



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: Ross Rawlusyk
Key Contact: Neil Whatley

AG TALK NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY INFO

**Toxic Waste
Round-Up
Starland County
Public Works Yard
Morris June 9th**

**4H Alberta 100 &
Canada 150
Rowley June 10th**

**Southern AB
Grazing School for
Women
Munson Hall
July 25th & 26th**

**Ag Service Board
Summer Tour
TBA August**

**Starland County
2017 Gravel Days
Scollard July 14th
Mixcor July 12,13**

**Here Comes
Summer BBQ June
21st Munson Hall**

STARLAND COUNTY FIELD SURVEYS

It is that time of year again, and Starland County Agricultural Service Board staff will be out and about throughout the rest of the summer completing crop survey reports. These will include diamond back moth, bertha army worm, fusarium clubroot, and grasshopper surveys. The information collected is important in forecasting potential pest outbreaks. If you **DO NOT** want the Ag Service Board staff to complete surveys on your land, you will need to notify us and provide us with land locations. You can contact Al or Dara at (403) 772-3793

GARDENING CORNER

Succulent Wagon Wheel

Creating a succulent wagon wheel is a fun and easy way to display your favourite plants. Find an old wheel, place it in a flower bed, or along a path and plant whatever you like! You can also use a wagon wheel to plant different types of herbs, keeping them easily divided.



COUNTY SAYS “FAREWELL” TO LONG-TIME CAO ROSS RAWLUSYK, & APPOINTS NEW CAO SHIRLEY BREMER

After nearly 30 years of dedicated service, Ross Rawlusyk has decided to retire from Starland County. He has been the Chief Administrative Officer since August 1987 and his dedication and expertise will surely be missed by everyone. Ross tends to spend some time relaxing and getting caught up on a few things at home before doing some volunteer work with the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton. Ross' retirement was celebrated with friends, family, past and present council, co-workers and employees on April 29th at the Delia Community Hall. Congratulations and Best Wishes to Ross on his retirement!

Long-time Starland County Assistant C.A.O. Shirley Bremer has been appointed to succeed Ross Rawlusyk as the next Chief Administrative Officer of the County. Shirley has served the County

since 1988, and brings a wealth of experience and familiarity with the responsibility of the position. She was appointed at the regular council meeting on Wednesday, April 26th and assumed her CAO role effective May 1st, 2017.

“I have enjoyed a long working relationship with the County and look forward to continuing to do so in this new capacity. I am excited for this new venture and the challenges it will bring and look forward to working with Council and Staff to sustain the viability and integrity of Starland County for our ratepayers and residents,” notes Bremer. Shirley Bremer is the fifth CAO of Starland County since 1943.



Warm
Welcome to
Shirley Bremer,
Starland
County's new
CAO

Dandelions Beware: New Product on Market!

A beautiful, weed-free lawn can be the envy of the neighbourhood. And it could be **yours** – without the hours of weeding. A new product is on the market that kills weeds - but not your grass. Dr. Karen Bailey, an Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) scientist at the Saskatoon Research and Development Centre (now retired) and her team successfully isolated and purified a fungus called *Phoma macrostoma* that naturally infects and can successfully control dandelion, Canada thistle, clover, and other broad-leafed weeds.

"We are excited this product will be soon available for home-owners and gardeners alike," said Russell K. Hynes, a microbiologist at AAFC's Saskatoon Research and Development Centre.

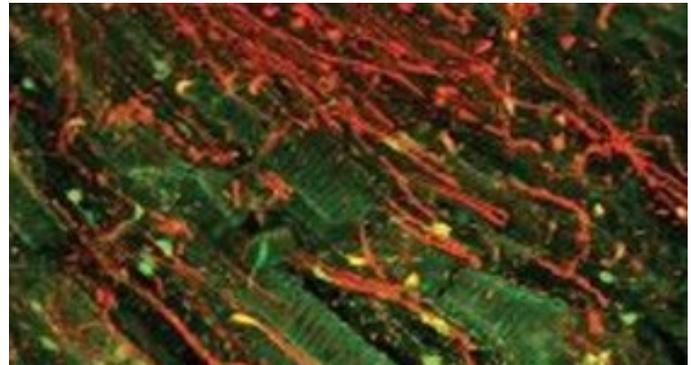
Developed so it can be applied similarly to granular fertilizers, *Phoma macrostoma* gets absorbed into the soil, enters weed roots, and infects the entire plant causing it to lose its ability to feed itself. The plant turns white because of its lack of chlorophyll and dies. If applied before weeds emerge, they come up white and die before becoming established. AAFC researchers have long been interested in developing pest controls derived from natural organisms with little or no impact beyond the designated target. These naturally-occurring controls tend to have lower risk to people and the environment and this fungus is no exception.

