

# Agricultural Services NEWSLETTER



December, 2000

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

## The New Resource Management Section

### Who We Are...

The Resource Management Section is part of the Resource Stewardship Branch of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

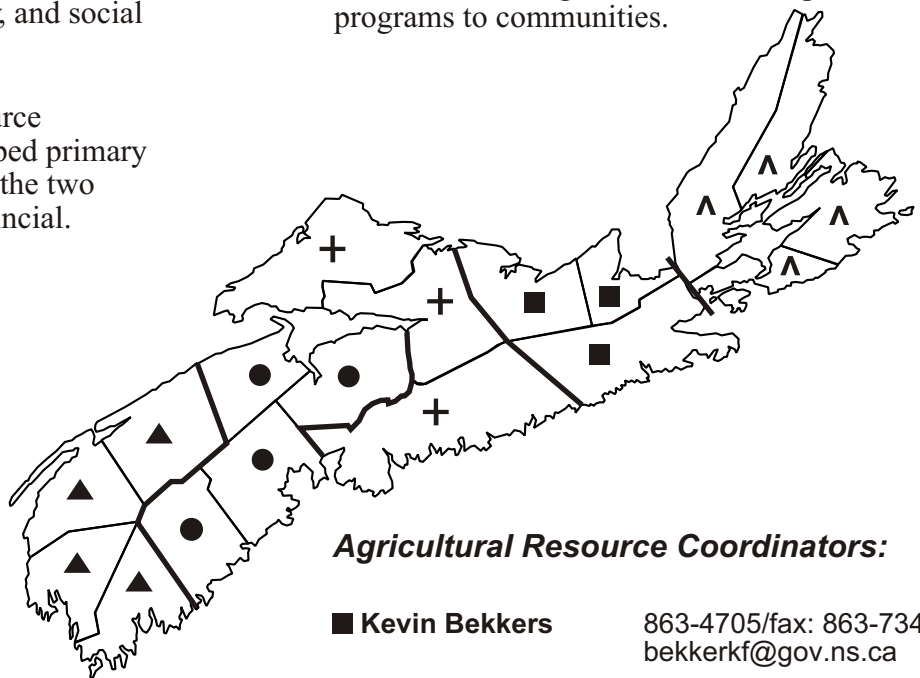
The section is made up five Agricultural Resource Coordinators, an Agricultural Engineer, a Resource Management Specialist and an Environmental Research Coordinator.

The Resource Management Section is committed to bringing people and resources together in order to identify and resolve issues related to the sustainable development of agriculture for all Nova Scotians.

This section has identified three goals to support rural sustainable development — environmental sustainability, economic viability, and social responsibility.

To achieve these goals the Resource Management Section has developed primary functions, and divided them into the two categories — Regional and Provincial.

### Regional Agricultural Territories



### Regional Functions

To maintain and build relationships with farmers and the general public. To be the eyes and ears, and provide an unbiased third party opinion on issues between farmers and the public.

To represent the industry of agriculture with other government departments and agencies.

### Provincial Functions

To develop and use expertise in watershed designation/water use; nutrient management; land use; environmental legislation; environmental farm planning; and more.

To communicate government and department programs to communities.

### How We'll Get Started...

Thirty-six issues have been identified. These issues include manure management, nutrient management, land use planning, designations of watersheds etc. The next step will be to develop expertise in these areas within our section and assign duties to our people.

Teamwork will be key to our success. Teams may include farmers, agri-business, private consultants, researchers etc. The expertise of these teams will be essential when developing mandates and strategies to deal with issues.

#### Agricultural Resource Coordinators:

- Kevin Bekkers 863-4705/fax: 863-7342  
bekkerkf@gov.ns.ca
- ▲ Bill MacLeod 563-2000/fax: 563-3435  
macleobj@gov.ns.ca
- + Charles Thompson 893-3645/fax: 893-2757  
thompsc@gov.ns.ca
- ▲ Marianne Patten 837-5161/fax: 837-7696  
pattenmj@gov.ns.ca
- Arthur Pick 679-6005/fax: 679-6062  
pickaa@gov.ns.ca

