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# Agriculture Services

## NEWSLETTER



September 2011

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

Volume 12 No. 4

### 2010 Profile of Nova Scotia's Agriculture and Agri-food Industry

The 2010 Profile of Nova Scotia's Agriculture and Agri-food Industry is now online, visit <http://gov.ns.ca/agri/>

This statistical overview of the industry is the first of its kind for the province. The overview will be updated annually and will map the progress of the agri-food industry over time by organizing information on the state of the industry and how it has arrived there.

You are encouraged to use this resource and to share it with others.

For more information, contact Michael Devanney at [devannm@gov.ns.ca](mailto:devannm@gov.ns.ca) or at 899-6334 or Frank Reinhardt at [reinhaf@gov.ns.ca](mailto:reinhaf@gov.ns.ca) or at 424-3416

### THINKFARM Update

THINKFARM has developed a series of posters that are being sent to high schools, colleges, and universities around the province. The posters are designed to encourage young people to consider a career in farming. To view the posters, visit THINKFARM's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/thinkfarmns](http://www.facebook.com/thinkfarmns) or look for them in your regional office or the NS Federation of Agriculture office.

THINKFARM has also produced the first issue of its new quarterly e-newsletter, Over the Fence. Each issue will have a farm profile, a feature article on a topic of interest to beginning and transitioning farmers, as well as a question corner. The first issue profiles Heart and Soil CSA (Community Shared Agriculture) in Kings County, discusses Farmer Mentorship, and answers a question about farm and business registration. To view the newsletter, visit: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/thinkfarm/thinkfarm-news1.pdf>

To receive regular updates about THINKFARM activities and other agriculture related news and events, "like" THINKFARM on Facebook or subscribe to the THINKFARM listserv by sending a blank email to [join-bfs@lists.gov.ns.ca](mailto:join-bfs@lists.gov.ns.ca).

### NSDA Celebrates Small-Scale Farming

The Second Annual Celebration of Small-Scale Farming was held on July 25 at the Northville Farm Heritage Centre. More than 200 people turned out for farmer-led workshops and interactive stations on a variety of topics, ranging from dairy goat nutrition to permaculture to marketing farm products.

Livestock farmers had the opportunity to hear Cheryl Hiltz talk about proper feed for dairy goats, get pointers from Marg Zillig on finishing market lambs,

and learn about pasturing poultry from Aaron Hiltz. Horticulturalists had the chance to hear Ted Hutten talk about season extension for vegetable production and learn from Jackson Lore about compost tea for small fruits.

A women's panel was organized again this year. Margie Lamb of Meadowbrook Meat Market, Lisa Jennereaux of Spurr Brothers, Ltd., Andrea Berry of Hope Seeds, and Allison Grant of Southfield Organics spoke to a packed room about how they found their place in the farm business and broader farm community.



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### *Small-Scale Farming continued...*

Many beginning farmers are interested in mixed farms that rely as little as possible on outside inputs. Two experienced farmers, John McCully and Max Hiltz, were invited to demonstrate the use of horses and oxen in farming, with additional commentary provided by Barry Hiltz, farm manager at Ross Farm Museum. Patricia Bishop and Chris de Waal gave an informative talk about their farm marketing strategies. Alex Denicola led a two-hour session on permaculture, the art and science of farm design.

Delicious, local food for lunch was sold by Meadowbrook Meat Market and the Hip Rose Catering Company. During the lunch break, participants had the chance to visit a number of interactive stations, including beekeeping, fruit tree grafting, blacksmithing, seed saving, safe animal handling, wood shingle making and environmental farm planning.

Participants had high praise for the event. They appreciated the location, the opportunity to learn from knowledgeable, experienced farmers, the range of topics and the affordability of the event.

The Celebration of Small-Scale Farming was organized by the NSDA's Valley Regional Team and Agricultural Education staff, AgraPoint, the Northville Farm Heritage Centre, and Dirk van Loon from Rural Delivery. The event was sponsored by the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, the Municipality of the County of Kings, Rural Delivery, the Department of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism, THINKFARM, and AgraPoint. Thanks to everyone who made the 2011 Celebration of Small-Scale Farming a success by organizing, teaching, or attending! We hope to see you again in 2012.

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## **Nova Scotia Organic Sector Strategic Planning Process Update: September 2011**

The process of developing a strategy for the provincial organic sector was initiated in 2010. A small steering committee led by the Organic Council of Nova Scotia (OCNS) and industry members, in partnership with the NSDA, was created to oversee this process.

The first step in the process was the development and distribution of a survey to the organic sector in Nova Scotia. The NSDA sent out surveys to current and past organic operations (approximately 130 surveys) with 87 surveys being returned.

Of these, 61 reported being either certified or in transition to become certified organic. In December 2010, the NSDA presented results of the survey to the steering committee.

The Kings Regional Development Agency, through Stephen Kerr, provided assistance in moving the strategic planning process forward. Three regional sector meetings were held in Kentville, Cornwallis and Truro during April 2011.

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## **Continue Your Education at NSAC**

Visit the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education

### **Modern Shepherd**

Module 2 (Nutrition and Breeding)

November 12 and 13, 2011

Module 3 (Health)

January 28 and 29, 2012

Module 4 (Lambing and Marketing)

April 21 and 22, 2012

Pesticide Applicator's Certification

November 1-4, 2011

Integrated Pest Management for

Farmers – October 18, 2011

Integrated Pest Management for

Landscapers – October 20, 2011

Introductory Welding –

November 15, 17, 22, 24, 29,  
and December 1, 2011

Pesticide Application Technology  
for Farmers – Spring 2012

Pesticide Application Technology  
for Landscapers – Spring 2012

Master Gardener Training (Online)

Start dates in October,  
January, and March

Certificate of Specialization in

Organic Agriculture (Online)

Start dates in September  
and January

### **Centre for Continuing and Distance Education**

Nova Scotia Agricultural College  
PO Box 550

Truro, NS B2N 5E3

Tel 893-6666

Fax 895-5528

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

*Organic Sector Strategic Planning Process Update continued...*

Survey results were formally presented and the sector was asked to identify the primary issues to be addressed in a strategic plan. In May 2011, an expanded steering committee met, discussed next steps and consolidated the key areas that arose from the regional meetings, which resulted in the following key points:

- regulation for intra-provincial (in-province) trade;
- education (for consumers and producers);
- technical assistance (for organic farmers and processors);
- marketing and branding; and
- certification support

The next step is a facilitated session to allow industry members an opportunity to prioritize and further focus and refine the key areas to be included in a strategic plan for the Nova Scotia organic sector.

This session will be held at the Dartmouth Harbourview Holiday Inn on Friday, November 11 from 5:30 - 7 p.m. (in conjunction with the annual ACORN conference and trade show). All Nova Scotia organic sector participants are invited to attend.

The meeting will open with a quick presentation of the five key areas listed above (strategic goals) summarized from the industry survey and regional meetings. This will be followed by a process to validate these strategic goals and to brainstorm key words and phrases to be used to define each and to prioritize the goals.

