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Agriculture and Food Operations

NEWSLETTER



August 2012

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

Volume 13 No.3

Nova Scotia Crop & Livestock Insurance Commission

AgrilInsurance

Application Deadlines

Winter grain – August 31
Forage establishment – October 15
Raspberries – October 31
Strawberries – November 14
Blueberries – November 30
Tree fruit – November 30

The application deadline is fast approaching for winter grain – August 31.

The deadline for planting is:

October 7 for Annapolis, Kings, Hants West Counties (Zone 1)

September 30 for Colchester, Hants East and Halifax (Zone 2)

September 20 for the rest of the province (Zone 3)

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 the producer requests cancellation in writing by the deadline date.

The benefit of this approach is that you do not risk the chance of not being able to insure your crop for

the entire cropping season if for some reason you do not make an application by the required date. At the same time, if you do not cancel by the cancellation deadline, you will be expected to insure your crop during the current crop year. Please note the following deadlines:

Cancellation Deadlines

Strawberry – September 15
Winter grain – September 15
Raspberry – October 31
Tree insurance – November 14
Tree fruit – November 30
Blueberry – December 15

AgrilInsurance Now Covers New Crops

Last year, the Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Commission amended several of its crop insurance plans to allow for coverage to be provided to new crops. These new crops include triticale which has been added to the Winter Grain Plan, and peaches which have been added to the Tree Fruit Plan. Both crops are now available to be added to a client's coverage for the 2013 crop year. In addition to these new crops, clients growing sunflowers or canola can also obtain crop insurance coverage for these oilseed crops under existing crop plans of the commission.

Problems With Harvest?

AgriInsurance clients who experience problems or delays at harvest are reminded of their obligation to advise the commission promptly with a Notice of Damage within five days. You must provide the commission with a notice when:

- You think your crop will be reduced due to harvesting delays as a result of an insurable peril.
- You note a reduction in yield due to an insurable peril once you have completed harvesting. (Must be reported within five days of harvest.) or
- Your harvest could or does extend past the end of the crop insurance crop year end date.

Failure to provide this reporting could result in the denial of any claim for losses to your crop. When in doubt, report your concerns to the commission office.

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AgriInsurance – Crop Year End Dates:

- Strawberry – August 31
- Winter grain – August 31
- Lowbush blueberry – September 15
- Highbush blueberry – September 25
- Spring grain – September 30
- Soybeans – November 1
- Corn – November 15
- Vegetable – November 15
- Tree fruit – November 30
- Potato – December 20

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



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.

AgriInvest Deposit Notices

AgriInvest deposit notices are being mailed out with information on how to make your deposit and receive matching government contributions. Once you receive your notice, follow the instructions included to make your deposit. The deadline to make the deposit is indicated on the 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 at 1-866-367-8506 or visit the website at www.agr.gc.ca/AgriInvest.

AgriStability

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 are a participant in AgriStability, you will automatically be enrolled for each year. You will be sent an enrollment notice and fee amount to be paid by a deadline.

New Participants or Farmers AgriStability 2013 Enrolment

Producers who did not participate in AgriStability in 2012 and wish to participate in 2013 must request a new participant package before April 30, 2013. To request the package or for more information, visit the AgriStability website at www.agr.gc.ca/AgriStability or call toll free at 1-866-367- 8506.

For more information on AgriStability and AgriInvest, call Steven at 1-866-844-4276 or 902-893-6374.

The Genetic Enhancement Program

The Genetic Enhancement Program is still accepting applications. Eligible commodities include beef, sheep and goat livestock. 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.

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

Continue Your Education at NSAC

Visit the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education

Modern Shepherd Module 1
(Husbandry, Handling and
Pastures)
September 29-30

Modern Shepherd Module 2
(Nutrition and Breeding)
November 17-18

The Horticultural Therapy Basics
Workshop
September 28-29

Certificate of Specialization in
Organic Agriculture (Online)
Start dates in September and
January

Master Gardener Training (Online)
Start dates in October, January,
and March

Livestock Medicines for Meat and
Milk Industries
October 4

Pesticide Re-Certification for
Farmers
October

Pesticide Re-Certification for
Landscapers
October

New Composting Short Course
for Farmers
October

Pesticide Applicator Certification
November 6-9

Introductory Welding
November 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29
(evenings)

New farmer courses in soils
(online), beekeeping, farm
machinery and more are coming in
2013.

