

# FORAGE FIRST

"Published by the Peace River Forage Association of British Columbia"

Twenty Fifth Edition

January 2000

\$10.00

## **January 25<sup>th</sup> Forage Seminar These Will Be Blending Environmental Stewardship with Economics: Forage Management for the New Millennium**

Your Board of Directors have selected a theme for the annual forage Seminar at Farmington on Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> which will emphasize both the economics of forage management and good environmental stewardship, and the definite relationships between these two important management programs for farmers and ranchers in the new millennium.

Forage and livestock producers who are looking for financial success and tips on how to improve their environmental stewardship will be interested in listening to the messages from our well qualified stable of speakers.

Fine speakers will be speaking on these important topics at Farmington: Endophytes in Livestock Feed; Grazing Wildlife on Farms and Ranches; Importance of Good H<sub>2</sub>O Quality; Economic Grazing Management Techniques, B.C. Prairie Care Program.

A good deal of time has been made available during the program to mingle and ruminate with Speakers and Seminar participants to ensure everyone goes home with the maximum of useful information. A minitrade fair will also be held during the two day seminar and forum which will help bring even more useful information to those in attendance.

## **Forage Producers, Livestock Owners, General Outdoors Loving Public and Sportsmen, You Are Invited to Join us on Wednesday January 26<sup>th</sup> for an Open Forum as We Discuss Ungulate Wildlife Grazing on Privately Owned Pasture and Hay Land in the B.C. Peace**

We have arranged for the forum participation of several knowledgeable speakers to help bring us useful information and stimulate our wildlife, livestock and forage thought processes. Two of these speakers are from our sister provinces Saskatchewan and Alberta where they appear to have achieved some reasonable solutions regarding areas of wildlife/agricultural conflicts. Our third speaker is from Oregon. He's familiar with existing situations, areas of conflict and actual and potential solutions for livestock owners and outdoorsmen and women on both private and public land in the Western U.S.

Supplementing our out of province speakers will be brief presentations by staff of Ducks Unlimited Canada, Prince George, and Burnem Grant, chairman of the Wildlife Policy Development Committee of the Forage Association.  
(Continued on Back Page)



## Editorial



**\*Thank you to Sponsors -** The Peace River Forage Association of B.C. takes this opportunity to thank the following groups for their substantial sponsorship of our two day January forage seminar and forum: **Peace River Agricultural Development- Agriculture and Agrifood Canada; the B.C. Forage Council; The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration; the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food; Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Peace River Regional District.**

**\* Are you interested in hosting a Winter Forage Club Meeting** in February or March? If so please contact Sandra Burton at (250) 789-6885.

**\* Thank you to the fine folks at Butler Farm Equipment** in Fort St. John for their sponsorship of coffee and refreshments at our Annual General Meeting in Taylor in December.

**\* Our Summer Forage Tour is on for Saturday June 17, 2000.** Mark your calendars now! We plan to tour the majestic and scenic Peace River Valley west of Fort St. John and end up at Ridge View Ranch of Doug and Shari Summer at Beryl Prairie with a tasty Barbeque cooked up by the soon to be world famous Kenver Equipment Barbeque Crew.

**\* We are looking for an exciting and informational two days of Seminar Activity on January 25 - 26 in Farmington.** We hope to see all members and association supporters in attendance.

**\* We had a successful AGM in Taylor at the Lone Wolf Golf Club on December first. Rod Carlyon our guest speaker was terrific** as he presented those present with a lot of useful information on how the cattle and forage business works together and how it can work together on your own farm or ranch successfully to help you make better net profit.

**\* Thanks to the Bill Wilson family of Dawson Creek, Keith Carroll family of Dawson Creek and the Ben Hansen family of Taylor** for recently hosting successful Winter Forage Club Meetings.

**\* The 1999 B.C. Cattlemen's Association Environmental Stewardship Award** presented to your Association in May at Smithers is presently in the Fort St. John area. If you would like to put this beautiful plaque on exhibit in your place of business or office please contact Sandra Burton at (250) 789-6885.

