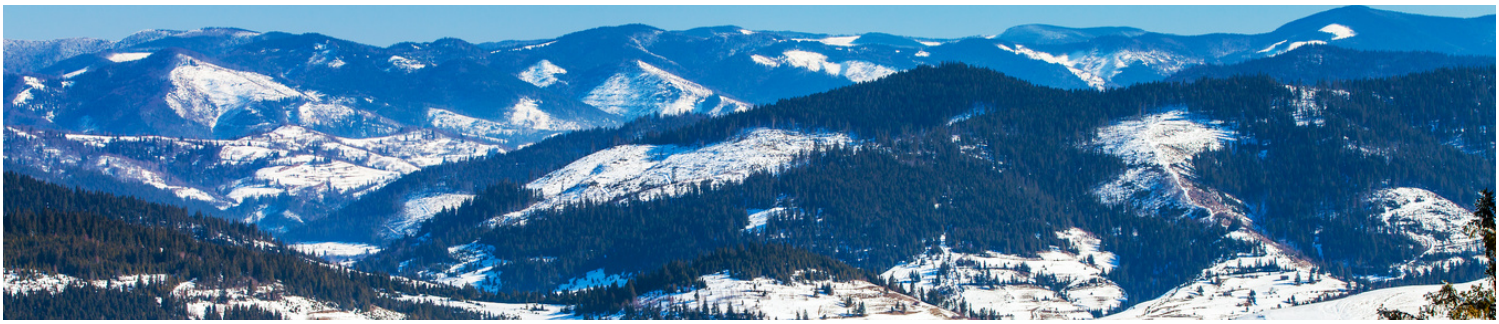
NOVEMBER 2, 2023 | ISSUE 29

MD OF RANCHLAND
AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



BIGHORNSHEEP AND DOMESTIC SHEEP/GOATS

Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae is a bacteria commonly carried by domestic sheep and goats that causes pneumonia in wild bighorn sheep. While domestic animals typically show no signs of the disease, symptoms in bighorn sheep include weight loss, nasal discharge and large population die-offs. Maintaining physical separation between big horn sheep and domestic sheep and goats is the most effective way to prevent the disease as there is no vaccines or treatment for bighorn sheep.

Prevention measures also include but aren't limited to, testing for the disease, keeping domestic sheep and goats away from high-risk areas and the strategic use of no-contact fencing. Government funding is available for producers in high-risk areas to encourage testing and fencing.

For more information on these programs visit: https://www.alberta.ca/agri-news-why-bighorn-sheep-and-domestic-sheep-or-goats-should-not-mix or
if interested in discussing further, please contact Shayna at ag2@ranchland66.com or 403-646-3131.

Source(s):https://www.alberta.ca/agri-news-why-bighorn-sheep-and-domestic-sheep-or-goats-should-not-mix

GRANT TO APPLY FOR

https://www.alberta.ca/resilient-agricultural-landscape-program

Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership-Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program

(RALP) funding categories include: pasture management, cropland conversion, tree establishment and wetlands. Approved projects will be funded a minimum of $2000.00 up to $150,000.00 for Primary Producers or up to 300,000.00 for Indigenous Groups or Grazing Reserves. Program funding is retroactive to April 1, 2023. If interested, contact Shayna at 403-646-3131 or ag2@ranchland66.com.

