



Peace Country Beef & Forage Association

2021 Annual Report

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About Us

The Peace Country Beef & Forage Association was founded in 1982 by livestock producers in the Fairview and Hines Creek area for the purpose of demonstrating new forage varieties and technology. The PCBFA is a charitable, producer-driven organization that strives to develop regenerative, profitable, and sustainable agricultural systems. We provide leading edge, credible, and locally viable information to Peace Country producers, through our applied research and knowledge transfer programs. We are currently made up of 10 producer directors 8 staff, and approximately 250 member farms from across the Peace Region.

Mission

The Peace Country Beef & Forage Association is a producer group with the goal to be a hub of innovative, relevant and local beef, forage, soil health, and crop information for Peace Country Producers.

Vision

A Peace Country producer's first stop for optimizing beef, forage and crop production, and soil health, to maximize profitability with innovative and credible information.

Mandate

The Peace Country Beef & Forage Association believes that the sustainability of rural communities in the Peace River region will be dependent upon a strong agricultural economy with livestock production as its foundation.

Our Region

PCBFA works with producers in an area stretching from High Prairie to the B.C. border and from Manning to Valleyview. Our focus area has 1.9 million acres of pasture land and 118,000 breeding cows.



PCBFA Quick Facts



197

Farm Members



10

Partnering
Municipalities



52,157
Kilometers
Driven



10

Board
Directors



12

Total Staff
Team

2021-22 Board of Directors

The Peace Country Beef & Forage Association is governed by 10 volunteer producers from across the Peace Region, who actively voice questions, ideas, and concerns to address the needs of the agricultural industry in the Peace.

Our area is designated into three zones, with producer representation from each zone. The North Zone is north of the Peace River, from the Town of Peace River, west to the BC border. The Southwest Zone is south of the Peace River, and from the Smoky River to the BC Border. The Southeast Zone is south of the Peace River, and east of the Smoky River to Slave Lake. There are also two At Large positions, filled by producers from anywhere in the Peace Region.

Allan McLachlan

Chairman
Director, North
Dunvegan, AB
p: 780-834-7399

Michael Strebchuk

Vice Chairman
Director, Southeast
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Clay Armstrong

Treasurer
Director, Southwest
Goodfare, AB
p: 780-832-8620

MacKay Ross

Secretary
Director, At Large
Cleardale, AB
p: 780-835-0356

Faron Steffen

Director, North
Grimshaw, AB
p: 780-617-1407

Kelvin Krahn

Director, Southeast
High Prairie, AB
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Dan Martin

Director, Southwest
Bay Tree, AB
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Michael Gross

Director, North
Hines Creek, AB
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Clint Ostrem

Director, At Large
Eureka River, AB
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2021-22 Staff



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**Buthaina
Al-Maqtari**

Research Technician Lead

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Shelley Henkel

Research Intern

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Summer Research Technician Team

Shaye Godberson, Matthew McNaught, Jared Horvath, Deanna Koch & Ryan Kientz

University of Alberta Master's Student

Hayford Gyamfi

Chairman's Report

Allan McLachlan



2021: A year most of us would like to forget. With various restrictions and mandates, the PCBFA extension and research team had some very different and challenging hurdles to face this past year. Let's hope the worst of things are behind us and we are able to get together, learn, and repair any rifts in our community.

Despite the challenges, PCBFA had a fairly successful year with a staff that peaked at 12 people through the summer. These included our core team and lots of summer staff to help maintain plots and carry out research. Once again, we had plot sites in Fairview, Teepee Creek, DeBolt, and the ongoing perennial trial site in High Prairie. As well, there were many on-farm projects that were partnered with producers. In total, we had 18 broad scope projects which included 28 different trials, 567 different treatments, and 2,420 plots. It is pretty amazing that so many plots can be expertly maintained and look as good as they do with the amount of staff we have working on them. It is a lot of work, especially with the scorching heat we had this past summer. Weather-wise, the summer provided

its own challenges with the severe drought and heat that was felt throughout most of the Peace Country. Our staff received many calls and visits from producers asking about what they can do to get enough forage for their animals for the winter. I know for most producers, including myself, it was a hard summer for our mental health.

Once again, we were able to grow and harvest barley on the extra land leased from the MD of Fairview. We are only able to do this with the help of some local producers, as well as Nutrien Ag Solutions, and Prairie Coast Equipment. Of course, with the drought and heat it suffered like all other crops in the region but in the end, we did okay with it and it will help with financing our association.

This summer we welcomed Hayford Gyamfi, a new Master's degree student from the University of Alberta. His project examines Perennial Ecosystems and the many different aspects of perennial forage mixtures. There is going to be some very good and interesting information to come out of this project.

Alan Lee, who did his Master's project with us on intercropping over the two previous summers successfully defended his thesis this year. His thesis and results are getting a lot of attention throughout the research world, which is truly awesome to see coming out of our organization.

