

AGNEWS



Agriculture & Food Operations

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

August 2013

Highlights Inside

- 2 NSCLIC AgrilInsurance
- 3 Celebration of Small-scale Farming
- 3 Open Farm Day
- 4 Agriculture Education Events
- 5 Perennia News
- 6 NS Exhibitions & Community Fairs
- 6 NS Farm Loan Board
- 7 Provincial 4-H News
- 9 Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture
- 10 Regional News

*Open Farm Day
Sunday, September 15*

Another Incredible Picnic Season

Community groups and businesses across the province are getting ready to serve up delicious local fare at this year's Incredible Picnics.

The 6th annual Incredible Picnic season kicked off with the Picnic in the Past on George's Island, July 20-21. Twenty more events are scheduled to showcase locally grown and produced food items, including fruits and vegetables, meats, cheeses, breads and beverages.

"There is real momentum around choosing local," said Agriculture Minister John MacDonell. "Since Select Nova Scotia launched six years ago, awareness of buying local has increased 33 per cent among Nova Scotians and farmers' markets are popping up all over the province. The Incredible Picnics are another example of how local food helps connect us to our farmers and our community."

Some events are sit-down suppers, while others are picnic style. Picnic-goers can try delicious local foods from vendors and enjoy live entertainment and children's activities.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to showcase local products at Tatamagouche's Incredible Community Picnic," said Angus Bonnyman, a picnic organizer, wild blueberry grower, and Select Nova Scotia partner. "They include barbequed Pork Shop sausage, summer salads from local farms, Propeller sodas, my own spray-free wild blueberry shortcakes, and Scotsburn ice cream."

"This year all proceeds will be used to support the breakfast programs at local schools."

The Tatamagouche picnic was held August 11, on the lower lawn of Bonnyman House.

Other picnics locations are:

- Bridgewater Growing Green Sustainability Festival, Wile's Lake Farm Market, August 17
- Incredible Picnic and Sausage BBQ, Halifax, August 18
- Musquodoboit Farmers' Market Picnic, Musquodoboit Harbour, Halifax Regional Municipality August 18



Continued on next page...

- Wedgeport Tuna Tournament and Festival, Lower Wedgeport, Yarmouth Co., August 23
- Hubbards Barn Picnic, Hubbards, Municipality of the District of Chester, August 25
- Harvest for Hunger Picnic, Masstown, Colchester Co., August 25
- Tri County Local Food Network Picnic, Yarmouth, September 8
- Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission Picnic, Dartmouth, September 14
- Avondale Garlic Fest, Newport Landing, Hants Co., September 21
- Lunenburg and Queens Federation Picnic, Caledonia, Queens Co., September 21
- Antigonish Fall Harvest Picnic, Antigonish, September 21
- Blockhouse School Picnic, Blockhouse, Lunenburg, Co., September 22

Select Nova Scotia, which supports the Incredible Picnics, is the province's Buy Local marketing initiative. It creates partnerships with food producers, processors, retailers, food service providers and consumers, and promotes the sale and consumption of food grown and produced in Nova Scotia. More picnic information is available at www.selectnovascotia.ca.

Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission AgriInsurance

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

Deadlines for planting:

October 7 - Annapolis, Kings and Hants West counties (Zone 1)
September 30 - Colchester, Hants East, and Halifax (Zone 2)
September 20 - 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 and do not terminate at the end of the cropping season unless a producer requests cancellation in writing by the deadline date.

The benefit of this approach is that you, the client, 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:

Crops Covered by Nova Scotia AgriInsurance

- Strawberries - June bearing and Day Neutral
- Lowbush Blueberries - Lowbush and Highbush
- Raspberries
- Potatoes - Table, Processing and Seed
- Corn - Silage and Grain
- Soybean - Soybean, Canola, Sunflowers
- Spring Grain - Barley, Oat, Mixed Grain, Feed Wheat, Milling Wheat
- Winter Grain - Feed Wheat, Milling Wheat, Rye, Triticale
- Maple Syrup
- Vegetables - Broccoli, Brussel Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Carrots (Fresh & Processing), Lettuce, Onions, Parsnip, Rutabagas, Winter Squash
- Forage Establishment
- Forage Weather Derivative
- Tree Fruit - Apples, Pears, Peaches
- Tree Endorsement - Apple and Pear

Applications Deadlines:

Winter Grain - August 31
Forage Establishment - October 15
Raspberry - October 31
Strawberries - November 14
Tree Fruit - November 30
Blueberries - November 30

Cancellation Deadlines:

Strawberry - September 15
Winter Grain - September 15
Raspberry - October 31
Tree Insurance - November 14
Tree Fruit - November 30
Blueberry - December 15

Continued on next page...

Problems with Harvest?

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

- At anytime you believe your crop may be reduced as a result of an insurable peril;
- 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 complete harvest. (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 report any of the above could result in the denial of a claim for losses to your crop. When in doubt, report your concerns to the Commission office.

AgriInsurance - Crop Year End Dates:

Strawberry - August 31
Winter Grain - August 31
Lowbush Blueberry - September 15
Highbush Blueberry - September 25
Soybeans - November 1
Corn - November 15
Vegetable - November 15
Tree Fruit - November 30
Potato - December 20

For further information on any of our insurance plans, contact the Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission 1-800-565-6371 Truro, or 902-679-6028/6015 Kentville, or visit our website at www.gov.ns.ca/agri/ci.



Celebration OF SMALL-SCALE FARMING

The Celebration of Small-Scale Farming event was held on July 22 at the Digby County Exhibition Grounds in Bear River. Approximately 120 people learned from experienced farmers on a variety of topics in three areas: Pastured Livestock, Value-Adding, and Niche Crops.

Several special guests attended. Agriculture Minister John MacDonell and NSFA President Dennis Boudreau welcomed participants. We also had four guests from the Caribbean island of St. Kitts, who are currently visiting the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture.

Speakers included: Kevin Veinotte, Kevin's Natural Meats; Dave Lahey, Down on the Corner Farm; Jane Fowler, Blueberry Hills Farm; Danny Bruce, Bruce Family Farm; Gordon Tingley and Martin McGurk, Sledding Hill; Wanda VanTassel, Fundy Adventures; Carmen Comeau, Green Thumbs; Randy Hiltz, Ran-Cher Acres; Lorraine Beswick, Garden Flowers; Andrea Berry, Hope Seeds; Gilberte Doelle, Wild Rose Farm; Alan Bailey, Meander River Farm; Klaus and Shirley Langpohl, Bello Uccello Apiary; Ruth Parker, Land's End Farm; Greg McEwan, Bear River First Nation; and Claudine Furnion, intern at the Just Us! Centre for Small Farms.