For more information, contact:
Centre for Continuing and
Distance Education
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
PO Box 550
Truro, NS B2N 5E3
Tel (902) 893-6666
Fax (902) 895-5528
E-mail: cde@nsac.ca
Website: www.nsac.ca/cde



AgZone 2012

From May 16 to 18, the Nova Scotia Agricultural College campus hosted 480 grade eight students from six local schools for AgZone 2012. The event gives students and teachers a glimpse of some educational and career choices available in agriculture.

With the help of volunteer guides including farmers, agrologists and agricultural grad students, teams of students took part in a friendly race around the campus. Mini-workshops showcased agricultural topics such as plant propagation, nutrients for and from plants, egg quality analysis, aquaculture, and good environmental farm practices.

Students also learned about agricultural engineering equipment by witnessing the pressure required to crush a raw egg. Surprisingly, some eggs required a force as high as 45 kg. Students were rewarded at the end of the event with a Select Nova Scotia blueberry and apple smoothies and fresh milk kindly donated by Scotsburn Dairy.

Teacher feedback was positive with comments such as, “The students are very interested in learning more about agriculture and this was a perfect opportunity for this” and “It was fun to have it as a race, kept kids moving and enjoying the day.”

The Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Education office is working with staff in regional offices to find opportunities to bring the AgZone model to students and teachers in other parts of the province.

35th Annual Nova Scotia 4-H Show to be Held in Bible Hill

For 90 years, youth in Nova Scotia have learned technical and leadership skills through 4-H. For 35 of those years, members have been showing the public what they have achieved at the Nova Scotia 4-H Show.

The provincial 4-H Show will be held September 28-30 at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition grounds in Bible Hill. This annual event is an excellent opportunity for members, their families, and the general public to come together to view the many talents learned through the program.

Nova Scotia has the largest 4-H Show in Canada with all the exhibitors being members from nine to 21 years of age. This year the Central Region 4-H Leaders Councils (Colchester, Cumberland, Halifax-East Hants) are hosting the show. They are responsible for making site arrangements, providing security, fund raising and promotion.

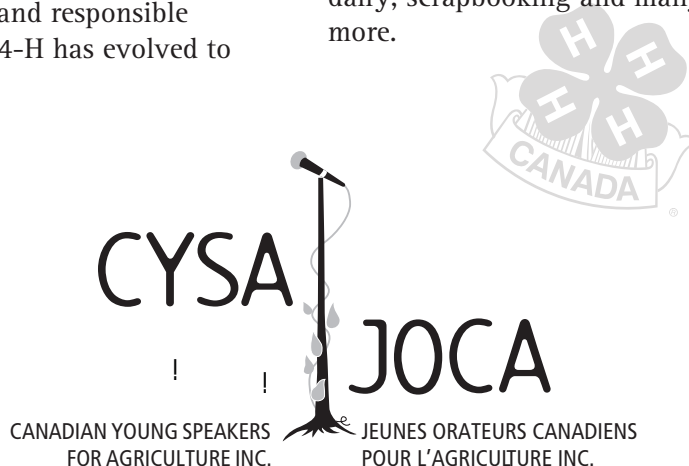
Since its creation in 1977, the event has grown to accommodate 40 projects and more than 90 classes. It has 2,400 participating 4-H members and an audience of 10,000. The show is open to the public and admission is free.

"For the last 35 years, in partnership with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, we've been pleased to showcase the 4-H program at the Nova Scotia 4-H Show", said Don Conrod, president of Nova Scotia 4-H. "There is something for everyone. You can see everything from livestock and life skills competitions to a fashion show and tug-of-war. The public is

invited to attend this unique family event."

While maintaining its key objective of developing leadership skills, self-esteem and responsible citizenship, 4-H has evolved to

meet the needs of today's youth through interactive projects such as computer, dog, crafts, goat, outdoors, rabbit, photography, dairy, scrapbooking and many more.



Enter the 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 alumni who are 16 to 24 years of age as of the competition date can enter this competition. It will be held on Friday September 28 at 7 p.m. during the Nova Scotia 4-H Show at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition grounds in Bible Hill.

The winner of the provincial contest will be sponsored by the Nova Scotia 4-H Council to participate in the 28th annual Canadian Young Speakers of Agriculture National Senior Public Speaking Competition. The competition is part of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto on Saturday, November 3.