Our lead researcher, Akim Omokanye, had a paper on Alternative Forage Feeds for Beef Cattle published in the Journal of Applied Animal Research this past year. This illustrates the importance and quality of the research coming out of PCBFA.

This summer we hired Blasius Azuhnwi, a new PhD researcher. He completed his DVM, as well as a PhD in Agricultural Sciences. I think Blasius is a very valuable addition to our research team, and we are very lucky to have him.

Like last year, our extension was moved mostly online. We were able to have a few small outdoor in-person events, but the bulk was online in some form or another. Our extension coordinator, Johanna Murray, has done a great job getting relevant and interesting people on PCBFA's podcast Coffee, Cows and Crops. Remember to check it out from where ever you get your podcasts. The extension team has put on many great webinars this past year. Some of the best occurred this past January and February as PCBFA put on the Virtual Grazing Conference. This was a multi-week conference and included such names as Kris Nichols, Allen Williams, Martin Entz, Dylan Biggs, Jim Gerrish, Dallas Mount, our own Dr. Akim Omokanye, and Sean McGrath. It was truly interesting to see how many people tuned in from all over North America, including as far away as Georgia, Colorado, Ontario, and Quebec to name a few. In the last few weeks, the team has started to do a few in-person events and I am glad to see us being able to have an in-person AGM.

I would like to thank the board of directors. This is a very rewarding board to be a part of and is still one of the best boards I have ever sat on. I know it was a difficult year without being able to meet in-person much but we took to Zoom and made it work. This year we will be seeing a director come to the end of his third term. Faron Steffen has served on the board for the last six years and we would like to thank him for his time and contributions. Kelvin Krahn has completed his second term and has let us know he will not be seeking re-election. Thank you for the time and contributions you have made over the last four years. It is sad to see directors leave but it is exciting to welcome new directors into the fold. It is exciting to see what new ideas they can bring with them to the organization.

May you get timely rains and lots of feed, and all the best in 2022.



Executive Director's Report

Liisa Jeffrey, BSc (Agr), PAg



Hello everyone,

It's hard to believe another year has gone by, and boy was it a tough one! Despite the challenges of extreme weather and our second year of living through a pandemic, our team persevered, and we had some wonderful moments along the way.

In January, our Operations Manager, Chelsey Hostettler, and her family welcomed their third baby – a healthy, happy baby boy, despite making his appearance two months earlier than planned. Our warmest congratulations to the Hostettlers!

One of our summer technicians from last year, Shelley Henkel, returned to sign on for a one-year research technician internship position, much to our delight. And our very first graduate student, Alan Lee, successfully defended his thesis in the fall and was awarded his Master's degree from the University of Alberta. We first met Alan in the summer of 2018, when he joined our team as a summer research technician, and it's hard to believe how far he has come. We're all very proud of him, and honoured that we could play a role in developing his career as an agriculture researcher.

It was a challenging and interesting year for forage research. Our Perennial Ecosystems project produced some particularly interesting results. The mixtures with significant legume content were able to extract more water from the soil, which resulted in better plant health and forage production. The project has proven to be more complex and in depth than we had initially thought. As a result of that, combined with his work ethic and initiative, our Master's student on that project, Hayford Gyamfi, will be applying to upgrade to PhD studies. The project is funded through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, and is delivered in collaboration with the University of Alberta.

In October, we welcomed Blasius Azuhnwi to the team, as our Research Associate. Blasius is an experienced livestock scientist, with a background in veterinary medicine and forage evaluation. We are very excited to see him work alongside Akim to continue to improve the quality and capacity of our research program.

Many things have shifted in the world of agriculture research and extension, and have created some serious concerns for our future. It now appears that the path we have been on may become unsustainable in future.

This has forced us to start asking some tough questions around PCBFA's purpose for existing, and the services we provide to producers in the Peace. In 2022, we will be asking for your engagement in helping us re-evaluate our primary purpose, direction, and activities. We want to re-imagine the future of PCBFA and carve a new path forward to best support the success of farmers and ranchers in the Peace.

An Alberta Cooperative Extension Task Force is currently undertaking an exercise of assessing the state of agriculture extension in Alberta, and developing recommendations for an improved collaborative extension model, which are expected to be released in June 2022.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support us and make the work we do possible – we appreciate you. We hope that we can be around for many years to come – continuing to play a role in moving forward the agriculture industry in the Peace. I look forward to engaging with our members and other stakeholders in 2022 to develop a new way forward and a new outlook for PCBFA



2021-22 Team: Top L-R: Buthaina Al-Maqtari, Shaye Godberson, Shelley Henkel, Deanna Koch, Liisa Jeffrey, Katie McLachlan. Bottom L-R: Jared Horvath, Ryan Kientz, Johanna Murray, Akim Omokanye, Matthew McNaught, Hayford Gyamfi.

Member of the Year Recipient

In 2021, we present our fifth Member of the Year Award to Michael Gross.

