

January & February 2019

Happy New Year!



MD of Provost Agricultural Roundup



CLUBROOT REPORT

Given the disastrous potential impacts of clubroot – a soil borne disease affecting canola – and its ongoing spread in adjacent municipalities, the ASB employees of the M.D. of Provost embarked on an extensive testing regimen in the summer and fall of 2018.

In over 330 samples taken, 11 were deemed suspicious and sent to BioVision Lab for genetic testing. Two samples tested positive for clubroot, and as a result pest notices were issued to the two affected landowners, as per the M.D.'s statutory obligations under the *Agricultural Pests Act* and its own Clubroot Policy.

In light of the seriousness of the potential implications of these positive results, a second opinion was sought from Victor Manolii of the University of Alberta. Upon a visual inspection of the fields which yielded positive results from genetic testing, an opinion was given that the test results may have constituted a false positive. As a result, further genetic testing on samples from both locations which tested positive was done at the U of A and at 20-20 Seed Labs in Nisku to provide a definitive answer on the presence of clubroot.

Both of these results came back **negative**, meaning that the initial laboratory results indicating the presence of clubroot in the two locations noted constituted a false positive. As a result of this confirmation that clubroot was not, in fact, present at these locations, pest notification was removed from the two fields in question.

Given the ease by which this disease is spread and its proximity to the M.D. of Provost, ASB staff will be continuing a rigorous inspection and testing regime, including on all approved road projects on which the M.D. of Provost intends to conduct soil borrowing and backsloping. Going forward, any positive results will be independently verified by a third party. In addition, the ASB will be working with producers and industry to minimize the potential for spreading clubroot, and recommends avoidance of soil transfer between fields, cleaning and sanitizing of new equipment, and watching for areas of premature ripening and clubroot galls on canola roots.

Any producers wishing additional clarification or assistance in monitoring for the presence of clubroot, or to arrange an inspection, can contact ASB staff for more information.

Winter Grazing

Upcoming Ladies
Calving Clinic

Grain Storage

Fusarium Update

Grant Deadlines

Box 300 Provost, Ab
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mdprovost.ca

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Asst. Ag. Fieldman-Caitlin Wolf:
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~Supporting our Community~

The MD of Provost is donating cattle mats and corral panels to our local 4H Clubs. We appreciate the involvement and commitment these students dedicate to their 4H and what they bring to our community. Thank you!



<https://4-h.org/>

[DID YOU KNOW?]

“the mental health of Canadian farmers found the rate of anxiety is 1.5 times higher than the general population . . . while the rate of depression is 1.7 times higher.”

Briere, K. (2018). Agriculture tackles mental health. [online] The Western Producer. Available at: <https://www.producer.com/2018/03/agriculture-tackles-mental-health/> [Accessed 27 Nov. 2018].

It helps to talk to someone who listens and understands, call toll free 1-866-367-3276 or visit ruralsupport.ca



We want YOUR favourite recipes!

Please email one of the Assistant Ag. Fieldmen your best recipes to be featured in our Ag. Roundup throughout the year. Support our local producers and show off your home grown ingredients that make it on the dinner table to satisfy the farmers in your community.

Photos encouraged!

Fusarium Update ~ Treat & Test Your Grain!

Fusarium head blight (FHB) is a serious fungal disease of wheat, barley, oats and corn. Outbreaks can be traced to widespread planting of highly susceptible varieties, existence of colonized residue from previous crops (especially with short rotations), presence of corn in rotations with small grains and weather favourable for infection.

FHB causes problems in two ways: first, it reduces yield and grade by producing fusarium-damaged kernels (FDK), and secondly, it can have a significant negative effect on the quality of grain intended for the feed, malting, milling, biofuel (ethanol) and brewing industries. FDK may contain fungal toxins (mycotoxins), such as deoxynivalenol (DON or vomitoxin), that are poisonous to livestock and humans above certain threshold levels.

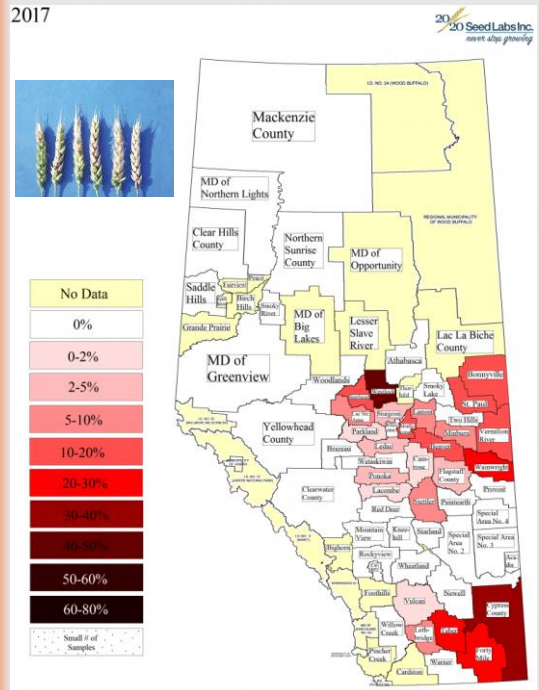
Furthermore, FDK may produce poor quality malt and flour, and it can reduce alcohol yields during fermentation.