The rules are the same as those for the national competition. Each contestant will give a five to seven-minute prepared speech on one of the suggested 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 topics from which to choose:

- Does supply management belong in Canadian agriculture?
- A national food policy: challenges and opportunities for Canada

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- The main things people need to know about farming today are
- Here are farmer's biggest opportunities
- The importance of water for agriculture and globalization

4-H members are taught public speaking skills during the year along with their project work. Each spring 4-H clubs, counties and

regions hold communications competitions. Many young people often identify the communications training and the confidence that it has given them as their most memorable experience in 4-H.

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



Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board

Interest Rates – as of July 1, 2012

(applicable to loans approved on or after this date while these rates remain in effect)

Term Length (years)	Full Term	*3 Year Term	*5 Year Term	*10 Year Term
1-5	3.00%	2.70%	2.90%	--
6-10	3.55%	2.70%	3.15%	3.45%
11-15	4.05%	2.95%	3.25%	3.80%
16-20	5.30%	2.95%	3.25%	4.10%
21-25	5.70%	2.95%	3.30%	4.15%
26-30	5.65%	2.95%	3.30%	4.15%

* 3, 5 and 10 year term rates are available to clients meeting risk, cash-flow and collateral requirements.

The Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board supports agricultural development such as property purchase or improvements, construction; machinery, quota or stock purchase; financial restructure; and farm transition. The board is committed to helping you with your individual financial needs. A loan officer can also provide information concerning programs and other services offered by the Department of Agriculture.

To meet with a loan officer, call or visit a Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board office:

Truro 902-893-6506

Nova Scotia Agricultural College Campus, 137 College Road

Kentville 902-679-6009

Kentville Agricultural Centre, 32 Main Street

www.gov.ns.ca/agri/farmlb



Your Regional Agricultural Offices

Extension and Outreach Eastern Region Marion MacAulay, Manager

Truro Office

East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester and Halifax counties:

Tel: 893-6575 Fax: 893-2757
osbornmc@gov.ns.ca

Theresa Osborne, Admin. Assistant
Michael Kittilsen, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coord.
Jacqueline Hoyt, 4-H Leadership Coord.

Antigonish Office

Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough counties:

Tel: 863-7170 Fax: 863-7342
863-7180 or 863-4705
boydll@gov.ns.ca

Laureen Boyd, Admin. Assistant
Kevin Bekkers, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coord.
Dawn Barrington-Hodgson, 4-H Leadership Coord.

Cape Breton Office

Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness and Richmond counties:

Tel: 563-2000 Fax: 563-3435
plumricl@gov.ns.ca

Catherine Plumridge, Admin. Assistant
Gary Koziel, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coord.
MacDougall, Rhonda (Mabou) and Gillis, Marina (Sydney), 4-H Leadership Coordinators

Extension and Outreach Western Region

Karen Wong-Petrie, Acting Manager

Kentville Office

West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg and Queens counties:

Tel: 679-6021 Fax: 679-6062
ctheriau@gov.ns.ca

Cheryl Theriau, Admin. Assistant
Brian MacCulloch, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coord.
Angie Garnett, 4-H Leadership Coordinator, South Shore

Valorie Oickle, 4-H Leadership Coordinator, Valley
Ronald Young, Agricultural Transition Officer

Cornwallis Office

Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne counties:

Tel: 638-2395 Fax: 638-2389
saulnigl@gov.ns.ca

Gina Saulnier, Admin. Assistant
Dennis Moreman, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coord.
Jean Ward, 4-H Leadership Coord.
Nicole Burkhard, Agricultural Transition Officer

Annapolis County Federation Livestock Sales

Cattle sales at the Lawrencetown Exhibition Grounds will be starting in September. The dates for sales for the remainder of the year are September 15 and 29, October 13 and 27, November 10 and 24. Selling of miscellaneous items will begin at 10:30 a.m. Selling of livestock begins at 1 p.m.

Local Community Fairs and Exhibitions

Dalhousie Community Fair –
August 25
Western Kings Fair, Tremont –
September 1
Hants Co. Exhibition, Windsor –
September 14-16 and 21-23
Queens Co. Exhibition, Caledonia –
September 18-22
Nova Scotia 4-H Show, Truro –
September 28-30

Industry Consultation

Department of Agriculture has been holding industry consultations around the province at the request of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture to discuss the strategic direction needed to help the farm industry move forward over the next five years.