Following this meeting the next step will be to build the action plan for each of the strategic goals with attention to the short, medium and long term actions.

For more information (including survey results) and to RSVP (by October 31, 2011 as a light meal will be provided), please contact:

Heather MacKenzie  
Organic Council of Nova Scotia  
895-2667  
[harmony\\_mackenzie@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:harmony_mackenzie@ns.sympatico.ca)

or  
Claire Hanlon Smith  
Nova Scotia Department of  
Agriculture  
893-4491  
[hanlonca@gov.ns.ca](mailto:hanlonca@gov.ns.ca)

## **NSFA Annual General Meeting and Trade Show**

The NSFA Annual Meeting is set for November 24 and 25, 2011 at the Best Western Glengarry in Truro.

This year's meeting is the first since our recent bylaw changes. As part of those changes, anyone who is a member of the NSFA will now have an opportunity to vote on issues at the meeting. As per the bylaws, "One vote for each registered farm." In the past, only those appointed as delegates had an opportunity to vote. As a result of this change, it will be necessary to verify your NSFA membership by presenting your farm registration card upon arrival at the annual meeting.

The registration card of a federation member has the NSFA logo on it as well as the NSDA's logo. Please check your files now for your registration card as there is still time to complete your registration if you have not already done so. Should you need to verify your NSFA membership or request a new card, please contact the office of the Farm Registrar at 893-6510.

Also, this year, we will have a registration form for anyone (members and guests) planning to attend the meeting. Watch for this and other Annual Meeting details in the November edition of the NSFA News and Views or on our website [www.nsfa-fane.ca](http://www.nsfa-fane.ca).

### **Could Your Products Be on Nova Scotia Restaurant Menus?**



Sales to restaurants and foodservice can be a potentially stable and lucrative market plus a great source of ideas or feedback. Producers interested in establishing or expanding their sales in this area have the opportunity to exhibit in the Select Nova Scotia Source Local Marketplace at the upcoming ApEx Trade Show April 15 - 16, 2012 at Exhibition Park in Halifax. Producers are offered a cost-sharing rate for a table space within the marketplace. A great opportunity to sample and showcase your products to food buyers! Contact Jennifer Reynolds, Select NS coordinator for details phone 722-1305 or email: [reynoljm@gov.ns.ca](mailto:reynoljm@gov.ns.ca)

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## Programs and Business Risk Management - Update

### **AgriInvest and AgriStability**

AgriInvest and AgriStability are business risk management programs designed to help producers protect their income, as well as 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.

### **AgriInvest Deposit Notices 2010**

AgriInvest Deposit Notices are being mailed out with information on how to make your deposit and receive matching government contribution. Once you receive your deposit notice, follow the instructions included to make your deposit. The deadline to make the deposit is indicated on the Deposit Notice.

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](http://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 2010, you will automatically be enrolled for 2011 and will receive a 2011 enrolment notice soon. If you have not received your 2011 enrollment notice and have not heard from AgriStability you should contact them at the number below.

New Participants or Farmers – AgriStability 2012 Enrolment Producers who did not participate in 2011 AgriStability and wish to participate in 2012, must request a New Participant package before April 30, 2012. To request an AgriStability New Participant package or for more information, visit [www.agr.gc.ca/AgriStability](http://www.agr.gc.ca/AgriStability) or call AgriStability toll free at 1-866-367- 8506.

For more information, call Steven at 1-866-844-4276 or 893-6374.

### **The Genetic Enhancement Program**

The Genetic Enhancement Program was launched April 2, 2011. Eligible commodities include beef, sheep and goat livestock commodities. The objectives of the program are to increase the competitive position of livestock by investing in improved genetic material for Nova Scotia flocks and herds. Funding is available on a per animal basis for eligible animals purchased after April 2, 2011.

For more information on the Genetic Enhancement Program, visit <http://gov.ns.ca/agri/prm/> or call 1-866-844-4276.

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## **Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission**

### **AgriInsurance Wildlife Compensation**

The Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission administers a Wildlife Compensation Program in Nova Scotia. This program is currently available for wildlife damage to 24 types of crops and/or predation by wildlife on 14 types of livestock at no cost to producers. A complete list of eligible crops and livestock are available on the Commission website at [www.gov.ns.ca/agri/ci](http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/ci).

Producers who apply for compensation should be aware of the following requirements of this program:

- Farmers must notify the Commission as soon as possible and not later than 72 hours after the damage has occurred or has begun to occur.
- The cause of any loss must be confirmed by the Commission.

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*AgriInsurance continued...*

- You must follow industry production and protection standards to be eligible for a claim, (e.g., fencing, deterrents, etc., for honey or bumble bees - fencing or caging are required)
- For crop damage, you must incur a loss of at least \$250 of damage or 2 acres damaged.
- For livestock damage only losses as a result of black bear, fox, coyote, raven or crow, or birds of prey are eligible.
- To be eligible for compensation payments, you must be a current Registered Farm under the NS Farm Registration Act.

To settle a Wildlife Compensation claim, the Commission must be able to:

- (1) confirm that the damage was beyond the control of the producer;
- (2) attribute the damage to wildlife; and
- (3) measure the damage

### **Advanced Payments Program**

Any producers thinking about participating in the Advance Payments Program (APP) in 2012 are reminded that many of the organizations administering this program may require crop insurance as a condition of securing the loan. Any producer who is considering taking advantage of this interest free loan should contact the appropriate agency that is administering the loan.

If crop insurance is one of the conditions for obtaining a loan, all producers are advised to take note of the deadlines for applying for crop insurance. In order to obtain coverage for 2012, new applicants must apply before the application deadline.

In previous years, crops covered under the APP included most spring grains, corn, soybeans, a wide variety of vegetables and small fruits, apples and potatoes.

For more details on APP, including contacts for participating producer organizations who are administering the APP program, consult the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada website at [www.agr.gc.ca](http://www.agr.gc.ca)

### **AgriInsurance APPLICATION DEADLINES for 2012**

Spring Grain - March 14  
Maple - April 30  
Vegetable - March 14  
Weather Plan - April 30  
Potato - April 19  
Soybean, Canola, Sunflower - May 1  
Corn - April 30

All producers who hold an active contract of insurance in one or more of the above plans will receive a Coverage Quote form(s) before the beginning of the crop year. This will give them an opportunity to choose their price option and coverage level for the upcoming growing season. Anyone considering applying for crop insurance for the first time must make their application on or before the dates noted above.

### **NEW - Peaches Now Covered Under AgriInsurance**

Nova Scotia peach growers can now insure their fresh fruit crop under the Commission's existing Tree Fruit Plan for the 2012 year. Producers interested in participating must apply prior to November 30.

### **AgriInsurance Fall Harvest Season Reminders**

- The crop year end for several fall harvested crops is quickly approaching. These include corn (Nov. 15), potato (Dec. 20), soybean (Nov. 1), tree fruit (Nov. 30) and vegetable (Nov. 15).
- Your AgriInsurance contract requires you to report your harvest within 30 days of the last day of harvest or the end of the crop year.
- If you are in a potential claim (your actual yield is less than your crop insurance production guarantee) you must apply for a claim on a Proof of Loss form, no later than 30 days after harvest or the end of the crop year.
- If you are unable to harvest your crop by the crop year end date, you must file a Notice of Damage and report the reasons to our office.