Losses in Canada have ranged from \$50 million to \$300 million annually since the early 1990s. Direct and secondary economic losses due to FHB for all crops in the Northern Great Plains and central USA were estimated to be \$2.7 billion from 1998 to 2000 alone.

Fusarium Risk Map:

Red counties have had Positive results on the plate test. They are at the highest risk of seeing *Fusarium graminearum* infections in the future. Yellow counties have had positive DNA tests, but negative plate results. These are likely late season, low level infections. Growers in these counties probably need to be the most cautious since it is starting to move into the area. All best management practices should be followed. White counties have not had any positive Fusarium tests.

2017



Note: These maps provide an estimate only and are based on submitted samples not on actual surveys. Submitted samples may not always originate from the same location as the location of the person or organization submitting the sample.

Visit: <https://bit.ly/21FxcgY>
for more information

Extended Winter Grazing

Winter grazing is an ideal tool that extends the grazing period of mature animals; primarily fat, dry cows. It is an excellent source of nutrients throughout the winter, and drastically reduces winter input costs.

Winter feeding costs account for 65-70% of total feed costs throughout the entire year, but by implementing a winter feeding program, you can cut those costs by around 40%. Some of the expenses that are reduced include fuel, labour, manure handling, and feed.

Types of Winter Grazing:

- Swath grazing
- Bale grazing
- Stockpile grazing
- Chaff bunching
- Corn grazing



Advantages of extended grazing throughout the winter:

- Capturing the value of manure as fertilizer on the field
- Less input and yardage costs
- Reduced labour

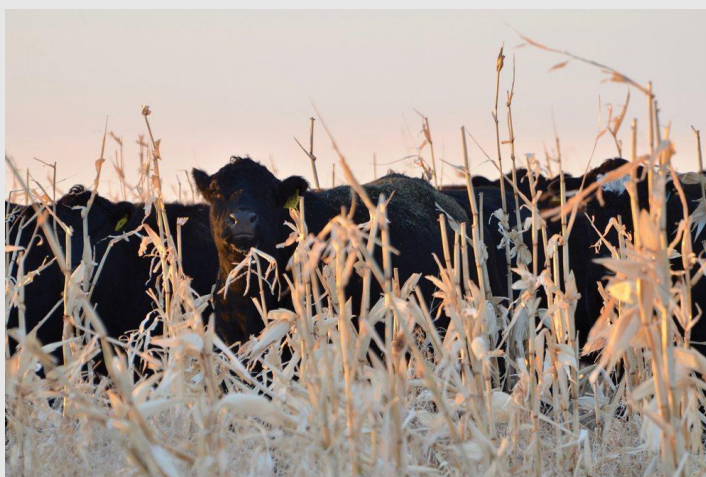
Things to Consider:

- Water availability
- Wind protection (shelterbelt trees, bush piles and wind fence)
- Feed supplements if the available feed doesn't meet requirements. To determine what to supplement, **TEST YOUR FEED!**
- Use of electric fence to control forage utilization and waste

Visit <http://www.beefresearch.ca/research-topic.cfm/extended-grazing-45> for more information regarding swath, bale, stockpile and chaff grazing.

Visit <http://www.beefresearch.ca/blog/planting-corn-this-spring-for-your-cattle-to-graze-later-here-are-10-corn-planting-tips/> for more information regarding corn grazing.

Other Resource: *Blue Rock Animal Nutrition*



Don't Forget About Your Stored Grain!



Due to the high moisture during harvest this season, the importance of proper grain storage is elevated. This increase in moisture can result in higher occurrence of grain insects, mites and molds in your bins. The most common and serious pest is the Rusty Grain Beetle which causes grain to heat and spoil.

Phostoxin tablets can be used to control the Rusty Grain Beetle and are available for purchase at the M.D. of Provost Shop!

Visit [https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$Department/deptdocs.nsf/all/faq7563](https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$Department/deptdocs.nsf/all/faq7563) for more information on Stored Grain Insect, Mites, and Molds.

“Continually striving to provide a rural environment where residents may enjoy an excellent quality of life.”



Ladies Calving Clinic



Perfect night out for you and your cattle-women friends!

Tuesday, January 29th 2019 @ Czar Cultural & Rec Centre
4:00 pm – 9:00 pm SUPPER WILL BE PROVIDED!
Please pre-register by January 18th, as space is limited.



*Do some shopping at the
Tradeshow!*

To Register:

EventBrite Link-

<https://czar2019ladiescalvingclinic.eventbrite.com>

Or Contact:

Caitlin Wolf, MD of Provost

Cell: 780-753-4359

Email: cwolf@mdprovost.ca

CARA

Phone: 403-664-3777

Email: cara-3@telus.net

Featuring...

Marie-Lucie Gendron from Border Vet Clinic
with Calving Tips, Tricks & other Topics!

Melissa Downing will be speaking on the
Verified Beef Program Plus (VBP+)

And more!

*Door
Prizes!!*

