



Forage and Livestock eNews

Updates and information from across the industry

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Greetings!

Welcome to the first edition of the Forage and Livestock eNews for 2019; now in its 11th year of publication! We hope you will enjoy reading about winter grazing systems, hay share agreements, news from the forage industry in Saskatchewan and a number of upcoming opportunities, including events and scholarships.

The SFC is pleased to announce that Shannon McArton has assumed the role of Executive Director. [Read the full media advisory on the SFC website.](#)

We'd love to hear from you! Get in touch with us at office@saskforage.ca if you have forage news, research or events and we'll share it in our newsletter, website and social media.



Your *Forage and Livestock eNews*
Editor,
Laura Hoimyr

Saskatchewan Forage Council Media Advisory

For Immediate Release January 22, 2019



The Saskatchewan Forage Council (SFC) is pleased to announce that Shannon McArton has assumed the role of Executive Director, effective immediately.

Shannon brings a strong agricultural background and extensive administrative and project management experience to the role. Her work in both the grain and livestock sectors has included communications, project and quality systems management. Shannon is a quality systems auditor in the pedigreed seed industry, and her experience with organizations such as Canadian Western Agribition, the Western Beef Development Centre and the Saskatchewan Beef Industry Conference network have allowed her to build strong networks in the beef and forage industries. She and her husband operate a grain farm near Dilke, Saskatchewan.

[Read the full media release here](#)

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Calculating Hay Share Agreements

by Saskatchewan Agriculture

Saskatchewan Agriculture's article on calculating hay share agreements will guide you through various approaches to take and how to accurately calculate costs. This article now has updated values for 2019.

Livestock producers commonly purchase standing perennial forage from second party landlords. The following provides information on the contributions approach and market approach for reaching a hay share or hay price for standing perennial forage. It is in the best interests of both seller and buyer to get written documentation of agreements.

A written agreement not only protects individual interests, but usually leads to a better understanding of the terms and conditions by both parties. "Hay" will mean average quality legume/grass hay mixes for the beef cow industry. Hay for the dairy industry is considered a specialty crop.

[Read more](#)

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Forage Seed Information Session - Saskatoon - January 17, 2019

By: Ray McVicar, Executive Director

Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission (SFSDC)

The Forage Seed Information Session was held in Saskatoon, SK on January 17, 2019. The session included presentations on forage seed research and markets as well as the 13th Annual General Meeting of SFSDC.

Calvin Yoder,

Forage Seed Crops Agrologist with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry in Spirit River AB provided an excellent talk on forage seed production and research. Calvin discussed the forage seed industry in the Peace River region with about \$55.5 Million of farm-gate sales in 2017 from about 61.6

million pounds of seed. He described the results of his recent research program looking at pre-seed, post-emerge and fall applied herbicides. He has seen good responses for reduced lodging and increased seed yields from plant growth regulators on Timothy and meadow brome grass, especially in wet years.



Forage Seed Information Session in Saskatoon, SK

Source: SFSDC

Jessica Pratchler, Research Manager, Northeast Agriculture Research Foundation (NARF) reviewed two ADOPT projects including planting red and alsike clover with canola as a companion crop to measure its impact on clover seed production. The second project looked at alternate row planting of meadow brome grass and wheat for forage seed production. Jessica also reviewed her herbicide trials on established red and alsike clovers, slender wheatgrass and annual ryegrass. A nitrogen fertility trial on annual ryegrass was described where fertilizer and a plant growth regulator were applied at varying rates. A strip trial of fall-applied herbicides on established red clover and a plant growth regulator application on established slender wheatgrass were reviewed.

[Read the full article here.](#)

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Agricultural Scholarship Opportunities

The **Agriculture Student Scholarship** offers a grand prize of a \$4,000 scholarship and three runner-up scholarships of \$2,000 each to go towards agriculture-related post-secondary studies. Learn more eligibility and view/read the essay and video entries of the 2018 Agriculture Scholarship Winners on the [Saskatchewan Agriculture website](#).

The **Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association Scholarship** applications are now open for 2019! Altogether, six scholarships are available valued between \$500 and \$1000 to outstanding students pursuing post-secondary education in agriculture, the livestock industry and rangeland management. The deadline to apply is February 1. Learn more at: <http://skstockgrowers.com/scholarships/>

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Benefits of bale density proven by Penn State University research

A recent study by Penn State University confirms that bale density plays an important role in forage quality.

"The denser the bale, the better," says Penn State's Dr. Jessica Williamson. "There are benefits to hay storage and to the nutritional and quality aspects of the forage as well."

