

Western Beef Development Centre

DIVISION
OF PAMI

Fall/Winter 2011 - Vol 2 - Issue 1



ADOPT-funded Corn Grazing Demo, Photo credit: K.Larson

Save the Date - December 2

Western Beef is holding its Winter Field Day on Friday, December 2nd at the Termuende Research Ranch located east of Lanigan on Hwy 761.

Registration starts at 1:00 PM and field tours begin at 1:30 PM.

Field stops this year include:

- Stockpiled Perennial Forage
- Grazing New Corn Hybrids
- By-Product Pellets for Beef Cows

Following the field tours we will head to the calving barn for a

presentation on pasture rejuvenation using no-till seeding of fall rye.

A complimentary hot snack will be provided by Blair's Crop & Livestock Solutions.

To download a full agenda from our website, [click here](#). We hope you'll join us!



Special thanks to Blair's for sponsoring our 2011 Winter Field Day!

In this Issue

Save the Date - Dec 2	1
WBDC Research Update	2
Canfax Fact Sheet	3
2011 COP Recruitment	3
Upcoming Events	4



Box 1150, Hwy 5 West
Humboldt, SK Canada
S0K 2A0

Phone: 306-682-3139
Fax: 306-682-5080
Email: info.wbdc@pami.ca

Visit us online at www.wbdc.sk.ca.

WBDC Research Update

- ZT Openers for Sod-seeding Alfalfa - Six different zero-till openers were used to airseed AC Grazeland alfalfa at 10 lb/ac into established grass pasture. Half the plots were sprayed with glyphosate 10 d prior to May 31 seeding date. While there were no major differences in establishment between openers, the key finding was the need for depth control (provided by air seeder) and pre-seeding glyphosate. The plots that received glyphosate had 42% alfalfa content in yield clips, while non-herbicide treatment plots only had 1% alfalfa (see Fig1a and 1b below). This demo project was funded by [ADOPT](#).



Fig 1a. AC Grazeland (with glyphosate treatment pre-seeding) Photo date: Oct 31

- Cow-Calf Cost of Production - for 2010, the average cost per cow was \$615/cow with an average herd size of 282 cows. Average break-even was \$1.29/lb. [Read the Fact Sheet](#)

- Alternative Heifer Development - We have some first year results from the 3-yr study which compares heifers managed in bale grazing or drylot pens to achieve a pre-breeding target weight of 55% or 65% of mature BW. The heifers were exposed to 63 d natural breeding in Summer 2011. Conception rates ranged from 84 to 90%. The opens were sold Nov 3rd averaging 917 lb for \$1.0898/lb (\$1000/hd). The second year of replacement heifers started on trial this month. This is a collaborative study between WBDC and Dr. Rick Funston at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The Nebraskan heifers were managed on corn stalks, winter rangeland or drylot pens; pregnancy rates ranged from 81 to 88%. This project is co-funded by ALMA and CMDF.



Fig 1b. AC Grazeland (no pre-seed glyphosate treatment) Photo date: Oct 31

WBDC Staff

Dr. Paul Jefferson

VP Operations

Phone: 306-682-3139 ext. 272

Email: pjefferson.wbdc@pami.ca

Dr. Bart Lardner

Senior Research Scientist

Cell: 306-220-9179

Email: blardner.wbdc@pami.ca

Kathy Larson

Beef Economist

Phone: 306-930-9354

Email: klarson.wbdc@pami.ca

Leah Pearce

Research Assistant

Cell: 306-231-8218

Email: lpearce.wbdc@pami.ca

George Widdifield

Ranch Manager

Phone: 306-365-3366

Email: gwiddifield.wbdc@pami.ca

Krystal Savenkoff

Assistant Ranch Manager

Phone: 306-365-3366

Email: ksavenkoff.wbdc@pami.ca

David Gullacher

President & CEO, PAMI

Phone: 306-682-3139 ext. 244

Email: dgullacher@pami.ca

Joanne Forer

Finance & Administration

Phone: 306-682-3139 ext. 276

Email: jforer@pami.ca

Brenda Freistadt

General Secretary

Phone: 306-682-3139 ext. 246

Email: bfreistadt@pami.ca

Upcoming Events

november

december

january

21-26

Agribition - Come visit our booth in Auditorium Annex!
[Website](#)

24

SIA/SSGA Cattle Industry Update Luncheon [Poster](#)

SCA Cattle Industry Reception [Website](#)

29

BIXS Webinar [Poster](#)

2

Western Beef Winter Field Day [Agenda](#)

7-8

Bull Nutrition, Fertility & Herd Management Workshop & FACS Conference [Website](#)

13-14

Canadian Forage & Grassland Conference
Saskatoon, SK [Website](#)

18-20

SK Beef Industry Conference [Website](#)

27

"What We Know But Forgot" Moose Jaw, SK [Email](#)

If you would like to have your event featured in our e-newsletter, email info.wbdc@pami.ca with details.



New! Canfax Fact Sheet

Be sure to check out Canfax's recent [Fact Sheet](#) titled "The Fall Run: Cull Cows and Trading Calves". It is available free from their website.

Canfax is a great source for detailed market information, [annual e-subscription](#) for cow-calf producers is \$100.

Want to receive the WBDC e-newsletter?

Simply email us at info.wbdc@pami.ca

2011 Cost of Production Study - Looking for Participants

We are accepting producer sign ups for the 2011 Cost of Production study.

On-farm visits to collect data will take place February through April 2012. For those who are too busy, e-forms are also available for data submission.

It is free to participate. Producers received individual feedback on their operation. Producer data remains confidential.

For a list of what data is required for a cost of production analysis, [click here](#).

Questions about the study should be directed to [Kathy Larson](#).

WBDC Strategic Advisory Committee

Chairman

Tim Oleksyn (producer)

Members

Rick Toney (producer)

Duane Thompson (producer)

Murray McGillivray (producer)

Dave Kerr (producer)

Dennis Edwards (producer)

Brent Griffin (producer)

Dr. John McKinnon (Dept. of Animal & Poultry Science, U of S)

Dr. Steve Hendrick (College of Veterinary Medicine, U of S)

Grant Zalinko (Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture)

Tracy Evans (Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture)

Rick Gaube (Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada)

Juanita Kopp (Manitoba Agriculture, Food & Rural Initiatives)