



AG TALK NEWSLETTER



Starland County ASB Members

Chariman: Steven Wannstrom

Council Member: Murray Marshall

Council Member: Allen Avramenko

Council Member: Barrie Hoover

Council Member: Robert Sargent

Farm Member: Brian Heck

Farm Member: Kerry Sharpe

Agricultural Fieldman: Alan Hampton

Assistant Ag Fieldman: Dara Calon

Recording Secretary: Ross Rawlusyk



AG TALK NEWSLETTER

CROP PEST OF THE MONTH

STRIPE RUST



Stripe rust has been reported in central and southern Alberta, and there is evidence that stripe rust overwintered in Alberta again this year. Air currents also bring these spores into the Northern USA and Canada. Frequent scouting of your fields is highly recommended. Warm, wet winters with mild temperatures aid in the survival of the rust fungus, and a cool wet spring will favor disease development.

STRIPE RUST CONTROL

An application of fungicide may be warranted when 1 plant per square meter has stripe rust symptoms. Apply a fungicide at head emergence to target the head, flag leaf and penultimate leaf. You can also use resistant cultivars, which are convenient to use and add little or no input costs for the producer.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Hand Hills Lake Stampede May 29-31st

Toxic Waste Round-Up June 5th in Morrin at the Public Works Yard

Craigmyle Centennial July 17-19th

Morrin Homecoming August 7-9th

Starland County Tax Notices— Mid June

Starland County Summer Tour Watch for it in early August!

Starland County now rents out a no-drift chemical applicator that can be pulled with a quad or lawn mower for yard spraying purposes.



TREE PEST OF THE MONTH

BLACK KNOT



Black knot has become more prevalent in Starland County in recent years. It is caused by a fungus, and is found most commonly in flowering trees and shrubs. Aesthetic value is effected and very high levels in a tree can result in eventual death. Black knot has characteristic tar like swellings that develop on branches of the infected plant. Initially a small green gall or swelling will form, and continue to grow until it is mature at 2-3 years. These black galls will release spores which cause an increase in infections. As the galls grow they eventually girdle the branch, killing it.

BLACK KNOT CONTROL

- Removing the black knot prevents a build up of spores
- Remove infected branches at least 6-8" below the knot
- DISEASED WOOD MUST BE DESTROYED IMMEDIATELY



NOTICE TO FARMERS

2% Liquid Strychnine Control Program STARLAND COUNTY

The sale of 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate (LSC) for the control of Richardson's Ground Squirrels (RGS's) is approved for the 2015 season. Starland County is participating in this program and will have 2% LSC available to qualifying farmers May 15th until June 30th.

The abbreviated details of the program are as follows:

- The product is only available to Agricultural Producers in Starland County
- Each producer is restricted to 2 cases (48 bottles) of Strychnine per purchase and the minimum purchase is 6 bottles
- The purchaser must sign a document that states:
 - A) They have a severe infestation as defined by Alberta Agriculture and Food,
 - B) They will use 2% LSC only for control of the RGS's,
 - C) They will not sell or give away any 2% LSC,
- Provincial Pest Inspectors may inspect your property to ensure that you are complying with all the label directions and conditions of use and registration
- Any non-target poisonings must be reported and the product cannot be used on any quarter which has burrowing owls or any other species at risk
- Violation of any of the outlined terms and conditions will result in the purchaser forfeiting the right to any further purchases of strychnine and could result in a fine of no less than \$1500.00

Cost of the product is \$228.00 per case or \$9.50 per bottle.

