



# Your \$\$\$ at Work for the Turf & Forage Seed Industry

## Research & Extension Activities of the Peace Region Forage Seed Association in 2004

### Peace Region Forage Seed Association

Dave Forgie, President  
Randy Graw, Vice President  
Dave Wuthrich, Treasurer  
Bernie Legault, AB Grower  
Don Pedersen, BC Grower  
Stan Mracek, BC Grower  
Raymond Walker, Seed Trade  
Nigel Fairey, AAFC Advisor  
Kerry Clark, BCMAFF Advisor  
Calvin Yoder, AAFRD Advisor

Sandra Burton, Coordinator  
Phone: (250) 789 6885  
Fax: (250) 789 6884  
Colleen Giesbrecht, Bookkeeper

### AB Peace Region Forage Seed Growers

Dave Forgie, Chair  
Falher, AB

Randy Graw  
Manning, AB

Bernie Legault  
Eaglesham, AB

### AB Marketing Council

Mike Pearson, Manager,  
Corporate Affairs, Edmonton, AB  
Phone: (780) 427 2164

### BC Forage Seed Advisory

Dave Wuthrich, Chair  
Cecil Lake, BC

Don Pedersen  
Dawson Creek, BC

Stan Mracek  
Farmington, BC

### BC Peace River Grain Industry Development Council

Sylvan Raaen, Chair  
Rolla, BC  
Phone: (250) 759 4778

### Central Levy Office

Barry Willis, Levy Administrator  
Email: bwillis@pris.ca  
Fax: (250) 785 9388



The Peace Region Forage Seed Association has been working diligently towards the goals of the 5 year strategic plan for the turf and forage seed industry of the Peace River Region. We are currently half way through our plan.

The following pages summarize their progress in 2004 under 5 headings that represent their 5 primary goals:

1. Strengthening research capabilities in Peace River Region;
2. Ensuring higher quality, consistency and profitability of forage seed production;
3. Informing growers of opportunities;
4. Transferring technology to growers; and
5. Ensuring stable funding and optimal use of levy funds.



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

## 1. Strengthening research capabilities in Peace River Region:

### Western Canadian Grass Seed Testing Program

#### Grass seed yield cultivar trials

Beaverlodge and Baldonnel are part of a 9 site network across Western Canada. Seed companies enter cultivars into the trials for a fee. The data is available at [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/for7820?opendocument](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/for7820?opendocument).

#### Establish a Research Advisory Committee

Forage Seed Research Advisory Committee met in Dec 2004 to establish priorities for research and extension activities.

## 2. Ensuring higher quality, consistency & profitability of forage seed production:

### Weed Control and Herbicide Tolerance Trials in Turf and Forage Seed Crops

#### Timing of Fall Applied Ally on Timothy, Meadow Bromegrass, Smooth Bromegrass and Hybrid Bromegrass for Tolerance and Weed Control

Ally at 1x and 2x recommended rate was applied to grasses in mid Sept and mid Oct. Weed control ratings, seed yields and forage yields will be collected. Sites included Beaverlodge and Edmonton. Data collected will be used to submit a minor-use registration for the fall application of Ally on several grasses. Year 1 of 3.

#### Fall versus Spring Spraying of Canada Thistle on Creeping Red Fescue

This trial compared thistle control from fall applied Ally and Curtail M to spring applications of Curtail M, Refine Extra and Lontrel applied at two different growth stages of the fescue. Year 4 of 4.

#### Broadleaf Weed Tank Mixes With Graminicides for Quackgrass Control in Creeping Red Fescue

Evaluating some of the newer broad-leaved weed herbicides to apply on creeping red fescue and whether they can be tank mixed with graminicides without reducing quackgrass control. Year 1 of 4.

#### Herbicide Tolerance and Weed Control in Established Alsike and Red Clover Seed Crops

Evaluating 4 herbicides at the 1x and 2x rate applied in the spring to established alsike clover. Seed yield data and weed control are assessed. Year 1 of 3.



### Forage Seed Research Advisory Committee

Dave Forgie, Falher Grower  
Richard Slater, Sexsmith Grower  
Wayne Longson, Beaverlodge Grower  
Cliff Mikula, Nampa Grower  
Mike Rudakewich, Fairview Grower  
Arthur Hadland, Baldonnel Grower  
Oral Benterud, Fort St. John Grower  
Stan Mracek, Farmington Grower

Heather Kerschbaumer, Seed Trade  
Todd Smith, Seed Trade

Nigel Fairey, AAFC Researcher  
Jennifer Otani, AAFC Researcher  
Richard Lussier, Agricore United  
Kerry Clark, BCMAFF Researcher  
Calvin Yoder, AAFRD Researcher

Sandra Burton, Coordinator  
Phone: (250) 789 6895  
Fax: (250) 789 6884

***Your ideas and input are  
always welcome !***

### Herbicide Minor Use Registration Trials

To collect seed yield and quality data following herbicides applications of at 1x and 2x rate on forage and turf seed crops. Data is collected over several site years and submitted for minor-use registration.

#### Tolerance of Grasses to Pre-seeding and Pre-emergent Herbicides

Evaluating tolerance of seedling grasses to herbicides applied as pre-seeding or pre-emergent applications. Year 2 of 4.

#### Herbicide Tolerance Trials on Meadow Bromegrass and Smooth Bromegrass

Evaluating the tolerance of established meadow and smooth bromegrass to spring applied herbicides (Prestige, Spectrum, Achieve liquid). Year 1 of 3.

In April 2004 seven Minor Use Label Expansion proposals were submitted to the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) in Ottawa.

