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Agriculture Services

NEWSLETTER



April 2011

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

Volume 12 No.2

Funding Grant Supports School Gardens

Students will be better able to make the connection between food and local agriculture with school gardens funded by the province.

"School gardens provide a valuable teaching opportunity by helping students link the food on their plate with a local farmer," said John MacDonell, Minister of Agriculture. "This program will help students understand and appreciate the valuable contribution of the agriculture industry in creating good jobs and growing the economy throughout Nova Scotia.

"There is tremendous value in having a hands-on project for students to make the connection on how Nova Scotia's food grows," said Education Minister Ramona Jennex. "I look forward to seeing the excitement generated when students experience this seed-to-harvest project.

A one-time grant of \$500 per school is available from the Department of Agriculture's School Garden Project to build and maintain a garden. The grant can also be used for teaching materials and soil testing fees.

"The announcement of funding for school gardens is a great step in the right direction," said Michael Howell, leader of Slow Food Nova Scotia, which promotes the appreciation of food. "If a child grows food from scratch and learns how to cook it, he or she is very likely to appreciate it and eat it. School gardens contribute to healthy schools, communities, local economies and healthy citizens."

The total available through the school garden project is \$20,000 to be distributed proportionally across school board regions.

Applications are now being accepted. More information about the project and a school garden resource guide are available at www.gov.ns.ca/agri/agaware/schoolgarden.shtml. Or contact Rick Hoeg, Agricultural Education Liaison, Department of Agriculture, 176 College Road, P.O. Box 550, Truro, NS, B2N 5E3. Rick can be reached by phone at 893-7495 or by e-mail at hoegr1@gov.ns.ca.

Experience Agriculture 2011

Rick Hoeg, Agricultural Education Liaison

The Department of Agriculture and the Nova Scotia Agricultural College are pleased to offer Experience Agriculture 2011 for teachers of Agriculture/Agrifood 11.

Teachers will gather July 5-7 on the NSAC campus and at local farms for a broad look at the changing agricultural industry. They will learn some of the science behind food production, avenues for getting food to market, business and social impact of agriculture and career opportunities available to those considering agriculture as a profession. Teachers will experience hands-on activities, and visit local farms to see agriculture in action and hear producers share their experiences. Experience Agriculture 2011 will allow teachers to see first-hand how programs, research and education are helping our industry work towards a future that is socially responsible, environmentally ethical and economically sustainable for generations to come.



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The Department of Agriculture works with the public school system to provide a variety of agricultural educational programming. For information please contact Rick Hoeg, Agricultural Education Liaison, at 893-7479 or hoegrl@gov.ns.ca .

Delivery of this course is supported by the Growing Forward initiative of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Department of Agriculture.

Business Innovations Will Grow Agriculture Industry

Agriculture Minister John MacDonell

The Department of Agriculture helps Nova Scotia farmers and producers come up with fresh ways of doing business. One of the best ways to do this is to help them add value to what they already produce.

I am sure people have heard the term value added. It means different things to different people, but in this case it boils down to having our farm and fish business owners developing products that compete on value, instead of just price.

There are many ways to increase the value of the agricultural and agri-food products we produce in Nova Scotia, from processing to packaging, labeling and creating unique, innovative goods. Our agriculture and seafood industries are extremely well-positioned to take advantage of these kinds of business opportunities.

Many local and regional producers are already adding value to what they produce. Blueberries are being turned into premium blueberry juice for export, a wide range of home and beauty products are being made from lavender grown in Nova Scotia and specialty artisan cheeses are being made by hand.

Value-added products can generate a greater return on investment and are an excellent opportunity for research and collaboration. They lead to economic growth and a greater diversity of products offered to consumers.

Like any business venture, there is risk involved. A successful value-added product requires input from marketing, production, regulation

and food science and safety experts.

Staff in the department's product and quality development division offer guidance with the strategy needed to take advantage of new opportunities. These growth areas also require solid management, a well-developed business plan and financial commitment.

Our experts know about consumer and market trends, product innovation and where to find the expertise that farm and fish businesses need to make good decisions. They are creating useful tools such as a food processor's guide, an entrepreneurs' forum for agri-food and seafood commercialization, workshops and an inventory of processing capacities to match availability with need.

Connecting businesses with potential partners and helping farmers generate greater profits are two key themes of Homegrown Success, the government's 10-year agriculture strategy. It will help make sure our agriculture industry stays innovative focuses on research and continues to diversify.

There are many opportunities for those who are willing to do things differently. I encourage anyone who wants information about value-added agriculture or fish products, and the financial and business planning involved, to contact the Department of Agriculture.

By adding value, we ensure we are getting the most from our agricultural resources and that those benefits stay in Nova Scotia.

Bio-pesticides Priority Setting Workshop A Success

Lorne Crozier, Resource Management Specialist

The second annual Bio-Pesticides Priority Setting Workshop was held March 21, 2011 in Ottawa. The meeting included growers from across Canada, crop specialists, representatives from the Pest Management Centre, Agriculture Agri-Food Canada Research Centres, Pest Management Regulatory Agency, Provincial Agriculture, University researchers and bio-pesticide manufacturers.

In addition to those attending in person, a number of participants were linked by video conference from several AAFC research centres across Canada, including the Kentville Agriculture Centre.

The purpose of the workshop was to select eight bio-pesticide priority projects in four crop categories to be either registered for use in Canada or to have the registered label expanded to include other crop uses. The crop categories were: field crops and pulses, field-grown fruit and vegetables, greenhouse food crops, greenhouse and outdoor-grown ornamental crops.

Prior to the selection process a number of informative presentations were given by bio-pesticide manufactures describing various products that they hope to register for use in Canada.

The AAFC Pest Management Centre will be working with bio-pesticide registrants to complete the following projects. For field crops and pulses, control of diamond back moth in Canola and control of downy mildew in hops.

- For field grown fruits and vegetables, control of sedges and rushes in cranberries, as well as, control of tarnished plant bug on strawberries.
- For greenhouse food crops, control of thrips in cucumbers and control of powdery mildew in tomatoes.
- For greenhouse and outdoor grown ornamental crops, control of thrips in greenhouse ornamentals and control of chinch bug on turf.

Several of these products will be useful to growers in Nova Scotia and many of the products selected are approved for use in organic production.

A detailed list of the results is available by contacting Lorne Crozier, Resource Management Specialist at crozielm@gov.ns.ca .

Minor Use Priority Setting Workshop Provides New Pest Management Solutions For Nova Scotia Growers

Lorne Crozier, Resource Management Specialist

The Minor Use Priority Setting Workshop was held March 22-24, 2011 in Ottawa. This workshop was sponsored by the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Pest Management Centre (PMC). The purpose of the workshop was to select a number of projects to provide solutions to pest management problems through the User Requested Minor Use Label Expansion program of the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA). The workshop has been held annually since 2003.

The workshop was well attended with over 250 delegates representing grower associations, federal agricultural researchers, PMC and PMRA staff, provincial researchers, extension specialists, minor use coordinators, USA I-R 4 representatives and pesticide industry representatives.

