

MD of Provost



Agricultural Roundup



March/April 2020

NOTICE TO FARMERS!! STRYCHNINE SALES WILL BE CONTINUING.

The sale of 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate (LSC) for the control of Richardson Ground Squirrels (RGS) has been APPROVED UNTIL 2024!

2% LSC will be available to purchase from **April 3rd – June 2nd, 2020.**

- Provost Shop – every Tuesday morning from April 3rd – June 2nd.
- Hughenden Shop – call to arrange pickup @ 780-753-4359.

Available after June 2nd, 2020 by appointment.

Easter Farmers Market @ Provost Rec Centre on March 27th, 2020

Provost Agri-Day & Tradeshow!

April 3rd, 2020 @

Crescent Point Place

10:00am – 8:00pm

Bring a food bank donation!

Farmers Market will be running

in conjunction with the

tradeshow! Check out and

support the local businesses.

*The 17th Annual Original Grazing
School for Women*

June 9 and 10, 2020

**Hosted in
Beaver County**

Please check our website

<https://www.grazingschoolforwomen.com/>

*or email aboese@beaver.ab.ca for more
details!*



Environmental Farm Plan Workshop

at Provost Fire Hall on March 23rd, 2020 from 1:00pm – 4:00pm.

Join us for a FREE workshop and let us help you start a new EFP or update your current one!

Please bring a laptop or tablet to work on your EFP.

*To register or for more information,
please contact Caitlin Wolf by phone or email.*



**Please call in
your NO SPRAY
ZONES before
May 1st, 2020.**

Strychnine Update

Save the Date!

EFP Workshop

Did You Know?

Recipe

Insect Update

Pasture Population

Cover Crops

Employment
Opportunities

Tree Disease

TAC Permit

Box 300 Provost, AB

TOB 3S0

1-780-753-2434

mdprovost.ca

Your ASB Contacts:

Ag Fieldman- West

Jessica Robley

780-753-4382

jrobley@mdprovost.ca

Ag Fieldman- East

Caitlin Wolf

780-753-4359

cwolf@mdprovost.ca

Did You Know?

Alberta is the greatest grower of barley in the world!

80% of Scotch Whiskey is made with Alberta barley.

Alberta barley is the source for most of the major beer brands GLOBALLY.

Alberta is the centre of the malting industry.



Chocolate Chip Bundt Cake

Submitted by Vanessa Hahn

Ingredients:

- 1 chocolate cake mix
- 1 chocolate pudding mix
- 1 cup oil
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup hot water
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup chocolate cake



Directions: Mix all ingredients together and pour into a Bundt pan. Bake @ 350°F for 1 hour. Top with your favorite icing!

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 Ag. Fieldmen.

MD of Provost Insect Update

2019 Summary

From Scott Meers & Shelley Barkley

"This year we had 11 **bertha armyworm** sites in Provost and all the counts showed an increase in moth catch and one location was above the first warning level of 300 moths. Trapping will be very important in 2020 to watch what looks like a possible outbreak this season.

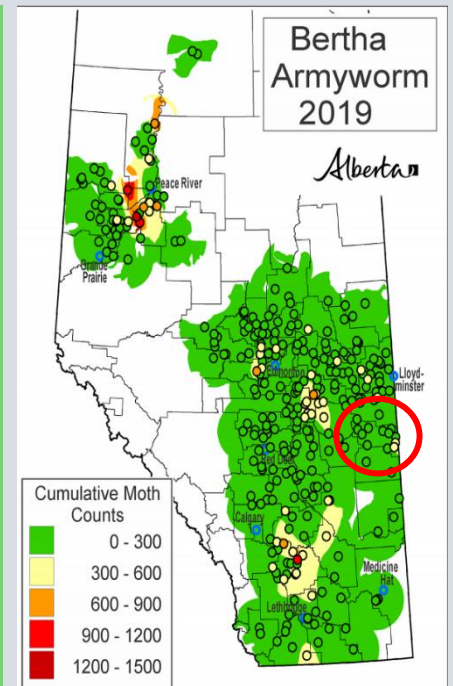
Pea leaf weevil damage was low in all 4 of the fields we checked in your area during our survey in late May – early June. At this point insecticide seed treatment should not be necessary for managing this pest in the M.D. of Provost. No **cabbage seedpod weevil** were found in your area. The population in central Alberta seems to have reduced and the range expansion has contracted.