For information on Wildlife Compensation or any of our insurance plans, contact the Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission at 1-800-565-6371 or 893-6370 - Truro, or 679-6015/6028 - Kentville, or visit [www.gov.ca/agri/ci](http://www.gov.ca/agri/ci).

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## Atlantic Centre for Agricultural Innovation Opening Soon

The Atlantic Centre for Agricultural Innovation (ACAI), Atlantic Canada's agricultural bio-business and technology incubator and accelerator. ACAI will officially open its doors early January. Its mission is to encourage and support start-up technology and bio-science companies while creating a living laboratory for the adjacent university community. ACAI is part of a larger effort by the province to promote and support industry collaborations that foster economic development for the region.

ACAI will play a critical role in addressing the commercialization gap between agri-based innovative ideas and start-up companies. It will offer over 13,000 square feet of incubation space (ready for custom fit-up), an in-house pilot plant with specialized equipment, an analytical laboratory, food development unit and meeting space. As early as November, groups will be holding meetings and workshops in the centre.

The centre is also a LEED building (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and has incorporated a multi-fuel heating system, which will use grass and/or wood pellets as the main fuel source. A solar wall, water efficient landscaping and showers for clients (to encourage the use of bikes and other forms of exercise) are other green features of the facility.

A key strategic partner for agri-businesses moving up the value chain to utilize ACAI space is the Atlantic Bio-Venture Centre (AVBC), also located at AgriTECH Park. The AVBC supports new innovation in the agri-business community. The Centre is focused on new product and process developments in the field of natural health products, nutraceuticals, functional food ingredients, agri-bioproducts or agri-energy related technologies.

The Centre will be available to supply services, as well as support companies looking to incubate and accelerate their products by leasing space at ACAI.

For more information on ACAI, to discuss leasing options and services, or to book meeting or workshop space, contact: K. Laurie Sandeson, Director, AgriTECH Park, 896-7270  
[ksandeson@nsac.ca](mailto:ksandeson@nsac.ca)

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## Sheep and Beef Research Field Day in Nappan October 22

A Sheep and Beef Research Field Day will be held at the Nappan Experimental Farm on October 22, 2011. Pasture and beef specialists, Bill Thomas and Les Halliday will review pasture species selection, management and impact on ruminant production. This will be followed by scientific presentations on the sheep and beef pasture research being conducted at the farm. A guided field tour of the research will follow lunch for which there is a \$10 fee.

### Agenda:

- |       |  |       |  |
|-------|--|-------|--|
| 9:30  | Registration and Coffee  | 11:20 | Lamb reproductive performance on diverse pasture types and oil supplements: Dave Barrett, NSAC   |
| 10:00 | Welcome and Opening<br>Remarks by Chair: Jonathan Wort, AgraPoint  | 11:40 | Finishing Beef Cattle on Different Pasture Types and Effect of Forage Mixtures on Cattle Performance: John Dynesiveld, AAFC                |
| 10:10 | Review of Pasture Species Selection and Management: Bill Thomas, AgraPoint.                                  | 12:00 | Lunch  |
| 10:30 | Significance of Pasture to Sheep and Beef Production: Les Halliday, PEI Dept. of Agriculture                 | 1:00  | Field tour of sheep and beef research projects   |
| 10:50 | Questions for Bill and Les update on research projects at Nappan   | 2:00  | Casual conversation with participants  |
| 11:00 | Lamb performance and carcass composition on diverse pasture types and oil supplements: Kathleen Glover, NSAC |       | To facilitate planning, people interested in attending are encouraged to call AgraPoint at 1-877-710-5210 (toll-free) by October 18, 2011. |

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## **Producer Feedback Sessions on Select Nova Scotia - November 2011**

Nova Scotia's agricultural and seafood producers are invited to a lunch time feedback session on Select Nova Scotia - the province's buy local campaign.

There will be five sessions around the province in November. See dates and locations below. Each 1.5 hour session will begin with a brief overview of Select Nova Scotia activities, followed by a facilitated discussion to identify opportunities for future directions of the campaign.

### **2011 Select Nova Scotia Feedback Sessions**

12 noon - 1:30 p.m. at the following locations:

November 17 - Baddeck, Inverary Resort

November 21 - Lunenburg, Lunenburg Board of Trade boardroom

November 22 - Truro, Saltscapes Restaurant

November 24 - Wolfville, Wolfville Farmers Market

November 28 - Yarmouth, Rudders Restaurant

Space is limited so please reply to Jennifer Reynolds, [reynoljm@gov.ns.ca](mailto:reynoljm@gov.ns.ca)

Alternatively, producers can provide feedback on Select Nova Scotia through a written survey, contact Jennifer Reynolds, Planning and Development Officer, Select Nova Scotia Marketing Services, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture  
Phone: 722-1305

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## **Using Social Media to Market Your Farm Business**

*Nicole Burkhard, Transition Officer*

Many producers, especially direct marketers, are taking advantage of social media such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, to get the word out about their products and services on the Internet. Many aspects of social media are interactive, which allows you to develop relationships with your customers by communicating with them easily and often. This will hopefully result in more numerous and loyal customers, and allow you to save money on advertising. Social media can also serve as a way of networking with other farms and farm organizations. For example, there are Facebook pages for Thinkfarm (our department's program for beginning farmers), Meet Your Farmer (NS Federation of Agriculture consumer-awareness campaign), AgraPoint and most Farmers' Markets across the province.

The most popular form of social media used by farmers tends to be Facebook. When setting up an account for your farm business, it is best to have a 'Page' which you can identify as 'Farming/Agriculture,' which is separate from your personal account. You can post information about your farm, including what you have available for sale and how customers can buy it. Post pictures and videos to Facebook giving people an idea of what life on the farm is like. It is a good idea to post two or three times per week to keep your page relevant and interesting.

A Facebook page also gives you information about your customers: the 'View Insights' tab can tell you how many people are viewing your page, as well as their gender and age range.

Another largely untapped online marketing tool is YouTube, which is the second most popular search engine on the Internet after Google. It is possible to take good-quality video using digital cameras, and edit videos using free online software. Posting a video on YouTube gives you the opportunity to get people interested in what you are doing and gives customers a chance to experience your farm without visiting it. Think of it as a self-published commercial.

One thing to keep in mind about social marketing is to not bite off more than you can chew. There is no sense of having a Facebook Page, Twitter account, YouTube channel, blog, etc. if you are unable to manage them all. Marketing is time consuming and social media is no exception. Thankfully, there are time-saving tips. For example, you can link Facebook and Twitter accounts so that you only have to post once and it appears on both sites. Also, software like Hootsuite allows you to schedule updates so you do not have to remember to post during the week.