The projects were selected from the National Minor Use Priority List. This list was compiled from grower-generated lists from each province. The list is divided into three sections: entomology, plant pathology, weeds and plant growth regulators. One day of the workshop is devoted to each of these disciplines. Each list is composed of 300-500 projects. Ten projects from each discipline are chosen to be worked on by the Pest Management Centre in the

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following year (2012). There are also five regional projects which are chosen by the minor use coordinator(s) from each of the regions, British Columbia, Prairie Region, Ontario, Quebec, and Atlantic Region. There are also two projects chosen for organic production. In addition, if projects are selected as a high priority, but there are no known solutions, these can be selected for screening trials. Up to two projects without solution are chosen for each discipline.

As a result of this years workshop, a number of projects were selected that will benefit growers in Nova Scotia. Entomology projects include control of tarnished plant bugs on strawberries and greenhouse peppers, whiteflies on greenhouse cucumbers, cutworms on spinach, pear psylla on pear and fir coneworms in conifer seed orchards. Pathology projects include control of downy mildew on greenhouse cucumber, white mold on field grown head lettuce and leaf lettuce, pythium on carrots, fruit rot on cranberries and root rots on raspberry. Herbicide projects include control of broad leaved weeds on garden beet, parsnip, green onions, highbush blueberry, strawberry, control of nutsedge on radish and liverwort on outdoor ornamentals.

The projects for organic production are control of cucumber beetle on cucumbers and a screening trial for bacterial spot on field grown tomatoes.

The Atlantic region's project choice is control of grasses on wild blueberry.

Screening trials will be done for seed corn maggot on Chinese cabbage, powdery mildew on greenhouse and outdoor ornamentals, broad leaved weeds on Chinese cabbage and for spreading dogbane on wild blueberry.

The 2011 Minor Use Priority Setting Workshop was a great success and once more demonstrates the spirit of cooperation and good will that can be achieved on a national basis.

A detailed report of this workshop is available by contacting Lorne Crozier, Minor Use Coordinator at crozielm@ns.ca .



New Videos for Beginning Farmers Now Online

Becky Sooksom, THINKFARM

The cameras were rolling last summer when nine Nova Scotia farmers were asked about their experiences as business owners in the agriculture industry. The footage has been edited into six new videos, which continue on where the first THINKFARM video left off.

The videos are available online. Please take a few minutes to check them out at: www.gov.ns.ca/thinkfarm/video .

- Getting Started
- Choosing an Enterprise
- The Farm Family
- Source of Support
- Making Money
- Markets

The THINKFARM working group sends a sincere thank-you to all the farmers who took time from their busy days to appear in our videos.

For more information on THINKFARM, contact Becky Sooksom at 893-5649 or write to thinkfarm@gov.ns.ca .

Programs and Business Risk Management

AgriInvest and AgriStability

AgriInvest and AgriStability are business risk management programs that help producers protect their income and manage risks like drought, flooding, low prices and increased input costs.

AgriInvest provides farmers with flexible coverage for small income declines as well as support for investments to mitigate risks or improve market income. Farmers deposit money into an AgriInvest account and receive matching government contributions. If you receive an AgriInvest deposit notice you have 90 days to respond by making your deposit.

2009 AgriInvest Deposit Notices

AgriInvest deposit notices have been mailed out with information on how to make your 2009 deposit. Once you receive your deposit notice, you can open an account at your financial institution and make the deposit by the deadline indicated in order to receive a matching contribution from governments. Existing funds currently held by the federal government will then be transferred to your AgriInvest account. Producers can request a withdrawal from their AgriInvest account through their financial institution at any time throughout the year.

AgriStability is a margin-based program that provides support when a farmer experiences larger farm income losses. AgriStability covers declines of more than 15 per cent in a farmer's average

income from previous years. If you participated in AgriStability in 2009 you will automatically be enrolled for 2010 and will be receiving your enrolment notice soon. If you have not received your 2010 enrollment notice and have not heard from AgriStability you should contact the number below.

New Participants or Farmers - AgriStability 2010 Enrolment

Producers who did not participate in AgriStability in 2010 and wish to participate in 2011 must request a new participant package before April 30, 2011. To request your package or for more information, visit <http://www.agr.gc.ca/AgriStability> or call toll-free 1-866-367-8506.

AgriStability 2010 Interim Applications Are Available

The interim application is available for producers who would like to apply for an advance for the 2010 program year. As a program participant, you cannot receive your full 2010 AgriStability payment until your 2010 program year is complete. By using the interim application, you can estimate your 2010 income and expenses and receive a portion of this payment early. The deadline to apply for the interim is March 31, 2011.

AgriStability/AgriInvest 2009 harmonized form final deadline

If you missed the September 30, 2010 deadline, the final deadline

was December 31, 2010 with a \$500/month reduction to your payment.

AgriStability 2010 final fee deadline

You will be ineligible to participate in AgriStability for the 2010 program year if the final December 31, 2010 deadline was missed.

To contact the AgriInvest or AgriStability administration call 1-866-367-8506 or visit the website at <http://www.agr.gc.ca/AgriStability> or <http://www.agr.gc.ca/AgriInvest>

For more information on any of the above programs, contact the Programs and Business Risk Management office toll free at 1-866-844-4276.

PROGRAMS UPDATE

The Department of Agriculture is introducing the Genetic Enhancement Program for 2011-12. This program aims to make livestock commodities more competitive by investing in improved genetic material for Nova Scotia flocks/herds. Beef, sheep and goats are the commodities eligible to apply to the program.

Program guidelines and application information may be accessed at www.gov.ns.ca/agri/prm. Contact the Programs and Business Risk Management office at 893-6510 or toll free at 1-866-844-4276 for more information on the Genetic Enhancement Program.

Cogmagun Poultry Processing Company Ltd.

Cogmagun Poultry Processing Company had its grand opening April 11, 2011. The event was attended by Agriculture Minister John MacDonell along with a number of other government and industry representatives.

An invitation is extended to interested poultry producers and non-producers to visit the new plant at 760 Cogmagun Road, Centre Burlington, Hants county. Beth and Cameron Taylor, mother and son partners in Mill Acre Farm have consistently worked to produce quality purebred Dorper breeding stock, lamb, free range pork and beef on their farm.

The Taylors began processing their own family's supply of chicken and turkey a number of years ago, when finding a plant to process their birds became difficult. After contacting William Feltmate at the Department of Agriculture for advice, Beth and Cameron opened a small poultry processing facility and operated it for four years. Business grew due to the quality of service and word of mouth, and they began processing birds from as far away as Bridgwater, Halifax, Shubenacadie, Noel, Wolfville, and points in between.

It soon became apparent that there was a need for another provincially inspected poultry processing plant in the central mainland area for both families and licensed poultry producers who require a

provincially inspected plant for their processing needs. The Taylors decided to invest in the idea, and construction began on Cogmagun Poultry Processing Company Inc in May of 2010.

