morien (Glace Bay)	Sept. 18	Margie MacQueen	(902) 737-2478
Baddeck (Victoria County)	Sept. 11	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 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.

Attention all giant pumpkin growers.

The Millville Hall is now an official Great Pumpkin Commonwealth site whereby the new GPC rules will now apply.

The Great Pumpkin Commonwealth is a collection of more than 70 official weigh-off sites, their supporting clubs, and growers worldwide. These sponsored sites are attended by hundreds of thousands to the ever popular, annually run festivals and weekend events. Established in 1993, the GPC is the major organizer and sanctioning body overseeing competitions in giant pumpkin and vegetable growing. The GPC works vigorously to improve weigh-off site standards in fairness of competition while promoting family values.

The Official GPC weigh-off date is Saturday, October 9, 2010, at the Millville Hall, Millville. All entrants must be REGISTERED before 11

a.m. on that day so the judges may inspect each pumpkin prior to weighing.

The GPC sets the recognized standard for all world records in the giant pumpkin family as used by Guinness for their World Record endeavors. GPC growers have set the World Records for the last 15 years. The GPC's mission cultivates the hobby of growing giant pumpkins throughout the world by establishing standards and regulations that ensure quality of fruit, fairness of competition, recognition of achievement, fellowship and education for all participating growers and weigh-off sites.

Should you require additional information or have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (902) 563-2000. We look forward to seeing you there.

Cape Breton Biomass Project

Cape Breton University's Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the Environment (CSEE) recently began work on a hybrid-willow energy crop research and demonstration project. The project will evaluate the production performance and yield of various willow varieties as a possible dedicated energy crop and cash crop for the bio-energy sector in Cape Breton. Production performance of three varieties of willow on three, two-acre plots of marginal and underutilized lands in CBRM, plus an experimental one-acre plot with ten varieties will be tested. CSEE personnel joined with a network of willow growers in Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom to transfer knowledge and develop a best practices handbook for those interested in growing willow locally. This four-year project is supported by Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation.

Cape Breton Regional 4-H Newsletter 2010

The Cape Breton 4-H program consists of 228 active members, 27 cloverbuds and 78 volunteer leaders from the four counties this year. Membership is enrolled in 37 different livestock and life skills projects across the region. Eighty-nine per cent of the our leaders come from rural or farm areas. Eleven per cent of our leaders reside in urban areas. Seventy-five per cent of our members come from rural or farm communities with 25 per cent coming from urban areas. This is showing an increase into urban communities and a trend to encourage a growing membership base. These are exciting times for regional youth as new clubs and project areas are explored. 4-H in Cape Breton represents club and community involvement that evolves into a unique 4-H 'family'. Being apart of a club allows 4-H members and leaders to lend a helping hand when it comes to project work, volunteer experiences, and social events. The 4-H program is full of experiences and excitement throughout the year. The 4-H Weekend, Provincial Show, and Camp Rankin are just a few opportunities offered to Cape Breton 4-Hers. Members learn to work as a team, as well as independently. With the 4-H motto, "Learn to do By Doing", members have the opportunity to grow into responsible, mature leaders with valuable life long skills.

The 4-H program is open to anyone between the ages of 9 and 21 years who would like to become a member. Children 7 and 8 years old can become clover buds. These members are given the opportunity to enjoy and learn about the 4-H program without having to participate in competition. For those 21 years of age and older, we encourage individuals to become 4-H leaders or club assistants.

Counties in the Cape Breton Region

Cape Breton County has the largest 4-H member enrolment in the region this year. It offers a variety of projects, especially homemaking projects. Additionally, many diverse livestock projects are offered. This county is home to the oldest continuous club in Canada, the Grand Mira 4-H club. Cape Breton County is a strong competitor in the speaking and demonstration competitions, both regionally and provincially. Each year the county hosts the "Junior Member Small Steps" workshop and provides craft co-op workshops to membership in the region. This county has also founded the "George MacNeil Scholarship" and are actively working towards making this endowment an educational funding source for 4-H youth to benefit from for years to come. Clubs in this county are welcome to any new membership. Note below the following clubs and locations.

Arm of Gold 4-H Club – Big Bras D'or area
Bayside 4-H Club – Glace Bay area
Grand Mira 4-H Club – Grand Mira North area
Northside 4-H Club – North Sydney area
Rising Sun 4-H Club – Albert Bridge area
Twin Light House 4-H Club – Point Edward area

Inverness County has the second largest 4-H member enrolment in the region this year. This county has an active senior youth club and are know for its strength in livestock projects.