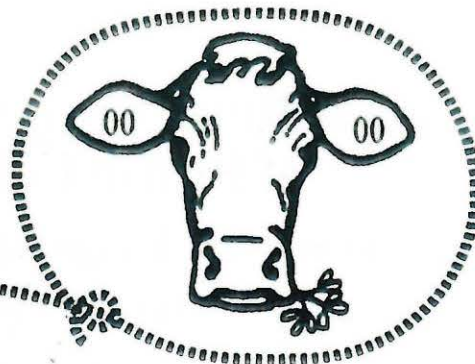
**\* We are taking this opportunity to thank past President Don Pedersen** for the tremendous effort he devoted to the Peace River Forage Association of B.C. for several years. The Association made a lot of progress with Don as president. Thank you Don.

**\* Committee Chairmen for 2000 are:** Burnem Grant, Wildlife Policy (250)786-5566; Research, Demonstration and Development, Glenn Hogberg (250)843-7653; Communications and Information, Ernest Nimitz (250) 843-2300; B.C. Forage Council, John Kendrew (250) 786-5652.

**\* Sandra Burton**, the Cross Commodity Manager is doing a great job for the Forage Association during the time when she allocates herself to our activities. Most recently her efforts on our behalf have been directed at: **fundraising, the December AGM, the January Forage Seminar and Forum, submitting projects for funding**. You will have an opportunity to visit with Sandra at the Forage Seminar and Forum or you may contact her by fax (250) 789-6884 or phone (250) 789-6885 for serious forage matters.



# Peace River Forage Association of British Columbia



Box 908, Dawson Creek, B.C. V1G 1L6

**No  
Charge  
To  
Members**

**AGENDA FOR TUESDAY JANUARY 25, 2000**  
**QUALITY FORAGE SEMINAR**  
**DAY 1**  
**FARMINGTON COMMUNITY HALL**

**\$35.00 to Non  
Members  
Includes Lunch  
and Membership**

**Theme: Blending Environmental Stewardship with Economics:  
Forage Management for the New Millennium"**

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Registration, Ruminant and visit Trade Fair
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Calvin Yoder, Brad Fournier - Alta Ag Food and Rural Development, Fahler and Fairview; Arnold Bennett, Rancher, Two Rivers - <b>Endophytes in Livestock Feed</b>
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Randy Archibald, Rancher, Rosalind, Alberta; Mike Gollop, Environment and Resources Management, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Martin Vavra, Oregon State University, Superintendent, Burns, Oregon Research Centre. - <b>Wildlife Issues and Situations and Panel Discussion - "Grazing Wildlife on Farms and Ranches"</b>
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Mingle SPONSORED BY DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA
1:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Sharon Reedyk, PFRA Water Quality Specialist: Edmonton, <b>Importance of Good Water Quality</b>
2:30 p.m - 3:30 p.m.	Ulla Thomsen, Rancher, Ponoka, Alberta - <b>Economic Grazing Management Techniques</b>
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	Brad Arner Prince George, B.C., Alberta Ducks Unlimited Canada - <b>B.C. Prairie Care Program.</b>
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Ruminant and visit Trade Fair

\*\*\*Coffee and Refreshments on the Run All Day\*\*\*

# Peace River Forage Association of British Columbia



Box 908, Dawson Creek, B.C. V1G 1L6

## AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 26, 2000 QUALITY FORAGE SEMINAR and FORUM DAY 2 FARMINGTON COMMUNITY HALL

### Theme: Addressing the Wildlife Concerns Program Outline

- ★ We plan to start at 10 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. with one hour for lunch.
- ★ Have the **five wildlife speakers** - (3 ungulate, 1 waterfowl, and 1 forage association) Randy Archibald, Alberta; Mike Gollop, Saskatchewan; Martin Vavra, Oregon, Brad Arner, B.C. Burnem Grant, B.C. address the audience.
- ★ The speaking program shall be conducted where **audience can interact extensively with speakers** with each speaker addressing the group for 30 - 45 minutes initially.
- ★ This Forum and Seminar is co-hosted by the **Peace River Regional District and the Peace River Forage Association of B.C.**
- ★ There is **NO CHARGE** to participants and an excellent country style lunch will be provided by the Farmington Farmerettes.
- ★ Anticipated participants at this open forum include:
  - PRRD Wildlife Committee members
  - Forage Association members
  - Forage Seed Producers
  - Other concerned persons (Mayors and Councillors and Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development persons of Fort St. John, Dawson Creek plus hunters, sportsmen and wildlife enthusiasts).
  - Regional Cattlemens members
  - Grain Producers
- ★ **The objective of this Seminar and Forum is to impart valuable information to a representative audience and to aid the PRRD Wildlife Committee in successfully addressing the current wildlife situation on local farms and ranches.**
- ★ Trade Fair exhibits present today also
- ★ Coffee and refreshments on the run all day.



