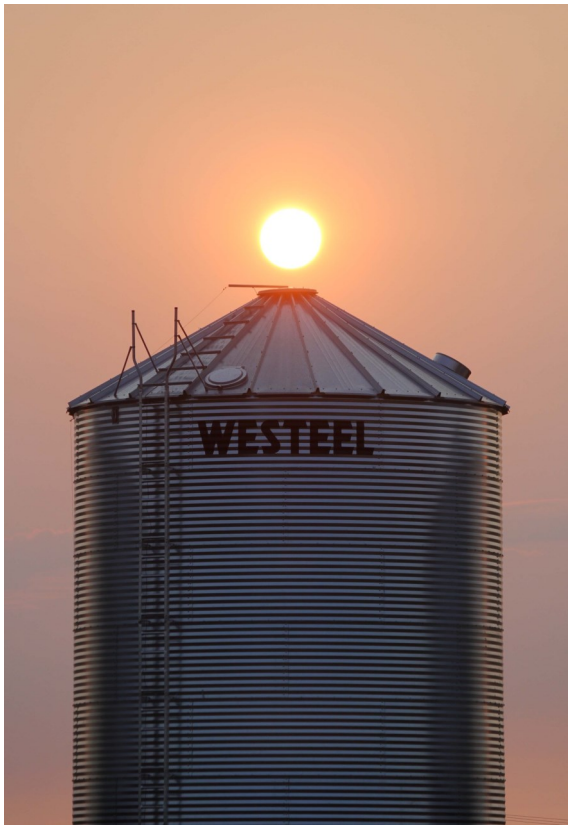
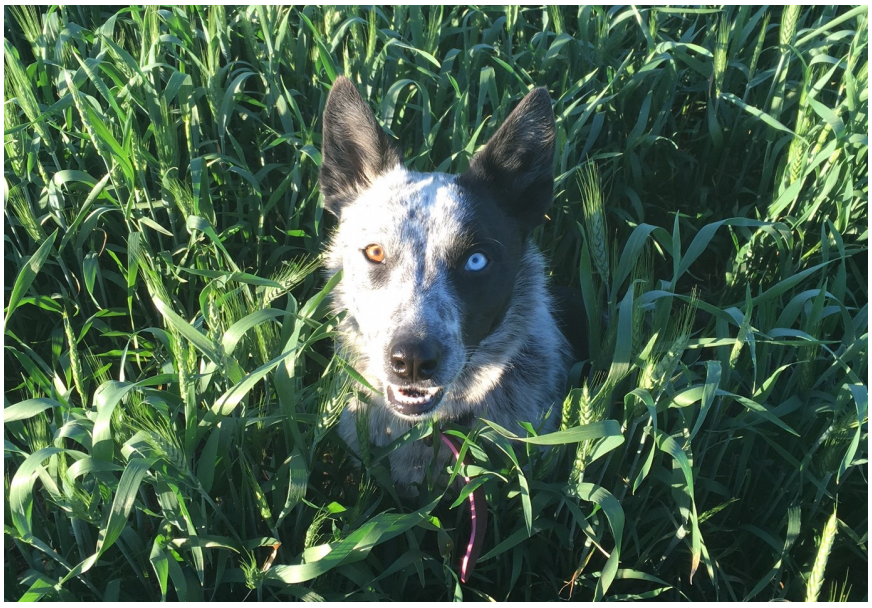
VOLUME 14, ISSUE 3 | IN TUNE...IN PROGRESS | JULY 2017

STARLAND COUNTY

AG TALK NEWSLETTER





Starland County ASB Members

Chariman: Barrie Hoover
Council Member: Murray Marshall
Council Member: Allen Avramenko
Council Member: Bob Sargent
Council Member: Steven Wannstrom
Farm Member: Brian Heck

Special Projects Manager: Matthew Kreke
Farm Member: Kerry Sharpe
Agricultural Fieldman: Alan Hampton
Assistant Ag Fieldman: Dara Kudras
Recording Secretary: Shirley Bremer
Key Contact: Neil Whatley

TAX REMINDER

The last day for payment of taxes without penalties falls on Monday, October 2nd 2017. Penalties for non-payment will be applied on October 3rd, 2017. In fairness to all ratepayers there will be **NO** exceptions. Taxes are due on or before **October 2nd, 2017.** If you have questions on the assessment of property, it is important that you address these concerns in the first 60 days after receiving your combined tax and assessment notice, and prior to **August 25th, 2017.**

Upcoming Events

For more info on any of these events call Dara (403) 772 3793

14th Annual Southern Alberta Grazing School for Women
July 25th & 26th, Munson Hall
There is still time to register!

