

SEPTEMBER 2024



Combines taking off the canola crop in the Harvest of Hope field north of Moosomin on Wednesday. See pages C2-3 and C16-17 for more on the growing project for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Harvest 2024 close to wrapping up in Southeast

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

As the 2024 harvest comes close to wrapping up, overall farmers in Southeast Saskatchewan are happy with their crops.

Across Saskatchewan, producers were around 79 per cent complete last week, which is still ahead of the five-year average (75 per cent) and the 10-year average (69 per cent).

According to provincial Crop Extension Specialist Iyca Masich, the vast majority of producers are finished harvesting in the southeast—a little bit later than it could have been with recent rains causing delays, but still sitting at 83 per cent complete.

“About a week and a half, two weeks ago now, lots of the province got some sporadic rainfall, including parts of the southeast,” Masich said. “That definitely would have caused delays for producers in the area for either a couple days to a few days. It really depends on how much moisture that they got and when they got it. From what I understand, it’s been pretty dry the last couple days in the southeast, so I expect producers are up and running again.”

Early-seeded crops such as winter wheat, fall rye, lentils, and peas were taken off first, followed by spring-seeded wheat, barley, and oats.

“You might see a field or two out there that hasn’t been harvested yet for those kind of crops, but for the most part, most of those crops are in the bin,” Masich said. “Producers now are mainly just working on getting canola, flax and soybean crops off.”

Canola quality has ranged widely across the region, depending largely on rainfall conditions.

“It is so varied, and that just comes down to the varied rainfall that we’ve been seeing throughout the southeast region and the province as a whole,” Masich said. “In northeast Saskatchewan, they get more rainfall up there, but they were cutting pretty dry canola—I think it was eight per cent moisture or something—which is still pretty low.”

Blake Duchek, who farms in the Atwater/Stockholm area, was gearing up for the final days of harvest last week. He anticipated being done harvest on Wednesday, Sept. 25, “or if we get lazy, it might be Thursday morning” he said with a laugh.

“Yesterday, when we fired up, we just got out to the field and it started to shower and it was off and on all day here, actually,” he said. “The wheat was actually above average—some of our best wheat we’ve grown! The canola was a little bit below average. We had some quarters that were above average, a few average, and then some below average. Probably a couple bushels an acre less than average.”

Duchek hasn’t heard of anyone with above average canola this year, and has an eye on the future market for the crop.

“So it will be interesting to see what that does with prices, and now with China, they’re investigating Canada for dumping canola again,” he said, referencing China’s actions after the federal government imposed a 100 per cent tariff on the import of Chinese-made electric vehicles recently. “They’re just doing it to get the price down low.”

Overall, harvest for Duchek has been general positive with only minor setbacks.

“Everything went pretty good here during the harvest, a few little breakdowns, nothing major, and only a couple rain events, maybe two rain events, have shut us down,” he said. “We had some pretty good stretches. We took a bunch of acres off in a hurry. Actually, when it rained this last time, it was nice for a break already to catch up on fixing a few things.”

In the Rocanville area, Rylar Hutchinson finished harvest early last week, despite some looming storm clouds that threatened to stall progress.

“Harvest was good this year, it was a little slow at the start there with those storms we had rolling through at the end of August, but after that we had some nice weather and were able to make some progress,” he said. “I was able to finish up a week from yesterday . . . just before more rain came. I am still happy with the yields I pulled off this year with the storms we had and making it a challenge to pick the crop off the ground. I wouldn’t say it’s the best yields I’ve seen but I’m still happy considering the year we had.”

At Hebert Ag Ventures in Moosomin, Jeff Warkentin had very much the same report. They wrapped up late last week, and were pleased with the year.

“We lost some time due to weather, but overall, it went pretty good I’d say,” Warkentin reported. “There were no large amounts of rainfall in our area, more or less just

enough to be a nuisance and stop progress.”

On the quality side, Warkentin noted similar results as others—cereals good, canola not the greatest.

“Our cereals were really good, I’d call them above average for the area,” he said. “And canola has been average, which is a little bit frustrating considering the cereal were so good.”

The northeast corner of the region has endured its share of wild weather over the past month, and Kevin Hruska, who farms in the Gerald area, estimates a further 10 days to go on his operation. Despite being around three-quarters finished with this year’s harvest, those storms have hampered progress.

“I’m on a big 10-quarter field right now that’s just battered for wind,” he said from his cab in a canola field. “We lost half of it in this last storm where they were warning for all the tornadoes that come through here.”

He’s seen water sitting in some of his fields yet, but doesn’t believe it was too damaging. Again, as others have reported, the cereal side seemed to be the shining star this season.

“We had actually a very good wheat crop, better than expected. The canola is not as good as we’d hoped for,” Hruska said.

Trevor Green was combining in the Elkhorn area last week, and he also noticed a fair amount of damage from hail.

“About a month ago, there was that big hail storm that went all through McAuley and all the way down to Cromer—it was quite a swath and it wiped through here,” he said. “So that was kind of depressing to see, because there were some really nice crops around.”

Aside from the hailed out areas, Green described the rest of the year’s harvest as “fairly decent.”

“Overall, I think the yields were decent, and commodity prices are a little something to be desired right about now,” he said, adding that they’re still about a week away from the finish line. “We had a lot of equipment trouble this year.”

In the Maryfield area, Noah Rempel noted their operation wrapped up harvest in mid-September.

“It was really good, everything ran pretty smooth,” he said. “We had a couple breakdowns, we probably lost about a day total.”

Continued on page C5

Harvest of Hope brings in over 9,000 bushels

To date, project has generated \$3.1 million for Canadian Foodgrains Bank

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It was harvest day Wednesday for the largest Canadian Foodgrains Bank growing project in Saskatchewan, right in the local area.

A large number of volunteers and donated equipment went to work on a 280-acre field between Moosomin and Rocanville, taking off the canola to benefit the Foodgrains Bank, and the Moosomin and Rocanville food banks.

Since it began, the Harvest of Hope has raised \$620,000, not including this year's crop—money that is matched four times by the federal government, bringing the total amount that the Canadian Foodgrains Bank has received because of the Harvest of Hope to \$3.1 million. This year's harvest will add to that total.

"Things went really well, we were able to take the crop off in about four-and-a-half hours," said Kyle Penner, an organizer with the local Harvest of Hope group. "Today we had eight combines, two grain carts and four trucks.

"The carts definitely were a real blessing. They kept the combines rolling, and as they were able to go, they filled the trucks, and then all four trucks would basically go all to the elevator at once. It worked really well."

Thanks to a beautiful fall day, the entire crew was able to leave the field around 6 p.m.

"We typically cycle between canola and wheat every year, so last year was a wheat year, and this year in the rotation is a canola crop," Penner explained. "With the wind, all the chaff flew the right way. Nobody got too dusted out!"

This is the 11th year for the Moosomin project, and Penner credits all the volunteer support for their continued success.

"Lots of people do a little bit, and that helps to spread out the load; the burden of the crop, but also everybody pitches in a little bit, and it all comes together in the end with a pretty big impact," he said. "We're quite grateful for that."



Combines taking off canola during the Harvest of Hope last week.

In addition to those local volunteer farmers—who took time out of their own busy fall work—local companies also played a role. Väderstad seeded the field plus Pat-tison John Deere, Rocky Mountain Equipment, and Mazer Equipment were all represented.

"It's been really interesting to watch how much support the project gains year over year," Penner said. "We always seem to pick up another one or two or three people who are willing to contribute to the cause. We have a good cause that people can get behind. As it builds momentum, we just continue to have really positive impact after we're done. And that's pretty cool."

He explained that with all the money raised through the Harvest of Hope project is devoted to food security initiatives both local and on a global scale.

"All of it ends up in food security ini-

tiatives, but it ends up with that division that we've done recently between local stuff, and that's been primarily through the Moosomin and Rocanville food banks helping them to operate, and then also through the Foodgrains Bank, which are dealing with emergency food assistance in places all over the world," Penner said. "People displaced through the war in Ukraine, people displaced through the war in Syria, people displaced through the war in Israel, they're where people are getting kicked out of their homes and losing their livelihoods and need food right now, and they're feeding them."

He likes to use the analogy of building a bigger table to articulate the outpouring of shared good fortune.

Penner won't know final numbers on how much was raised this year for a couple weeks yet, but he said the canola looked

good coming off the field.

Larger impact

It's amazing to think how harvesting one field in southeast Saskatchewan will go towards helping so many people. Even more astounding is what can happen when several groups get together for the greater cause.

"Growing projects since the late 1980s have been really the backbone of the overall support that is received by the Canadian Food Grains Bank," said Rick Block, Foodgrains Bank representative for Saskatchewan. "Between 45 and even upwards of 50 per cent of our total donation income that comes to the Foodgrains Bank is received by virtue of registered growing projects, growing projects and community events."

Continued on Page C3

SEE US AT MOOSOMIN & WHITEWOOD DODGE AND ASK US ABOUT OUR BEST PRICE FIRST POLICY

2023 Hyundai Palisade
STOCK# IC356256A
- Urban
38,000 KMS
\$53,995

2020 Chev Malibu RS
STOCK# IC087420A
- Extremely clean car
114,000 KMS
\$24,995
\$96/WK + TAX

2018 Ram 1500 Sport Crew Cab
4x4
STOCK# IMD517635A
- 3.0 L eco, New engine
- 3 year 160,000 km parts & labour warranty
119,000 KMS
\$35,995

2021 Ram 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 Express
STOCK# MD239439B
- 5.7 L V8 Hemi
69,000 KMS
\$38,995

2020 Chev Trail Boss Crew Cab
4x4
STOCK# MD248043A
- 5.3 L V8
98,000 KMS
\$43,995

2023 Jeep Compass Altitude 4x4
STOCK# BBS14288
9,500 KMS
\$37,897
\$129/WK + TAX

2017 Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk
4x4
STOCK# IMD617635A
158,000 KM'S
\$26,995
\$109/WK + TAX

2016 Ram 3500 SLT Crew Cab
4x4
STOCK# MD168838A
- 6.7L V8 diesel
- Great work truck
248,000 KMS
\$39,997

2017 Toyota Highlander XLE 4x4
STOCK# MD606139A
224,000 KMS
\$24,990
\$99/WK + TAX

2021 Jeep Gladiator Rubicon
4X4
STOCK# MD650196A
- Leather
42,000 KMS
\$49,997

2014 Ram 1500 Sport Crew Cab
4x4
STOCK# MD620670A
- 5.7 L V8 Hemi
200,000 KMS
\$19,997
\$99/WK + TAX (60 MNTHS)

2021 Ram 1500 Classic Crew Cab
4x4
STOCK# MD667335A
- 5.7 L V8 Hemi
- Very clean truck
94,000 KMS
\$36,997
\$149/WK + TAX

2023 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited
STOCK# BBS26860
- Rear seat Entertainment
36,000 KMS
\$54,997

2020 Chev Camaro ZL1
STOCK# MD604875A
- 650 HP
9,000 KMS
\$79,997

2017 Buick Enclave Premium
AWD
STOCK# MD232044A
- Leather Sunroof
105,000 KMS
\$27,995
\$119/WK + TAX

WHITEWOOD DODGE.COM

Jerry Unger
MOOSOMIN
Sales Manager

Jordan Lloyd
WHITEWOOD
Sales Manager

Nicholas Shillington
MOOSOMIN
Finance Manager

Laurel WHITEWOOD
Finance Manager

Chelan Beckett
MOOSOMIN
Sales

Ryder MOOSOMIN
Sales

Adylle MOOSOMIN
Sales

Colton WHITEWOOD
Sales

MOOSOMIN DODGE.COM

Harvest of Hope brings in over 9,000 bushels

To date, project has generated \$3.1 million for Canadian Foodgrains Bank

Continued from C2

Total donations to the Canadian Food Grains Bank from Saskatchewan usually range between \$2.5 to \$2.7 million per year. That may sound like a huge number, but it's also a reflection of the global need. Half of that comes from the 33 growing projects across the province.

"It's designed to respond to basic human need and suffering, the kind that at the scale that we really don't see in Canada," Block said. "Our motto is for 'a Christian response to hunger'. We seek to try to respond to any to situations all around the world where hunger is severe."

In addition to these generous donations, the federal government has also maintained a longstanding commitment to the cause. Since the Canadian Foodgrains Bank inception in 1983, a partnership has been in place - then under CIDA, and currently through Global Affairs Canada. Recently, that commitment has been reconfirmed with an announcement of \$100 million over four years.

"The Foodgrains Bank is very appreciative of this ongoing relationship with Global Affairs," Block said. "There's a \$25 million pot available each year for the food greens bank that we can access funds based on donations that come in."

That funding is specific to emergency food assistance and dollars are matched at a ratio of four to one.

"When you look at the reality of it, there is well over 800 million people worldwide that are really suffering from what we would term severe hunger, not really knowing where their next meal is coming from or impacted seasonally," Block explained. "Our network is doing everything it can to ensure that it responds to those that have needs."

That response can take on many forms, even something as simple as a food voucher can make a massive difference. Block gave the example of Syrian refugees in Lebanon to illustrate the point.

"There's vulnerability there, because they're not really legally allowed to work, and often it's mothers with children, and so the receiving of a food voucher - be-



People heading to their combines to help take off the crop during the Harvest of Hope last week.

cause there's food in Lebanon, but the Syrians have difficulty in accessing food - those food vouchers allow the recipients to access food at kind of a designated locations," he said. "This seems like a small gift, but it's a huge gift. It's a huge burden that is lifted when one isn't having to worry about, how will they feed their children."

Other forms may include training farmers in different countries or education on increased nutrition. Sadly, there is one major reason for the global need, as Block noted, "conflict really is probably the primary driver of hunger."

The response from Canadian Foodgrains Bank is that of compassionate assistance while maintaining the dignity of those in need; much like how a lo-


cal farmer might extend a hand to their neighbour who's in need. In this case, it's just a little longer reach.

"It's incumbent that we are keeping our eyes open - like you say, it's our global neighbours where the needs the greatest," Block said. "We have a vast and vibrant network that really desires to respond to people, to provide supports so people can maintain their sense of dignity and maintain their livelihoods as best as possible."


Rick and Jacquie Block have been with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank for the past eight years, with Jacquie actually be-

ing on the ground in Lebanon to assist Syrian refugees.

"We both obviously hold dearly to our Christian faith," Rick said, explaining what drew the couple the Foodgrains Bank. "That calls us to want to do the work in whatever capacity we can to demonstrate God's love and a sense of God's compassion and justice. Obviously, this is a paid position that we are in, and so we feel really fortunate to be able to connect with so many people across Saskatchewan who are also wanting to kind of reach out to others who are in a really difficult or tough situation."




PRAIRIE-WIDE & HOMEGROWN





After 110 years in the business, you probably know the P&H name — but you might not know everything those letters stand for. With over 30 agribusiness locations in Western Canada, including flour and feed mills, we have the best seed, inputs, marketing and agronomic support for you. P&H is built to keep your farm business Profitable & Healthy.

FIND YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS AT PARRISHANDHEIMBECKER.COM



WISHING YOU A SAFE & SUCCESSFUL HARVEST

SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SEASONAL HAULS



TIME TO DIG DEEPER



Saskatchewan Potash Grows Communities

Here's a snapshot of the benefits potash mines bring to communities.

