

Table of Contents

	Printed Page #	Acrobat Page #
<u>Main Newsletter</u> (for all regions)		
New Regulations for Fur Industry	1	2
Information Sessions Regarding AgriInvest and AgriStability Programs	1	2
Home Grown Success Program	2	3
Nova Scotia Pollination Expansion Program	2	3
Pesticide Certification Courses	2	3
Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission	3	4
Perennia Uploads Extension Videos	5	6
Nova Scotia Beef Conference	5	6
Farm Financing 101	5	6
Embracing the Farm Labour Challenges of 2013	6	7
Animal Health Laboratory Services Available to Registered Farmers	6	7
Continue Your Education at NSAC: Visit the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education	7	8
Free Panasonic CFLs for Farmers	7	8
Discounts on Phillips LED bulbs	7	8
Select Nova Scotia	8	9
NS Farm Loan Board	8	9
Provincial 4-H News	9	10
– Antigonish Youth Receives 4-H Recognition	9	10
– Atlantic 4-H Members to Attend Leadership Conference in Debert	10	11
– 4-H Canada Celebrates 100th Anniversary	10	11
– Annual Kevin Grant Rural Youth Tour Introduces Members to Career Opportunities	11	12
– Get a Summer Job at Camp Rankin	11	12
– 4-h Annual Chocolate Fund Raiser Set for March	12	13
<u>Custom Newsletter Pages</u> (for individual regions)		
Valley/South Shore Region News	13	14
Central Region News	13	16
Cape Breton Region News	13	18
Eastern Region News	13	21
Western Region News	13	22

Agriculture and Food Operations

NEWSLETTER



March 2013

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

Volume 14 No. 1

New Regulations for Fur Industry

Fur farms will continue to grow and create good jobs in rural Nova Scotia while being held to firm environmental standards. New regulations introduced Jan. 11 ensure this.

Nova Scotia is the first province in the country to establish regulations for its fur industry," said Agriculture Minister John MacDonell. "We talked with Nova Scotians, we heard their concerns, and we've put in place regulations that will help the industry contribute to our economy while protecting our environment."

The regulations focus on environmental management of operations with more than 100 mink or fox in their breeding herds. They concentrate on the storage, treatment and disposal of manure, waste feed and carcasses.

"As farmers, we continually strive to be good environmental stewards," said Dennis Boudreau, president of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture. "Although it will download costs to the farm business, the federation feels the regulations are a reasonable balance to protect our environment while allowing the industry to develop."

Some of the requirements in the regulations are:

- A management plan approved by a professional engineer
- Surface water and soil monitoring programs
- Minimum distances for locating buildings and manure storage in relation to property lines and water courses
- Concrete pads for storing compost and solid manure

In addition, new farms must have covered, concrete storage for liquid manure and closed style sheds for housing animals. These are also required for existing operations that have a significant increase in their breeding herd or females.

Changes to the Fur Industry Act were also proclaimed. They ensure existing farms that expand have only six months to comply with the new regulations, while farms not expanding have a three-year grandfather period. The amended act also requires any fur farms that stop operating to clean up waste.

Fur farming is a growing, rural-based industry in Nova Scotia worth about \$140 million annually and employs about 1,000 people.

Any questions in this regard please contact Arthur Pick, Manager, Agricultural Protection, 893-6587, pickaa@gov.ns.ca.

Information Sessions Regarding AgriInvest and AgriStability Programs

Federal, provincial and territorial governments have agreed to a new five-year Growing Forward 2 (GF2) policy framework. Under GF2, producers will continue to have access to a comprehensive suite of Business Risk Management (BRM) programs including AgriStability and AgriInvest.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture are holding information sessions on

the AgriStability and AgriInvest programs under GF2. The information sessions will include details on the program parameters that will be in effect for the 2013 program year.

Cont'd on next page...

NOVA SCOTIA

Cont'd from previous page...

Farmers, accountants and bookkeepers and other interested folks are all welcome to attend. No reservation is necessary. There will be some refreshments as well.

March 4, 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.,
Weymouth Public Library, 4577
Highway #1/ Main St., Weymouth

March 4, 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.,
Old Orchard Inn , 153 Greenwich
Road South, Wolfville

March 5, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.,
Glengarry Inn, 150 Willow Street,
Truro

March 6, 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.,
St. Ninian Place, 121 St. Ninian
Street, Antigonish

March 7, St. Mike's Hall, 6 Old
Margaree Road, Baddeck

For more information contact a regional office in your area. A list of regional offices can be found in this newsletter.

Nova Scotia Pollination Expansion Program

The Department of Agriculture is pleased to announce the opening of the Nova Scotia Pollination Expansion Program for the 2013 program year.

Applications are currently being accepted. All approvals will be conditional and will be subject to available provincial funding for the 2013/14 fiscal. Please plan accordingly.

For more information, see our website <http://gov.ns.ca/agri/prm/>



Home Grown Success Program – Claim Deadline March 1st – Claim now

A reminder to individuals and organizations with 2012-13 funding that all claims must be postmarked or received in the Programs and Business Risk Management office by March 1, 2013. Late claims will not be processed. Copies of all invoices with proof of payment (i.e., cancelled cheques, credit card statements, debit slips or official invoices marked paid and signed by supplier) are required to support claims for completed, approved project activities. In addition to the claim form and

proof of payment documents, copies of municipal building permits (if applicable) must be provided for the following approved projects: manure, pesticide or fertilizer storage construction.

For more information please contact:

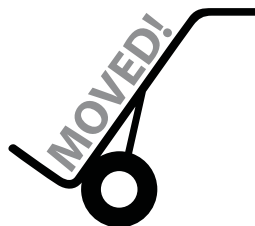
Programs and Business Risk
Management
902-893-6510 or Toll free 1-866-
844-4276
www.gov.ns.ca/agri/prm

Programs office has moved!

Please note our physical address and mailing address has changed to:

60 Research Drive, Suite A
Perennia Innovation Park
Bible Hill, NS
B6L 2R2

All other contact information remains the same. If you mailed something to the old address it will be forwarded to us automatically.



Pesticide Certification Courses

Jim Jotchem is offering courses in March or April in various locations across the. The fee for the full course (normally two days including the exam) is \$150 plus HST = \$187.50. The fee for the (five points) PRCP workshop is \$80 plus HST = \$92.00. Contact Jim if interested at marbicon@eastlink.ca or 538-7101.

A reminder that a course is not required before writing a provincial pesticide applicator's exam. You can contact the Department of Environment and write the exam without a course. You can download the agriculture training manual on their website at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/nse/pests/applicatortraining.asp>

Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission

Why should I have AgriInsurance?

As a producer, you are constantly faced with factors that are beyond your control. Things like adverse weather, disease, wildlife, and insect infestations can have a serious impact on your production and your income.

AgriInsurance, also referred to as Production Insurance or Crop Insurance, adds some predictability to your business. It protects you against the effects of yield reductions and crop losses caused by insured perils. There are currently more than 115,000 acres, 17,500 dairy animals, and 46 million birds insured annually in Nova Scotia.

AgriInsurance helps you:

- Maintain your cash flow in poor crop years with claim payments that offset losses caused by crop damage or low yields.
- Manage your operation with a more predictable cash flow.
- Provide collateral required to secure loans.
- Stabilize your AgriStability program reference margin over time.
- Gain affordable peace-of-mind by paying tax-deductible premiums that are cost-shared with government.

Crop Insurance Application Deadlines for 2013:

Vegetable - March 14
Potato - April 19
Corn - April 30

Spring Grain - March 14
Maple - April 30
Weather Plan - April 30
Soybean (includes Canola and Sunflower) - May 19

All producers who hold an active contract of insurance will receive a Coverage Quote form(s) before the beginning of the crop year, for most of the above plans, except for Weather Derivative which must be applied for annually. This will give them an opportunity to choose their price and coverage level options for the upcoming growing season.

