



Peace Region Turf & Forage Seed Industry

2013 Research & Extension Activities

Peace Region Forage Seed Association

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Sandra Burton, Researcher
Chris Thomson, Office Manager
Wendy Schmaltz, Bookkeeper
Jeremy McDonald, Website

*The vision is to improve
the quality, consistency and profitability
of the turf and forage seed industry
in the Peace River Region.*



Summer Tour at Beaverlodge Research Farm in July 2013

PRFSA Contact Information

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BC Peace River Grain Industry Development Council

Barry Follensbee, Chair
Rolla, BC
Email: bfollensbee@bcgrain.com

Research Activities of PRFSA in 2013

1. Agronomy, Crop Rotation & Establishment Trials:

Comparing Forage, Pea, Canola & Wheat Based Rotations

Contacts: Azooz/ Yoder/ AIP

Year 1 of 5.

Comparing Rates & Timing of Nitrogen Fertilizers

Contacts: Yoder/ Azooz/ AIP

Year 1 of 5.

Effects of Foliar Applied Plant Growth Regulators on Grass & Clover Seed Crops

Contacts: Yoder/ Azooz/ AIP

Year 1 of 5.

2. Forage Seed Variety Trials:

Coordinating Western Canadian Grass Seed Testing Program

Coordinating Peace Grass Seed Cultivar Trials & Managing Research Site at Beaverlodge, AB

Contacts: Azooz/ Burton/ AIP

Year 1 of 5.

Managing Research Site at Fort St John, BC

Contacts: Burton/ Azooz

Year 6 of 6.

3. Weed Control & Herbicide Tolerance Trials:

Herbicide Tolerance Trials on Seedling & Established Grasses

Contacts: Yoder/ Azooz/ AIP

Year 1 of 5.

Herbicide Tolerance of Seedling & Established Red/ Alsike Clovers

Contacts: Yoder/ Azooz/ AIP

Year 1 of 5.

Biological Control of Ox-Eye Daisy in Forages

Contacts: McClay/ Yoder/ Otani

Year 2 of 2.

4. Herbicide Minor Use Registration Trials:

Compiling data of herbicide tolerance trials from several site years & submitting to Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) in Ottawa.

Membership in Minor Use Consortium.

Representing PRFSA at minor use priority setting meetings in Ottawa (*in 2012 Calvin Yoder & Tobin Dirks attended*).

17 successful Minor Use Registrations in the last 7 years as a direct result of this collaborative work.

Example of Recent Minor Use Registrations: Basagram on established red clover for seed (2011) & on established alsike clover for seed (2012). 3 more current submissions.

5. Insect & Disease Trials:

Monitoring Insect Pests & Anthropod Biodiversity

Contacts: Otani/ AIP

Year 1 of 5.

Pheromone Trials

Contacts: Evenden/ Boyd/ Univ. of Alberta

Year 4 of 4.

Pest Monitoring Project / BC Climate Action Initiative

Contacts: Benn/ Clark/ Robinson

Year 1 of 3.

6. Revegetating With Forage & Native Seed Study:

Revegetating Sites Disturbed by Oil & Gas Activities

Contacts: Wilson/ Robinson/ Kerschbaumer

Year 2 of 3.



Sandra Burton & Calvin Yoder checking timothy trials for cutworm damage in early spring of 2013 at FSJ research site.

Research results are:

- * presented at seminars
- * shared at biannual ag industry update meetings like the one in Rycroft, AB every second winter
- * shared during tours
- * summarized in articles in the Forage Seed News magazine
- * compiled into annual updates like the Herbicide Tolerance publication
- * past and current research compiled into publications like the newly distributed **The Seed Head** factsheets
- * available by contacting the researchers listed under each project
- * available on our website at www.peaceforageseed.ca/pages/research_projects.html



Talon Johnson learning about the pest monitoring project from Arlan Benn.

PRFSA Extension Activities in 2013

1. Sharing information with turf and forage seed growers:

Partnering with MFSA to compile **Forage Seed News** magazine and mailing it to over 950 turf & forage seed growers/ members in the Peace Region.

Herbicide Tolerance Update 2013 compiled; Update 2014 being mailed.

Short research updates in *the Seed Head*:

Nutrient Removal in Creeping Red Fescue Seed Crops

Nitrogen on Creeping Red Fescue: A Review of Peace Region Trials

Updating forage seed website, as well as adding market updates, more links, articles and publications with great industry information.

Check out our website! <http://www.peaceforageseed.ca>

2. Organizing events to share information:

Winter seminars in 2013:

Mar 14: Annual production & marketing seminars & jointly held AGMs at the North Peace Cultural Center in Fort St. John, BC.

Summer tours in 2013:

July 4: Peace growers toured grass and legume seed plots at Beaverlodge Research Farm as part of a cross commodity tour.

Field days at research sites:

July to Oct: numerous field days and tours of re-vegetation project sites throughout south Peace in BC.

3. Liaison with groups & agencies outside our region:

Forage Seed Canada

Contacts: Heather Kerschbaumer, Danny Friesen

Canadian Pesticide Minor Use Registration Priority Setting Committee

Contacts: Calvin Yoder, Jennifer Otani, Tobin Dirks, H Kerschbaumer

Joint Membership with BCGPA in BC Agriculture Council

Contacts: Robert VanderLinden

Forage Seeding Interactive Webtool & Re-vegetation Working Group

Contacts: Bill Wilson, Julie Robinson, Heather Kerschbaumer, Sandra Burton, Keith Carroll, Murray Clark, Talon Johnson



Calvin Yoder & Todd Smith sharing information with growers during the summer tour at Beaverlodge in 2013.