AVERAGE SALARY



\$100K per year x 500 employees

= **\$50 Million**
in wages paid annually

SASKATCHEWAN ROYALTIES AND PRODUCTION TAX PAID IN 2022

\$1.2 Billion



PROVINCIAL SALES TAX



\$50 Million

PROPERTY TAX



\$13 Million

PROVINCIAL INCOME TAX



\$6.25 Mil.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT



\$150 Mil.
invested annually per site



↓
Learn more at
timetodigdeeper.com

Harvest 2024 wraps in Southeast

Continued from front
 The Rempels were close to wrapping up a week prior, but for a rain delay shutting things down very close to the end.
 "I got rain with 10 acres left!" Rempel said.
 Their canola was about average, which Rempel chalks up to good luck.
 "Same thing at seeding—seeding just went really smooth—as smooth as I can remember it going, and we just had our systems in place and got things in the ground at the right time, and ideal moisture levels in the ground. By the time we got that big heat wave—I guess that was July for four or five weeks—maybe a little longer, ours had already been flowering for a while. So that big heat wave didn't really affect it too much either. We were pretty happy with that, too."



Canola being taking off in a field north of Moosomin last week.

Pasture land looking good in southeast

Livestock producers on the other hand were quite pleased to see a wetter year as pastures were able to thrive. But as Masich pointed out, it wasn't the same bounty everywhere in the province.
 "The rainfall that Saskatchewan received a couple weeks ago definitely helped with some of the top soil moisture conditions in pastures, but overall, pasture conditions in the province aren't the greatest, they could certainly could be better," he said. "They are not too bad in the southeast, but still they range anywhere from some pastures being good to fair to others being in poor condition. It really depends where you are, especially in the southeast. It really comes down to the variable rainfall that you might have seen in your region. But some of the poor pasture conditions are more in the south central and southwest areas of the province."
 Green sees all that moisture as liquid gold for the pastures, hopefully topping up reserves for next year.
 "One good thing about the rain that has delayed harvest is it is putting reserves down for the pastures," he said. "Some of those pastures have greened up and extended some of the grazing a little bit later into the season, or else given a good start for next year, too."
 One saving grace with a mixed operation is the balancing act between operations.
 "With grain prices not being quite as high as they have been in the past, that's kind of where the benefit of being a mixed farm comes in," Rempel explained. "It helps balance it out. If you have a poor grain year, but cattle are good, then that helps. But if you have a poor cattle year, and grain is good, then you have two different enterprises you can work with in good and bad years."
 Indications point to a good year on the cattle side—welcome news to those with livestock.
 "Calf prices are looking like they're going to be

decent," Green said. "Yearling prices are coming off the grass pretty decent."
 "We've been implementing more of a rotational grazing program in our pastures, and I can't say there's been one point this year where we didn't have any feed for our cattle, or felt like we were being pushed or anything, just the way we can rotate them through," said Rempel. "The moisture came at the right time, and same with our hay, compared to last year we're almost double for our hay. All around this year has just been a really good year for everything."

Another mild winter?

Some weather experts are calling for an extended fall with milder than average conditions—something which could be advantageous.
 "A mild fall isn't necessarily a bad thing, just with the moisture delays that many producers in the province have seen there's still a lot of producers out in the field trying to get to crop off. So that will give them more time to get the crop off in good time before the winter hits," Masich explained. "And then it also gives more time before the ground freezes, which allows for any rainfall that falls to the soil to soak up that moisture and store it for next year. So it's not necessarily a bad thing, but definitely we don't want what we had last year, where we had quite mild conditions on into December."
 Green also agrees that an extended fall would be advantageous, allowing time for extra post-harvest work to continue.
 "I think that this fall is probably fine. If we didn't get any rain between now and the snow, it's probably going to be fine," he said. "It would be nice to get some fall work done, some harrowing and some fertilizer applied and stuff like that."
 The mild temperatures could also improve shipping conditions, as Green pointed out.
 "A mild winter is always good for shipping grain—CP always says it costs too much to ship grain at

-40°C."
 Hutchinson is already busy attending to post-harvest tasks.
 "I am slowing down and doing some fall work I'd like to do," he said when asked what he's busy with now that the grain is in the bin. "There is always bush to clean up and draining that can be done."

Pests causing some issues

As for pests, folks are beginning to see migrating flocks of geese moving south—bringing along their appetite.
 "For the last three or four crop reports, one of the main sources of crop damage was those migratory birds coming down on fields, particularly fields

that have been swathed and haven't been harvested yet," Masich said. "They'll go in and feed on some of the grains, so that's been the main cause of crop damage. Unfortunately, there's not too much you can do about the birds, other than just hope that they stay away."
 One surprise has been an overall light year for grass-

hoppers. Usually cold winter weather will knock out a large amount of grasshoppers—or insect eggs in general, depending on the length of the cold snap. But this past winter was very mild and conditions were prime for a population boom.
 "Luckily, we had a cool and wet spring, which and insects don't like cool and wet conditions in the spring, so it kind of delays their emergence, and then that allows crops to be a bit bigger when they eventually do emerge, and more tolerant to insect damage," Masich said.
 Duchek noticed the toll flea beetles took on his canola.
 "We had flea beetles really bad back in June, and those quarters got chewed down pretty good," he said. "We sprayed them twice, but they never did recover. Then you get extra weed pressure because your stand is thinner, and then the excess rain we had there, that kind of weakened it. So the stuff that got chewed by flea beetles was well below average. I've heard some guys are down to 10 bushels in other parts of the province on the canola, so a guy really can't complain with what we have this year."

SOURIS RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT Job Opportunity - Financial Administrator (FULL-TIME)

The Souris River Watershed District is accepting applications from qualified individuals for a fulltime position of Financial Administrator

Job Objective:

The Financial Administrator is responsible for financial aspects of the watershed district including budgeting, project allocations, inventory, bank reconciliation, chart of accounts, posting of transactions in SAGE accounting.

The Financial Administrator reports directly to the General Manager.

The Financial Administrator is responsible for the coordination and overseeing the annual budget process in collaboration with staff, setting deadlines, and following up with all contributors such as GROW, Program Coordinators, Operational Administrator, and the General Manager.

Job Location: This position may be located in either the Reston or Deloraine Office with some travel between the two offices on occasion

Skills Required:

- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Experience with SAGE Accounting
- Experience and education that includes management of books, budgeting, invoicing, payables.
- Strong skills with the ability to manage multiple or competing priorities with tight deadlines.
- Excellent communication, interpersonal and computer skills.
- Knowledge of government processes and procedures would be an asset.

Qualifications:

- Graduate of a degree, diploma, or certificate program in Business Administration, Accounting, or equivalent relevant experience (Accounting concentration preferred)
- Previous experience in an office setting
- Experience in management of employees would be an asset.

Compensation:

- 35 hour work week
- Salary range \$52,000.00—\$67,000.00
- Employer paid Blue Cross Health Benefits Plan III
- Municipal Employee Benefits Pension

Interested applicants may submit a cover letter and resume including salary expectations and a list of 3 references by **4:30 p.m. Friday, October 11, 2024** to:

Email: dean@srwd.ca Attention: Dean Brooker General Manager
 or

Souris River Watershed District Attention: Dean Brooker
 Box 339, 404 4th Street, Reston, MB ROM 1X0

Ph: (204) 877-3020 Fax: (204) 877-3090

Email: dean@srwd.ca

For more information please call the General Manager at 204 851 7157



Elliot with his dad George Gamble using an antique crop binder after the old-time harvest.

Elkhorn holds annual old-time harvest

BY ED JAMES

Throughout much of western Canada, farmers have been busy both night and day taking off the last of their crops or perhaps sowing some winter wheat.

For the last few weeks late at night, I have seen in the dark fields the bright combine headlights going back-and-forth taking off the crop. However, a few weeks ago there was a harvest right out of history as members of the Elkhorn Restoration Club and friends gathered to take off some wheat the old fashioned way.

The event was the harvesting of a field and the sheaves of wheat were put into storage at the Elkhorn Auto Museum. These sheaves will be used during next year's Canada Day for a demonstration of the museum's antique threshing machine for which the power is supplied by a vintage steam engine tractor.

That evening, a vintage binder from the museum went up and down the fields and the bound sheaves slid off the binder's smooth sideboard. As they dropped off along the field, volunteers with long, sharp pitchforks forked them on the hay rack.

After a few hours, all three hay racks were filled with the golden collection. During the evening there were several people who came out to watch or take part in this display of western Canada's past farming history.

This year the crop field was supplied by the George Gamble family just west of Elkhorn.



Restoration Club volunteers working the grain field around an alkaline dry spot on a perfect fall evening.



Above left: Lynn Tutthill, Allan Brown, and Tanner Watson, with Sid Warkentine on the hay rack.

Above: Allan Brown driving the tractor while Sid Warkentine operates the antique binder. Both volunteers are from Virden.

Left: Lynn Tutthill and field owner George Gamble loading the sheaves onto the Elkhorn Auto Museum's hay rack.

Livestock prices	2024 forecast	2023 average	5-year average
Alberta fed steer \$/cwt	240	225	165
Alberta 550 lb steer \$/cwt	380	335	235
Alberta 850 lb steer \$/cwt	315	285	205
Ontario fed steer \$/cwt	230	225	165
Ontario 550 lb steer \$/cwt	345	295	215
Ontario 850 lb steer \$/cwt	300	280	205

Sources: Statistics Canada, AAFC, USDA, CanFax, CME Futures, and FCC calculations

Feed costs	2024 forecast \$/tonne	2023 average \$/tonne	5-year average
Feed barley (AB)	255	350	280
Corn (ON)	230	300	260

Sources: Statistics Canada, AAFC, USDA, CanFax, CME Futures, and FCC calculations

Left is Table 1: Cattle prices have trended higher in 2024.

Above is Table 2: Feed costs forecasted to offer a reprieve.

Cattle herd declines amidst strong prices

BY JUSTIN SHEPHERD,
SENIOR ECONOMIST, FCC
AND LEIGH ANDERSON,
SENIOR ECONOMIST, FCC

The cattle market continues to experience a multi-year run of strong prices, offering robust marketing prospects for the industry. Year-over-year (YoY), cattle prices across all categories are set to increase and remain significantly above the 5-year averages. Since our early 2024 forecast, cattle prices have risen by \$5-30 per hundred weight (cwt), with cow-calf producers seeing the most substantial gains.

With cattle prices rising year over year, the margins for the cow/calf sector are projected to remain significantly above the five-year average.

Despite a successful first hay cut due to early season moisture, Alberta hay prices have stubbornly stayed high, with second cuts being limited after a hot and dry summer. Even then, feedlot profitability has been aided this year by declining feed grain costs, including lower prices for feed barley and corn compared to our early season outlook and their five-year averages (Table 2).

While feedlot margins have benefited from reduced feed costs, fed cattle prices have not increased as much as steer prices, which has balanced the overall impact. Retail beef prices are up over 25% in the last three years and consumers budgets in 2024 are tight. Knowing there is little room to pass on further price increases, packers are limiting bid prices for fed cattle, causing this price discrepancy. While beef prices at the grocery store aren't likely to go up, shoppers also won't see any savings.

Canada's beef breeding herd declined, again

Canada's beef cow and replacement heifer herd has been on a downward

trend since its peak 20 years ago, and as of July 1, 2024, it was the smallest since 1987. The total cow inventory decreased by 2% year-over-year. Upon closer examination, heifers intended for beef replacement increased by 1%, while mature beef cows declined by 2%. Given that both groups contribute to future calf production, this indicates 2025 may not yet be the year for herd growth.

The reduced size of the beef herd is evident in slaughter facilities, with beef cows and heifers accounting for 48% of slaughter from January to July this year. This represents the largest percentage of female cows in slaughter since 2012, reflecting last year's decisions by producers to send heifers to feedlots.

Looking ahead, will decreasing feed costs, strong calf prices, and relatively better forage availability on the prairies in 2024 encourage cow-calf producers to expand the breeding herd?

Beef exports will be the key if the Canadian herd grows

With fewer cattle being produced, plants are relying on slaughtering heavier cattle to compensate. Up to July, Canadian federally inspected carcass weights have risen 6% this year, averaging 963 pounds (lbs.)—nearly 100 lbs. heavier than a decade ago. This efficiency gain means Canadian plants produce 5% more beef per year compared to 2000 while slaughtering 10% fewer cattle. Combined with the U.S., which has an integrated cattle and beef system with Canada, overall beef production has remained steady since 2000. In contrast, South American countries now produce 42% more beef annually compared to 2000, and the rest of the world is up 11%.

Domestic beef consumption has been stable for 25 years, with population growth offsetting per capita consumption declines. There are opportunities

for Canada to increase exports of live cattle and beef if the herd expands. Canadian beef exports have risen only 5% since 2000, compared to an 18% rise in the U.S. (13% combined). Meanwhile, South American exports soared by 360%, and global exports are up 85% (Figure 3), highlighting that there is strong global demand.

vCOOL and Canadian beef

One of the risks for Canadian beef producers is the upcoming January 1, 2026, implementation of the USDA's voluntary country of origin labelling (vCOOL) ruling that requires meat manufacturers who label their beef as "Product of USA" to use only animals born and raised in the U.S. The Canadian beef industry relies heavily on the U.S. market for live cattle exports as well as beef.

At first glance vCOOL seems less worrisome than mCOOL was (mandatory version running from 2009-2014), given the voluntary nature of the ruling. Still,

if consumer demand for products made with a "Product of the USA" label truly exists – and if retailers demand it – manufacturers in the U.S. may rethink how much Canadian-raised livestock they need to source their plants. It's true that there is growing demand for beef in other parts of the world, which Canadian producers could tap, but increasing those export markets will be challenging with strong global competitors.

Bottom line

At this stage, there is not strong evidence showing that the beef herd is about to start increasing in Canada. Recent months have seen a declining ratio of heifers placed on feed relative to 2023 but it is too early to call it a trend. High calf and cow prices could be fueling small operations to exit at an opportune time, and while larger operations will take up some of the herd, the data yet does not signal that producers in aggregate are ready to grow.

Figure 1: Canadian cow and heifer for beef replacement herd at its lowest since 1987

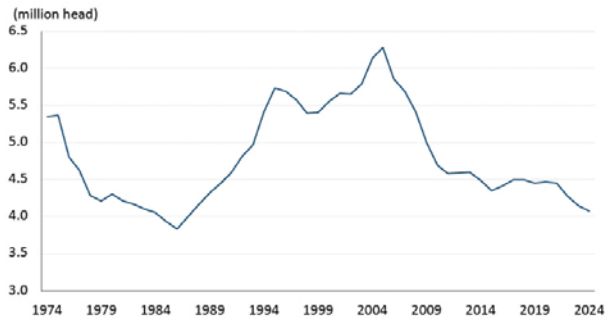


Figure 3: Global demand for beef is increasing, but export growth is happening outside North America

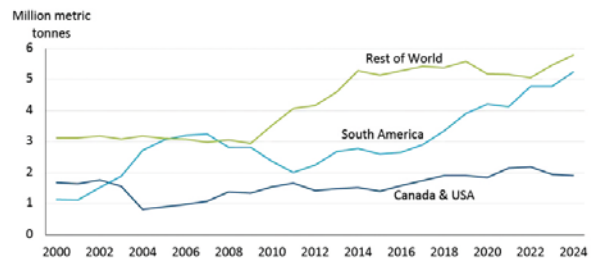
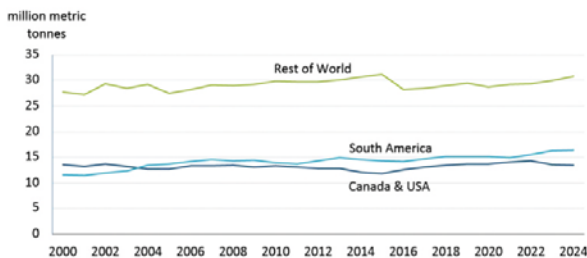


Figure 2: Global beef production is growing outside of Canada and U.S.