Advanced Payments Program

Reminder: If you are planning to apply for an advance through the Advance Payments Program (APP), keep the above application deadlines in mind. In many cases, the APP requires participation in Crop Insurance (or AgriStability) as a security for the advance. Late applications for Crop Insurance cannot be accepted after the above dates.

Dairy Producers

The Commission is able to write new coverage for Dairy Livestock at any time during the year. If you are interested in insuring your animals against disease, as well as loss of income from milk sales as a result of disease or fire, and building collapse due to ice and snow, it is not too late to apply for Dairy Insurance (includes all reportable diseases, as well as shipping fever and IBR, but does not include BSE and Foot and Mouth). To find out more give the Commission Office a call.

Wildlife Compensation

The Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission administers a Wildlife Compensation Program for Nova Scotia farmers who experience losses to animals or crops as a result of uncontrollable wildlife. This program applies to specific livestock as a result of predation by specified wildlife. Similarly specified crops are covered for losses as a result of wildlife damage. There are a number of other requirements to be eligible for this compensation program. For complete details, including prices paid for losses and crop and livestock covered, visit our website at www.gov.ns.ca/agri/ci.

The Department of Natural Resources has valuable information on best practices to reduce damage from wildlife. This information can be found at www.gov.ns.ca/natr/wildlife/living-with-wildlife.

Maple Producers

The Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission offers crop insurance for maple syrup production. This plan is available to all commercial maple producers to help them manage the risk of reduced yields due to natural perils. Any producers not currently signed up in the program can apply now for coverage for the 2013-14 crop year (the Feb-Mar 2014 harvest season). The deadline for applying is April 30, 2013. Since this is a busy time in the maple woods, we encourage you to apply now to avoid missing the deadline.

Forage Producers

The Commission offers two plans for forage producers to help manage the risk in this crop from natural perils. These plans are a Forage Establishment Plan and a Weather Derivative Plan for forage production.

Forage Establishment Plan

The forage establishment plan protects against establishment failure in the first year of growth for grasses, alfalfa and other legumes. This plan covers losses from such things as winter injury, drought, insects, diseases, floods, excess moisture, frost and wind. The plan covers your new forage crop from the time of seeding up until May 31 of the following year. Seeding must be completed by July 1 for legumes and legume/grass mixes and by September 1 for grasses. The deadline date to apply for this insurance is October 15, but you can apply as soon as your crop is seeded. When you apply for this insurance at seeding time, your coverage can begin immediately. If you apply at some point after your seeding date, an inspection is required before coverage will be offered. This plan offers two levels of coverage which are \$200/acre coverage (producer premium = \$4.00/acre) and \$100/acre coverage (producer premium = \$2.00/acre).

Weather Plan for Forage

This plan targets crop losses related to weather events. It guarantees 80% of the average long term rainfall (mm) at a designated local weather station

over a period of time (May 1 - August 31). An optional Quality Rider is also available for excessive rainfall in the month of June during prime harvest time.

Managed pastures and stored forage acreage can be insured. The Weather Derivative Plan for Forage provides a guarantee of 80% of the long term average rainfall (30 year averages). A producer can choose two, three or four months of drought coverage between May 1-August 31. Any part or all of the managed forage and/or pasture on your farm can be insured for up to \$288 per acre.

An optional quality rider can also be purchased for the month of June. When three consecutive days of rainfall of at least 5 mm are recorded, a payment of 20% of your guarantee is triggered.

Producers can receive up to two payments under this quality rider during the month of June. For the weather plan, rainfall measurements are based on the recorded rainfall from sites around the province, primarily at Environment Canada weather stations. Producers select the site nearest their farm. This plan differs from other insurance plans since there are no yield measurements required. Once a drought or excess rainfall event occurs, based on Environment Canada weather statistics, a payment is triggered.

Both the Weather Derivative Plan for Forage and the Forage Establishment Plan require an annual application. For more information including the cost sharing with government for these programs contact one of our offices.

Have you reported your yield for 2012?

To provide accurate coverage to our clients, the Commission needs your harvested yield report for 2012. If clients do not report their actual yield, the Commission assumes you harvested at least the guaranteed production listed on your Certificate of Insurance. In years where you had very good production and where you do not report to the Commission, you are missing an opportunity to have this reflected in your yield history. What this means for you is that in a future claim year, your claim may not be as much as it could have been if the good experience was properly reported. To ensure you have the best coverage possible, be sure to accurately report your yields.

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

Please Note:

The main office of the Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission has moved to:

60 Research Drive
Perennia Innovation Park
Bible Hill, NS

This is the same building as the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture office. The Commission's phone numbers and mailing address have not changed.

Perennia Uploads Extension Videos

The fall of 2012 found Perennia extension specialists out in the field as usual. Not so typical, was the videographer following in their wake to record their work.

The first of a series of videos recorded in the fall have been uploaded to the Perennia YouTube channel. These include Rumen Scoring Dairy Cows, How to Calibrate a Boom Sprayer and Collecting Soil Samples. They will be joined shortly by a sweet potato video and a weed identification video. To access the Perennia YouTube channel visit the website www.perennia.ca and click on the YouTube icon.

Extension staff at Perennia hope to continue to expand the video collection with videos relevant to other agricultural sectors in 2013. Videos and other extension resources uploaded to the Perennia website are posted in the "News and New Resources" section of the Perennia homepage.



Nova Scotia Beef Conference Slated March 2013

Perennia and the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture are hosting "The Nova Scotia Beef Advantage – Grass-fed to Finish" Conference March 26 - 27 at the Holiday Inn in Truro.

Speakers include: Dr. Ron Gill, a professor and livestock specialist from Texas A&M University; Ira Mandell, a professor and animal scientist from the University of Guelph; Dr. Ed Rayburn, a forage agronomist from West Virginia University; and Dr. Ann Clark a retired professor from the University of Guelph.

Topics to be covered include feeding grass for success, consumers' drive for more grass-fed beef, ensuring meat quality, low stress cattle handling that maximizes profits and cattle genetics. A cookhouse dinner will be part of the conference where grass-fed beef will be showcased.



Registration is \$25 for Nova Scotia producers and \$75 for other registrants. Registration information/forms will be available shortly at www.perennia.ca.

If you wish to be notified when registration is open, please contact Gail at 1-877-710-7899 or gwalsh@perennia.ca. Please leave a message if it is after hours.

This conference is part of a larger AgriFlexibility project. AgriFlexibility is a five-year initiative designed to enhance the competitiveness of the agriculture sector. The provincial government contributes 40 per cent of the initiative's funding in Nova Scotia, and the federal government contributes 60 per cent.

Farm Financing 101

Are you planning to start or purchase a farm? If you have questions about financing options available, how to prepare to speak with a lender, how to manage debt or how to get started without a traditional loan, then this workshop is for you!

THINKFARM has invited Michael Sanderson from the Saint Mary's University Business Development Centre to lead this workshop. In addition, you'll have an opportunity to network with farm financing institutions to learn about the products and services they offer and hear about farmers who got started in farming through non-traditional financing.

The workshop is being held in four locations around the province from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00p.m. as follows:

February 21

Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre
Contact Catherine: 563-2000; plumricl@gov.ns.ca

February 25

Best Western Convention Centre, Bridgewater
Contact Cheryl: 679-6021; ctheriau@gov.ns.ca

The workshop is free but pre-registration is required for planning purposes. To pre-register, please call or email the contact person listed above.



