



Forage and Livestock eNews

Updates and information from across the industry

Volume 11 Issue 4, April 16, 2019



SFC's Winter 2019 Forage Market Discovery Report now available

This comprehensive Report details current market prices and general trends for forage products in Saskatchewan and nearby jurisdictions as of January, 2019.

You'll find up-to-date information on forage, forage seed and alternative feeds pricing, freight rates, field pest projections for the 2019 season, regional forage conditions and more.

[Download the Winter 2019 Report here \(pdf\)](#)

Dr. Bruce Coulman retires

By: Shannon McArton, Executive Director, Saskatchewan Forage Council

Dr. Bruce Coulman, well-known to many in the forage industry, retired at the end of 2018 after over 40 years of distinguished service. He began his career in the Department of Plant Science on the Macdonald Campus of the McGill University in 1976, and served as Chair of the Department from 1988-1993. In 1993, Dr. Coulman returned to his home province as a research scientist to lead the forage breeding program at the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Saskatoon Research Center. In 2005, he moved to the University of Saskatchewan to serve as the head of the Department of Plant Sciences, a position he held until 2014.



A highly respected and admired faculty member, Dr. Coulman shared his experience, insights, wisdom, and care with students for many years. His wry sense of humour was well known by all who worked closely with him, and his quiet leadership style is both inclusive and unifying. He supervised the research of 40 graduate students, and has trained many great leaders in the forage industry. Bruce is well-connected throughout the industry and has served on numerous industry boards, and committees. During his career, he released 22 forage cultivars, many of which are widely seeded in western Canada. In recognition of his service to the industry, Dr. Coulman has been the recipient of many awards and commendations, including the Canadian Forage and Grasslands Association Leadership Award in 2015 and the Saskatchewan Forage Council's Forage Innovation Award in 2014.

Bruce continues to serve on the Saskatchewan Forage Council board of directors, and is a key contributor to the Research Committee, of which he is the current chair. We are grateful for his dedication and invaluable input to this organization since his first involvement in 1996.

The Saskatchewan Forage Council wishes Bruce a well-deserved retirement from his professional career, filled with good health and enjoyment of the things he and his wife Lorraine love.

Leaving the grass-and the carbon-in the ground

By: Trudy Kelly Forsythe, Canadian Cattlemen, April 5, 2019

Canadian forage producers know the value of the land they are responsible for — all 33.8 million acres of cultivated forages and 36 million of native or improved pastures. This land has a direct economic impact of \$5.09 billion, but studies on the value of its environmental impact, or “ecological goods and services,” suggest it’s more than double that.

Forage and grasslands improve soil quality, reduce soil erosion and improve water quality. And since grass farmers use little or no tillage, they allow forage plants to store valuable carbon deeply underground. That value is behind a four-year project being led by the Canadian Forage and Grassland Association (CFGAs).

[Read more](#)

Saskatchewan Forage Research News

Triticale silage the focus of LFCE feeding trial

By: Lana Haight

Researchers at the University of Saskatchewan are evaluating triticale silage as a potentially viable option for feeding steers compared to barley silage.

A hybrid of wheat and rye, triticale is an attractive option for producers: it's high-yielding, high in protein and tolerant to

Feeding Values of whole crop faba bean that are frost/frozen-damaged

By: Dr. Peiqiang Yu,
Professor and Ministry of Agriculture Strategic Feed Research Chair in Feeds R&D, Department of Animal and Poultry Science, University of Saskatchewan

University of Saskatchewan researchers Victor H. Guevara-Oquendo (PhD student), D. A. Christensen, J. J. McKinnon, Bunyamin Tar'an, and Peiqiang Yu from the department of

drought. On the negative side, triticale silage is also known for its “awns” or large hairs that can reduce the animals’ feed intake and potentially slow their weight gain.

Recently researchers have developed newer varieties of triticale that have renewed interest in it as a silage option for beef cattle. But still, switching to this forage has to make sense to a producer’s bottom line.

[Read more](#)

Animal and Poultry Science and Department of Plant Sciences are conducting an interesting feed research project for dairy and beef cattle: if whole crops of faba bean are frost/frozen damaged, what are feed values and feeding value for dairy and beef cattle?

[Read the full article](#) to learn about the three phases of this research project.

Saskatchewan Forage Council Projects

Update on new and ongoing research projects for 2019

By: Shannon McArton
SFC Executive Director

Several new research projects were recently granted to SFC and we’re excited about the potential for each one of them. Continuing the good work being done with the ***Saskatchewan Forage Variety Demonstrations*** for grasses and legumes, we’re about to embark on year three of that four-year project, with funding from the Saskatchewan Strategic Field Program (SFP), under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, and with support from a number of industry partners including Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission, SaskMilk, Saskatchewan Cattlemen’s Association, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Brett Young Seeds and SeCan. With forage biomass trial sites at Saskatoon, Scott and Swift Current, as well as a seed yield trial and biomass trial at Melfort, we’re looking forward to some strong results in 2019.

New this spring, under the ADOPT program, are two new projects. ***Corn Varieties for Silage Demonstration*** will look at newly-available corn varieties suitable for silage production under irrigation and dryland production. Growing corn for silage is a Saskatchewan winter feeding option that is gaining in popularity year-over-year. Producers want to improve harvest efficiency and quality, and this research is intended to provide the opportunity to see and learn, first-hand, about new corn varieties grown under local climatic conditions.

[Read more](#)

New Executive Director for Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission

Hello forage seed growers and all who work in this area of our prairie agriculture industry! I’m Jo-Anne, the new Executive Director for the Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission. As part of the transition, a big thank you is extended to Ray McVicar for his wonderful coaching, and efficient administration system, which has



served the Saskatchewan forage seed producers these many years.

[Read more](#)



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Upcoming Events

Native Prairie Speaker Series - Predictive Models for Grassland Birds

April 26, 2019

via Webinar

[Learn more and register on the SK PCAB website](#)

Back to the Field: Diversity in the Landscape

May 28-29, 2019

Val Marie, SK

[View the poster here](#)

Under One Roof: LFCE Summer Field Day for Producers

June 18, 2019

near Clavet, SK

[Learn more at Eventbrite](#)

Saskatchewan Forage Council Annual General Meeting

in conjunction with the LFCE Summer Field Day

June 18, 2019

Forages in the Field Workshop

June 19, 2019

Kisbey, SK

Watch for more details coming soon!

Canada's Farm Progress Show

June 19-21, 2019

Regina, SK

[Visit the website](#)

Saskatchewan Pasture Tour 2019

August 8, 2019

Saskatoon area, SK

[View the announcement poster here](#)

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