THE WORLD-
Spectator

QR Code
Business Cards

AVAILABLE AT THE WORLD-SPECTATOR



Have your cards designed with a QR Code that will put your contact information right onto your customers' phones and into their contacts!

Homegrown solution for farmers looking to increase yields

UM researchers and KGS Group partner on development of bio-inoculant strains to help farmers tackle current challenges

The effects of climate change, coupled with the rising costs of land, machinery, fuel, pesticides and fertilizers, have agricultural producers looking for alternative, innovative solutions to increase yields. Bio-inoculants, natural micro-organisms applied to soil or plants to improve soil health, may be one such solution. KGS Group and UM researchers, including Dr. John Sorensen (Chemistry), Dr. Rob Gulden (Plant Sciences) and Dr. Richard Sparling (Microbiology), have developed two bio-inoculant strains,

KGS-2 and KGS-3, to help farmers tackle the many challenges they face today in an environmentally friendly way.

KGS-2 and KGS-3 are naturally occurring organisms isolated from Manitoba soils that help plants access phosphorus. "Phosphorus is an essential nutrient for plant growth and both KGS-2 and KGS-3 are very effective at harnessing its power," said Stan Lozecznic, a Senior Environmental Engineer at KGS Group. The use of KGS-2 significantly increased the yield in crop trials within Sas-

katchewan and Manitoba and has the potential to do the same in other crops. KGS-3 is also a bio-fungicide, as well as growth promoter, with demonstrated ability to reduce various crop diseases.

Unlike traditional chemicals used to stimulate plant growth and decrease diseases, bio-inoculants can be easily produced with substantial safety and environmental benefits.

Continued on page C24

Three Saskatchewan agriculture commodities reach \$1 billion mark in 2024

Saskatchewan's non-durum wheat exports have reached \$1.7 billion for the current year, along with canola seed and canola oil reaching \$1.3 billion and \$1.1 billion, respectively. Several other agri-food exports are on track to surpass the \$1 billion export value mark for this year.

"The global marketplace is increasingly recognizing Saskatchewan as not only a source of the agri-food products it needs, but also as a provider of the most sustainable products grown anywhere," Agri-

culture Minister David Marit said. "Our research sector drives that innovation and our producers in the field continue to find ways to do it better than anyone, year after year. That's what a competitive, profitable and world-leading agriculture industry looks like."

Results of research commissioned by the Global Institute for Food Security and announced earlier this year show that Saskatchewan's net carbon footprint for production of major crops is significantly

lower than that of other comparable jurisdictions studied. For example, Saskatchewan-produced non-durum wheat is 62 per cent lower while canola is 67 per cent lower.

"Customers from around the world choose Saskatchewan for the sustainable, high-quality products they rely on, which is supported by our strong and stable business environment," Trade and Export Development Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "Our government will continue to protect and promote key sectors, including agri-

culture, through international engagement, which is leading to Saskatchewan products reaching new markets. Saskatchewan's historic growth in agri-food exports is providing new employment and economic opportunities for province's strong and vibrant communities."

Saskatchewan's 2030 Growth Plan target of \$20 billion in annual agri-food exports was met in 2023 with total shipments of \$20.2 billion, setting a new record for the fourth consecutive year.

Saskatchewan canary seed exports top \$100 million in 2023

Saskatchewan was the world's leading exporter of canary seed in 2023 based on dollar value. Canary seed shipments from the province, which is home to over 90 per cent of Canadian canary seed production, were worth just over \$100 million, with Mexico being the top destination among world markets.

"Saskatchewan plays a key role in establishing Canada as the world's largest producer and exporter of canary seed," Agriculture Minister David Marit said. "Global consumption for canary seed is relatively steady, and meeting that need as a reliable supplier of this and many other agricultural commodities is one of the reasons why our producers have always had such an important role in our economy."

"Saskatchewan remains a reliable producer of food, fuel, fertilizer and critical minerals the world

needs," Trade and Export Development Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "After a record-breaking year of agri-food exports, it is more important than ever that we continue to reach new international markets. The Saskatchewan Mexico Trade and Investment Of-

fice has been a key component in strengthening exports to the region, resulting in economic benefits here at home."

Canada is the source of more than half of the total annual world production and world trade of canary seed, mostly exported in

bulk or bags. Aside from Mexico, other strong markets exist in Belgium, Brazil, Spain and the United

States.

Saskatchewan surpassed its 2030 Growth Plan target of \$20 billion in agri-food

exports six years ahead of schedule with total shipments of \$20.2 billion for 2023.

Renards Meat Services

ABATTOIR/PROCESSOR

Junction No. 83 & No. 1 Highways • Virden, MB

204-748-1889

Specializing in custom slaughtering and processing of Beef, Sheep & Lambs.

USED SEED HAWK AIR SEEDERS

- 2011 60ft Seed Hawk Tool Bar-600 TB seed cart/dual wheels.....\$155,000
- 2014 66ft Seed Hawk Tool Bar w/seed & fertilizer distribution/tool bar only equipped for tow behind Bourgault cart.....\$150,000
- 2016 80ft Seed Hawk Tool Bar and 800 TB Seed Hawk cart/duals conveyor/sectional control.....\$ CALL
- 2018 60ft Seed Hawk Tool Bar/660 tow between Seed Hawk cart. Duals/conveyor/sectional control.....\$ CALL
- 2021 80ft Seed Hawk Tool Bar & 800 seed cart TB carts duals/sectional control.....\$ CALL

A.E. CHICOINE Farm Equipment Ltd.
Storθοaks, SK - 306-449-2255

1995 Case Corporation
Case IH is a registered Trademark
of Case Corporation.



Davidson TRUCK & TRACTOR

435-3700
MOOSOMIN, SK

- ▶ We have an excellent team to serve you in our parts and service departments
- ▶ Fully trained technicians providing computer diagnostics and repairs to all makes and models of highway trucks and farm equipment
- ▶ SGI accredited repair facility
- ▶ We perform safety inspections
- ▶ We carry a large selection of heavy truck & trailer parts and full line of 49 North Lubricant products
- ▶ Heavy duty towing and transport with several units ready to be dispatched
- ▶ If you require Oxygen, Acetylene, Mig Mix, Helium or Nitrogen we are now an **ACKLANDS GAS DISTRIBUTOR**
Give us a call for more information!
- ▶ **WE OFFER:**
 - Fully stocked parts department for all your heavy truck & trailer parts
 - Light duty winching, towing and hauling with our mobile car hauler
 - Highway truck & tractor repairs
 - Emergency tire repairs
 - Laser wheel alignment
 - Used truck & trailer sales
 - New grain trailers & boxes for sale
 - Welding services & fabrication
 - We install and replace all types of windshields

AVAILABLE 24 HOURS, 7 DAYS A WEEK!

CELL: 306-435-9585

Located at the Junction of Highways #1 & #8 North, Moosomin, SK

Port strike huge impact to local producers

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

With this year's harvest wrapping up across the region, grain workers at the Port of Vancouver walked off the job on Sept. 24. The 72-hour notice of strike action came the previous Saturday from the Grain Workers Union Local 333, which counts more than 750 members.

"The Government of Saskatchewan is greatly concerned by and closely monitoring the labour disruption at the Port of Vancouver, now that work has stopped at six bulk grain terminals," said provincial Trade and Export Development minister Jeremy Harrison. "Both Canada's and Saskatchewan's success in overseas markets relies on strong supply chains, and the ability of our exporters to deliver high quality products on time. A port disruption—even a short one—could cause delays, allowing global competitors to gain an advantage, along with the potential loss of contracts, shutdowns, and reduced revenues."

The port handles more than half of the grain produced across the country and some estimates believe the dispute could clog up as much as 100,000 metric tonnes of grain every day workers are off the job. That equates to \$35 million each day.

"This is another gut punch for farmers," said Ian Boxall, president of the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan.



The Cargill terminal at the Port of Vancouver.

"Our farmers are again caught in the crossfire of labour disputes far from their fields, facing the consequences of halted grain shipments. It's high time for assertive government action to safeguard our supply chain integrity."

Despite the setbacks the job action has caused, Boxall is optimistic that a collective agreement can be reached in the short term.

On the same page, Harrison called for the federal government to step in—akin to what happened with the recent rail labour dispute.

"Saskatchewan encourages both the Grain Workers' Union and management at the Vancouver Terminal Elevator Association to keep Canada's

economic interests in mind and seek a resolution as quickly as possible," he said. "We additionally urge the government of Canada to implement measures to prevent further work stoppages and actively facilitate a fair resolution between the parties."

Fleming-area producer Trevor Green noted his frustration at the action, wondering how this and the previous situation with the nation's railways over the summer impact Canada's global image.

"A day of a strike out there creates a week-long backlog out here," he said. "Every time we turn around, somebody's got us handcuffed. There was the threat of the rail strike, and now the grain workers strike. Our customers will start looking at us and saying, 'is that a reliable place to contract and buy grain from?' It doesn't look good on us. Being a first world country, we should be a pretty reliable source

of products. But when we're saddled with strikes constantly, it doesn't look good on us."

In total, six major terminals will be affected at the Port of Vancouver including Alliance Grain Terminal, Cargill Terminal, Cascadia, G3 Terminal, Pacific Elevators, and Richardson International. An estimated \$22 billion of Saskatchewan's trade flows through the Port of Vancouver each year through exports of food and fertilizer and imports of consumer goods, medicine, and farm equip-

ment. "Each year, about 40 per cent of Saskatchewan's exports go through the port of Vancouver," Harrison said. "In 2022 (the most recent available data), that was about \$419 million of Saskatchewan products being exported each week. Many companies in the western provinces depend on the Port of Vancouver to get their goods to market or to ship in the supplies they need, and further disruptions could have a significant impact to Saskatchewan businesses."



KELLN SOLAR

Portable
Remote Summer and
Winter Solar Water Systems
for livestock!

Call for pricing on solar systems,
wind generators, aeration, service
and repair on all makes and models.

Welwyn, SK • 306-435-7973 (C) • 306-733-4421 (H)



A Better Place For You®

Jim Moore
INSURANCE/FINANCIAL ADVISOR
Moore Agencies Ltd.
306-435-7096 jim.moore@cooperators.ca
www.cooperators.ca/Moore-Agencies

HOME AUTO LIFE INVESTMENTS GROUP BUSINESS FARM TRAVEL



TRANS CANADA BEARING & MACHINE

A DIVISION OF BRANDON BEARING AG & INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY LTD.

Our staff is ready to serve all your welding, machining and parts needs in farming, commercial and oilfield repair. Retailer of bearings, belts, bolts, steel and welding supplies.

Phone: (204) 748-3833 Fax: (204) 748-3835
373 King Street, Virden, MB



VETERINARY CARE FOR ALL SPECIES

24 HOUR
EMERGENCY
SERVICE

Regular Hours:
Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

98 Cook Rd. Moosomin, SK
306.435.3979









FALL IS HERE!

Before You Hit The Road or The Field . . .
Come and See Us For All Your Tire Needs.





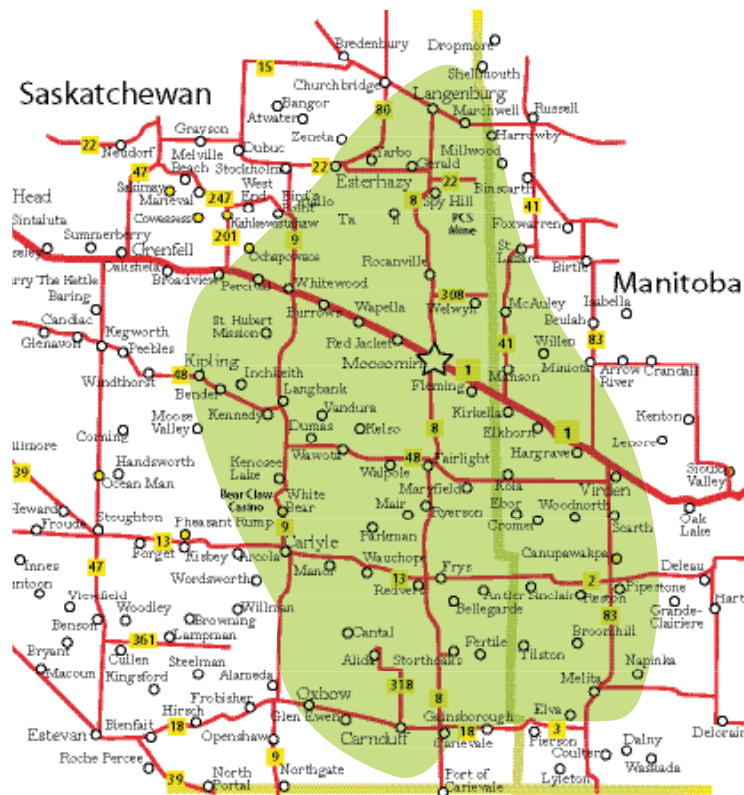
"Let Our Family Help Your Family"

24 Hour Service • 1004 North Front St. • Moosomin, SK • 306-435-2949

Reach of thousands of local readers
each month when you advertise in

AG NEWS

Mailed to 10,000 households, farm and business boxes every month
in Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba



Upcoming Issues

October 28, 2024

Deadline: October 24, 2024

November 25, 2024

Deadline: November 21, 2024

December 30, 2024

Deadline: December 19, 2024

Reaching 25 communities including larger communities such as Moosomin, Virden, Esterhazy, Langenburg, Carlyle, Redvers, Carnduff, Oxbow, Rocanville, Whitewood, Broadview, Grenfell, Kipling, Wawota, Elkhorn, Melita, and Reston



AG NEWS

306-435-2445

world_spectator@sasktel.net

www.world-spectator.com/ag-news



Rylar Hutchinson submitted this photo of Hutchinson Farms' harvest operation as part of The World-Spectator's 2024 Harvest Photo Contest.



MY PRECISION AG LTD.

**Expert Advice,
Extraordinary Service**



Matthew Yanick • Rocanville, SK/Virden, MB • 306-434-6909



Water Management Systems

Contact us today for a quote on a GNSS controlled automatic water management system for your scraper or other dirt moving implements. Multiple systems available for surface drainage including Ditch Assist, Ditch Assist X, Trimble WM-Drain, Trimble Field Level 2 and more! Many brands of RTK base stations and receivers also available.

Jeff Brown • Carlyle, SK • 306-575-9050

- Precision Farming Displays  
- Autosteer Systems  
- Application Control Systems  
- And more! 



