Michael has been a member of our board of directors for 3 years now and has always been just a phone call away. In past years, he hosted a 3-year farm-scale project on Crop & Livestock Integration, hosted workshops, and helped us secure sites for small plot research.

In 2021, he went even further to help us succeed. This spring, Michael coordinated inspection of and personally delivered our new, small plot forage harvesters to Fairview all the way from Lethbridge. This donation of time and mileage has bolstered our research team's ability to collect accurate silage harvest data at the right time and stage. Michael also dropped everything to send a truck to pick up and deliver our barley seed for the additional acres from Rycroft in the middle of seeding season. Michael has been a huge resource for our team in the management and planning of the cropping program on our additional leased acres at the research farm as well. As always, Michael is only a phone call away and willing to help out where ever he can to make things work.

We are so pleased to present our 2021 Member of the Year Award to Michael Gross!

PCBFA Agricultural Scholarship Recipient

It is our belief that the sustainability of our rural communities in the Peace River region is dependent upon a strong agricultural economy. To encourage and support our Peace Country youth in pursuing agriculture related post-secondary educations, and launching successful careers in the ag industry, the PCBFA Board of Directors decided to implement an annual PCBFA Agricultural Scholarship.

At our 7th Annual Field Day at the Fairview Research Farm on August 5th, 2021, the board was proud to present the third annual PCBFA Agricultural Scholarship to Alexa Fraser.

Alexa grew up on a ranch near Sexsmith and is halfway through her Bachelor of Science at Thompson Rivers University, majoring in Ecology and Environmental Biology. This program emphasizes the importance of establishing new technologies and innovations to provide for a growing society.

Growing up on the family farm and work experience throughout school has given Alexa an appreciation for the challenges that producers face juggling regulation, efficiency, and herd and soil health. “Environmental ecology is the study of relationships in nature, and how we can manage these relationships to maintain healthy ecosystems. The agriculture industry itself is an ecosystem that continues to develop and grow as society does. As the industry flourishes, innovations are required to meet a high demand. As demand for the agriculture industry increases, there will be a greater pressure to reduce emissions and control the industry’s contribution to global warming. New ideas and fresh perspectives can provide insight into how to deal with these issues.” Says Alexa about her program and career goals.

Alexa plans to return to the Peace and apply her education in the local agriculture industry, to contribute ideas for improving the sustainability of the industry and society for the long term.

Best of luck with your education Alexa!



Grant Gaschnitz Memorial Ag Knowledge Sponsorship

Grant Gaschnitz was a prominent figure across the Peace Region, and had a significant impact on the agriculture community. He was a champion of strengthening Peace Country farms and ranches, ensuring the region got the attention it deserved, and was especially dedicated to encouraging and supporting young people in becoming successful and thriving farmers and ranchers.

The sponsorship will be administered by the Peace Country Beef & Forage Association, an organization that was strongly supported by Grant. Grant was a member for many years, sat on the board of directors, and was awarded a lifetime membership. The Gaschnitz family would like to continue to provide the support Grant offered for our young producers for so many years by creating a sponsorship that will support an endeavor that a young Peace Country farmer or rancher wants to pursue that will help him/her to succeed with their operation and further their education and management skills.

Application Criteria:

- Must be a resident of the Alberta Peace Region
- Must be an agricultural producer
- Applicants must be between the ages of 17 and 40
- Application must ask for support in pursuing further education in an agriculture related area
 - This education could be a producer course or conference OR post-secondary program (degree or diploma) that will further their knowledge and management skills related to farming or ranching in the Peace Country.
 - Open to anyone interested in furthering agriculture knowledge; applicants do not have to be enrolled in a post-secondary institution.



Applications will open in the Fall of each year, and be accepted until February 15th. Awards will be presented at the PCBFA AGM.

Donations to continue the scholarship fund can be made payable to
Grant Gaschnitz Memorial Scholarship Fund and mailed to:

PCBFA
Box 3000
Fairview, AB
T0H 1L0

Grant Gaschnitz Memorial Ag Knowledge Sponsorship Recipients

The Gaschnitz family and the PCBFA Board of Directors were very pleased to be able to present the second annual Grant Gachnitz Memorial Ag Knowledge Sponsorship to two young ladies from the region; Colbi Pratt and Sarah Cairns.

Colbi grew up on a mixed farming operation near High Prairie. Growing up on the farm, Colbi has developed a love for the livestock industry. Colbi is currently studying Agricultural Management at Olds College. Through this program, she is learning about different aspects of managing a farming operation, including accounting and economics on top of crop and livestock production. Colbi says, "This program will help me continue into the industry and allow me to learn the key points needed to be successful. With this program I believe I will be learning and bringing back key knowledge to the farm and/or industry in general."

Sarah Cairns grew up on a cow/calf operation west of High Prairie. She is a member of the Canadian Junior Hereford Association and has started her own small herd of purebred Herefords. Through this process, she has had the opportunity to network with breeders and producers across the province and has learned a lot in regard to the role that genetics plays in a cow herd.