Open Farm Day Sunday, September 15, 2013

Set September 15th aside as a day to visit some of Nova Scotia's farms! Open Farm Day is a province-wide event that gives Nova Scotia farmers the chance to open their gates to the community. It is a great opportunity for folks to visit farms in their area and experience the diversity of our agricultural industry. This year over 50 farms are participating.

The Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture is coordinating this year's Open Farm Day with the support of the Nova Scotia Agricultural Awareness Committee, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Need more information? Check out the details online at www.meetyourfarmer.ca and click on the Open Farm Day tab for a drop down menu. If you have any questions or need more information, contact Wanda Hamilton, NSFA office at (902) 893-2293 or email whamilton@nsfa-fane.ca.

Follow us on Twitter @NSFA and Like us on Facebook /NSFAMeetYourFarmer for daily updates and profiles.

Next year's event will be held in July in Cape Breton.

Your Regional Agricultural Offices

Extension and Outreach

Marion MacAulay, Manager

Truro Office

East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester and

Halifax Counties:

Tel: 893-6575 Fax: 893-2757

priestav@gov.ns.ca

Amanda Priest, Admin. Assistant

Michael Kittilsen, P.Ag., Ag. Resource

Coordinator

Elizabeth Coady, Acting Agriculture Leadership

Coordinator

Antigonish Office

Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough
Counties:

Tel: 863-4705 Fax: 863-7342

boydll@gov.ns.ca

Laureen Boyd, Admin. Assistant

Dawn Barrington-Hodgson, Acting Ag. Resource

Coordinator / Agriculture Leadership

Coordinator

Adam Wile, Agricultural Transition Officer

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 Coordinator

Rhonda MacDougall (Mabou) and Marina Gillis

(Sydney), Agriculture

Leadership Coordinators

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

Coordinator

Angie Garnett, Agriculture Leadership

Coordinator, South Shore

Valorie Skinner, Agriculture Leadership

Coordinator, Valley

Ronald Young, Agricultural Transition Officer,

Kentville

Hana Nelson, Agricultural Transition Officer,

Lunenburg

Cornwallis Office

Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and
Shelburne Counties:

Tel: 638-2395 Fax: 638-2389

saulnigl@gov.ns.ca

Gina Saulnier, Admin. Assistant

Jeff Wentzell, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coordinator

Jean Ward, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator

Nicole Burkhard, Agricultural Transition Officer

Agriculture Education Events

The Agriculture Education office will be hosting Meet Your Farmer At the Mall and Farmer for a Day--two events to help connect students and other members of the public with the agriculture sector. Both events were last year and they were well received by target audiences and participants.



Meet Your Farmer at the Mall, Mic Mac Mall,
Dartmouth, Aug 23 - 24, 2013

Meet Your Farmer at the Mall gives urban families the chance to learn about local farmers and Nova Scotia agriculture. There will be a Select Nova Scotia demonstration cooking booth with a chef who will prepare recipes using local produce. A farm animal and farm equipment display will be set up outside. This event is also an opportunity to promote Open Farm Day, September 15.

Farmer for a Day, Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum,
Sept. 24 - 26, 2013

This is an activity-based, educational school field trip that focuses on Nova Scotia agriculture. Eight exhibitors will deliver interactive sessions on what producers in their sector need to know or accomplish in their job as a farmer. Grade 3 students and teachers will learn about agriculture in Nova Scotia while enhancing class curriculum with the many activities offered at the event.

Both Meet your Farmer and Farmer for a Day are made possible by the help of volunteers from the farming community. Please consider participation in these and future events!

The Agricultural Education office of the Department of Agriculture provides a variety of agricultural education programming. For more information please contact:

Judy Grant
Agricultural Education Coordinator
Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
PO Box 890
(Harlow Building)
Truro, Nova Scotia
B2N 5G6

Tel: 902-893-6598
Fax: 902-893-0244
Email: grantjd@gov.ns.ca

Agricultural OH&S Consulting Services – NEW

Perennia is launching a new service to support large and small farms in the development and implementation of on-farm occupational health and safety plans. The Occupational Health and Safety Act has been in effect since 1996 and applies to all workplaces in Nova Scotia, including farms. Recently, there has been increasing awareness and acknowledgment that farms fall under the Act and its regulations. As awareness grows, the Department of Labour continues to increase the number of randomly inspected farming operations.

Services will be customized to the pace of the producer, to work with other on-farm programs (e.g. food safety) and can also include a review of any orders or warnings resulting from a Department of Labour inspection.

Our goal is to provide a service that includes active involvement of all those at the workplace to ensure the plan is developed to suit the practical needs of the operation. We understand each and every farm has unique needs and we have access to resources to assist us in meeting the needs of your operation.

OH&S Specialist:

Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, BSc., P.Ag., has spent the last year working with the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association coordinating the Canada Farm Safe Plant Pilot Project, which offers health and safety services to Nova Scotia farms. She is currently working on developing additional resources for the Farm Safety Nova Scotia website through the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture. Carolyn grew up on a farm, has worked on farms, and takes a very thorough yet practical approach to agricultural health and safety.

Please contact Carolyn by phone for an initial discussion to assess your needs: (902) 318-8977. Her email is: cvandenheuvel@perennia.ca

Blogs!

As a fast, effective and easy way to communicate what specialists are seeing in the field, additional information, new resources or observations, AgraPoint has launched a series of blogs that will be updated on a regular basis (particularly through the growing season for the production blogs). These are meant to be informal and conversational, and will provide current production information, crop and pest photos and other resources.

For a listing of all of our blogs, go to <http://www.perennia.ca/blogs.php>.

Follow our two newly-created blogs:

Hops Blog - <http://www.novascotiahopsblog.com/>

Biosecurity Blog - <http://www.novascotiabiosecurityblog.com/>

Food Safety Training

Perennia has been providing high quality food safety training in Atlantic Canada since 2006. We offer both public and private training. Our public courses vary each year depending on what is important to the food processing industry.

In 2013 we will be offering the following upcoming courses:

Certified HACCP Auditor (ASQ)

DATE: September 30-October 2, 2013

Fee: \$1205.00 + HST

Location: Truro

Registration Deadline: September 9, 2013

HACCP IV: Verification, Validation & Reassessment

DATE: October 3, 2013

Fee: \$695.00 + HST

Location: Truro

Registration Deadline: September 19, 2013

HACCP VI: Procedure Writing & Document Control

DATE: October 4, 2013

Fee: \$695.00 + HST

Location: Truro

Registration Deadline: September 20, 2013

For course overviews or to be directed to our online registration form, please visit:

<http://www.perennia.ca/training.php>.