CONTACT MATT OR JEFF AT
matt@myprecisionag.ca • jeff@myprecisionag.ca
www.myprecisionag.ca
www.facebook.com/MyPrecisionAg

DK

20 SERIES
40-58 HP




0% UP TO 84 MONTHS OR \$6450 UP TO CASH BACK* (T-L-B) OR FREE LOADER*

Purchase a CS, CX, CK, DK, DKSE, NX or NS Series KIOTI tractor and receive a FREE Loader*



UNIVERSE
SATELLITE SALES

Universe
Satellite Sales

520 Railway Ave | Rocanville, SK.
 306.645.2669
www.universesatellite.com



INDUSTRY LEADING
6 YEAR
UNLIMITED HOUR
POWERTRAIN WARRANTY

*Offer available August 29, 2024 – October 31, 2024. Rebates and/or financing based on the purchase of eligible equipment defined in promotional program. Pricing and rebates in CAN dollars. Additional fees including, but not limited to, taxes, freight, setup and delivery charges may apply. Financing must be through DLU or Sheffield using one of the available financing options. Financing is subject to credit approval. Customers must take delivery prior to the end of the program period. Some customers will not qualify. Some restrictions apply. Offer available on new equipment only. Prior purchases are not eligible. Offer valid only at participating Dealers. Offer subject to change without notice. See your dealer for details. 6 Year Warranty for Non-Commercial, residential use only. 6 Year Warranty applies to CS, CX, CK10, CK20, DK10, DK20, NS and NX model KIOTI tractors and must be purchased and registered between September 1, 2016 – December 31, 2024. Offer valid only at participating Dealers. Offer subject to change without notice. See your dealer for details.
 © 2024 Kioti Tractor Company a Division of Daedong CANADA, Inc.

Sask harvest nearing completion

Harvest was delayed across much of the province over the past week due to rainfall. Currently, producers are 79 per cent complete. This is still ahead of the five-year average of 75 per cent and the 10-year average of 69 per cent. Although moisture has helped replenish topsoil moisture conditions and green up pastures for fall grazing, it has also caused concerns for downgrading of crop quality in areas yet to be harvested. Producers in many regions are hopeful for drier conditions in the upcoming weeks to help with harvest progression.

The southwest region is nearing harvest completion with 96 per cent of crops harvested. The southeast region currently sits at 83 per cent, with the east-central and west-central regions sit at 75 per cent and 70 per cent completed, respectively. Both northeast and northwest regions sit at 65 per cent complete.

Harvest is complete for winter wheat, triticale and field peas with harvest nearly complete for fall rye and lentils. Durum leads in harvest progress for spring-seeded cereal at 95 per cent complete, followed by barley at 91 per cent and spring wheat at 85 per cent. Oats currently sit at 75 per cent and canary seed is 68 per cent. Harvest is nearing completion for chickpeas at 93 per cent. For oilseed crops, mustard is 93 per cent harvested followed by canola at 56 per cent. Flax and soybeans are the furthest behind in harvest completion at 42 per cent and 32 per cent complete, respectively.

Rain fell throughout much of the province over the past week at varying amounts. The highest amounts were mainly recorded in the southwest region. The Gouldtown area recorded the highest amount of precipitation over the past week at 100 mm which was followed by the Richmond and Eston areas at 82 mm and 81 mm, respectively. Additionally, the Neidpath area received 78 mm and the Admiral area received 75 mm.

Although the recent moisture slowed harvest progress, it was welcome in areas struggling with topsoil moisture shortages. This rainfall helped alleviate some producer concerns relating to fall pasture conditions. Currently, cropland topsoil moisture is rated as 64 per cent adequate, 32 per cent short and four per cent very short. Hayland is rated as 60 per cent adequate, 33 per cent short and seven per cent very short. Pasture topsoil moisture is rated as 53 per cent adequate, 37 per cent short and 10 per cent very short. Producers are hopeful for additional moisture following harvest to assist with replenishing topsoil moisture supplies for next year.

As producers evaluate livestock water supplies moving into the fall, 59 per cent indicate there are no shortages occurring or anticipated with 31 per cent indicating they have moderate shortages. Additionally, 85 per cent of producers reported no concerns about water quality for their livestock. Producers in the southwest and west-central regions of the province are expressing higher concerns about livestock water shortages and reduced water quality.

Crop damage over the past week was mainly due to wind, wildlife and waterfowl. As producers continue with harvest, they are also busy baling, hauling bales, fencing, cleaning corrals, harrowing combined fields and spraying for fall weed control. Additionally, some winter cereal seeding operations have commenced across the province.

As producers continue with harvest and fall field work, they are reminded to take safety precautions in all the work they do. The public is also reminded to take extra caution, time and space when encountering machinery on the road.

CB Excavating & Spraying

Clint Birkenshaw - Owner/Operator
Rocanville, SK • 306-435-9954

THE WORLD'S SPECTATOR

AG NEWS

Reach thousands of readers in local communities with our monthly Agriculture Supplement

Call 306-435-2445 to book your ad!
world_spectator@sasktel.net

View past issues at www.world-spectator.com/agnews

2025

RED SEAL INSPECTION PROGRAM

PLAN FOR MAXIMUM IN SEASON UPTIME

WITH THE MOST THOROUGH EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS AVAILABLE

RME'S FACTORY TRAINED TECHNICIANS HAVE EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO OEM: DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS • SERVICE BULLETINS • SOFTWARE UPDATES • PRODUCT UPGRADES ALL NEEDED TO ENSURE YOUR EQUIPMENT MAINTAINS PEAK PERFORMANCE.

RIGHT BY YOU - WE GUARANTEE IT!

OPTIMUM GUARANTEE LEVEL 1

APPLIES TO:

- Red Seal completed on '16 or newer Case IH 4WD Tractors - Combines - Sprayers
- 100% of recommended repairs completed by RME following inspection

ADVANTAGES:

- Free Equipment Loaner for repairs that cannot be completed in 24 hours*
- 12 month warranty coverage for parts and labour on RME installed parts

See your local Service Sales Manager for full details.

PRIORITY SERVICE GUARANTEE LEVEL 2

APPLIES TO:

- Full Service Inspections where all required repairs completed by RME on all Red Seal Inspected equipment

ADVANTAGES:

- Service department will be available to diagnose and begin your repair in less than 24 hours*
- 12 month warranty coverage for parts and labour on RME installed parts

See your local Service Sales Manager for full details.

IDENTIFY WORN, FAILED AND PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE ITEMS BEFORE THEY COST YOU DOWNTIME!

BOOK EARLY FOR MAXIMUM DISCOUNTS

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

50 Series Automation Combine	10/20/30/40/50 Flagship Combine	80 / 88 Combine	SP Sprayer / Floater
\$1,999	\$1,799	\$1,399	\$1,599
Reg. \$2,499	Reg. \$2,299	Reg. \$1,999	Reg. \$1,999

4WD Tractors	QuadTrac	MFWD / 2WD Tractors	Hay Forage (Baler or Discbine)
\$1,199	\$1,399	\$749	\$599
Reg. \$1,399	Reg. \$1,399	Reg. \$899	Reg. \$649

Combine Headers	Skid Steer	Genuine Parts
\$599	\$499	Reg. \$699
Reg. \$699	Reg. \$599	

10% PARTS AND SERVICE OFF

ON ALL REPAIRS PERFORMED BY RME AS A RESULT OF THE RED SEAL INSPECTION.

1 YEAR WARRANTY

ON PARTS AND LABOUR FOR ALL SERVICES PERFORMED AS A RESULT OF THE RED SEAL INSPECTION*.

SAVE UP TO **50% OFF**

EQUIPMENT WASH AND DETAIL.

UP TO **ADDITIONAL 25% OFF**

DISCOUNTED INSPECTION RATES.

With multiple unit bookings.

*WHEN INSPECTION IS COMPLETED BETWEEN OCTOBER 1, 2024 AND MARCH 31, 2025. INSPECTION MUST BE BOOKED BY NOVEMBER 30, 2024. **SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS. ***WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED APRIL 15, 2025. SEE DEALER FOR CONTEST DETAILS.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT

1604 Park Ave. | Moosomin, SK
306-435-3866
ROCKYMTN.COM

WIN!

COMPLETE INSPECTION AND REPAIR FOR CHANCE TO WIN**:

2025 Can-Am® Outlander XT 700

ADD BUSHEL PLUS PRODUCTS TO ANY REPAIR AND ALSO BE ENTERED FOR:
\$3,500 WESTJET TRAVEL PACKAGE

USask researchers navigating complex systems to preserve Prairie wetlands

New research looks at the numerous impacts of wetland drainage

BY ERIN MATTHEWS

From grasslands to boreal forests, Saskatchewan has some of the most dynamic ecosystems in the country and is home to equally complex water systems. Researchers like Dr. Colin Whitfield (PhD), associate professor in the School of Environment and Sustainability and member of the Global Institute for Water Security at the University of Saskatchewan (USask), are keeping a close eye on Saskatchewan's water landscape.

"As a biogeochemist and environmental scientist, I'm really interested in understanding the impacts that various stressors have on ecosystems," said Whitfield. "I often look at the watershed scale, understanding how movement of water across landscapes affects processes like clean air and water."

Saskatchewan is home to roughly 4.6 million acres of wetlands which blanket more than 47 million acres of agricultural land. Known as the Prairie Pothole Region, these shallow pools of water were left behind after glaciers receded and have been a part of the landscape for thousands of years.

Using a new modelling framework, Whitfield and his colleagues illustrated the significance of wetland drainage and the complexity of water systems in the Prairie region in a recently published paper in Facets.

"Wetlands are abundant on the Prairie landscape, but in areas used for agriculture, they can pose challenges for production," said Whitfield. "On the flipside, they are incredibly valuable to society for the ecosystem services they provide."

Whitfield and his colleagues found that the drainage threshold (where impacts start to become noticeable) is as low as 10 per cent. Whitfield said these findings can help provide more context to the complexity of water systems on the Prairies and be used to help develop wetland conservation policy.

Wetlands play an important role in water quality on the Prairies. Acting as sponges, wetlands are able to retain more water on the landscape and can trap and remove agricultural chemicals or nutrients.

Excess nutrients in rivers and reservoirs can complicate drinking water treatment processes and increase the risk of toxic algal blooms, which have big impacts on recreational activities. Each year, Saskatchewan lakes experience large algae blooms that are made worse by nutrient pollution.

According to Whitfield, wetlands on agricultural land are beneficial for storing water, which can prevent water runoff and limit downstream flooding.

"With fewer wetlands, we have more water and more nutrients leaving the landscape and running into rivers and lakes. We also have more frequent flooding," said Whitfield.

Whitfield hopes his research can help educate and inform about the importance of wetlands play in the environment and for society.

"The big challenge is how do we effectively manage these systems so we can have healthy agriculture but also have a healthy environment," said Whitfield.



USask and GIWS researchers are illustrating the significance of wetlands in Saskatchewan.

2 miles north on Hwy #8 | Moosomin, SK

Call or Text **306-435-5800**

www.rpmserviceltd.com



RPM

SERVICE LTD

**PRODUCTS THAT PERFORM,
SERVICE TO SUCCEED!**



Keeping your equipment running is our top priority. Our team of experts have access to parts and are trained for all of your service needs - reducing your downtime when it matters most. Whether you run a large or small farm, you can trust us to provide the service and support that your operation needs.



















McAuley Corn Maze

NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
FROM DAWN UNTIL DUSK

ADMISSION BY DONATION

To get there, follow signs on Highway 41,
Highway 8 north of Moosomin, Highway 308,
or use Google Maps

LAWRENCE HEIN

306-434-6485

lawrence_hein@hotmail.com

www.facebook.com/lawrenceheinrenovations



NO JOB IS TOO BIG
OR TOO SMALL

INSURANCE JOBS WELCOMED

Proudly Serving Moosomin & Rocanville
& Surrounding Areas!

- Full Exterior Renos
- Tile, Laminate, Hardwood
- Full Interior Renos
- Kitchen Back Splashes
- Custom Decks
- Basement Development
- Drywall Painting
- Custom Showers
- Home Maintenance
- Siding, Soffit & Fascia

AND MUCH MORE!

Renovations
Handyman Service

Bringing Your Ideas To Life








Bhuwan Bhandari leads the cover crop trial utilizing soil moisture sensors analyzing soil salinity, moisture and leaf wetness comparing cover crops to non cropped areas.



Above left: Drone spraying demonstration were of great interest to participants.

Above: The Four year cover crop trial is funded by Regenerative Agriculture for Resilient Farms and Value Chains.

Left: South East Research Farm staff

South East Research Farm near Redvers holds AGM and crop tour

The South East Research Farm held their Annual General Meeting and Crop Tour Thursday, September 26 at their research facility three miles southeast of Redvers. The South East Research Farm is a producer driven research facility founded in 1997. Since then, they have been conduct-

ing quality driven research focused on diversification, sustainability and profitability for the betterment of the agricultural community and industry throughout Saskatchewan. The farm is directed and managed by a group of farmers—producers from South-

east Saskatchewan. All the research conducted by the organization is managed by Lana Shaw, Pag, MSc. The Crop tour focused on forage, kochia management, salinity management and cover crops. A drone spraying demo as well as a stop

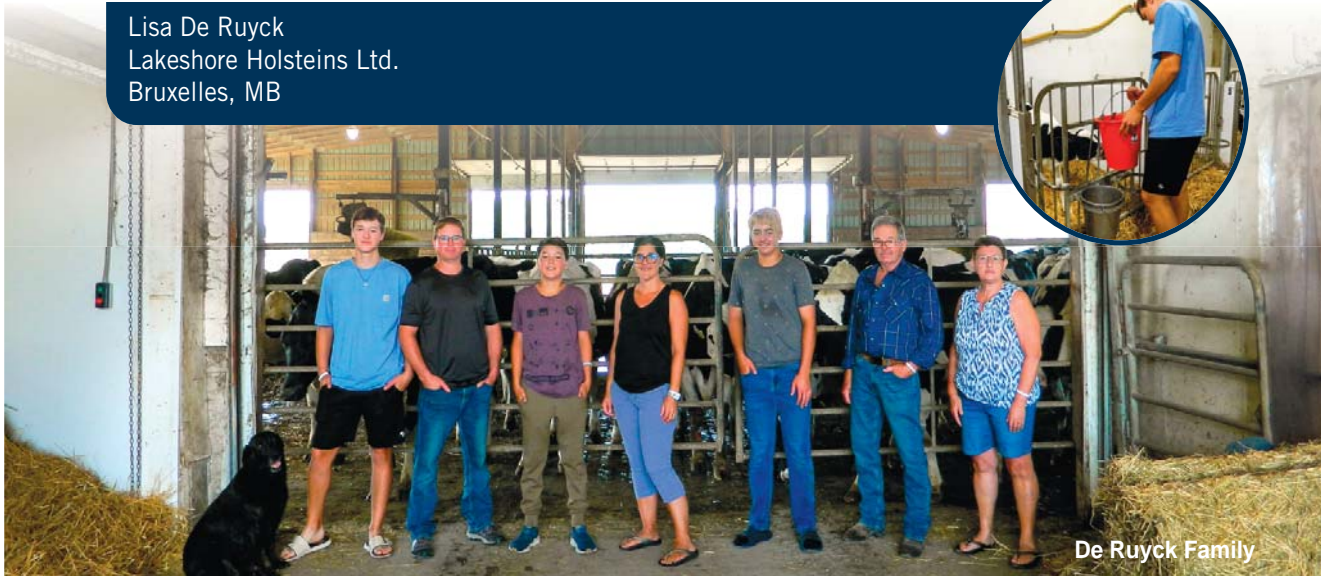
at the drone seeded plot rounded out the tour. Dr Lee Briese was the guest speaker, discussing optimizing land use. More information about the South East Research farm can be accessed through their website southeastresearchfarm.org



Our goal is just to slowly build it better for the next generation and hope we hand over something of value."