Sarah is studying Land and Water Resources at Olds College, with plans to transfer to the University of Alberta's Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences after graduation. Through this program, Sarah hopes to learn as much as she can about the relationship between agriculture and the environment. Sarah says, "This not only allows for me to have a strong professional career in the agriculture industry, but it also helps me in my personal life on my own farm. I can use this information and education to further my own farm and increase our yields and profits in a sustainable and long-term way that protects both the longevity of the farm and the land on which we farm. The relationship between producers and the land is very important and I believe that my involvement in environmental sciences will be very valuable to not only myself, but to others in the region."

We wish Colbi & Sarah the best of luck in the future endeavours!

Acknowledgements

PCBFA greatly appreciates the following contributors for helping us deliver important extension programs and conduct essential projects in 2021:

Funding Partners

Canadian Agricultural Partnership
Government of Alberta
Government of Canada
Agricultural Service Board Resource Management Grant
Results Driven Agriculture Research

Municipal Partners

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

Project & Extension Hosts

2M Farms Ltd
Andrew Miller
Baldur Ruecker
Bill Fevang
Bill & Jeannie Hanson
Blair Hickson
Blair Hogbin
Brent Kobbert
Clay Armstrong
Cody Herr
Dan Martin
David Thompson
Devin Martin
Durwood Hodgson
Faron Steffen
Frank Cote

Garth Isaac
Gary These
Gerald McDonald
Gerald Richard
Hines Creek Farms
Hostettler Farms
James Yuha
Jerry Kitt
Jess Verstappen
Jeof Lund
John Prinse
Jordan Barnfield
Kirk Cowell
Louise Liebenburg
M4 Ranch Ltd
Mack Erno

Mackay Ross
Marc Pellerin
Marianne & Kelvin Krahn
Marc Pellerin
Maverick Livestock
Melvin Baer
Nate & Ash Parlee
Preston Basnett
Rick Basnett
Rick Keillor
Shady Lane Colony
Thomas & Laura Claydon
Trent Keller
Uddersmith Dairy
Willowdale Simmentals

Donations & Support

Andrew Fabian	FP Genetics	Pincher Creek Colony
ATCO Grande Prairie	Gerald McDonald	Pride Seeds
Bayer CropScience	Golden Acre Seeds	Riddel Seed Co
BrettYoung	Hines Creek Farms	Ring Creek Farms
Canterra	Imperial Seed	SeCan
Chin Ridge Seeds	Jesse Meyer	Stamp Seeds
Corteva	Jordan Barnfield	Syngenta
Dave Thomspson	Nutrien Ag Solutions	Tyler Jeffrey
Emery Beaulieu	Penergetic	UFA Fairview
Foster's Seed & Feed	Pickseed	

Project Partners

Dr. Guillermo Hernandez Ramirez, University of Alberta
Dr. Obioha Durunna, Lakeland College
Dr. Monika Gorzelaak, AAFC Lethbridge
Dr. Bart Lardner, University of Saskatchewan
Dr. Nityananda Khanal, AAFC Beaverlodge
Dr. Yousef Papadopoulos, AAFC Kenvtville
Calvin Yoder, SARDA Ag Research
Dr. Haben Asgedom-Tedla, Saskatoon Research & Development Centre
Alberta Beef, Forage & Grazing Centre
Chinook Applied Research Association
Lakeland Agricultural Research Association
Farming Smarter
SARDA Ag Research
Battle River Research Group
Gateway Research Organization
Mackenzie Applied Research Association
North Peace Applied Research Association
West Central Forage Association
Foothills Forage & Grazing Association
Grey Wooded Forage Association

**Thank You for Your Continued Support of
Peace Country Beef & Forage Association's
Research & Extension Programming!**



Extension Program Overview



Extension Quick Facts



34

Extension
Events



1,032

Event
Attendees



22

Articles
Published



23

New Podcast
Episodes



3,482

Podcast
Downloads

Summary of 2021-22 Extension Program

Joel Boekenfohr Succession Planning Webinar - January 14th

Partnering with FCC, we hosted an online webinar with succession expert Joel Boekenfohr. This webinar addressed some of the common stumbling blocks of Succession and how to move past them.

Calving Q/A Webinar - January 28th

At the end of January, we hosted this online Q&A session with vet expertise on dealing with malpresentation, as well as disease prevention tips from Dr. Christy Barlund and information on the genetic factors of calving from Quantum Genetix. We had an awesome crowd with some great questions.

Cocktail Workshop - February 9th

Our annual Cocktail Planning workshop went online this year with Akim presenting research from our Cocktail Seeding Rates trial and other data PCBFA has collected on Cocktails.