#### Other Contacts:

- Lorne Crozier, Resource Management Specialist  
893-6548/fax: 893-0335, crozielm@gov.ns.ca
- Laurie Cochrane, Agricultural Engineer  
893-6568/fax: 893-0335, cochralm@gov.ns.ca
- Dr. Rob Gordon, Environmental Research  
Coordinator, 893-6561/fax: 893-0335  
rgordon@nsac.ns.ca



Agriculture and Fisheries  
Agriculture Services  
Resource Stewardship Branch  
Resource Management Section

## Livestock Health Services Program

Effective January 1, 2001, only registered producers will be eligible for assistance under this program. Any producers using this program who are not currently registered should do so. For information on farm registration, please contact:  
George Burris, (902) 893-6511  
Email: burrisgd@gov.ns.ca

Producers must provide their farm registration number to the large animal practitioner at the time of the call to avoid being billed at the non-registered rate.

There will be **no** retro-active credits to clients who register late. The fee will reflect the status of the producer when the service is provided.



## Soil/Water/Tissue Analysis

Samples for soil, water and tissue analysis will be accepted by your local Agricultural Resource Coordinator.

If you are unable to drop by one of the offices the samples can be mailed directly to the lab in Truro. The address is *Analytical Services*, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, P. O. Box 550, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 5E3.  
Phone: 902-893-7444

## Pesticide Re-evaluation and Minor Use Registration

The **Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA)** is re-evaluating all pesticides registered in Canada prior to 1995. This re-evaluation is due to changes in analytical techniques, new criteria for registration, and the re-evaluation program that is under way in the USA.

The PMRA is following the USA process in an attempt to harmonize the registration process in both countries. As a result of this re-evaluation any products requiring development of new data packages will likely be dropped as the cost of redevelopment of the data is usually too great.

Changes in the USA will impact Canadian registrations. If products are removed from the USA market, the Canadian market will unlikely be able to maintain their registration because of our smaller market size. As well, when products are dropped in the USA and kept in Canada, it is likely that the Maximum Residue Limits (MRL) will be dropped on crops exported to the USA. The scenario for maintaining current registration of pesticides is not rosy.

## Fur Information on the Internet

Information supplied by:  
Dr. Kirsti Rouvinen-Watt  
Nova Scotia Agricultural College,  
Department of Agricultural Sciences

An increasing amount of fur industry and research-related information is available on the Internet. The fur sector can tap into this new era of communication by on-line access to several university, government and industry association websites, such as the Nova Scotia Fur Institute and the International Fur Animal Scientific Association.

The Nova Scotia Fur Institute (NSFI) website – <http://www.nsac.ns.ca/as/instind/nsfi/> provides information on ranch sanitation, breeder selection, breeding management and reproductive performance and much more.

Over 30 fur fact sheets provide practical information on topics such as genetics, herd health, and nutrition. This site also has links to more than 20 fur-related websites, among them, the Fur Institute of Canada, the International Fur Trade Federation, Fur Industry in America, and the Recommended Codes of Practice for Mink and Foxes (Canadian Agri-Food Research Council).

## VII International Scientific Congress in Fur Animal Production

The VII International Scientific Congress in Fur Animal Production was held in Kastoria, Greece, this past September. Congress meets every four years and brings together fur animal scientists world wide to discuss their most recent research findings. The complete scientific program and proceedings of the congress can be found at the website of the International Fur Animal Scientific Association (IFASA). The homepage address for IFASA is <http://www.ifasanet.org/>

## User Requested Minor Use Label Expansion (URMULE)

In view of the re-evaluation program it is increasingly important for producers to take full advantage of the **User Requested Minor Use Label Expansion (URMULE)** program. It is available to growers to allow them to request minor use registration for products (same formulations), that are already registered for use on another crop in Canada. **The URMULE program requires growers or grower organizations to initiate the process.**

It should also be noted that the process takes time to complete. Contacting and getting agreement from the registrant can take 30 days or more. The PMRA review of the application takes up to 97 days to complete. Field trials can take one or two seasons to complete. Analysis of the data package

submitted from field trials, requires 60 to 180 days. If it is necessary to determine a Maximum Residue Limit this will require a further 12 to 18 months. The process for making an application should, therefore begin, well in advance of the time that field trials need to be established.