Governments are seeking input from all segments of the agriculture industry, from primary producers to value-added processors to those engaged in research and innovation. The sessions explore program and service features that have worked well and identify challenges and barriers which need to be addressed.

Sessions are being held regionally and take about three hours. They include a short presentation to frame the objective and scope of the discussion, followed by facilitated smaller break-out groups to discuss prepared questions.

The next session will be held at the Wileville Fire Hall, Wiles Lake Road, Wileville, on August 22 from 6-9 p.m.

Update of Mailing List and E-Mailing Newsletter

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

We are also trying to manage costs and would ask that if you prefer to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please notify Cheryl.

Valley Region 4-H Dates

August 20	Kings County NS Show meeting, 7 p.m., Scotian Gold
September 4	Kings County JAD Wrap Up meeting, 6:30 p.m., Scotian Gold
September 4	Kings County Council meeting, 7:30 p.m., Scotian Gold
September 10	Hants County Council meeting, 7 p.m.
September 17-19	Hants County 4-H Exhibition Days, Hants County Exhibition Grounds
September 21	Kings County Awards Night, Aylesford Fire Hall
September 28-30	Nova Scotia 4-H Show, Nova Scotia Exhibition Grounds, Bible Hill
November 25	Hants County Awards Night, Upper Rawdon Hall, 3 p.m.

South Shore Region 4-H Dates

August 23	Lunenburg Co. Awards Night, Michelin Club, Bridgewater
September 17-18	Queens Co. 4-H Achievement Days and Exhibition
September 28-30	Nova Scotia 4-H Show, Nova Scotia Exhibition Grounds, Bible Hill

Hants County Exhibition 4-H Days

September 14-16

Hants County Exhibition preparation is well underway. On Friday evening, 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. A variety of competitions will be happening throughout the weekend, including the bake-off, vegetable preparation, woodworking, floral arranging, outdoorsman, photography, cake decorating, fashion show, beef, dairy and sheep clipping.

4-H Provincial Show September 28-30

The 4-H Provincial Show is a great event to demonstrate what 4-H is all about. It will take place September 28-30, at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds in Bible Hill. The show displays the top projects, articles, and livestock from each county in Nova Scotia. Some of the highlights of the weekend include tug-of-war, a fashion show, market lamb, market steer and turkey auctions, the Grand Champion Showmanship Class, and the Parade of Champions.

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 this year, now is the time to get ready. With the variety of projects offered, there is definitely something for everyone. To find out more about the program, call the 4-H office at 902-679-6027 (Valley Region), 902-634-7575 or 902-679-6846 (South Shore Region). We will be more than happy to give some helpful information.



The Central Region extension and outreach office is home base for the agriculture resource coordinator, transition officer, agriculture and 4-H leadership coordinator, and administrative support. We are your one stop shop for Department of Agriculture services and information. If you have an agricultural need, question or opportunity you would like to discuss, feel free to contact us.

We have a great group of people working here as a team. The Central Region includes the counties of Colchester, Cumberland and Halifax East Hants. We are in transition and will be moving offices sometime this fall. Our contacts below should continue to work, and e-mail addresses will remain the same.

Michael Kittilsen, agriculture resource coordinator, 902-893-3645, kittilma@gov.ns.ca

Jacqueline Hoyt, agriculture and 4-H leadership coordinator, 902-893-6586, hoytjm@gov.ns.ca

Theresa Osborne, administrative support, 902-893-6575, osborntc@gov.ns.ca

32nd Annual Atlantic Sheep Sale

The Atlantic Sheep Sale will take place on Saturday, September 1, beginning at 11 a.m. at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds, Bible Hill. Animals will be on view from 7 p.m., Friday, August 31.

The event is sponsored by the Purebred Sheep Breeders Association of Nova Scotia. For further information or catalogues, please call Rosemary Wort at 902-671-2410, e-mail herngatefarm@ns.sympatico.ca, or visit www.sheepnovascotia.ns.ca/atlantic-sheep-sale/.

Livestock Medicines for the Meat and Milk Industries

This one-day course is an opportunity for producers to learn about proper use, handling and storage of the medicines used on the farm. This valuable course works with on-farm food safety programs and helps you improve food safety at your operation. For more information, visit www.nsac.ca/cde/ or call 902-893-6666.