Prestige on Established Timothy Grown For Seed  
Prestige on Established Creeping Red Fescue For Seed  
Curtail M on Established Timothy Grown For Seed  
Attain on Established Creeping Red Fescue For Seed  
Spectrum on Timothy Grown For Seed Production  
Spectrum on Established Tall Fescue Grown For Seed  
Spectrum on Established Creeping Red Fescue For Seed

## Research & Extension Activities of the Peace Region Forage Seed Association in 2004 (cont'd)

### 2. Ensuring higher quality, consistency & profitability of forage seed production (cont'd):

#### Stem Eyespot Control in Creeping Red Fescue

Control of Stem Eyespot in Creeping Red Fescue With Fungicides

Small plot replicated trials were established in producers fields to evaluate fungicides applied at different growth stages of fescue for stem eyespot control. Year 2 of 3.

#### Evaluating Seed Yields of Oracle vs Boreal

Seed yield data from 6 sites over 2 years will be completed this winter. Year 2 of 4.



#### Crop Rotation and Establishment Trials

Direct Seeding 3 Annual Crops Into Creeping Red Fescue

Peas, Roundup Ready canola and oats were direct seeded into creeping red fescue sprayed out in 2003 in a field scale replicated trial near Rycroft. Year 1 of 2.

Value of Pre-seeding and Pre-emergent Burnoffs When Direct Seeding Grasses Into Stubble

Herbicides were applied on 2 fields of direct seeded creeping red fescue into stubble. Year 1 of 2.

Direct Seeding Five Annual Crops Into Tall Fescue

Peas, Roundup Ready canola, oats, barley and wheat were direct seeded into tall fescue sprayed out in 2003 in a small plot replicated trial near Falher. Year 1 of 1.

Tolerance of Seedling Creeping Red Fescue to Roundup Underseeded to Canola

Evaluating the tolerance and establishment of creeping red fescue underseeded with RR canola in replicated small plot trial in a Rycroft producer's field. Year 1 of 2.

### 3. Informing growers of opportunities by:

#### Survey on Feed Quality of Grass Seed Residue

This survey was conducted over 4 years. Feed samples were collected from creeping red fescue, timothy, tall fescue, meadow brome grass and smooth brome grass straw bales. Samples of fall re-growth from several species was also collected and analyzed for feed quality. Summary publication will be available in spring of 2005.



#### A Special Thank You to Our Funding Partners

- \* Agriculture & Food Council of Alberta (CARD)
- \* British Columbia Investment Agriculture Foundation (IAF)
- \* Alberta Agriculture, Food & Rural Development (AAFRD)
- \* BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Fisheries (BCMAFF)
- \* Peace River Agriculture Development Fund (PRAD)
  - \* Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)
- \* Western Canadian Forage Seed Testing Program
- \* Smoky Applied Research Association (SARDA)
- \* Manitoba Forage Seed Association (MFSA)
- \* Soil Conservation Council of Canada GHGMP
  - \* Central Peace Soil Conservation Society
    - \* BC Grain Producers Association
    - \* Dow AgroSciences Canada
    - \* Producer Research Fund
    - \* Norwest Labs

## 4. Transferring technology to growers by:

Organizing production and marketing seminars

Organizing tours to various forage seed growing areas

Compiling production publications & facts sheets:

Perennial ryegrass seed production guide Agdex 127/ 20.

Timothy seed production guide Agdex 127/ 15-2.

Interim report on the feed quality of grass seed straws.

Report "AARI Fall Spraying Trials on Grass Seed Crops".

Tall fescue seed production guide to be completed 2005.

Mailing Forage Seed News magazine to growers:

This quality source of industry information is compiled collaboratively by resource people across Canada. Over 1750 Peace growers received the winter 2004 magazine.

Sharing information electronically with growers:

A forage seed website was designed. This is a brand new initiative and a work in progress, so feedback from growers, researchers and seed trade will improve the site.



**Visit our website:** [www.peaceforageseed.ca](http://www.peaceforageseed.ca)

## 5. Ensuring stable funding and optimal use of levy funds by:

Setting priorities and strategic planning by growers, seed companies and researchers

Coordinating project proposals, securing matching funds and reporting to funding partners

Bookkeeping and auditing for expense accountability

Reimbursing basic meeting expenses

Communicating effectively among 3 groups: PRFSA + AB commission + BC council



### For copies of publications contact:

Sandra Burton at (250) 789 6885 or

Calvin Yoder at (780) 864 3879.

### A Special Thank You to Our 2004 Corporate Members

- \* 20/20 Seed Labs Inc.
- \* Ag Vision Seeds Ltd.
- \* Beaver Plastics Ltd.
  - \* Bison Seeds
- \* Brett Young Seeds Ltd.
  - \* CIBC
- \* Dow AgroSciences Canada
  - \* Ducks Unlimited
  - \* Dupont Canada
  - \* Dynamic Seeds
- \* Foster's Seed & Feed Ltd.
  - \* Golden Acre Seeds
  - \* Hannas Seeds
- \* MacDon Industries Ltd.
- \* Moore Seed Processors Inc.
- \* Peace River Seed Coop Ltd.
- \* Pickseed Canada Inc.
  - \* Prairie Seeds Ltd.
- \* Proven Seed/ Agricore United
- \* Rolla Agriculture Services Ltd.
  - \* SARDA
- \* Syngenta Crop Protection Canada
  - \* Three Links Agresearch
    - \* Turf Seed Inc.
  - \* Wild Rose Seeds Inc.

**Annual Summer Tour**  
**Tuesday July 5, 2005**  
starting from Baldonnel School, BC.  
Mark it on your calendars!

For more info contact  
Sandra Burton or Kim Strasky  
at (250) 789-6885.