Dr. Russell K. Hynes, a microbiologist at the Saskatoon Research and Development Centre and Dr. Bailey found that this fungus does not compete with other naturally-occurring soil organisms and stays within five centimetres of where it was applied, so it is not a risk to animals or other plants. And the population declines over time to the extent that twelve months following an application, the fungus is no longer detectable in the soil. Even field crops like peas, which would normally be susceptible to the fungus, will not be affected if planted a year after the application. Just recently, Premier Tech, a leading producer in pest control products, signed a licencing agreement with Agriculture and Agri-food Canada to commercialize this product. The *Phoma* bioherbicide is currently registered for domestic use to control dandelion and other broadleaved weeds in non-edible plants like turf grass.

"We know that there is even more potential for this product in the agriculture sector. That is why I am currently picking up the reins (from Dr. Bailey) and am continuing research to someday expand on the *Phoma* label to include edible crops such as wheat, barley, and corn," explains Dr. Hynes. Beware dandelions and thistles! *Phoma macrostoma* will be coming soon to a field near you.



Phoma macrostoma attacking a weed in rangeland grass.



Once in the soil, *Phoma macrostoma* enters the roots and then the fungus (red) grows towards the plant's vascular system (green), as shown by microscopic imaging.

Source: Agriculture & Agri-food Canada. <http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/news/scientific-achievements-in-agriculture/horticulture/dandelions-beware-new-product-on-market-to-white-you-out/?id=1494943059919>

Join Us For
Ladies Night Out
a Delia Community Hall Fundraiser

Featuring...



simply comfortable

Fashion Show

by Lori Murphy

Clothing in sizes XXS to 3XL.
Stock available to try on and purchase.

~ Door Prizes

~ Silent Auction

~ Vendor Tables

June 9th, 2017 at 7 pm

~ Plus Food & Bar

Tickets are \$25 per person.
Table of 8 can be reserved.

Please Contact:
Robyn Lake (403)835-0257
or
Kimberly Thompson (403)364-3117
For More Details.



FARMER'S GRAVEL DAYS

Starland County will be holding Farmer's Gravel Days for the delivery of crushed gravel from the gravel stockpiles listed:

Date	Gravel Stockpile & Location	Cost of 3/4" or 1 1/2" Crushed Gravel to Starland Ratepayers	Cost of 3/4" or 1 1/2" Crushed Gravel to Non-Ratepayers &/or Non-Residents
Friday July 14 th , 2017	Scollard Stockpile	\$17.25 / cubic yard	\$18.25 / cubic yard
Wednesday July 12 th & Thursday 13 th	Mixcor Stockpile	\$12.70 / cubic yard	\$13.70 / cubic yard

Crushed gravel will be available to be hauled from these locations between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the dates noted. Please note that farmer's **will not be allowed** to haul their own gravel as these sites are not leased or owned by the County. Ratepayers can purchase up to 100 cu. yds. of crushed gravel in each calendar year at the above noted rates. If they wish to purchase additional gravel, (more than 100 cu. yds.) the gravel prices for each additional yard over the first 100 yards increases by \$1.00 per cubic yard. If you wish to arrange for gravel to be hauled, please contact the Starland County Administration Office in Morrin. There will be several private trucks on hand for anyone wishing to have gravel hauled for them. Hauling will be charged at the rates paid by Starland County. Accounts will be prepared and mailed from the Starland County Administration Office in Morrin. GST will be charged at a rate of 5% on all gravel and trucking charges.

Please note that **non-ratepayers and/or non-residents of Starland County must make arrangements with the Administration Office to pay in advance for goods and services.** This policy also applies to ratepayers and residents of the Villages of Delia, Morrin and Munson. As well, please be advised that gravel purchased from the County cannot be resold. To contact the Administration Office, please call (403) 772-3793.

