

MD of Provost



Agricultural Roundup

MARCH / APRIL 2022



Reminders

Please submit your **NO SPRAY ZONES** before May 1st, 2022!!

Grain bag and twine collection days are the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of every month at the **PROVOST REGIONAL LANDFILL**. Twine collection bags are available at the Provost Landfill & both MD Shops.

Provost Agri-Day & Tradeshow
Friday, April 8th, 2022 10:00 am – 8:00pm
Crescent Point Place

Please fill out and submit your **DUST CONTROL FORM** BY **APRIL 15th, 2022**. Any late forms will not be accepted.



Reminders

Bonspiel

Did You Know?

Flowers for Bees

Grain Bag Recycling

Insect Update

Increasing Profitability Through Calving Distribution

Employment Opportunities

Recipe

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

ASB Contact:

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

Provost Closing Mixed Bonspiel!!

March 24-27th, 2022 ~
\$160/team

Contact Joelle to enter @
(587)-878-0141

Supper Saturday night! Any combination of teams & ages welcome!

If you are interested in receiving an electronic version of the newsletter, please email cwolf@mdprovost.ca

Did You Know?

Now until mid April is the best time to remove black knot from your trees! Though it may take years or even decades to entirely kill infected trees, it is still important to manage the disease properly to avoid spreading.

Improper pruning is the biggest spreader of black knot, whether it be timing or method. It is best to prune when the temperature is below 0°C so the spores and tree/shrub are inactive. Avoid pruning in late fall and early spring, or anytime during growing season unless you are noticing a new infestation for the first time.

While pruning black knot, you want to disinfect your tools and remove infested wood IMMEDIATELY! Branches can be bagged and taken to the landfill, or burned. This is an important step, as spores can spread even 4 months after pruning. Do not leave infected branches near other trees.



SOME OF THE BEST FLOWERS FOR BEES! !

Early-Season Flowers:

- Early blooming trees & shrubs including; maples, willows.
- Early blooming fruits including; cherry, plum, raspberry, blackberry, blueberry.
- Spring flowering bulbs.
- Spring perennials including; larkspur, dianthus, wild columbine, lupine, baptisia, and pulmonaria.

Mid-Season Flowers:

Including anise hyssop, coneflowers, catmint, penstemon, globe thistle, monarda (bee balm), coreopsis, daises, phlox, gaillardia and yarrow!

Late-Season Flowers:

Including dahlias, asters, goldenrod, joe pye weed, and sunflowers!

<https://www.almanac.com/best-flowers-bees>



Grain bag recycling process



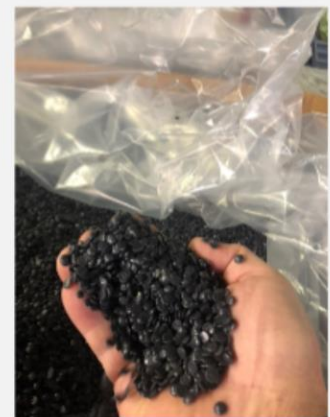
An Alberta recycling facility where...



Grain bags are shredded and screened before washing...



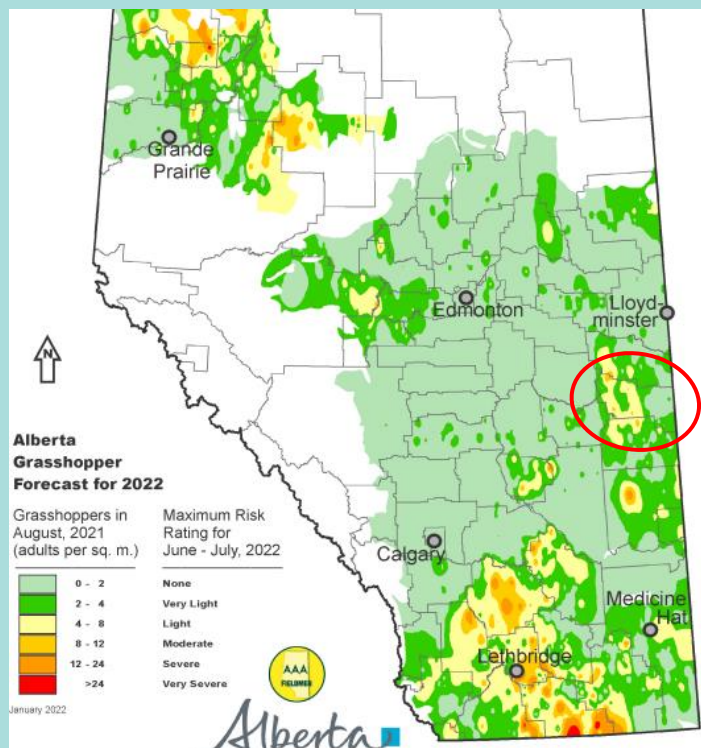
Then melted in an extruder to create plastic pellets...