The re-evaluation of pesticides in Canada and the USA has serious consequences for the availability of pesticide products. The URMULE program provides an important mechanism for obtaining registrations for new products. This registration

process requires time and planning, but will be an important tool for growers to utilize in order to remain competitive in the production of their product. For more information on the URMULE program contact your Minor Use Coordinator.

Lorne Crozier, *Nova Scotia Minor Use Coordinator*,  
Resource Stewardship Branch,  
Phone: 902-893-6548  
Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and  
Fisheries, P.O. Box 550, Truro, Nova Scotia  
B2N 5E3

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## Agricultural Ambassador Training Workshops

Planning to give a farm tour or a classroom presentation? This workshop will give you the hands-on training you'll need.

January 30, 2001	East River Plaza	New Glasgow
January 31, 2001	Sky Glenn Community Hall	Cape Breton
February 13, 2001	Provincial Building	Bridgewater
February 20, 2001	Research Station Pavilion, Nappan	Amherst
February 27, 2001	Weymouth Legion	Weymouth
February 28, 2001	Kentville Research Station	Kentville
March 6, 2001	St. Bridget's Catholic Church	Shubenacadie

All of the workshops will run from 10 am to 3 pm.  
Lunch will be provided.

This training session will include the following topics:

- What is Ag Awareness?
- Tips to planning a farm tour
- Presentation tips
- Dealing with difficult situations, liability, issues etc.
- Farm Safety
- Local success stories
- Hands-on activities

This is a great opportunity to meet other farmers and to prepare yourself for upcoming events. As well, there will be an opportunity to meet your local Agricultural Resource Coordinator.

If you are interested please contact Joy Shears, 137 College Road, PO Box 550, Truro, NS, B2N 5E3 or 902-893-2722 by **January 17th, 2001.**

## Provincial Events

January 24-25, 2001 – Scotia Horticultural Congress 2001, Holiday Inn, Dartmouth  
Contact 902-678-9335, fax 902-678-1280 or email [horts@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:horts@ns.sympatico.ca)

February – Agricultural Awareness Workshop,  
Details to Be Announced.

February 16-18 – Atlantic Farm Business Challenges 2001, New Brunswick

February 17 – Nova Scotia Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting, Keddy's, Truro  
9:00 a.m. Contact: 902-893-7455 for details

February 20-21 – Nova Scotia Soil and Crop Annual Meeting, Glengarry, Truro

February 28 - March 2 – Canadian Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting

March 2-3 – Grazing Conference, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro  
Contact Ralph Martin, 902-893-6679

March 8-10 – Atlantic Farm Mechanization Show, Moncton, New Brunswick

## Regional News

Hi, my name is Arthur Pick, your new Agricultural Resource Coordinator. I am here to work with you, so **please call** if you need assistance. My role is evolving and I ask for your understanding and support as we all need to strive to create a sustainable agricultural industry. We must work together to be most effective and efficient! We are pleased to bring you this first Agricultural Services newsletter from the new Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. We hope to provide this resource to you on a timely basis, or at least quarterly, so that we can keep you informed about agriculture provincially and locally as well.

**NOTE:** If you or your farm organization have events/activities planned, please send us the details and we will try to include this in the next newsletter.

### **Regional Events 2001**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| January 3      | <b>Hants Co. Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting</b> , Stanley-Mosherville Hall, 7:30 p.m. For info contact Beth Taylor, 757-3840.  |
| January 9      | <b>Farm Health &amp; Safety Training Workshop</b> , Agricultural Centre, Kentville, 7:00-9:00 p.m. This workshop is designed to instruct individuals in how to present and use the Standards of Practice and Risk Management Tool Kit. Larry Stewart, Occupational Health & Safety officer, will be in attendance to answer questions. Contact Joy Shears, 893-2722 for information.   |
| January 10     | <b>Pesticide Re-certification Training Course</b> , Agricultural Centre, Kentville. To register call ProAgri Consulting, 798-2114.   |
| February 2 & 3 | <b>Pesticide Certification Training Course</b> , Wandlyn Inn, Bridgewater. To register call ProAgri Consulting, 798-2114.  |
| February 20-23 | <b>Master Composter Training Program</b> . Agricultural Centre, Kentville. Early registration - Jan. 15/00; deadline to register - Jan. 30/01. For info contact Amaranth & Associates, 542-1430.   |
| March 1-2      | <b>On-Farm Food Safety Workshop</b> . The purpose of this workshop will be to train fresh fruit and vegetable growers in the identification of potential hazards, the basic principles of sanitation, the role of water as a source of potential contamination and how an On-Farm Food Safety Program will assist them in the market place and protect them from potential liability. Sponsored by Horticulture NS, with assistance from Agri-Futures NS. Contact ProAgri Consulting, 798-2114 to register and for more information. |