For more information or to book your product contact
Alan Hampton or Dara Calon at 772-3793



CARA An Organization for Our Rural Producers

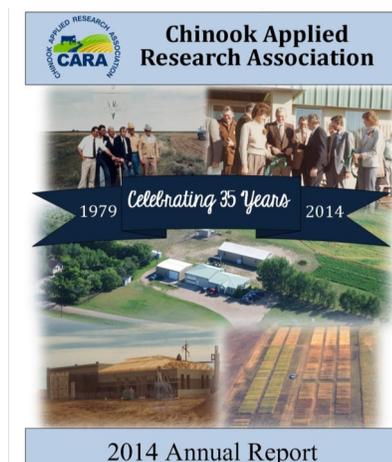
The Chinook Applied Research Association is a producer-directed organization that has been devoted to providing agriculture applied research, demonstration and extension activities to the unique east central Alberta area for 35 years. With the help of the Agriculture Opportunity Fund, CARA will be extending its broad reach into the County of Starland and MD of Provost. To assist with the western movement, there is now a CARA agronomist, Jesse Williams, positioned out of the Hanna Special Areas District Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please stop by and say hi if you are in the area!

CARA's role will be a partnership with the County of Starland to deliver agricultural extension activities. One such was the Farm Succession Workshop that was held at the Delia Hall on January 15th, 2015 where over 40 producers were in attendance. You should also be seeing monthly 'Grain, Grass &

Growth' newsletters in your mailbox outlining CARA's activities, local events and research results.

To become a member of CARA please call our office at (403) 664-3777. Yearly membership is \$20 however you can buy a 5 year membership for only \$80. Membership will give you access to their Annual Field Research Results (2014 results are hot off the press now!), livestock ration creation, Environmental Farm Plan & Growing Forward 2 help, discounted admission to some events as well as age verification, feed/soil sampling and much, much more!

To see previous year's research results and all the latest news about CARA please visit www.chinookappliedresearch.ca, follow them on Twitter @CARAresearch and Like them on Facebook!



Spring is a Good Time to Bait Wireworms for Research

As damage to field crops is poised to escalate, consider playing a proactive role in finding a wireworm control solution for your area by submitting samples to Canada's wireworm research team. Lindane (e.g. Vitavax Dual, etc) insecticide kept wireworm numbers low for several decades on the Prairies. Since the ban of this organochlorine pesticide in 2004, wireworm damage in field crops is rebounding; some researchers suggesting we may just be catching a glimpse of the tip of the iceberg at this point. Varying from region to region, some 30 different wireworm species exhibit diverse behaviors and lifecycles, making a single control measure improbable. An individual region may contain more than one wireworm species. The worm-like larvae can feed on plant roots and germinating seeds for up to 3 to 5 years, depending on the species, before developing into the adult click beetle stage. While current seed treatments may repel wireworms for a growing season, their populations can continue to increase so that these treatment measures begin to fail.

Canada's wireworm research team, headed by Dr. Vernon and Dr. Van Herk of Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, is identifying wireworm species and researching control measures. The research team needs to know which specific wireworm species dominates in your farming region so the correct control option(s) can be applied as

the problem worsens. Although most crops are susceptible, wireworms prefer eating annual and perennial grasses, so populations can build up in fields that have extended periods of cereal crops or pasture. Crops grown in recently broken sod are especially vulnerable. Due to a greater amount of soil moisture, wireworms migrate near to the soil surface in early spring, making spring the best time to bait and capture wireworms. Baiting can be as simple as burying a small amount (a cup or so) of a cereal-based product like flour, bran or wheat seeds to a depth of four to six inches into the soil at marked locations randomly across a field. Dig up the baits 10 to 14 days later, collecting wireworms and some field soil (not too wet), and then insert them into a hard plastic container for shipping. There may be more than one species present, so collect as many wireworms as possible.

**Mail your wireworm sample(s) to:
Dr. Vernon
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
6947 #7 Hwy
P.O. Box 1000
Agassiz, B.C. V0M 1A0**

Please include a brief description of where the sample was collected (nearest town or address), information about your crop rotation in this field over the past 4 years, your name and phone number. Once the species are identified, you will be contacted with the results.

-Neil Whatley



**JOIN US AT
CRAIGMYLE'S 100
YEAR CELEBRATION
JULY 17-19TH 2015**



REGISTER NOW!

