

# Forage Facts



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DID YOU KNOW?

We can help you get  
the most out of your  
land to encourage  
maximum yields and  
feed/crop quality.

## 2024 Fairview Research Farm Projects

1. Perennial Cereal Grain Crop (Ongoing to 2024)
2. Canola Variety Demonstration (2024 - 2025)
3. Penegetic Biostimulant on Canola (Ongoing to 2025)
5. Alberta Grains: Wheat Seeding Rates (Ongoing to 2025)
6. Alberta Grains: Impact of different Nitrogen Release Fertilizers on Wheat Yield & Protein (Ongoing to 2025)
7. Cover & Co Cocktail Trial (Ongoing to 2025)
8. Cover & Co Demo (Ongoing to 2025)
9. Longevity of Perennial Forage Mixtures (Ongoing to 2027)
10. Peace Region Living Lab: Evaluating Crop & Livestock Integration (Ongoing to 2026)
12. Peace Region Living Lab: Evaluation Biostimulants and their effects on Crop Yield and Soil Health
13. Legume, Cereal & Grass Demo: Understanding seeding blends and alternative crop variety establishments
14. Farmscale Hayland Crop
15. Farmscale Canola Crop



2024 Field Prep has been underway this past month!





**L - R:** Cameron Bilodeau, Brandon Critchley, Marissa Moffatt, Amaya Jackson, Jaime Sanchez (Front)  
**Not Pictured:** C-aira Stucklshwaiger, Anika Chailler

We are blessed with another round of Seasonal Summer Technicians at PCBFA! With one returning staff from last year, Marissa Moffatt is well versed in our ongoing projects and offers great support to the other new faces; including those above who have travelled quite some distance to join us! Not pictured are two local high school students, C-aira Stucklshwaiger and Anika Chailler who are currently with us part-time and will transition to full-time once the school year is complete.

When they're not heard from the office singing their favorite songs at the top of their lungs in the shop, they're taking in valuable information and absorbing all they can while they get up to speed!

To kick things off and get everyone off on the right foot with some good ol' fashioned food and competition, our Extension Team organized a Staff BBQ and a Roping Competition. Staff Members went toe to toe in a heated competition before Brandon and Marissa battled it out for 2nd and 3rd, making room for Jaime to find his calling and secure the grand prize - a home made PCBFA paper belt buckle filled with Oreos!



# Drought Management for Livestock



*By Shelby Dillman*

Things have been off to a grimacing start due to the lack of moisture over winter and the sparse rain in the early days of our Peace Country spring. Producers across the region are holding their breath while waiting for some much needed precipitation to make a comeback in our area. Livestock producers may be getting nervous while observing their currently crispy pastures, trying to stretch dwindling feed supplies and racking their brains to source enough fresh drinking water for animals.

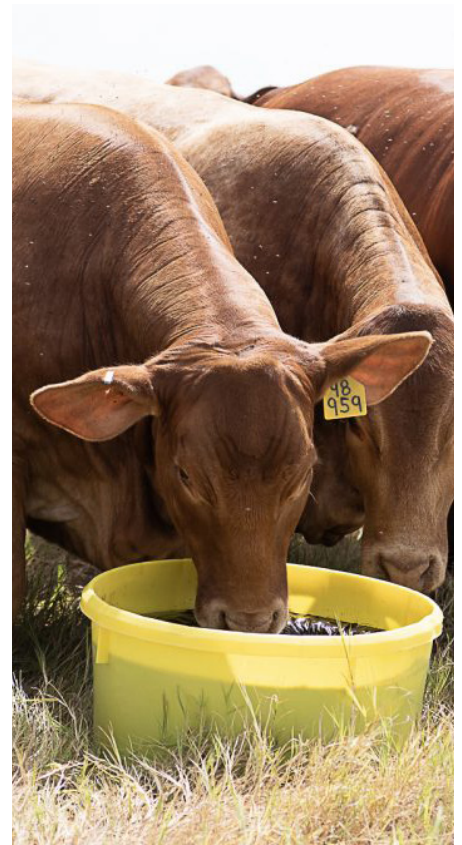
It's time like this where producers are forced to get creative and be resourceful. Rotational grazing or grazing less desirable areas such as on crop residue or forested areas can be incredibly valuable, maybe more than ever in these dehydrated times!