Embracing the Farm Labour Challenges of 2013

Having trouble finding or retaining employees, whether full-time, seasonal, or casual? Think**FARM** and the Department of Labour and Advanced Education have invited trainer Debbie Lawrence to help participants gain an understanding of and appreciation for working with those from other generations; and to identify communication strategies that will help them build bridges to one another. In addition, we will explore what motivates workers today, the dynamics of working on a family owned and operated farm, and how to really tap into the Generation Y to meet part-time labour needs.

Join us in Bible Hill on Saturday, February 23 at the Perennia Innovation Park Administration Building, Room 214, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Your \$20 registration fee covers lunch. Pre-registration is required by February 18.

For more information, or to download the registration form, visit: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/thinkfarm/farmlabour.shtml>

Canada

Growing Forward
A federal-provincial-territorial initiative


THINK FARM
READY TO START GROW

NOVA SCOTIA

Introductory Grape Production Workshop

Have you ever considered planting a vineyard? This workshop will cover the basic production and economic considerations you need to take into account. You'll also have the chance to tour Rines Creek Vineyard.

Introductory Grape Production Workshop



March 1, 2013
10 AM to 3 PM (registration at 9)
St. Bridget's Hall
112 Mill Village Rd., Shubenacadie, NS

For more information, please visit
www.gov.ns.ca/agri/thinkfarm/

\$20.00 registration fee includes lunch

Register early with Theresa Osborne at (902) 893-6575 or obborntc@gov.ns.ca

Canada

perennia
new ideas in food & agriculture

Growing Forward
A federal-provincial-territorial initiative

THINK FARM
READY TO START GROW

NOVA SCOTIA

To see the agenda, visit: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/thinkfarm/>

Rebecca Sooksom, P.Ag., *THINKFARM Resource Coordinator*
Agriculture and Food Advisory Services
Email: sooksord@gov.ns.ca
Tel: 902-893-5649 • Fax: 902-893-2757

Animal Health Laboratory Services Available to Registered Farmers

The Agriculture and Food Protection Branch operates several laboratories in support of various extension programs of the Department of Agriculture. One service is a post mortem examination.

The following price schedule applies to:

POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION - Livestock
(Fees include all tests related to PM Examination)

Single Animal > 100 kg	\$66.61
Single Animal < 100 kg	\$22.19
Consignment:	
Animal < 100 kg	\$44.42
Insurance/Legal Case	
Documentation (<i>Minimum</i>)	\$133.21

Consignment - carcasses of the same general age, with a similar disease problem, submitted on the same day, from the same owner.

Consignment (<100 kg) - postmortem examination of up to three (3) livestock animals with the exception of mink and poultry - to maximum of six (6) birds

Livestock includes cattle, sheep, goats, meat rabbits, poultry, llamas, alpacas; and deer farm animals, fur bearing animals and game farm animals from a licensed premise.

Submission forms can be found on the website

For more information, please call:
Department of Agriculture
Animal Health Laboratories

Tel: (902) 893-6540

Fax: (902) 895-6684

URL:

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/qe/labserv/>

Continue Your Education at the Faculty of Agriculture, Dalhousie University

We are excited to announce THREE NEW COURSES for 2013! Please visit our website at <http://nsac.ca/cde/> or contact us at 902-893-6666 for more information.

The Modern Beekeeper: Basics to Business

Module 1: The Busyness of Bees Saturday/ Sunday March 2-3, 2013

Module 2: Bee Hive and Health Saturday/ Sunday May 4-5, 2013

Module 3: Bee Production and Products Saturday/ Sunday June 22-23, 2013

Module 4: Bee Maintenance and Business Growth Saturday/ Sunday September 14-15, 2013

Horticultural Judging

The online Horticultural Judging Course has been designed to prepare aspiring judges with the educational foundation needed to become a Certified Judge.

Online offering, May – September, 2013

Operant Conditioning Behaviour Analysis: Animal Training in the 21st Century

By applying research-based knowledge and specific skills and techniques, students who successfully complete this course will acquire the foundation necessary to become an animal trainer.

Online Study- Coming April 2013!

Spring 2013 course offerings:

Modern Shepherd Module 4: Health
Saturday and Sunday March 23-24, 2013

PRCP Updates: Pesticide Application Technology for Farmers
Wednesday February 20, 2013

Pesticide Application Technology for Landscapers
Thursday February 21, 2013

Introductory Welding
February 22-24, 2013

Pesticide Applicator Certification
Tuesday – Friday, April 16-19, 2013

Bulk Milk Grader Course
Wednesday – Friday May 15-17, 2013 (tentative)

Master Gardening Training Program- Online Study
March Intake- Last one until October 2013!

Upgrade or learn new skills this winter at the Dalhousie Agricultural Campus. Contact us to book your spot today!

Free Panasonic CFLs for Farmers!

The Eddy Group and Efficiency NS have teamed up to offer a rebate on the Panasonic Light Capsule. This is a 100-watt light equivalent that uses 24watts. It can be used in barns where open CFLs are not advisable. The rebate results in no charge for the bulbs for farmers replacing incandescent bulbs. The contact at Eddy Group in Truro is Diana Berfelo-Crowe (phone 902-897-5723, fax 902-893-7731, email diana.berfelo@eddygroup.com). The process is that the farmer needs to sign off on the number of bulbs required and that they are replacing incandescent bulbs. Then they receive the bulbs at no charge. You should call ahead to order your bulbs to make sure they are in stock.

Discounts on Phillips LED bulbs

Phillips and Liteco Halifax have teamed up to offer the Phillips endura LED bulb at a significant discount to farmers. Currently, these can be purchased in a 60-Watt and 75-Watt light equivalent using only 12.5Watts and 17Watts respectively. They are dimmable and give a similar color light to an incandescent when lit. They do not contain mercury, provide full light in cold temperatures, and are rated for 25,000 hours. The cost to farmers should be approximately \$20 to \$30 depending on the bulb. The offer is currently only available at Liteco Halifax. You should call ahead to order your bulbs to make sure they are in stock. You can reach Liteco Halifax at 902-420-2300.

For more information on energy programs and funding, please contact Julie Bailey, Farm Energy Specialist, Department of Agriculture at 1-902-896-4473 or baileyja@gov.ns.ca

Select Nova Scotia

Select Nova Scotia was launched in 2007 by the Nova Scotia Departments of Agriculture and Aquaculture and Fisheries to:



The department recognizes the value of the program to Nova Scotia producers, processors and local businesses and remains committed to the Select

- Improve identification and awareness of Nova Scotian food products;
- Increase domestic consumption and industry opportunities for Nova Scotian Food products;
- Promote the benefits of eating and buying local food.

Since the launch nearly six years ago Jennifer Reynolds has done an outstanding job of championing the program and raising awareness and support for Nova Scotia food products with consumers, through promotional events and campaigns.

In December Jennifer made the decision to move on from Select and pursue new opportunities. We would like to wish her well in all future endeavors and thank her for her outstanding commitment to the program over the last number of years.

Nova Scotia Brand. Moving forward, the coordination will be a bit different but we think this will only enhance and grow the outstanding program that has been developed.

Select will now be delivered through a team approach. Ruth Grant will coordinate the program provincially and will work with the team of Agricultural Transition Officers across the province to ensure high quality program delivery.

The team of Agricultural Transition Offices working on the program include:

Nicole Burkhard - Cornwallis
 Ron Young - Kentville
 Adam Wile - Antigonish
 Hana Nelson - Lunenburg

For more information on "Select Nova Scotia" please call 902-893-6584 or visit the website at www.selectnovascotia.ca.

