

Forage Facts



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Peace Beef Cattle Day 2024

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DID YOU KNOW?

Canada is the worlds
largest grower and
exporter of Flax Seed,
Canola, Pulses &
Durum Wheat.



*Dr. Evan Lowe of Emerson
Trail Veterinary Services*

On February 9th, we were thrilled to host the Peace Beef Cattle Day in the MD of Peace at the Grimshaw Legion. We had four fabulous speakers who focused on various aspects of cattle production and support from insurance to soil health and everything in between! Over 40 Peace Region Cattle Producers joined us for a wonderful day which we kicked off with a presentation from Braden Barber from the Grimshaw AFSC Branch. Braden took participants through a brief overview of insurance opportunities for cattle, and how the process works.

Following Braden's presentation, Dr. Evan Lowe took a deep-dive into Herd Health, focusing on Cattle Vaccination Protocols. The crowd was very engaged, with several questions! PCBFA's own Dr. Blasius Azunwi & Chelsey Hostettler took the floor after Dr. Lowe to discuss the benefits of Cover Crops for Cattle Producers, and presented some data from Cover Crops grown right here in the Peace. Following a fabulous lunch, we spent the remainder of the day with Yasir Syed of Vivigro Sustainable Solutions. Yasir, along with the assistance of his colleague Lulu Du Toit, emphasized the importance of soil health and reducing nitrogen usage through sustainable farming practices, proven to be beneficial in the prairies.



*Yasir Syed of Vivigro
Sustainable Solutions*



WE ARE HIRING!

*Summer Agricultural
Research Technicians*

Are you passionate about Agriculture?
Do you love working outdoors in a
fast-paced and ever-changing
environment? Join us!

Duties Include,

- Seeding & Harvesting
- Crop Maintenance
- Collecting & Recording Data
- Supporting Events & Workshops

Requirements,

- Valid Drivers License
- Strong communication, teamwork & organization skills
- Able to work outdoors in all conditions
- Able to work flexible & extended hours
- Able to lift 50+ pounds

Wage is negotiable depending
on experience. Interested parties
can send their cover letter & resume
to manager@pcbfa.ca



DIY Dry Matter Recipe



If you've ever looked at Feed of any kind, you'll have heard of Dry Matter, or "DM", so what is it? Dry Matter is the material that remains within a product after all of the water is evaporated out of the product. While moisture has it's benefits within the body, the dry matter is ultimately what contains the majority of the nutrients your animals are ingesting. This includes the vital components of feed such as fiber, protein, minerals, carbohydrates, and other important nutrients.

We stumbled across a fun article on the Ag Proud website about calculating your own Dry Matter in the kitchen! It stated that in 2018 at the World Dairy Expo, an airfryer was used to demonstrate how you can quickly obtain the Dry Matter data of your feed, right in the convenience of your own kitchen. Heed caution though: it may be a good idea to ask your for permission to use the precious air fryer for your scientific research purposes! Follow these short steps below, asinstructed by Dan Severson, for a successful result.

To perform your experiment:

Take a good representative feed sample and weigh out 100 grams

Put the 100 gram sample in the air fryer

Set the temperature to 250°F

Set the timer for 30 minutes

Once nice and crispy, record the weight of your sample

Calculate the dry matter content by using this simple formula:

$$\text{Final Dry Weight (grams) / Initial Wet Weight (grams) } \times 100 = \% \text{ DM}$$

This could even be a fun activity to do with your kids! Knowing the Total Mixed Rations (TMR) is advantageous in improving feed efficiency and obtaining optimal cattle health through nutrition, as well as adding further savings to your pocketbook.

For the entire article, check out www.agproud.com and search "How to use an air fryer to determine dry matter"



Event	Date & Time	Location
Coffee With Kevin	February 23, 2024 10:00 AM	Fairview Research Farm
Predation Workshop	February 24, 2024 10:30 AM	High Prairie Legion
Cover Crop Seminar	March 10, 2024 9:30 AM	Pomeroy Hotel Grande Prairie, AB

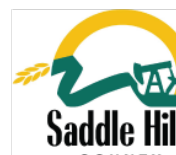
Want to know more about any of these upcoming events?
Contact us at info@pcbfa.ca, or give us a call at **780-834-7256!**



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Platinum Sponsors!



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NORTHERN SUNRISE
COUNTY



Coffee with Kevin!



COFFEE WITH KEVIN

FEB. 23, 2024

Peace Country Beef & Forage Research Farm
820059 RR 35, Fairview, Alberta | 10:00 AM
Free Event - Please RSVP to shelby@pcbfa.ca



Kevin Elmy will be in the Peace for the **Peace Region Living Lab's Below Ground event** happening in Fort St. John on February 22, and he will be swinging by the PCBFA Fairview Research Farm during his travels!

Join us for a laid back, coffee-shop style conversation about Cover Crops, Soil Health & Crop Design!
This event is FREE, but please RSVP!



Predation Workshop!

With Support From Big Lakes County



PEACE COUNTRY BEEF & FORAGE **PREDATION WORKSHOP** *with Joe Engelhart*

Joe Engelhart, a B.C. interior ranch kid, had been running a horseshoeing business near Bonnyville, Alta, when he arrived at the **Spruce Ranching Co-Op**, located southwest of Calgary, in 1999. As the new Ranch Manager, Joe brought with him a different perspective. His **vision of co-existing** within the ecosystem was paramount to the success in implementing alternative strategies surrounding **grazing** and **water management**, **low-stress** cattle handling and **predator control** for over **5,000 head of cattle** all while keeping the majority of the 41 shareholders satisfied with the direction the co-op was heading.

While Joe recognizes that sometimes force is needed, as a **true steward of the land** Joe found ways to keep livestock safe on the range amongst Canada's **apex predators** through various protocols that are relatively simple to implement on any scale.

Join **Peace Country Beef & Forage** for this informative event. Lunch will be provided.

Saturday February 24, 2024
High Prairie Legion
10:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Tickets Available Online,
or through a
PCBFA Representative.
Pre-Registry
Strongly Preferred!

Register,
info@pcbfa.ca
peacecountrybeef.ca



Environmental Farm Plans & Grant Funding Opportunities



Environmental Farm Plans (EFP's) & Grant Funding Opportunity Seminars

On February 5th & 7th, the PCBFA Extension Team hit the road to host two Environmental Farm Plan & Grant Funding Opportunity Seminars; one in the Clear Hills County, and the other in the MD of Greenview. Both events were fabulously attended and boasted several speakers on various topic and grant funding streams.

Environmental Farm Plan's can be completed online and are required for most common funding streams

Want more info about EFP's?
Contact Katie McLachlan at:
Kaitlin.McLachlan@mdfairview.ab.ca
or, 1-780-834-7017

Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) is OPEN!

Want more info about RALP?
Contact Becky Devaleriola at:
becky@RALP.ca
or, 1-866-310-RALP

On-Farm Climate Action Fund(OFCAF) & Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (S-CAP) are OPENING SOON!





Member Information

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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.

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