



Forage and Livestock eNews

Updates and information from across the industry

Volume 16, Issue 4, April 18, 2023

New USask researcher focuses on growing forage production

by: Lana Haight, Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence (LFCE)

"I don't fit into any box. I do interdisciplinary work and because of that, I'm connecting all these different pieces and I find the work to be super exciting," said Kelln, assistant professor in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources and the Beef Industry Research Chair in Integrated Forage Management and Utilization at the University of Saskatchewan. She holds a joint appointment in the departments of Plant Sciences, and Animal and Poultry Science.



"Connecting the dots between the soil, the plants and the animal is so needed from an industry perspective. And when I say it's important for industry, who is industry? It's the guys and the gals feeding cows in minus-40 weather. It's our duty to provide them with the resources to do that properly and efficiently and profitably. It's also our responsibility to help them tell their story, especially when the environment comes into play."

[Read the full article here](#)

Image: Dr. Bree Kelln (PhD) will be supervising Tyler Peterson when he starts his master's degree this spring. His research will begin in the greenhouse one plant at a time before he takes his work to the LFCE fields next year.

Image Credit: USask Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence

Forging Researcher and Industry Connections Through Mentorship

by: Beef Cattle Research Council, April 4, 2023

For the past nine years the Beef Researcher Mentorship Program has successfully brought industry and research together to create opportunities for researchers to align their interests with those that are practical and beneficial to Canada's beef industry. The

program allows researchers to build the skills, network and confidence necessary to participate in or lead applied research and extension efforts. This connection to the industry enhances and accelerates innovation in Canada's beef industry.

Since 2014, 36 researchers and future leaders of beef innovation from across Canada have participated in the program. Each researcher mentee is matched with two mentors for one year. Mentors include an innovative primary beef producer along with another beef and/or forage industry leader, both of whom have interests that align with the researcher's area(s) of focus.

Read on to learn what past mentees say about their experiences and learnings from the program.

Are you a researcher based in Canada and interested in mentorship from the Canadian beef industry? The deadline to apply for the 2023/24 Beef Researcher Mentorship Program year is May 1, 2023. **Apply now.**

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Comment: John McKinnon on mentorship

by: Lisa Guenther, Canadian Cattlemen, April 10, 2023

This article appeared in the April 2023 issue of Canadian Cattlemen

When the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame announced its 2023 inductees earlier this year, I was pleased to see long-time Canadian Cattlemen contributor Dr. John McKinnon on the list. McKinnon's research career has focused on feed utilization, especially byproduct feeds, but he's also dedicated a good deal of time to extension. McKinnon was the first Saskatchewan Beef Industry Research Chair at the University of Saskatchewan, which divided most of his time between research and extension. He was a founding organizer of the Western Canadian Feedlot Management School and was also involved with other events, such as the Saskatchewan Beef and Forage Symposium.

He's also mentored many students. A 2016 Western Producer profile on McKinnon noted that his University of Saskatchewan office included a "crowded shelf of graduate thesis projects," and stated at that time he had supervised or co-supervised more than 35 graduate and doctoral students, plus several post-doc researchers. In the same article, McKinnon credited good timing and mentorship to steering him into his career.

McKinnon was enrolled in a bachelor of science program at the University of Manitoba when a professor, Dr. Bob Parker, piqued his interest in agriculture. Parker, known for his research in swine genetics and breeding, and for his work with graduate and undergraduate students, became an early mentor for McKinnon.

“At the time, job opportunities were good in agriculture and animal science,” says McKinnon. Following Parker’s advice, he switched to the bachelor of science in agriculture program in his second year.

“He actually encouraged me to go into graduate studies as well when I finished. I was tempted but I also had a job offer and I went with the job offer, which in hindsight was a very valuable opportunity, as I not only got a foot in the door on the livestock side of things, but I got to meet a lot of people on the marketing side as well within the feeding industry at that time. And it also brought me out to Saskatchewan.”