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
osborntc@gov.ns.ca

Theresa Osborne, Admin. Assistant
 Michael Kittilsen, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coord.
 Jacqueline Hoyt, Agriculture 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, Agriculture 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), Agriculture 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, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator, South Shore
 Valorie Oickle, Agriculture 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
 Jeff Wentzell, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coord.
 Jean Ward, Agriculture Leadership Coord.
 Nicole Burkhard, Agricultural Transition Officer



Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board

Interest Rates

– as of January 1, 2013

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

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

Term Length (years)	Full Term	*10 Year Term	*5 Year Term	*3 Year Term
1-5	2.95%	--	2.85%	2.70%
6-10	3.50%	3.50%	3.10%	2.70%
11-15	3.95%	3.80%	3.20%	2.90%
16-20	5.20%	4.10%	3.25%	2.90%
21-25	5.60%	4.10%	3.25%	2.90%
26-30	5.60%	4.15%	3.30%	2.90%

Call or visit a Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board office:

Truro 893-6506 Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture campus, 137 College Road

Kentville 679-6009 Kentville Agricultural Centre, 32 Main Street

www.gov.ns.ca/agri/farmlb





Antigonish Youth Receives 4-H Recognition – by: Rachel Psutka

Reprinted with permission from The Casket www.thecasket.ca

Shandra MacMaster has a very busy schedule these days, but it hasn't stopped her from being involved in the community.

The 17-year-old Dr. John Hugh Gillis Regional High School Grade 12 student and Antigonish native is one of three Canadian youth selected for this year's 2013/2014 CIBC 4-H Secondary Education Scholarship, recognized for her grades, involvement and service to the community.

"I was really proud to be able to get the award. It's funny because you always get 4-H mail, but usually it's just a newsletter saying what's going on," MacMaster said. "It was a good thing I opened that letter. It definitely felt really good to be selected in our province for this award."

The award will give her \$2,500 each year for her first two years of post-secondary education. The other two recipients live in Manitoba and Quebec.

MacMaster said the scholarship is a good opportunity to show what 4-H has to offer, as she has been a non-livestock member since age nine and actively involved in the community ever since.

"Everyone thinks when you go into 4-H that it's just for livestock and animals, but it's definitely not. I've been in it since I was nine and I've never touched an animal since I've been in it, so it's definitely a

judgment that is put on 4-H that the non-livestock side isn't really there," MacMaster said.

She said projects such as sewing, foods, crafts, photography and especially public speaking has shaped her as an individual.

"Our motto in 4-H is 'learn to do by doing', so basically that's what we all go by, learning to do it by ourselves," MacMaster added.

She added her practice in public speaking got her involved in many opportunities. She is the co-president of the high school's student council, on the executive board of the Bergengren Credit Union Youth Community Council, a youth member for the Accelerate Entrepreneurship Community Council, co-chair of public relations for the Nova Scotia Secondary Students' Association, president of Junior Achievement at the high school and an active member of the Antigonish Creative Dance Association.

"I don't have a lot of spare time," MacMaster laughed. "Just the drive to develop myself more and help the community is definitely something that I believe in. I definitely think everyone should take advantage of 4-H or being part of your community more or volunteering, because it really does make a difference in the future for your life and what you decide to do with your future."

She mentioned her older sister Melissa as being a particular inspiration to get involved in the community.

"Ever since she's started her business field of things and her commitments and organizations she's been a part of, I've always been a part of them with her, helping her and encouraging her," she said. "Definitely the interests she has are the interests I have as well."

Having been accepted to four universities so far, MacMaster said she isn't completely decided on where she'll attend, but she is planning on studying business and marketing wherever she goes. She added she could likely return to Antigonish after university.

"I don't think I could ever leave here, since I've been here forever," she said. "Wherever I go, I'll definitely still participate in different 4-H events here or wherever I decide to go."



Atlantic 4-H Members To Attend Leadership Conference in Debert

On March 22 - 24, seventy-five Atlantic 4-H members will participate in an interactive conference challenging them to discuss four things they aren't talking about at school - financial skills, personal branding, networking and personal space.

"The 4-H program is known for hosting first-rate leadership development conferences. At this conference members will learn self confidence and leadership skills that will accompany them into adulthood," said Ruth Grant, Senior Agricultural Leadership Coordinator.

Tyler Hayden, a motivational speaker, is the keynote speaker. He will keep the 4-H members busy with interactive activities that not only guarantees a laughter filled session but sends 4-H members home thinking about what simple commitments they can make to create a balanced lifestyle in their personal and professional lives.

4-H members will participate in the Atlantic 4-H Handyman Challenge, uFit - a fitness program and a variety of concurrent sessions designed to keep them active and learning new skills.

Funding has been provided by the Atlantic 4-H Committee, Credit Union Atlantic, Agrium and the 4-H councils from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI and Newfoundland and Labrador.

4-H Canada Celebrates 100th Anniversary

4-H Canada is celebrating 100 years of learning by doing and is embracing the future of the 4-H program with confidence. From the humble beginnings in Roland, Manitoba in 1913, the first 4-H clubs were known as Boys and Girls Clubs. They concentrated on teaching sewing, cooking, gardening and livestock skills to 4-H members. Young people from farms made up the clubs and they focused on the quality of the item they were making or the animal they were raising. 4-H members worked hard to sew the nicest dress, make the best biscuits or train the best calf. In the 1950s, the 4-H program began to put more focus on the personal development of its members rather than the quality of their projects.

Over the past 100 years, 4-H has enriched the lives of young people and volunteers and given them the opportunity to develop leadership skills, sportsmanship, technical skills, responsibility and life skills in a structured family oriented atmosphere.

A national survey found that 4-H alumni attain higher education and earn higher salaries when compared to the Canadian average. This only confirms what we've known for years - that 4-H members represent the future leaders of this country. Whether in agriculture, business or government, you can be sure 4-H members are leading the way.

Today, 35,000 members and 10,000 leaders across Canada are learning skills to become confident, successful, considerate citizens that contribute to the betterment of their communities. Worldwide, there are

over 7 million 4-H members in 80 countries.

In Nova Scotia, 850 volunteer 4-H leaders make a real difference in the lives of 2,400 young people. They pass on their life experiences and skills to a new generation, while watching them grow and have fun in the process.

Take another look at 4-H today. Join us in celebrating 100 years of our greatest achievement - our future, our youth!

To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of 4-H in Canada several national initiatives are underway for 2013.

- Do More With Less Recipe Challenge will encourage 4-H members to create tasty recipes with both budget and nutrition in mind. This national initiative will be launched at the Ottawa Valley Farm Show March 12, 13, and 14. 4-H members will be encouraged to think creatively about food and cooking, about the cost of food and what it takes to feed a family. During this initiative they will provide less fortunate families across the country with a recipe bank and food basket containing the ingredients for inexpensive, nutritious meals. This will assist in raising awareness among 4-H members about poverty and hunger in Canada.
- A national food drive is underway where 4-H members across Canada collect food for local food banks with the objective of setting a record for the most food collected by an organization in one year.

- \$100 for 100 years campaign allowing past and present 4-H friends, stakeholders and others an opportunity to give back by donating to a legacy fund for future programming;
- Shout Out for Ag video competition sponsored by FCC where 4-H members, clubs and leaders create a 30-second video expressing a positive message about agriculture;
- A Living 4-H History website showcasing and celebrating the past and present of 4-H in Canada is available at www.4-h-canada.ca/core/en/e-history
- A Canada Post commemorative envelope marking the 4-H Centennial will be unveiled in Roland, Manitoba during 4-H Canada's Annual General Meeting May 28 - 31, 2013.
- On May 30th, 2013 at the Fairmont Winnipeg, 4-H Canada will host a special 100th anniversary gala evening with the theme Food for Thought, a nod to the importance of food production, sustainability and the role of youth as future leaders in feeding a growing planet. It is also an opportunity to highlight community service, and the progress of the 4-H 100th anniversary food drive taking place in communities across Canada. Keynote speaker: Dr. Roberta Bondar.
- A global 4-H Youth Ag Summit for youth age 18-25, is being held in Calgary, Alberta on August 19-25, 2013. It will bring together 120 delegates from more than 20 countries to discuss how to overcome the challenges of "Feeding a hungry planet" - visit www.youthagsummit.ca.