The plant will operate from May through December and will deal strictly with poultry and water fowl. Although the processing plant will offer custom slaughter, it will specialize in providing value added options for customers. Custom options include cutting, packaging, freezing, weighing, labeling, and developing new poultry products with and for customers.

The new plant is expected to be operating as a provincially inspected facility by May 2011. The Taylors look forward to working with licensed poultry producers, exploring new ideas, adding value to their products and further promoting the "buy local" campaign for Nova Scotia's farming community.

For more information or bookings please call 757-3840 or e-mail millacrefarm@ns.sympatico.ca .



Farm Loan Board

Rates for the Period April 1, 2011 to June 30, 2011

Amortization	Interest Rate		
	Full Amortization	5-year Term	3-year Term
1 - 5	3.75%	3.65%	3.15%
6 - 10	4.75%	4.20%	3.30%
11 - 15	5.40%	4.35%	3.75%
16 - 20	6.70%	4.40%	3.75%
21 - 25	6.90%	4.45%	3.80%
26 - 30	7.00%	4.50%	3.80%

* 3 and 5 year term rates are available to clients meeting risk, cash flow, and collateral requirements

Advance Payment Program (APP)

The Advance Payment Program is returning for 2011-12. This program improves marketing opportunities for agricultural products by extending an advance to producers so they can improve cash-flow. Any one person or farm business is limited to an interest-free advance of up to \$100,000. Producers repay the advance by December 31, 2011 or participate in the fall portion of the program.

To participate in the fall portion of the program, crops must be in storage. The advanced funds must then be paid by September 30, 2012. Typical crops eligible for coverage are barley, corn, oats, rye, hay, soybeans spring and winter wheat.

Producers must have crop insurance to be eligible for the spring portion of the program. Producers must agree to a credit check by Soil & Crop Improvement

Association of Nova Scotia (which will be done by a third party.) Producers must provide an assignment on the crop insurance policy for the crop. An administration fee of 1.5 per cent of the total advance is charged to producers to cover program administration costs.

The program is administered by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Soil and Crop Improvement Association of Nova Scotia.

Contact Carol Versteeg at 758-3530 or carol.versteeg@ns.sympatico.ca to find out more information about this program.



2011 Census of Agriculture

Mark your calendar for May 10, 2011

In 2011, for the first time, all farm operations will receive agriculture census questionnaires by mail through Canada Post rather than through a local enumerator. Operators can mail the form back to Statistics Canada or use the Internet to complete the census.

Continue Your Education at NSAC – Visit the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education

Spring Courses 2011

April 19–20: Pesticide Applicator's Certification (Aquaculture)

April 30–May 1: Tractor Safety, Mabou

May 11–13: Bulk Milk Tank Grader's Course

Spring/Summer Credit Courses
Start dates in May, June, and July

Other Upcoming Course Offerings

Experience Agriculture 2011
(Agriculture/Agri-Food 11 teachers)

– July 5-7, 2011

Master Gardener Summer School –
Level I (July 4-8, 2011) and Level II
(July 7-8, 2011)

Master Gardener Training (Online)
– Start dates in October, January,
and March

Certificate of Specialization in
Organic Agriculture (Online) – Start
dates in September and January

For more information on upcoming courses or continuing your education through Nova Scotia Agricultural College, call the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education at 893-6666 or write to ced@nsac.ca.

Celebration of Small-scale Farming on July 25

Explore how today's small-scale farmers are building on the strong foundation of traditional farming knowledge and practices with modern production technology, farm business management and marketing.

The Celebration of Small-scale Farming takes place July 25 at the Northville Farm Heritage Centre, 1158 Steadman Road, Northville, Kings Co.

Registration fee: \$15/person, \$30/family (children under 12 free) – Registration includes \$5 in coupons (\$10 for families) for use with the local food vendors selling food on site.

Tentative Workshop Schedule

9:00	Welcome		
9:30 – 10:30	Season Extension in Vegetable Production	Pastured Poultry	Goat Nutrition
11:00-12:00	Compost Tea in Small Fruit Production	Finishing Market Lambs	Women' Panel: Finding Your Place in the Business
12:00 – 1:30	Lunch/Interactive Stations: Beekeeping and Bee Products; Used Farm Equipment; Safe Animal Handling; Bread Making; Wood Shingle Making; Grafting Fruit Trees; Blacksmith Demo; Seed Saving.		
1:30 – 3:30	Animal Powered Farming (live demos of oxen ploughing and horse mowing)	Marketing Farm Products	Permaculture Design
3:45	Vineyard Tour	Apple Orchard Tour	Vegetable Farm Tour

Activities for children aged 4-7 and 8-11 will be offered throughout the day.

Interested in attending?

Contact us at 893-5649 or thinkfarm@gov.ns.ca for more information.

Registration and Payment required by July 10. Cash, cheque and credit card accepted.

Brought to you by:



Your Agricultural Resource Coordinators

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Nova Scotia 4-H Members To Attend Canadian and American Conferences

Eleven 4-H members will join their counterparts from across Canada and the United States to learn about leadership and discuss issues affecting young people at two prestigious conferences in April.

Ten members will get to see the political processes in action when they attend the 39th annual National 4-H Seminar in Ottawa, April 8-14. They will join 55 other 4-H members from across the country to learn about rights, roles and responsibilities as Canadian citizens.

Participants will attend a swearing-in ceremony for new Canadians at Citizenship Court and tour Parliament Hill, the Supreme Court of Canada, National War Museum, Museum of Civilization and a camp at Fulton's Pancake House and Sugar Bush.

"We are pleased to have many 4-H members attending these conferences," said Ruth Grant, senior 4-H program co-ordinator. "They will be excellent ambassadors for Nova Scotia and our 4-H program."

Megan Smith of Nine Mile River, Hants Co., will represent the province at the United States national 4-H conference in Maryland, April 2-7. The conference will help young people develop and practice the knowledge, resources and skills learned through 4-H. Participants will discuss topics affecting youth

and empower and mobilize 4-H members to create positive social change in their communities.

Eastern Breeders Showcase Held in June for 21st Year

For 21 years, the Eastern Breeders Showcase has taught Atlantic 4-H members the finer points of livestock showmanship and herd management. This year, the event will be held June 26 to 28 at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds in Bible Hill.

Experts from Eastern Breeders Inc. and 4-H leadership coordinators with the Department of Agriculture will teach about 70 4-H members the latest techniques in show preparation for beef and dairy cattle, health of the show calf, livestock judging as well as the latest techniques in showmanship, clipping, display design and herd management.

"We take pride in the fact that this is not only a top notch 4-H competitive show but also an effective learning exercise. Each year we get a chance to give back some experience and knowledge of our industry. Even more importantly, we get to reinforce values. 4-H develops enthusiasm, determination, work ethic, resourcefulness, responsibility and ultimately pride," said Paul Stewart, supervisor of genetic programs and communications at Eastern Breeders Inc.

