

# FORAGE FIRST

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

Thirty Six Edition

January 2004

\$10.00

## 2003 Annual General Meeting



Our guest Speaker Christoph Weder captivated our members' attention with his experiences in South America. The big emphasis was that they have low inputs, minimal investments in machinery and buildings, and still make a living. He talked about the high quality of beef produced down there and described them trailing their cattle to market as opposed to shipping them. This provided a different setting for the cattle business then typical up here.

A Big thank you goes to the sponsors of our event: District of Taylor and the South Peace Seed Cleaning Coop, their contributions were appreciated. Thank you to all those who were involved in the set up and delivery of the AGM.

Welcome Darwin Linford our newest director and current vice president! Other changes to the Executive in December 2003: Sarah Davies – Recording Secretary. New Chairs: Pau I Cowger – Wildlife, John Kendrew – Management Committee.

[www.peaceforage.bc.ca](http://www.peaceforage.bc.ca)

### 2004 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"*

Chuck Sutherland	Ernest Nimitz	Bill Wilson	Michael Cowger	Sarah Davies	Darwin Linford	John Kendrew
President	Director	Treasurer	Director	Secretary	Vice President	Director
780 2221	843 2300	782 2866	787 1790	788 1970	827 3222	786 5652
Committee Chairmen:		Wildlife Policy- Paul Cowger 827 3859		R & D - Glenn Hogberg 843 7653		
B.C. Forage Council - John Kendrew			Communications and Information - Ernest Nimitz			
Contractors :	Sandra Burton 789 6885	Julie Robinson 759 4411		Kim Strasky 789 6885		



## Feeding Strategies Course Graduates

The Peace River Forage Association of BC is proud to present the first graduates from two successful courses on "Developing Feeding Strategies for Your Herd". These courses were organized in response to the situation this fall: ranchers were juggling increased numbers of livestock to feed over the winter with hay shortages and alternative new feeds. The course was jointly hosted with the Continuing Education Department of Northern Lights College. Jim Forbes was the key instructor, complimented by knowledgeable resource people available at each course.

The format of the course was three evening sessions of three hours each, with lots of discussion and hands on computer time. For those wishing to take advantage of a companion offer from PRFA of BC, feed and soil samples were taken and analyzed at a reduced price. The course was run at the NLC campus in Dawson Creek in November and at the Fort St. John campus in December.

### **The South Peace graduates are:**

Gordon Lazinchuk  
John & Pat Kendrew  
Gino Morrone  
Chuck & Pat Sutherland & Karla Meise  
Glenn Hogberg  
Dan Rose  
Johann Tietjen  
Pat Gerlinsky  
Sarah Davies & Steve Rainey  
Dr. Barry Ross & Dr. Mike Ross

### **The North Peace graduates are:**

Rick Kantz  
Michael Cowger  
Colleen Giesbrecht  
Don & Eva Kruse  
Earl & Shawn Cusack  
Brian Clarke  
Darwin Linford

The cost of this high quality course is only \$60 for 9 hours of class time. The reasonable cost is made possible by generous donations of time, knowledge and facilities by Jim Forbes, Bill Wilson and Bob Haugen (CE Director, NLC).

Thank you Chuck for organizing us all in the most efficient sampling blitz ever! We also appreciate the partnership with Norwest Labs, Beef Cattle Industry Development Fund and the Soil Conservation Council of Canada (Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program), which enabled this fall's offer of reduced feed and soil analyses costs.



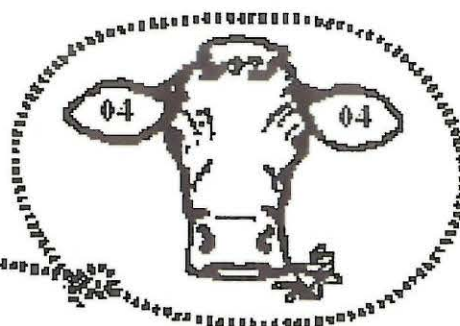
There has been some interest in offering this course again in the South Peace and perhaps in Prespatou, provided there are enough committed people to make it feasible. The maximum for each course is 12 so don't delay. Add your name to the list by calling Sandra at (250) 789 6885 or Julie at (250) 759 4411.

## EFP Progress

Several meetings occurred in December, which have led to some new happenings with regards to Environmental Farm Plans (EFPs) in the Peace River area. Niels Holbek gave a presentation at our AGM and again in Taylor the next day at an open agriculture forum. His primary goal was to establish a delivery group in the Peace River area. Much discussion ensued from these meetings and no single delivery group has yet been identified.