Annual Kevin Grant Rural Youth Tour Introduces 4-H Members To Career Opportunities

From March 11 -13, ten 4-H members will participate in the fifth annual Kevin Grant Rural Youth Leadership Tour. Each year this provincial program is held in a different area of Nova Scotia during the school March Break and this year it will be hosted in Pictou County .

The three-day tour's purpose is to present 4-H members, between the ages of 14 -17, with opportunities to hear speakers and participate in tours with a business, agriculture and industry format. Visiting a part of the province they aren't from gives participants a broader perspective on career opportunities and the confidence to make decisions about where they choose to settle when they enter the workforce.

4-H members are selected from across the province for the tour through an application and interview process. During the tour, 4-H members learn about a specific region in the province, the community, community leaders, the local area resource-based businesses and rural employers. During various social activities they will have many opportunities for networking with 4-H members from the region they are visiting.

Mr. Grant was a long time 4-H participant, government public servant, and avid supporter of the Nova Scotia 4-H program. His legacy lives on through a fund that provides a significant endowment to the Nova Scotia 4-H Foundation to assist with rural youth development. After careful consideration of his wishes, the foundation has developed the rural youth leadership development tour named in his honor.

The 4-H members participating in the 2013 Kevin Grant Rural Youth Leadership Tour are:

Olivia Kenney, Yarmouth County; Soren Himmelman, Shelburne County; Garion Henry, Annapolis County; Logan Menzies, Kings County; Brooke McNeil, Hants County; Kelsey Morehouse, Halifax East Hants; Jamie O'Connell, Colchester County; Allie Fraser, Richmond County; Emma MacLean, Cape Breton County and Morgyn Hynes, Pictou County.

Get a Summer Job at Camp Rankin

Students who have an interest in working with children and spending time in the outdoors can find a rewarding summer job at Camp Rankin, the provincial 4-H camp. Counselor positions are available for canoeing, drama, nature and outdoors, crafts, recreation and healthy living, and exploring 4-H.

Camp Rankin is located in Cape Breton just outside of St. Peter's at Cape George on the Bras d'Or Lakes. The camp is open to Nova Scotia's 4-H members between the ages of nine and fifteen and strives to uphold 4-H's values and traditions which encourages care and responsibility for our resources and teaches positive life skills to youth. Campers attend one of five camps running Sunday until Friday, beginning June 30 and ending August 2, 2013. A wide range of activities are offered to campers and include hiking, swimming, canoeing, drama, crafts and recreation.

Under the supervision of the Camp Director, each Camp Counsellor will follow all camp rules and set a good example for campers. The Camp Counsellor will supervise a group of up to seven campers during the night in individual cabins and will work with this group during camp activities such as campfires and chapel and during camp chores. Each counsellor will be responsible for preparing two to three workshops directly related to their job title suitable for campers aged 9 - 12 and 13 - 15, and for leading their session one to two times daily. Counsellors will be expected to participate in and supervise all group activities including hikes, dances and various recreational activities.

This is a great opportunity for all senior 4-H members at least 16 years old, who have a good understanding of the 4-H program and enjoys the outdoors. Current First Aid training is a requirement for all counsellors and formal canoeing training is required for the Canoeing Counsellor.

As a Camp Rankin Counsellor you will have a great summer job, where you will meet new friends and create many fond memories. 4-H members who are 16 or older can also apply for the Counsellor - in - Training positions. These positions are on a volunteer basis and are for one of the camping weeks.

Deadlines to have the applications to the 4-H office in Truro is March 15. Contact your local 4-H office if you are interested in any of these summer jobs or check with your General Leader for an application.

4-H Annual Chocolate Fund Raiser Set For March

In the Spring if a 4-H member asks you to buy a chocolate bar it's for a good cause. Each year 4-H members across Nova Scotia participate in their provincial fund raising campaign and this year they are selling World's Finest Chocolate products to raise money for local and provincial programs.

Proceeds from this sale are split between the Nova Scotia 4-H Council and the counties selling the bars. The provincial council uses the money raised to support provincial events such as the East Gen Showcase, National Travel

Award registrations, Camp Rankin and the Nova Scotia 4-H Council Scholarships, and provincial programs such as 4-H Weekend, Annual Meeting and the Nova Scotia 4-H Show.

This year the campaign runs from March 1 - 31, 2013 and 4-H members will be offering consumers a choice of Almond, Caramel or Crispe Bars, Caramel Whirls and Chocolate Covered Almonds for \$2.00 each. A coupon from Greco Pizza will be on the bar labels.



Kings 2050 Agricultural Forum

Kings County agricultural policy and regulation will be changing soon.

The Kings County Federation of Agriculture and the Municipality of the County of Kings will be hosting the KINGS 2050 Agricultural Forum on Thursday, February 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Louis Millet Community Complex, 9489 Commercial Street, New Minas. Lunch will be provided.

Members of the agricultural community will have direct input

on the strategic directions of a number of policy and regulatory issues. This is your chance to have your say!

The KINGS 2050 initiative is collaborative project intended to develop a shared long-term vision for the region and improve municipal regulation to better achieve the community's goals.

For more details and RSVP, please contact Dawn Sutherland, Planner, at 902-678-1472 or dsutherland@county.kings.ns.ca. www.kings2050.ca

Emergency First Aid/CPR Level A Course

A one day Emergency First Aid/CPR Level A session has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, in the Perennia Training Room at the Agricultural Centre, 32 Main Street, Kentville. The course is provided by St. John Ambulance and will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude by 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$50/person. All farms that have up to 20 employees are required to have at least one person with a valid Emergency First Aid Training Certificate. Any additional employees that regularly work alone should also receive this training. The certificate is valid for three years.

Contact Farm Safety Nova Scotia at info@farmsafetyns.ca for more information or to register for the course.

Updating Mailing List

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

Valley Region 4-H News

Rural Leadership Workshop to be held in the Valley

This workshop will be held for the Valley Region on Tuesday, February 26, at the Kentville Fire Hall from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. There will be sessions on working as a volunteer with youth and this will be followed by a motivational presentation by Bronson Rafuse. (Storm date is February 28 at the same time and location). This is open to non 4-H Volunteers who work with youth.

For more information, contact the Department of Agriculture at 679-6027. Cost for the workshop is \$10. Deadline for applications is February 19, 2013.

South Shore Region Rural Leadership Workshop

The workshop for the South Shore Region will be held on Tuesday, February 19, at the Queens Emera Center in Liverpool from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. There will be some great sessions on working as a volunteer with youth and this will be followed by a motivational presentation by

Bronson Rafuse. (Storm date is February 20 at the same time and location). This is open to non 4-H Volunteers who work with youth. For more information, contact the Department of Agriculture at 634-7575. Cost for the Workshop is \$10.00. Deadline for applications is February 12, 2013.