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
JUNE 20, 2015**

WEBSITE

WWW.CRAIGMYLE100.HOMESTEAD.COM

REGISTRATION INQUIRIES

(403) 665-2226

EMAIL

CRAIGMYLECENTENNIAL@HOTMAIL.COM

**LIMITED SEATING
AND QUANTITIES,
SO REGISTER EARLY!**

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2015

5 pm - 9 pm	Registration at Civic Centre
Evening	Campfire, sing-along, story telling

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2015

8 am - 6 pm	Information Booth open at Civic Centre with: •Registration Booth •Hospitality Suite •Souvenirs
10 am - 11 am	Parade
noon	Opening Ceremonies
11 am - 5 pm	Kids Entertainment
11:30 am - 11 pm	Concession open
ongoing	Scavenger Hunt
ongoing	Historic Town Walk
1 pm - 4 pm	Beer Garden
2 pm - 3 pm	Photo Walk
5 pm - 8 pm	Roast Beef Banquet
8 pm - 1 am	Family Dance
11 pm	Fireworks

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2015

8 am - 11 am	Pancake Breakfast
11 am - noon	Church Tribute
noon	Luncheon at Craigmyle Historic Church
1:30 pm	Rural tour: Princeton/Clear Lake Area
3 pm	Rural tour: Craigmyle/Eaton Area

NOTICE

STARLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD ATTENTION RATEPAYERS: ROADSIDE WEED & BRUSH CONTROL SPRAYING

The Starland Agricultural Service Board will be SPOT SPRAYING along roadside ditches on or about June 1st until completion of the control of noxious weeds and brush. The program will affect approximately 33% of the Municipality.

All spraying is carried out by licensed pesticide applicators following the industrial Vegetation Management of Alberta (IVMAA) standards and practices. Roadsides adjacent to farmsteads, gardens, canola, legumes and other sensitive vegetation will be omitted unless weed populations warrant spraying.

NOTE: Pesticide use will be determined by weather conditions, targeted weeds, and surrounding vegetation. Any one of the following products or a combination of registered tank mixes may be used.

- Tordon 22K
- Tordon 101
- Milestone
- Clearview
- Embutox
- Roundup
- 2,4-D
- Garlon

Information Lines:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Pesticide Toxicology | 1-800-267-6315 |
| 2. Pollution Emergency Response Team | 1-800-222-6515 |
| 3. Poison Center | 1-800-332-1414 |
| 4. County Office Morrin | 772-3793 |
| 5. Drumheller Hospital | 823-6500 |
| 6. Drumheller Ambulance | 911 |

Persons who do not wish to have their roadsides sprayed must complete the form below, sign and return it to the County office by June 30. No phone requests will be accepted. These forms are renewed each year.

TO: Agricultural Service Board
Starland County
Box 249
Morrin, AB
T0J 2B0

I do not wish the Agricultural Service Board to Spray the road allowance along my property, and as per By-Law 939 I accept the responsibilities of weed control on the road allowances I do not want sprayed in 2015.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____

QUARTER	SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE	W. MERIDIAN

SIGNED _____ (Landowner/ Renter of the Above Mentioned Land)
DATE _____ WITNESS _____

PREMISES IDENTIFICATION: WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER?

Alberta animal owners and operators of commingling sites are being reminded of the **requirement** to register for Premises Identification (PID) and the importance of obtaining a PID Number. Registering is free, simple and helps protect your cattle in the event of an emergency such as a natural disaster or disease outbreak.

Premises Identification (PID), one of the pillars of traceability, links livestock (including horses and poultry) to land locations or premises. Alberta's PID Program was established to plan for, control and prevent the spread of animal diseases. It is also used as an early warning system to notify animal owners of a natural disaster such as a flood or fire that could affect their animals or operations. Regulations requiring premises identification became law January 1, 2009 as part of the Animal Health Act.

Who Must Apply for PID Account?