Joel Williams Webinar Series - February 11, 16, 23rd and March 2nd

PCBFA partnered with the Western Canada Conference on Soil Health and Grazing, to present a series of webinars with Joel Williams. Joel presented on a variety of topics related to soil health and improving performance.

Soil Health Benchmarking Project review with Yamily Zavala - June 7th

On this webinar, presented in partnership with CARA, Yamily Zavala discussed the protocols of the Soil Health Benchmarking project and some of the information found in the reports.

Crop Livestock Integration Workshops - July 2nd and 3rd

Akim Omokanye and Megan Snell from SARDA presented recent research from PCBFA's Crop-Livestock Integration project in Hines creek, as well as an update on SARDA's intercropping projects.

Pasture Walk Series - July 12-19th

PCBFA hosted 6 pasture walks across the Peace to discuss the effects of management and assessing pasture.

Teepee Creek Plot Walk - July 18th

Our tour of PCBFA's trials at Teepee creek yielded some



interesting discussion this year on the effects of late frosts and moisture timing.

7th Annual Field Day at the Research Farm - August 5th

The 7th Annual Field Day at the Fairview Research Farm might have been on a scorcher of a day but we still had a great day of high-quality information and research. Barry Yaremicio presented on hay production and quality while Kevin Elmy talked about cocktail mixes at the annual plots. Karin Lindquist discussed managing pasture during drought and our master's student Hayford Gyamfi presented on his perennial ecosystems project. As always the highlight of the day was Akim's overview of PCBFA's current research projects.

DeBolt Perennial Plot Tour - August 25th

In DeBolt this year we were pleased to host both Grant Lastiwka & Akim Omokanye to discuss the ins and outs of establishing perennial plants, as well as the ongoing annual trials at that location.

Cattle Market Evening - September 11th

Our Annual Cattle Market evening was hosted online once again this year, but we were happy to host Dr. Ryan Brook to speak about methods of predator control, and Brian Perillat to give us an update on the cattle market.

Nutrition 101 Feed Test Series - Sept 21st, 28th, and Oct 12

We partnered with nutritionists from Beef Smart to provide this basic introduction to the hot topics in beef nutrition, feed testing, protein supplementation, and mineral management.

Corn For Forage Demo and Tour - Oct 7th

At this tour, we went out to take a look at the on-farm corn variety trial in Fairview as well as a local crop being grown for forage.

Ration Balancing with Barry Yaremicio - Oct 19th

This webinar with Barry Yaremicio delved into putting together the pieces from our previous introduction series, dealing with formulating rations that are low on roughage and dealing with low energy feed.



Ration Balancing Consultations with Barry Yaremco - November 2nd & 3rd

We were able to provide some time for producers to individually discuss their specific winter feeding plans and concerns with Barry Yaremco.

Crunching Numbers With Steve Kenyon - November 19th & 20th

In this 2 part webinar workshop, Steve Kenyon took us through the process of evaluating pasture and farm management examples through gross margin and cash flow.

Virtual Grazing Conference - January 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, Feb 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

In this series, we hosted 8 Friday night sessions with grazing, soil, and pasture management experts from Canada and the USA. These sessions allowed for in-depth question and answer focused on adapting to challenges in regenerative livestock operations.

Peace Agronomy Update - Jan 18th

Our annual collaboration with the North Peace Applied Research Association started again with virtual and in-person presentations from cropping, soil, pest, and economic experts in Fairview.

Intercropping Webinar Series - Feb 8th, 10th & 17th

NPARA, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association, and PCBFA cooperated to put on a series of Intercropping webinars where we discussed research, on-farm application, fertility and other considerations for intercropping systems.

Heifer Development: Aim for Longevity - Feb 17th

In this noon webinar we heard from Dr. Nathan Erickson about the factors that affect heifer development and some of the basic calculations for ensuring the animals you grow stay on your operation long enough to pay for themselves.

Peace Beef Cattle Day - Feb 15th

In another collaboration with NPARA we put on the Peace Beef Cattle Day in Fairview this year. We heard from a number of experts both in-person and virtually on topics ranging from economics and herd health to wildlife management.



Grazing Plan Workshop - Feb 22nd

For this event we were able to discuss the ins and outs of grazing plans with Karin Lindquist and Steve Kenyon at the Savanna Ag Society Hall.

Making the Best of Forages - Feb 24th

Grant Lastiwka & Graeme Finn came out to Triangle Hall to speak about making the best use of your forage resources and discuss methods of managing annual and perennial forage systems.

Podcast

We published 23 new episodes of Coffee Cows & Crops this year, covering topics that ranged from business management and grazing, to animal health and farm safety. The podcast is published bi-weekly, every other Tuesday and features local research projects, helpful organizations, and innovative practices. If you haven't already, check out our feed on the website, Spotify, Google podcasts, or any podcast app!



Forage Facts

Forage Facts is a monthly newsletter that provides timely information relevant to the beef and forage sector. It is also the best source of information about what extension events we have planned and how you can participate! Forage Facts is sent out to our entire membership, including our participating municipal districts and counties. This newsletter is an invaluable way to communicate information to our members, as well as inform them of new ideas on the horizon.

