



## Forage and Livestock eNews

*Updates and information from across the industry*

Volume 11 Issue 11, November 19, 2019

### Guardians of the Grasslands

Don't miss the screening of Guardians of the Grasslands film in Saskatoon on November 19th! This free screening will also include a panel discussion by grasslands experts.

[View the event poster here](#)

[Watch the trailer for Guardians of the Grasslands on YouTube](#)

## Saskatchewan Forage Industry Meets in Saskatoon

**By Shannon McArton, Saskatchewan Forage Council Executive Director**

There was good attendance and strong engagement at the Saskatchewan Advisory Committee on Forage Crops meeting held at the New Holland Training Centre on November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. This annual event is led, in partnership, by Saskatchewan Forage Council and the Ministry of Agriculture. Its focus is on the exchange of ideas around forage research and extension; what's going on now, what should be going on in future, and how can the industry work together to make that happen. Updates were provided on new and ongoing projects at the University of Saskatchewan, Agriculture and AgriFood Canada and the Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC). Topics of note included forage variety trials, forage utilization, economics and pollinators. Sincere thanks to Dr. Bart Lardner, Kathy Larson, Bill Biligetu and Graham Parsons from the U of S, as well as Dr. Jillian Bainard and Dr. Sean Asselin who presented on behalf of AAFC Swift Current Research Station.

Day two focused on industry updates. Discussion ranged from effective

messaging and communications to best production practices and forage pricing insurance with presenters Kris Ringwall from the Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence, Janice Bruyhnooghe and Stacy Domolewski from BCRC, Marianne Possberg from the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association and Kim McLean from Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation. We enjoyed an overview of recent field demonstrations and research relating to AC Saltlander green wheatgrass, from Bill Houston of AAFC, and an update from Eric Lamb, U of S, about wildfire recovery based on the Hilda-Burstall event. The meeting concluded with a two-hour open session that reviewed goals set at previous meetings and identified several more for attention over the next year.

Thanks to Terry Kowalchuk, Provincial Forage Specialist with the Ministry of Agriculture, for his work on the agenda. Terry also arranged for a tour of the Canadian Light Source on Wednesday afternoon; an interesting and informative opportunity for many attendees.

## **SSGA Kicks Off 4th Annual Beef Drive for SK Food Banks**

### **Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association Media Release November 12, 2019**

The Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) launched its fourth annual Beef Drive for the [Food Banks of Saskatchewan](#) (FBS). In keeping with previous successful Beef Drives, the SSGA has set a goal of collecting 10,000 pounds of beef donations this year.

“Our annual Beef Drive gets underway once again for a fourth year to assist the food banks in our province by providing a wholesome and healthy Saskatchewan-grown product,” stated SSGA President Bill Huber. “Our membership has given this initiative incredible support over the past three years, and we invite you to be part of this year’s efforts.”

[Read more here](#)

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## **Time for a Back-Up Plan – Managing the Impacts of Drought in the Winter**

### **Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC) Blog Post, November 5, 2019 [www.beefresearch.ca](http://www.beefresearch.ca)**

In an ideal world, producers can plan ahead for their feed requirements in the spring and be prepared well before the first snowflake falls. Unfortunately, Mother Nature doesn't always comply. Dry conditions from the previous growing season or earlier can leave producers feeling worried about forage supplies. What if winter is longer than expected? What if next year is dry again? Coping with drought is a serious reality in many regions across Canada, however beef producers are inventive, resilient, and experienced. If the original plan isn't working, they make adjustments.

When it comes to withstanding drought, the best defence is a good offence. Drought planning and preparation is best done in advance. While that may be little comfort to producers currently coping with dry conditions, there are many

strategies that can help farmers prepare for the long-term or help them to recover their drought-ravaged resources in the coming seasons.

[Read more](#)



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## **New USask Beef Industry Chair aims to improve sustainability and profitability**

**Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence news  
October 31, 2019**

Gabriel Ribeiro, the new Saskatchewan Beef Industry Chair at the University of Saskatchewan (USask), will be developing nutritional strategies to improve health, performance and profitability, while lessening the environmental impact of beef cattle production.

The chair will help to identify technologies and nutritional and management practices to improve the sustainability and productivity of forage-based and feedlot beef cattle production systems.

“My goal as the Saskatchewan Beef Industry Chair is to train high-quality students and conduct research and extension that answer to the needs of the Canadian Beef Industry,” said Ribeiro. “I want to help Canadians produce beef more efficiently and sustainably to meet the needs of the growing world population.”

[Read more](#)

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## **Upcoming Events**

**Guardians of the Grasslands screening and panel**

**November 19, 2019**

**Saskatoon, SK**

[View the poster here](#)

**MFGA AGM & Regenerative Ag Days**

November 19-20, 2019

Brandon, MB

[Learn more here](#)

**Native Prairie Speaker Series - Avian Ecology**

November 21, 2019

via Webinar

[More details and register here](#)

**BCRC Webinar:Supplementing your cow herd-Managing the pregnant cow for better calf performance**

November 21, 2019

via Webinar

[More details and register here](#)

**2019 Canadian Western Agribition**

November 25-30, 2019

Regina, SK

[Visit the Agribition website](#)

**BCRC Webinar:Genomics 101**

November 28, 2019

via Webinar

[More details and register here](#)

**2019 Saskatchewan Dairy Conference**

December 3-4, 2019

Saskatoon, SK

[Learn more on the SaskMilk website](#)

**Saskatchewan Ranch Management Forum**

December 6-7, 2019

Saskatoon, SK

[Learn more from Saskatchewan Agriculture](#)

**Western Canada Conference on Soil Health and Grazing**

December 10-12, 2019

Edmonton, AB

[Visit the website to learn more](#)

**Saskatchewan Beef Industry Conference**

January 29-30, 2020

Saskatoon, SK

[Learn more on the SBIC website](#)

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