

Local Livestock Meeting Notes

Kerry Clark, Julie Robinson
BC min. of Agriculture and Lands
4th floor- 1201 103rd Avenue, Dawson Creek
10043-100th ave Fort St John
250-784-2601 or 1-877-772-2200
OFFICE HOURS: 8:30am to 4:30pm

Printed 11/10/2009

Fall 2009

- 1. Infobasket** -- The BCMAFF has a search engine for agricultural topics on the internet, click on the site, chose a commodity and then search. (<http://infobasket.gov.bc.ca/portal/server.pt?>) Click on a community and search.
Contact **Ken Awmack 1- 800- 474- 6133**
- 2. Weather Line** The toll-free weather line FSJ 250 785-7669, DC 250-784-2244
- 3. Century Farms Awards - The new Century Farm Program has been expanded to offer categories including:**
 - A farm business or ranch business that has been owned and operated by the same family for 100 years or more.
 - A farm business or ranch business that has been owned and operated by the same family for 100 years or more, but whose owners do not now live on it or operate it.
 - A farm business or ranch business that has been owned and operated by the same family for 100 years or more, but has moved from one location to another, and remained active.
 - An Institute, Industry Association, etc. that has been active for the past 100 years or more.For more information check the following website www.agf.gov.bc.ca/regional/CenturyFarmAwards/CenturyFarms.htm.
- 4. Meat Inspection Regulations** BC Meat Inspection Regulations came into effect on September 30th, 2007. Food Protection Services administers the *Meat Inspection Regulation* of the *BC Food Safety Act* . Under this legislation, inspection services to provincially licensed "Domestic" meat plant operations are managed by Food Protection Services through a contract agreement with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). The BC Centre for Disease Control also has guidelines and an application for emergency on farm slaughter. Further information is available at: <http://www.bccdc.ca/default.htm> and on the **BC Food Processors Association** website <http://www.bcfsa.ca/>
- 5. Forage Variety trial** A forage variety trial will be planted in the spring. **Contact the BC Forage Council 250-267-6522**
- 6. BSE Permit to move SRM's (Deadstock)** A permit is now required to move SRM's (including dead animals). Local CFIA will do an annual permit, and suggests that producers have a tarp marked "MRS-SRM permit #". This tarp can be used in the back of a truck whenever meat or dead animals are transported, and then the tarp can be hosed off afterwards. **CFIA locally 250-719-6855.**
- 7. BSE Surveillance Program (CFIA)** – The Canadian Food Inspection agency initiated this program in 1993. The border is open, however, Canada must continue this testing to prove to others that BSE is not in our herd. As BSE testing cannot be done on live animals, CFIA is prepared to pay producers \$75 for disposal of the animal and up to \$100 for costs incurred to collect the sample. CFIA is targeting cows that are Dead, Dying, Diseased or Down. Contact your local **CFIA office 250-719-6855** or go to their website <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/animal/surv/surve.shtml>. In addition to the federal program, a BC BSE Surveillance Top-up program allows an additional \$100 per animal and applied to beef and dairy producers. For program details go to website <http://www.ardcorp.ca/> (the window for 2009 applications has been closed) or phone 604 854-4483.
- 8. ID Tags and Age Verification** – Approved ID tags are required on the movement of all cattle (community pasture, vet, sale, etc.) the barcode tags have been changed to Radio Frequency buttons (RFID). Age verification can be done on your calves using a secure website of Canadian Cattlemen's, (this will be useful in proving the age of your animals at the time of sale) **Contact 1-877-909-2333 or <http://www.canadaid.com>** For 2009, all calves moving into Alberta must be aged verified. As a service to members, the BCCA is assisting producers with Age Verification. Contact the **BCCA Toll Free: 1-877-688-2333** Fax: 250-573-5155 or email at Age@cattlemen.bc.ca
- 9. Noxious Weeds** – The North East Invasive Plant Council has recently published a regional strategy for noxious weeds. Website http://www.peacriverrd.bc.ca/services/environmental/weed_control/index.php Contact Dennis Meier 250-784-6838 or Kerry Clark at 250-784-2559
- 10. Worksafe BC (WCB) -** WCB rates for 2009 for the different commodities in Agriculture can be found at the following website http://www.worksafebc.com/insurance/premiums/2009_rates/classification/browse_sectors_and_subsectors/subsector.asp?id=7010. WCB will concentrate on four areas: confined spaces, energy lockout, fall protection and noise, extreme cold and extreme heat. Contact **Reg Steward (FARSHA) 250 546-9397.**

See Over →

Local Livestock Meeting Notes

Kerry Clark, Julie Robinson
BC min. of Agriculture and Lands
4th floor- 1201 103rd Avenue, Dawson Creek
10043-100th ave Fort St John
250-784-2601 or 1-877-772-2200
OFFICE HOURS: 8:30am to 4:30pm