Lisa De Ruyck
Lakeshore Holsteins Ltd.
Bruxelles, MB



De Ruyck Family

Glasser's TV SERVICE



www.facebook.com/glasserstv | www.glasserstv.com

Monday - Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Moosomin, SK | (306) 435-3040

WE DO SECURITY INSTALLS FOR



HOME



FARM



COMMERCIAL



PLEASE CALL FOR A
CONSULTATION
306-435-3040

HARVEST OF HOPE

The Harvest of Hope was held on Wednesday in a canola field north of Moosomin. This year's crop brought in over 9,000 bushels. Since it began, the Harvest of Hope has raised \$620,000, not including this year's crop—money that is matched four times by the federal government, bringing the total amount that the Canadian Foodgrains Bank has received because of the Harvest of Hope to \$3.1 million. This year's harvest will add to that total and will also support Rocanville and Moosomin Food Banks. This is the largest Foodgrains Bank growing project in Saskatchewan. The harvest is done using volunteer labour, as well as donations of equipment and supplies. On Wednesday the harvest started with lunch served in the field at noon by Conexus Credit Union staff before volunteers hopped on their combines to start harvesting.

Kara Kinna photos



Some of the combines lined up ready for the harvest.



From left, organizer Kyle Penner, Dan Block with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Norm Quiring of Mazergroup, and Kevin Weedmark watch as the harvest gets rolling.



Left: Kids waving from the cab of a semi. Right: The harvest lunch in the field.



Above: Conexus staff serving the harvest lunch.

Right: Michael Vantomme, who works at Mazergroup, getting a chance to run a combine for his very first time.

Below: Canola being loaded into a grain cart.

Below right: Three-year-old Liesl Poulsen enjoying the harvest lunch.



A combine harvesting the canola.



MMMC

**MOOSE MOUNTAIN MEATS
CO-OPERATIVE LTD**

Fresh & Frozen Retail Sales
Custom Slaughter & Processing
Wild Game Processing



1/4 Mile South of Wawota, SK on Grid Road #603

306-739-2500

www.moosemountainmeats.com
info@moosemountainmeats.com
facebook.com/moosemtmeats



**HARVEST
PARTS IN
STOCK**

**HAVE A SAFE HARVEST
SEASON!**

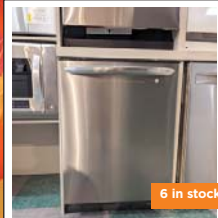
Bumper to Bumper®

ROCANVILLE, SK
306-645-2112

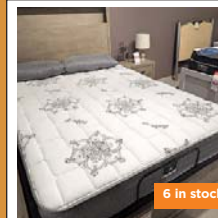
LANGENBURG, SK
306-743-2332

FALL HOME SALE

Revamp your living space at unbeatable prices



**FRIGIDAIRE
GALLERY
DISHWASHER**
Stainless steel front
MSRP \$899
6 in stock
NOW **\$599**



**QUEEN-SIZE
MATTRESS**
Pocket coils,
6 in stock
NOW **\$429**



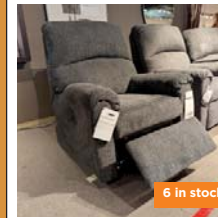
SOFA CHAISE
Fabric cover, accent
cushions,
was \$1199
3 in stock
NOW **\$848**



**5-PIECE
DINING SET**
Table with leaf and
4 chairs,
was \$2199
2 sets available
early October
NOW **\$1399**



**10 CU. FT.
CHEST FREEZER**
MSRP \$599
4 in stock
NOW **\$499**



**POWER
RECLINER**
Fabric cover
regular list \$1099
6 in stock
NOW **\$749**



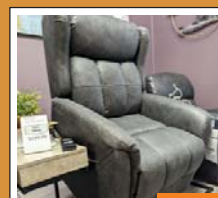
SOFA
Fabric cover, accent
cushions, love seat also
available
regular list \$1249
4 in stock
NOW **\$699**



**RECLINING
SOFA**
Leather look fabric
Regular list \$1799
1 only
NOW **\$999**



TV STAND
MSRP \$469
1 in stock
NOW **\$309**



LIFT CHAIR
Fabric cover,
MSRP \$1999
1 only
NOW **\$1299**

BRAND SOURCE
721-18th Street, Brandon
204-727-5449
Call from 1-877-842-4274
Hours: Mon. to Sat., 9am-5pm; Closed Sunday

Kullberg's
"Serving Brandon and Area For Over 91 Years"

2024 QUALITY
348 King Street East, Weyburn
306-348-3225
Hours: Mon. to Sat., 9am-5pm

Find us on

Financing plans available
Kullbergs.ca

@kullbergs

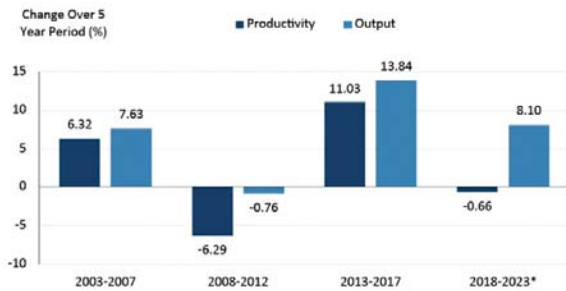


Figure 1: Food manufacturing productivity rebounded after a slump between 2008 and 2012, but remains flat in recent years

Canadian food manufacturing holds food security opportunity: FCC report

BY ÉVA LAROUCHE (BILINGUAL)
CORPORATE COMMUNICATION, FCC

Canadian food manufacturing plays a crucial role in addressing the need to sustainably feed a growing global population according to a recent FCC Economics report.

Food is the largest manufacturing sector in Canada by both employment and sales. With abundant natural resources and a strong global reputation for safe and high-quality food, the sector is poised to be a world leader in sustainable food production.

"If we're going to tackle some of the most pressing challenges facing our planet like hunger, global health, climate change and stagnant economic growth, we need to build new and ambitious partnerships with key sectors like food manufacturing," said Krishen Rangasamy, FCC manager economic insights. "To fully capitalize on this opportunity, we also need to engage investment and innovation by those in our industry and beyond."

With the world's population expected to exceed 9 billion by 2050, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates that agricultural production needs to increase by 60 per cent over 2005 levels. This challenge requires producing more food with the same or fewer inputs – a task that Canadian food manufacturing is well-

positioned to tackle as it makes the most of the potential created through smart manufacturing and digitization.

"Just as steam, electricity, and the internet propelled us to produce more with fewer inputs during previous industrial revolutions, automation, robotics, artificial intelligence, and blockchain are shaping up to do the same in food manufacturing in the fourth industrial revolution," said Amanda Norris, FCC senior economist. "These technologies can improve output and labour efficiency, manage inventory, prevent unplanned downtime, forecast demand, track production, and ensure quality control – all opportunities to help improve productivity in Canadian food manufacturing."

Productivity increases when output grows faster than working hours, a trend that has been evident in Canadian food manufacturing over the past two decades. Despite challenges between 2008 and 2012, the industry has rebounded, demonstrating resilience and the ability to produce more food in less time.

"Food manufacturing in Canada has already proven its resilience and adaptability. After a period of decline, the industry rebounded by investing in new technologies and consolidating operations, leading to an 11 per cent productivity growth between 2013 and 2017," Nor-

ris explains. "Now, with productivity growth remaining relatively flat, it's time for a renewed focus on innovation to drive the next wave of growth."

Rangasamy also underscores the importance of attracting investment from sectors outside of agriculture and food. "To truly harness the potential of the fourth industrial revolution, we need greater investment from those who may not traditionally see themselves as part of the ag and food industry," he notes. "This will help us scale up and innovate, ensuring that Canada not only meets the food demands of tomorrow but does so in a way that benefits all Canadians."

By embracing new technologies and fostering cross-sector investment, the industry can continue to lead in sustainable food production, ensuring a stable food supply and contributing to the global effort to feed the world.

"Productivity growth is not a one-size-fits-all solution; it requires a blend of efficiency, economies of scale, and innovation," Norris stated. "By embracing new technologies and supporting a qualified labour force, Canada's food manufacturing sector can help sustainably feed the global population and maintain a competitive edge in the international market."

BUILT ON FARMER Relationships.



Grain Millers is a privately held, family-owned company. We depend on **direct farmer relationships** and offer farm gate pricing and contracted grower production. Our Crop Science Team is here to help you with any agronomy questions you may have so you can get the best return on your production.

When you sell to Grain Millers, your grain is going directly into some of the most technologically advanced mills in the world!

We Purchase:
Oats • Flax • Barley • Wheat • Other Grains



OATS & FLAX: 306.786.4682
FEED GRAINS: 306-786-5657 EXT. 593
OTHER GRAINS: 952.983.1269
grainmillers.com | 800.328.5188

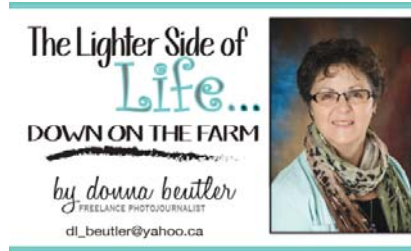
The busy days of harvest are winding down!

Okay, it's a pipe dream I know and I've said it a hundred times before, but oh how I want a 'meal wagon' for the field. Closed in and dust free. Enough bench seating for 10. One table in the middle. Nothing fancy at all. The 'farm' grands on the other hand love our tailgate meals and I can almost guarantee it's a memory that they will one day treasure as they remember their childhood on the farm. I am pretty sure my sidekick to every meal-in-the-field trip, my 15-year-old granddaughter, will especially remember these trips—she never misses one unless she has dance or volleyball. I too love the memories of meals in the field as a teenager. Of course, the big difference being is that I didn't have to make them, pack them, haul them, serve them on the tailgate (in four different fields), pack it all back up (four times over) and haul it all back home and then clean it all up.

Despite my desire for a 'meal vehicle,' it really has been great to be out in the field on those beautiful harvest days (some super hot ones included), seeing the progress the men are making as they move from field to field and being able to offer them each a five-minute break to grab a plate of food. My daughter-in-law and I share a dream though: that all the guys (three or four or five depending on the day) would all be in the same field at the same time at supper time. Imagine how sweet that would be! Alas, that's a rarity but we have made it through the better part of three weeks of mostly steady going and can almost see the end in sight. I say 'almost' simply because it seems like grain farmers can whip through 90 per cent of harvest in about the same time as the last 10 per cent ends up taking! Even by the third week of September (which is when I am writing this), the days are shorter and the mornings a little damper and consequently, the start up time a bit later.

There were several very hot (as in mid-30's) days during harvest and our son kept reminding me about the potential for fires to start under a vehicle which resulted in us trying to find a grassy area at the edge of the field where we would set up our tailgate suppers. I was telling the twins (13) one night as we sat around the fire awaiting the return of the men for the night that their dad had to put out two fires under the fuel truck. "Oh really?" they said. "We had to put one out under the side-by-side too." Of course, I asked how they noticed and what they did and told them that it was a good thing they looked underneath when they smelled something under their side-by-side. "Your side-by-side," was their response—these young men of few words. We're thinking it's very likely Gramps still doesn't know about that little fire under his ATV and it's been about three weeks since it happened. Some things are best left unsaid I figure.

Oh what marvelous sunsets we've seen over the past month or so. One of the best parts of moving out to the farm during harvest are the sunsets, so orange at times it almost looks like fire behind the tall, white bins. Hubby and I haven't spent a single night in town since late August except for wet days when the combines couldn't run. We've had a couple of cold nights sleeping in the RV but on the last night before the rain fell in the early morning of Sept. 18, we kept the camper door open all night. It was almost like tenting with all that fresh air. Well, tenting but with a full size up-off-the-floor bed, full washroom,



double recliners, double-door fridge, microwave, stove, sink and two televisions. Okay, so maybe not quite like tenting but oh! The fresh air!

We have literally had a campfire every single night, except on the wet nights of course. The twins have been busy splitting firewood with that nifty splitter they have. One night when the boys were a bit unsure if I was coming out from town on my regular make-supper-in-town-then-head-to-the-farm run before staying the night out there, they weren't sure whether to get a fire going or not. But once they saw my truck drive into their yard, the smoke was drifting upwards pretty quickly.

Our campfire chats cover so many topics and makes my heart sing. School and harvest and stargazing and fishing and the latest Snapchat are all up for discussion. I love hearing what they are reading or studying at school. I love reading the answers or essays they write. I pretty much bypass the high school math, so inept am I at pretty much all of it, but the written word is my thing. (Who would have guessed?) And thanks to Mrs. McLeod, I am pretty OCD when I proofread anything that is written by my grands or anyone else for that matter. And yes, I know I miss my own errors in my own column!

I have been on a mission this past month while the combines roll, so between lunch and supper runs I have been decluttering my house. Wowzers! Every drawer, every closet, every room, every single space. It's a good thing some of my neighbours had a whole lot of room left in their garage bins last week because I definitely needed them. I sort of felt like a burden was lifted even though I didn't think I was carrying a burden at all. My husband keeps asking if there was a plan he didn't know about to list our house for sale. I will take that as a compliment!

My OCD has been running rampant lately and it has caused me to put many more hours on the weed whacker than usual; line up the splices super orderly; tri-fold the towels perfectly (hem side in of course); and even paint the chair legs on the guest chairs in the pastor's office. That had sent my OCD into overdrive. Good thing he was a good enough sport to say, 'have at 'er'!

I have also been trying to keep ahead of the dust in the ol' farm half-ton that tends to take a bit of a beating at this time of year. My thoughts when I detailed it one wet day in the middle of September was if I clean it now, it will be much easier to give it a final interior clean when harvest is over. Please note, I am not even contemplating cleaning

the box out—that looks like a job for the guy who puts all that miscellaneous stuff in it. Anyway, the inside got a good cleaning and I can almost guarantee you the first time it went back to the field, someone left both passenger doors open on the tail end of the combine when it started up for the first time after a couple days' break. At least the straw was light and fluffy and could be swept out quite easily.

In between meal-hauling, I have been digging into some history of a fishing camp up north, one that my son and his family co-own with some other Whitewood-ites. This camp, with its original log cabins, has seen a few owners over the years and after our visit up there in early August, I wanted to know more about who owned it and which buildings were original and which were added to the camp after its late 40's/early 50's startup. Talk about a journey by phone and by internet, talking to past owners and children of past owners to try and put together (in words of course) the story of Pine Point Lodge on Lake Athapapuskw. My laptop has been my companion many nights at the camper while I awaited hubby's return from the field and my fingers have transposed all that I have been able to learn about Pine Point's history and put it into words for future visitors to the camp to be able to read. It's been intriguing and fascinating and exciting and perhaps it's been just a bit of an 'escape' from the busy-ness of this year's harvest season. I was able to talk to gentlemen who, now in their 70's and 80's, were more than happy to share the information they had about their 'good ol' days' at camp. Lots of work, they told me, but lots of great memories as well.

Tonight, after a five-day rainy day break, we are back to supper in the field. No more packing up dishes and casserole dishes and side dishes to place in buffet-style on the tailgate along with some lawn chairs set out, but rather a pre-made plate-ready to hand over to the guys, a bottle of water and with any luck (if the cook has remembered to put pepsi cans in the fridge ahead of time) a can of pickle-up-and-give-me-energy drink. And there you have it—harvest is definitely winding down and the novelty of the tailgate supper is going by the wayside. Also, by 6:30 p.m., it's getting cold out there and the sun is already looking like it wants to go to bed too.