Please note my new email and our new website, Facebook and Twitter addresses below.

Sarah Wood, BSc., P.Ag.
Outreach Extension Specialist
Perennia
Email: swood@perennia.ca
Phone: 902-896-0277 ext 231
Fax: 902-896-7299
www.perennia.ca

2013 Nova Scotia Agricultural Exhibitions



- South Shore Exhibition - July 23 - 28, Bridgewater
- Western Nova Scotia Exhibition - July 30 - August 3, Yarmouth
- Shelburne County Exhibition - August 6 - 10, Shelburne
- Annapolis Valley Exhibition - August 12 - 17, Lawrencetown
- Halifax County Exhibition - August 14 - 17, Middle Musquodoboit
- Cape Breton County Exhibition - August 12 - 17, North Sydney
- Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition - August 20 - 24, Truro/Bible Hill
- Digby County Exhibition - August 21 - 24, Bear River
- Cumberland County Exhibition - August 27 - 31, Oxford
- Eastern Nova Scotia Exhibition - August 28 - September 1, Antigonish
- Pictou/North Colchester Exhibition - September 4 - 7, Pictou
- Hants County Exhibition - September 13 - 15 & September 20 - 22, Windsor
- Queens County Exhibition - September 17 - 21, Caledonia
- Nova Scotia 4-H Show - September 27 - 29, Bridgewater
- Maritime Fall Fair - October 10 - 14, Halifax

2013 Nova Scotia Community Fairs

- New Ross Community Fair - August 12 - 17, Lunenburg County
- Barrington Municipal Exhibition - August 16 - 18, Shelburne County
- Dalhousie Community Fair - August 24, Kings County
- West Kings Community Fair - August 31, Tremont, Kings County
- Victoria County Fair - September 7, Victoria County
- Mira Ferry Community Fair - September 14, Cape Breton County
- Christmas Island Fair - September 14, Cape Breton County
- Port Morien Fair - September 14, Cape Breton County



Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board

Interest Rates

As of July 1, 2013 (applicable to loans approved on or after this date while these rates remain in effect)

* 3, 5 and 10 year term rates available to clients meeting risk, cashflow, and collateral requirements.

Term / Amortization	Interest Rates			
	Full	*Ten-year Term	*Five-year Term	*Three-year Term
1 to 5 years	3.20 %	--	3.20 %	2.90 %
6 to 10 years	3.95 %	3.95 %	3.55 %	2.90 %
11 to 15 years	4.55 %	4.35 %	3.65 %	3.20 %
16 to 20 years	5.80 %	4.70 %	3.75 %	3.25 %
21 to 25 years	6.15 %	4.75 %	3.80 %	3.25 %
26 to 30 years	6.15 %	4.75 %	3.80 %	3.25 %

The Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board supports agricultural development such as: property purchase / improvements, construction, machinery / quota / stock purchase, financial restructure, and farm transition. The Board is committed to helping you with your individual financial needs.

A Loan Officer will also have information concerning programs and other services offered by Nova Scotia Agriculture.

Call or visit a Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board office:

Truro 893-6506

Dalhousie University Agricultural College Campus, 137 College Road

Kentville 679-6009

Kentville Agricultural Centre, 32 Main Street

www.gov.ns.ca/agri/farmlb





Provincial 4-H News

Nova Scotia 4-H Show Grew From a Humble Beginning

Thirty-six years ago the Nova Scotia 4-H Council and the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture 4-H staff had a vision. They saw 4-H members coming together from all corners of the province to bring their projects to a central place for a weekend of fellowship and friendly competition. This is how the Nova Scotia 4-H Show was born.

Before 1977, 4-H members could bring only their beef and dairy projects to the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition in Truro to compete on a provincial level. As the exhibition program grew to include a variety of projects, the 4-H council realized that by having a show that specifically featured 4-H members' work, all projects could participate and all counties would be equally represented. Also, the show would present a more complete package to 4-H families and the public, and many more 4-H members could participate in the event.

The first 4-H show was a truly hands-on experience. With determination and hard work, a provincial committee of 4-H volunteers and staff prepared for the event. Several days before the exhibition, they built livestock pens, cleaned the grounds and readied the display areas for the arrival of projects. The show started out small, but over the years several new competitions, such the bake-off, cake decorating and a fashion show were added to give the 4-H members more areas in which to compete. The 4-H show has always been held from Friday to Sunday on the last weekend of September, with competitions in all livestock, homemaking and non-livestock projects.

"It was a real challenge to put it all together, considering we didn't have the communication tools like the fax and the computer that we have today," said Weldon Smith, former 4-H Representative. "From an organizing stand point, getting schedules and newsletters out to 4-H families was more difficult and it was a lot of hard physical work.

"But, it was a lot of fun! As staff we were anxious to see how each of our regions stacked up against the others," "The friendly competition was a great motivator for us all to make it a great weekend."

The 4-H Show was held in Windsor for a few years before it began to move to other locations. By taking the show on the road 4-H members could see more of Nova Scotia and other communities could benefit from the revenue generated by such an influx of people attending the event. The organizing committee then shifted from having provincial representation to having the county 4-H councils take on more responsibility for the show.

"It takes a team of dedicated volunteers to organize an event of this size," said Ruth Grant, Senior Agriculture Leadership Coordinator with the Department of Agriculture. "The strong volunteer base that is needed to host this show is a true testament to the strength of a community and a vibrant 4-H program."

Each year a different county or region hosts the Nova Scotia 4-H Show. This year the South Shore Region 4-H Leader's Council is responsible for hosting the show at the Show, which will take place at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds in Bridgewater, September 27-29. The committee's responsibilities include everything from site arrangements and security to fundraising. They focus on running a safe and enjoyable event while showcasing 4-H projects and a variety of competitions.

Since 1977, when the first Nova Scotia 4-H Show was held in Windsor, the event has grown to accommodate approximately 40 projects, 90 classes, 2,400 entries and 10,000 visitors. The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is open to the public and admission is free.

4-H Members Encouraged to Enter the Young Speakers For Agriculture Competition

4-H members interested in putting their public speaking abilities to the test and want to enthuse about the agriculture industry are encouraged to enter the *Nova Scotia Young Speakers for Agriculture* competition. All senior 4-H members and 4-H Alumni aged 16 - 24 (on the competition date) can enter the competition, which takes place Friday, September 27 at 7 p.m. during the Nova Scotia 4-H Show at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds in Bridgewater.