This county hosted the first regional "Rural Safety Day" event and the second "Junior Member Small Steps" workshop held in the region annually. For the first time this year, Inverness horse members participated in 4-H

Weekend "Horse Classic" and represented their region well. EBI is another program that is well attended from this county and 4-H members learn about preparing and showing a beef or dairy animal for show. Clubs in the county include:

Brook Village 4-H Achievers – Brookvillage area
Green Point 4-H Club – Margaree
Riverside 4-H Club- Margaree area
Port Hood Island View 4-H Club – Port Hood area
South West Mabou 4-H Club – Mabou area

Richmond County has a strong 4-H involvement in the county's two clubs. These clubs are avid supporters of their community and 4-H programs. This county looks after the provincial 4-H camp, and it has been a county tradition for numerous years. Each year, the county runs the Camp Rankin Café at provincial show and has leaders that have been avid 4-H supporters for over 50 years of service. Project favorites include scrap-booking, cake decorating, wood working foods, heritage, crafts, outdoorsman, horse and sewing.

County Line 4-H Club- West Bay area
Lakeside 4-H Club – St. Peters area
River Bourgeois 4-H Club – River Bourgeois area

Victoria County is the smallest county for membership but has numbers that continue to grow each year. This county has lots of club enthusiasm for both county, regional and provincial programs. This will be the county's second year in assisting with the floral competition at provincial show. Project favorites include scrap-booking, cake decoration, poultry, rabbit, market turkey, sewing, outdoorsman, donkey

and foods. This county has a large membership within the livestock projects, especially with the poultry and rabbit projects. New members and leaders are welcome.

Baddeck Valley 4-H Club – Baddeck Forks area

If you are interested in joining the 4-H program, either as a member or as an adult leader, you should contact the regional Agricultural and 4-H Leadership Coordinator in your area. There may already be an existing club in your community; or perhaps a new club could be started. If you would like to get involved with the 4-H program here in Cape Breton region, please contact Marina Gillis at the 4-H office; Mabou – (902) 945-2901 or Sydney – (902) 563-2001.

Starting a New 4-H Club

New 4-H clubs are always being encouraged in Nova Scotia. It does not take a lot to start up a club and the benefits can always outweigh the challenges. Today's 4-H members develop the skills required to become future leaders in their schools, their communities and their workplaces. The 4-H program will provide members with many possibilities such as scholarships, friendships, and life long skills. If you think that a 4-H club would be of benefit for kids in your community please call your nearest 4-H office and they will help you along your 4-H journey. The Agriculture and 4-H Leadership Coordinator will discuss the details of the 4-H program with you and determine the extent of interest, local leadership potential, and community needs of the youth. Most importantly, they will be there to answer any questions you may have. Check out our provincial and regional web sites as well.

Opportunities of a Lifetime

In addition to projects, 4-H members can participate in other events. These include:

Nova Scotia 4-H Show each fall and Nova Scotia 4-H members and leaders take part in the largest provincial 4-H Show in Canada. This annual Provincial 4-H Show is an opportunity for 4-H members to showcase their project achievements to the public. Approximately 2400 youth and 1000 adult leaders attend the show, where 4-H members from across Nova Scotia compete in a variety of livestock, homemaking and non-livestock classes for top honours.

National 4-H Month - Capture the 4-H spirit this November as 4-H members, volunteer leaders and supporters celebrate 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. 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.

4-H Annual Meeting - This takes place in November each year. Each county is able to send two delegates, one adult leader and one senior 4-H member. It is an excellent opportunity to be part of the rule-making process for the Nova Scotia 4-H program and to meet other people from across the province.

*Check the General Leader Kit online at www.gov.ns.ca/agri/4h for more details about all these opportunities!

Cape Breton Regional News

Eastern Breeders Showcase - 4-H members from Atlantic Canada will learn animal management and preparation practices from some of the best people in the industry at the Eastern Breeders Incorporated 4-H Showcase, each June in Truro. Eastern Breeders Incorporated has sponsored the training event for several years. Along with financial assistance, it provides the Atlantic event with highly qualified staff to ensure 4-H members learn the most current techniques in clipping, showing, and herd management. Inverness County 4-H members represented our region well this year with outstanding placings.

Sarah MacDonell – 1st place Grand Champion Conformation Class (high point dairy person)
– NS (Honourable Mention - high point dairy person)
Amanda Lowe – 2nd place Showmanship
– NS (Overall Reserve Grand Champion Beef)
Hayley Wilson – 3rd Place in Showmanship Classes
10th place in Conformation Classes

4-H Weekend – 4-H members compete for provincial awards in public speaking and demonstration competitions at the Provincial 4-H Weekend at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Bible Hill each May. This two-day provincial competition showcases the speaking skills of 4-H members who have already won at the 4-H club, county and regional level.

Cape Breton region winners this year included:

Senior Freehand Poster
1st place – Emmaly MacLeod, Cape Breton Co.