Northern Horizon Collaboration

PCBFA, along with our fellow Peace Country research organizations, have teamed up with the Northern Horizon to include research reports in every second edition. Be sure to keep your eyes open when you pick up your copy of the Horizon for some local research!

Website

If you haven't already, be sure to check out the PCBFA website at www.peacecountrybeef.ca. Information about the association, upcoming events, ongoing projects, career opportunities, and publications (i.e. Journal Research Papers, Forage Facts, or Annual Reports) are all available on our website.

Social Media

PCBFA is very active on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube, extending our reach to connect with producers in more non-traditional ways. Through our social media accounts, we are able to instantly share news, updates, or stories that are affecting or related to the beef and forage industry. It is also a wonderful tool for advertising our upcoming events and sharing all PCBFA updates right at our fingertips! Stay connected—follow us!





Research Program Overview



Research Quick Facts



28
Research
Trials



2,420
Small
Plots



4
Small Plot
Research Sites



1,244
Forage Samples
Taken



875
Soil Samples
Taken

Summary of 2021-22 Research Program

Due to the immense amount of data that our team needs to comb through, the decision has been made to separate the full research reports from the Annual Report and publish them separately. Keep your eyes open for the full 2021 Research Report to be published later this year.

In 2021, we maintained small plot research trials at the Fairview Research Farm, Teepee Creek, DeBolt, and High Prairie.

Fairview Research Farm Trials & Demonstrations

Our Research Farm is located 2 miles west of Fairview on Highway 64A, and north $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile on Range Road 35. The majority of our research is on the south side of the farm, bordering the Fairview Airport. Projects at the Fairview Research Farm are supported by Results Driven Agriculture Research, and the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

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.

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.

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.

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.



Evaluation of Cereal Mixtures for Forage Yield & Quality

This trial looks at mixtures of barley, oats, triticale, wheat, and rye for forage quality.

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.



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.

Pulse Crops for Forage and Seed

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

Side by Side Assessment of Commercial & Producer Cover Crop Mixtures

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

How Bio Stimulants and Micro-nutrients can Impact Crop Production

This trial is looking at the impact of the application of various bio stimulants and micro-nutrients on wheat and canola for grain production.

Enhanced Grain Production in Forage-Type Barley via Plant Growth Regulator Applies at Stem Elongation Growth Stage

This trial is testing the effects of applying PGR's to forage-type barley varieties and the effect on grain yield.

Intercropping Systems for Forage, Seed, and Ecosystem Functions

This trial is looking at the effects that intercropping has on seed and forage yield, as well as the effects that it has on soil moisture use and nutrient cycling.

Forage Production, Quality Potential, and Ecosystem Functions of Perennial Forages

This project is managed by a University of Alberta Master's Student and is looking at the soil functions under perennials in addition to forage yield and quality.

Demonstration of AAC Trueman Alfalfa

This field-scale demonstration is in partnership with Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada and is demonstrating the growth potential of a new alfalfa variety - AAC Trueman to other commonly used alfalfas.

Teepee Creek Trials & Demonstrations

Our Teepee Creek site is 3 miles west of Teepee Creek on Hwy 674. Big thank you to our landowner, Garth Issac for allowing us access to this wonderful site. The trials at this site are funded by the Canadian Agriculture Partnership program.

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.

Evaluation of Cereal Mixtures for Forage Yield & Quality

This trial looks at mixtures of barley, oats, triticale, wheat, and rye for forage quality.

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

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.

Pulse Crops for Forage and Seed

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

Side by Side Assessment of Commercial & Producer Cover Crop Mixtures

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

DeBolt Trials & Demonstrations

Our DeBolt Site is located north of the DeBolt town site on Hwy 763, and a mile east on Twp road 740. Huge thank you to our collaborating landowner Marc Pellerin for use of this site. This site is



100% funded through a collaboration of Results Driven Agriculture Research and the MD of Greenview.

Side by Side Assessment of Commercial & Producer Cover Crop Mixtures

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

In Search of Adaptable Low Heat Unit Corn Hybrids for Winter Feeding Systems

This trial is comparing 16 corn varieties for performance as a winter feed source for beef cows.

Testing Seed Treatment, Inoculant Response, and Phosphorus Fertilizer Application on Pea Production and Residual Soil Nitrogen

This trial is testing effects that inoculant, seed treatment, and fertility application has on pea production and residual soil nitrogen.

Screening of Perennial Forages

This trial is looking at yield, quality, and growth potential of various perennial grasses, legumes, and mixtures.

High Prairie Trials & Demonstrations

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 site for the 6th year running. This project is a provincial project receiving funding from the Canadian Agricultural Partnership program.

