

MD OF PROVOST

agricultural roundup



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- Upcoming Events**
- Agriculture & the Holidays
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 - Common Tansy
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2023/2024 CURLING SEASON
Amisk Curling Club
 Open League Tuesday & Thursday nights at 7pm.
 Ladies Bonspiel January 4-7, 2024
 Contact Patricia to register 780-888-7554

Czar Curling Club
 Contact Justin 780-806-3458 to register for League curling. Games are Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday nights!

Provost Curling Club
 Contact Gabe 780-753-0453 to register for Tuesday night Open League starting on November 14th.
 Thursday night Drop-In Curling & Wings tentative start date of November 30th.
 Mixed Doubles Bonspiel January 11 & 12, 2024
 Junior Bonspiel January 19 & 20, 2024

CHRISTMAS EVENTS!
Amisk Santa Days
 December 9th, 2023 at Amisk Community Hall. 10am-3pm

Cadogan Christmas Market
 Sunday, November 26th, 2023 from 10am-3pm
 Sleigh Rides 11am - 3pm

Hughenden Community Christmas Party
 December 1st, 2023 at the Hughenden Community Hall

Metiskow Christmas Market
 Sunday December 3rd, 2023 at the Metiskow Hall. 11am-4pm

Provost Christmas Markets
 November 24th & December 8th, 2023 at the Rec Centre

Provost Hometown Country Christmas
 December 16th, 2023
 More information to come.

THE HOLIDAY TRAIN WILL BE GOING THROUGH PROVOST ON DECEMBER 6TH BETWEEN 5:50 AND 6:30PM!!
 Field adjacent to railway tracks at 50th Ave and 46th St.



Agriculture and the Holidays

How Agriculture Plays a Key Role in your Favorite Traditions

Eggnog

Ontario produces the most eggs in Canada followed by Quebec, British Columbia and Manitoba. Canada produces around 650 million dozen eggs per year.



Gingerbread

Of the estimated 9,953,300 hectares of all types of wheat grown in Canada, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba produce the most wheat

Candy Canes

The first candy canes were not cane-shaped, but straight, only white – not striped, and flavored with sugar.

As far as total mint production in Canada, Alberta leads the way.



SOURCE

<https://smartnitrogen.com/smart-talk/agriculture-takes-the-spotlight-at-christmas-time/>

Redbacked Cutworm

Larvae of this species have two broad dull-red strips along the length of their back. Head is yellowish-brown. Mature larvae are about 1.5 inches long. Young redbacked cutworms chew holes and notches in leaves, while older larvae eat into the stems and usually sever them at or just above the soil surface. Host plants include canola, cereals, flax, corn, mustard, sunflower, sugar beet, forage legumes, vegetables amongst others.



MOST COMMON CUTWORMS IN ALBERTA

Army Cutworm

Army cutworm larvae are hairless, pale greenish-grey to brown with a pale-striped back, and finely mottled with white and brown, but without prominent markings. There is usually a narrow, pale mid-dorsal stripe, and the head is light brown with dark spots. As an above ground feeding larvae, the army cutworm notch and strip off leaves in a localized area then move as a collective group or "army" when food sources are consumed. Overwintering as larvae, army cutworms can be particularly damaging to canola when they once again begin feeding in early spring. Host plants include canola, wheat, oat, triticale, barley, mustard, flax, alfalfa, sweet clover, pea, cabbage, sugar beets, selected weeds and grasses.



Pale Western Cutworm

Young larvae of the Pale Western cutworm are almost colourless and about 0.12 inches long. Fully grown larvae vary in length from 1.2-1.4 inches long, and are pale gray to greenish gray in colour lacking any stripes or distinguishing marks. The head capsule is usually yellow-brown. The larvae feed mainly underground, only surfacing when the soil is hard or very wet. The first signs of damage are holes cut into emerging leaves. These holes are cut when the leaves are still underground. Larger larvae move down crop rows, cutting off the plants underground. Host plants include cereals (preferred), canola, flax, corn, mustard, sugar beet, field peas and other legumes, and selected weeds.

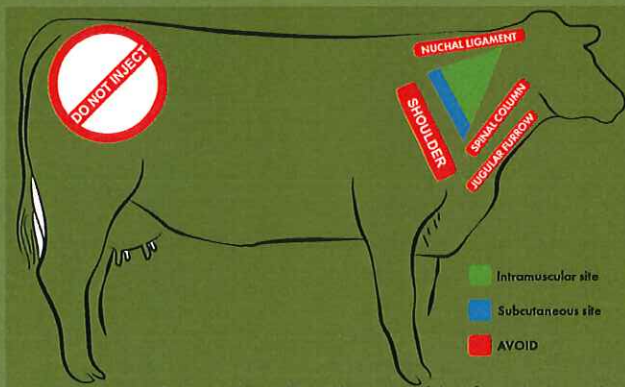


BEEF CATTLE INJECTION PRACTICES

- Securely restrain the animal.
- Use the appropriate size and length of needle.

Class of Cattle	Route of Injection	Needle Gauge	Needle Length
Calves less than 500 pounds	Intramuscular	20-18	1 inch
	Subcutaneous	20-18	½ – ⅝ inch
Cattle >500 pounds	Intramuscular	18-16	1 – 1½ inch
	Subcutaneous	18-16	½ – ¾ inch

- Use the subcutaneous route whenever the product label allows.
- Only inject 10mL (cc) maximum into any one site, or as per label.
- Change needles when bent or dull and after every 10-15 uses.
- Never straighten or reuse a bent needle.
- Leave a hand-width of space between injections.
- Never inject in the armpit of the animal.