The Seed Head
Factsheet # 1
Date: February, 2011

Nutrient Removal in Creeping Red Fescue Seed Crops

"I wonder if we might be further ahead leaving the straw and nutrients on our land to improve the soil."
Reuben Loewen
Prespatou, SK

Introduction
Have you ever wondered how many nutrients a creeping red fescue seed crop removes from your soil? A number of years ago the Peace Region Forage Seed Association conducted a survey on the nutritional value of grass seed straw and fall re-growth for livestock feeds. The majority of the survey was conducted over a four year period from 2000 to 2004. Samples of creeping red fescue straw were taken once the straw had been baled off the field.

Table 1. Average nutrient contents of creeping red fescue seed, straw and re-growth samples collected from 2000-2004.

Plant Parts	# of samples	Nitrogen %	Phosphorus % P ₂ O ₅	Potassium % K ₂ O	Sulphur %	
Seed	6	2.35	0.39	0.90	0.59	0.94
Straw	72	1.10	0.12	0.28	1.64	2.62
Regrowth	19	1.87	0.18	0.41	1.80	2.88

*Samples were not analyzed for sulphur. Oregon data indicates grass seed straw contains 0.25% sulphur. Grass hay contains 0.25% sulphur which was used to calculate the amount of sulphur in re-growth.

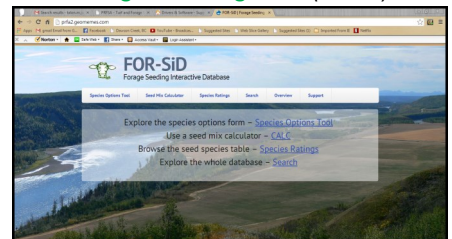
Discussion of results
Using the data from Table 1 we can estimate the nutrient removal by a 500lb/ac creeping red fescue seed crop that produces 1 ton/ac of straw and 12 tons/ac of re-growth (Table 2). The amounts of nutrients removed from the soil will vary depending on crop yield.

Contacts:
Calvin Yoder
(780) 864-3879
Sandra Burton
(250) 789-0885

The decision to retain straw and/or fall re-growth on the field will reduce the amounts of nutrients removed from the field. Nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus and sulphur in straw and re-growth which remain on the field will not be readily available to the crop the following year.

The Seed Head is published by Peace Region Forage Seed Association more Seed Head factsheets available soon on our website www.peaceforageseed.ca

Information is shared with growers through factsheets **The Seed Head** (above) & through websites such as the **Forage Seeding Tool** (below).



PRFSA Extension Events in 2014

Production & Marketing Seminar / AGMs on Tues Mar 18, 2014 at Rycroft Ag Center, Rycroft, AB

Topics include:
Market updates
Research highlights
Joint AGMs

Call: Calvin at 1 780 869 3879 or Chris at 1 877 630 2198

Forage & Forage Seed Agronomy Update on Tues Mar 25, 2014 Rycroft, AB

Topics include:
Forage species selection
Establishing forage crops
Certified Crop Advisor Credits

Please pre-register by calling:
Calvin at 1 780 869 3879 or Talon at 1 877 630 2198

2014 Summer Tour Sat July 5 In BC

Topics include:
Revegetating & establishing forages on berms & pipelines
Timing of seeding plots

For more information call:
Calvin at (780) 864 3879
Talon at (877) 630 2198



PRFSA Thanks You for Your Support in 2013



Thank You to 950 Levy Paying Growers & Members

Thank You 2013 Corporate Members

**Ag Vision Seeds Ltd.
AAFC Jennifer Otani
AAFC Rahman Azooz
Beaver Plastics Ltd.
BrettYoung**

**Dynamic Seeds Ltd.
Enterprises Macay Inc.
Farm Credit Canada
Foster's Seed and Feed Ltd.
Golden Acre Seeds**

**Gold Medal Seeds
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Imperial Seeds
Moore Seed Processors Inc.
Parkland Industries**

**DLF Pickseed Canada Inc.
Rolla Agricultural Services Ltd.
Saddle Hills County
SARDA
South Peace Grain**

Thank You 2013 Research Partners

**Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)
Alberta Agriculture & Rural Dev (AARD)
BC Ministry of Agriculture**

**Dr. Maya Evenden, Bio. Sci. Dep. Univ of AB
Dr. Bruce Coleman, Univ of SK/ AAFC**

**Manitoba Forage Seed Association (MFSA)
Smoky Applied Research Association (SARDA)
Peace River Forage Association of BC
BC Grain Producers Association (BCGPA)**

**Prairie Pesticide Minor Use Consortium
Dow AgroSciences Canada
Dupont Canada
Barenbrug USA
BrettYoung
Crop Production Services
Foster's Feed & Seed
Imperial Seed
Moore Seed Processors
Pickseed
Secan
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Thank You 2013 Associate Members

**Sandra Burton
Keith Carroll
Dale Gach
Brian Johnston**

**Dave Juneau
Clair Langlois
Danny Limoges
Rick Lusk**

**James Obniawka
Nora Paulovich
Don Pedersen
Bud Ralph & Joe Ralph**

**Julie Robinson
Cameron Schmidt
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Thank You 2013 Event Sponsors

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