The winner of the provincial contest will be sponsored by the Nova Scotia 4-H Council to participate in the 29th annual *Canadian Young Speakers of Agriculture* National Senior Public Speaking Competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Ontario on Saturday, November 2, 2013.

For three years, Morgan MacNeil, a 19 year-old member of the Border Riders 4-H Club, Hants County participated in this competition. In 2012 Morgan accomplished her goal of winning the Nova Scotia competition and moved on to the nationals with her speech, entitled *The Importance of Water for Agriculture and Globalization*.

“I researched the theme to learn about the topic and to support my speech with factual evidence,” said Morgan. “I also incorporated some humour. An interesting speech includes both serious and silly content in appropriate proportions. I like sharing my ideas and beliefs about the future of agriculture and where I see a need for more focus or attention.”

While the Nova Scotia competition is for past and present 4-H members only, contestants at the national level were also competing against fourth year University of Guelph students and graduates already working in the agricultural industry.

Morgan remembers: “Competition was pretty stiff. There were 20 contestants from four provinces including Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Alberta and Ontario. If it were not for my 4-H involvement, I would never have known about this competition or been comfortable enough to enter it.”

4-H members are encouraged to doing public speaking and demonstrations along with their project work during the 4-H year, and each spring 4-H clubs, counties and regions hold communications competitions. This life skill is so valuable and 4-H members often credit 4-H for giving them the opportunity for that specific training.

“4-H has been the single most beneficial youth program I have been involved with and I praise it everywhere I go,” said Morgan. “Now that I'm in my tenth year of 4-H, I've seen a huge improvement in my ability to speak in public compared to the shy 10 year-old I used to be! Being able to stay calm, talk slowly and clearly, and recover from a mistake is key to success in any kind of public speaking situation.”

Morgan believes the communication training she's received has helped with her first year at DAL AC and will be beneficial throughout her life.

“Reflecting on my overall 4-H career to date, participating in the Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture competition has been my most memorable 4-H experience.”

The Nova Scotia competition rules are the same as those for the Royal competition. Each contestant must give a five to seven minute prepared speech on one of five selected topics and introduce and thank another speaker.

The competitors can choose one of five agricultural-related topics on which to speak:

- What does food security mean to Canadians?
- Farmers' three most important technologies are ...
- Does the family farm need help?
- In the year 2050, here's what agriculture will look like ...
- Reading, writing, and agriculture: Should agriculture be in the curriculum?

Contestants may choose to use a flip chart or appropriate posters to illustrate their talk. Slides, films, videos or overhead projectors are not allowed. A complete set of rules, as well as the score sheet, are sent to all applicants prior to the Nova Scotia competition.

To register please contact the nearest 4-H office and for more information check out the website www.cysa-joca.ca/core/.

4-H Member Receives George MacNeil Scholarship

It has been said that leaders don't create followers; they create more leaders. This was the case with George MacNeil, an outstanding 4-H member, leader and friend who left his mark on Nova Scotia 4-H. To honour his life and legacy a scholarship fund was created to support deserving Nova Scotia 4-H members pursuing post-secondary study. For the second year, \$1,000 has been awarded.

Nicole MacEachern, a 18 year-old 4-H member with the County Line 4-H Club in Richmond County is the 2013 recipient of the scholarship. She will be attending the Dalhousie Agricultural Campus Pre-Vet Program in the fall.

“I am excited to be starting this new chapter in my life and begin my journey to becoming a veterinarian. While I'm at the Dal AC I plan to continue my involvement with 4-H,” said Nicole.

To apply for the scholarship Nicole had to supply: an official transcript of her first semester of Grade 12 proving that she had a minimum average of 80 per cent (with no failures in the most recent evaluations); a completed application form outlining 4-H and non-4-H activities; and a one-page resume.

“4-H is a wonderful organization that young people should be encouraged to take advantage of,” said Nicole. “4-H teaches us so many valuable skills and I can say from personal experience that it is a wonderful program. I’ve been in 4-H for 10 years and am currently in scrapbooking, crafts, light horse and I am the junior leader for the light horse and horse basic projects.”

“For the past three summers I’ve been a counselor at Camp Rankin and I completed the 4-H Personal Development Education Credit. I plan to continue being a 4-H member until I am 21 and then volunteer as a leader.”

The award is open to all 4-H members in Nova Scotia and the application deadline is April 1. The winner is announced at 4-H Weekend in May. Recipients must provide proof of enrolment in a post-secondary program to qualify for the award.

“I was honoured to have been awarded the George MacNeil Scholarship,” said Nicole. “4-H has done many great things for me and I believe that it is due to my involvement in 4-H that I have become the person I am today. It has taught me how to be a leader and helped build my self-confidence.”

“George was a wonderful man who represented everything that 4-H tries to instill in its members. He always had a word of encouragement and a kind smile for anyone who needed. 4-H lost a great man and he is still missed and remembered by many.”

In addition to the scholarship, George's legacy will continue through the hundreds of young people whose lives he touched during his years as a 4-H leader. He inspired them to think positively, have fun, and do their best. Using his head, heart, hands and health, George instilled a sense of community, loyalty and service to others. More importantly, he encouraged and inspired each of us to do the same.



Fall Courses at the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture

With students heading back to class and the cropping almost done, why not spend your fall learning new skills or updating old ones?

Modern Shepherd

Module 1: Husbandry, Handling, Pastures and Fences- October 19-20, 2013

Module 2: Nutrition and Breeding- November 23-24, 2013

Pesticide Training

Applicator Certification October 22-25, 2013

Integrated Pest Management Updates for Farmers and Landscapers
Dates TBA

Introductory Welding

November 18, 20, 25, Dec 2 & 4, 2013

Evenings 6-9 pm

Master Gardener Training

Online, October 2013 Intake

Plant ID & Use

Science of Gardening

Art of Gardening

Maintaining the Garden

This fall we have a new addition to our Learn2Farm program: Post Harvest Management for Fruits and Vegetables.

For more information on these and other Extended Learning offerings, please visit our website at www.dal.ca/extendedlearning .

Regional News Cape Breton: Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness and Richmond Counties

Cape Breton Community Fairs 2013

The season for Community Fairs and Exhibitions is fast approaching. The following fairs are scheduled for Cape Breton Island:

FAIR	DATE	CONTACT
BADDECK	September 7	Wendell MacPhee 295-2494
MIRA FERRY (Albert Bridge)	September 14	Cheryl MacIntyre (Chair) 562-2089 Gladys Lever (Treasurer) 727-2216
CHRISTMAS ISLAND (C.B. County)	September 14	Kevin MacKenzie 622-2667
PORT MORIEN (Glace Bay)	September 14	Margie MacQueen 737-2478

Attention All Giant Pumpkin Growers!