If you would like to learn more about using social media, there is an upcoming workshop on October 25.

## Making it Work for You: Social Media Training for Agriculture and Seafood Producers.

In this 4.5 hour workshop, agriculture and seafood producers will learn how to optimize their use of social media to create market interest in their products. Participants will be introduced to the top five social networking tools with a focus on Facebook Marketing. You will learn how to integrate these tools into an overall Facebook Marketing Strategy and Tactical Plan.

### When and Where:

Tuesday October 25, 2011  
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Hilton Garden Inn Halifax Airport  
from 200 Pratt and Whitney Drive  
Enfield, NS, B2T 0A2

### To register, contact:

Chad MacPherson  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada,  
Government of Canada

### Email:

[chad.macpherson@agr.gc.ca](mailto:chad.macpherson@agr.gc.ca)

Phone: 426-8903

Fax: 426-3439

## Your Agricultural Resource Coordinators

West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg  
and Queens counties:

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

East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester  
and Halifax counties:

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

Pictou, Antigonish  
and Guysborough counties:

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

Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness  
and Richmond counties:

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

Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth  
and Shelburne counties:

Dennis Moerman  
Tel: 638-2396 Fax: 638-2389  
[moermade@gov.ns.ca](mailto:moermade@gov.ns.ca)

## 4-H News



### Nova Scotia 4-H Members To Attend the Royal Winter Fair

During the Nova Scotia 4-H Show, 19 4-H livestock members with the highest caliber dairy and beef heifers were selected to be on the Nova Scotia teams participating in two prestigious cattle shows at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. The Royal Dairy Classic and the Royal Canadian Junior Beef Heifer Classic selections were made on Saturday, October 1, based on the quality of their calf.

Ten 4-H dairy members will compete against 4-H members from across Canada in the Royal Dairy Classic in November.

The Nova Scotia 4-H dairy team members are Hayley Wilson and Lauren van Zutphen, Inverness County, Samantha Sinclair, Guysborough County, Nick Pettipas, Andrew Eikelenboom, Marshall Ellis, Ryan Stevenson and Ashleigh Benedict, Halifax East-Hants, Jeanette VanDerLinden, Antigonish County and Nicole MacKenzie, Colchester County. The spare is Corey Charlton from Kings County

Samantha Sinclair, Guysborough County won the Versteeg Memorial Award.

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 dedicated work of the Royal Dairy Classic Committee and the Royal Canadian Junior Beef Heifer Classic Selections committee results in the 4-H members being able to attend the Royal Winter Fair and compete in the 4-H cattle classes. The Nova Scotia committee members obtain funding sponsorship and organize this event on a provincial and national level.

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Annual financial support from major sponsors, producers, individuals and businesses, provide the 4-H delegates with this tremendous opportunity.

The nine members representing Nova Scotia with their beef heifers at the Canadian Junior Beef Heifer Classic are Heather Creamer, Sarah Manthorne and David Siddall, Cumberland County; Connor Morse, Sarah Morse and Nick Lamb, Kings County;

Mitch Durling, Annapolis County; Wyatt Oulton, Hants County and Emily Ross, Colchester County. The spare is Michelle Larkin from Halifax East-Hants

While at the Royal, 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.

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## 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 2 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 and help the province compete in a prosperous economy.

In 4-H, the focus is on fun, friends, and learning cool new skills ... like creating a scrapbook, designing a website, learning to care for animals, welding a garden arbour, or making a quilt!

Emmaly MacLeod, an 18 year-old 4-H member from the Arm of Gold 4-H Club in Cape Breton County has been a member since she was nine. "Over the past nine years I've been involved in sewing, floriculture, crafts, heritage, photography, cake decorating, public speaking, team demonstrations and poster competition. The 4-H movement has taught me responsibility, organizational skills, project completion, record keeping, fund raising, community involvement, new life skills and self confidence."

Young people from 9-21 years old can be a member in 4-H. 4-H encourages leadership development, care and responsibility for our resources and builds positive life skills to secure the future of rural communities.

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## 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 Bible Hill on September 30. Megan Smith, Halifax East-Hants, won the provincial competition and will represent Nova Scotia 4-H at the 27th annual Canadian Young Speakers of Agriculture National Senior Public Speaking Competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Ontario on November 5, 2011.

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 January 1, 2010, to enter the national contest. During the competition, each contestant will give a five to seven minute prepared speech on one of five selected topics and have to introduce and thank another speaker.

Megan's topic was "The Top Five Facts People Should Know About Canadian Agriculture."

4-H members are encouraged to participate in public speaking and demonstrations along with their project work during the 4-H year. Each spring, 4-H clubs, counties and regions hold communications competitions. In an Ipsos Reid survey, commissioned by the Canadian 4-H Council, 74 per cent of 4-H alumni said their experiences as a 4-H member was very beneficial in terms of contributing to personal or career experiences later in life and in particular, they indicated that the 4-H program contributed to developing public speaking and presentation skills.

For more information, visit <http://www.cysa-joca.ca/>



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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 in moving with the times, developing projects to meet the needs of modern youth.

Hillary Gear's experience with the Hill n' Dale 4-H Club in Lunenburg County has helped her build confidence and decide on a career as a veterinarian. "Because of 4-H, I've become a more responsible, respectful and confident person and it's given me the skills I need to pursue my dream job, a veterinarian," said 18 year-old Hillary. "I've been able to widen my experience working with many different animals by taking the Veterinary Science Project. I've delivered calves, given them needles, taken heart rates of animals, toured vet clinics and volunteered at a two-day spay and neuter clinic at Oakland Veterinary Hospital. At the veterinary hospital I really had a chance to see what I'd be doing as a veterinarian some day. While I was there, the veterinarian asked me if I would like to volunteer at the hospital over the summer so this helped me learn more about my dream job."

4-H members can choose from over 40 projects and learn by doing. Projects help develop technical and record keeping skills in youth while teaching them responsibility. They take pride in doing their best, making decisions and seeing projects through to completion. Youth grow up with confidence in their own skills and talents, as well as the caring and sharing of community spirit.

4-H members also have the opportunity to travel on national, and international exchange programs, participate in cutting-edge provincial and/or national conferences, and apply for more than \$100,000 in national scholarships.

We have so much to celebrate! A national survey of 4-H alumni conducted by Ispos Reid and commissioned by the Canadian 4-H Council, found that 88 percent said the key goals and objectives of 4-H are relevant to today's youth. Also, 85 percent of former members would recommend 4-H membership to young people.

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### **4-H Member to Attend the International 4-H Judging Seminar**

David Siddall, a 4-H member from Cumberland County will represent Nova Scotia at the Canadian National 4-H and Youth Judging Seminar during the Canadian Western Agribition in Regina, Saskatchewan.

During the Grand Champion Judging Competition at the Nova Scotia 4-H Show, David placed three livestock and three life skills classes and gave oral reasons on four to win the trip to Agribition.

During the 4-H year, members learn to judge the projects in which they are enrolled. Each member compares four items or animals (related to their project topic), places them from best to worst and give reasons for their placing. Besides developing confidence in 4-H members, the judging exercise teaches them decision making, communication skills and how to deliver their opinions with conviction.