Animal Owners

If at any time during the year, you have animals (excluding household pets and wildlife) and they are under

your care and control at your farm, pasture or acreage, you must apply for a PID Account and at least one of the land locations (or premises) where the animals are located. You will be issued a PID Number for each land location registered.

If your animals are only ever kept at a commingling site (e.g. feedlot or stable), you are not required to register for a PID Account. However, you will need to obtain the PID Number from the operator of the site.

Although animal owners only need to register one premise, it is beneficial for animal owners to register additional premises in the PID System, particularly those away from the main operation, to ensure they are still notified if an emergency happens in that area.

Operators of Commingling Sites

If you are an operator of a commingling site (e.g. feedlot, grazing reserve, stable, etc.), you must apply for a PID Account and obtain a PID Number for each land location you operate a commingling site on. You must also provide the PID Number of the commingling site to animal owners who use the site.

CONTINUED

ALL ANIMAL OWNERS WILL NEED TO HAVE A PID TO:

- **Buy medication for your animal (s) at retail outlets** (this requirement took effect on July 1, 2014 as part of amendments to the Animal Health Act)
- Complete movement documents such as manifests and permits, if required, when transporting your livestock (including horses and poultry)
- Sell animals at auction markets
- Apply for many government sponsored agriculture grants and programs

For more information on the PID Program, call the Alberta Ag-Info Centre at 310 –FARM (3276) or visit Alberta Agriculture's website www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises to register online or download the application forms.

**Traceability Protects!
Your Animals – Your Livelihood
– Our Future --**

MEET THE 2015 ASB CREW

Joel Mattatall (3 year veteran) and Jessica Hayes (new recruit) are the summer staff on the ASB crew this year. They will be helping out with spraying, planting trees, weed inspection, pest surveys and much more. Ramsay Marshall (3 year veteran) is also back, working on hauling equipment, mechanics and road side spraying.



Agricultural Fieldman Alan Hampton and Assistant Agricultural Fieldman Dara Calon are available to answer questions on pests, weeds, spraying, agriculture and much more.

You can reach them at the Starland County Office at (403) 772-3793



STARLAND COUNTY NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

TOXIC WASTE ROUNDUP (Including E-Waste)

DATE: Friday, June 5th, 2015

TIME: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Starland County Public Works Yard "Morrin, AB"

Wastes in the following categories can be delivered to the Public Works Yard for safe disposal. **Items that will be accepted include:**

Corrosives: Rust removers, waste acids, batteries (car or household), and household cleaners

Flammables: Oil based paints, degreasers, solvents, wood preservatives and gasoline

Poisons: Outdated drugs, ant, rodent, weed killers, photographic chemicals, antifreeze

Reactives: Waste bleaches, any unidentified chemicals, aerosols

E-Waste: Computers, computer accessories, televisions

The following items are wastes, which will **not be accepted** at a household toxic waste round up:

Absolutely no commercial toxic waste is accepted.

No biomedical wastes or radioactive materials

No ammunition, dynamite, gun powder or fireworks

No pressurized refrigerants, gases (i.e. Acetylene) or propane tanks over 20 lbs

No automotive paint, and

No stereos or speakers

The above toxic wastes will be accepted on the day noted above only unless prior arrangements have been made, and no charges will be levied for the collection of the wastes. If you have any questions on a specific disposal item, please feel free to contact the Administration Office.

Alan Hampton

Agricultural Fieldman

Telephone: (403) 772-3793

12TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN ALBERTA GRAZING SCHOOL FOR WOMEN



DINOSAUR PROVINCIAL PARK JULY 22ND & 23RD, 2015



TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Grazing Practices
- Range Health
- Plant & Weed ID
- U of A Research Ranch
- Riparian Health
- Riparian Grazing
- Ranching Women
- Aquatic Invasives
- Integrated Pest Management
- Animal Welfare: Jennifer Woods

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 10th
 REGISTRATION FEE: \$100.00 Meals Included
 (Accommodation Not Included)