You are invited to join us for  
**Supper**  
followed by a  
**Goods & Services Auction**  
on Saturday, February 5, 2000  
at the Farmington Hall

Viewing at 5:00 p.m.  
Supper at 6:00 p.m.  
Auction at 7:30 p.m.

**Sample of Goods and Services to be Auctioned:**

Use of Aerway for 50 acres	Custom feeding bulls
Pumping service discount	AI Service
Family trail ride, bonfire and entertainment	Braided reins
Yearling bull rental	Horse training
Fattened lamb, cut and wrapped	Metal lawn sculpture
Pickup of garden quality manure, delivered	Moving electric fence
Home made ice cream social	Wheat/ forage weaving

**Proceeds of Auction go to:**

Research and Development / Communication Projects of value to  
Forage Producers and Livestock Owners such as compiling & publishing

**Forage Facts**

A collection of timely forage growing tips from our local experts  
in the format of a calendar

**Cost of supper:** \$12.50/ person or \$25.00/ couple  
**Confirm for supper by Tuesday, February 1, 2000**

By calling Bill or Brenda Wilson at (250) 782-2866  
or Sandra Burton at (250) 789-6885

**Hosted by the Peace River Forage Association of B.C.**



(continued from front page)

This issue of populous wildlife concentrations on private property is a primary concern to local farmers and ranchers as it has a substantial effect on their economic livelihood every year, even more so in a drought year like 1999 which produces a reduced hay supply for our current winter feeding season.

Sportsmen, hunters and other wildlife enthusiasts who enjoy our great out of doors are interested in maintaining good relations with private land owners for their various outdoor activities.

For the last 30 years, farmers and ranchers have been bearing the brunt of the cost of creating favorable foraging habitat for many ungulate wildlife in this region. With increased habitat for foraging available you get increased ungulate (elk, mule deer, white tail deer and moose) populations. As things stand now, the farmers and ranchers bear most of the cost and everyone else gets most of the benefits. The current situation is not advantageous to either outdoors men, environmentalists or farmers and ranchers because it is not balanced at all economically, ecologically, sociologically and is therefore not sustainable.

Please plan to come to this forum and listen to our guest speakers, participate in the discussion and help work towards the development of an equitable partnership between sportsmen, hunters, bonafide environmentalists and farmers and ranchers.

To address this existing ungulate wildlife situation on local farms and ranchers, the Peace River Regional District created a broadly based Wildlife Committee last spring. This committee appears to be making substantial progress using the roundtable approach with all stakeholders contributing and participating positively at the monthly meetings.

The entire membership of the Wildlife Committee, plus their professional and business associates have been invited to attend and participate in this forum in the Farmington Community Hall on Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>; we expect an excellent turnout from folks in this group and their active participation on this date.

We anticipate that the valuable information brought forth by our guest speakers can lay a firm foundation to allow the Wildlife Committee of the Peace River Regional District to proceed satisfactorily toward an equitable resolution of the ungulate wildlife situation currently facing farmers and ranchers and other stakeholders in the B.C. Peace River Country.

---

## 2000 Directors of the Peace River Forage Association of British Columbia

*"Dedicated to putting forage first in the hearts, minds and pocketbooks of livestock producers and other forage enthusiasts"*

Arnold Bennett	Doug Bentley	Bill Wilson	Ernest Nimitz	Fred Burres	Michael Cowger	John Kendrew
President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary	Director	Director	Director
789-3350	843-7364	782-2866	843-2300	843-7074	787-1790	786-5652

Committee Chairmen: Wildlife Policy- Burnem Grant 786-5566; R & D - Glenn Hogberg 843-7653  
B.C. Forage Council - John Kendrew; Communications and Information - Ernest Nimitz

---

E.H. Bine, our Roving Reporter, wishes you good reading and hopes that in the new millennium your grass always grows stirrup high and your cattle prices always touch the sky!