We look forward to working with each of you in the days and months ahead!

**May the Peace and Good Will of this special holiday season gently fill your hearts and homes throughout the busy year ahead! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

Arthur Pick P.Ag  
Agricultural Resource Coordinator  
(902) 679-6005

Cheryl Theriau  
Secretary  
(902) 679-6021



# Regional News

## Pictou/Antigonish/Guysborough ~ Kevin Bekkers, Agricultural Resource Coordinator

As your new Agricultural Resource Coordinator, I am looking forward to working on industry issues representing agriculture. I hope to continue to build a strong relationship with producers and will certainly work hard to get to know more producers in Pictou County, since it's a new area for me.

I ask for your patience and support as we develop this new role. I encourage you to contact me regarding any issues or concerns you may have. This newsletter will be a quarterly event with this page dedicated to this region. If you or your organization have events or activities planned, please submit the details and we will try to include it in the next newsletter.

### Town of Pictou - Caribou Well Field

I recently met with producers and town representatives regarding agricultural restrictions concerning the designation of the Caribou Watershed. The existing proposal is in draft form and I will be meeting with the committee early in the new year to draft agricultural activities for the areas. This will be done in cooperation with the producers from the affected area. A community group with farmer representation will also address land use changes.

For those of you who may not have met the secretary, I would like to introduce Lauren Boyd. Lauren has been with the Department since 1988. Please feel free to call her at 863-4705 (Antigonish) or email [boydll@gov.ns.ca](mailto:boydll@gov.ns.ca)

### Pesticide Certification/Recertification

A course has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 6, 2001. It will be held in the Boardroom of the Agriculture office, Beech Hill Road, 9:30–3:30 p.m. Please call 798-2114 to preregister. The cost is \$60 (includes HST).

Another course will also be offered Wednesday, February 21 at the Heather Hotel, Stellarton. 9:30–3:30 p.m. Please call 863-4705 or 798-2114 to preregister.

### First Aid on the Farm

Farming is one of Canada's most hazardous occupations. Dealing with heavy machinery, unpredictable animals, dangerous chemicals and routine farm activities increase the likelihood of injuries.

First Aid on the Farm taught by St. John Ambulance will cover topics such as Farm Hazards, Shock, Burns & Poisoning, Heart Attack & Stroke and much more.

Pictou North-Colchester Federation of Agriculture has scheduled a course for Saturday, January 20 at the Scotsburn Fire Hall from 9:00–4:00 p.m. The cost of the course is \$50 per person and the Federation will sponsor 15 members. Please preregister with Brenda Brown by calling 351-2519.

Antigonish/Guysborough Federation of Agriculture has also scheduled a First Aid course for Friday, January 19th, in the Agricultural Boardroom. Please pre-register by calling 863-4705.

***Reminder: Your farm license plates may soon expire. In order to renew them, your farm registration must be up to date. Applications are available from your local Agricultural Resource Coordinator.***

### Eastern Region 4-H Program

4-H clubs in Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough have all held registration meetings and are preparing for the 2001 4-H year. In many clubs, membership is open until January 12th. Anyone interested in knowing more about a club in your area is asked to contact Dianne Crawford, Eastern Region 4-H Specialist at 863-4705, or at (902) 755-7151, 980 East River Road, New Glasgow, NS B2H 3S5. E-mail: [crawfodm@gov.ns.ca](mailto:crawfodm@gov.ns.ca)

### Upcoming Conferences

Atlantic Entrepreneurship & Agriculture Intermediate Conference - February 10 & 11 in Truro. Designed for members getting ready for the future, entrepreneurship and agriculture. Fun activities include cosmic bowling, swimming, dance, interactive activities and challenges. The cost is \$45 and application deadline is January 15, 2001.

