

MD of Provost



Agricultural Roundup



November & December 2019



Local Christmas Events

Provost Christmas Markets

November 22nd & December 13th, 2019 from 11:00am – 7:00pm at the Rec Centre (5113 – 43 St.)

Hughenden Public School Christmas Market

November 30th, 2019 from 10:00am – 4:00pm. Santa will visit from 12:00 – 2:00pm!

Amisk School Christmas Concert

December 12th, 2019 at 1:00pm & 7:00pm. Hosted at Amisk Community Hall.

Hughenden Public School Christmas Concert

December 18th, 2019 at 7:00pm.

Provost Public School Christmas Concert

December 18th, 2019 at 6:30pm.

S.T.A. Christmas Concert

December 19th, 2019 at 7:00pm.

Elementary
Christmas Concerts

Local Christmas
Markets

Did You Know?

Hunting & Fishing

Provost Seed
Cleaning Plant

Planning Your
Shelterbelt

Recipe

Announcements

Cattle Vaccinations

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Hello Rifle Season



November 1-30 is rifle season which means we all need to do our part and hunt responsibly. Not knowing the regulations is not an excuse. Some important reminders include: Proper transportation of your firearms, not shooting from inside your vehicle, submitting deer heads for CWD testing, and making sure you have landowner permission to hunt. Remember, poaching is stealing your draw. More detailed information can be found at Alberta RELM or your local Fish & Wildlife Office at 780-753-2433.



Did You Know?

There are approximately 60,000 farms & ranches with beef cattle across Canada. The avg. beef cow herd in Canada is 69 hd. **There are a lot of small cattle farms with 39% of the farms having less than 47 hd.** In 2016, Canada produced 3 billion lbs of beef, up 9.6% from 2015. **The average Canadian eats 40.12lbs of beef per person annually.**

Reference: Canadian Charolais Association

Ice Angling is o-FISH-al Business!

Capt. Ayre Lake is in Fishing Zone PP2 and it is stocked with rainbow trout. This year in April it was stocked with 3550 fish at an average length of 20.3 cm. You are allowed to use bait and may keep up to five fish.



Provost Seed Cleaning Plant Update

- Doubled the overhead storage from 23,000 bu to 46,000 bu.
- Upgraded the air and screen machine to a much larger model.
- The new gravity table should increase cleaning speed from 600 bu/hr to 1000 bu/hr.
- The capacity of the treating system was updated to increase from 50 bu/min to 100 bu/min. The treater room was also increased in size.
- Complete refurbish on the dust collection system.

The total cost for the project came to \$1.8 million.



Planning Your Shelterbelt

If you are planting a shelterbelt in the spring, winter is a great time to start the planning process! Prior planning will allow you to order earlier on, as most nurseries sell on a first come first serve basis.

The height of your shelterbelt will determine the extent of the protected area downwind, whereas the length determines the amount of protected area. For max efficiency, the uninterrupted length should exceed the height by a minimum factor of 10:1.

It is most effective to plant your shelterbelt at a right angle to the prevailing winds, so you get protection from multiple directions. Increasing the length of your shelterbelt will increase protected zone.

Density of the shelterbelt is controlled by number of rows, distance between trees, and species composition; increased number of rows and decreased distance between trees will increase density. Density of your shelterbelt will determine how much airflow there will be. Ensure you follow recommended spacing, so your shelterbelt has adequate room to grow.

Density of Tree & Shrub Species:

- Low: Oak, Poplar & Trembling Aspen.
- Medium: Ash, Larch, Pin cherry, Pine & Siberian Crab.
- Medium-High: Buffaloberry, Caragana, Choke cherry, Hawthorn, Hedge Rose Maple, Red-osier Dogwood, Red Elder, Sea Buckthorn, Snowberry, Lilac & Willow.
- High: Spruce.

As you plan your shelterbelt, keep in mind these few considerations:

- Locate shelterbelt where it will be most effective and where space allows.
- Select tree/shrub species that are adapted to your soil and climate conditions.
- Prepare planting site and provide care and protection for the young seedlings.



When selecting which species of shrubs and trees you would like to plant, remember these few tips:

- Consider the purpose and site characteristics of your shelterbelt; farmyard, field, roadside, livestock, etc.
- Recommended to plant a multi-row shelterbelt using a variety of trees/shrubs rather than planting two rows the same. This variety will provide multiple benefits; lower risk of losing entire shelterbelt to drought, disease, or insects. It also provides a more diverse ecosystem for wildlife!

<http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/science-and-innovation/agricultural-practices/agroforestry/shelterbelt-planning-and-establishment/?id=1344636433852>

Holiday Cranberry Jalapeno Dip

Ingredients:

- 12 oz. fresh, uncooked cranberries
- 1/4 cup green onions
- 1-2 fresh jalapenos
- 2 Tbsp cilantro (optional)
- 3/4 – 1 cup sugar (to taste)
- 1 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 16 oz. cream cheese

Directions:

1. Use hand chopper to chop cranberries. (Best not to use food processor as cranberries will liquify).
2. Chop green onion, jalapeno peppers and cilantro. In a medium-sized bowl, add chopped cranberries, green onion, cilantro and jalapenos.
3. Add sugar, lemon juice and salt on top of cranberry mixture and stir gently until blended. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight.
4. Take cranberry mixture out of refrigerator and stir all ingredients together. Strain out all liquid using a colander with small holes.
5. Whip softened cream cheese with hand mixer until smooth (2 mins) and spread over bottom of a pie plate. Pour cranberry mixture atop cream cheese and keep refrigerated until ready to serve. Serve with crackers!



Send in your best and most popular recipes! We would love to show off your skill & share them with our rural community in the next newsletter.

Please email submissions to either of the Asst. Ag. Fieldmen.

Cost Benefit of Using Vaccines

Cattle can be exposed to disease through several different ways, including; community pastures, fence line contact with neighbouring cattle, auction markets, and purchasing breeding cattle from other herds. In Canada, it is recommended that producers vaccinate their breeding females for reproductive disease and their calves for respiratory disease.

A survey done in Western Canada showed that one in ten producers are not vaccinating their cows for infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR) and bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD) and more than a quarter of producers do not vaccinate their herd for other reproductive diseases. This leaves herds vulnerable.

Why Vaccinate for BVD?

When an animal is infected with BVD, it can lead to poor conception rates and BVD and IBR can also cause abortions in cattle. There are many experimental trials confirming that vaccines for these viruses are effective. "When multiple studies are analyzed, the outcome shows that on average there is an 85% decrease in fetal infection, 45% decrease in abortions and a 5% increase in pregnancy rates in BVD-vaccinated herds."

"In the U.S., total annual losses have been estimated at \$20 million for every million calves when modeling for low-virulent BVD strains and \$57 million when modeling for a high-virulent BVD strain (Houe, 1999). If we take Canada's breeding herd at 3.9 million beef cows, estimated BVD losses here would be in the range of \$78 and \$220 million (Clarke, 2014)."

Motivation to Vaccinate

"Waldner et al. (2019) found that producers reported their motivation for using vaccines for reproductive diseases were to prevent a wreck, even if they had no issue in the past. 70% of herds reported the economic benefits of using the vaccine were considered when deciding what vaccines to use."

<http://www.beefresearch.ca/blog/the-cost-benefit-of-using-vaccines-bvd/#more-7914>



! WARNING

**Be courteous and watch out for
snowplows.
SLOW DOWN!**



Each day grazing is extended,
the cow-calf sector saves
NEARLY \$4 MILLION



**RAISE YOUR
BEEF IQ**
@
beefresearch.ca

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
From the Staff at MD of Provost



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