"Eastern Breeders Inc. could not put on this event without the generous support of Nova Scotia 4-H and all of our event leaders and our generous sponsors"

Atlantic members who are 14 years of age and have at least two years experience with dairy and beef projects are eligible to attend. Those selected are expected to bring the information back to their club. Department of Agriculture rural leadership staff provide organizational skills on behalf of the Atlantic 4-H committee to help make the showcase possible.

After two intense days of training, members will show calves at the beef and dairy show on Tuesday, June 28 at 9:30 a.m. at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds. Awards will be presented for showmanship, confirmation and excellent in session work over the two days of instruction. The public is invited to attend.

The Atlantic Dairy Heifer Show that was to be held in conjunction with this event has been cancelled.

Camp Rankin Offers Camping and Career Experience To 4-H Members

Camp Rankin, the provincial 4-H camp, will welcome 200 members to five one-week summer camps from July 3 to August 5. Campers aged nine to 15 will learn skills training, leadership, and healthy living while building lasting friendships in a scenic setting on the Bras d'Or Lakes in Cape Breton.

Camp Rankin offers members opportunities to learn canoeing, crafts, drama, nature and outdoors, exploring 4-H, recreation and healthy living and to socialize with youth that have similar interests. Many members that have had a great camping experience come back each year as campers and later on as camp staff. Members are reminded of the May 1 deadline to register for this year's camping season.

Besides providing a positive experience for campers, Camp Rankin employs seven camp counsellors for youth aged 16 or older, a camp director and an assistant director. Trained camp counsellors lead 4 members through all traditional camp activities and educational sessions where members carry out their motto "learn to do by doing."

In 1972, Camp Rankin was built by volunteers as a Centennial project of the Richmond County 4-H Leader's Council and is situated on 60 acres of land at Cape George, near St. Peters. The recreational and camp activities for 4-H members at Camp Rankin are administered by the Department of Agriculture in conjunction with the Richmond County 4-H Leader's Council.

4-H Members to Showcase Communication Skills at Annual 4-H Weekend

Many 4-H members say that they credit the 4-H program for developing their communication skills, including listening and speaking skills to build self confidence and poise. On May 6 and 7, members from across Nova Scotia will compete in provincial public speaking and demonstration competitions at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Bible Hill.

The event hosts 250 members and families from across the province. In addition to communication contests, members compete in the woodsman competition and the Nova Scotia Horse Classic.

On Saturday May 7, the Nova Scotia Agricultural College Alumni Theatre will be the venue for 4-H Night in Nova Scotia, a finale that showcases talented members. It presents the top overall communication winners and county entertainment as part of the evenings program. Members and leaders who have won Canadian 4-H Council National 4-H Travel Awards and the winners of the provincial competitions will be recognized.

The public is welcome to attend all the weekend events to see the 4-H life skills program in action.



Annapolis County Federation Livestock Sales

Cattle sales at the Lawrencetown Exhibition Grounds will be held April 16, April 30, May 14 and May 28. Sale of miscellaneous items will begin at 10:30 a.m. Selling of livestock begins at 1 p.m.

Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture Cattle Sale

The Spring Cattle Sale at the South Shore Exhibition Grounds will be held May 21 beginning at 12:30. To book cattle, contact Wayne Silver at 644-3889, Tom Frail at 682-2400 or Wayne Slauenwhite at 644-2384.

Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture Spring Roast Beef Special

The Spring Social will be held at the Italy Cross and District Fire Hall on April 30, from 7-9 p.m. The social features a roast beef supper with all the trimmings. All are welcome. Tickets are \$10 per adult, \$5.50 for children 12 and under. For tickets, contact Steven Ward at 685-3473 or pick up tickets at the Bridgewater Farmers Co-op on Elm Street in Bridgewater.

Farm Market at South Shore Exhibition

The Lunenburg Queens Federation of Agriculture is partnering with the South Shore Exhibition to create a farm market in the 4-H

building. If anyone is interested in being a vendor or has a family member or friend interested in being a vendor, contact, Peter Morine at 543-3011 or Jim Crooker at 682-2211.

Update of Mailing List and E-Mailing Newsletter

We are again updating our mailing list. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter any longer, or if you wish to change your address or if you prefer to receive the newsletter by e-mail, please notify Cheryl by phone 679-6021, or e-mail ctheriau@gov.ns.ca.

Disposal of Used Farm Sharps

The Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Kentville office has a supply of sharps containers available at no cost for producers. Remember, sharps must not be discarded in regular household garbage. Sharps should be collected on farms in rigid, puncture resistant containers with tightly secured lids.

Think Safety

Spring is a busy time on many farms. With the many tasks that have to be done, the opportunity for accidents increases. Be sure to make time to ensure your farm is safe for you and your family.

Now is a good time to:

- Check fencing around ponds and manure storages.
- Ensure PTO guards are in place.
- Take extra precautions to guard against manure gas in liquid manure storages.

- Check your farm first aid kits to ensure they are fully stocked and ready for use.
- Make sure your fire extinguishers are full and in place on machinery and in buildings.
- Make sure your slow moving vehicle signs are on equipment and can be seen.

For more information, check the Farm Safety: Standards of Practice for Farms in Nova Scotia booklet available from the Department of Agriculture office or online at <http://gov.ns.ca/agri/farmsafety/standards/safety.shtml>.

Beef Slaughter and Marketing Workshop

A beef slaughter and marketing workshop will be held Tuesday, May 3 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Cornwallis Room - Kentville Research Station. Topics and speakers are:

- Grass-fed beef and market opportunities, Andrew Knight, Department of Agriculture
- Marketing options for your beef herd, Amy Melmock, AgraPoint
- Slaughter regulations and food safety, William Feltmate, Department of Agriculture
- Working together to get more value from local beef, Amy Melmock and Jonathan Word, AgraPoint

To register please call Gina Saulnier at 1-800-639-7030

4-H Weekend

This year 4-H weekend will be held May 6 and 7 at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Truro. A woodsman competition, horse classic, demonstrations and public speaking are a few of the events taking place. To apply to stay in residence you can find an application online at http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/4h/glkit/app_forms.shtml. Members can stay in residence for \$30. You do not have to be competing in an event to participate and stay at 4-H Weekend.

4-H EAKS... Experience, Attitudes, Knowledge and Skills... and More!

Valorie Oickle, Agriculture and 4-H leadership Coordinator, South Shore Region

February 23, 2011 was no ordinary day for a group of children from the North End Community Centre in Halifax. These children and parents, numbering forty, toured three farms in Lunenburg County as part of 4-H EAKS.

Youth visited Springauff Dairy Farm in First South, where Allan Croft introduced most to their first experience with a cow. He then demonstrated how milking took place and how the milk is handled on the farm. Then the group traveled to Terra Beata Cranberry Farm where David Ernst demonstrated how cranberries grow and the various products made at Terra Beata. The final stop was at Kevin and Susan Veinotte's farm in West Northfield where the children were able to experience everything from chickens, cattle, draft horses to sheep.