2017 ASB Summer Tour
August 2nd, Munson Hall

Farmer Pesticide Certification
Fall/Winter 2017

Low Stress Cattle Handling Workshop, Curt Pate
July 27th, Big Valley

Harvest Baked Beans

Ingredients

- Cooking spray
- 8 strips of cooked bacon, or cut up hot dogs
- Two 12 oz. cans of baked beans
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 2 tbsp. brown sugar
- 2 tbsp. molasses
- 1/4 cup mustard

Instructions

Combine all ingredients in a greased slow cooker on low for three hours. Drain excess liquid and enjoy! Makes 8 servings

Use this simple but delicious recipe at harvest!

Wednesday

AUGUST 2nd 2017

REGISTRATION
11:30

TOUR STARTS AT
NOON

STEAK DINNER
6:00 PM

COST $30.00

DOOR PRIZES &
TRAVEL IN STYLE
IN AN AIR
CONDITIONED BUS

MUNSON HALL

Dekalb Canola Plots

Grain Corn Production
(Pioneer Seeds)

Rumsey Soybeans
(John Kowalchuk)

Grain Storage Considerations
(Dr. Joy Agnew with PAMI)

Chinook Applied Research Association
Quinoa, Cover Crop & Pollinator Plot

AND MORE!

LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE
45 SEATS ONLY!
REGISTER NOW!

Call Dara or Al at (403) 772-3793 or
email dara@starlandcounty.com

Stored Grain Insects, Mites & Molds FAQ

What can I do to prevent my crop from infestation by grain insects?

- Minimize potential for stored grain insects before grain is in bin
- Cleaning your bins prior to use is the best method to reduce any stored grain insects that may become a problem later in the year
- Storage bins can be sprayed or dusted with a recommended insecticide before grain storage.
- Clean up any spilled grain around the bin. Spilled grain, can easily build up populations of insects that could migrate into the bin later in the year

What conditions make stored product more susceptible to stored grain damage?

Warm, moist or weedy crops would be most susceptible to damage. Warm or moist grain will contribute to moisture migration within a bin. These conditions can cause locations within the bin where grain will spoil and result in insect infestation, mite and mold development. In fall the outside of the bin cools quickly. The cool air settles, while the warmer air, located in the interior rises, causing a circular flow within the bin. This air pattern deposits moisture, through condensation, at the top center of the bin. In spring the reverse occurs, where warming from the sun warms the outside layer, causing a circular air movement depositing moisture at the bottom of the bin. Molds that develop give off additional heat and moisture, resulting in a microclimate more favorable for stored grain insect populations. Mold by-products can be toxic if fed to farm animals. The more moisture in the grain, the more likely it is to have a zone with enough moisture to start a stored grain insect problem if the pests are present.

Weed seeds, which often have higher moisture content than the harvested crop, can be concentrated in the central core as the grain when binned. This situation can cause more moisture to build-up in this area. If the stored grain is particularly weedy and/or moist, cleaning or drying the grain may reduce insect problems in storage at a later date. Continued...

How do I identify the pest?

The most common and serious insect pest is the Rusty Grain Beetle. Large populations can cause grain to heat and spoil. Look for a distinct emergence hole in the germ area of the seed. The Red Flour beetle is another common pest, but it cannot feed on undamaged dry seed with less than 12% moisture. Saw-toothed grain beetles occur most commonly in oats. These beetles can be confused with other beetles that feed on fungus, including the foreign grain beetle. Grain mites are whitish and very small (.2-.5 mm).

Can I protect the grain in the bin if stored grain insects are a risk?

If a stored grain insect problem is anticipated, products can be added while augering or moving grain. Products with diatomaceous earth such as Protect-It® can keep potential insect problems in check. Addition of these products at recommended rates while augering grain will provide protection against stored grain pests.

What if stored grain insect problems develop?