Upcoming Meetings:

Hants County 4-H Council – Monday, March 11, Monday, April 8 ,
Monday, May 13, 7:00 p.m., Brooklyn Elementary School
Kings County 4-H Council – Monday, March 4, Monday, April 1, Monday,
May 6, 7:30 p.m. , Scotian Gold, Coldbrook
Lunenburg County 4-H Leaders Council Meetings – March 5, April 2,
7:30 p.m., Wileville Fire Hall
Queens County 4-H Leaders Council – March 6, 6:00 p.m., Westfield Hall,
Caledonia
Queens County 4-H Judging Day – March 21, Westfield Hall, Caledonia
Queens County Public Speaking Rally – April 6, Westfield Hall, Caledonia
Shelburne County Public Speaking Rally – April 13
Lunenburg County Public Speaking Rally – April 13

Exhibition Judges Training School

Once again there will be a comprehensive Exhibition Judges Training School offered to new and existing judges in a variety of subject areas ranging including Photography, Rug Hooking, Crafts and more. Sessions will focus on professionalism in judging and giving reasons to support your decisions as a judge. Participants will be able to become more comfortable judging in the subject area of your choice. This event will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2013 at the Port Maitland School. For further information or to register contact Angie Garnett at garnetae@gov.ns.ca or Jean Ward at wardje@gov.ns.ca.

2012/2013 Hants County 4-H Clubs

Avon
Border Riders
Burlington Workers
Cobequid
Newport
Rawdon 2-Way

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

Valorie (Oickle) Skinner,
Agriculture Leadership Coordinator
for the Valley Region at (902)679-
6027 or oicklevh@gov.ns.ca .

Angie Garnett , Agriculture
Leadership Coordinator for the
South Shore Region at 902-634-
7575/902-679-6846 or
garnetae@gov.ns.ca.

Central Region News ~

Farm Energy Workshop – Working Towards Self Sufficiency on the Farm

Come join researchers at Dal AC to learn about what's new with Biomass and Biofuels in Nova Scotia. Key researchers from the Engineering Department; Kenny Corscadden and Sophia He are excited to share their knowledge and research findings.

Come out and learn more about burning hay to heat your buildings or find out what you can grow to make your tractor run!

Join us on Wednesday, March 27, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. , Banting Building, 39 Cox Road, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture, Bible Hill, NS. The NSDA Central Region Office is pleased to assist, promote and register participants for this workshop. To register, please call: Theresa Osborne 893-6575 osborntc@gov.ns.ca

Stewiacke and Halifax East Hants Federation Curling Bonspiel

PotLuck Dinner, February 23, 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex

Please bring appropriate footwear (indoor shoes)

To register call Chris Whidden (Stewiacke) 639-2713 or call David Hill (Halifax East Hants) 899-5265

First Aid Courses for Your Farm Business

Designed to meet industry, business and government requirements, these first aid courses are your assurance of quality, flexibility and expertise.

This course provides basic level First Aid and includes Adult Resuscitation with AED training. Emergency First Aid is recommended for worksites with 1-19 employees per shift. The registration fee for this training is \$50.

Cumberland County - February 27 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Nappan Pavillion, Nappan

Colchester County - April 4, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. St. Andrews United Church, Stewiacke,

The Colchester County Federation have decided to pay 1/2 of their members' registration so Colchester's fee is \$25.00

You must register to participate in these courses please do so by contacting Trevor Davison 893-2293

Halifax East Hants, Is Your Farm OH&S Compliant?

Farm Safety Nova Scotia has developed a Farm Health and Safety Manual to assist farmers to implement health and safety in their operations and to reduce the risk of non-compliance to current legislation. Many farmers are unaware of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the legal, financial and moral risks associated with not practicing health and safety on their farms.

A workshop has been developed to educate farmers on safety practices, allow farmers to self assess their farms and to apply the Farm Health and Safety Manual to

their individual farm operation. Representatives from Labour and Advanced Education, Workers Compensation Board and Society of Farm Safety Nova Scotia will be presenting and able to answer your questions.

Halifax East Hants has a workshop on March 20, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at St. Bridget's Church Hall in Shubenacadie.

Please let us know if you plan on attending by contacting Theresa Osborne 893-6575 osborntc@gov.ns.ca



Musquodoboit Harbour Farmers' Market Looking for More Vendors

As one of the many vibrant Farmers' Markets in Nova Scotia, the Musquodoboit Harbour market it prides itself as a supporter of local producers whose businesses have grown as a result of their support. The market is actively looking for new vendors for the coming season (June – December) and is especially interested in: eggs, cheese, fish, meats, poultry, and produce. The market operates every Sunday from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and may fit into the schedule of market vendors currently selling at one of the other Saturday markets.

For more information on the Musquodoboit Harbour Farmers' Market please visit www.MHFarmersMarket.ca Central Region 4-H News

Hello 4-H Enthusiasts!

The new 4-H year is upon us and its already shaping up to be a great year! Many clubs will be hosting their public speaking rallies during the month of February and March. Public speaking is an important part of the 4-H program and a great learning experience. I encourage everyone to take part in speech days and public speaking rallies. Whether you are a member giving a speech, a community member volunteering to be a judge, or want to be part of the audience, 4-H speech days and rallies are a lot of fun!

Upcoming Central Region Meeting

Calling all 4-H leaders and General leaders! There will be a leaders gathering for Central Region 4-H leaders on Sunday, February 24 starting at 1:00 p.m. in Bible Hill (90 Research Drive – Perennia Park). Join us for a relaxing afternoon as we share challenges/success stories with each other, brainstorm new ideas, talk about leader/member recruitment and retention, ways to make club/council meetings more fun etc. Also there will be tea/coffee/water, a light lunch and sweets provided! Please let Jacqueline know if you plan on attending so we have enough

National Award Winners:

I am very pleased to announce that two 4-H members from the Central region were chosen for 4-H National awards. Mandy Smith and Luke Coxhead both of the Shu-Mil 4-H club in Halifax-East Hants County will attend the very prestigious National Citizenship Seminar which will be held in Ottawa during the month of April. The rest of the awards will be announced at 4-H weekend in May. Congratulations goes out to both members and we wish them the best of luck on their travels. I would also like to let the members know if they did not receive an award this year they should apply next year as their chances improve with more experience.

Kevin Grant Rural Leadership Award:

Kelsey Morehouse (Shu-Mil 4-H Club - Halifax-East Hants) and Jamie O'Connell (Stewiacke Valley 4-H Club – Colchester County) were selected to attend the annual Kevin Grant Rural Leadership tour along with eight other 4-H members from across the province. The delegates will travel to Pictou County during March break to learn about the industries and museums that operate within the area.

Upcoming 4-H Council Meetings

Colchester County:

February 25, March 25, and April 22, 7:00 p.m. , upstairs in the Agri-dome

Cumberland County:

March 5 and April 2 , 8:00 p.m. , Shinimicas Fire Hall

Halifax-East Hants County:

7:00 p.m., February 19 (Hants East Rural High School), March 19 (Hants East Rural High School) and April 16 (Forestry Complex, Middle Musquodoboit)

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

Jacqueline Hoyt, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator for the Central Region, at (902)893-6586 or hoytjm@gov.ns.ca.

Forklift Training - Safe Forklift Operation

April 23, 8:30 a.m., Millville Community Hall - Cost is \$125 per person

Section 56 of the Occupational Safety General Regulations state: "An employer shall ensure that a hoist, industrial lift truck or powered mobile equipment (a) is operated by a designated competent person; (b) has gears and moving parts securely guarded by adequate means where necessary to prevent a hazard to a person in the workplace; (c) has any load on it adequately secured where necessary to prevent a hazard to a person in the workplace; and (d) is provided with safe means of access and exit from the operator's position and any passenger's position."

If you are operating a forklift or other lift truck you must be adequately trained.

The Safe Forklift Operation Course is based on classroom instructional time and actual hands on training on a forklift. Students will be expected to perform basic maneuvers, as well as demonstrate their ability to inspect their lift truck.

If you are interested in this training, call our office to register. (902) 563-2000.