Mail Address Changes

Has your address changed? Has Canada Post requested that you include your civic number in your mailing address? If so, we need to know this information so that we may continue to keep our mailing list up to date. If you have an address change, please call Theresa at 902-893-6575 or contact her by email with your changes at osborntc@gov.ns.ca. Also, if you prefer to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter rather than the paper copy, please e-mail Theresa with your request.

The Modern Shepherd

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College is offering the Modern Shepherd course those who are new to the industry or the seasoned pro. Topics covered in the four-module course include: husbandry, handling and pasture; nutrition and breeding; health; and lambing. For more information, visit www.nsac.ca/cde/courses/Contract/modernshepherd.asp or call 902-893-6666.

Energy Visits

Department of Agriculture staff have visited several farms in the Central Region with farm energy specialist Julie Bailey. With her help, producers are able to use programs available through Efficiency Nova Scotia. If you would like to learn more about reducing your energy use on the farm, please call at 902-893-3645.

Central Region 4-H News

Hello 4-H Enthusiasts

This summer is shaping up to be busy and full of 4-H events. Between June and early August, there were 19 4-H clubs in the Central Region that held Achievement Days. It was wonderful to see all the hard work and effort the members put into their livestock and life skills projects over the past year. The month of August is dedicated to exhibitions in our region. See below for dates for all three Central Region exhibitions.

Upcoming 4-H Meetings

Colchester County 4-H Leaders Council meetings:

September 17 and October 22, upstairs in the Agri-dome beginning at 7 p.m.

Cumberland County 4-H Leaders Council meetings:

September 4 and October 2 at the Shinimicas Fire Hall at 8 p.m.

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

September 11, at the Exhibition Grounds in Middle Musquodoboit at 7 p.m.



County 4-H Exhibition Competitions

Colchester County, Monday, August 20, and Tuesday, August 21, at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds in Bible Hill

Cumberland County, Monday, August 27, and Tuesday, August 28, at the Oxford Exhibition Grounds

For further information on any of these events or the 4-H program, please contact Jacqueline Hoyt, agriculture and 4-H leadership coordinator for the Central Region, at 902-893-6586 or hoytjm@gov.ns.ca.

Workplace Education Course for Cape Breton Farmers

The Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, in partnership with the Department of Labour and Advanced Education and the Department of Agriculture, is pleased to offer the following 40-hour training programs free of charge:

Cape Breton Area

- Basic Computer Skills
- Financial Management for your Farm Business

Additional courses can be set up in other areas where interest is expressed, so be sure to let the federation know of your interest, regardless of what area of the province you are in. Space is limited to 12 participants per course.

The contents of the courses will be adjusted to meet the needs of the farmers in the group. The Basic Computer Course will start at the very beginning of how to turn a

computer on and will advance according to the progress of the participants. The Financial Management Program will include basic accounting practices, decision making, budgeting, project accounting, succession planning, etc.

The exact meeting location and times for the courses will be fixed once we know the needs of the farmers who sign up.

Application deadline is August 31. To register, contact the federation office at 902-893-2293 or e-mail info@nsfa-fane.ca. Please advise us of the course you would like to take and when you would be available (day or evening). Classes will start in September, or at an alternate date as decided by participants.

Local Love Incredible Picnic – September 8

On Saturday, September 8, join the Cape Breton Farmers' Market and Select Nova Scotia as we rejoice in the season's bounty. The Local Love Incredible Picnic will celebrate local growers, ranchers, artisans and community members. There will be live music and entertainment, children's activities, and interactive displays.

The picnic will be at the Cape Breton Farmers' Market, 340 Keltic Dr., Sydney River, from 1-4 p.m. Come support local business and local food choices while embracing the spirit and culture of Cape Breton.

For more information, please contact coordinator Morningstar Pinto at 902-564-9948 or manager@cbfarmersmarket.com.

The Amazing AgZone Race – October 17-18 at the Northside Exhibition

Today's agriculture goes well beyond the image most people have of the farmer in a straw hat and coveralls. Each spring, grade 8 science students are invited to gain insight into the world of agricultural research and education through AgZone.