4-H EAKS is a program which was taken on by the Lunenburg County 4-H Council with sponsorship dollars from the RBC Outreach Program, which promotes a rural urban exchange with youth. Funding is managed by the Canadian 4-H Council.

The 4-H EAKS has three main goals: The first goal is to: teach participants how to grow a garden. Earlier in the year, 4-H Members and parents from the Two Bays 4-H Club shared their expertise with the youth as they instructed the planting of a garden in early June, with seeds and supplies purchased through the EAKS funding.

The second component was meeting a farmer and touring farms, which was the focus of the February 23 event.

The final component will be Food Project Lessons, which will be given by senior 4 - H Foods Members from Lunenburg County.

While the program is still ongoing, the youth have learned a little more about growing food, where food comes from and a better appreciation of the agricultural community within the area. 4-H Members have shared talents and skills they have developed through their experiences in the 4 -H Program!

The February 23 event was coordinated by the members of the Valley Regional Team as well as personnel from the North End Community Centre.

Do You Have the Proper Drivers Licence?

Drivers operating a farm tractor trailer combination over 14,000 kg need a Condition 23 Endorsement.

If hauling any trailer (with a truck or tractor) that weighs over 4,500 kg, a Condition 15 Endorsement is needed to legally drive on Nova Scotia roads. These regulations apply to class 5 licences.

Contact the regional agriculture office to obtain these endorsements and a date and place will be arranged for the testing to take place. Once a testing date is set the following process must take place for each condition.

There is an information session on Thursday, April 28, to become familiar with the equipment being used on test day. If you're interested in getting these endorsements, there is an upcoming opportunity at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College on Friday, May 6 at the college farm.

PROCESS: For Condition 15

1. Purchase a road test receipt which costs \$47.68 (HST Included) This can be purchased at an Access Nova Scotia Center or online at www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/ .

PROCESS: For Condition 23

1. Complete a Condition 23 application prior to testing
2. Have a driver's medical exam completed by your doctor
3. Purchase a road test receipt which costs \$46.85 (HST Included). This can be purchased at an Access Nova Scotia Center or online at www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/ .

Please register with the Central Region office first and have a valid drivers license ("N" removed) to be eligible for testing. The Condition 23 application, the form for the medical exam and more information is available at your regional office or by calling Michael or Theresa 893-3645.

Just a reminder to those that have used the HEHFA rental equipment (land levelers, cow lift and lime spreader) that the fees and contacts for usage of the equipment are as follows:

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Rental Cost</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Lime Spreader	\$4.00/ton (member) \$4.50/ton (non-member)	Allen Benjamin 758-2427
Land Leveler	\$100.00 (member)/day \$125.00 (non-member/day)	Dean Cole 384-2517 or John van de Riet 758-3874
Cow Lift	\$10.00 initial day +\$5.00 every day after (member) \$15.00 initial day \$10.00 every day after (non-member)	Corey Fraser 758-2262

First Aid Training

St. John Ambulance offers several first aid courses throughout the province. Getting more information on first aid training or registering for a course, can easily be done on the web site www.sja.ca , or toll free at: 1-800 -565-5056

May courses designed to meet industry and business requirements are offered. Emergency level first aid is a state-of-the-art modular course of basic first aid skills and other select subjects needed to sustain life and manage the scene of an injury. Emergency First Aid is recommended for work sites with one to 19 employees per shift.

Emergency First Aid + CPR Level A
Time: 8 hours (1 day)
Fee: \$70 per person

Emergency First Aid Recertification
Time: 3.5 hours (1/2 day)
Fee: \$55 per person

Farm Tractor Youth Safety Course

Location: Natural Resources Education Center

Date: Saturday, April 30th
Cost: \$10- lunch included

**All youth are welcome to attend, however, only those 12 and older will be permitted to operate tractors.

For more information on Halifax East Hants Federation activities or any fees due please contact or submit to: Karen Holman, 384-3000, 382 Archibald Brook Road, Middle Musquodoboit NS B0N 1X0.

Central Region 4-H News

Hello 4-H Enthusiasts!

National Awards

Three Central Region 4-H members are eager for the National Citizenship Conference in Ottawa from April 8-14. Erica Jackson, Heidi Anderson and Katelyn O'Connell all from Colchester County will be attending this prestigious and exciting conference along with seven other Nova Scotia members.

Participants at this conference will attend a swearing-in ceremony for new Canadians at Citizenship Court, tour parliament Hill, the Supreme Court of Canada, National War Museum, the Museum of Civilization and a camp at Fulton's Pancake House and Sugar Bush.

Mandy Smith of Halifax-East Hants 4-H County will represent the province at the United States National 4-H Conference in Maryland, April 2-7. The conference will help young people develop and practice the knowledge, resources and skills learned through 4-H. Participants will discuss topics affecting youth and empower and mobilize 4-H members to create positive social change in their communities.

Judging Workshops

Judging workshops will be held in April. All 4-H members and leaders are invited to attend. No registration required.

Halifax-East Hants County - April 19, 6-7 p.m., at the Forestry Complex in Middle Musquodoboit
Colchester County - April 27 from 7-8:30 p.m., at the Agri-Dome.

Public Speaking

Public speaking is continuing on with Central Regional Rally on Saturday, April 16 at the North River Fire Hall.

4-H Weekend is also coming up in Truro May 6-7 at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College campus.

Check out the public speaking, woodsmen competition and of course 4-H Night in Nova Scotia on May 8! If you wish to stay in residence please send in your application, which is in the general leader kit, by April 21.

Dog Clinic

The Central Region will be hosting a dog clinic again this year on June 18-19. It will be held at the Paws for Fun Canine Center in Truro. Registration forms will be coming out soon!

Upcoming 4-H Meetings

Colchester County 4-H Leaders Council meetings: April 25, May 30 and June 27, upstairs in the Agri-dome beginning at 7 p.m.

Colchester County Exhibition Committee meetings: April 4, May 2, and June 6, upstairs in the Agri-dome beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Cumberland County 4-H Leaders Council meetings: May 3, and June 7, at the Shinimicas Fire Hall at 8 p.m.

Halifax-East Hants County 4-H Leaders Council meetings: April 19 (Forestry Complex, Middle Musquodoboit), May 24 (Hants East Rural High School), and June 14 (Hants East Rural High School) all at 7 p.m.

County Judging Days

Halifax-East Hants:
Tuesday, May 17

Colchester County:
Wednesday, May 25

Cumberland County:
May 18-19

For further information on any of these events or the 4-H program, please contact Jacqueline Hoyt, agricultural and 4-H leadership coordinator, at 893-6586 or hoytjm@gov.ns.ca.

The season for community fairs and exhibitions is fast approaching. The following are the fairs scheduled for Cape Breton Island. Now is a good time to reserve the date on your calendar or to plan your entry for the fair.