Printed 11/10/2009

11. **(BCCA) B.C. Wild Predator Loss Control and Compensation Program for Cattle** A field guide for ranchers entitled "Mitigating Cattle Losses Caused by Wild Predators in British Columbia" is now available from the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, BCCA Wildlife Specialists and BCCA Mitigation Specialists. Contact **1-866-398-2848** E-mail: WPLCCP@cattlemen.bc.ca
12. **(BCCA) Farmland-Riparian Interface Stewardship Program (FRISP)** – FRISP is designed to help provincial agriculture producers protect and enhance water quality, to protect and enhance riparian vegetation, and prevent and mitigate agricultural impacts on streams and lakes. Funding has been provided by the Ministry of Environment for delivery of the program. Contact **Lee Hesketh 250 547-6586** Email silverhillsranch@aol.com or FRSIP@cattlemen.bc.ca
13. **(BCCA) Verified Beef Production Program** - Producer workshops on "Verified Beef Program" (VBP) dealing with On-Farm Food Safety have been offered. Now this workshop can be done in the comfort of your home. If you are interested in holding or attending a workshop contact **Annette Moore 604 859-5962** or **1 888 700-4404** or qfirst@telus.net or [website http://www.cattlemen.bc.ca/vbp.htm](http://www.cattlemen.bc.ca/vbp.htm)
14. **(Growing Forward) Environmental Farm Planning** –The objective of an Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) is to help producers develop and implement a practical plan that uses beneficial management practices to protect and enhance the environment. A key principle of EFP is it is voluntary and confidential. Some of the benefits include demonstrating due diligence in the event of prosecution or litigation and being eligible for grants to assist in implementing beneficial management projects (BMP) or solutions. Environmental priorities for the new agreement will be water quality, water quantity, and Climate Change. Contact **Judy Madden 250-782-7875** or [website http://www.ardcorp.ca/index.php?page_id=14](http://www.ardcorp.ca/index.php?page_id=14)
15. **Farm Business Advisory Services FBAS (part of Agri-food Business Development AFD Program of Growing Forward)**. The Farm Business Advisory Services FBAS program is designed to enable farms to get a professional financial analysis and/or specialized business plan to allow better management decisions. The process starts with a self assessment: completion of a workbook called "Taking Stock", by which producers rate their current business practices and identify information, training, and consulting services that could improve their farm business. Completion of the self assessment results in the development of a Farm action plan which must be completed to access funding support in two areas: 1) a basic farm financial assessment completed by a farm business advisor (100% support up to \$1,900 plus farm pays \$ 100 fee to advisor), and 2) advisory services for business planning in one of 9 specialized business management areas, such as succession planning, (85% support up to \$3,000 - no fee). Contact Kerry.Clark@gov.bc.ca or 250 784 2559.
16. **(Growing Forward) Production Insurance (PI)** -Reminder –November 30 deadline for perennial forage crops. For more information you can visit our website at: http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/production_insurance/, or call , **Dawson Creek - Glen Mielke James Griffith 250-784-2601** or **Fort St John – Simon North, Gord Ouellette 250-787-3240**
17. **(Growing Forward) Provincial Agriculture Wildlife Program: Standing Forage/ Standing Grain /Cleaning & Separation of Wildlife Excreta** - The AWP will compensate qualifying agriculture producers losses incurred due to wildlife as defined in the program. Call **Dawson Creek Office** or **Todd Bondaroff 1-877-772-2200**
18. **(Growing Forward) Farm Business Risk Management Suite**– new names **Agri-Invest**(formerly called NISA), **Agri-Stability**(formerly called CAISP), **Agri-Recovery** (Disaster relief),**Agri-Insurance**(crop/production Insurance) . **Contact Jo-Anne Adams, Clint Ellison, or Pat DeBoer 1-888 -332-3352** or [website http://www4.agr.gc.ca/AAFC-AAC/display-afficher.do?id=1200408916804&lang=eng](http://www4.agr.gc.ca/AAFC-AAC/display-afficher.do?id=1200408916804&lang=eng)
19. **Cow-calf Operators in British Columbia Get Access to Cash Advances** – The Regular Advance Program is designed to provide cash advances based on number of cattle (excluding the breeding herd) which were produced on the ranch. At this time the program in BC does not cover purchased inventory. This program is designed to increase the short term credit available to producers to make production & marketing decisions. The Agriculture and Agrifood Canada Program provides up to \$400,000 cash advances with the first \$100,000 interest free. The interest on the additional \$300,000 is at CIBC prime. Recent changes announced include: Producers must still participate in CAIS/AgriStability, however the advance is no longer limited to the CAIS/AgriStability reference margin and producers do not have to use payment from these program to pay down the advance, unless they are in a default position. Regular advance are made on current inventory produced on the ranch. Producers must participate in AgriStability but do not require a reference margin to secure the advance. For more information, check the **BC Breeder and Feeder Association, Lindy Gilson, 250 992-8483** or **Canadian Livestock Advance Association** at **1 866 745-2256**.

See Over →