We also did not find any **wheat midge** in any of the 5 fields we visited. There was one **diamondback moth** trap site in your area which did not catch many moths."



"**Bertha armyworm** is very cyclical. In order to catch outbreaks and help producers minimize losses it is necessary to maintain a good monitoring system using pheromone traps. The number of moths caught in the traps informs us of the risk of damaging populations with a 3 to 5 week lead time. These numbers are generated from paired pheromone traps in individual fields.

Bertha armyworm populations are normally kept in check by such factors as weather and natural enemies. Potential damage may be more or less severe than suggested by the moth count data depending on weather and crop conditions and localized population dynamics. Research has clearly shown that very few fields are ever affected in an area with moth catches less than 300. Even at higher moth counts field scouting is critical for pest management decisions because experience has shown that field to field and even within field variations can be very large."



Proper Pasture Populations

Carrying capacity is defined as “the average number of animals a pasture can sustain over time.” Stocking rate is “the number of animal unit months (AUM) supplied by one acre of land.” Calculating the carrying capacity of your pasture can prevent overgrazing.

Barry Yaremco, beef and forage specialist with Alberta Ag, says producers make three common mistakes when calculating carrying capacity.

1. **The actual size of the animal.** “Most times they are underestimating weight by anywhere from 100 to 200 pounds.” Yaremco states that a 1400lb cow will eat about 160lbs of fresh grass per day. By underestimating the weight, the cow might be short 22 to 25lbs of needed forage intake per day.
2. **Miscalculating how much feed is available to the animals.** This can depend on forage and grass species, precipitation, soil type and other environmental factors.
3. **Consumption.** Cattle will eat the most attractive grass first, which leaves the fibrous and chewy grass remaining. They will eat less of this, so producers must take that into account.

Yaremco recommends rotational grazing; moving the cattle after they’ve eaten 50% of available forage.

HOW MUCH DO THEY EAT??

- Cows normally consume 1.4 – 4% of their body weight daily.
- A lactating cow will eat 40 – 60% more than a dry cow.
- Nutrient deficiencies can decrease intake by 10 – 20%.
- Cattle graze about 12 hours per day.

<https://www.producer.com/2012/02/do-the-math-for-proper-pasture-populations/>

Cover Crops

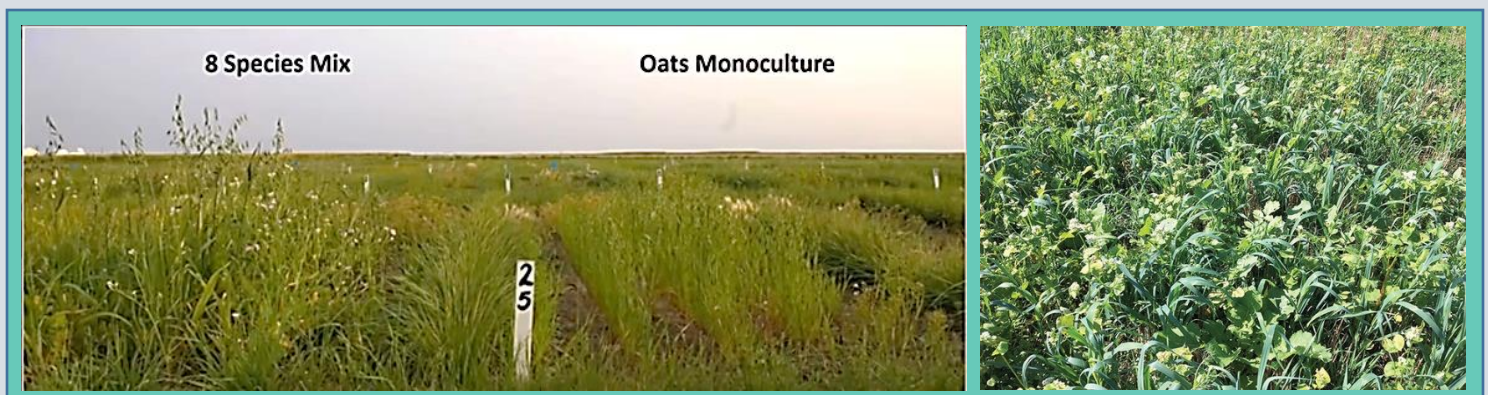
Also known as “poly-cropping” and “cocktail mixture”.