From November 20 - 22, 2011, David will attend the International 4-H Judging Seminar along with as many as 80 delegates from across Canada and the United States. This competition fosters the future development of young judges for the agricultural industry and provides a high profile and competitive judging experience.

Competitors must be 17 - 21 years of age. They will compete in judging livestock classes and provide oral reasons to a judge in those classes identified. A total of 12 minutes per class is allotted to judge each class.

Aggregate scores will be based on total scores of the classes plus scores of the oral reasons. Cash prizes will be awarded to the grand aggregate and the highest placing Canadian competitor.

## **Annapolis County Federation Livestock Sales**

Cattle Sales at the Lawrencetown Exhibition Grounds for the remainder of the year are: Oct. 22, Nov. 12 and 26. Selling of miscellaneous items will begin at 10:30 a.m. Selling of livestock begins at 1 p.m.

## **Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture Cattle Sale**

The next Lunenburg Queen's Federation of Agriculture Cattle Sale will be held on Saturday, October 29 at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds. Sale starts at 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact Peter Morine at 527-3274.

## **Fall Food Festival**

Fall Food Festival will be held on Sunday, October 30, from 1-8 p.m., at the Fountain Learning Commons, Acadia University. The Festival will include guest speakers, food entrepreneurs, networking showcase and reception, October Flavours Dinner, live auction.

Everyone who cares about food is invited to attend. Nova Scotian food is good for us and the economy – how can we have more? The guest speakers will describe the economic, social, health, and other benefits of producing food and investing in food enterprises in Nova Scotia. This event is an occasion for people to learn about opportunities to support the growing and processing of Nova Scotia food, and to enjoy that food in the company of the people who provide it.

Ticket cost is \$50 (includes all sessions, networking reception, October Flavours Dinner). Tickets are available at Box of Delights, Wolfville, and from member of the Organizing Committee: Linda Best, Donna Crawford, Ann Anderson, Shannon MacLean, Marianne Gates, Susan Paddock, Scott Lewin, and Richard Melvin.

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## **Federation of Agriculture Annual General Meetings**

Hants Co. Federation of Agriculture's annual general meeting will be held at the Brooklyn Fire Hall on October 26 at 7 p.m.

Kings Co. Federation of Agriculture will hold their annual general meeting on Tuesday, November 8 at the Port Williams Community Centre starting at 7 p.m.

Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture's annual general meeting will be held on October 27 at 7 p.m. at Bridgewater Best Western. For additional events and information about Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture, contact any board member.

The annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture will be held on November 24 and 25 at the Best Western Glengarry, Truro.

### **Disposal of Used Farm Sharps**

The Agriculture office in Kentville still 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.



### **Mailing List Updates**

We are constantly updating our mailing list. If your address has changed, you no longer would like to receive this newsletter, or you would prefer to receive this newsletter by e-mail, please contact Cheryl at 902-679-6021 or by e-mail [ctheriau@gov.ns.ca](mailto:ctheriau@gov.ns.ca).

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## Valley Region 4-H

Fall marks the beginning of another 4-H year! Clubs are now starting to take registrations so this is a great time to get involved with this rewarding program. The Valley region, consisting of Hants and Kings Counties, boasts a very strong 4-H program with 15 clubs that offer a wide range of livestock and life skills projects. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the 4-H program, get in touch with Valorie Oickle, your Agriculture and 4-H Leadership Coordinator for the Valley Region. The 4-H office is located in Kentville and can be reached at 679-6027. You can also log on to the Nova Scotia 4-H website to find out more information about the 4-H program and youth movement.

<http://gov.ns.ca/agri/4h/>

4-H Clubs in communities all across Canada are gearing up for the month of November – National 4-H Month. Throughout the month, clubs will be celebrating being apart of Canada’s most prominent youth organization with fund raisers, socials and fun events.



## NSCC International Business - Student Internships

Good people are hard to find! Is your business involved in importing, exporting, trade-related services or part of the transportation sector? Need an extra hand? Are you overworked on certain projects? Do you have back burner projects that never seem to make it to the top of the pile? Are you planning for growth? If so, have you considered an NSCC international business student internship?

Between January and April of 2011, 25 job-ready students who are finishing their third year at NSCC will be seeking a four-month internship to complete their credit requirements for the Advanced Diploma in International Business program. This program was identified as one of Nova Scotia's top ten most innovative programs. These students are keen to work and capable of working in almost any aspect of your company's business.

A lot can be accomplished in four months so express your interest early if we can help. For more information, contact Barrie Reid, Faculty International Business at [Barrie.reid@nsc.ca](mailto:Barrie.reid@nsc.ca) or phone 893-5352

### Typical Projects Include

- Customer Service Support
- Sales and Marketing Assistance
- Logistics Coordination and Support
- Market Research
- Inside Sales

- Newsletter/Website Development
- Trade Related Administrative Support
- Consulting and planning support

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## Growing Your Farm Profits

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?

Growing Your Farm Profits will help.

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 of reaching your goals by attending the "Growing Your Farm Profits" workshop. This one-day workshop will give you the tools necessary to assess where you are now and where you could be in the future.

Nappan, Pavillion: November 10, 2011, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Truro, AgraTech Park: December 1, 2011, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

For more information, contact Michael at 893-3645 or [kittilma@gov.ns.ca](mailto:kittilma@gov.ns.ca)

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## Do You Have the Proper Drivers License?

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 license to legally drive on Nova Scotia roads. These regulations apply to the class 5 license. If you are interested in obtaining these endorsements, contact Michael Kittilsen at 893-3645 or [kittilma@gov.ns.ca](mailto:kittilma@gov.ns.ca). An information session is booked for October 23 and testing day has been set for November 3.

### Process for Condition 15:

1. Purchase a road test receipt for \$47.63 (HST Included). This can be purchased at an Access Nova Scotia Center or at [www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/](http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/).

### Process: For Condition 23

- Complete a Condition 23 application prior to testing
- Have driver's medical exam completed by your doctor
- Purchase a road test receipt for \$47.63 (HST Included). This can be purchased at an Access Nova Scotia Center or at [www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/](http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/).

You must register with the Central office first and have a valid drivers license ("N" removed) to be eligible for testing. The Condition 23 application, the form for the medical exam and more information is available by calling Michael at 893-3645. Once you have successfully passes the road test your license can be upgraded for \$22.15 at the Service Nova Scotia office.

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## Central Region 4-H News

### Hello 4-H Enthusiasts!

The Central Region had a busy and exciting summer. In July, there were 19 4-H Club Achievement days in the Central Region! It was wonderful to see all the hard work and effort the 4-H members put into their livestock and life skills projects over the past year! As well, in August, all three counties took part in their local exhibitions with much success.

This fall we hope to have lots of new families join the 4-H movement and we welcome returning members and leaders back to 4-H. Join us on October 22 for the Fall Flavors Foods Workshop. There will be a chef, nutritionist and local farmers all talking about local foods and how to prepare them. See your general leader for more information. Space is limited so apply early.



