# Forage Facts

Published by the Peace Country Beef & Forage Associaton

August 2020, Volume 16, Issue 187



# We Want to Show Off Our Plots!

By: Katie McLachlan

Our staff have been very busy maintainting our plot sites across the Peace Country, and we would like to encourage you to check out the fruits of our labour!

There are opportunities to join us at our traditional field days and plot tours happening throughout the month of August:

- August 6th & 7th is our Annual Field Day at the Research Farm with special feature WheatStalk from the Alberta Wheat Commission
- August 13th is our Morning Tour at the Teepee Creek Plots
- August 26th is our Morning Tour of the High Prairie Perennial Plots

More information regarding times and RSVP information can be found on the back page of this newsletter.

Can't make it out in person? No worries! Our plot sites are open to the public. At the entrance to our plot sites, you will find a booth with information on the demonstrations and trials at that site, along with a plot map. There will also be booties stocked and we ask that to protect our host's fields, and your own, that you please wear the provided foot coverings when walking through the plots.

This year we are also excited to

have audio recordings that pair with our Fairview Research Farm plots! These audio recordings will be available to stream or download off of the PCBFA website at peace-countrybeef.ca/audio.

If you are interested in testing out a new variety, looking to try intercropping or cocktails for the first time, be sure to stop by and see our plots before trying it out on your farm!

### Fairview Research Farm

Our Fairview Research Farm is located 2 miles west of Fairveiw on Hwy 64A, and 1 mile north on RR35. We would like to thank the MD of Fairview for granting us a 25 year lease on this land.

This year we have approximately 1,500 small plots ranging from cocktails to canola, and flax to fall rye. Here is a full list of our projects at the Fairview Research Farm, as they relate to the plot map on the next page:

1A. Winter Wheat Demonstration

- This demonstration was seeded last fall to show the potential of winter crops
- 1B. EcoTea Application on Canola
  - This trial is in collaboration with South Peace Grain Cleaning Co-Op and is testing the yield and soil response to application of EcoTea at seeding and in-crop
- Intercropping Systems with and Without Nitrogen Fertilizer Application, and the Effects on Colonization of Mycorrhizal Fungi





<u>/peacecountrybeef</u>



@PCBFA



@peacecountrybeef



Peace Country Beef & Forage Association



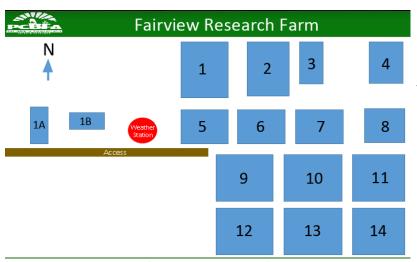
Follow Us and Stay Up-To-Date With Everything PCBFA!



PCBFA has a field-scale demonstration of the new AC Truman alfalfa at the Fairview Research Farm?



### Fairview Research Farm Trials & Demonstrations



- · This project is being conducted by Alan Lee, a Master's student with the U of A. Our very own Dr. Akim Omokanye is a co-supervisor on this project. This is the second year of Alan's two-year project measuring not only yield response to various intercrops and monocrops with top-up nitrogen applications, but also the soil and mycorrhizal fungi response
- 2. Cover Crop Cocktail Seeding Rate Trial
  - This trial measures the forage quality, biomass, and growth potential of a number of different cover crop cocktail mixes at various seeding rates, to determine ideal seeding rates for optimum forage production
- 3. Intercropping with Clover
  - This intercropping trial sees cash crops such as canola, wheat, and flax, grown at 100% recommended seeding rate, along with 40% of the recommended seeding rate of subterranean and frosty clover
- 4. Intercropping with Peas
  - This trial will be testing various cash crop mixes including canola, wheat, flax, and peas at 75% recommended seeding rates. Plots in-

- clude mixed row and alternating row crops
- Screening of Alternative Forage Type Annual Crops, Grasses and Forbs for Forage Production
  - This trial tests the monocrop forage potential of various forage brassicas and broadleaves commonly

used in cocktail cover crops including: phacelia, turnip, radish, chicory, buckwheat, and more

- 6. Pulse Crops for Forage and Seed
  - This trial looks at 12 varieties of peas and faba beans for forage and grain quality
- 7. Producer Cocktail Testing
  - This demonstration showcases 14 different cocktail mixes used by producers across the Peace
- 8. Alberta Wheat Commission, Alberta Barley Commission, and Alberta Pulse Growers Demonstrations
  - These plots are a special feature to Alberta Wheat Commission's WheatStalk. These include demonstrations on fungicide, plant growth regulators, and variety comparisons
- 9. Regional Silage Variety Trial: Barley
  - This is a provincial variety trial that tests the growth potential and forage yield of various commonly available varieties. This trial is testing 19 barley varieties.
- 10. Evaluation of Cereal Mixtures for Forage Yield & Quality
  - · This trial looks at mixtures of barley,

## Thank You to the PCBFA Board of Directors

Preston Basnett
Faron Steffen
Robbie Hale
Allan McLachlan
Kelvin Krahn
Clay Armstrong
Michael Gross
Dan Martin
Michael Strebchuk
MacKay Ross

### Do You Have Project or Workshop Ideas?

We are always looking for ideas! Give us a call!