Cover crops have the ability to increase biodiversity and improve the productivity and health of the soil. When you include more plant species (to a point) it will result in a more stable biomass production.

There are four functional groups; cool & warm season grasses, legumes and brassicas. Getting the proper mixture will impact your productivity.

Caution when grazing brassicas! Any mixtures high in brassicas may have toxic levels of nitrates and sulfates. This toxicity is mainly an issue when late season grazing since the brassicas will make up a high proportion of available palatable forage (brassicas are quite frost tolerant).

Forage radish, turnips, barley and triticale show the strongest weed suppression as they are all such competitive species. When you have a diverse mix of species (broadleaf and grass), weeds are difficult to control chemically, so using the previously listed species in your mix could be beneficial.



SEASONAL EQUIPMENT OPERATORS & LABOURERS

The M.D. of Provost No. 52 is currently seeking seasonal equipment operators and labourers for the 2020 season. These positions will be based out of but not limited to the M.D. shops located in Hughenden and/or Provost.

Valid Driver's License Required (Class 1Q Endorsement preferred).

Experience in operating various heavy equipment, the ability to work without supervision, and mechanical ability are required.

For more information contact
Tyler Lawrason @ 780-753-2434
(tlawrason@mdprovost.ca)
Len Fossen @ 780-753-4423
(lfossen@mdprovost.ca)
Marty Biro @ 306-873-7831
(mbiro@mdprovost.ca)

Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume with a current driver's abstract to one of the above or to the following:

M.D. of Provost No. 52
4504 – 53rd Avenue
Box 300
Provost, Alberta
TOB 3S0

These positions will be left open until suitable candidates are found.

This position falls under the collective agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 955.

We thank all applicants for their interest.

However, only those applicants receiving an interview will be contacted.

ASB SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The M.D. of Provost No. 52 Agricultural Service Board is currently seeking applicants for temporary positions to carry out the 2020 Weed Control Program.

The successful applicants will be working out of the Hughenden M.D. Shop and the Provost M.D. Shop. Duties will include operation of the spray trucks, consultation with ratepayers, weed inspection, some reclamation and record keeping.

A pesticide applicator's license would be an asset but not a requirement.

For more information, please contact
Caitlin Wolf,
Agricultural Fieldman
Cell: 780-753-4359
or
Jessica Robley,
Agricultural Fieldman
Cell: 780-753-4382

M.D. of Provost No. 52
Office: 780-753-2168

Send resumes to
M.D. of Provost No. 52
Box 300
Provost, Alberta
TOB 3S0
Email: Ag Fieldmen
Caitlin Wolf
(cwolf@mdprovost.ca) or
Jessica Robley
(jrobley@mdprovost.ca)

Black Knot Tree Disease

is easy to diagnose due to the distinctive black warty-looking galls on stems and branches. Generally, the gall will completely encircle the stem and can be from an inch to a foot in length. This disease is most common in plum and cherry trees but is most aggressive on Maydays and Schubert Chokecherries. Not only does it destroy the aesthetics of a trees but will disfigure the branches and eventually kill the diseased tree.

Black knot spreads in the spring; spores are released on rainy days and spread to other susceptible species by wind.

Pruning is the most effective way to treat black knot. It is best to do so in the winter when the tree is dormant. Ensure your cuts are 2 to 4 inches below the gall to be sure you are cutting back to disease-free wood. Burn or bury the diseased branches to prevent spread of black knot.

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/plant-problems/disease/black-knot-tree-disease.htm>



Did You Know...

The Alberta Commercial Vehicle and Dimension regulation allows a **maximum gross weight of 17,000kg on a Tridem axle group on a local road??**

To exceed 17,000kg you must have a TAC (Tridem Axle Configuration) permit. The TAC permit must be obtained to allow the same weights on a Tridem axle group as allowed on a Primary Highway.

To obtain a TAC permit please call Alberta Transportation Permit office at 1-800-662-7138. If you have any questions, please call the M.D. of Provost Peace Officer at (780)753-1981.

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