That are ready for manufacturing into new ag-film products.

Photos courtesy of PolyAg Recycling

MD of Provost Insect Update ~ 2021 Summary from Shelley Barkley



****Grasshopper forecast for 2022 shows higher adults per square meter in our area, and throughout the whole province than the 2021 forecast.**

“This year we had 11 bertha armyworm sites in Provost and all the counts were below the first warning level of 300 moths. Trapping will be very important in 2022 to get an early warning of what is happening in the 2022 fields.

Pea leaf weevil damage was pretty well non-existent in the 4 fields I checked in your area during our survey in late May – early June. And I didn’t find any cabbage seedpod weevil in the early bloom survey either.

No wheat midge, but producers and agronomists need to keep an eye on the situation as the wheat heads out, especially if seeding is delayed and/or wet conditions prevail.

There was one diamondback moth trap site in MD which did not catch any moths. This seems to be the case across Alberta for 2021.

And I did not find any wheat stem sawfly cutting as we have found on the south side of the MD in previous years.

One thing that we need to keep an eye on is the cutworm situation. With the long fall and crop regrowth, cutworm moths had the opportunity to lay a lot of eggs. Fields with bare spots should be checked for cutworms next spring.”

How to Increase Profitability Through Calving Distribution

Calving distribution is the percentage of calves born in each 21-day cycle. Each time a cow is not bred during a 21-day heat cycle, it can cost up to 39 lbs of weaning weight (assuming an ADG on calves of 1.85lbs/day).

Benefits of shortened calving season:

- Having more calves born in the first 21 days of the calving season allows producers to market larger, more uniform groups of calves.
- Increases cow longevity.
- Heifers that were born earlier have greater pregnancy rates, remain in the herd longer and produce one more calf in their lifetime compared to those that calve in later periods.
- Herd vaccinations are easier to time.
- Increased uniformity allows easier comparison between calves.

Industry recommends a calving season length of 63 days for cows and 42 days for heifers. There is potential economic loss if producers don’t have 60% of their cows calving in the first 21 days.

The **Value of Calving Distribution Calculator** allows producers to see what their current calving distribution is and what the short-term economic benefit would be if they move to the industry target. **To learn more and try out the calculator, visit <https://www.beefresearch.ca/blog/calving-distribution-video?/>.** The Beef Cattle Research Council website is a great resource for cattle producers with numerous tools available!



ASB SEASONAL LABOURERS

The M.D. of Provost No. 52 Agricultural Service Board is currently seeking applicants for temporary positions to carry out the 2022 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
Email: [cwife@mdprovost.ca](mailto:cwolf@mdprovost.ca)

Send resumes to
M.D. of Provost No. 52
Box 300
Provost, Alberta
T0B 3S0

Email: Ag Fieldman Caitlin Wolf
(cwife@mdprovost.ca)

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

**LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL FARM
PLAN (EFP) WORKSHOP COMING
IN MARCH!! KEEP AN EYE OUT
FOR MORE DETAILS TO COME!**

SEASONAL EQUIPMENT OPERATORS & LABOURERS

The M.D. of Provost No. 52 is currently seeking seasonal equipment operators and labourers for the 2022 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
T0B 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.

EASTER NO BAKE BIRDS NEST COOKIES

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ cups butterscotch chips
- 1 ½ cups chocolate chips
- ¾ cup smooth peanut butter
- 2 cups rolled oats
- 2 ½ cups coarsely crushed corn flakes
- 72 mini eggs

Directions:

1. In a large bowl, melt together butterscotch chips, chocolate chips and peanut butter.
2. Stir in oats and corn flakes until combined.
3. Drop by heaping tablespoons onto wax paper lined baking sheets (you'll need two) into 24 mounds. Immediately press 3 mini eggs into the centre.
4. Let cool completely before storing in the refrigerator for 1-2 weeks or the freezer for up to 3-4 months.



Want your favourite recipe submitted in the next Ag Roundup newsletter??

Great way to share with the neighbours!!

Email your recipe & photo (if you have one) to Caitlin!