[Read more](#)



Manitoba Forage & Grassland Association (MFGA) 2023 Regen Ag Conference Announces Top Notch Keynotes

6th Annual MFGA Regen Ag Conference continues to put forward world-class line-up around regenerative agriculture in Manitoba, Prairies and Northern Great Plains

With one Colorado Rocky and a heavy dash of Blue Dasher Farms in the conference mix, organizers are thrilled with the quality of keynote speakers at the Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association (MFGA)’s sixth annual Regenerative Agriculture Conference to be held November 13-15, 2023 at the Victoria Inn and Conference Centre in Brandon, Manitoba.



World-class keynotes Brendon Rockey and Dr. Jonathan Lundgren of Blue Dasher Farms/Ecdysis Foundation are locked down for the two- and half-day conference. MFGA Board members and 2023 Conference co-chairs Andrea Hamilton and Amber McNish have been working closely with Larry Wegner, past MFGA conference chair, and the 2023 conference committee members to put together a line up that will entertain, engage and educate farmers, land managers and the conservation community on at the annual event in mid-November.

[Read more on the MFGA website](#)



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CANADIAN WESTERN
AGRIBITION

LFCE Summer Field Day
presented by
Canadian Western Agribition
June 20, 2023



Register for your free ticket
<https://LFCE2023FieldDay.eventbrite.com>

The Saskatchewan Forage Council Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 20th immediately following the LFCE Field Day.

Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP)

The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP) is a five-year, \$485-million investment by federal and provincial governments in strategic initiatives for Saskatchewan agriculture.

Funding to support farmers and ranchers, including the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP), Resilient Agricultural Landscapes Program (RALP) and Animal Health and Biosecurity Program are available to view on the Saskatchewan Agriculture website.

The Resilient Agricultural Landscapes Program (RALP) provides funding to producers to increase the environmental resiliency of agricultural land. The program helps producers achieve outcomes related to water quality, soil health and biodiversity through the adoption of beneficial management practices. Project funding is available for seeding tame or native forages, grazing management, targeted grazing, livestock water protection and more.

Visit Saskatchewan Agriculture's website to learn more about these new programs.



Does Steam Pressure Toasting of Faba Bean Seeds at Different Processing Conditions Affect Animal Production Performance (eg. Milk Yield and

Composition Profiles) in High Producing Dairy Cows?

by: Dr. Peiqiang Yu, Professor and Ministry of Agriculture Strategic Feed Research Chair in Feeds R&D, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
University of Saskatchewan

Recently, the 40th Western Canadian Dairy Seminar (40th WCDS) was held in person on March 7-10, 2023. The seminar is a place to gather the latest information in dairy production and technology advances and very useful for dairy producers, technology transfer specialists, researchers, and dairy service and supply representatives.

During this meeting, one of our PhD students from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture Strategic Research Chair in Feed R&D Programs (Professor Dr. Peiqiang Yu), María E. Rodríguez Espinosa shared her research with producers, nutritionists, researchers, industry service and supply representative etc through student poster competition. Her presentation topic was “Effects of Raw and Steamed Pressured Faba Bean Seeds in Diets of High Producing Dairy Cows”.

[Read the full article here.](#)



Our Amazing Grassland video series

The video series Our Amazing South Dakota Resources from the USDA NRCS began in 2018 and features over 70 short videos that features farmers and ranchers describing the work they do on the grasslands of South Dakota.

The most recent video feature the Fagerland Family of Langford, SD.

[Check out this video series here](#) or search for Our Amazing Grasslands on YouTube.

Upcoming Events

Native Prairie Speaker Series - Golden Eagles

May 3, 2023

Via Webinar

[Learn more and register here](#)

Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association AGM & Convention

June 4-6, 2023

Moose Jaw, SK

[Visit the website for more information](#)

Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence Summer Field Day

June 20, 2023

Clavet, SK

[Learn more here](#)

Saskatchewan Forage Council AGM

June 20, 2023

Clavet, SK

LFCE board room, immediately following the field day

Canada's Farm Show

June 20-22, 2023

Regina, SK
[Learn more here](#)

Ag in Motion
July 18-20, 2023
Langham, SK
[Learn more here](#)

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