

# MD of Provost



## Agricultural Roundup



May/June 2021



### WHAT DO RIPARIAN AREAS DO??

1. **Trap and store sediment:** sediment adds to and builds soil in riparian areas.
2. **Build and maintain banks shorelines:** increase resilience and recovery.
3. **Store water and energy:** watershed safety valve.
4. **Recharge aquifers:** store, hold and slowly release water.
5. **Filter and buffer water:** reduce amounts of contaminants, nutrients and pathogens reaching the water.
6. **Reduce and dissipate energy:** reduce water velocity, which slows erosion and sediment transport.
7. **Maintain biodiversity:** create and maintain habitats for fish, wildlife, invertebrates and plants.
8. **Create primary productivity:** vegetation diversity and age-class structure creates links to other riparian functions.

<https://cowsandfish.org/ecology-function/>

Provost District  
4-H Beef Sale  
10:00 a.m.  
Friday June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at  
Provost Livestock Exchange

The sale will be broadcasted on Direct Livestock. You can purchase through PLE. If you have any questions, please contact Provost Livestock Exchange at 780-753-2218.

Support these  
hardworking 4-H'ers and  
buy your beef local!



District 4-H Show  
What is Riparian?  
Did You Know?  
Hummingbirds  
GSFW Webinars  
Native Plant I.D.  
Shelterbelt Designs  
Weed Watch  
Recipe

Box 300 Provost, AB  
ToB 3S0  
1-780-753-2434  
mdprovost.com

### ASB Contact:

Ag Fieldman: Caitlin Wolf  
Cell: 780-753-4359  
Office: 780-753-2168  
cwolf@mdprovost.ca



If you are interested in receiving an electronic version of the newsletter, please email [cwolf@mdprovost.ca](mailto:cwolf@mdprovost.ca)

## Did You Know??

There are over 200 breeds of sheep. The most common breeds in Canada are Suffolk, Dorset and Arcott.

Ontario and Alberta are the top sheep producing provinces in the country.

There are approximately 1 million sheep in Canada on about 11,000 farms. Alberta has over 2,000 sheep farms.

The main market for sheep in Canada is lamb meat; Canadian farmers produce 40% of the lamb we consume and the rest is imported from Australia and New Zealand.

Most wool produced in Canada is marketed through CCWG, which grades close to 1400 tonnes of raw wool each year. Most of this wool is sold to the US or UK.

One mature ewe produces 3-4.5kg of wool a year; enough to make a man's suit.

<https://www.ablamb.ca/images/documents/promotions/Sheep-industry-in-Alberta-facts.pdf>



**A Hummingbird** weighs about 4 grams and is among the smallest birds, measuring 3-5 inches long. They beat their wings as fast as 80 times per second by rotating them in a figure-8 pattern. Hummingbirds can hover, stop instantly and fly in different directions – even upside down! 21 species of hummingbirds fly north in the spring to Canada (mainly BC, Alberta and Nova Scotia). They are very fast flyers, and can travel up to 50 mph into an oncoming wind! A hummingbird has a regular heart rate of 1260 bpm, and breathes 250 times per minute. Hummingbirds live on flower nectar and insects, supplemented by food from feeders. The most common feeder recipe is a mixture of 1 part sugar to 4 parts water heated enough to dissolve the sugar and then cooled.

## \*\* ATTENTION \*\*

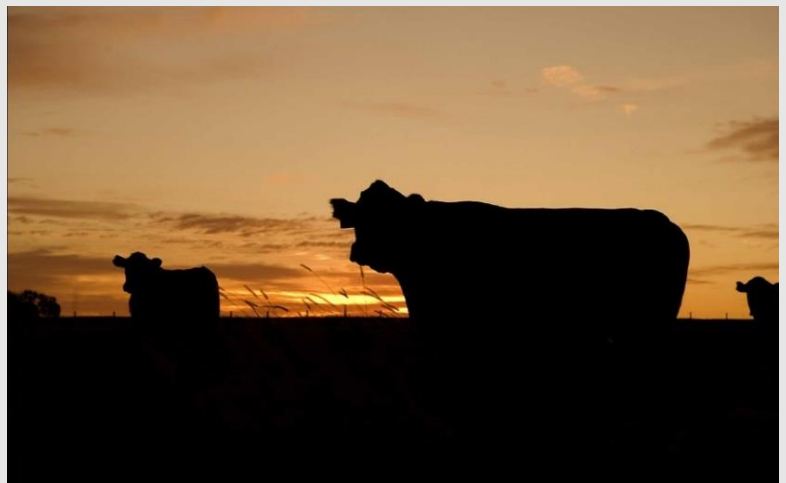
This year we will be **roadside spraying in Divisions 1, 2 & 3**. If you haven't submitted your **NO SPRAY ZONE**, please do so **ASAP!!**

**Road rebuilds for 2021**; TWP 374 from RR10 to RR14, RR40 from Highway 13 to TWP 410, and RR32 from TWP 392 to Highway 13.