The Millville Hall is now an official Great Pumpkin Commonwealth site, which means the new GPC rules now apply.

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

The Official GPC weigh off date is Saturday, October 5, 2013 at the Millville Hall, Millville.

All entrants must be REGISTERED before 11:00 a.m. on that day, so the judges can inspect each pumpkin prior to weighing.

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

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

Cape Breton Region 4-H News

4-H Thriving in 2013

The 4-H program is thriving on Cape Breton Island with a total of 264 members, 78 leaders, 12 general leaders, and 42 clover buds registered in 2013. Overall the membership has increased from last year by a total of 43.

Being part of a 4-H club allows 4-H members and leaders to lend a helping hand when it comes to project work, volunteer experiences, and social events, and to evolve into a unique 4-H family. The program is open to anyone between the ages of 9 and 21 years who would like to become a member. Children 7 and 8 years old can become Cloverbuds. For those 21 years and older, we encourage interested individuals to become volunteer leaders. Contact your local Department of Agriculture for club contact information.

County Spot Light

Inverness County

Inverness County has the largest member enrollment in the region this year with 104 members. This county is known for being keen for 4-H livestock projects - specifically dairy and light horse. This marked the fourth year Inverness County competed at the annual horse classic competition at 4-H weekend in May, with the county team sweeping away the competition for the third year in a row. Outstanding participants were Kathryn Ryan from the Brook Village club who placed third in the senior public speaking category at 4-H weekend and Evany LeVesconte of the South West Mabou club who placed third as a junior thanker.

Continued on next page...

Hayley Wilson of the Brook Village 4-H Club received the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture scholarship, and siblings Courtney and Frank Schmidt from the Port Hood Island View club received national travel awards. Monica Van den Hoogen of the South West Mabou club has the first place junior freehand poster.

Cape Breton County

Cape Breton County is second largest in enrollment this year with 98 members, and membership may increase next year with such a strong interest in the Exploring 4-H project. At 4-H weekend, Cape Breton County 4-H members dominated the poster competition. Brennah Stairs took home first place for the junior computer poster, while Amber Lovell received first place for the senior computer poster. Andrew Cantwell, Emma Simpson, Emma MacLean, and Alicia MacMullin all received national 4-H travel awards. This county also founded the George MacNeil Scholarship and presented the award for the second year at this year's 4-H weekend. Clubs in Cape Breton County also contributed to the provincial initiative *100 Pounds for 100 Years Food Drive*. Cape Breton County's 4-H Show runs in conjunction with the Cape Breton County Exhibition during the week of August 11-17, with Sunday and Monday being the 4-H days.

Richmond County

Richmond County 4-H celebrated its 77th year in 2013. This county is very strong in community and 4-H spirit. It is home to Camp Rankin, the provincial summer camp where 4-H members go to make memories to last a lifetime. At 4-H weekend Jade MacEachern placed second with her junior single demonstration and her junior computer generated poster. Nicole MacEachern received the second awarded George MacNeil Scholarship to date and placed third with her senior computer generated poster in the poster competition. Allie Fraser took part in the Kevin Grant Tour earlier this spring.

Victoria County

Victoria County has one 4-H club. The 4-H members are very energetic and involved in their county's 4-H program. The leaders are a group of fantastic volunteers who make 4-H fun for everyone! The county is strong in both livestock and life skills projects. Livestock projects involve rabbit, market turkey, waterfowl and poultry. The life skills projects are sewing, crafts and photography. At 4-H Weekend, Maggie Berk had the third place junior computer generated poster. This year will mark the 83rd for the Victoria County Fair, the longest running in Cape Breton History! It is set for September 7.

Giant Vegetable Competition 2013 - Zucchini

At the 2013 Nova Scotia 4-H Show, there will be a Giant Vegetable Competition. This year, the giant vegetable will be zucchini. It will be judged on length, which will not include the stem. One junior and one senior member from each county are permitted to enter this competition. All members can participate.

Come to the Nova Scotia 4-H Show!

The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is the place to find out what 4-H is all about! From September 27-29 4-H members from across Nova Scotia will meet at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds in Bridgewater. 4-H members are eligible to compete at the Nova Scotia 4-H Show after achieving top honours at a local exhibition with their life skills or livestock project. Highlights of the 4-H Show include livestock auctions, fashion show, dog obedience and handling trials, tug of war, Young Speakers for Agriculture competition, bake-off, grand champion showmanship class and cattle selections for the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. 2013 marks the celebration of 100 years of 4-H in Canada so watch for centennial celebration events.

November is 4-H Month

November is 4-H Month in Canada. Don't forget to show support by wearing green and promoting the 4-H program during this month. For more information, check out the 4-H Canada website at: www.4-h-canada.ca

Important 4-H Dates

Inverness County Show and Joint Achievement Day - August 22 - 24, Brook Village
Record Keeping Competition (due at the provincial 4-H office) - September 18
Royal Dairy Classic Chaperone (adult volunteer application due) - September 1
Victoria Council Meeting (following the county show program) - September 7, Baddeck Forks
Baddeck Forks Achievement Day and Victoria County Show - September 4 - 7, Baddeck Forks
Richmond Council Meeting - September 9, 7:00 pm, Smith's house
Cape Breton Council Meeting - September 10, 7:00 pm, Fisheries office
Nova Scotia 4-H Show - September 27 - 29, Bridgewater
Life Skills Workshop - November 2, Port Hawkesbury

Regional News Eastern: Antigonish, Guysborough and Pictou Counties

This fall and winter we will be hosting a series of Virtual Farm Calls with speakers who will address specific topics of interest. The eastern agricultural team has been exploring technology as a one way of reaching our clients (farmers, 4-H members and leaders, etc). We are hoping to use local libraries and develop some community leaders for each location.

Some tentative topics we are looking at are: Bee Keeping; Growing Haskaps and Hops; Funding Programs; Planning to Sell Your Farm; Financial Literacy for Directors; Select Nova Scotia Resources and Soils for Market Gardeners

An example notice that would be sent out would look like this:

Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
Location: Your closest library
Technology: Go To Meeting featuring interactive information sessions with key subject matter experts at all library locations

We have tested this with two meetings in the region recently. The latest Home Grown Success Program launch was offered in two locations in the region, the Antigonish NSDA office and the Pictou Wellness Center. This was part of a provincial effort to provide information updates on the Home Grown Success Program at five regional locations.

Please watch for notices on workshop/information session presentations beginning this fall. We encourage you to participate and pick the sessions that apply to you. If you have any topic suggestions, please contact Dawn Barrington-Hodgson at barrind@gov.ns.ca.