For the study, silage hay was baled at various speeds to see if bale density was affected by ground speed and if density impacted feed value as well as storage life. The bales were produced by a New Holland Roll-Belt™ 450 Silage Special and comparable 4x5 competitive silage special balers, all set at maximum bale density. The bales were wrapped, fermented for over 28 days, then evaluated for nutritive value and bunk life.



Their research confirmed that dense bales heat less during the fermentation process, and those lower temperatures lead to higher feed quality. Denser bales also have increased bunk life and less spoilage.

Dense bales are a huge benefit to haymakers. In addition to increased available protein, denser bales also mean less waste due to spoilage, less twine, net wrap and film wrap used, and fewer bales to store and transport. For more information on the study, go to betterbaling.com.



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Winter Grazing Systems: Electric Fencing

The Alberta Agriculture and Forestry video series titled "Managing Risk in Winter Grazing Systems" has useful information from producers for producers. Topics covered include fencing, feeding systems, and feed quality and each short video includes footage of solutions from farmers to help you answer your winter feeding questions.

Watch: [Winter Grazing Systems: Electric Fencing](#) on YouTube to see some innovative ways that Alberta producers are using electric fencing to help manage winter feeding.



Managing Risk in Winter Grazing Systems

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
15K views • 2 years ago



Winter Grazing Systems: Fencing Options

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
15K views • 2 years ago



Winter Grazing Systems: Electric Fencing

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
5.9K views • 2 years ago

View the whole video series on the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/AlbertaAgriculture/featured>

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Saskatchewan Forage Council Featured Project...

[Saskatchewan Forage Network](#)

Completed March 31, 2018

"...many successful outcomes and deliverables were achieved including: an increased awareness of the critical lack of forage research funding and capacity. The efforts of the SFN played a central role in turning the tide towards increased forage research project funding, greater numbers of forage researchers, and expanded investment in research infrastructure and capacity. For example, investment in forage projects through the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) has increased from 7% (\$282K) of all funded livestock and forage projects in 2014 to 27% (\$1.689M) in 2018."

To view the Saskatchewan Forage Council's completed projects, [click here](#).

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Upcoming Events

Saskatchewan Ranch Management Forum

February 1-3, 2019

Prince Albert, SK

Learn more on the [Saskatchewan Agriculture website](#)

Western Canada Holistic Management Conference

February 1-3, 2019

Russell, MB

Learn more on the [Holistic Management website](#)

Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association Conference

February 5, 2019

Regina, SK

[View topics, speakers, agenda and more on the SCSA website](#)

Western Canada Feedlot Management School

February 5-7, 2019

Saskatoon, SK

Learn more and register on the [Saskatchewan Cattle Feeders Association website](#)

Targeted Grazing Academy
February 5-7, 2019
Swift Current, SK
[View the poster here](#)

BCRC Webinar: Grazing Management
February 12, 2019
via Webinar

[Register for this and other BCRC webinars here](#)

Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference
February 19-21, 2019
Winnipeg, MB
[Learn more here](#)

BCRC Webinar: What's in your water?
March 14, 2019
via Webinar

[Register for this and other BCRC webinars here](#)

BCRC

Webinar: Integrating cover crops into forage operations
March 26, 2019
via Webinar

[Register for this and other BCRC webinars here](#)

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Saskatchewan Forage Council Membership

Be Sure Your Voice in the Forage Industry Counts!

- Incorporated under *The Co-operatives Act*, a membership fee for the SFC is a one-time cost of \$25.00;
- The SFC has worked in the province on behalf of **ALL** forage industry stakeholders (and that's a very extensive and diverse group) for more than 20 years;
- If you are involved with production, management, protection, harvesting, storage, utilization or marketing of forage products, the SFC wants your involvement and input;
- The SFC is committed to placing a focus and awareness on the importance of forages in our province.

The SFC at a glance...

With a mandate to enhance the province's forage and grassland industry, the Saskatchewan Forage Council (SFC) strives to partner with all sectors of the industry - producers, industry organizations and companies, government and university.

Formed in 1988, our objectives are focused on the development and dissemination of information related to the production and utilization of all forage resources, prioritization of forage research and collaboration with governments to develop and implement effective policies and programs as they relate to forage production and marketing.



To learn more about becoming a member [Click Here](#).



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We welcome questions about article submission or to find out more about sponsorship, please contact the Saskatchewan Forage Council at:
Email: office@saskforage.ca

The Saskatchewan Forage Council Gratefully Acknowledges funding for our 'Facilitating Forage Initiatives in Saskatchewan' project through the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association Industry Development Fund:



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