As I bundled up to enjoy what I know will be one of the last nights around the campfire behind our RV with the farm grands tonight (Sept. 23), I cannot help but count my many blessings. Okay, so I know I mumble a lot about hauling meals to the field but even though it is the thorn in my side, I also know how wonderful it is to be part of a family that loves the farm (most days) and to be part of the ag industry that works so hard to bring the harvest in each year. I don't do 5 a.m. mornings (anymore) like hubby does and I don't physically handle any of the combining, repairing, grain-hauling, auger-moving or the myriad of other things my guys all do but I give my best to the 'support' job I do have and for the moments we can laugh off the stresses with a story about something funny that's happened that day.

Here's hoping your busiest of days are coming to an end, farmer friends. Keep on doing what you do best—it's a life like no other!


**CRUSHRITE
CONCRETE**
(2008) LTD.

**FREE
QUOTES**
ICF FORMING (STYROFOAM)

Moosomin
TREVOR TOPINKA
1-306-435-3860 • 1-800-300-7776
Cell: 1-306-434-7184
Cook Road • Moosomin, SK

Esterhazy
SHERRI NIXON
1-306-745-6671
Cell: 1-306-740-8466
902 Gonczy Avenue • Esterhazy, SK

**Bock
& Company
LAW OFFICE**

500 MAPLE ST • ESTERHAZY, SK
306-745-3952

LYNNETTE BOCK
B.A., J.D.



ROCANVILLE
BRANCH
FRIDAYS
306-645-4552
WESTLAND INSURANCE
BUILDING

Proud to serve the
local agricultural
community!

**A. Pethick Farm
& Custom Ag**

Now offering:
CUSTOM COMBINING

ALSO AVAILABLE:

- Custom Seeding
- Custom Spraying
- Custom Swathing
- Custom Haying
- Dribble Band Fertilizing

Plus more! Please inquire!



306.434.9998

apethick38@gmail.com

204.722.2361

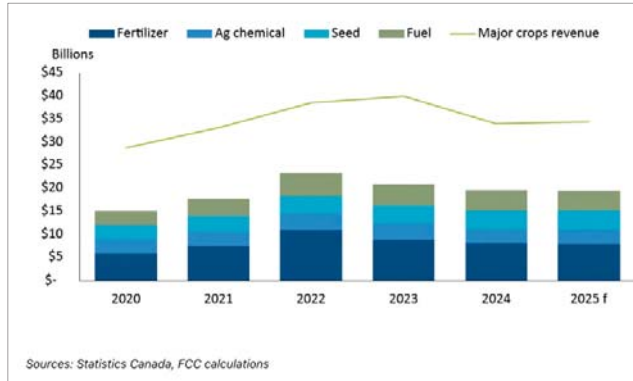


Figure 1: Canadian crop input sales relative to major crop revenues.

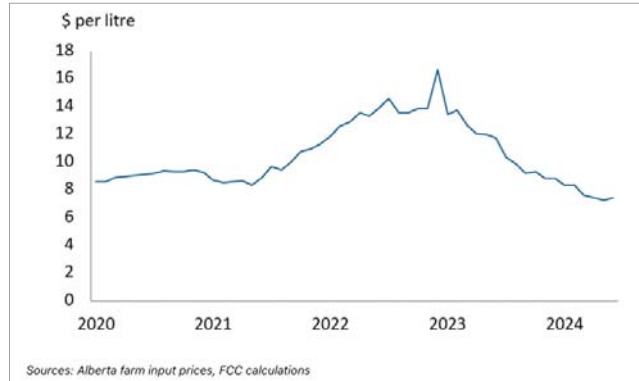


Figure 2: Glyphosate prices continue to be pressured by global inventories.

Tighter grower margins cloud crop input market

BY LEIGH ANDERSON SENIOR ECONOMIST, FCC

Harvest is only beginning, and yes it's not too early to think about next year's crop inputs. Uncertainty and risks abound in the ag markets, so input manufacturers and retailers are already planning ahead. Farm profitability is under pressure because commodity prices are below their 5-year average due to strong U.S. production, while input costs remain high. Although some input prices have dropped, they haven't declined as much as grain and oilseed revenues. Canadian crop input sales peaked at \$23.4 billion in 2022 and have stayed around \$20 billion in recent years (Figure 1). We expect sales to remain flat for next year's crop.

Tighter margins make it important to optimize the crop and input mix for next season. Early planning can help take advantage of early bird discounts and allow flexibility to adjust plans as new information becomes available. Here is our initial assessment of factors that might affect the crop input market next year. This information aims to help producers and the crop input sector make informed decisions about managing expenses and maintaining appropriate inventories.

Exceptional U.S. growing conditions drive crop prices lower

This year, U.S. farmers are experiencing excellent grow-

ing conditions, leading to record yields for corn and soybeans. This abundance is pushing commodity prices down. If Canada has an average production year, the lower prices could result in negative net returns for some farms, depending on their land costs. As grain and oilseed prices drop, farmers might feel more anxious about making decisions for next year's inputs, with tighter expected profitability and reduced cash flow.

Input expenses softer but remain high

On the positive side, chemical prices have eased. The prices of key active ingredients have fallen as the sector recovers from post-pandemic supply chain issues. Global inventories of most chemicals, like glyphosate, have increased, leading to price drops (Figure 2). Consequently, agricultural chemical sales are expected to decline by 14% in 2024 and another 4% the following year due to these lower prices.

Global fertilizer demand subdued but prices remain elevated

Fertilizer prices have dropped a lot since their peak in 2022 and have continued to go down since the 2024 planting season started. The demand for fertilizers, especially

nitrogen, has been lower globally. This is good news for farmers, but prices are still higher than they were before 2022 (Figure 3). There's a chance prices could go up again for next year's crops. Global issues like China's export restrictions and paused production in Egypt are keeping prices high. However, China's export decisions are unpredictable. On the flip side, if global crop prices keep falling, it could lead to even lower fertilizer prices.

Fuel and seed sales

Fuel prices can change a lot due to global market conditions and events like conflicts. They are expected to go down as the global economy slows. We think farmers will spend 3.6% less on fuel next year. Sales of commercial seeds are expected to go up by 5% in 2025 because of higher prices for hybrid seeds like canola, soybeans, and corn. Prices for pedigreed seeds like cereals and pulses should stay stable since they follow crop market prices more closely.

Growing the role of crop input providers

With tighter profit margins, farms will be more careful about what crops to plant and how much fertilizer and chemicals to use.

Continued on page C22 ^{EF}



WESTERN AG
PROFESSIONAL AGRONOMY

Using PRS®
Technology we provide a deeper understanding of your soils and give you the support and knowledge needed to optimize both yield and profit.

Go to **GrowMoreProfit.com** and sign up your farm for soil sampling.



LET US HELP YOU GET THERE QUICKLY

JUST SCAN THE QR CODE





M&O CONSTRUCTION

Commercial & Residential

FORM FOAM BASEMENTS

SEE IT. BELIEVE IT. GET A QUOTE!

www.mandoconstruction.ca

306-757-9433

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF Emerald Park & Indian Head

NOW EXPANDING TO MOOSOMIN & AREA

306-434-9458

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR **FREE** BASEMENT PACKAGE QUOTE!



3 GREAT PLAINS INDUSTRIAL DR.
EMERALD PARK, SK



www.mandoconstruction.ca



EST. 1979 WITH THE SAME OWNERS AT YOUR SIDE.

Tighter grower margins cloud crop input market

Continued from page C21
 Services that add value, like expert advice and agronomics, will keep growing in the long run. In the short term, lower farm revenues will make farmers rethink their strategies. Agriculture retailers and suppliers will play a big role in helping farmers increase productivity, using the same or fewer inputs. However, crop input retailers need to know how much in-

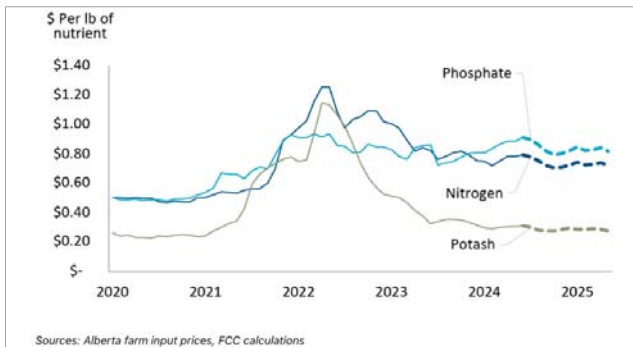
ventory to order for the next year. The main concern for the coming year is the demand for domestic fertilizer. The amount of land used for specific crops greatly affects fertilizer use by Canadian farmers. Fertilizer use also changes with profitability, moisture conditions, and soil nutrients. Due to profitability pressures and recent moisture conditions, farmers might use less fertilizer. Histori-

cally, farms have reduced fertilizer use during or after years with low revenue or production issues like drought or excessive moisture. For example, in 2005 and 2006, margins were low, and in 2022 and 2023, high fertilizer prices led to reduced use. Soil testing and planning crop inputs are just as important as marketing plans for profitability.

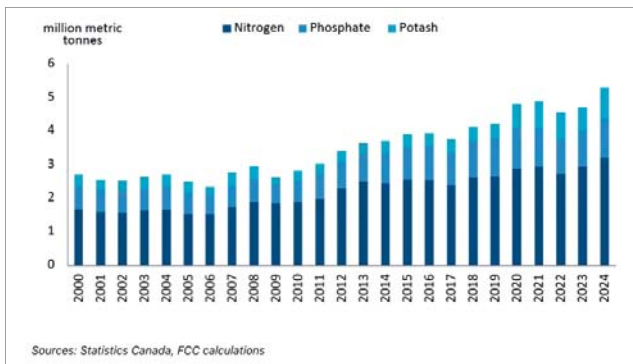
pend on how much farm income is under pressure. Lower farm revenue this year and next will reduce the demand for crop inputs. Farmers make decisions based on the information they have at the time. Fall is the best time for farmers and crop input retailers to review their return on investment and plan for the next year. The crop input sector can play a bigger role by helping farms better plan their input needs for the year ahead. Working together will increase productivity and

Bottom line

The 2025 farm input market will de-



Left is Figure 3: Fertilizer prices trending side-ways but upside risk present for next year.



Below left is Figure 4: Fertilizer use ebbs and flows.



Parkland CPAP Services Inc.

Saluting the agriculture producers in our region this harvest season!



Find us on Facebook

Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

621 Main Street, Moosomin SK • Phone: 306-434-5864
www.parklandcpap.ca • Email: moosomin@parklandcpap.ca



INTERNET ACCESS ANYWHERE

ZTE CONNECT HUB 5G

- WI-FI THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE
- GREAT FOR SECURITY CAMERAS & CALVING MONITORS
- FAST ACTIVATION
- PORTABLE
- AFFORDABLE
- RELIABLE

SO UPFRONT WITH MONTHLY PLAN PLUS PRICING ON A 2-YEAR CONTRACT


COME SEE US OR GIVE A CALL FOR DETAILS



Furniture & Electronics
27 RAILWAY AVE.
REDVERS, SK

306.452.6309







Redvers

AG & SUPPLY LTD.

BOX 150 (Corner of Hwy 8 & 13) REDVERS, SK. S0C 2H0 306-452-3444
redvers.agricultural@sasktel.net
www.redversag.ca

Your local Kubota Dealer



Dr. Christy Morrissey (PhD) is working with producers on sustainable solutions that will benefit bird biodiversity.



The project will help bring more birds and pollinators back to converted lands.

USask researchers explore sustainable solutions for farmers

BY ERIN MATTHEWS

With access to more than 800,000 acres of crop yield data from farmers' combines, Dr. Christy Morrissey (PhD) and her colleagues are looking to find sustainable solutions that will benefit both producers and the Prairie ecosystem.

"This project is trying to carve out one particular solution to improve agricultural sustainability by looking at marginal lands that are being cropped for grain production but could be better suited for things like perennial grasses and forages," said Morrissey, professor in the Department of Biology in the College of Arts and Science at the University of Saskatchewan (USask).

According to Morrissey, marginal lands are often not profitable to producers as they have saline, wet or dry soils and present challenges for growing crops, making turning a profit difficult to achieve. Morrissey said these areas often are sinks for fertilizer and pesticide applications which have both economic and environmental impacts.

Through her research program, Morrissey and her colleagues are hoping to study the benefits in transforming these lands into systems that will help the environment and farmer's bottom line.

"We are working directly with farmers to identify and convert their marginal lands which have the potential to increase biodiversity, improve soil organic carbon, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and save them money," said Morrissey.

The project will use satellite imagery trained on combine yield data to find and locate marginal croplands across the vast Prairie region.

"Many crop fields contain areas of marginal soil that are farmed annually at a loss, but these could help Canada achieve its net zero goals by harnessing the power of nature to sequester more carbon," said Morrissey.

Morrissey is working closely with colleagues from the College of Agriculture and Bioresources including Dr. Melissa Arcand (PhD), Dr. Tristan Skolrud (PhD), and Dr. Steve Shirlife (PhD), who are lending their expertise in soil science, economics and satellite mapping.

But the interdisciplinary collaboration doesn't end at USask. Researchers from the University of Calgary, University of Manitoba, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada are providing insight into insect biodiversity, perennial forages and soil health.

Morrissey's lab will focus on the benefits to birds and insects and how these conversions can contribute to pesticide use reduction. Her colleagues bring complementary expertise in agricultural economics, pollinators, landscape ecology, soil health, native and tame forage production, and AI for big data.

The project received an investment of \$3.9 million over four years from the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) sustainable agriculture research initiative (SARI) grant. The NSERC-SSHRC SARI supports solutions-focused research that increases sustainable agriculture through innovation, new technologies and practices.

"We are really happy that NSERC-SSHRC is recog-

nizing that solutions-based research is important and groundbreaking," said Morrissey.

The funding will allow Morrissey and her colleagues to measure and obtain the data needed to support these creative and complex solutions.

The project also has 13 diverse partners including First Nations, non-profit organizations, major bank, government agencies, farming industry, crown corporations, and large equipment manufacturers.

"It's a really diverse group that are committed to the idea and are helping to incentivize this to producers," said Morrissey "They recognize the project is both good for the agricultural industry and good for the environment."

BAKER ENTERPRISES Bucket Truck Services

60 FOOT VERTICAL REACH!

- Tree Trimming & Cutting
 - Replace yard light bulbs & Photo eyes
 - Other services upon request
- CALL FOR RATES!

Ben Baker • Kipling SK • Cell: 306-736-7445
Home: 306-736-8189 • Shop: 306-736-2241

Upcoming Sales

Gainsborough Consignment sale

October 6, 2024 at 10 am
Gainsborough, SK

Auction sale for Derrick and Shelley Big Eagle and Others

October 19, 2024 at 10 am
Manor, SK

KEY "M"
AUCTION SERVICES

Redvers, SK
Phone: 306-452-3815
Cell: 306-452-7847
auctionkeym@gmail.com
www.keymauctions.com

ABLE
EAVESTROUGHING LTD.

SIDING • METAL ROOFING • SOFFIT
FASCIA • EAVESTROUGHS • CLADDING

306.532.4496
WAPELLA

204.725.2294
BRANDON

ableeaves2@hotmail.ca

24-HOUR
TOW TRUCK SERVICE
306-434-8886

- Tire Sales & Repairs
- Agriculture & Industrial Tires
- All Makes & Models
- Batteries
- Quad Tires
- Automotive
- Diagnostics & Repair
- Wheel
- Alignments
- SGI Safety
- Inspections
- 24-Hour Mobile Tire Service



OK TIRE

(306) 435-2220
505 MOOSE ST. • MOOSOMIN, SK.