### Upcoming 4-H Meetings

#### Colchester County 4-H Council Meetings:

October 24, November 28 and January 23, upstairs in the Agri-dome beginning at 7 p.m.

#### Cumberland County 4-H Council Meetings:

November 1 and December 5, at the Shinimicas Fire Hall at 8 p.m.

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

Oct. 18 (Hants East Rural High), Nov. 15 (Hants East Rural High) and Jan. 17 (Forestry Complex in Middle Musquodoboit) all at 7 p.m.

#### County 4-H Award Nights

Halifax-East Hants County, October 27, Campbell Hall  
Colchester County, October 22, Bible Hill Junior High (Scholarship Auction and Awards Night)

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

Jacqueline Hoyt (Agriculture and 4-H Leadership Coordinator for the Central Region) at 893-6586 or [hoytjm@gov.ns.ca](mailto:hoytjm@gov.ns.ca).

## Food Preservation and Safety for Food Entrepreneurs Workshop:

Cape Breton: Gaelic College (St. Ann's): November 10, 2011  
(8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

\$30 per person, pre-registration required, lunch provided.

This workshop will feature the fundamentals of food preservation and food safety. Topics include:

Food safety concerns regarding preserving foods in jars, vacuum, other types of packaging cooking, refrigeration, freezing of foods, in-home preparation, labeling, production logs, recalls, coding, shelf life, pH, water activity and other food safety parameters

Presenters include: Kathy Spencer and Doug Singer, food technologists from Dalhousie University, Steve Owen, technology advisor for NRC-IRAP Industrial Research Assistance Program and NS Department of Agriculture Food Protection and Enforcement staff. This team of specialists bring an incredible amount of knowledge and experience in food production and technology.

To register, contact:

Brenda Wilson, Taste of Nova Scotia,  
email: [taste@tasteofnovascotia.com](mailto:taste@tasteofnovascotia.com)  
Phone: 492-9291 (ext. 114)

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## Pesticide Applicators License Course - Skye Glen Hall, November 3 and 4, 2011.

The Inverness Victoria Federation of Agriculture is hosting a Pesticide Certification Course in the Skye Glen Hall for anyone wishing to prepare and write the test for the Pesticide Applicator's License. The first day training will be provided by Traci Curry. On day two, staff from the Department of Environment will be on hand to administer the exam.

The cost for this course is \$50 for Inverness Victoria Federation members and \$80 for non-members.

All participants should get a copy of the training manual prior to the course, they can be ordered from the NSAC bookstore 1-902-893-6728 or participants can download a free copy of the training manual at [http://gov.ns.ca/nse/pests/applicato\\_rtraining.asp](http://gov.ns.ca/nse/pests/applicato_rtraining.asp)

Remember to bring a calculator, pen/pencil and your reading glasses.

Register by contacting the Agriculture office at 563-2000.

## Hay for Sale?

The Cape Breton Agricultural office is gathering a contact list of individuals who have or will have hay for sale this winter season. Each year, the regional offices receive numerous calls from livestock owners who are looking to purchase hay and other feeds. If you would like to have your name added to the contact list or you are looking to purchase hay, call 563-2000.

## Soil and Water Sampling

The Strathlorne Nursery is now accepting soil and water samples for delivery to our labs in Truro. Sample kits and information can be picked up at their main office in the main building. For more information, contact Shirley MacArthur at 258-2626.

## Federation Meetings

The Inverness-Victoria Federation of Agriculture will be holding its annual general meeting on October 26 at the Skye Glen Hall at 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided. All members are invited to attend and participate in this annual event.

The Cape Breton Richmond Federation of Agriculture will be holding a general meeting on October 25, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Federation building in North Sydney. All members are invited to see the newly renovated facilities. Contact Maureen for more details at 794-7633.

## Do You Have the Proper Drivers License?

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 license to legally drive on Nova Scotia roads. These regulations apply to the class 5 license.

The Inverness-Victoria Federation is sponsoring a testing day in Mabou on November 9, 2011. If you are interested in obtaining these endorsements, contact Catherine at 563-2000 or email [plumricl@gov.ns.ca](mailto:plumricl@gov.ns.ca)

### PROCESS For Condition 15:

1. Purchase a Road Test Receipt at an Access Nova Scotia Center or online at [www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/](http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/).

### PROCESS: For Condition 23

- Complete a Condition 23 application prior to testing
- Have a driver's medical exam completed by your doctor
- Purchase a road test receipt at an Access Nova Scotia Center or online at [www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/](http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/).

You must register with the Regional Office first and have a valid drivers license ("N" removed) to be eligible for testing. The Condition 23 application, the form for the medical exam and more information is available by calling 563-2000.

## Upcoming Food Handler Courses 2011

Pre-register for food handlers courses by contacting Catherine at the NS Department of Agriculture office in Sydney at 563-2000. Registration forms can be downloaded and printed from

<http://gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/applications.shtml>

October 25	Port Hawksbury Civic Center
October 25	Grand Lake Road Fire Hall
November 8	Bras d'Or Hall
November 22	Grand Lake Fire Hall
November 22	Port Hawksbury Civic Center
December 6	Bras d'Or Hall

## 4-H News



### National Member Conference - Winner

Congratulations to our national award member attending the National Conferences to be held at the beginning of November. The regional winner will get an opportunity to attend the Royal Winter Fair and tour the Toronto and surrounding agricultural areas. The delegate attending this year is Kristen Battiste from Cape Breton county. Kristen is an active member in many livestock projects in her county and has assisted with regional poultry, rabbit and waterfowl demonstrations. Kristen will bring back her experiences and share them at the annual Cape Breton banquet held in late November.

### Fall Food Flavours

You are invited to attend a fun and educational food workshop sponsored by Loblaws on October 22, 2011. Hear sessions on Nova Scotia seasonal foods, good nutrition and food safety. A local guest chef will prepare a meal with local fall flavours for everyone to sample. The workshop is open to 4-H leaders and senior members, WINS, farm market vendors and the Federation of Agriculture.

Workshops will be held in the Port Hawksbury Superstore. For more information contact Agriculture and 4-H Leadership Coordinators at 945-2901 or 563-2001

### Tentative program:

- 9:30 a.m. Registration and coffee/snacks
- 9:45 a.m. Local food – Good nutrition
- 10:30 a.m. Handling Food Safely
- 11 a.m. Local and Seasonal Food Fare: Guest Chef
- 12 p.m. Let's Eat Lunch" – prepared by guest chef
- 12:45 p.m. Focus on local food
- 1:15 p.m. Local Dessert Options – plating, presentation, etc.
- 2:15 p.m. Ask the Chef – Q and A, dessert tasting and evaluations
- 3 p.m. Homeward bound

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## Step Forward Leadership Workshop

Rural youth aged 13-17 are invited to an educational day with hands on activities, and the opportunity to meet other regional youth. We will be learning about food safety, team building, money management and much more. The day will also provide the chance to go skating. This workshop will be held on October 28, 2011, which is an in-service day in the Cape Breton Regional School Board district. The program will be held at the Northside Community Civic Centre in North Sydney. The day will run from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The workshop is open to rural youth in Cape Breton Island. For more information, contact the Department of Agriculture at 563-2001 or 945-2901.