AgZone is hosted at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and is designed to show students interesting and unexpected facets of agriculture as an educational or

Cape Breton Community Fairs 2012

The season for community fairs and exhibitions is fast approaching. The following are the fairs scheduled for Cape Breton Island:

FAIR	DATE	CONTACT	PHONE
Mira Ferry (Albert Bridge)	Sept. 8	Cheryl Macintyre (<i>Chair</i>) Gladys Lever (<i>Treasurer</i>)	902-562-1056 902-562-6310 902-562-2089
Christmas Island (C.B. County)	Sept. 8	Kevin Mackenzie	902-622-2667
Port Morien (Glace Bay)	Sept. 15	Margie Macqueen	902-737-2478
Baddeck (Victoria County)	Sept. 8	Wendell Macphee	902-295-2494

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career choice. We want to enhance their image of agriculture so that they can better understand and appreciate food production in our province and potentially consider it as a career choice.

Presenters of mini-workshop sessions are researchers, agricultural educators and agrologists, each presenting a different topic ranging from DNA extraction from strawberries to environmental stewardship on farms.



Cape Breton Regional 4-H

The 4-H program thrives on Cape Breton Island with a total of 263 youth, 72 volunteer leaders and 27 Clover Buds registered in 2012. Being a part of this rural organization allows rural youth and adults to lend a helping hand on project work, volunteer experiences, and social events. 4-H in Cape Breton represents club and community involvement that evolves into a unique community network for rural families.

This rural leadership program is open to anyone between the ages of nine and 21 years who would like to become a member. Also, children aged seven and eight can become Clover Buds. These members are given the opportunity to enjoy and learn about the 4-H program without having to participate in the competition aspect. For those 21 years of age and older, we encourage interested individuals to become 4-H leaders or club assistants.

Exhibition Judging 101 – Saturday, October 27 – North Sydney Exhibition

Cape Breton Regional Exhibition Judging 101 session will provide an opportunity for those interested in becoming an exhibition or community fair judge to learn new skills, or for experienced judges to refresh their skills.

The only way to learn to judge at an exhibition is by doing it, and the only way to become more proficient is to practice. During the workshop participants will have an excellent opportunity to develop specific skills, learn the basics of why we judge, and hear from a professional judge about what merits a good set of oral reasons.

This session will be offered on Saturday, October 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Cape Breton Exhibition Grounds, North Sydney. Open to rural youth 16 years and over, community members, experienced judges or anyone interested in becoming a judge. For more information, please contact the local Department of Agriculture office at 902-563-2000.

Important Dates

August 23-25	Inverness County Days
September 5, 6 and 8	Baddeck Forks Achievement Day, Open House and Victoria County Show/ council meeting
September 12	Regional substitute / scratch deadline for Pro-Show
September 24	Young Speakers for Agriculture – registration deadline
September 28-30	Nova Scotia Provincial 4-H Show
October 1	Resolution deadline
October 17-18	Ag-Zone, North Sydney
October 27	Exhibition Judging 101, October 27, North Sydney
October 28	Richmond County annual meeting/banquet, Camp Rankin

Poultry Clinic

Poultry members and leaders are invited to attend a regional workshop to be held at Victoria County's show on September 8, at the Baddeck Forks Hall. Members can learn about caring for poultry as well as showmanship and judging tips. Workshop instructors are Bob and Kristen Battiste from Cape Breton County. Please register at your local rural leadership office.

Life Skills Workshop

Rural youth and interested community members are invited to participate in the Fall Craft Co-op Workshop. Various life skills projects will be offered to give fresh ideas for members and leaders alike. The workshop will be held in Port Hawkesbury on November 10, at 9:30 a.m.

The deadline for submission is September 12. Registration fees must accompany applications which will be accepted on a first come basis. Application forms can be obtained from the local rural leadership offices.

Adam Wile, Agricultural Transition Officer

Eastern Nova Scotia has a new agricultural transition officer. Adam Wile is working out of the Department of Agriculture Antigonish office, covering all of Eastern Nova Scotia including Cape Breton. Adam started work with the department on Monday, June 11 and has been busy beginning the process of getting to know everyone and settle into his new job.

Adam has a B.A. in Economics from the University of Western Ontario, focusing on environmental studies. He completed his M.Sc. at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in the Environmental Sciences Department with a focus on bio-energy crops and greenhouse gas emissions. Adam also has seven years of experience working at the

college on multiple projects in the Environmental Science and Engineering departments.

