

Forage Facts

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DID YOU KNOW?

We have 3 sites featuring Perennial Forages! The Fairview Research Farm, High Prairie, and our new DeBolt site.

Check Out Our Research Sites

Our Research Team has been busy since May preparing seed, laying out, seeding, sampling, spraying and maintaining our small plot research sites. This is not small task this year, as we have over 2,000 small plots across the Peace.

Fairview Research Farm

Our Fairview Research Farm is located west of Fairview on Hwy 64A, and north on RR 35, just north of the Fairview Airport. This year, we have 18 trials, boasting a total of 1,208 small plots.

A highlight at the Research Farm this year is our Ecosystem Functions of Perennial Forages project, being overseen by UofA Master's student, Hayford Gyamfi. Check out the middle spread to meet Hayford. Hayford's project has 257 plots including perennial grasses, legumes, and grass/legume mixes. The goal of this project is to determine how grazing and hay mixes perform

compared to monoculture grasses and legumes. There is plenty of data available on how individual species perform by themselves, but little local data on how these species interact together in terms of water-use efficiency, soil health, and soil nutrient composition. Production factors such as yield, nutritional quality, stand establishment and longevity are also being measured.

Mark your calendars for our 7th Annual Field Day at the Research Farm taking place on Thursday, August 5th. For a full list of projects on site, please visit our website, under the Applied Research tab.

Teepee Creek Site

Our Teepee Creek site this year is located on the south side of Hwy 674, 3 1/2 miles west of the Teepee Creek townsite. This site features 6 trials, totalling 390 plots.

4 of these trials are a part of one large project - Yield and Quality of Annual Crop Mixtures and Alternative Annual Crops for Forage Production. This project is screening a



number of varieties of cereals, pulses, broadleaves and forbs for their potential as forage crops in the area. These crops will be taken for silage yield and quality in August. From the data taken, we will be able to screen species and varieties that have potential as a monocrop or for usage in a cocktail crop for livestock feed.

Our Plot Tour in Teepee Creek is planned for Wednesday, June 28th. Keep your eyes open for more details.

DeBolt Plot Site

Our DeBolt site is a shared site with SARDA Ag Research, located north of Debolt on Hwy 736, and a mile east on Twp 740. This site features 4 trials, with 476 small plots.

A highlight of this research site is our Screening of Adaptable Low Heat Unit Corn Hybrids for Winter Feeding Systems project. This project is testing 16 low heat unit corn varieties for growth, nutritional quality for grazing, and economic viability. This project is also replicated on a large scale on-farm near Teepee Creek and near Fairview.

As this is a shared site with SARDA Ag Research, there will be two opportunities to visit this site. SARDA Ag Research is hosting their field tour on June 22nd, and PCBFA will be hosting our field tour later this fall.



High Prairie Perennial Site

2021 sees the continuation of the perennial plots north of High Prairie on Hwy 749. This is the 5th year of this project, with the goal of determining longevity of various perennial species in a haying situation.

On-Farm Trials

In addition to the corn trials, we have a number of on-farm, large-scale trials running this year as well. We are wrapping up two on-farm projects this year, our Crop/Livestock Integration project in Hines Creek, and our Pasture Rejuvenation with Legumes project near Teepee Creek. Full results of these two exciting projects will be available this time next year.

We are also continuing our Grazing Management project near High Prairie. This project is comparing the effects of different grazing management styles on pasture and soil quality. Near Cleardale, we are testing the affects of EcoTea on perennial pastures. Our team will also be taking samples for the CARA Soil Health Benchmarking project, which is a provincial project that is working to benchmark soil health over various management practices across the province.

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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
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- Environmental Farm Plans
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Introducing Some New Faces at PCBFA!



Hi, my name is Hayford Gyamfi I grew up with my grandmother who was a small scale farmer and that is how I developed the passion for agriculture. I wish to see community development through sustainable agriculture, it is my priority that farmers will be able to use the limited resources judiciously to maximize productivity without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs.

I enjoy working with farmers. In Costa Rica, I worked with small scale producers of pineapple, vegetables, potatoes and sugarcane. I also worked with a commodity purchasing company in my home country of Ghana, where I served as a commercial extension officer directly involved with farmers in rural communities. My passion to impact knowledge lured me into teaching, where I served as an agricultural teacher at a Junior High School.

I am currently, pursuing a Masters degree at the Department of Renewable Resources at the U of A. My project work focuses on perennial forage mixtures and its ecosystem benefits with PCBFA.

Hi, my name is Deanna Koch, I have lived in the Peace Country for 10 years. My family moved here to start grain farming; now they also run a beef cattle operation and own Corn Maze and Country Clutter Decor near Brownvale. Since I grew up surrounded by agriculture it seemed only right to move into an agriculture related career after graduation.

I spent the last 2 years completing my diploma in Animal Health Technology at GPRC Fairview. While I hope to work in a more Veterinary related field in the future, the PCBFA seemed like the perfect stepping stone to get there.

In my spare time I like to spend time with my friends (or my pets), helping on the family farm, playing music, or crafting. I am excited to learn more about agriculture, specifically different grazing management styles as well as crop mixtures for silage and feed.



We are Hiring!

We are looking for two highly motivated individuals to join our team for the roles of Research Associate, and Admin Assistant

For more information on these positions, please visit peacecountrybeef.ca/careers

| Event | Date & Time | Venue / Location |
|--|--|---|
| Pasture Walk | Monday, July 12th 9:30am-12pm | Nate & Ash Parlee Ranch Near Kakut Lake |
| Pasture Walk | Tuesday, July 13th 9:30am-12pm | Jess Verstappen Ranch Near High Prairie |
| Pasture Walk | Wednesday, July 14th 9:30am-12pm | Dan Martin Ranch Near Bay Tree |
| Pasture Walk | Thursday, July 15th 9:30am-12pm | Uddersmith Dairy Near Rycroft |
| Pasture Walk | Friday, July 16th 9:30am-12pm | Eureka River Hall |
| Pasture Walk | Monday, July 19th 9:30am-12pm | Dale Smith Ranch Near Valleyview |
| Teepee Creek Plot Tour | Wednesday, July 28th | PCBFA's Teepee Creek Plot Site |
| 7th Annual Field Day at the Research Farm | Thursday, August 5th | PCBFA's Fairview Research Farm |

For Directions to Our Events, Please Visit our Website.

All Events will Abide by Current Health Recommendations and are Subject to Change. Check our Website for the Most Up-To-Date Event Information

To Register for any of our Events:
peacecountrybeef.ca | 780-523-4033 | info@pcbfa.ca

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