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## Important Dates:

October 30	Inverness County Church Service, 9:30 a.m., Brook Village Church 4-H sign up for 2012 and banquet, 10:15 a.m.
November 10	Inverness Council meeting, 9:30 a.m., NSDA office
November 15	National members awards deadline
November 18-19	Annual meeting, Truro
November	National 4-H Month
November 20	Cape Breton annual meeting and banquet (Grand Mira hosting)
November 29	Cape Breton Regional New Leader training session, 6 p.m. - Civic Center Cape Breton Regional National Award interviews, 4:30 p.m. - Civic Center
November 30	Richmond Council meeting, 7 p.m., Smith's
December 1	4-H Annual registration for all leaders and members due in 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 regional staff, 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 or concerns, contact the Regional office in Sydney at 563-2000 or the Mabou office at 945-2901.



Open Farm Day was a great success and we would like to thank our local farms who generously volunteered and assisted in the promotion of the agriculture industry. Thank you to Ebbett's Meadow Brook Farm, Lismore Sheep Farm, Seafoam Lavender Farm, West River Holsteins, and Carrondale Farm.

Thank you to Andrew Jessens for hosting the beef tour on October 1st. Twenty producers from Antigonish, Guysborough and Pictou Counties participated in an informative afternoon. Pasture and soil management and low-cost production alternatives were the topics of the day. Bale grazing and grass-fed beef were also discussed.

The afternoon was a partnership between the Department of Agriculture and AgraPoint. Specialists on hand were Bill Thomas, Jack van Roestel, Jonathan Wort and Amy Sangster. Early in the new year, we are planning a follow up meeting where we will see presentations on bale grazing from local producers. We will also discuss managing scours.

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## Federation News

The Antigonish-Guysborough Federation of Agriculture in partnership with the key stakeholders of the Exhibition Grounds and the Antigonish RDA are exploring a development plan for the proposed grounds development. This is in the preliminary stages and the first step will be to investigate the needs of the Farmers' Market and the size building required. This first stage will be done this Fall and is a real opportunity for the agriculture industry and the federation is looking forward to hearing your comments and thoughts on the proposal.

## Agriculture Awareness

The Ag Awareness booth was a huge success at this year's Exhibition and we would like to build on this. We are always looking for new ideas and volunteers. Please contact your Federation directors or the Antigonish office.

## Upcoming Annual General Meetings

Antigonish/Guysborough Federation of Agriculture will hold its AGM on October 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the St. Ninian Place, Antigonish.

Pictou/North Colchester Federation of Agriculture will hold its Annual General Meeting and dinner on October 20. (Call Lorenda at 657-3420 for tickets).

The NSFA Annual Meeting takes place on November 24 and 25 at the Best Western Glengarry, Truro

Visit the Antigonish Farmers' Market for a true Saturday morning experience. Open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday in the 4-H Barn on the Exhibition Grounds until October 29. The Market will move to the Antigonish Education Centre from November 5 until it closes for the season on December 17, 2011. So many wonderful products to choose from.... come out and support your local vendors... buy local!

## Upcoming workshops:

- Vegetable Club - meeting with Grant Thornton to discuss financials
- Hoof Trimming refresher course

The Antigonish Rookie Dairy Club has started fall activities and are now planning for winter events after recently holding a tour at Dustin Swinkels farm. If you are not currently part of the club and would like to be, please call the Agriculture office.

Kitchen meetings have recently been held in Pictou County and plans are being made to hold the same in Antigonish and Guysborough counties later this fall. The meetings have proven to be a great arena for learning about department resources and exploring industry issues with neighborhood farmers.

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## 4-H Provincial Show Results

Champion 4 Showroom Class Rabbit Brooklyn Frizzle / Antigonish	Champion Jr. Welding Project Fiona MacKenzie / Pictou
Reserve Champion 4 Showroom Class Rabbit Bianca Bourgeois / Pictou	Champion Poultry Trio James Van de Sande / Antigonish
Champion Miniature Horse Driving Fiona MacKenzie / Pictou	Reserve Champion Waterfowl Pair Andrew Green / Pictou
Reserve Champion Ayrshire Calf Alexander Sinclair / Guysborough	Reserve Champion Western Equitation Danielle MacEachern / Pictou
Champion Shorthorn Calf Rebecca Fraser / Pictou	Champion Light Horse Showman Paget Houston / Pictou
Reserve Champion Sheep Connie Van Den Heuvel / Antigonish	Champion Miniature Horse Showman Julie Vosman / Antigonish
Champion Dairy Judge Pat Thomson / Antigonish	Champion Sheep Showman Connie Van Den Heuvel / Antigonish
Reserve Champion Rabbit Judge Andrew Greene / Pictou	Champion Rabbit Showman Andrew Greene / Pictou
Reserve Champion Poultry Judge Randy Antigonish / Antigonish	Reserve Champion Rabbit Showman Jordan Vosman / Antigonish
Champion Dog Judge Jessica Overmars / Antigonish	Champion Waterfowl Showman Andrew Greene / Pictou
Champion Woodworking Judge Kayla Graham / Pictou	Champion Tug-of-War Team Pictou County
Reserve Champion Garden Judge Alannah Sharpe / Pictou	Champion Overall Judge Randy Angevine / Antigonish
Reserve Champion First Aid Judge Savannah Lees / Pictou	Reserve Champion Overall Judge 2 Andrew Greene / Pictou 6 Pat Thomson / Antigonish
Champion Small Engine Judge Patrick Heighton / Pictou	Grand Champion Livestock Showman Andrew Greene / Pictou
Reserve Champion Jr. Sewing Article Kenzie MacNeil / Antigonish	Reserve Grand Champion Livestock Showman 6 Julia Vosman / Antigonish 8 Connie VanderHeuvel / Antigonish 0 Jordan Vosman / Antigonish
Champion Junior Scrapbooking Article Emaleigh Murray / Pictou	Versteeg Memorial Dairy Award Samantha Sinclair / Guysborough
Reserve Champion Sr. Cake Decorating Project Joshua Sharpe / Pictou	Royal Dairy Classic 2 Samantha Sinclair / Guysborough 8 Jeanette VanDerLinden / Antigonish
Reserve Champion Jr. Heritage Project Collection Emma MacLeod / Pictou	Oulton Fuels Beef Clipping Competition 1st place team: Antigonish
Champion Jr. Woodworking Article Cody George / Antigonish	Sheep Clipping Competition 1st place team: Pictou
Reserve Champion Jr. Garden Article Taylor Estabrooks / Antigonish	Top Overall County 8th Pictou 6.149
Champion Sr. Garden Article Iris Langille / Pictou	
Reserve Champion Sr. Garden Article Allana Sharpe / Pictou	
Champion Jr. First-Aid Project Kaitlyn Kelly / Antigonish	
Champion Vet Science Project Andrew Greene / Pictou	

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## Upcoming 4-H Events

**Antigonish County**  
November – National 4-H Month  
November 10 – County Awards  
Program  
St. Andrew's Community Centre, 7  
p.m.