### PCBFA Member Perks:

- Two Free Feed Tests Per Year
- Ration Balancing Assistance
- CAP Application Assistance
- Environmental Farm Plans
- Scale & Tag Reader Available for Member Use
- Soil & Water Quality Testing

## Thank You to Our Municipal Partners

MD of Fairview
MD of Peace
Clear Hills County
Saddle Hills County
MD of Spirit River
Birch Hills County
MD of Greenview
Big Lakes County
County of Grande
Prairie
Northern Sunrise
County

# Teepee Creek Site Trials & Demonstrations



oats, triticale, wheat, and rye for forage quality

### 11. Pulse/Cereal Mixtures for Improved Forage Production

 This trial looks at the potential of mixes, where the cereal portion is seeded at 50% of recommended rates, and peas are seeded at 75% of recommended rates

#### 12. Regional Silage Variety Trial: Oats

 This is a provincial variety trial that tests the growth potential and forage yield of various commonly available varieties. This trial is testing 14 varieties of oats.

### 13. Regional Silage Variety Trial: Triticale & Soft White Wheat

 This is a provincial variety trial that tests the growth potential and forage yield of various commonly available varieties. This trial is testing 7 varieties of triticale and 6 varieties of soft white wheat.

### 14. Screening of Forage-Type Cereals for Forage Production

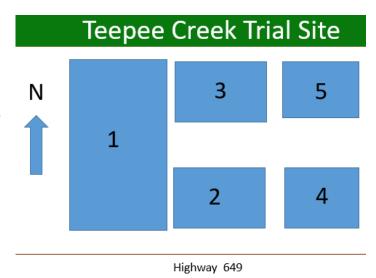
 This trial tests the monocrop forage potential of various alternative cereal varieties, including millet, annual ryegrass, wheat, and barley.

### Teepee Creek Research Site

Our Teepee Creek site is 1 mile west of Teepee Creek on Hwy 674. Access to this site is north on RR35. Big thank you to our landowner, Garth Issac for allowing us access to this wonderful site. The trials are listed as they relate to the plot map to the right.

### Yield and Quality of Annual Crops for Forage Production in Alberta

- This trial is a replication of the following trials also located at the Fairview Research Farm:
  - Screening of alternative forage-type annual crops, grasses and forbs for forage production
  - Evaluation of Cereal Mixtures for Forage Yield & Quality
  - Pulse/Cereal Mixtures for Improved Forage Production



Cool Season Annual Forage Type Cereal Varieties for Silage

#### 2. Producer Cocktail Testing

 This demonstration showcases 14 different cocktail mixes used by producers across the Peace

### 3. Pulse Crops for Forage & Seed

 This trial looks at 12 varieties of peas and faba beans for forage and grain quality

#### 4. Intercropping with Clover

 This intercropping trial sees cash crops such as canola, wheat, and flax, grown at 100% recommended seeding rate, along with 40% of the recommended seeding rate of subterranean and frosty clover

#### 5. Intercropping with Peas

 This trial will be testing various cash crop mixes including canola, wheat, flax, and peas at 75% recommended seeding rates. Plots include mixed row and alternating row crops

### High Prairie Perennial Research Site

Our High Prairie Perennial Site is 1/4 mile south of the High Prairie AgriPlex on Hwy 749. Thanks to Bill Fevang and Fevang Farms for their continued support of our programming by hosting this



### High Prairie Perennial Site & Upcoming Events

site for the 4th year running.

This site is testing the establishment, yield, nutritional quality, and longevity of various perennial species as follows:

- 1. Perennial Grass/Legume Mixes
  - This trial includes 9 perennial mixes for pasture and hay

#### 2. Perennial Legumes

- This trial includes 15 perennial legume varieties
- 3. Perennial Grasses
  - This trial features 12 species and varieties of perennial grasses

If you have questions about anything growing in our plot sites,

High Prairie Trial Site

1 2 3

Highway 749

please feel free to call or text Akim at 780-835-1112, or Buthaina at 403-667-2219

Full results from our research trials and demonstrations will be available in our 2020 Annual Report that will be published in February 2021.

Event	Date & Time	Location
6th Annual Field Day at the Research Farm featuring WheatStalk	August 6th & 7th 1-4pm Same Agenda Each Day	Fairview Research Farm
Morning Tour of the Teepee Creek Research Site	August 13th 9:30am-Noon	Teepee Creek Research Site
Morning Tour of the High Prairie Perennial Site	August 26th 9:30am- Noon	High Prairie Perennial Site

Attendance is Limited for These Events Pre-Registration is Required! Please Register Early! Social Distancing Guidelines will be in Place

For Directions & to Register:

Visit peacecountrybeef.ca/upcoming-events Email info@pcbfa.ca or Call 780-835-6799 ext. 3 Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors

Nutrien
Ag Solutions

IMPERIALSEED
Forage Seed Specialists

PRAIRIECOAST
equipment

ONE TIME
FENCING LTD.

IRPANOTE

ONE TIME
FENCING LTD.

FarmRite

Proud Member of

PCBFA recieves funding from the Government of Alberta



Agriculture and Forestry

#### Connect with Us!

Chelsey Hostettler Interim General Manager Fairview, AB P: 780-835-6799 C: 780-523-0443 Akim Omokanye Research Coordinator Fairview, AB P: 780-835-6799

C: 780-835-1112

E: chelsey@pcbfa.ca E: akim@pcbfa.ca E: buthaina@pcbfa.ca

Buthaina Al-Maqtari Research Technician Fairview, AB P: 780-835-6799 C: 403-667-2219 Katie McLachlan Environmental & Communications Coordinator Fairview, AB P: 780-835-6799 C: 780-772-0277

E: katie@pcbfa.ca

Johanna Murray Extension Coordinator High Prairie, AB P: 780-523-4033 C: 403-426-0426

E: johanna@pcbfa.ca

Monika Benoit
Extension Program
Advisor
High Prairie, AB
P: 780-523-4033
C: 780-837-4752
E: monika@pcbfa.ca