Junior Computer Poster
3rd place – Jade MacEachern, Richmond Co.

Junior Introducing
3rd place – Shannon MacLennan,
Inverness Co.

Junior Thanking
3rd place – Catherin Messer,
Victoria Co.

Senior Public Speaking 1st place –
Lindsay MacDonald, Inverness Co.

Jr. Single Demonstration
3rd place - Sarah MacInnis,
Inverness Co.

Sr. Team Demonstration 1st place –
Amber Lovell / Andrew Cantwell,
Cape Breton Co.

Jr. Team Demonstration 3rd place –
Emma MacLean / Jenessa
MacEachern, Cape Breton Co.

Friend of 4-H ACA Cooperative and
Provincial Leader award
George Mac Neil, Cape Breton Co.

National Award Winners –
Congratulations to all of the winners
of National Awards. The award
ceremony for these took place at 4-H
weekend along with all of the
communication results from 4-H
weekend.

U.S.A. National Dairy Conference
– Bridget Wilson, Inverness Co.

National 4-H Conference – Sarah
MacDonell, Inverness Co.

National 4-H Volunteer Leaders’
Conference – Eva Landry and
Raymond Ferguson, Richmond Co.

Scholarships –
Congratulations to Bridget Wilson
from Inverness County for being
presented with the Nova Scotia
Department 4-H Council Scholarship.
This scholarship is designated to 4-H
members only and is intended to be
put toward post-secondary education.

If you would like a chance to
participate in one of these events, call
your local 4-H office to enquire about
application dates and requirements.
These awards are very beneficial to all

members and are considered a trip of a
lifetime.

Photo Contest Guidelines- Get Clicking 4-H Members/Leaders

The Nova Scotia Federation of
Agriculture is looking for photos
which depict farming or portraits of
farmers. This may include landscape
photos, portraits of children, and
much more. As long as the photo
shows technical excellence,
originality, and artistic creativity,
while reflecting our theme, it may be
selected as a winner in our contest.
The contest is open to Canadian
residents, age 15 or older as of the day
of submission.

Each photographer may enter up to
three photographs. A completed
application form,
including your phone number and
mailing address and information
about the photograph, must be
included for your entry to be
considered. Application forms and
information can be reviewed at
[http://www.nsf-a-fane.ca/cfa-
celebrating-75-years](http://www.nsf-a-fane.ca/cfa-celebrating-75-years), or call the
Federation office at (902)-893-2293.
All submissions must be received by 4
p.m. on Friday September 10, 2010.
Winners will be contacted on October
3. See the above website for more
details.

Camp Rankin – “Raise the Roof”

Camp Rankin is looking for
volunteers in regards to re-roofing
some of the buildings at Camp. They
are looking for leaders, parents and
senior members that can take on these
roofing tasks. There is a two day
work event scheduled on September
18 and 19. Work days are to run from
9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Barbeque will be
offered at lunchtime on the both days.
If you can help on one day or two, 4-H
members from across the province
will thank you for years to come.
If you can lift, carry or swing a

hammer, your help is needed! Please
contact the 4-H office if you are able to
help out at (902) 563-2001 or (902)
945-2901 with day attending and
numbers.

Provincial Show 2010 – Truro

4-H Provincial Show is one of Nova
Scotia’s biggest and most exciting
events. Provincial Show is an
opportunity for all the 4-H counties in
the province to showcase their best
project work and compete for top
honours in livestock and life skills
project areas. This year Provincial
Show will occur on Oct. 1 – 3 in Bible
Hill. A reminder to general leaders - if
you cannot bring your club projects to
the show, please inform the 4-H office
in September in order to find a
substitute or scratch. Life skills
projects must be in by no later than
5:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 1 and the
livestock projects must be on the
grounds by 8:30 p.m. on Friday. This
weekend will be filled with the project
judging, member judging
competitions, tug-o-war, and
livestock auctions. Remember, the
theme for this year is – Join the 4-H
Trend in 2010. 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.

Dates to Remember

August 26-28 – Inverness County
4-H show
September 9 – Project drop off for
Victoria County Day
September 11 – Victoria County 4-H
Day
September 15 – Scratch/Substitution
deadline by noon
October 1-3 – Provincial Show,
Truro, NS
November 6 – George MacNeil
Scholarship Fund raising Events
(grocery packing and auction)
November 19-20 – Annual meeting,
Truro

BSE Surveillance Program

One of the ways we highlight the safety and quality of Canadian beef is through the national bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) surveillance program. The program plays a critical role as we work toward the elimination of the disease in the Canadian cattle population. CFIA's BSE Surveillance Program is still in effect. If an inspector samples an animal - farmers get \$75 for carcass

disposal. If a veterinarian samples an animal - \$75 for carcass disposal plus another \$100 is paid to the veterinarian and then credited to the farmer's account to offset call fees. Contact Karen Brenton at the CFIA office in Antigonish at (902) 863-7042. Contact her also for information on Livestock ID, Humane Transportation or Specified Risk Material.