Al Pratt
Public Works Supervisor
Starland County



NOTICE TO RATEPAYERS 2017 DUST CONTROL PROGRAM

Starland County will have dust control available for local roads in 2017. The County will apply two applications per site (spring and fall) of MG30 for dust control, with a total cost of \$3500.00 plus G.S.T. For existing dust control sites, ratepayers can request rejuvenation of the site with an application of MG30 at a total cost of \$1,100 per site plus G.S.T. The rejuvenation option is only available on site that have been done within the last three years.

Dust control can be requested by the ratepayer prior to June 30th. The dust control product is subject to availability, and can only be accommodated if a full truck load of the product can be delivered. The dust control product will be applied on approximately 200 metres (656 ft.) The MG30 will be applied at rates recommended by the product supplier, and all products are intended to provide dust control for only **one season**. The municipality reserves the right to blade any stretch of road that has the dust control product applied if road conditions warrant it.

If you have any questions or wish to be added to the list, please contact:

Al Pratt
Public Works Supervisor
Starland County
PO Box 249
Morrin AB, T0J 2B0
Telephone: (403) 772-3832
Email: info@starlandcounty.com

CEREAL PRODUCTION & DISEASE MANAGEMENT

***Add to your toolbox for improved control of FHB
and cereal leaf & rust diseases***

Date: June 13, 2017, 1-4 pm

Location: Lacombe - Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Winter Wheat Integrated Crop Management Trials site - directions TBA

Highlights:

- *Learn about fusarium head blight (FHB) and key management strategies and how to get the most out of your fungicide application for FHB, leaf spot and rust disease management in cereals (Kelly Turkington, AAFC Lacombe, Kequan Xi, AAF Lacombe, Ralph Wright, AAF Edmonton, Flavio Capettini, AAF Lacombe)*
- *Learn how proper spray technology can improve crop coverage and disease management (Tom Wolf, Agrimetrix Research & Training, Saskatoon)*
- *Discover why you should consider winter wheat and learn about the latest crop and pest management strategies for successful winter wheat production (Brian Beres, AAFC Lethbridge, Breanne Tideman, AAFC Lacombe, Janine Paly, Western Winter Wheat Initiative)*

Registration: call the Ag-Info Centre Registration Desk:
1-800-387-6030. No charge.

14th ANNUAL Southern Alberta Grazing School For Women



Registration
Deadline:
July 18th
Cost: \$100.00



REGISTER BY JUNE 16TH FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE!

JULY 25th-26th
2017

MUNSON
COMMUNITY HALL
STARLAND COUNTY, AB

Link to Register:

<https://2017SAGSW.eventbrite.com>

To Register Contact:

Kristi Stebanuk
Ph: 403-382-0927
email:
kstebanuk@cowsandfish.org

Blogspot

southernalbertagsw.blogspot.ca



"Grazing Schools for Women"

TOPICS INCLUDE

- Range & Riparian Health
- Local Plant Identification
 - Pasture Weeds
 - Post Calving Care
 - Primrose Farms Tour
- Tour Starland County in an AC Bus
- ** Evening Social Opportunity to the Historic Last Chance Saloon in Wayne**



Conserving Alberta's Wild Side

STARLAND COUNTY NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

TOXIC WASTE ROUNDUP (Including E-Waste)

DATE: Friday, June 9th, 2017

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

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 2017 season. Starland County is participating in this program and will have 2% LSC available to qualifying farmers March 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 Forestry
 - 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 \$264.00 per case or \$11.00 per bottle.

NOTE: It is mandatory to call ahead to set up a pick up time

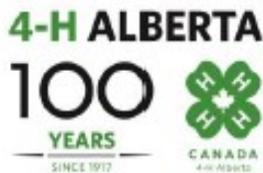
Alan Hampton or Dara Kudras at 772-3793



JUNE 10, 2017 CELEBRATING 4-H ALBERTA 100 & CANADA 150

Drumheller District 4-H Celebrates

Join us Saturday, June 10 at Rowley to celebrate 4-H Alberta 100 and Canada 150. The event starts at 2 pm and winds up with pizza and entertainment. The program will be at 3 pm.



You are Invited

Calling all 4-H members, leaders, supporters – past, present & future

Program, Displays, Food, Fun and More!

Tickets \$5.00



FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION

DRUMHELLER 4-H DISTRICT

**MELANIE 403-772-0000
JANICE 403-364-2040
KOREN 403-823-4048**