<https://www.beefresearch.ca/blog/five-ws-of-beef-cattle-injections/>

When it comes to selecting a tree, you have few tree selection choices. I always start with the native balsam fir tree species which is often considered the 'real' Christmas tree and many growers grow this species for its special aroma. Balsam fir has a wonderful green colour and smooth needles which are not prickly. The aroma of balsam fir is so distinct and long lasting. Putting ornaments is easy but may not hold good heavy ornaments as small branches may not have strong stiffness as white spruce or pine. There are several other fir trees such as Fraser, Caanan, Korean and maybe Douglas fir which is not fir at all. Next choices are a variety of spruce trees. You may choose Colorado blue spruce, white spruce, and black hills spruce trees. All spruce trees have prickly short needles with an incredible ability to keep ornaments hanging well. Your pet may not come close to the Christmas trees due to prickliness. The colour of needles range from whitish blue to blue and dark green colours. Lastly you may choose a few varieties of pine species. All pine trees have a needles in bundles of 2, 3 and 5. In Alberta, Lodgepole and Scots pine are the most common pine chosen for Christmas tree. Pine trees do not have dense needle crowdedness as fir and spruce, but they are excellent choices as well due to their aroma and long needles.

Stiffness of branches are excellent for ornaments.

ATTENTION

If you would like your laneway plowed by the MD of Provost this winter, please fill out and sign a Laneway Agreement.
*NOTE: Municipal roads are first priority!

Let's keep Alberta rat free! Prevent infestations by cleaning up leftover feed and potential rat shelters. If you see a rat or any signs, call Myron, PCO at 780-209-1710; or the rat hotline 310-RATS. Bait is available to farmers in Ranges 1-3 & can be picked up at the MD shop in Provost. Please call to arrange pickup.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, the M.D. of Provost will no longer be collecting GRAIN BAGS AND TWINE at the Provost Regional Landfill.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024 the Provost Regional Landfill and Bodo, Czar & Amisk Transfer Sites will no longer be accepting pesticide and fertilizer containers. Collection sites will be found at your local Ag Retailer sites.



Choosing a Christmas Tree!

COMMON TANSY

TANACETUM VULGARE

ASTERACEAE/SUNFLOWER

PROVINCIAL DESIGNATION: NOXIOUS

Common Tansy was introduced as an ornamental from Europe. It is commonly found across much of Alberta in river valleys, roadside ditches, and field boundaries.



Identification

Flowers: Orange/yellow, button-like flowerheads appear in a flat-topped, dense cluster at the end of the stem.

Leaves: Alternate, consistent in size, deeply divided into leaflets with toothed margins (fern-like). Leaves have a strong odour when crushed.

Stems: 30 cm - 1.8 m tall, woody, robust, erect. Seed: Small, yellowish-brown seeds with 5 toothed ridges.

Why should I care?

Common along roadsides and riparian areas, this plant may be mildly toxic to humans and livestock



Did you know?
Tansy can be scouted in the winter, as it leaves tall, skeleton-like branches sticking out above the snow!

What Can I do?

Herbicide control can be effective, although may be limited by proximity to water



Report any sightings to CHeck@mdprovost.ca

chicken pot pie

Ingredients:

- 4 Tbsp butter
- 1/2 c. diced onion
- 1/2 c. diced carrot
- 1/2 c. diced celery
- 3 c. shredded, cooked chicken or turkey
- 1/4 c. flour
- 3c. chicken broth
- Splash of white wine (optional)
- 1/4 tsp turmeric
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Chopped fresh thyme
- 1/4 c. half-and-half or cream
- 1 whole unbaked pie crust
- 1 egg

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.
2. In large pot, melt the butter over medium-high heat, then add the onion, carrot, and celery. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion is translucent.
3. Stir in chicken, then sprinkle flour over top and stir until combined with the meat and veggies. Cook for 1 minute, then pour in broth and wine. Stir and let cook and thicken. Once it starts to thicken add turmeric, salt, pepper, and thyme.
4. Add half-and-half or cream, then stir the mixture and let it bubble and thicken. If it seems overly thick, splash in a little more broth. Turn off heat.
5. Pour filling into a two-quart baking dish. Roll out pie crust on floured surface and lay it over the top of the dish. Press the dough so the edges stick to outside of pan. Use a knife to cut little vents here and there on surface of dough.
6. Mix together the egg with 2 Tbsp of water and brush it all over the surface of the crust.
7. Place the pie on a rimmed baking sheet and bake until the crust is deep golden brown and the filling is bubbly, 25-30 minutes. To prevent the crust from getting too brown, you might want to cover it lightly with foil for the first 15 minutes of baking time. Serve!

FUN & FESTIVE HOLIDAY JOKES



HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM THE M.D. OF PROVOST



WHAT DID THE WISE MEN SAY AFTER THEY OFFERED UP THEIR GIFTS OF GOLD AND FRANKINCENSE?

Wait, there's myrrh!



WHAT'S THE ABSOLUTE BEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT?

A broken drum – you can't beat it!



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