JUDGING 101

Saturday, May 25, 2013
9:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Cape Breton Exhibition Grounds,
North Sydney

This workshop is an opportunity for those interested in becoming an exhibition or community fair judge to learn new skills. It is also a chance for experienced judges to refresh their skills. Exhibitors and those interested in learning more about how items are evaluated are also invited to take in the session.

During the workshop, participants will have an excellent opportunity to develop specific skills in their selected focus area. As well, they will learn about professionalism and ethics in judging, the roles and responsibilities of a judge, how to provide strong oral reasons, and how to defend your decision as a judge.

The cost of the workshop is \$15, which includes lunch. The deadline for applications is May 10, 2013. Unless you are notified otherwise, your application is accepted and we will see you on May 25!

For more information please contact Marina at 563-2000.

Pesticide Re-Certification , March 25, Sydney and March 26, Skye Glen, 9:00a.m.

This course is eligible for five points under the Nova Scotia Department of Environment pesticide recertification program. Course cost is \$80 payable on the day (includes HST). Participants are asked to bring pencil/pen, a calculator and their current pesticide license. Please contact Jim to register at 902-538-7101 or email marbicon@eastlink.ca.

Instructor Jim Jotcham has been professionally working with pesticides since 1979 and has been offering pesticide training courses and workshops since 1990. Jim is knowledgeable about the latest products and has the necessary hands-on experience to make this a most entertaining and instructive course.

For more information or to register, contact the Department of Agriculture office at (902) 563-2000.

Pesticide Certification Course to Prep for Writing Pesticide Exam

The full course normally runs 1 1/2 days, with the exam offered on the afternoon of the second day by a Nova Scotia Environment representative. Otherwise the candidates would have to set up writing the exam on their own time. We would need at least 10 people to hold the course.

The cost per person is \$150 including HST. Instructor provides all learning materials including manual. The instruction can be modified to suit most certificates (agriculture, landscape, greenhouse, forestry, etc.), depending on who is registered. The course usually runs 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. A course might be offered in mid-April if there are enough people interested.

Please register your name if you are interested with Catherine at 563-2000 or plumricl@gov.ns.ca

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture-St. John Ambulance Course 2013

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture invites federation members to participate in a federation sponsored "St. John Ambulance Emergency First Aid-Level A" course to be held at the Skye Glen Hall in Skye Glen on Tuesday, April 2nd from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. This is a great opportunity for introductory training or updating your current first aid certification. Participants will be learning about current standards needed to sustain life and safely managing the scene of an injury. This is open to all federation members at a reduced rate of \$60.00. Non- federation members can participate at a standard fee of \$90.00.

Cheque or money orders can be made to the "Inverness /Victoria Federation of Agriculture ". For more information, please contact Marina Gillis at the Department of Agriculture

(Sydney) at 563-2001 or by email at gillisma@gov.ns.ca

Space is limited - so apply today.

Please bring a bag lunch.

4-H 2013 - 100 years of 4-H Green in 2013

Small Steps, Great Distances 4-H Workshop

On March 1, Cape Breton 4-H members and friends not involved in the program, aged 7 - 13 years, will participate in an interactive workshop at the Sydney YMCA. Workshop sessions will focus on team building, leadership skills, networking, 4-H project judging, food safety and recycling through games, speakers and recreation activities. In case of bad weather, cancellations will be aired on our local radio stations.

Moved, Second... Passed!

Are you interested in learning how to run a meeting – or maybe, how to be a more active participant in meetings with your 4-H club, your school groups, or in your community?

A two hour workshop will be offered in schools across Cape Breton Island by the Agriculture Leadership Coordinators staff, in conjunction with the Cape Breton Regional 4-H Program. It is open to 4-H members and all students.

The basics of the workshop will focus on meeting preparation, the roles of executive members, planning an agenda, making motions, maintaining order, and taking care of business.

There is no charge to attend the session, however, pre-registration is required.

Next sessions are : February 20 - East Richmond Education Centre, St. Peters Science Lab and February 26 - Tamarac Education Centre, Port Hawkesbury Performing Arts Room.

Rural Safety Day

As spring approaches, rural youth (ages 8 - 14), and interested adults (15 years and older) from across Cape Breton Island are invited to attend a Rural Safety Day Camp. The workshop will be coordinated in conjunction with local community organizations, with a focus on safety around the home. It will be held at the Cape Breton County Exhibition Grounds on Saturday, April 6 from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pre - registration is required p.m. to assist with program planning with the deadline to pre - register being March 25. Topics will include a noise exposure demonstration, lawn and recreation equipment safety, home fire safety and tips to handle being lost in the woods. Plan for the whole family to attend.

REMINDER!

Growing Forward 2 Program Information Session, March 7, 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., St. Mike's Hall, Baddeck

Federal, provincial and territorial governments have agreed to a new five-year Growing Forward 2 (GF2) policy framework. Under GF2, producers will continue to have access to a comprehensive suite of Business Risk Management (BRM) programs including AgriStability and AgriInvest.

Farmers, Accountants and Bookkeepers and other interested folks are all welcome to attend. No reservation necessary. There will be refreshments as well.

Upcoming Food Handler Courses

The Department of Agriculture will offer its food handling course on numerous dates and locations throughout 2013.

February 27 and March 27 - 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Bras d'Or Hall, 24 Villa Drive, Bras d'Or
March 26, May 28, and June 25 - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre

March 27 and April 17 - 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Grand Lake Road Fire Hall, Sydney

Seats are filled on a first come, first served basis when registrations are submitted with payment. Registration forms can be downloaded and printed from this link:
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/pdfs/FoodHandlerSyd.pdf>

Dates to Mark on Calendar

Moved, Second, Passed - Skills for Managing a Meeting (for youth) - February 20, East Richmond Education Centre
Moved, Second, Passed - Skills for Managing a Meeting (for youth) - February 26, Tamarac Education Centre
Junior Member Workshop - March 1, Sydney YMCA
Cape Breton Council Meeting - March 5, Sydney (Fisheries office - 7:00 p.m.)
Atlantic Senior Member Conference - March 22 - 24, Debert
Camp Rankin Job Opportunity - March 15, deadline for applications
Camp Rankin Scholarship deadline - April 1
Federation First Aid Workshop (open to 4-H) - April 2
Rural Safety Day - April 6, North Sydney
Inverness County Council Meeting - March 18, 9:30 a.m., Department of Agriculture, Mabou
Richmond County Council Meeting - March 18, 7:00 p.m., LeBlanc's
4-H Weekend application due - April 22
Inverness Co. Rally - April 25
Cape Breton Co. Rally - April 10, North Sydney
Cape Breton Regional Rally - April 20, 10:00 a.m., Baddeck
4-H Camp Rankin deadline for applications - May 1
4-H Weekend - May 10 - 11, Dalhousie Agricultural Campus, Truro
Livestock Registration due to 4-H office and Royal Dairy Classic applications - May 15
Cape Breton County Judging Day - May 14, North Sydney Exhibition Grounds
Cape Breton County Horse Judging - May 15, location TBA
Inverness County Judging Day - May 16
Richmond County Judging Day, hosted by Lakeside 4-H - May 13
Lakeside 4-H Achievement Day - May 23
Exhibition Judging 101 May 25, North Sydney
Richmond County Days - May 28 - 29
EASTGEN 4-H Showcase - July 12 - 14, Truro, registration forms due March 1

For further information on any of the 4-H events or the 4-H program, please contact the Agriculture Leadership Coordinators for the Cape Breton Region - Marina Gillis at (902)563-2001 gillisma@gov.ns.ca or Rhonda MacDougall at (902) 945-2901 macdourm@gov.ns.ca

Growing Forward 2 Program Information Session

Wednesday, March 6, 7:00 p.m.-
9:30 p.m. – St. Ninian Place, 121
St. Ninian Street, Antigonish.