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

On-Farm Trials & Demonstrations

In Search of Adaptable Low Heat Unit Corn Hybrids for Winter Feeding Systems



This trial is comparing 16 corn varieties for performance as a winter feed source for beef cows and selection of low heat unit corn varieties. This is a field-scale adaption of the DeBolt small plot site and is hosted at M4 Ranch Ltd near Fairview.



Corn Variety for Grazing Demonstration: Forage Yield and Forage Quality Indicators

This trial is comparing 16 corn varieties for performance as a winter feed source for beef cows, and selection of low heat unit corn varieties. This site is hosted by Mack Erno near Teepee Creek.

Rejuvenating Pastures with Legumes: Potential of Alternative Pasture Improvement Strategies for Maximum Environmental and Economic Sustainability

This three year trial wrapped up in 2021. Through this project, we looked at various methods of adding legumes to pastures without breaking & re-seeding for improving soil health, forage productivity, livestock carrying capacity, and profit. This site is hosted by Mack Erno near Teepee Creek.

Evaluation of Strategic Land Use Options Through Forage, Crop, and Livestock Integration

This project looks to evaluate integrated crop-livestock systems that encourage sustainable farming and generate positive interactions between crops and live-stock, with environmental and economic benefits. This project is heading into its final year in 2022. Hosted at Hines Creek Farms.

On-Farm Demonstration of Grazing Management to Improve Soil Health, Plant Diversity, and Forage Production

This project looks to assess the influence of high stock density grazing and a year of pasture rest on soil health improvement, plant diversity, and forage production compared to a control paddock, which had normal grazing pressure. This project is hosted at Kelvin & Marianne Krahn's near High Prairie.





Financial Overview

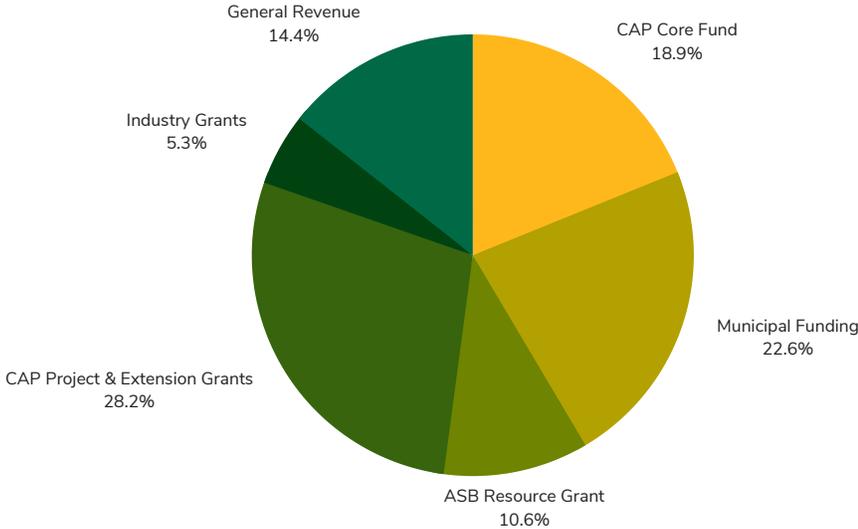


Financial Break Down



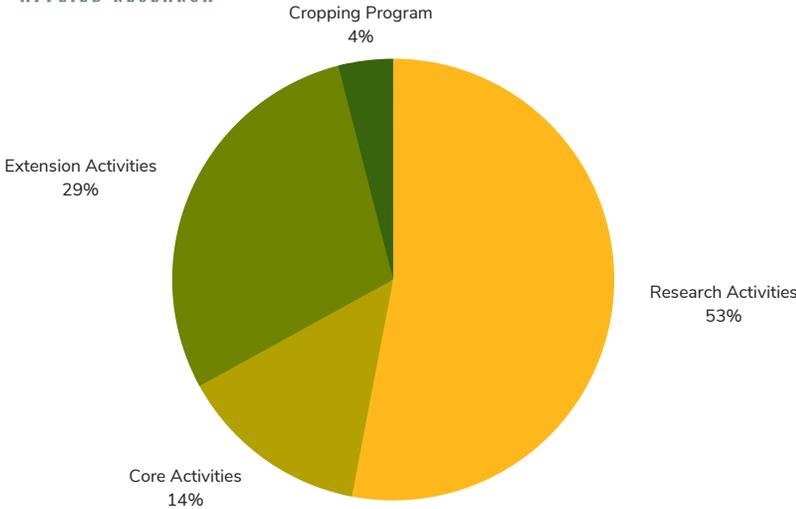
PCBFA Revenue Breakdown

2020-2021 - Total \$869,087



PCBFA Expense Breakdown

2020-2021 - Total \$799,794



Notes on Financials

Revenue & Expense Breakdowns

Core Activities includes expenses related to the board of directors, the annual general meeting, capital maintenance, staff training, office expenses, insurance, utilities, accounting fees, and general advertising and promotions.