We will be setting out **Burkhard spore traps** again in May, as well as **Bertha Army Worm traps** in two locations.

Strychnine is available to purchase at the Provost Shop on Tuesday mornings! If purchases are required outside of these times, please contact Caitlin to make arrangements. **REMINDER: Producers have until MARCH 4<sup>th</sup> of 2022 to PURCHASE the product and can CONTINUE USING the product until MARCH 4<sup>th</sup> of 2023.**

Grain bag and twine collection days are the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of every month at the **PROVOST REGIONAL LANDFILL**.



## THE ORIGINAL GRAZING SCHOOL FOR WOMEN Save the Dates

JUNE 9, 16, 23 & 30 | 7PM-8:30PM

COMMON TREE PEST & DISEASES 2 PART DUGOUT SERIES GRAZING MANAGEMENT

Webinar  
Series

VISIT [WWW.GRAZINGSCHOOL4WOMEN.COM](http://WWW.GRAZINGSCHOOL4WOMEN.COM) OR CONTACT  
TANIS PONATH AT 780-842-4454

# What's That Native Plant??

## CANADA ANEMONE

- Native plant that naturally occurs in clearings.
- Fair forage value plant that is moderately palatable and nutritious throughout the season.
- Hairy stems and several basal shaped leaves.
- Long stalked flowers with five large white sepals. Blooms in June/July.



## Mouse-Ear Chickweed/ Field Chickweed

- Native plant found in open native grasslands, open forests and clearings.
- Poor forage value plant that is unpalatable to cattle/doesn't provide adequate nutrition.
- Leaves are greyish green, hairy and opposite.
- Stems are branched near the top with long, downward pointing hairs.
- Five deeply cleft, white petaled flowers that bloom in May/June.

## THREE-FLOWERED AVENS

- Native plant that naturally occurs in open native grasslands.
- Poor forage value plant with bright green fern-like leaves.
- Stems are often reddish with soft hairs.
- Reddish/purplish pink sepals. Flowers are often nodding and appear partially closed. Fruits are long, bronze to purple in colour in upright clusters.



## Pussy-Toes

- Native plant naturally found in open native grasslands and forests.
- Poor forage value plant.
- Stem leaves are narrow and alternate. Lower basal leaves form a rosette; dense fine hairs on bottom of leaves, while the upper surface is green and somewhat hairy.
- Whitish to pinkish flowers that bloom in June/July. Several flowering heads in a dense cluster.

# SHELTERBELT DESIGN FOR DIFFERENT SOIL TYPES

Below are tree & shrub design scenarios for three major soil types on the prairies with SW and NW predominant wind directions.

## CLAY SOILS:

**First Row (shrubs):** caragana, silver buffalo-berry, cotoneasters.

**Second Row (hardwoods):** Manitoba maple, variety of cottonwoods, willows, green ash and hybrid poplars.

**Third Row (hardwoods):** American and Siberian elms, aspen, bur oak and Amur maple.

**Fourth Row (coniferous):** Colorado spruce, black hills spruce, ponderosa and scotch pines and douglas fir.

## SANDY SOILS:

**First Row (shrubs):** caragana, silver buffalo-berry, and fragrant sumac.

**Second row:** rocky mountain juniper and mugo pine.

**Third & Fourth Rows (coniferous):** Colorado spruce, ponderosa and scotch pines and douglas fir.

**Fifth Row:** wolfberry, potentilla or shrubby cinquefoil, lilacs, golden currants, saskatoons, American plum, rosewoods or common juniper.

## SALINE SOILS:

**First Row (shrubs):** silver buffalo-berry and sea buckthorn.

**Second Row:** caragana, spreading juniper, snowberry, vilosa lilac and hawthorn.

**Third & Fourth Rows:** rocky mountain juniper, mountain ash, ponderosa pine, green ash, Manitoba maple, Siberian elm, laurel leaf willow and some apples.

*Information from Yard Whispers, written by Tozo Bozic*

## \*WEED WATCH\*



## Buttermilk Brownies

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup buttermilk
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup oil
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 stick of butter
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/4 cup cocoa

### Directions:

Sift flour into a large bowl. Add sugar and salt. Mix. Combine butter, water, cocoa, and oil in a saucepan. Bring to a boil. Pour over flour mixture. Add buttermilk, eggs, baking soda and vanilla. Stir to combine. Pour into greased and floured 9x13-inch pan. Bake for 25 mins at 400°F.

## Icing

### Ingredients:

- 1 stick butter
- 1/4 cup cocoa
- 1/3 cup buttermilk
- Dash salt
- 1 lb box powdered sugar
- 1 cup pecans, chopped
- 1 tsp vanilla

### Directions:

Combine butter, cocoa, and buttermilk in a sauce pan. Bring to a boil, remove from heat, add other ingredients. Spread on brownies while brownies are hot.



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