Adam has work experience in waste management, municipal composting, monitoring greenhouse gas emissions, determining the economic value of nutrient management for farms and various other renewable energy projects. With this varied work history he is a good fit for helping the department deliver their programs and services, as well as being involved in special projects in the ever changing farm industry in Nova Scotia.

Adam's contact information is 902-863-4705 or wilean@gov.ns.ca. He is looking forward to talking with and meeting many of you in the future.

It's Exhibition Time Again

The Eastern Nova Scotia Exhibition is being held from August 29 to September 2. An Agriculture Awareness booth in the 4-H barn will be supported by the Antigonish Regional Services team, local Federation of Agriculture members, and several commodity associations.

The Agriculture Awareness booth will contain lots of agricultural information along with some activities and animals for the kids to enjoy. Come out and enjoy the exhibition and meet the public, because they want to meet their farmers.

Antigonish Farmers' Market Association

The Antigonish Farmer's Market will be held in Chisholm Park from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on September 1. It will be back to the regular location at the Exhibition Grounds on James Street, behind the arena, on September 8.

Market hours are 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. from May through August, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. from September to December.

The market is always actively seeking food vendors. If you have extras in your garden, would like to grow to sell at the market, or

would like to prepare foods to sell at the market, please contact:

Cell/text: 902-867-7479

e-mail:

AFMA@bell.blackberry.net

www.antigonishfarmersmarket.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/antigonishfarmersmarketassociation



Transportation Guidelines for Nova Scotia Farmers

This publication is available at the Agriculture office, Beech Hill Road, Antigonish.

Eastern Region 4-H News

Upcoming 4-H Dates

Antigonish

August 29	4-H Day Eastern Nova Scotia Exhibition Exhibition Grounds, Antigonish
September 11	Pro-Show meeting for exhibiting members and parents 6:30-7:30 p.m., Antigonish Education Centre
September 11	Antigonish County 4-H Council Meeting 7:30-8:30 p.m., Antigonish Education Centre
September 20	Last day for pro-show scratches and substitutes
September 28-30	Nova Scotia 4-H Show, Bible Hill
October 9	Antigonish County 4-H Council meeting 7 p.m., Beech Hill Rd., Antigonish
November 8	Antigonish Awards Program 7 p.m., St. Andrew's Community Centre

Pictou

August 22	Council meeting, 7 p.m., 4-H office
August 30	Barn Clean Up, 6 p.m., Exhibition Grounds
September 5	4-H Day Pictou North Colchester Exhibition, all day, Exhibition Grounds
September 17	Pro-Show meeting followed by council meeting 6:30 p.m., Northumberland School
September 20	Last day for pro-show scratches and substitutes
September 30-October 2	Nova Scotia 4-H Show, Bible Hill

Young Speakers for Agriculture

The Young Speakers for Agriculture Competition is being held on the evening of Friday, September 28 at the Provincial 4-H Show in Bible Hill. The Nova Scotia 4-H Council will sponsor the winner of the competition at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto in November. The award covers travel and accommodations. You must be between the ages of 16 and 24 as of January 2012 and must be a current or past member, having been in 4-H at least two years. For further information, please refer to the 4-H page in the main newsletter.



4-H Highlights

August 18 and 22
Digby County 4-H days

We would like to thank the summer assistant Jenn Bent for her tireless hours spent with 4-H members and their programs in the Western region. Many thanks, Jenn, and good luck in the coming year.

Awards banquets in all three counties are upcoming in September and October. The Nova Scotia Provincial 4-H Show is September 28-30 in Bible Hill.

Food Safety Courses

The following are 2012-13 dates for food safety courses in communities in the Western Region:

Yarmouth, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, September 19

Thursday, October 11
Wednesday, November 7

Tuesday, December 4
Thursday, January 10

Tuesday, February 5
Tuesday, March 5

Tuesday, April 9
Thursday, May 9

Tuesday, June 4

Digby, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Wednesday, October 10

Lawrencetown, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 14
Wednesday, April 17

Middleton, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Wednesday, October 10

Kentville, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 18

Wednesday, October 10
Wednesday, November 7

Wednesday, December 5
Wednesday, January 16

Wednesday, February 13
Wednesday, March 6

Wednesday, April 10
Wednesday, May 8

Wednesday, June 12