Antigonish Farmers' Market

Market hours are 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. every Saturday in the 4-H Barn behind the Antigonish Arena. Watch for the market at Chisholm Park on August 31, behind the post office during the Eastern Nova Scotia Exhibition.

New Glasgow Farmers' Market

Market Hours are every Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The 2013 season runs from May 18 to October 26. The market is located in the Riverfront Dome in Downtown New Glasgow (115 Jury Street). Free parking is available right outside the doors, and vendors set up both inside and outside of the new dome building.

Guysborough Farmers' Market

Open Every Saturday in July and August, rain or shine, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. It is held on the Guysborough Waterfront in the Jost Building.

Open Farm Day

On September 15, 2013, Nova Scotia farmers will open their doors to members of the community. It's an opportunity for the public to meet local farmers and find out where their food comes from. A list of participating farms in the Antigonish, Pictou and Guysborough areas can be found on the Meet Your Farmer website at www.meetyourfarmer.ca/openfarmday.

Incredible Picnics

Select Nova Scotia is hosting another season of Incredible Picnics. There is one being held on August 3 in Loch Broom, adjacent to the historic Log Church. Another one will be held on September 21 in Antigonish in the same building as the farmers' market. Eighteen more will be held around the province. For more information, visit www.selectnovascotia.ca.

The Incredible Picnics are gatherings sponsored by Select Nova Scotia, the provincial buy local campaign, to celebrate communities and local food. Picnic organizers are encouraged to gather ingredients for meals from local sources, and many will use the Select Nova Scotia website database to find products. If you would like to have your farm contact information listed on the Select Nova Scotia website, please contact Adam Wile at wilean@gov.ns.ca or 1-902-863-2087.

4-H Dates to Remember:

Upcoming Antigonish County 4-H Events:

- Antigonish/Guysborough Project Competitions - August 8, 6:00 p.m., 4-H Barn
- 4-H Day at ENSE - August 28, Exhibition Grounds
- 4-H Show meeting - September 10, 6:30 7:30 p.m., AEC
- Council Meeting - September 10, 7:30 p.m., AEC.
- Last day for 4-H Show scratches - September 18
- Nova Scotia 4-H Show - September 27-29, South Shore Exhibition Grounds, Bridgewater
- Council Meeting - October 8, 7:00 p.m.
- County Awards Program - November 7, 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Pictou County 4-H Events:

- Project Competitions - August 9, 9:00 a.m., West River Fire Hall
- Barn Clean Up - August 17, 9:00 a.m., Exhibition Grounds
- Council Meeting (resolutions) - August 19, 7:00 p.m., Fisheries School
- Pictou 4-H Days - September 4-7
- Pictou County 4-H Day - September 4, All day
- 4-H Show Meeting - September 16, 6:30 p.m., Northumberland
- Council Meeting - September 16, following 4-H Show meeting
- Last day for 4-H show scratches - September 18
- Nova Scotia 4-H Show - September 27-29, South Shore Exhibition Grounds, Bridgewater
- Council Meeting - October 24, 7:00 p.m., Northumberland
- Pictou County Celebrates 4-H - November 7, 7:00 p.m., WA MacLeod School

Come to the Nova Scotia 4-H Show!

The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is the place to find out what 4-H is all about! From September 27-29 4-H members from across Nova Scotia will meet at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds in Bridgewater. 4-H members are eligible to compete at the Nova Scotia 4-H Show after achieving top honours at a local exhibition with their life skills or livestock project. Highlights of the 4-H Show include livestock auctions, fashion show, dog obedience and handling trials, tug of war, Young Speakers for Agriculture competition, bake-off, grand champion showmanship class and cattle selections for the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. 2013 marks the celebration of 100 years of 4-H in Canada so watch for centennial celebration events.



Nova Scotia Hearty Beef and Maple Stew

With a hint of maple this delicious heart-warming beef stew recipe is sure to become a family favourite. Serve the stew with crusty whole grain bread. It's a complete meal in a bowl.

1/4 cup	all-purpose flour	50 mL
1 tsp.	salt	5 mL
1/2 tsp	ground ginger (optional)	2 mL
1/4 tsp	pepper	1 mL
1	clove of garlic, minced or 1/2 tsp. garlic powder	2 mL
2 lb	stewing beef cubes	1 kg
3 tbsp	vegetable oil	45 mL
1 can	(19 oz) stewed tomatoes	540 mL
2	medium onions, sliced	2
1 cup	water	1
1/2 cup	dry red wine, cooking wine or beef stock	125 mL
1/4 cup	maple syrup (optional)	50 mL
3 cups	potato chunks	750 mL
2 cups	carrot chunks	500 mL
1 cup	celery slices	250 mL

Preparation: Combine flour and seasonings (salt, ginger, pepper and garlic powder if be used) in a plastic bag. Add beef and shake to coat.

Heat oil in Dutch oven and brown meat. Add onions and fresh garlic if being used. Cook until onions and garlic and translucent and then add tomatoes, water, wine and maple syrup. Bring mixture to a boil. Cover stew and simmer over low heat or bake in oven at 325 F for 1-1/2 to 2 hours or until meat is tender.

Add potatoes, carrots and celery and continue cooking 45 to 60 minutes until vegetables are tender. If desired, thicken stew with 2 tbsp. (30 mL) flour blended into 1/4 cup (50 mL) cold water.

For more Nova Scotia recipes visit: www.selectnovascotia.ca

Regional News Central: East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester and Halifax Counties

The Central Region Extension and Outreach office houses the Agriculture Resource Coordinator, Transition Officer, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator and Administrative Support and covers the counties of Colchester, Cumberland and Halifax East Hants.

We are your “one stop shop” for Department of Agriculture services and information. We have recently moved offices to Perennia Innovation Park. If you have an agricultural question or business opportunity you'd like to discuss, feel free to contact us.

Agriculture and Food Advisory Services
Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
90 Research Drive, Suite 112
Truro NS B6L 2R2

Our Team Members:

Michael Kittilsen, Agriculture Resource Coordinator, 893-3645
kittilma@gov.ns.ca

Elizabeth Coady, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator, 893-6586
coadyea@gov.ns.ca

Amanda Priest, Administrative Support, 893-6575

Nicole Lennerton, 4-H Summer Assistant, 896-4471 lennerna@gov.ns.ca

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 can keep our mailing list up to date. If you have an address change or if you would prefer an electronic copy of the newsletter please contact the Administrative Assistant at 893-6575.

