

# FORAGE FIRST

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## "Farmington Site Of Sixth Annual Forage Quality Seminar January 25th."

The Peace River Forage Association of British Columbia is pleased to cosponsor with the BCMAFF the 1993 forage quality seminar.

This important agricultural function is open to members of the Forage Association and all other forage enthusiasts for no charge and will be held beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Monday January 25, 1993 in the Farmington Community Hall.

### AGENDA

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|-------------|---|
| 6:00 - 6:30 | <b>Registration</b>   |
| 6:30 - 7:15 | <b>Quality Hay and Hay Certification</b><br>Denise McLean BCMAFF, D.A. Smithers                           |
| 7:15 - 8:00 | <b>Forage Seeding/Renovation Equipment</b><br>Murray Tenove, BCMAFF, Ag Engineer, Dawson Creek            |
| 8:00 - 8:10 | <b>B.C. Forage Council Update</b><br>Bob Tubb, Forage Council Rep from the Peace River                    |
| 8:10 - 8:25 | <b>Coffee Break</b><br>Sponsored by Peace River Forage Association of B.C.                                |
| 8:30 - 8:40 | <b>Local Forage Competition Results</b><br>BCMAFF DA's Tom Pittman, Ft.St.John & Jim Forbes, Dawson Creek |
| 8:40 - 9:10 | <b>Tomslake Rotational Grazing Project Results</b><br>Rob Davidson PROPA                                  |
| 9:10 - 9:55 | <b>Feeding and Minerals around Calving Time</b><br>Bob France, BCMAFF, Beef Industry Specialist, Vernon   |

The board of directors of your association look forward to seeing each and every member present in Farmington on January 25th to hear the outstanding speakers that will be present to talk on topical items related to the economic production of high quality forage in the B.C. Peace.

## Editorial



There never really is any excuse for planting poor seed because the use of a variety specific to your farm or ranch is probably one of the techniques that best insures longevity and a high yielding stand.

However, 1993 will likely prove a challenge for those folks planning to seed alfalfa.

Due to drought in the Peace River Country and frost on the Prairies the 1992 Canadian production of alfalfa seed was severely reduced.

Reports of 30 truckloads of U.S. Alfalfa seed entering Western Canada before mid 1993 appear to be true.

There is some concern from farmers who plan to seed alfalfa this year over these imports. Mainly, will the seed be clean of noxious weeds and disease free; and, furthermore will the seed offered be adapted to our northern climatic conditions?

Recommended alfalfa varieties for the B.C. Peace are: **Alouette, Anik, Apica, Arrow, Beaver, Heinrichs, Peace, Rambler, Rangelander, Spredor 2 and Stampeder (Riel).**

Whatever alfalfa seed you buy in 1993 plan to closely examine the accompanying certificate as to percent germination and purity (weed seed content), especially if you are only buying Canada No. 1 seed instead of a specific certified variety.

Regarding imported U.S. alfalfa seed, you will be wise to seek assurance from the seed dealer and other agriculture experts as to the suitability of the particular batch of alfalfa to this geographic area.

And don't forget to order early; after mid February maybe too late!

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## An Annual Meeting Highlight

*Mark Grafton, the President of the B.C. Forage Council and manager of the Bar K Ranch at Prince George emphasized these points:*

*He plans to work hard to insure the communications remains good between our association and the province wide council.*

*Forage Variety Trials since the demise of ARDSA are under pressure and the key to successful work in this direction henceforth is good liaison and cooperation between Ag Canada, BCMAFF and the University system in these times of reduced funding availability. The Forage Council has a province wide forage strategy which it has developed and this will be presented at their 1993 annual meeting.*

*Our Peace River Forage Association is welcome to put our Newsletter into the BCFC newsletter as an insert to help us save on mailing costs, plus provide useful information to all other BCFC members around the province.*

## December Annual Meeting a Big Success

For those of you not in attendance, you missed out on a very successful first annual meeting of the Peace River Forage Association of British Columbia in Taylor on December first. Over 50 forage enthusiasts attended the meeting.

We covered a lot of ground businesswise including reports from the officers of your association and the following committees:

Drought, Forage Competition and Seminar, Research and Development, Advisory and Newsletter - Editorial. As well, our constitution was approved by the membership.

Two informational speakers also made a significant contribution to the program: Mark Grafton, President of the B.C. Forage Council and Jim Tingle, BCMAFF Provincial Forage Management Specialist, both from Prince George.

Throughout the meeting we got a lot of feedback from the members present; and, discussion from the floor was excellent in terms of providing both support for the work of existing committees plus additional direction for your association directors.

Members current working committees are as follows: **Research and Development** - Keith Carroll, Bear Mountain; Glenn Hogberg, Progress; Arvo Koppel, Doe River; Ernest Nimitz, Sunset Prairie - Sunrise Valley; Barrie Sones, Cecil Lake; Doug Summer, Hudson Hope; Johann Tietjen, Groundbirch. **Advisory** - David Butler, Butler Farm Equipment, Fort St. John; Jim Forbes, BCMAFF Dawson Creek; Gerry Gleeson, B.C. Forest Service Dawson Creek; Ross Green, B.C. Forest Service, Fort St. John; Don Lumsden, Ag Air, Dawson Creek; Dr. J.D. McElgunn, Ag Canada Research Station Beaverlodge, Alberta; Donna McColl, PFRA, Dawson Creek; Tom Pittman, BCMAFF, Dawson Creek; Bruce Rutley, Centre for Agricultural Diversification, Dawson Creek; Allen Watson, Peace River Regional District; Chairman Steve Shipton, Vice President PRFA of B.C. **Forage Competition & Seminar** - Arnold Bennett, Two Rivers; Bob Tubb, Tomslake, **Newsletter & Editorial** Ernest Nimitz, Sunset Prairie - Sunrise Valley; Steve Shipton, Cecil Lake; Bob Tubb, Tomslake; Harvey Wiles, Baldonnel; **Forage Crop Insurance** - Glenn Hogberg, Progress; Arvo Koppel, Doe River; Jim Scafe, Upper Cutback; Doug Summer, Hudson Hope; Harvey Wiles, Baldonnel.

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# We are on our Way to the Forage Seminar at Farmington



To learn how to grow more **grass** and better **hay**

## Will you be there too??

Monday January 25, 1993, 6:30 p.m. Farmington Community Hall