2011 Community Fairs

FAIR	DATE	CONTACT	PHONE
Mira Ferry (Albert Bridge)	Sept. 10	Cheryl Macintyre (Chair) Gladys Lever (Treasurer)	562-1056 562-6310 662-2089
Christmas Island (C.b. County)	Sept. 10	Kevin Mackenzie	622-2667
Port Morien (Glace Bay)	Sept. 17	Margie Macqueen	737-2478
Baddeck (Victoria County)	Sept. 10	Wendell Macphee	295-2494
Ole County Fair - Two Rivers Wildlife Park (Marion Bridge)	Oct. 1 / 2	Patricia Macneil	727-2483

Community Pastures

Community Pastures will be starting up for this pasture season. Most pastures can always use additional cattle numbers to help keep the pastures viable operations. Also, as the summer continues you may find you need extra feed or pasture, consider placing cattle on a community pasture. The following are community pasture contacts for Cape Breton.

Cape Mabou - Frank Fraser	258-5898
Mira - John MacPhee	727-2542
Maplebrook - John P. MacDonald	756-2671
Little Harbor (L'Ardoise) - Arthur Sampson	587-2276
Cheticamp Island - Eli Joe Chaisson	224-2417

Artificial Insemination - Starter Session - Monday, April 18

Presented by Dr. Ted Semple

Sponsored by Cape Breton-
Richmond Federation of
Agriculture

**Attention beef and dairy
producers** – Sign up now for a
refresher course on artificial
insemination to be held in Cape
Breton on April 18. Some topics
may include: breeding kit and
components, estrus cycle,
insemination procedure, nitrogen
tank and its care, record keeping,
sanitation, semen handling and
quality assurance, heat detection
overview.

This workshop will appeal to
beginners or experts and all are
invited to participate.

Pesticide Applicators Re- certification

Traci Curry is leading re-
certification for Pesticide
Applicators (5 points) on
Wednesday, April 20 at the Sydney
Civic Centre. The workshop begins
at 9:30 a.m. The registration fee is
\$75. Please call 563-2000.

Pesticide Certification

This course is for individuals not
yet certified as pesticide
applicators but wish to write the
licence exam or renew their
expired licence by writing the
Department of Environment exam.
The course consists of 1.5 days of
training and a manual to prepare
students to write the Pesticide
Certification Exam, which will be
offered on the afternoon of day
two. The exam will be proctored
by a staff member of Nova Scotia
Environment.

A minimum of 10 people registered
is needed to hold this course. If
you are interested, please contact
563-2000 and have your name
added to the list. We will arrange
this session when we get enough
registrants.

Location will be announced
after registration.
Registration is Required.

Register now by contacting
Catherine at 563-2000 or
e-mail plumricl@gov.ns.ca

AgraPoint Presents “The Practical Side of Animal Health and Biosecurity”

This workshop is a perfect opportunity for both small or large livestock and poultry farms to hear from veterinarians, production and animal health specialists, on practical ways to handle biosecurity issues on farm. Learn about diseases, disease prevention, basic biosecurity principles and practices, proper cleaning and disinfection, animal care, and what to do when disease strikes.

Full agenda is available at www.agrapoint.ca

Saturday, April 16- Baddeck, Gaelic College
It is being hosted and developed by AgraPoint under the federal-provincial Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada/Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture Growing Forward program.

Registration fee is \$25/person (HST included). Lunch is provided. Registration is required by calling toll-free 1-877-710-5210.

Atlantic Young Entrepreneurship Summit

The St F. X. Enterprise Development Centre is hosting a workshop entitled Transforming Ideas into Economic Opportunities from May 13–15. The workshop will bring together 200 inspiring youth (age 16-29) entrepreneurs, innovators, change makers and emerging leaders to exchange ideas and discuss strategies on

how to create a culture of innovative entrepreneurship. Anyone interested is encouraged to sign up for this exciting opportunity by contacting the Enterprise Development Centre at 867-5543 or e-mail xedc@stfx.ca. For further information, check out the website at xedc.ca/atlanticyes. Bursaries are available.

Upcoming Food Handler Courses

Food Handler courses are being offered in Sydney.

DATE	LOCATION
April 26	Bras d’Or Hall, 24 Villa Drive, Bras d’Or
April 26	NSCC Port Hawkesbury, Theatre Rm., 9-4 p.m.
May 4	Iona Legion
May 10	NSCC Port Hawkesbury, Theatre Rm., 9-4 p.m.
May 25	Louisbourg Fire Hall, 9-4 p.m.

All courses 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. unless otherwise specified.

If you wish to register please contact Catherine at the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture office in Sydney at 563-2000. Registration forms can be downloaded and printed from this link:

<http://gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/pdfs/FoodHandlerSyd.pdf>.



An Invitation to Farmer’s Markets in Cape Breton

We would like to bring together coordinators or programming representatives from the various Farmer’s Market organizations in Cape Breton for a spring workshop on Thursday May 5 from 1 to 4 p.m., at St Michael’s Hall, Baddeck.

In December this group met and completed a needs assessment for the farm markets in Cape Breton. The topics for the workshop include a round table discussion for each market, a food safety presentation and a presentation on recruiting and retaining vendors.

Please register for this workshop by contacting Catherine Plumridge at 563-2000 or plumricl@gov.ns.ca.

CB Regional Team Upcoming Activities:

CB Beef Marketing Coop – A follow-up meeting is being scheduled for late April

Regional Farm Tours - Agrapoint, NSFA

CB Farmers Market Coordinators - follow up sessions

Working with RDA’s

Food to Table - (Field to Farm Workshop)- May 14 - Port Hawksbury

Sprayer Calibration field day

4-H 2011 - "From Country, Town to Every Place, We See 4-H"

4-H Weekend

4-H Weekend is an annual provincial event held in Truro each May. The focus of this event is the Provincial Public Speaking and Demonstration Competition. Also included is a Provincial Poster and Woodsman competition, a showcase of regional entertainment and the selection of the Provincial Host and Hostess.

This year's event will be held on Friday, May 6, and Saturday, May 7. The competitors at this event are, for the most part, the winners of county or regional competitions

though the program is open to all 4-H leaders and members.

Any registered member or leader can attend this program and if desired, can stay in residence at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and have their meals at Jenkins Hall.

Applications are available in the General Leader Kit and can be accessed online through the 4-H Website. Applications should be returned to the Agricultural and 4-H Leadership Coordinator by April 18, on Cape Breton Island.

4-H Judging

May is when many 4-H members across the region look at the judging component to the 4-H program. Members place and give reasons for four items in a project area from best to worst. Oral reasons are given to a judge comparing project standards.

Tips to remember are:

- be confident
- make good eye contact
- compare not describe
- speak clearly and concisely
- know project standards
- know judging format

County Judging Dates

Richmond Co.

- May 12 West Bay and August 3 (Horse)

Inverness Co.

- May 24 (Dalbrae and Cox's)
- Make Up Judging June 6 , 3:30- 4:30 p.m.
-by appointment only

Cape Breton Co.

- May 17 Project judging May 18
- Horse judging
- Make up Judging June 7

Victoria Co.