**Pictou County**  
October 26 – Council Meeting, (go  
over Resolutions) 7 p.m.,  
Northumberland  
November TBA – Pictou Church  
Service  
Location TBA (in the West)  
November 10 – Pictou County,  
7 p.m., WA MacLeod  
Celebrate 4-H Night  
November 16 – Annual Meeting, 7  
p.m. Northumberland  
November 18 and 19 – NS Council  
annual meeting, Debert  
November 24 – Council meeting  
and set dates for 2012  
7 p.m., Northumberland  
December 4 – Leaders Christmas  
Social, 7 p.m. Mings in New  
Glasgow

If you or someone you know is  
interested in joining 4-H either as  
a member or volunteer, contact the  
4-H Office at 863-4705, email  
Dawn at [BARRIND@gov.ns.ca](mailto:BARRIND@gov.ns.ca) or  
visit [www.gov.ns.ca/agri/4h](http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/4h). This is  
the time of year when clubs get  
organized and begin their annual  
registration.

The fifth annual Antigonish  
International Film Festival will  
take place October 21 and 22. It  
promises to be another wonderful  
series of presentations reaching  
across the entire range of human  
emotions. For more information,  
visit [www.antigonishfilmfest.org/](http://www.antigonishfilmfest.org/).

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## Food Preservation and Safety for Food Entrepreneurs Workshop

Yarmouth: NSCC Burrigge Campus:  
November 22, 2011 (8:30 a.m. -  
4:30 p.m.)

\$30 per person, pre-registration  
required, lunch provided.

This workshop will feature the  
fundamentals of food preservation  
and food safety.

Topics include: Food safety  
concerns regarding preserving  
foods in jars, vacuum, other types  
of packaging cooking,  
refrigeration, freezing of foods, in-  
home preparation, labeling,  
production logs, recalls, coding,  
shelf life, pH, water activity and  
other food safety parameters

Presenters are Kathy Spencer and  
Doug Singer, food technologists  
from Dalhousie University, Steve  
Owen, technology advisor for  
NRC-IRAP Industrial Research  
Assistance Program, as well as NS  
Department of Agriculture Food  
Protection and Enforcement staff.  
This team of specialists bring an  
incredible amount of knowledge  
and experience in food production  
and technology.

To register, contact: Brenda  
Wilson, Taste of Nova Scotia  
email:

[taste@tasteofnovascotia.com](mailto:taste@tasteofnovascotia.com),

Phone: 492-9291 (ext.: 114)

## Western Region 4-H

October 16 – Annapolis County 4-H  
Awards Banquet

October 19 – Yarmouth County 4-H  
leaders Council meeting

October 20 – Digby county 4-H  
Awards Banquet and Council meeting

October 29 – Fall Food Flavours  
Workshop. Kingston Superstore.  
Open to Foods leaders, senior  
members, Women’s Institute,  
Annapolis County farm women,  
Kings County farm women. By  
application only.

November is 4-H Month. Watch for  
displays and radio information

November 3-7 – Royal beef and Dairy  
members will be attending the Royal  
Winter Fair in Toronto.

November 9 – Annapolis County 4-H  
Leaders Council meeting

November 16 – Yarmouth 4-H leaders  
Council meeting

November 17 – Digby 4-H leaders  
Council meeting

## Tractor Safety Course – More Participants Needed

In cooperation with the NSAC, the  
Western Regional Team is able to  
offer a tractor safety course. If you  
have a Class 3, 5 or 8 drivers license,  
you are eligible to get a condition 15  
endorsement on your license if you  
successfully complete this course.

This course will increase the  
awareness and test competency of  
Nova Scotia drivers with regard to  
safe operation and use of farm  
tractors and implements. Topics such  
as safety, highway regulations, pre-  
operation checks, safe starts, stops,

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## Upcoming Fall and Winter Workshops

Dates and locations are to be  
confirmed so stay tuned for details.  
Let us know if you are interested  
in being contacted for any of the  
following:

- Digby Farm Women’s Day (mid  
November)
- Forage Quality workshop with  
AgraPoint (Annapolis County -  
early November)
- Beef Slaughter and Marketing  
with AgraPoint (Kentville -  
early December)
- Direct Marketing for sheep  
producers with AgraPoint

- Nutrient Management in  
Organic Vegetable Production  
with AgraPoint
- Mink Farm Management  
(Weymouth)
- Cost of Production with  
Department of Agriculture staff  
(Annapolis County)
- Growing Your Farm Profits with  
Department of Agriculture staff

We are always looking for new  
ideas for workshops. If you have a  
suggestion, call Nicole Burkhard at  
638-2397.

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connecting and hauling various implements will be covered.

Please note: This course is not intended to teach tractor driving. All participants must have at least 10 hours of supervised tractor driving experience before taking this course.

To have your name added to the list call Gina Saulnier at 638-2395.

### **Annapolis County Federation Livestock Sales**

Cattle Sales at the Lawrencetown Exhibition Grounds will be starting up in September. The dates for sales for the remainder of the year are October 8 and 22, November 12 and 26. Selling of miscellaneous items will begin at 10:30 a.m. Selling of livestock begins at 1 p.m.

### **New Web Site**

NS Cattle Producers have a new website: [www.nscattle.ca](http://www.nscattle.ca)

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### **Mailing List Update**

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, or would like to receive a PDF version via e-mail, contact Gina Saulnier at [saulnigl@gov.ns.ca](mailto:saulnigl@gov.ns.ca) or 638-2395.

### **Regional Office Contact Information:**

We are located in Cornwallis Park, in the yellow building beside the RCMP detachment. Our mailing address is 86 Atlantic Ave. Box 278, Cornwallis Park, NS B0S 1H0. Call toll-free at: 1-800-639-7030.

Dennis Moerman, Agricultural Resource Coordinator:  
[moermade@gov.ns.ca](mailto:moermade@gov.ns.ca) Phone: 638-2396

Nicole Burkhard, Agricultural Transition Officer:  
[burkhane@gov.ns.ca](mailto:burkhane@gov.ns.ca) Phone: 638-2397

Jean Ward, Agriculture and 4-H Leadership Coordinator:  
[wardje@gov.ns.ca](mailto:wardje@gov.ns.ca) Phone: 638-2387

Gina Saulnier, Administrative Assistant: [saulnigl@gov.ns.ca](mailto:saulnigl@gov.ns.ca)  
Phone: 638-2395

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### **Food Safety Course Dates**

Bridgewater	October 18
Middleton	October 18
Yarmouth	October 18
Kentville	November 9
Yarmouth	November 9
Digby	November 16
Lawrencetown	November 23
Shelburne	December 6
Yarmouth	December 6
Kentville	December 7
Bridgewater	December 8

