



## AG TALK NEWSLETTER



### Starland County ASB Members

**Chairman:** 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 Rawlusk 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 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 26<sup>th</sup> and assumed her CAO role effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

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 29<sup>th</sup> at the Delia Community Hall. Congratulations and Best Wishes to Ross on his retirement!

“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.

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



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.

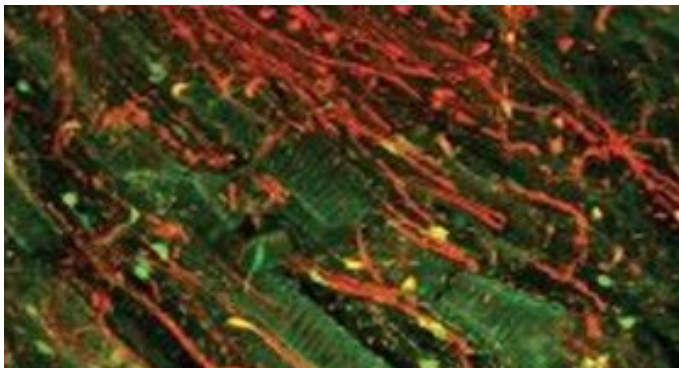
Developed so it can be applied similarly to granular fertilizers, *Phoma macrostoma* gets absorbed into the soil, enters weed roots, and infects the entire plant causing it to lose its ability to feed itself. The plant turns white because of its lack of chlorophyll and dies. If applied before weeds emerge, 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...*

~ Door Prizes

~ Silent Auction

~ Vendor Tables

~ Plus Food & Bar



simply comfortable

## Fashion Show

by Lori Murphy

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

*June 9th, 2017 at 7 pm*

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 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Scollard Stockpile	\$17.25 / cubic yard	\$18.25 / cubic yard
Wednesday July 12 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	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](mailto: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 16<sup>TH</sup> FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE!

JULY 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>  
**2017**

Link to Register:

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

To Register Contact:

Kristi Stebanuk

Ph: 403-382-0927

email:

[kstebanuk@cowsandfish.org](mailto:kstebanuk@cowsandfish.org)

Blogspot

[southernalbertagsw.blogspot.ca](http://southernalbertagsw.blogspot.ca)



"Grazing Schools  
for Women"

MUNSON  
COMMUNITY HALL  
STARLAND COUNTY, AB

## 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 30<sup>th</sup>.

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**