General Revenue includes memberships, event registrations, feed testing, sponsorships, and crop sales.

Financial Statements

The unusual surplus experienced in 2020-21 was largely due to an extremely successful first year of cropping the additional acres at the research farm. The board of directors moved to invest \$40,000 of the surplus into our capital replacement fund for future vehicle and equipment purchases, and for the remainder to go into our general cash reserves, used to get us through tougher years, as our reserves are quite small relative to our annual operating budget.

Peace Country Beef & Forage Association
Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2021
(Unaudited)

	2021	2020
Assets		
Current		
Cash	344,685	171,885
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	156,552	20,403
Restricted cash (Note 4)	215,571	273,542
Prepaid expenses and deposits	15,578	18,848
	732,386	484,678
Capital assets (Note 5)	78,332	93,240
Investments (Note 6)	163	160
Restricted cash (Note 7)	54,331	284,345
	865,212	862,423
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals (Note 8)	66,978	44,029
Deferred contributions (Note 9)	342,821	485,462
	409,799	529,491
Long-term debt (Note 10)	60,000	-
Deferred contributions related to capital assets (Note 11)	31,887	40,766
	501,686	570,257
Subsequent event (Note 12)		
Net Assets		
Operating fund	229,663	159,743
Capital replacement reserve	82,998	75,530
Investment in capital assets	50,865	56,893
	363,526	292,166
	865,212	862,423

Approved on behalf of the Board

Director

Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Peace Country Beef & Forage Association
Statement of Operations

*For the year ended March 31, 2021
(Unaudited)*

	2021	2020
Revenue		
Provincial government grants	429,648	288,796
Municipal government grants	288,983	348,875
Crop sales	92,232	-
Contributions	27,740	-
Other grants	35,846	65,393
Federal grants	32,329	32,618
Seminars and workshops	11,022	19,210
Memberships	8,668	9,512
Interest income	4,591	543
Projects, products, and services	4,407	6,191
Total revenue	935,466	771,138
Expenses		
Advertising	4,176	9,055
Amortization	22,179	26,431
Bank charges and interest	581	1,178
Directors' fees and mileage	4,174	20,093
Goods and Services Tax	4,311	212
Insurance	15,875	12,535
Manager's contract and expenses	77,566	88,354
Memberships	9,487	7,674
Office supplies	12,903	16,758
Professional fees	8,258	8,913
Telephone, utilities and property taxes	9,831	10,212
Training and education	2,139	2,876
Workshops and seminars	29,911	68,702
	201,391	272,993
Excess of revenue over expenses before project expenses	734,075	498,145
Project expenses		
Crop inputs	57,487	337
Custom work	76,983	47,949
Equipment repair and rental	27,882	28,570
Fuel and oil	8,550	10,224
Small tools	23,368	10,687
Soil tests	69,022	43,242
Technician payroll	399,423	362,794
	662,715	503,803
Excess (shortfall) of revenue over expenses	71,360	(5,658)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Peace Country Beef & Forage Association
Statement of Changes in Net Assets

*For the year ended March 31, 2021
(Unaudited)*

	<i>Operating fund</i>	<i>Capital replacement reserve</i>	<i>Investment in capital assets</i>	2021	2020
Net assets beginning of year	159,743	75,530	56,893	292,166	297,824
Excess (shortfall) of revenue over expenses	71,360	-	-	71,360	(5,658)
Amortization of deferred contributions	(8,879)	-	8,879	-	-
Amortization of capital assets	22,179	-	(22,179)	-	-
Capital assets purchased during the year	(7,272)	-	7,272	-	-
Interfund transfer	(7,468)	7,468	-	-	-
Net assets, end of year	229,663	82,998	50,865	363,526	292,166

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Peace Country Beef & Forage Association
Statement of Cash Flows

*For the year ended March 31, 2021
(Unaudited)*

	2021	2020
Cash provided by (used for) the following activities		
Operating		
Excess (shortfall) of revenue over expenses	71,360	(5,658)
Amortization of capital assets	22,179	26,431
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(8,879)	(10,936)
	84,660	9,837
Changes in working capital accounts		
Accounts receivable	(136,153)	(6,984)
Prepaid expenses and deposits	3,271	(4,480)
Accounts payable and accruals	22,949	(8,209)
Deferred contributions	(142,641)	(180,484)
	(167,914)	(190,320)
Financing		
Advances of long-term debt	60,000	-
Deferred contribution related to capital assets	-	4,420
	60,000	4,420
Investing		
Purchase of capital assets	(7,272)	(18,240)
	(7,272)	(18,240)
Decrease in cash resources	(115,186)	(204,140)
Cash resources, beginning of year	729,772	933,912
Cash resources, end of year	614,586	729,772
Cash resources are composed of:		
Cash	344,685	171,885
Restricted cash - current	215,570	273,542
Restricted cash - long term	54,331	284,345
	614,586	729,772

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements



Peace Country Beef & Forage Association

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