BEST BUYS IN USED EQUIPMENT

4WD TRACTORS

2022 620 Case IH Quad Trac with PTO.....	\$ 725,000
2014 500 Case IH 500 HP.....	\$ 365,000

COMBINES

2005 8010 Case IH with pickup.....	\$ 75,000
2007 7010 Case IH duals, pickup.....	\$ 125,000
2010 8120 Case IH with pickup.....	\$ 130,000
2012 9230 with pickup.....	\$ 215,000
2013 8230 Case IH with pickup header.....	\$ 245,000
2017 8240 Case IH with pickup.....	\$ 345,000
2019 8250 Case IH automation pickup header.....	\$ 475,000

COMBINE HEADERS

1997 30ft 1010 Case IH Combine header with pickup reel.....	\$ 10,000
2001 2388 Case IH Combine Header with pickup.....	\$ 45,000
2015 40 ft 3162 Case IH TERRA FLEX Draper Header.....	\$ 35,000
2017 40 ft FD75 MacDon Flex Header.....	\$ 75,000

NEW EQUIPMENT IN STOCK

2018 30C Case IH Farmall Compact Loader, No Cab.....	\$ CALL
2023 35C Case IH Farmall Compact Loader, No Cab.....	\$ CALL
2024 45C Case IH Farmall Compact Loader, Cab.....	\$ CALL
2023 130 Case IH Vestrum Loader, 130HP.....	\$ CALL
2023 100C Case IH with Loader.....	\$ CALL
2023 41 ft. Case IH 475 Speed-tiler Loader.....	\$ 280,000
2023 545 Case IH 4WD, Duals.....	\$ CALL
2024 PUMA 165 - 165 HP, Loader.....	\$ CALL
2024 PUMA 180 Case IH 180HP Loader.....	\$ CALL

BALERS

2015 RB560 Roll Belt New Holand Baler.....	\$ 46,000
2021 RB565 Case IH Baler Twine & Net Wrap, Wide Pickup.....	\$ 72,000

A.E. CHICOINE Farm Equipment Ltd.
Storthoaks, SK - 306-449-2255

1995 Case Corporation
Case IH is a registered Trademark
of Case Corporation.



5 ways to deal with the invisible workload on the farm

BY REBECCA HANNAM, FCC

Remembering the grocery list, coordinating the babysitter, and booking the doctor's appointment aren't typical farm chores, but every farm family needs somebody to take on these and many more day-to-day duties.

These tasks are examples of invisible work, a term created by sociologist Arlene Kaplan Daniels to define unpaid and often unacknowledged labour in home management. These responsibilities include cooking, cleaning, caregiving, and the mental load of planning and organizing daily life.

Women historically handle the bulk of this work, and it often falls on their shoulders, sometimes due to gender-based expectations. Mothers, including those on the farm, spend significant time and energy thinking about their family's needs and doing the physical labour involved in childcare. Add on- and off-farm jobs to invisible work, and the general inequality can lead to feeling overwhelmed and burnt out.

"Invisible work can add to the physical and mental stress of individuals," says Bethany Parkinson, manager of psychological support and education for Agriculture Wellness Ontario at the Canadian Mental Health Association. "And in agriculture, every farm family already has more stressful times, like planting and harvesting, and stressors that come up, such as an issue with animal health."

To address invisible work and create a balance between wellness, family demands and farm business needs, consider these five tips:

1. Establish healthy routines

Basic self-care, such as eating well, getting enough sleep, and maintaining personal hygiene, improves mental health



and well-being. No matter what type of workload you experience, Parkinson explains that consciously making wellness a priority and sticking to a routine is key to staying healthy.

"As humans, we rely on a daily schedule or routine to keep us well," she says. "Children thrive off of routine, so when they see their parents modelling this behaviour, it can help their mental wellbeing too."

2. Communicate openly

For Lesley Kelly, who farms with her brother and husband in Saskatchewan, regular communication is vital to addressing visible and invisible work and sharing the workload.

As a result of good communication, Kelly and her husband, Matt, have developed a year-round routine that aims to balance farm work, off-farm work and their family.

Kelly is responsible for managing the farm's financial records, marketing and human resources, which she can do re-

motely using her phone and laptop. This flexibility allows her to travel across North America for speaking engagements in the winter months. At the same time, Matt carries most of the invisible workload associated with their home and raising their two sons.

"And then, during busy times on the farm, we switch," she explains. "I turn off my speaking calendar to be there and take the lead at home, with his support."

The farm partners find it beneficial to use the social media messaging platform WhatsApp to communicate throughout the day and book a weekly meeting to review priority jobs and make plans.

3. Use organizational tools

"One of the things that helps me stay sane with the mental workload is using Trello," says Kelly, explaining that the digital tool is like a virtual whiteboard with lists of sticky notes that others can access.

She uses Trello for everything on the farm, extracurricular sports schedules for

her sons, and even their favourite field meals.

"I list all of the recipes we like and the ingredients, so when it comes time to make field meals, I don't even have to think about it," Kelly says.

When she knows her sports mom's schedule won't allow her to deliver as many meals, as usual, to farm crews during busy times of the year, she uses her list to make individual freezer meals ahead of time and purchases portable food warmers for the farm team.

4. Connect with peers

Building a support network can help you manage invisible work, but sometimes, it takes reaching out to start the conversation.

"Connection is so much greater and more impactful than comparison," Parkinson says. "If you notice that the neighbour's farm, play hockey and do 4-H, reach out to the mom for tips on how they do it instead of thinking about how you should be doing what they're doing but don't have the time."

Kelly made valuable connections through a formal peer group. While the group focuses on business planning and other farm management topics, it also discusses mental health and family and shares its members' experiences to help each other.

5. Ask for help

Admitting you need help can be difficult, but there is no shame in reaching out to your network for support or hiring help for tasks such as cleaning or childcare.

If the workload is overwhelming, access these mental health resources or visit *Do More Agriculture*, an initiative Kelly co-founded in 2017.

Homegrown solution for farmers looking to increase yields

Continued from page C8

"The underlying technology is identical to that used for other large-scale fermentations such as beer making," said Dr. John Sorensen, Dept. of Chemistry, UM. "The fact that bacterial growth can be accomplished in water with common, safe ingredients is a major improvement in safety and virtually eliminates the environmental risks that can be associated with the production of chemical plant stimulants and fungicides," explained Dr. Richard Sparling, Dept. of Microbiology, University of Manitoba.

Microbial agriculture is an emerging field garnering a lot of interest around the world and now this home-

grown solution is primed to expand locally. In spring of 2021, KGS and UM researchers partnered with local biotechnology company BioScision Pharma Inc. to produce the large quantities of KGS-3 needed for a series of field trials in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Dr. Rob Gulden, Dept. of Plant Sciences, University of Manitoba, notes the significance of these locally developed products: "For Prairie producers, it's a great benefit that these products have been developed and tested in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and therefore are ideally suited to our unique geography and climate."

The two bio-inoculant strains (KGS-2 and KGS-3) are patented in Canada and the US and are available for licensing.

KGS Group is interested in developing relationships with agriculture companies who wish to partner in the

commercialization of these technologies.

This project received funding from agencies including NSERC, MITACS, NRC-IRAP, and the Research Manitoba Innovation Proof-of-Concept program. This project has also greatly benefitted from the support of Dr. Vikram Bisht, an Industry Development Specialist, with expertise in potato and horticulture crops pathology, for the Manitoba Dept. of Agriculture and Resource Development.

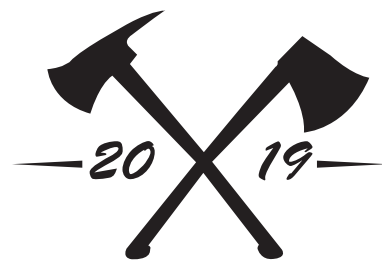


Left is Bio-inoculants group in Spring 2021 in the BioScision Fermentation Facility

Top row: Dr. John Sorensen (Chemistry, UM), Dr. Rob Gulden (Plant Sciences, UM)

Middle row: Dr. Scott Wushke (Microbiologist, post-doctoral fellow, UM), Dr. Vikram Bisht (MB Dept. of Agriculture and Resource Development - Industry Development Specialist - Potato and Horticulture Crops Pathology)

Bottom row: Dr. Stan Lozeczniak, Senior Environmental Engineer, KGS Group, Tajinder Kainth (Microbiology, 2021 research assistant, UM), Dr. Richard Sparling (Microbiology, UM), J. Bert Smith, Principal at KGS Group Missing: Dr. April Johnson (Chemistry, post-doctoral fellow, UM)



DK Tree Removal
& Maintenance

Tree Removal
Pruning
Stump Grinding
Yard Cleanup
Hedge Trimming

306-608-TREE
(306-608-8733)



BEAR CREEK
MEATS

ROCANVILLE, SK

- Offering premium cutting and wrapping
- Bulk order meat sales (halves and wholes)

ANDREW DICK
306-434-5993
SKBEARCREEK@GMAIL.COM
WWW.BEARCREEKMEATS.CA

Dawn Nagy, CAIB

STOCKHOLM
AGENCIES LTD.

PHONE: 306-793-2900
FAX: 306-793-2959
stockholmagnies@sasktel.net

113 Ohlen Street • Stockholm, SK

Young Innovators: USask researchers 'beefing' up cattle with affordable, drought-proof diet

Creating a high nutritional value diet that keeps beef cattle fed during challenging years is the focus of University of Saskatchewan (USask) research

BY ERIN MATTHEWS
RESEARCH PROFILE
AND IMPACT

A good diet is crucial for obtaining high-quality meat from cattle—but drought conditions can make sourcing high-quality feed difficult. USask master student Beatriz Montenegro is searching for feed solutions that are cheaper and easier to obtain for producers, a project that has received funding through the Government of Saskatchewan's Agricultural Development Fund.

A passion for food production began at a young age for Montenegro. Raised by agronomist parents, Montenegro grew up in Mexico surrounded by a flourishing agriculture industry. Following in her parent's footsteps, she worked at a beef processing facility shortly after moving to Canada, gaining valuable hands-on experience and learning more about the challenges that beef producers face. Inspired by the industry, Montenegro enrolled at the University of Manitoba, where a biochemistry class helped solidify her choice to focus on animal nutrition.

For the past year, Montenegro has been investigating new diets for beef cattle in the Ribeiro Lab at USask, under supervision of Dr. Gabriel Ribeiro (DVM, PhD) in the College of Agriculture and Biore-



USask master student Beatriz Montenegro is searching for feed solutions that are cheaper and easier to obtain for producers.

sources. "There are so many little biochemical details and intricacies that you can investigate and tweak to get results," said Montenegro. "From a producer's point of view, if you make a small change in an animal's diet, you can get tangible changes in the animal."

When it comes to beef

cattle, diet changes can affect meat composition, including marbling, which is important for determining the quality of the meat. In Canada, producers aim for higher quality grading like prime and AAA.

"The challenges faced by producers have been exacerbated by the unprecedented drought in West-

ern Canada," said Montenegro. "I've heard from people who have ranches for generations who have to sell off or downsize their operations to maintain their viability."

Montenegro saw potential and opportunity in cheaper byproducts from wheat and oil crops which can be used to alle-

viate some of the economic strain caused by high feed prices.

"Our research team wanted to see if we can take advantage of using these crop byproducts that are economical and widely available in Western Canada and include them in beef cattle diets without compromising growth per-

formance," said Montenegro.

Montenegro was specifically interested in wheat straw, a crop byproduct that is widely available and costs less than normal feed but has a lower nutritional value. But feeding cattle only wheat straw has its limitations.

"A similar comparison would be to feed only lettuce to a high-performance athlete" said Montenegro, "It has lots of fibre, but not a whole lot of nutrition by itself."

To improve the nutritional profile of wheat straw, Montenegro added in fats from another crop byproduct—canola or flax screenings.

These fats not only work to supplement the cattle's diet, but they can reduce the production of methane, a greenhouse gas that is produced by the beef cattle industry.

With her research, Montenegro hopes to provide a more inclusive picture of different diets for producers by looking at cattle performance, economics, greenhouse gas emissions and how diets are digested.

"I'm very passionate about applied research and knowledge transfer from academia to industry, said Montenegro. "Helping producers improve operational efficiencies and increase animal health and welfare is really important for me as a researcher."

THE WORLD-Spectator

If you enjoy Ag News, support local journalism and get all the news from around the region each week with a subscription to the **World-Spectator!**

Clip and mail the form below, or give us a call at 306-435-2445 or e-transfer to accounts@world-spectator.com to subscribe!

Box 250, Moosomin, Sask. S0G 3N0

- ___ \$55.00 for one year (delivered through Canada Post)
- ___ \$95.00 for two years (delivered through Canada Post)
- ___ \$125.00 for three years (delivered through Canada Post)
- ___ \$185.00 for five years (delivered through Canada Post)

Payment Enclosed ___
 Please charge my VISA ___ Mastercard ___ AMEX ___
 Name _____
 Address _____

M M Y Y

Signature _____

Glengarry Farm Finance, in partnership with FCC, announces enhanced investment capabilities in alternative lending market

BY JILL MCALISTER
CORPORATE COMMUNICATION, FCC

Glengarry Farm Finance Corporation (Glengarry) is announcing an investment from Farm Credit Canada (FCC) that will allow it to provide farmers with a more accessible source of financing.

Founded by a group of farm credit specialists, farmers and finance industry professionals, Glengarry is a wholly Canadian alternative lender in the agricultural market focused on providing flexible financing solutions for primary producers in Western Canada and Ontario.

Glengarry primarily works with farmers who, due to temporary credit issues, cannot secure loans through pri-

mary institutions. The company acts as a "transitional lender," providing farmers with the financial backing they need to eventually become bankable.

FCC has committed up to \$60 million, which significantly increases Glengarry's capacity to support this underserved transitional lending market.

"FCC is committed to supporting Canada's agriculture and food industry and that includes responsibly expanding capital solutions in underserved areas," said Darren Baccus, executive vice-president, investment, FCC Capital. "Glengarry serves a segment of the market that complements our current capital solutions. With the right support, qualified primary producers have the potential

to continue to contribute to the resiliency, diversity and innovation of Canadian agriculture despite temporary financial disruptions in their operations."

"We have an unshakable belief in the farming community. That's why we want to modernize farm financing and make it more accessible. We understand agriculture is an unpredictable business, and many determinants of success are well beyond a farmer's control," says Glengarry CEO Greg Kalil. "This new partnership with FCC puts us in the unique position of being able to offer a more comprehensive set of financing solutions to give farmers the support they need to work their way back to bankability."

Catalera Series A funding to catalyze a new era of biological pest control



BY JILL MCALISTER
CORPORATE COMMUNICATION, FCC

Catalera BioSolutions ("Catalera"), a pioneering innovator in biological pest control solutions, today announced the initial close of its Series A funding round. Launched mid-May, Catalera is an independent company spun out from Terramera, an ag-tech company based in Vancouver.

The launch of Catalera is made possible through a US\$8M investment round led by S2G Ventures ("S2G"), with follow-up investment from Farm Credit Canada (FCC) Capital, and a second and final close expected in Q4 of 2024.