Antigonish Farmers Market

Hours of Operation: Every Saturday morning 9 - 12 noon

Location: James Street, behind the Antigonish Arena

The market is always interested in new food vendors of any kind. If you have a local food product that you would like to try out in the market place, the Farmers Market is an excellent venue for customer feedback. Please contact (902) 867-7479 for more information.

Growing Your Farm Profits

October 18 and 19, 2010, Antigonish

Where do you want your farm to be in 5 or 10 years? Planning is a necessary part of maintaining and increasing your farm profits. Through this workshop you will learn how to improve your business planning and maximize your long-term farm business goals.

Two Sessions: October 18,19, 2010 – 2 evening sessions
 Or
 October 19, 2010 – 1 full day session

Minimum of 15 required for a session. Please call the Agriculture office to register for either session at **(902) 863-4705**.

Celebration of Small Scale Farming

Sunday, September 12, 2010
Halifax County Exhibition Grounds,
Middle Musquodoboit
Workshops on buying used tractors,
farming with horses, livestock health,
etc.

For more information contact (902) 893-5649 or thinkfarm@gov.ns.ca.

Upcoming 4-H Dates

Antigonish

Sept. 1	4-H Day ENSE	Exhibition Grounds, Antigonish
Sept. 14	Pro Show meeting for exhibiting members and parents	6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Ant. Ed. Centre
Sept. 14	Antigonish County 4-H Council meeting	7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Ant. Ed. Centre
Sept. 22	Last day for Pro Show scratches and substitutes	
Oct. 1 - 3	NS 4-H Show	Bible Hill
Oct. 12	Antigonish County 4-H Council meeting	7 p.m. Beech Hill Rd, Antigonish
Oct. 24	Antigonish Awards Program	2 p.m. St. Andrew's Com. Centre

Pictou

Aug. 26	Council meeting - Bring forward resolutions	7 p.m. Superstore
Sept. 8	4-H Day PNCE	All day, Exhibition grounds
Sept. 15	Pro Show meeting	6:30 p.m. Northumberland
Sept. 15	Council Meeting - Finalize resolutions	7:30 p.m. Northumberland
Sept. 22	Last day for Pro Show scratches and substitutes	
Oct. 1 - 3	NS 4-H Show	Bible Hill
Oct. 28	Council meeting	7 p.m. 4-H office

Western Region 4-H

Dates to Remember:

August 25	Digby County 4-H Day at the Digby County Exhibition
September 7	Annapolis County 4-H Provincial 4-H Show meeting
September 8	Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council meeting
September 19	Yarmouth County 4-H Awards Banquet
October 1-3	NS Provincial 4-H Show , Bible Hill
October 13	Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council meeting
October 12-14	Agriculture and 4-H Leadership Coordinators staff meeting
October 17	Annapolis County 4-H Awards Banquet
October 20	Yarmouth County 4-H Leaders Council meeting
October 21	Digby County 4-H leaders Council meeting
October 30	Annapolis County 4-H Rabbit Workshop

Office Move

The Western Regional office of the Department of Agriculture will be moving on August 24 to 86 Atlantic Avenue in Cornwallis Park, Annapolis County as part of an initiative to provide a one-stop location. The new office will include the Agriculture Liaison Officer, the 4-H and Rural leaders Coordinator, the Agricultural Resource Coordinator, Food Safety staff and administrative staff. New contact information will be sent out to all of you as soon as it is available.

During this move I can be reached on my cell phone at (902) 749-6601 or at home in the evenings at (902)837-7351. My e-mail remains the same moermade@gov.ns.ca.

We apologize for any inconvenience this move may cause.

Upcoming Food Handler Courses – Fall/Winter 2010

- Bridgewater Fire Hall – October 14, December 9
- Digby Curling Club – October 7, December 9
- Kentville Research Station – September 29, October 13, November 10, December 9
- Lawrencetown NSCC – to be announced
- Middleton NSCC – to be announced
- Shelburne NSCC – October 12, December 7
- Three Mile Plains Community Hall – October 26th
- Yarmouth NSCC – September 28, October 26, November 23, December 14

If you wish to register and are in need of a registration form, please contact Gina Saulnier at the Department of Agriculture office in Weymouth at (902) 837-5161 until August 24. After this date please contact Gina by e-mail at saulnigl@gov.ns.ca.

Registration forms can be downloaded and printed from this link:
http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/pdfs/FoodHandler_West.pdf