When grazing your livestock it is important to remember to extend rest periods to encourage plant regrowth. Try to implement less intensive grazing and extended the rest periods between these areas as grazed plants will have much slower root growth. You can encourage grazing of less desirable (but safe) plants or areas by combining animal groups to graze these not-as-tasty areas, which in turn prevents multiple paddocks from being used at the same time, allowing for optimal rest time. It is critical to monitor pastures for toxic plants that could be ingested due to lack of options. Grazing failed crops or salvaging cereal crops can be another option, but keep in mind chemical usage that could be hazardous to our four-legged friends.

Forage quality is affected by temperature, moisture and light. In these dry times, leaving organic litter and plant residue can shade the soil surface to help reduce soil temperature and help with moisture retention. In doing so, this can minimize moisture loss through evaporation and heat damaged crops. Feed supplementation may be required and it is crucial to have feed and forage tested to see what your critters may be missing in their diet. Another factor to consider is the water quality your animals have access to. Water is a crucial piece of the puzzle as it helps deliver nutrients to the cells, plays a vital role in reproduction and eliminate waste; bacteria-riddled water may result in poor herd health and conception rates.

Unfortunately, many producers have been forced to make difficult decisions in recent years and you may have to consider the economic ramifications and consider alternative options to ensure optimal herd health and welfare. Some options to take into consideration may include renting pasture in other areas, culling, selling or converting cropland to pasture, hauling water, new feed and forage options and more.

Like my late uncle used to tell me, "Hang onto your cow's tail, and they will drag you through the tough times" so hang in there, and pray for rain!





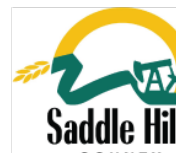
| Event  | Date & Time                        | Location                              |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Holistic Management & Farm Succession Planning | June 7, 2024<br>10:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Saddle Hills County                   |
| AgricultHER School                             | June 18, 2024<br>8:30 AM - 6:00 PM | County of GP                          |
| Regenerative Small Scale Farm Tour             | June 26<br>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM       | Birch Hills County                    |
| Junior Agrarian Summer Program                 | Every Thursday in July             | PCBFA Research Farm<br>MD of Fairview |
| 10th Annual Field Day                          | July 25<br>2:00 PM - 7:00 PM       | PCBFA Research Farm<br>MD of Fairview |

Want to know more about any of these upcoming events?  
Contact us at [info@pcbfa.ca](mailto:info@pcbfa.ca), or give us a call at **780-834-7256!**



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*Thank You to Our Municipal Partners!*



**NORTHERN SUNRISE  
COUNTY**



# Holistic Management Tour & Farm Succession Planning



Join the Peace Country Beef & Forage Association, in collaboration with the Peace Region Living Lab, Saddle Hills County and supporting sponsors, for an informative, full day with Kelly Sidoryk!

Registration is now available on our website or through a PCBFA Representative.

## Holistic Management Tour & Farm Succession Planning *with Kelly Sidoryk*



Join the Peace Country Beef & Forage Association for a **Pasture Calving Farm Tour** of a Peace Region Living Labs Core Producer Site in Baytree, Alberta to learn about **Holistic Management Practices**, before travelling to the Gordondale Hall for an afternoon with Kelly Sidoryk, discussing **Farm Succession Planning & Farm Business Management** in an informative seminar. Lunch provided.