Catalera creates innovative biological products using a purpose-built toolkit of patented technologies to overcome the core challenges that have so far prevented the broad based adoption of biological products. Building on a solid foundation from existing commercial products including: RANGO® for specialty crops, SOCORO® for row crops, Vaporpad® for professional bed bug treatment and the recent registration of TRIFECTO® in Mexico, the company is well positioned to deploy several new biological products over the next few years and substantially grow its portfolio.

The \$70 billion synthetic chemistry industry for agriculture and consumer pest control is facing significant challenges stemming from nearly a century of over-reliance on synthetic chemicals. This has created far-reaching impacts in the world including food security risks, soil and water damage, and negative effects on human health.

"Consumers, government, and industry, including the world's largest agriculture companies, are wanting to move to biologicals. But natural solutions need

a helping hand to meet the needs of industry, growers, and consumers. As an experienced and agile company, Catalera holds the keys to unlocking the potential of biologicals and making a major impact in agriculture and beyond," said Matthew Dahabieh, CEO of Catalera. "Our team has been developing safe, effective, and cost-competitive biological products for over a decade. We have launched numerous products with leading partners, and have an exciting pipeline of new products in development, which this new funding will help us get to market."

"We are at a pivotal moment in the biologicals market. The convergence of global events leading to severe supply chain disruptions, as well as growing concerns around the impacts of fertilizer use, are causing many farmers to reevaluate their approach," said Sanjeev Krishnan, managing partner at S2G. "We believe Catalera's distinctive platform capabilities for unlocking biological formulation and cutting-edge product portfolio signals a promising future for the industry. We look forward to supporting them in their mission."

This is FCC Capital's first investment by the newly created arm at the Canadian lender that is proud to be 100% invested in Canadian agriculture and food.

"FCC is thrilled to announce our first co-investment in Catalera BioSolutions alongside S2G, which has a decade of experience investing in the global food and agtech space. This transaction aligns with FCC's commitment to build a capital solutions platform which delivers impactful financing for innovative companies with the potential to advance the Canadian food and agriculture industry," said Justine Hendricks, FCC president and CEO. "We are excited to support Catalera Bio-

Solutions and leverage our expertise, data, and relationships to help them grow and succeed."

Catalera BioSolutions Inc. is a leading developer of biological solutions for plant, home, and public health. Based out of Vancouver, Canada, the company has over a decade of experience innovating formulation technology to create efficacious biological pesticides for the consumer, professional, and agricultural markets. Inspired by the question, "What if synthetic chemistry was never invented?" Catalera is on a mission to unlock the power of biologicals in our lives and accelerate the transition to a more beneficial future! For more information visit catalera.com.

S2G is a multi-stage investment firm focused on venture and growth-stage businesses across food and agriculture, oceans and energy. The firm provides capital and value-added resources to entrepreneurs and leadership teams pursuing innovative market-based solutions that S2G believes are cheaper, faster or better than traditional alternatives. With a commitment to creating long-term, measurable outcomes, S2G structures flexible capital solutions that can range from seed and venture funding through growth equity to debt and infrastructure financing. For more information about S2G, visit s2gventures.com or connect with us on LinkedIn.

 **PRAIRIE LIVESTOCK**
LIVESTOCK DEALERS AND ORDER BUYERS

We will buy your
cattle direct off farm

- One of the biggest licensed bonded order buyers in Canada.
- Respected and trusted for 40 years
- Customers across Canada and the U.S. giving us the ability to pay top dollar for all qualities and classes of cattle
- Never charge selling fees, which means more profit per head (up to \$25/head over selling at Auction)
- Same day payment

To find out what your cattle are worth and to book them in for our next Monday weight-up day contact:

Jason: 306-435-7767 Matt: 306-728-1582
John: 306-434-7778 Office: 306-435-3327

Prairie Livestock Inc.
1 Mile West of Moosomin
on Hwy #1

Licensed and bonded livestock dealers (SK #116723)(MB #1257)



To place an ad in Ag News call 306-435-2445
or email world_spectator@sasktel.net

USask's cutting-edge soil science laboratory receives \$760K

BY MATT OLSON
RESEARCH PROFILE AND IMPACT

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) has received more than three quarters of a million dollars to conduct soil research more quickly, efficiently and with greater detail than ever before.

Soil science plays a crucial role in understanding how plants grow and can be used in research that combats climate change and creates sustainable crops to feed a growing population. USask researchers have long been innovators in soil science research and now a project to upgrade and overhaul the USask soil sciences laboratory has received funding from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation's John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF). The fund supports innovative research and research infrastructure projects across the country.

Dr. Colin Laroque (PhD), the head of the Department of Soil Science and a professor in the College of Agriculture and Bio-resources, said this funding will help upgrade the tools and technology of the Bank of Montreal (BMO) Soil Analytical Laboratory to match the skills and expertise of the researchers at USask.

"We think we're leaders in this field. To have an outside agency affirm this is a pat on the back," he said. "We're updating our science and equipment to be a definite leader in the country."

The USask soil sciences laboratory was renamed the BMO Soil Analytical Laboratory in recognition of the support from BMO as part of a \$2 million donation re-



Dr. Colin Laroque (PhD) demonstrates some of the new pieces of equipment in the BMO Soil Analytical Laboratory. The new JELF funding will help add a total of 11 pieces of state-of-the-art equipment to the laboratory.

ceived in 2023.

The JELF funding of \$761,727 will go towards the purchase and installation of

11 new tools in the BMO Soil Analytical Laboratory. These new devices – including instruments like leading-edge mass spectrometers used for detailed soil chemical analyses – will give researchers a leg up when working on impactful research projects.

Soil science research includes many facets, including the chemical composition of the soil, nutritional inputs and outputs, microbes living in the soil, greenhouse gas sequestration and emissions, and much more.

As Laroque puts it, the interest in soil health has been steadily growing over the

past few decades. As technology has continued to improve, more and more indicators of soil health have been identified and can be measured using newly developed tools and techniques.

USask researchers will continue to push the boundaries of soil science research with the support of the JELF funding, and Laroque said these upgraded facilities will attract researchers from beyond campus as well.

"If you want to be the biggest and best, you should be leading the game, and we do," he said. "We have some of the best soil science minds in the country in this department, and to keep them working on the cutting edge we need the best tools ... and our partners across the country can use them too."

USask is home to many top-tier researchers in the agricultural field and has become a preferred location for companies developing new research technologies to co-ordinate with those working in the industry.

Thanks to the tremendous level of skill and knowledge in the department, Laroque said the funding and support reflects the breadth and scope of the research happening at USask.

"It's not so much that we have one person who is the beacon – it's the group of beacons that we have," he said. "Many of these people are leaders in the country, or internationally – we know that, and we're told that. To put them all on one application, one piece of paper, it's humbling. That's why a grant like this can come to our department."

Other projects to receive JELF funding this round include:

- Dr. Benjamin Hoy (PhD), Department of History, College of Arts and Science – The Infrastructure of Health, Economics, and Power – \$33,482
- Dr. Nicole Webster (PhD), Department of Biology, College of Arts and Science – Saskatchewan Marine Invertebrate Lab for Embryology – \$145,604

"Now if our margins were increasing as fast as our yields..."

People who know Agriculture, know BDO.

The Agriculture Practice at BDO

Changes throughout the industry have placed an entirely new set of demands on agricultural businesses, from family farms to national producers. BDO provides a partner-led, personal approach backed by the experience and resources of our national Agriculture Practice. We offer assurance, accounting, tax and advisory services on a wide range of issues, including succession and estate planning, supply chain efficiency, tax burden, and more.

255 Wellington St W, Virden Manitoba
Phone: 204-748-1200

Box 668, 21 Railway Ave, Redvers Saskatchewan
Phone: 306-452-6016

Assurance | Accounting | Tax | Advisory
www.bdo.ca/agriculture



FARMING PROVIDES FOR ALL OF US

Dr. Robert Kitchen MP
Souris-Moose Mountain

1-866-249-4697 • www.drrobertkitchen.ca

VÄDERSTAD

We innovate with purpose

Join our journey towards perfect emergence.

Join us to engineer tomorrow's farming
vaderstad.com/ca-en/careers



Above: Dale Woods submitted this photo of their operation harvesting canola north of Moosomin as part of The World-Spectator's 2024 Harvest Photo Contest.

Right: Ashley Bocek took this photo of bales lined up in a field north of Moosomin as part of The World-Spectator's 2024 Harvest Photo Contest.



Left is Kaylee Hutchinson in the grain cart and right is Rylar Hutchinson in the combine. This year is the third harvest for Hutch Farms without their dad Cam, and the day they were listening to his songs on the radio was the day that a beautiful rainbow showed up. It came after a light sprinkle and right before sunset. Photos submitted by Paige Hutchinson as part of The World-Spectator's 2024 Harvest Photo Contest.



Above: Photographed here is five-month old Walter Brolund going on his first-ever combine ride with his grandpa Garry Brolund. He had such a blast and was amazed by the orange control stick and all of the movement in front of them. This photo was submitted by Dawson Brolund as part of The World-Spectator's 2024 Harvest Photo Contest.



Left: This photo of Harper Jaenen, daughter of Tyler and Erin Jaenen, was submitted by Tyler Jaenen as part of The World-Spectator's 2024 Harvest Photo Contest.



Kevin Weedmark snapped a photo of a farmer swathing between Redvers and Moosomin.



TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT

THE WORLD-
Spectator

HARVEST 2024

Photo Contest







SEND US YOUR PHOTOS OF
FALL HARVEST 2024 FOR

a chance to win \$100

AND HAVE YOUR PHOTOS PUBLISHED IN THE
NEWSPAPER! PHOTOS CAN BE E-MAILED TO

PHOTOS@WORLD-SPECTATOR.COM

4 key skills for effective supervision in your farm business

The agriculture sector is facing a major labour shortage that is expected to worsen over the next decade. To attract and retain workers, you need to stand out through effective supervision. Here are four essential skills to help you succeed in this role.

1. Develop clear guidelines

You are in the best position to have an overall picture of your employees' tasks and responsibilities. It's not just about knowing how to do the job, it's also about understanding each person's role and the difficulties they may encounter.

Clearly communicate roles and functions to each employee from the start to avoid confusion, frustration and conflict. Employees need to know where to go with questions or problems. Provide extra support for casual or seasonal workers, so that they have all the information and tools they need to do their jobs properly.

Some tips:

- Create an organizational chart of your business
- Determine each employee's level of responsibility
- Create job profiles, including required skills

2. Communicate clearly and regularly

Constructive, ongoing feedback helps clarify the direction and pace of work. Evaluating employees once a year is not enough, as those who don't own the business may not feel the same commitment to it. Setting realistic goals and highlighting their accomplishments on a regular basis helps keep team members motivated.

Some tips:

- Hold regular team meetings
- Give employees daily feedback
- Highlight the team's successes

3. Involve the team members

Your employees don't just carry out instructions. They're in the trenches and

have skills and experience to draw on. They know the challenges they face. Take the time to listen to their needs and suggestions. Their ideas will help you implement concrete solutions to improve performance.

To do this, practise active listening by asking probing questions such as "What do you think?" or "Explain your idea to me." Feeling valued and consulted increases pride, motivation, a sense of belonging and investment in the business.

Pay special attention to work-life balance and rest time as well. By taking care of your employees in this way, you help build a relationship of trust.

Some tips:

- Be transparent
- Welcome feedback and implement your employees' ideas
- Encourage dialogue and questions rather than answers
- Listen without judging
- Reduce distractions during interactions (texting, email, phone calls, etc.)

4. Respect employees' decision-making autonomy

Being a good leader also means avoiding certain negative behaviors. Delegating tasks and accepting that they will be done differently than you expect is essential. On the other hand, constant control over employees is counterproductive.

The Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail du Québec (CNESST) illustrates the realities faced by workers in its awareness campaign "Mental health risks at work—it's not fiction." On its website, it says that decision-making autonomy is a sign of respect and trust in employees, which goes a long way toward increasing job satisfaction.

Some tips:

- Encourage continuous improvement
- Trust your employees

- Show your appreciation regularly

Bottom line

Getting supervision right is good for your business. By mastering the necessary

skills and abilities, you'll foster greater commitment from your team. A healthier work environment, where employees feel competent, will allow you to maximize their potential and well-being.

Masterfeeds
an **Altech** company

Sold Here

Redfern
FARM SERVICES LTD.

Mineral - Supplements - Salt - More

Virden MB 204-748-1122

READY CHECK

MAINTENANCE EVENT

120 DAYS

NO INTEREST NO PAYMENTS

On a minimum purchase of \$750
when you use your
CNHi Productivity Card

(JULY 1 - SEPT 30, 2025) PROMO #0804

COMBINE INSPECTIONS

MODELS CX8000 / CR9000 / CX8.00 / CR9.00

INCLUDES PICK-UP HEAD **\$1899.⁰⁰**

EVENT ENDS
MARCH 31ST, 2025

ENTER TO WIN

Your Sprayer
Antifreeze Purchase
Back!

Buy sprayer antifreeze at any of
our locations until October 31 and
enter your invoice to win your
purchase back!

ONE WINNER
PER STORE

Some conditions apply

5 Gal/18.9L
\$31⁹⁹



FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

- WATER RETENTION
- COVER CROPS
- NITROGEN MANAGEMENT
- ALTERNATIVE WATERING SYSTEMS
- SHELTERBELTS
- ROTATIONAL GRAZING
- INCENTIVE PROGRAMS FOR WETLANDS, UPLAND, AND RIPARIAN AREAS
- FORAGE ESTABLISHMENT
- EDUCATION FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS & DAYCARES
- AND MORE!



APPLY TODAY!

RESTON
204-877-3020

DELORAINÉ
204-747-2530

SRWD.CA



Your Story is Ours to Protect

Agribusiness & Farm Insurance

HUB and Red River Mutual put you at the center of everything we do. We have you covered.

There are discounts available for first-time policyholders, claims-free histories, safety features and more.

Talk to your local HUB insurance broker to make sure you're getting the best possible coverage at the best possible price for your farm.

Make sure to tell your broker about any of your unique farm and life needs!



POLICY PACKAGE	FarmLite™	FarmGen™	FarmFlex™ GENERAL FARM	FarmFlex™ PRAIRIE GRAIN	FarmFlex™ SPECIALTY DAIRY & POULTRY FARM
POLICY PACKAGE SUMMARY	For farms with minimal activity or when farming is secondary to your rural lifestyle.	If your farm-style operation is larger and generates at least 50% of your income, this plan will provide added protection.	Three distinct FarmFlex™ packages for general or mixed operation, specialized grain and dairy or poultry operations.		
POLICY INCLUDES INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR...	Hobby farms where most, if not all, produce, crops and livestock are kept for personal consumption. Minimal commercial activity, such as, selling produce at a local farmer's market	Grain, cash crop and small mixed farming operations with less than 1,500 acres Limited coverage for small commercial operations	Grain and cash crop farms with 1,500 acres or more.	Grain, cash crop and potato farms with 2,500 acres or more.	Farms where the primary operations and revenue are dairy or poultry.
Protection for your home, property, and personal liability					

Every farm is unique. Ensure that all your insurance needs are met by adding specific coverages to your farm insurance policy. **Talk to a HUB insurance broker in Saskatchewan to get started.**

Find us in: Moosomin | Broadview | Kipling | Montmartre | Qu'Appelle | Indian Head | Emerald Park | Pilot Butte | Lemberg | Lipton | Kelliher | Estevan | Langenburg | Esterhazy | Kamsack | Grenfell