Multi Region 4-H Senior Members Conference — March 3 & 4, St.F.X. University, Antigonish. Designed for members 14–21 years of age.

Topics include: speaking in public, issue groups, debates, and fun activities such as bowling, Ag jeopardy and a dance.

Multi Region 4-H Leaders Conference — “Being The Best We Can Be”. March 3 & 4, St.F.X.U, Antigonish. This conference is for all leaders and topics will include: recruiting new leaders, parent involvement, making meetings interesting. Also there will be break-out sessions specifically on the small engines, woodworking, foods, sewing, dog and rabbit projects.

### Upcoming 4-H Events

- Dec 27 Antigonish/Guysborough 4H Christmas Skate – Antigonish Arena 1:00–2:00
- Dec 29 Pictou County 4-H Christmas Skate – Stellarton Arena 7:00–8:00
- Jan 15 Final Club Registrations due to 4-H office
- Jan 15 Pictou County 4-H Council Meeting – 7:30 p.m. West Pictou
- Jan 16 Antigonish County Council Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- Jan 21 Guys Co. 4-H Annual Meeting – 3:00–5:00 p.m. Goshen
- Jan 23 New Leaders Workshop 1:00–3:00 p.m. & 7:00–9:00 p.m. New Glasgow
- Jan 30 New Leaders Workshop 1:00–3:00 p.m. & 7:00–9:00 p.m. Antigonish
- Feb 11 Antigonish/Guysborough 4-H Family Swim – Oland Centre 3:00–4:00 p.m.
- Feb 17 Antigonish Leaders Social 8:00 p.m.
- Mar 6 Antigonish Council Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- Mar 14 Antigonish/Guysborough 4-H Family Skate – Antigonish Arena 1:00–2:00 p.m.
- Mar 21 Pictou County Council Meeting – 7:30 p.m. New Glasgow
- Apr 7 Pictou Rally – West Pictou 9:00 a.m.  
Antigonish Rally – Dr. John Hugh Gillis High School 9:00 a.m.

***Best Wishes For A Happy Holiday Season!***



# Regional News

## CAPE BRETON ISLAND

### *YOUR AG REP. ...NEW FACE, NEW TITLE...*

Since late September I, **Bill MacLeod**, have assumed the role of Agricultural Resource Co-ordinator (formerly known as Ag. Rep.) for all of Cape Breton.

By way of introduction I graduated from the NSAC in 1987 with a BSc(Agr.) and began working for the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture in the 4-H section. I have worked with 4-H for three years on Cape Breton and five years in central Nova Scotia. Prior to coming back to Cape Breton I was the Ag. Rep. For Halifax-East Hants for five years, and worked out of Truro.

As your first-line contact with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, I can generally be reached at: **902-563-2000** (Point Edward) on Tuesdays and Thursdays and at **902-945-2999** (Mabou) on Mondays and Thursdays.

I look forward to getting to know the many people who work in the agriculture industry on Cape Breton. With the size of the Island this will be a major undertaking. In this regard I ask that if you require my assistance please feel free to contact me.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to extend to each of you and your families, **Best Wishes for a Healthy, Safe and Happy Holiday Season. May the New Year be a happy and prosperous one for us all!**

### Regional Events 2001

January 31 The **Agriculture Ambassador Workshop** will be held at the Skye Glen Hall. The program will be a follow-up to the Provincial Conference held in Truro in the Spring of 2000. Anyone involved in promoting agriculture (in any form) as well as agricultural leaders, are encouraged to attend. *See newsletter article for details.*  
This workshop will run from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. A lunch will be provided. For more information contact the agriculture office.

February 7-8 The **On-Farm Safety Workshop** is a valuable workshop. The program is targeted to those producing, harvesting and processing fresh fruit and vegetables. The program will be held at the Point Edward Resource Center. To register please phone the agriculture office.

