

Canadian Agriculture Literacy Week in Nova Scotia

February 27-March 2, 2012



This year marks the inaugural Canadian Agriculture Literacy Week and the 5th Agriculture Literacy Week in Nova Scotia. Canadian Ag Literacy Week is made possible through the support of Farm Credit Canada.

Learn, Connect, Understand – Agriculture Comes Alive

Grade 2 and 3 students across the province will:

- learn** about agriculture,
- connect** with a farmer or agriculture industry person,
- understand** the role agriculture plays in their lives.

What is it?

Canadian Agriculture Literacy Week is simply when school children are encouraged to celebrate agriculture through various activities such as reading books about farming, watching videos, and meeting with agricultural representatives.

When is it?

For the week February 27-March 2, 2012, volunteers from agricultural sectors across the province will go into schools to read and donate books & educational resources to classrooms.

Why do this?

In Nova Scotia today, only about 1.1 % of the population works directly on farms and most families are 2 to 3 generations away from the farm. Most people have precious few opportunities to connect food and farming in our province.

Why should we care?

The farming community in Nova Scotia has been putting quality farm products into the marketplace for years. We want to strengthen the knowledge of our local farms so that Nova Scotians can make informed choices about food.

As consumers, our product selection has an effect on the farm community. Knowledge of local farm communities can help build support for a viable agricultural sector in the province.

Why school children?

Attitudes toward food start early and can affect food selection later in life. We want students to learn early that the food choices they make affect not only their own health, but the health of the community around them.

As well, a spark of interest in farming might cause a young person to think about agriculture as a career choice. We need new entrants to maintain a sustainable industry.

Who is involved?

People with a personal connection to agriculture have volunteered to bring a farm book to grade 2 & 3 classrooms across the province. After reading the book, they will have a chance to chat with students - to make the whole idea of farming a little more real. The autographed book stays in the classroom along with follow-up activities and resources designed to help teachers and students further explore the science and culture of farming.

This annual event is an educational initiative of the Nova Scotia Agricultural Awareness Committee which is made possible through the support of Farm Credit Canada

For further information contact the [Agricultural Education Liaison](#).