Two individuals from the area will attend the first planner training session in February. Julie Robinson is sponsored by the Peace River Forage Association of BC and Colleen Giesbrecht is sponsored by the BC Grain Producers Association. More information about EFP's will follow training of the planners.

# Peace River Forage Association of British Columbia



## *Surviving in the Times: Innovative Ranching Strategies to Match the Changing Times and Demands of the Market”:*

ANNUAL FORAGE SEMINAR- Tuesday, Jan 27, 2004  
Taylor Community Hall  
9:00 am to 4:30 pm

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|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.</b>   | <b>Registration, ruminant and visit displays</b>   |
| <b>9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.</b>  | Welcome from Morning Chair:<br>Introduction to Surviving in the Times<br><b><i>Herb Lock, Farm Sense, Edmonton, AB</i></b>   |
| <b>10:45 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.</b> | <b>Coffee break &amp; visit displays</b>   |
| <b>11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</b> | Saskatchewan Feedlot Owner ( <i>Introduction by Bill Wilson</i> )<br><b><i>Bob Ivey owner of 2300 head feedlot</i></b><br><b><i>President of Saskatchewan Cattle Feeders Association</i></b>   |
| <b>12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.</b>  | <b>Lunch and visit displays</b>  |
| <b>1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>   | Afternoon Chair: <b><i>John Kendrew</i></b><br>Panel Discussion – Peace Country Innovators: Surviving and Thriving Strategies<br><b><i>Ernie Nimitz Sunset Prairie, Cattle Ranch</i></b><br><b><i>Sarah Davies Lone Prairie, Cattle Ranch</i></b><br><b><i>Doug Summer, Hudson Hope, Cattle Ranch</i></b><br><b><i>Andrew Breunig Golatta Creek, Buffalo Ranch</i></b> |
| <b>3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.</b>   | <b>Coffee break and visit displays</b>   |
| <b>3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.</b>   | <b>Panel Discussion Cont'd</b>   |
| <b>4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</b>   | <b>Ruminant and visit displays</b>   |

\$20 for Members \$30 for Non-members or Couple

Sponsors include: PRAD, District of Taylor, City of Fort St John, Pick Seed, Peace Country Feeds, Ducks Unlimited, PRRD, Prairie Seeds

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



Back by Popular Demand:

## Forage Goods & Service Auction

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2004  
Tower Lake Community Hall

Delivery of auction items by 3 pm  
Viewing auction items at 5 pm  
Roast beef supper at 6 pm  
Entertainment at 6:30 pm  
Auction starts at 7:30 pm

Every time we organize this auction we are overwhelmed with how generous people in our communities are and how much fun we all have at this event!

**Donations to date include:**

Horse Shoe Quilt Rack	2 Pails of Peace Country Honey
Asian Supper for 8 People	2 Plastic Water Tanks
The Famous Benji Bird	Bag (25 kg) Reed Canary Seed
Used Chain Harrows	Handcrafted Wooden Item
Hand Painted Rock Creatures	Brownie Cheesecake
Child Wooden Pouting Stool	Windmill
Locally Crafted Oil Panting	2 water pumps
A Load of Gravel (15 tonnes) $\frac{3}{4}$ minus + Delivery Within 1 Hour of Taylor	
This evening features a delicious meal and great entertainment for:	
\$20 per person	or \$30 per couple

**To make a donation or reserve tickets:**

In the South Peace call Sarah Davies at 788 1970 or Julie Robinson at 759 4411  
In the North Peace call Nelda Bennett at 789 3350 or Sandra Burton at 789 6885

## Coming Events

Tuesday January 27, 2004

Annual Forage Seminar: ***Thriving/Surviving in the Times: Innovative Ranching Strategies to Match the Changing Times and Demands of the Market*** Guest speakers Herb Lock (Farm Sense Edmonton), Bob Ivy (Saskatchewan Feedlot), panel of 4 local producers. 9:00 am - 4:30 pm. Taylor Community Hall Luncheon and Speakers \$20 members, \$30 non-members  
Contact Julie Robinson: (250) 759-4411

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Saturday February 21, 2004

Biannual Forage Fundraising Auction and Winter Fun Day. Donations and Volunteers welcome.  
Tower Lake Hall; Viewing at 5:00 pm; Supper at 6:00pm and Auction at 7:30pm  
Contact: Sarah Davies (250)788-1790; Nelda Bennett (250)789-3350; Sandra Burton (250)789-6885; Julie Robinson (250)759-4411

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Saturday June 19, 2004

Annual Summer Forage Tour – Montney area Contact: Julie Robinson (250) 759-4411