

MD OF RANCHLAND

AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



ADAPTING HERD SIZE TO MATCH GRAZING RESOURCES

A key aspect of sustainable grazing is striking a balance between livestock demand and available forage. This can be done by calculating carrying capacity, which is the amount of livestock a pasture can support based on the forage produced.

First, determine available forage. There are two ways: 1) Use a range condition score to estimate forage production based on the pasture's health (simpler, but less accurate). 2) Clip, dry, and weigh samples, then calculate forage production from the results (more accurate, but requires more hands-on work).

Next, determine how much forage can be used for grazing. Utilizing a pasture at a rate exceeding the plant communities' ability to recover leads to lower forage production and invasion of less palatable plants/weeds. It is important to choose a realistic utilization rate to ensure pasture recovery and maintain future production. 25-50% utilization is recommended for native pastures.

Finally, determine the amount of livestock that can be supported on the forage available to use. Bigger animals eat more forage, which is taken into account in the calculation.

If interested in learning more about carrying capacity, contact Erin at 403-646-3131 or erin@ranchland66.com.

GRANT TO APPLY FOR

https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/PRGM_NAME_3

Canadian Agricultural Partnership

Farm Technology Program

Supports producers in protecting their business by encouraging the adoption of BMPs in farm technology and security. Focused on sensors that contribute to farm data systems and technology-based security devices. If interested, contact Erin at 403-646-3131 or erin@ranchland66.com.



WEED TO WATCH

Yellow Devil Hawkweed

Pilosella glomerata

ID characteristics: leaves with tiny hairs, pointed, and grow in a rosette, stems upright and leafless, flowers bright yellow and grow in a cluster.






WESTERN CANADA CONFERENCE ON SOIL HEALTH & GRAZING

Presented by 10 Alberta Forage & Research Associations



FEATURING
 Greg Judy, Dr. Bobbi Helgason, Dr. Dave Sauchyn,
 Dr. Ed Bork, Dr. Kris Nichols, Jay Fuhrer, Dr. Tim
 McAllister, Dr. Yamily Zavala, Dr. Monika Gorzelak,
 Daryl Chubb, Kim Cornish, Stuart Chutter, Dr.
 Yvonne Lawley, Kristine Tapley, Producer Panelists
 and More

BANQUET & KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
 James Rebanks, a sheep farmer and award-winning
 author from England

Early Bird Pricing until October 31, 2022

Producer	\$475.00
Farm Unit (2 people)	\$900.00
Producer One Day	\$250.00
Student	\$375.00
Student One Day	\$175.00
Banquet Ticket	\$60.00

Tickets do not include Banquet Ticket
which MUST be purchased separately

**SOIL & GRAZING:
BIOLOGY NOT GEOLOGY**

 **DECEMBER 13, 14 & 15, 2022**

 **DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON
WEST EDMONTON
16615 109 Ave NW
Edmonton, AB
T5P 4K8**

 **REGISTRATION & DETAILS VISIT:**
<https://www.absoilgrazing.com/registration>

Find us online!

-  MD of Ranchland Ag
-  @mdofranchlandag
-  @mdofranchlandag
-  @mdofranchlandag
-  <https://mdranchland.ca/>

If you would like to contribute to this bulletin by writing an article, submitting a photo to be featured, recommending an organization, noxious weed, or grant, or any other suggestions, please send an email to erin@ranchland66.com with the subject line "Bulletin". Thanks for reading and I look forward to your feedback!

ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT

Land Stewardship Centre

<https://www.landstewardship.org/>



The Land Stewardship Centre works to create and strengthen connections between industry, government, organizations, and individuals to build a dynamic stewardship community. The goal is to embrace sustainable land stewardship practices and help people take action to protect natural ecosystems. There are several programs for supporting this action, including the Watershed Stewardship Grant Program and the Green Acreages Program. To learn more visit the website above.