**June 7, 2024**

10 AM - 4 PM

Saddle Hills County

Tickets Available Online or  
through a PCBFA  
Representative

[peacecountrybeef.ca](https://peacecountrybeef.ca)



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Agroalimentaire Canada





# AgricultHER School



June 18, 2024 | Goodfare, Alberta

## AGRICULTHER SCHOOL

*A day of inspiration and education for Women in Agriculture*

Join us for a guided farm tour discussing holistic farm management practices on a private farm near Goodfare, Alberta before heading to the Demmitt Hall for an informative and interactive afternoon delivered through multiple keynote speakers and a mini workshop focusing on farm finances, soil, livestock & mental health. Lunch & supper provided.



Tickets Available Online

[www.peacecountrybeef.ca](http://www.peacecountrybeef.ca)

OR through a PCBFA Representative

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Agri-Food Canada



Helping  
the world  
thrive



PEACE REGION  
LIVING LAB



Sustainable Canadian  
Agricultural Partnership



Alberta Canada

June is shaping up to be a slam-dunk month for PCBFA; join us at another fantastic day of women-focused agriculture at the AgricultHER School coming up on June 18, 2024.

Registration is now available on our website or through a PCBFA Representative.



# Regenerative Small-Scale Farming Farm Tour & More!



## Details,



6:00 PM



76447 RR 45  
Birch Hills County  
East of Woking



Members \$10  
Public \$15

Summer

FARM TOURS

**JUNE  
26**



## Regenerative Small-Scale Farm Tour with Scott Andrews & Family of Peace Acres Farm

Forest Raised Pork, Rotating Pasture Chickens, integrating  
livestock into gardening, Live Hedging Fences & More!



**\$50**  
Per Student



**NORTHWESTERN  
POLYTECHNIC**



4 WEEK PROGRAM

## JUNIOR AGRARIANS

Does your child have an interest in the outdoors  
and agriculture? Join the Peace Country Beef & Forage  
Association for our first *Junior Agrarians* Program!

This program runs July 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

### Activities Include..

- Understanding where our food comes from
- Weeds, Plants & other Invasive Species
- Soil Health & growing their own plants!
- Riparian & Water Management
- Wildfire Risks & Emergency Plans
- Dugout & Farm Safety
- Public Speaking Skills
- Understanding the synergy of Agriculture & Wildlife
- Animal Health with Northwestern Polytechnic & More!

Every Thursday  
in July!

For 12 - 15  
Years Old

\*\* Exceptions made on a case by case basis

Maximum 10 Students - Must Attend all 4 Sessions  
Inquire & Register via email [alaina@pcbfa.ca](mailto:alaina@pcbfa.ca)

Registration Deadline June 25, 2024



# Member Information

## Follow Us



/peacecountrybeef



@peacecountrybeef



Peace Country Beef &  
Forage Association



peacecountrybeef.ca

## Member Feed Testing Service

PCBFA Members receive 2 free basic feed tests with their membership.

All feed tests are sent to Central Testing Labs in Winnipeg. Nutrients and minerals are tested by wet chemistry.

Nitrate, Mold, and Mycotoxin tests can be added and will be invoiced at lab cost.

### Feed Test Pricing:

**Feed Tests for Members (after 2 free)  
OR Non-Members**

Billed at Lab Cost

**Rush Shipping**

\$50

**Hay Probe Deposit**

\$200

### Feed Test Drop Off Sites:

Fairview Research Farm, County of Grande Prairie's  
Clairmont Office, MD of Greenview's Valleyview  
Office, Saddle Hills County Office, Big Lakes County  
Office.

## 2023-24 Board of Directors

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## Contact Us

### Mimi Vanderheide

Interim Executive Director

P. 250-794-7414

E. mimi@pcbfa.ca

### Alaina Archibald

Extension & Office Manager

P. 780-834-7256

E. alaina@pcbfa.ca

### Shelby Dillman

Extension Coordinator

P. 780-523-4033

E. shelby@pcbfa.ca



### Chelsey Hostettler

Farm Projects Coordinator

E. chelsey@pcbfa.ca

### Dr. Akim Omokanye

Science Director

P. 780-835-1112

E. akim@pcbfa.ca

### Dr. Blasius Azuhnw

Research Scientist

P. 780-835-6799

E. blasius@pcbfa.ca

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