33rd Annual Atlantic Sheep Sale

Sponsored by Purebred Sheep Breeders Association of Nova Scotia, the sale will be held Saturday, August 31, 2013, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds, Truro, N.S. (Animals on view from 7:00 p.m., Friday, August 30.)

For further information/catalogues, call Rosemary Wort at 671-2410 or e-mail herngatefarm@ns.sympatico.ca or visit <http://nssheep.ca/2013/06/12/annual-purebred-sheep-sale/>

Agriculture in the Musquodoboit Valley

The Musquodoboit Valley Planning Committee, a subcommittee of the Middle Musquodoboit Agriculture Society, is working to create awareness on a variety of local food projects in the Musquodoboit Valley. The activities include:

- Creating a food map of local producers to distribute at events and a mail-out to the community.
- A multi-producer Musquodoboit Valley Community Supported Agriculture program. Five producers are coordinating a program

where members pay upfront for 15 bags of locally grown food. All the produce contained in the bag is grown, raised or made on local farms and provided weekly to clients. Our CSA bag includes: vegetables, beef, fresh bread and local eggs.

- Partnering with the Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre and their Home and School committee to revitalize their school garden into a community garden. Funding has been provided by the local Community Health Board. Garden beds are offered to organizations to feed needy families, for fundraisers and education opportunities for youth.

If you are interested in learning more about these and other local food projects, please contact Denise VanWychen at 384-2973 or dvanwychen@northnovacable.ca or visit www.musquodoboitvalleyguide.ca

Pictou-North Colchester Sheep Fun Day

The Northumberland Sheep Producers' Association is hosting its Annual Sheep Fun Day on Sunday, September 8, 2013 at the Pictou-North Colchester Exhibition Grounds.

Sheep must be on the exhibition grounds by noon, with classes beginning at 1:00 p.m. and ending near 4:00 p.m. A potluck supper for participants, show donors and Northumberland Sheep Producers' Association members will be held in the show tent.

Continued on next page...

If you are planning to attend, please tell us how many pens (4 ft x 4 ft) you will require for your animals by emailing northumberlandsheepproducers@gmail.com or by calling either Richard Hines at 351-2027 or Sarah Turner at 351-3454 (leave a message at either number if there is no answer) before Saturday August 31, 2013.

Central Region 4-H News

The completion of the 4-H year is in full swing! There are 21 4-H Clubs in the Central Region who held Achievement Days between June 28 and August 2. The Achievement Days are a great way for 4-H members to show their community what they've learned in 4-H during the past year. Completing Achievement Day requirements allows 4-H members to compete at their respective county exhibitions. If you have time check out the exhibitions in the Central Region!

Middle Musquodoboit
Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition,
August 20-24, Truro/Bible Hill
Cumberland County Exhibition,
August 27-31, Oxford

Upcoming 4-H Council Meetings

Colchester County 4-H Council Meeting - September 16, October 28, November 25, 7:00 p.m., upstairs in the Agri-Dome
Cumberland County 4-H Council Meeting - September 3, October 1, and November 5, 8:00 p.m., Shinimicas Fire Hall
Halifax County 4-H Council Meeting - September 7, 7:00 p.m., Exhibition Grounds, Middle Musquodoboit and October 8 and November 12, 7:00 p.m., Hants East Rural High School

The 2014 4-H Year

Looking to register for 4-H? Not sure on the ages? Junior members are 9-13 and senior members are 14-21. Some clubs offer a Cloverbud program for children ages 7- 8. For more information contact the General Leader for each club or Elizabeth at the Central Regional 4-H office.

Colchester County 4-H Clubs:

Brookfield - General Leader: Val Taylor. The club meets at the Brookfield Baptist Church the third Wednesday of each month starting with registration in September.

Clifton - General Leaders: Scott Masters and Teresa McNutt. General meetings first Tuesday each month, 7:00 p.m., Cobequid Consolidated Elementary in Old Barns

Glooscap (Economy) - General Leader: Maja van den Hoek

Harmony Ridge - General Leader: Sandra Bates

North Shore (Tatamagouche) - General Leaders: Kim Ferguson, Rhonda Mingo and Janice Bush

Onslow-Belmont - General Leaders: Alexa Hoyt and Margaret Congdon. General Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month, 7:00 p.m., Lower Onslow Community Centre.

Stewiacke Valley - General Leader: Colleen Jackson

TNR (Truro North River) - General Leaders: Lisa Patton and Shelley Whooten

Cumberland County 4-H Clubs:

Bay Vista Conn Mills - General Leader: Karma Reid Pugwash Area

Double D - General Leader: Sharlene Carter-Earle Amherst Area

Linden - General Leaders: Tracey McEachern and Karen Foster

Oxford - General Leader: Alfred King

Ro-Win-Lea - General Leaders: Geoff Baldwin and Brenda Smith Springhill Area

Sunrise - General Leader: Tammy Smith Amherst Area

Three Way - General Leader: Sharon Siddall . General meetings are held every second Sunday of the Month, 6:30 p.m., Liecester Fire Hall.

Halifax East Hants 4-H Clubs:

4-HRM - General Leaders: Greg Parker and Mila MacLean - Dartmouth Area

Hardwood Lands - Our club is looking for new members! General Leaders: Heather McDonell or Patti McLean. Hardwood Lands 4-H club meets the first Wednesday of every month beginning on October 9, 7:00 p.m., Hardwood Lands Church basement.

Musqie Maple Leafs - General Leader: Leslie Holman Musquodoboit Area

Riverside - General leaders Michele Flemming and Kim Higgins. Club meets the first Monday of every month, with the exception of July, August and September, 7:00 p.m., at the Department of Natural Resources Education Centre in Middle Musquodoboit.

Shu-Mil - General Leader: Peter Giffen Shubenacadie/Milford Area

Come to the Nova Scotia 4-H Show!

The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is the place to find out what 4-H is all about! From September 27-29 4-H members from across Nova Scotia will meet at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds in Bridgewater. 4-H members are eligible to compete at the Nova Scotia 4-H Show after achieving top honours at a local exhibition with their life skills or livestock project. Highlights of the 4-H Show include livestock auctions, fashion show, dog obedience and handling trials, tug of war, Young Speakers for Agriculture competition, bake-off, grand champion showmanship class and cattle selections for the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. 2013 marks the celebration of 100 years of 4-H in Canada so watch for centennial celebration events.



Looking for Workshop Ideas

To submit workshop ideas for the upcoming year, as well as articles and club profiles for the Clover Crop newsletters, please contact Elizabeth Coady, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator at 893-6586 or coadyea@gov.ns.ca.

