

MD of Provost



Agricultural Roundup



The MD of Provost recently sold most of the previous rental fleet through tender. Our rental list now consists of the cattle scale, skunk and magpie traps, and the gopher foamer unit (more info for this item included on the back page).



Rentals

VBP+

Weed Watch

Did You Know?

Announcements

Insect Pests in
Trees

Hunting Draws

Gopher Foamer

Recipe

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Did you know? The VBP+ program is now an accredited certification body for the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef. By achieving VBP+ certification, you will also be recognized as a Certified Sustainable beef operation and are eligible to participate in Certified Sustainable value chains!



Ready to be recognized for your efforts?

Contact Alberta VBP+ Coordinator Melissa Downing for more info: 780-753-1934 or ab@verifiedbeef.ca
www.verifiedbeef.ca

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DID YOU KNOW?

Canada is the world's largest producer of blueberries.

A farmer in 1900 produced enough food for 10 people. Today's farmer feeds over 120 people.

50,000 fewer gallons of water are needed to grow an acre of corn today, compared to 20 years ago.

Canada is the world's 2nd largest exporter of malting barley used for brewing beer. <http://talentegg.ca/incubator/2015/02/16/fact-sheet-canadas-agriculture-industry/>

Announcements!

This season we will be roadside spraying for weeds in Divisions 4 and 6. If you have not called in your NO SPRAY ZONES yet, please do so!

ASB employees will be setting pheromone traps for bertha army worms in three locations throughout the MD this year. We will also be setting up Burkard Traps to catch soil spores. Stay tuned for the results!

Seeding time is here, so make sure to keep an eye out and respect the moving equipment on the roadways.

The MD will be starting to crack fill soon; please be cautious when driving through these construction areas!

WEED WATCH

If you spot any of these weeds on our roadsides, please let us know!

Canada Thistle

- Prickly stems and stalkless leaves with extensive creeping rhizomes
- Purple-ish pink flowers
- Light brown seeds with feathery white plume attached
- Commonly found in overgrazed pastures, roadside ditches and riparian areas



Perennial Sow Thistle

- Yellow dandelion-like flowers and leaves with prickly margins
- When broken open, the leaves will excrete a milky juice
- One plant can produce 4,000 seeds
- Creeping rhizome root system that can be up to 3m deep



Scentless Chamomile or Mayweed

- White, daisy-like, scentless flowers and alternate, carrot-like foliage
- Extensive fibrous taproot
- A single plant can produce 10,000 – 400,000 seeds
- Control- hand pick and burn before plants flower



Common Tansy

- Yellow, button-like flowers in dense, flat-topped clusters
- Dark green fern-like leaves that alternate along the purplish stem
- One plant can produce up to 50,000 seeds
- Commonly found in river valleys, roadsides and field boundaries



Yellow Toadflax

- Bright yellow flowers with orange that resemble snapdragons
- Alternate, narrow leaves that are pale green and pointed at the end
- Seeds can remain viable in the soil for up to 8 years
- Rhizomatous perennial that can grow up to 1m in height



White Cockle

- Clusters of white, fragrant flowers with deeply notched petals
- Leaves are arranged opposite along stem which are both hairy
- One plant can produce 25,000 seeds that remain viable for 20 years
- Often found in tame pasture, hay land and croplands



Leafy Spurge

- Green-ish, yellow flower clusters that are small and lack petals
- Pale, bluish green foliage that excretes milky sap when broken open
- When ripe, seed capsules will burst open and propel seeds 15m
- Milky sap can irritate livestock and cause rashes in humans



Ox-eye Daisy

- Showy, daisy-like flowers that may have an unpleasant odour
- Alternating leaves that are spoon shaped with rounded teeth
- Single plant can produce 26,000 seeds that have long-term viability
- Shallow, fibrous creeping root system



Dame's Rocket

- Fragrant purple-pink-white flowers with four petals
- Alternating leaves that are hairy and stalkless
- One plant can produce up to 20,000 seeds that are very viable
- Ornamental plant that can invade native plant communities



Black Henbane

- Yellow bell-shaped flower with purple veins and centre
- Large, sticky, hairy leaves with a strong foul odour
- Stem can grow up to 1m tall and is branched, hairy and robust
- All parts of the plant are poisonous to humans and livestock



Alberta Hunting Draw Deadline

Don't forget to enter your draws; they will be open between May 29th – June 21st. Results will be available starting July 11th!



Gopher Control

The MD of Provost is renting out a Gopher Foamer! This unit is used to control gophers in sensitive areas, such as playgrounds, recreation grounds, acreages and yards since it doesn't involve the use of poisons.

Homemade Buns Submitted by Grace Miners

- Ingredients:**
- 7-8 cups of flour
 - 1 Tbsp yeast
 - 3 cups very warm water
 - 1/2 cup sugar
 - 1/3 cup oil
 - 2 beaten eggs
 - 1 Tsp salt

Directions:

1. Combine 4 cups of flour and yeast.
2. In a separate bowl, combine water, sugar, oil and eggs; mix well. Add it to the flour mixture, then add 3-4 cups of flour (one cup at a time) and the salt. Mix well after each addition.
3. Let rise for 20 mins, punch down, let rise for 20 mins, punch down. Shape into buns and let it rise for 1 hr (or so). Bake at 375°.



"Fred, what ya doin'?"

"I was at the coffee shop yesterday and they said everyone is going wireless..."

Insect Pests in Spruce Trees

Yellow-headed spruce sawflies cause defoliation of the leader and upper crown of trees and will leave no webbing or insect remnants. They are present in late May through to June mainly on trees exposed to the sun. Severe infestations of the yellow-headed spruce sawfly can result in top-kill and possibly even death. The best method of management is to apply insecticide directly on larvae in early June.



Spruce spider mite damage is associated with droughty weather and looks like the needles and twigs are dried up. You will notice very fine webbing along the twigs; debris gets trapped in the webbing and will make the twig look dirty. In order to determine if the infestation is current, hold a piece of paper underneath a twig and tap it in order to get the mites on the paper. The little specks that move are the mites. The best management practice is to apply miticide in the beginning of June or twice in July or use a dormant oil in late fall.



http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/backyard/treecare/forest_health/whitesprucedagnosis.pdf

"Continually striving to provide a rural environment where residents may enjoy an excellent quality of life."