Business Risk Management (BRM)
programs including AgriStability
and AgriInvest.

Federal, provincial and territorial
governments have agreed to a new,
five-year Growing Forward 2 (GF2)
policy framework. Under GF2,
producers will continue to have
access to a comprehensive suite of

Farmers, Accountants and
Bookkeepers and other interested
folks are all welcome to attend. No
reservation necessary. There will
be refreshments as well.

Eastern Region 4-H News

4-H Dates To Remember:

Upcoming Antigonish County 4-H Events:

- Antigonish 4-H Council Meeting - March 18, 7:00 p.m.
- 4-H Leader Judging Workshop - March 18, 7:30 p.m.
- Deadline for entries for the 4-H county rally - March 28
- Antigonish County 4-H Rally - April 6, 9:00 am
- 4-H Leaders Council Meeting - April 9, 7:00 p.m.
- Antigonish/Guysborough/Pictou Regional 4-H Rally - April 23, 6:00 p.m., Antigonish
- Nova Scotia 4-H Weekend - May 10 - 11, Truro

Upcoming Pictou County 4-H Events:

- Bowling - February 9, 8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m., Heather Bowling Lanes, New Glasgow,
- New 4-H Leader Training Workshop - February 26, noon - 1:00 p.m., 4-H Office Pictou OR 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., Northumberland
- Pictou 4-H Council Meeting and Committee Meetings - February 26, 7:00 p.m. Northumberland
- Swimming - March 9, Pictou Fisheries Pool, Pictou
- Pictou 4-H Leaders Council Meeting - March 27, 7:00 p.m., Northumberland
- Pictou County 4-H Rally - April 5, 6:00 p.m., Northumberland (Storm date April 12)
- Pictou County 4-H Woodsmen Competition - April TBA, 10:00 am Eureka Fire Hall
- Antigonish/Guysborough/Pictou Regional 4-H Rally - April 23, 6:00 p.m., Antigonish
- 4-H Weekend Meeting - April 25, 7:00 p.m. Northumberland
- Pictou County 4-H Council Meeting - April 25, 7:00 p.m., Northumberland
- 4-H Weekend - May 10 - 11, Truro

For further information on any of the 4-H events or the 4-H program, please phone Dawn Barrington, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator for the Eastern Region at (902) 485-7161 or 863-7501 or e-mail barrind@gov.ns.ca

REMINDER!

**Home Grown Success Program
Claim Deadline March 1st
Claim now!**

First Aid Course

A First Aid on the Farm course is available to anyone who is interested. Please check your most recent card to see when yours expires. Plans are being made to hold a course at the West River Fire Hall, 19 Fire Lane, Central West River in early Spring. To register contact Antigonish office staff Adam Wile at 863-2087 or Lauren Boyd at 863-7180. A minimum of 10 participants is required.



Sharpen your 4-H Judging Skills

On March 18 4-H Leaders in Antigonish County are invited to attend a workshop to learn the techniques needed to teach 4-H members about 4-H Judging. Topics will include how to place a class and how to present reasons and the proper format for doing so. How to score reasons and class placings will also be explained. This will be an excellent opportunity for leaders of all experience levels to learn to do by doing and confidently be able to teach their 4-H members how to be the best judge they can be! For more information call the Department of Agriculture office in Antigonish - 863-4705.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) presentations on 2013 Business Risk Management Programs:

If you are interested in knowing more about the new federal programs that are part of Growing Forward 2, staff from AAFC will be holding meetings throughout the province in early March. Here are the meetings for our area:

March 4, 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.,
Weymouth Public Library, 4577
Highway #1/ Main St., Weymouth

March 4, 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.,
Old Orchard Inn , 153 Greenwich
Road South, Wolfville

Tea, coffee and snacks will be provided at the sessions.

Beef Producers: We are looking for interested cattle producers to set up information sessions. Potential topics include cost of production, grazing, forages, and selling your calves.

We would like to work with small groups to plan topics identified by the group, invite guest speakers and work through topics on your farm. If you are interested in setting up a group in your area or to get more information please contact Jeff at 638-2396 or email at wentzejh@gov.ns.ca.

Mink and Fox Producers:

The new Fur Industry Regulations and Fur Industry Act were approved on January 11, 2013 and are now in effect. Information is available on the department website at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/mink/>. If you would like to arrange a farm visit or meeting to discuss the regulations please contact Jeff at 638-2396 or email at wentzejh@gov.ns.ca.

Food Handler Courses for 2013

The Food Handler Course will be offered on numerous dates in the Western Region:

March 21, May 16, June 20 -
Bridgewater
April 16, June 13 - Digby
March 20, April 10, May 8, June 12
- Kentville
April 17 - Lawrencetown
March 19, May 14 - Shelburne
March 12, April 9, April 27, May 9,
June 4 - Yarmouth

Our website, listing all dates and times of courses, is located here: http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/courses_west.shtml

Course seat availability is filled on a first-come, first-served basis upon receipt of registration and payment. Register well in advance for upcoming courses, as courses fill quickly.

You may obtain a registration form by contacting the Food Safety Office at 638-2395 or complete and print one from our website:

http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/pdfs/FoodHandler_West.pdf

Confirmation letters are sent out one week before the course date with time and location information.

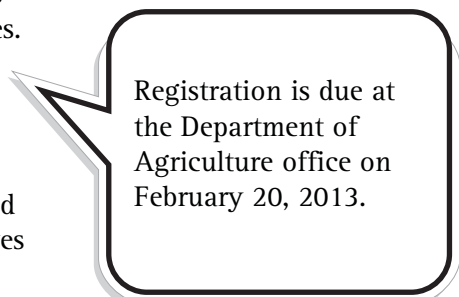
Western Region 4-H News

4-H Members Win Travel Awards

Jonathan Bent of the Clarence 4-H Club will be representing Nova Scotia 4-H at the USA National 4-H Conference to be held in Washington, DC from April 4-11, 2013. Austen Brown from the Lucky Stars 4-H Club in Annapolis County will be one of ten 4-Hers from Nova Scotia to attend the National 4-H Citizenship seminar to be held in Ottawa in April 12-18 and Olivia Kenney from the Prince Charles 4-H Club of Yarmouth County will travel with nine other 4-H members to the Eastern

Region of Nova Scotia for the Kevin Grant Rural Memorial Tour.

Leaders from a variety of rural organizations in the Western Region are invited to attend a Rural Youth Leadership Workshop at Cornwallis Park on March 5, 2013, 7: 00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Participants will learn leadership skills and team building activities. Bronson Rafuse will speak on "Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow". Bronson is well known for his motivational approach to the 4-H program and the difference it makes in the lives of 4-H members and leaders.



Registration is due at the Department of Agriculture office on February 20, 2013.

Dates to Remember:

Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council Meeting, February 13, 7:00 p.m.,
Community Services Office Building in Middleton.

Yarmouth County 4-H Leaders Council Meeting, February 20, 7:00 p.m.,
4-H Office, 3 Lovett St

Digby County 4-H Leaders Council Meeting, February 21, 7:00 p.m.,
Digby Library

Rural Youth Leadership Workshop, March 5, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.,
Cornwallis

Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council Meeting, March 13, 7:00 PM

Yarmouth 4-H Leaders Council Meeting, March 20, 7:00 p.m., 4-H Office,
3 Lovett St

Digby County 4-H Leaders Council Meeting, March 21, 7:00 p.m., Digby
Library

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

Jean Ward, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator for the Western Region at
(902)638-2387 or wardje@gov.ns.ca