Regional News Valley: West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg and Queens Counties

Plan to attend a community fair and exhibition being held in our region:

New Ross Community Fair - August 16-17

Dalhousie Community Fair - August 24

Western Kings Fair, Tremont - August 31

Hants Co. Exhibition, Windsor - September 13-15 & September 20-22

Queens Co. Exhibition, Caledonia - September 17-21

Nova Scotia 4-H Show, Bridgewater - September 27-29

Update of Mailing List and E-Mailing Newsletter

We are once again trying to update our mailing list. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, or if your address is incorrect or incomplete, please notify Cheryl by phone at 679-6021 or by e-mail at chteriau@gov.ns.ca. If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter, please email Cheryl with your request.

Upcoming Food Handler Courses

From September 2013 to June 2014 food handler courses will be held in Bridgewater, Windsor, Kentville, Middleton, Lawrencetown, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne.

Courses start up again in September 2013. New courses will be posted in late August 2013.

Our website lists dates and times for all courses:

www.gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/courses_west.shtml.

The link to our registration form is also on this page.

For additional information, please contact the Food Safety Office at 638-2395.

4-H Dates to Remember:

Upcoming Valley Region 4-H Events:

Kings County NS Show Meeting - August 19, 7:00 p.m., Scotian Gold

Kings County JAD Wrap Up Meeting - September 3, 6:30 p.m., Scotian Gold

Kings County Council Meeting - September 3, 7:30 pm, Scotian Gold

Hants County Exhibition Committee Meeting - September 9, 6:00 .pm. at Hants Co. Exhibition Grounds

Hants County Council Meeting - September 9, 7:00 p.m. at Hants Co. Exhibition Grounds

Hants County 4-H Exhibition Days - September 13 - 15 Hants Co. Exhibition Grounds

Kings County Awards Night - September date TBA

Upcoming South Shore Region 4-H Events:

Handy Hands 4-H Club Achievement Days - August 16, New Ross

Lunenburg County Awards Night - August 22, Michelin Club, Bridgewater

Queens County 4-H Achievement Days and Exhibition - September 16 -17

Nova Scotia 4-H Show, South Shore Exhibition Grounds - September 27 29, Bridgewater

Get Ready for the Hants County 4-H Days

Preparations for 4-H Days at the Hants County Exhibition Grounds are well underway. On Saturday, September 14 the Beef, Dairy, Goat, Light Horse, Waterfowl and Poultry classes will be taking place, along with a variety of competitions. On Sunday, September 15 the Sheep, Light Horse and the Grand Champion Livestock Showmanship class will be happening, along with the parade of 4-H clubs. Other 4- H competitions will take place over the weekend, including the Bake-Off, Vegetable Preparation, Woodworking, Floral Arranging, Outdoorsman, Photography, Cake Decorating, Fashion Show Beef, and Dairy and Sheep Clipping.

Come to the Nova Scotia 4-H Show!

The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is the place to find out what 4-H is all about! From September 27-29 4-H members from across Nova Scotia will meet at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds in Bridgewater.

Interested In Joining 4-H?

As the summer comes to a close, the start of another 4-H year draws near. For people interested in joining 4-H this year now is the time to get ready. With 40 projects offered in 4-H there is definitely something for everyone! If you are interested in finding out more about the 4-H program call the 4-H office at 679-6027 (Valley Region) or 634-7575/ 679-6846 (South Shore Region).

Regional News Western: Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties

Do You Have the Proper Driver's 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 4,500 kg you need a Condition 15 Endorsement on your license to legally drive on Nova Scotia roads. These regulations apply to Class 5 licenses.

We are collecting names to prepare for a testing session this fall. If you are interested in obtaining these endorsements or further information, please contact Jeff Wentzell (wentzejh@gov.ns.ca / 638-2396) or Gina Saulnier-Chapelhow (638-2395) at the Western Region Office.

Fur Industry Regulations

We continue to work with the fur industry in the implementation of the fur industry regulations. If you have questions about this information or are in the planning process, we are available for a farm visit or local meeting to discuss the regulations. Please contact Jeff at 638-2396 or email at wentzejh@gov.ns.ca

Livestock Sale

Fall dates for the Annapolis County Federation of Agriculture Livestock Sales are September 28 and October 12 and 26. Sales are held at the Annapolis Valley Exhibition in Lawrencetown. Sale of miscellaneous items begins at 10:00 a.m. and the livestock sale begins at 1:00 p.m.

Upcoming Food Handler Courses

Food Handler Courses will be held in Shelburne, Yarmouth, Digby, Lawrencetown, Middleton, Kentville, Bridgewater and Windsor from September 2013 to June 2014. New courses will be posted in late August 2013. Visit our website for a list of dates and times of upcoming courses and the registration form at: http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/courses_west.shtml. For additional information contact the Food Safety Office at 638-2395.

New 4-H Barn Unveiled

The official unveiling of the 4-H livestock barn at the Annapolis Valley Exhibition was held on August 12, 2013 following the official opening of the Annapolis Valley Exhibition. 4-H leaders, families and friends were present at the grand opening. 4-H members and their livestock will enjoy using this facility for years to come.

Upcoming 4-H Events:

Digby County 4-H Leaders Council Meeting - August 16, Digby County Exhibition Grounds, Bear River
Digby County 4-H Livestock Day - August 17, Vintage Farms, Riverdale Digby County
Life Skills 4-H Show Meeting - August 17, Annapolis County Exhibition Grounds, Lawrencetown

Digby County 4-H Day - August 21, Digby County Exhibition Grounds, Bear River
Yarmouth 4-H Leaders Council Meeting - August 28, 7:00 p.m., 3 Lovitt Street
Annapolis County NS 4-H Show Meeting - September 4
Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council - September 11, 7:00 p.m., Lawrencetown
Yarmouth 4-H Leaders Council Meeting - September 18, 3 Lovitt Street
Digby County 4-H Leaders Council Meeting - September 19, 7:00 p.m., Digby Library
Nova Scotia 4-H Show - September 27-29, South Shore Exhibition Grounds, Bridgewater.

Come to the Nova Scotia 4-H Show!

The Nova Scotia 4-H Show is the place to find out what 4-H is all about! From September 27-29 4-H members from across Nova Scotia will meet at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds in Bridgewater. 4-H members are eligible to compete at the Nova Scotia 4-H Show after achieving top honours at a local exhibition with their life skills or livestock project. Highlights of the 4-H Show include livestock auctions, fashion show, dog obedience and handling trials, tug of war, Young Speakers for Agriculture competition, bake-off, grand champion showmanship class and cattle selections for the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. 2013 marks the celebration of 100 years of 4-H in Canada so watch for centennial celebration events.