ACCOMODATION OPTIONS:

Camping Dinosaur Provincial Park, \$38/night
 Cabin Rentals, double occupancy \$30/night
 Call Holly White at (403) 633 0352 to book
 accommodation at Dinosaur Provincial Park
 Brooks – 30 Minute Drive

For more information or to register contact
 Amanda Halawell: ahalawell@cowsandfish.org
 Phone (403) 451-1182 Fax (403) 274-0007

www.southernalbertagsw.blogspot.ca



Find us on Facebook!
 "Grazing School for Women"

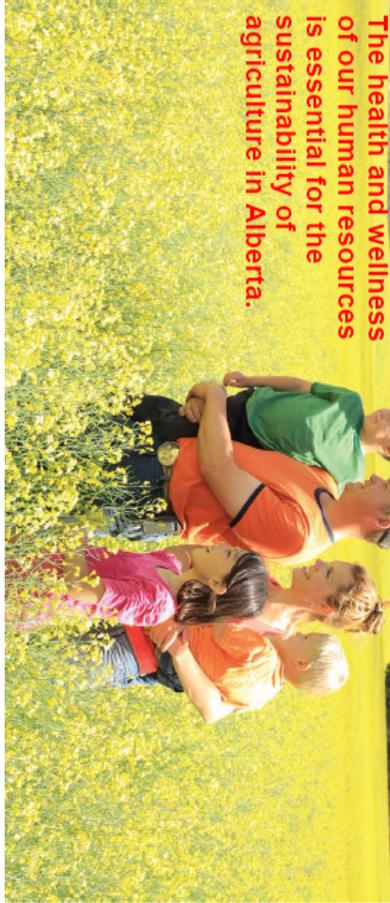


Use the Hashtags
 #RanchingWomen #SAGSW2015



Sustainable Farm Families in Alberta

The health and wellness of our human resources is essential for the sustainability of agriculture in Alberta.



Sustainable Farm Families™ (SFF) is a very successful health and wellness initiative developed for the farming industry in Australia.

SFF has influenced thousands of rural Australians, bringing awareness and acknowledgement of how vitally important the continued health, well-being and safety of their human resources are to the economic success and sustainability of their farming operation.

The Sustainable Farm Families™ program encourages farmers to view health and safety as part of the 'triple bottom line' of farm reporting. Simply put, this refers to 'people, planet and profit' – all three are dependent on the other for success and sustainability.

Farmers generally tend to their livestock, machinery and land on a much more regular basis than they care for their own health, wellbeing and safety.

Potential Benefits

- Improved health management behaviours and safety practices
- Improvements in both physical and mental health
- Reduction in farm injuries and fatalities
- More sustainable farming communities
- Improved workforces health and safety
- Greater farm output and increased financial bottom line
- Considerable financial benefits related to reduced health & injury expenditures

The most essential farm resources are a healthy farm family and workforce.

The Farm Safety Centre has offered to come and provide more detail on this program if there is interest. Please contact Diana Rowe, Community Services Director, Standand County at diano@standandcounty.com or call 403 772-3793 for more information and to indicate your interest to attend a presentation.



Soil Carbon Challenge with Peter Donovan of the Soil Carbon Coalition

There will be a Soil Carbon Challenge Location Near You!

Fairview	June 15th	PCBFA
Manning	June 17th	NPARA
Ft Vermilion	June 20th	MARA
Westlock	June 25th	GRO
Bonnyville	June 27th	LARA
Oyen	June 30th	CARA

Contact your local ARECA group for more information and to register for a workshop near you!

Cost \$20/Member & \$25/Non-Member

For more information on Peter Donovan and the Soil Carbon Coalition visit soilcarboncoalition.org

For more information about the Agriculture Research & Extension Council of Alberta and its member groups, visit areca.ab.ca

Learn how carbon sequestration can help not only mitigate our carbon footprint, but also increase the soil organic matter for healthier, more fertile and productive soils.