#### **Pesticide Certification Courses**

Any producers interested in either recertification or becoming certified as an agricultural pesticide applicator should contact the agricultural office as soon as possible, to request a spot in an upcoming course.  
Now is the time to check the expiry date on your permit.



# Regional News

## Regional Events 2001

- January 20 **Maple Producers Association of Nova Scotia** annual meeting, Cox Institute, NSAC. Contact - Jean Bentley, Westchester, 902-548-2973.
- January 23 **North Colchester Federation of Agriculture** meeting - 7:30 p.m. North Colchester High School. Topic - Crop & Livestock Insurance. Contact 657-2256
- February 12 **Pesticide Re-certification Training Course** - AgriTECH Park. To register call ProAgri Consulting, 798-2114
- February 20 **Pesticide Re-certification Training Course** - Wandlyn Motor Inn, Amherst. To register call ProAgri Consulting, 798-2114
- February 13,14 **On-farm Food Safety Workshop** - Location TBA, sponsored by Horticulture Nova Scotia, with assistance from Agri-Futures NS. Contact ProAgri Consulting, 798-2114 to register and for more information.

*Please send us notices of any meeting you feel should be listed for your region.*

Nova Scotia Farm Safety "Standards of Practice" binders are available at no cost from this office. This package of materials include acts of legislation on safety, health and environment. These have been made available at most commodity meetings so that you can pick up your binder directly.

The **NSAC Bookstore** carries many books and guides which may be purchased. This includes publications such as the "Ontario Guide to Weed Control". The address is P.O. Box 550, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E3; telephone 902-893-6728; <http://www.nsac.ns.ca/bookstore/>

"Beta" is the new carrot newsletter which will be published quarterly by Dr. Raj Lada, NSAC. The first edition was October 2000. The focus is on carrot research.

### **Address corrections and/or additions for this newsletter:**

Please contact us if you wish to be removed from this list or if the label is not correct, or if another person should be receiving this newsletter. If you are not a registered farmer we have few ways of verifying your address. Agribusiness should respond to us likewise.

### **Water Testing Labs**

Colchester Regional Hospital,  
207 Willow St., Truro, B2N 5A9  
Phone: 902-893-5517; fax 902-893-5527  
Bacteria tests

BioScan Analytical Services, 571 Prince St.,  
Truro, B2N 1G2  
Phone: 902-893-2265; Fax: 902-893-2265;  
Bacteria and chemical tests

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries  
Harlow Institute, College Road  
PO Box 550, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E3  
Phone: 902-893-6600; Fax: 902-893-4193  
Bacteria and chemical tests

Highland View Hospital, 110 Pleasant St.,  
East Amherst, B4H 1N6  
Phone: 902-893-5400, ext. 6215; Fax: 902-893-6304  
Bacteria tests

Environmental Services Lab  
Queen Elizabeth 11  
Health Sciences Centre  
5788 University Ave., Halifax, B3H 1V8  
Phone: 902-473-8466; Fax: 902-473-4418  
Bacterial and chemical tests

Philip Analytical Services Inc.,  
200 Bluewater Road, Bedford, B4B 1G9  
Phone: 902-420-0203; Fax: 902-420-8612  
Bacterial and chemical tests

Source: Government Website Environment & Labour.



*Charles Thompson  
Agricultural Resource Coordinator  
for East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester  
and Halifax counties  
Phone: 902-893-6597  
(Cumberland area callers use:  
902-667-8722, then press number 1)*

## Regional News

Hello my name is Marianne Patten and I am the Agricultural Resource Coordinator for the counties of Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne. If I can be of assistance please don't hesitate to contact me at at **902-837-5161**

We are pleased to bring you the first Agricultural Services Newsletter from the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. This resource is designed to keep you informed about agriculture provincially and locally.

If your farm organization has events/activities planned and would like them promoted through this venue please forward the details to myself and we will include them in the next newsletter.

*At this time I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

### **Regional Events 2001**

- January 9      Annapolis Farm Womens coffee break at Lawrencetown Restaurant.  
10:00 a.m. Everyone welcome. For additional information, contact Jean  
Ward at 667-2567 or Janice Lawrence at 665-2796.
- February 28    Agricultural Ambassador Training Workshop. For details see  
information in this newsletter.