- May 30 - Baddeck Forks Hall
- June 7 Make up judging (4-H office)

Emergency First Aid- St. John Ambulance

Senior 4-H members and leaders are invited to participate in a St. John Ambulance sponsored Emergency First Aid course to be held at the Alexander Graham Bell Museum on Saturday, May 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This is a great opportunity for introductory training, updating certification or for rural youth starting a new job soon. Parents are welcome to participate but they will be charged a discounted fee of \$52.50, which will need to be paid in advance by money order payable to "St. John Ambulance".

To pay by Visa, contact Annette Deagle at 1-800-565-5056 - Ext. 2300. Cash and personal cheques are not accepted.

Space is limited - so apply today.

Getting Ready For Achievement Days

4-H members and leaders across the region will soon be gearing up th their 4-H Achievement Day. Achievement Day is the opportunity for members to showcase their project work to their clubs, family and community. It is also a chance to promote 4-H and for members to receive an evaluation on their project articles or work. Upcoming Achievement Days include:

Lakeside - May 26 - Sampsonville Community Hall
Grand Mira - June 17 - Grand Mira Hall
Northside - June 23 - Exhibition Grounds, North Sydney
Arm of Gold - July 7
Rising Sun - July 6
Margaree - July 12 (tentative)
Inverness Horse Show July 12 (tentative - Margaree)
Richmond County Livestock Day - August 3 - Smith's
Inverness County 4-H Clubs - August 25 -27 - Brook Village Hall
Baddeck Valley - September 8- 10 Baddeck Forks

The general public is always invited to come out and view the project work of local 4-H youth. If you would like more information contact the 4-H office in either Sydney or Mabou.

Dates to Mark on the Calendar

Apr 15 - Water Challenge Club Reports - Due April 15
Apr 16 - Cape Breton Regional Rally- Baddeck- 10 a.m.
Apr 30- May 1 - Nova Scotia Tractor Safety Certification Program-Mabou
May 1 - 4-H Camp Rankin - Deadline applications due
May 1 - Essay and Poster Contest- (Sydney office)
May 6 -7 - 4-H Weekend - Truro-application due Monday, April 18
May 12 - Richmond County Judging Day (West Bay)
May 14 - Field to Farm (Slow Foods Workshop) - Port Hawksbury - tentative
May 15 - Royal Dairy Classic Registration forms (attached to dairy newsletter)
May 15 - Livestock Registration due to 4-H office
May 24 - Inverness Co. Judging Day
May 17 - CB County Judging Day- North Sydney:
May 18 - CB County Horse Judging
May 28 - First Aid Certification-Baddeck
May 30 - Victoria County Judging Day- 4:30-6:30 p.m.
June 7-8 - Richmond 4-H County Days- Camp Rankin

As Busy As A Bee

After 16 years of keeping bees, Cornect Family Farm has been recognized as part of Taste of Nova Scotia and is expanding. The Cornect Family Farm will have 350-400 beehives this spring, with bees to rent for pollinating services in the Antigonish and Guysborough counties as well as the Blue Mountain area of Pictou County. Youngest son, Benjamin, is going into the business with his parents Margaret and Wayne. He will eventually be the one looking after all the bees. Ben graduated from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College with honors in Agricultural Business and has been working with a large beekeeper for the last four years learning the trade.

For more information, log on to:
www.cornectfamilyfarm.com.

Anyone interested in renting beehives is encouraged to contact Margaret at 833-2747 or e-mail Margaret@cornectfamilyfarm.com.

A Wealth of Information

The Canadian Farm Business Management Council has a great website that's worth a visit. Log onto www.farmcentre.com for access to Agri-webinars. The Agriwebinar season is complete but you can visit the site for information on upcoming speakers and topics. You can view any of the past webinars by visiting the Past Webinars section www.agriwebinar.com.

New Glasgow Farmers Market Set for a New Season

The New Glasgow Farmers Market is holding its membership meeting on Tuesday April 19 at 7 p.m., at the AG Baillie Elementary school. Anyone wishing to become a vendor or a member is welcome to attend. The market is set to open at the Riverfront Dome in downtown New Glasgow on Saturday May 28 from 8:30 to noon. For more information, check out the website at:
newglasgowfarmersmarket.webs.com/

Antigonish Farmers Market 2011

A delightful and entertaining Saturday Morning!

Summer hours 8 a.m. - 12 noon
Opening for its 16th season on Saturday May 7, Mothers Day weekend.

The Farmers Market is held every Saturday, May 7 - October 29 in the 4-H building, located behind the arena on James Street.

Fall Hours: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
November 5 - December 17, 2011
Fall Market is held in the Antigonish Education Center

New vendors are welcome.

More information: 867-7479 or 863-3785

Website:
www.antigonishfarmersmarket.org

St. F. X. Enterprise Development Centre

St. F. X. Enterprise Development Centre will hold a Simply Accounting series on June 1, 8, 15 and 22 at the Antigonish Career Resource Centre 6-8 p.m. The cost is \$100. Simply Accounting is the most popular accounting package used by small and medium-sized businesses. This series will be facilitated by a chartered accountant from Loosen MacIntosh Inc. and will give participants an overview of the basic components of Simply Accounting. To register for the course please contact Jackie at 867-5543 or e-mail XECD@stfx.ca.

- Overview of Simply Accounting
- Company set-up
- Navigating the program and getting help
- General ledger chart of accounts and journal transactions
- Customers and accounts receivable

Atlantic Young Entrepreneurship Summit

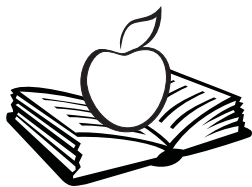
The St. F. X. Enterprise Development Centre is hosting a workshop entitled Transforming Ideas into Economic Opportunities from May 13-15 at St. F. X. University. They will bring together

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200 inspiring youth ages 16-29, entrepreneurs, innovators, change makers and emerging leaders to exchange ideas and discuss strategies on how to create a culture of innovative entrepreneurship. Anyone interested is encouraged to sign up for this exciting opportunity by contacting XEDC at 867-5543 or e-mail xedc@stfx.ca . For further information, check out the website at www.xedc.ca/atlanticyes . Bursaries are available.

Reminder

Pictou North Colchester Federation of Agriculture will hold its semi-annual meeting April 18 at the West River Fire Hall at 7:30 p.m.



Ag Literacy Week is May 2-6

Every year the Nova Scotia Agricultural Awareness Committee organizes and supports farmers going into the classrooms in their areas to read to school children. Last year 75 volunteers from agricultural sectors went into grade two and three classrooms to read and donate books and other agricultural resources about farming. It is a great age to spark interest in farming - kids are curious!

We are aiming to have someone read in each elementary school in Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough. If you are interested in participating, please call Lauren Boyd at 863-7180.