If a problem is determined, a producer can move grain in cold weather (minus 20 Celsius or colder). Moving the grain cools and dries the grain and insects, reducing populations and dispersing any warm or moist grain pockets. Pneumatic conveyors (grain vacs) will kill most free-living insects, especially fungus feeding insects and mites. Incorporating diatomaceous earth products while re-binning can also help minimize stored grain pest buildup.

Fumigation with a chemical such as Phostoxin® is also possible at this stage. This is a Restricted product and use can only be performed by a licensed applicator.

No matter what chemical is used, always follow label directions and Restrictions on Sales and Wait periods before sale.

For more information call the Ag-Info Centre for more information 310-FARM (3276).

STARLAND COUNTY EQUIPMENT SANITATION GUIDELINES

Equipment Cleaning Guidelines Prior to Entry into Starland County
Amended: February 27, 2016
Reviewed By Council: June 6, 2017

PURPOSE

Starland County recognizes that movement of equipment has the potential to introduce unwanted weeds and soil-borne pests into and throughout our county. These guidelines are aimed at reducing this risk and are intended to act as a Best Management Practice for everyone involved in transporting equipment. This includes but is not limited to Agriculture, the Oil and Gas Industry, Utility companies, Private Contractors and Municipal Equipment.

Full enforcement of this procedure is not feasible so it will be promoted by education, inspection and valid complaint investigation. *Those found to be in contravention of these procedures may be subject to stop work orders until the equipment is deemed suitable for transport.*

Private landowners and industry are responsible for negotiating their own access and sanitation agreements with each other. Starland County will not get involved in private negotiations unless there is an enforcement issue regarding a positive Clubroot location or a Prohibited Noxious weed issue. Landowner and company agreements take precedence over these procedures and as such can be monitored by the property owner.

If no written agreement exists between the landowner and the company and Starland County is called in to investigate a complaint, our recommendation is final. Further Starland County assumes no liability or responsibility if foreign weeds or soil-borne pests are found on any property as a result of equipment movement. Continued...

PROCEDURES

Starland County requests that any equipment brought in from outside Starland County be clean and free of soil and debris prior to entry. Pressure washing equipment is adequate to achieve this in most circumstances. If equipment is coming into Starland from a municipality known to be infected with Clubroot, it is recommended that the equipment also be disinfected to minimize potential liability concerns.

Equipment that is moving between projects within Starland County should be free of soil and loose debris. Hand cleaning of the equipment is considered adequate in this circumstance unless the landowner has previously specified otherwise in writing with the company. It is important to keep in mind that equipment sanitation serves many purposes. Proper sanitation procedures will assist in preventing the spread of weeds, Clubroot and other soil-borne diseases. If Clubroot is found within our County, cleaning requirements for movement may change.

Further information on cleaning equipment can be found on Alberta Agricultures website under the title "Best Management Practices for Disinfecting Farm Machinery and Equipment to Prevent the Spread of Clubroot. http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/ prm12120

When scouting look for galls forming on roots of canola plants, as well as evidence of drought stress and premature ripening

UNWANTED: NOXIOUS WEED WHITE COCKLE

White Cockle is a noxious weed which is native to Europe. It prefers full sun and rich, well-drained soils.

Plant Description

- Stem and leaves are covered with short hairs
- Leaves are opposite, elongate, and pointed at the tip
- The flowers have five deeply notched white petals
- Plant height ranges from 25 cm to 125cm

Facts on White Cockle

- Biennial or short lived perennial
- 1 plant can produce 24,000 seeds
- The seeds are grayish orange and are kidney-shaped
- Also known as White Campion or Evening Cockle
- Often mistaken for Night-Flowering Catchfly or Bladder Campion

Methods of Control

- The best control option for White Cockle is to stop the plant from going to seed
- White Cockle shows resistance to a number of herbicides so check your Crop Protection Guide for management of this weed
- Cultural control can include mowing, cultivating, pulling, or burning. In the case of cultivation it must be deep enough to cut the roots off below the crown
- The plants need to be turned up in order that they dry out, and this is best done during low moisture and high temperature conditions
- Request a seed certificate when purchasing pedigreed seed

IF YOU SEE THIS WEED CALL THE STARLAND COUNTY OFFICE (403) 772-3793