Antigonish County 4-H Public Speaking Rally Results

Junior Introducer: James VandeSande, West River Club
Junior Speaker: Iain MacLellan, West River Club
Junior Thanker: Ryan MacLellan, St. Josephs Club
Intermediate Speaker: Garrett VandeWiel, St. Andrews Club
Senior Speaker: Allison Chisholm, West River Club
Junior Team Demonstration: Jenna Delaney and Kaitlyn Bowen, Landing Club
Senior Team Demonstration: Jessica Overmars and Miranda Teasdale, St. Andrews Club
Junior Single Demonstration: Anna VandeSande, West River Club
Senior Single Demonstration: Beth Murray, St. Josephs Club
Hostess: Jessie Doyle, Landing Club
Host: Patrick Thomson, West River
Junior Free Hand Poster Competition: Anna VandeSande, West River
Junior Computer Poster Competition: James VandeSande, West River
Senior Free Hand Poster Competition: Courtney George, Landing Club
Club Entertainment: St. Josephs Club

Pictou County 4-H Public Speaking Rally Results

Junior Introducer: Allison MacDonald, SBI Club
Junior Speaker: Madalyn Nielson, Hopewell Club
Junior Thanker: Jessica Cock, Scotsburn Club
Intermediate Speaker: Morgan Hynes, River John Club
Senior Speaker: Jane Stevenson, Scotsburn Club
Junior Team Demonstration: Fiona MacKenzie and Emaleigh Murray, Scotsburn Club
Senior Team Demonstration: Kyle Fraser and Rebecca Fraser, Saltspings Club
Junior Single Demonstration: Molly O'Brien, Saltspings Club
Senior Single Demonstration: Mason O'Brien, Saltspings Club
Hostess: Margaret Sutherland, River John
Host: Andrew Greene, Saltspings
Junior Free Hand Poster Competition: Fiona MacKenzie, Scotsburn
Junior Computer Poster Competition: Emily Stewart, Middle River
Senior Free Hand Poster Competition: Melissa Stewart, Middle River
Senior Computer Poster Competition: Alex Stewart, Middle River

Regional Rally will be held at the Northumberland Regional High School in Alma on Tuesday, April 19 at 6 p.m.

Upcoming 4-H Dates to Remember

Antigonish County

4-H weekend	May 6-7	Truro
Council meeting	May 10	7 p.m.
Ant/Guys judging day	May 17	2:30-4 p.m. and 6:00-8:00 p.m.
C.A.C.L. - Collection evening	May 24	or during the week of May 24
Council meeting	June 14	7 p.m.
Council meeting - Resolutions	July 12	7 p.m.
Junior tour	July 13	
Ant/Guys 4-H project competitions	August 11	4-H Barn
4-H Day at ENSE	August 31	



Pictou County

4-H weekend meeting	April 26	7 p.m. Northumberland
Council meeting	April 26	7 p.m. Northumberland
4-H weekend	May 6 and 7	Truro
Judging Day (Non-livestock)	May 18	6:30-8 p.m. West River Fire Hall
Council meeting	May 25	7 p.m. Northumberland
Ice cream pick up	June 4	Times TBA
Council meeting	June 23	7 p.m. Fisheries School
Junior tour	July 14	Location TBA
Council meeting	July 21	7 p.m. Fisheries School
Ice cream pick up	August 6	Times TBA
Run offs	August 12	9 a.m. West River Fire Hall
Barn clean up day	August 13	9 a.m. Exhibition Grounds
Council meeting	August 24	7 p.m. Fisheries School - bring forward resolutions
4-H Day PCNCE	September 7	All day

Upcoming Sessions and Meetings

Annapolis County Farm and Rural Women's Day will be held April 26, 2011 in Lawrencetown. For more information contact Connie Lewis at 825-4002

Beef Slaughter and Marketing Workshop

A beef slaughter and marketing workshop will be held Tuesday, May 3 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Cornwallis Room - Kentville Research Station. Topics and speakers are:

Grass-fed beef and market opportunities, Andrew Knight, Department of Agriculture

- Marketing options for your beef herd, Amy Melmock, AgraPoint
- Slaughter regulations and food safety, William Feltmate, Department of Agriculture
- Working together to get more value from local beef, Amy Melmock and Jonathan Word, AgraPoint

To register please call Gina Saulnier at 1-800-639-7030

Southwest Nova Scotia 4-H Reunion

Mariners Centre, Yarmouth
July 29-31, 2011

As part of the 250th Celebration of Community, a volunteer committee is planning a 4-H reunion to include past and present members, leaders, staff, parents, judges, friends of 4-H and anyone associated with the program during the past 40 years.

Socialize with old friends, meet new people, participate in activities, support our local 4-H members competing in 4-H Day

events, attend the banquet and have a wonderful time strolling down memory lane.

An unforgettable experience you will not want to miss.

For more information please contact Rick Churchill, Committee Chairperson, at 742-9319 or Amy Rose, committee secretary, by e-mail: jeffamy@eastlink.ca.

Western Region 4-H Update

- April 16 Western Region 4-H regional Rally, Melvern Square Hall, Annapolis County, 1 p.m.
- April 20 Yarmouth County 4-H leaders Council meeting.
- April 21 Digby County 4-H leaders Council meeting.
- May 6-7 4-H provincial weekend
- May 10 Annapolis County 4-H judging clinic
- May 11 Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council meeting.
- May 15 Annapolis County 4-H rabbit workshop.
- May 18 Yarmouth County 4-H Leaders Council meeting.
- May 19 Digby County 4-H Leaders Council meeting.
- May 20-22 Fluff 'n Buff, Lawrencetown
- May 21 Judging for Annapolis County beef, dairy, sheep and goat
- May 24 Annapolis County Judging for all projects except beef, dairy, sheep and goat
- May 25 Judging for all Yarmouth County projects
- May 30 Judging clinic for Digby County, Sandy Cove Fire Hall
- June 1-4 Canadian 4-H Council meetings
- June 6 Judging for Digby county 4-H members, Bear River exhibition grounds
- June 8 Annapolis County 4-H leaders Council meeting.
- June 15 Yarmouth County 4-H Leaders Council meeting.
- June 16 Digby County 4-H Leaders council meeting.
- June 26-28 EBI Showcase, Truro

The Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council is sponsoring the RCMP Musical Ride. The performance will be held at the Exhibition Grounds in Lawrencetown on August 10,2011

Welcome to Jennafer Bent! Jennafer from Clarence and a student at The Nova Scotia Agricultural college will begin work as a summer assistant with the Department of Agriculture on April 26, 2011. Jennafer will be working from the Cornwallis Park office. She will work one day a week in the Yarmouth office and assist the South Shore region. She may be contacted at 638-2394.

Congratulations

The Department of Agriculture staff extends congratulations to Geoff and Jennifer Bishop of Round Hill, Annapolis County, for winning the Outstanding Young Farmers for Atlantic Canada and wish them all the best in the national competition.

Food Safety Courses

The following food safety courses have spaces still available:

Kentville, April 20
Shelburne, May 3
Bridgewater, May 5
Kentville, May 11
Yarmouth, May 24
Three Mile Plains, May 26
Digby, June 1
Bridgewater, June 14
Kentville, June 15

For information please call Gina Saulnier at 1-800-639-7030.