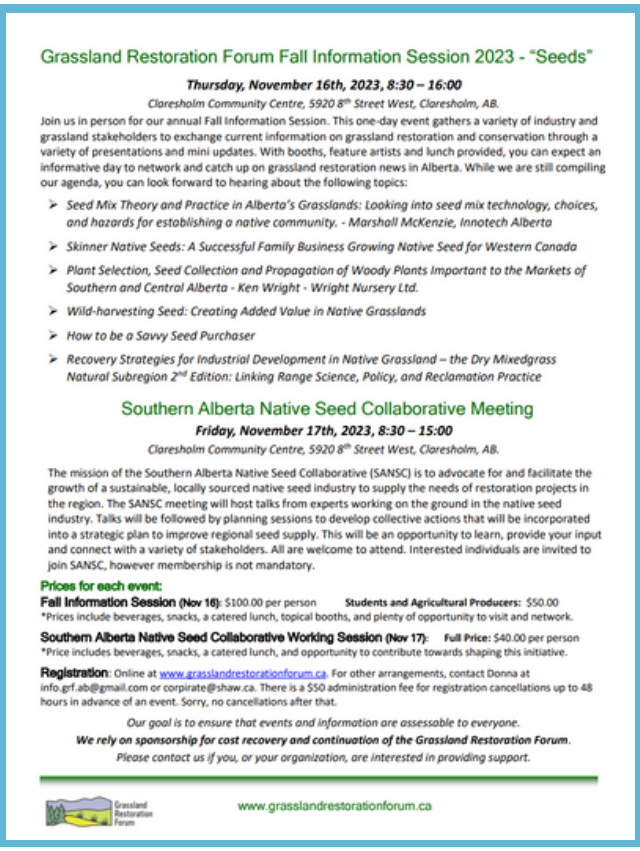
WEED TO WATCH

Baby's Breath

Gypsophila paniculata

ID characteristics: A perennial, drought tolerant plant with an opposite leaf arrangment. Leaves are lance shaped and slightly hairy. Flowers are typically white and small (6-8mm). Stems are bluish green with many branches.

Photo Source: https://abinvasives.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/N_FS-Babys-Breath.pdf



Grassland Restoration Forum Fall Information Session 2023 - "Seeds"

Thursday, November 16th, 2023, 8:30 – 16:00

Claresholm Community Centre, 5920 8th Street West, Claresholm, AB.

Join us in person for our annual Fall Information Session. This one-day event gathers a variety of industry and grassland stakeholders to exchange current information on grassland restoration and conservation through a variety of presentations and mini updates. With booths, feature artists and lunch provided, you can expect an informative day to network and catch up on grassland restoration news in Alberta. While we are still compiling our agenda, you can look forward to hearing about the following topics:

- *Seed Mix Theory and Practice in Alberta's Grasslands: Looking into seed mix technology, choices, and hazards for establishing a native community. - Marshall McKenzie, Innotech Alberta*
- *Skinner Native Seeds: A Successful Family Business Growing Native Seed for Western Canada*
- *Plant Selection, Seed Collection and Propagation of Woody Plants Important to the Markets of Southern and Central Alberta - Ken Wright - Wright Nursery Ltd.*
- *Wild-harvesting Seed: Creating Added Value in Native Grasslands*
- *How to be a Savvy Seed Purchaser*
- *Recovery Strategies for Industrial Development in Native Grassland – the Dry Mixedgrass Natural Subregion 2nd Edition: Linking Range Science, Policy, and Reclamation Practice*

Southern Alberta Native Seed Collaborative Meeting

Friday, November 17th, 2023, 8:30 – 15:00

Claresholm Community Centre, 5920 8th Street West, Claresholm, AB.

The mission of the Southern Alberta Native Seed Collaborative (SANSC) is to advocate for and facilitate the growth of a sustainable, locally sourced native seed industry to supply the needs of restoration projects in the region. The SANSC meeting will host talks from experts working on the ground in the native seed industry. Talks will be followed by planning sessions to develop collective actions that will be incorporated into a strategic plan to improve regional seed supply. This will be an opportunity to learn, provide your input and connect with a variety of stakeholders. All are welcome to attend. Interested individuals are invited to join SANSC, however membership is not mandatory.

Prices for each event:

Fall Information Session (Nov 16): $100.00 per person **Students and Agricultural Producers:** $50.00

*Prices include beverages, snacks, a catered lunch, topical booths, and plenty of opportunity to visit and network.

Southern Alberta Native Seed Collaborative Working Session (Nov 17): **Full Price:** $40.00 per person

*Price includes beverages, snacks, a catered lunch, and opportunity to contribute towards shaping this initiative.

Registration: Online at www.grasslandrestorationforum.ca. For other arrangements, contact Donna at info.grf.ab@gmail.com or corpirate@shaw.ca. There is a $50 administration fee for registration cancellations up to 48 hours in advance of an event. Sorry, no cancellations after that.

Our goal is to ensure that events and information are assessable to everyone.

We rely on sponsorship for cost recovery and continuation of the Grassland Restoration Forum.

Please contact us if you, or your organization, are interested in providing support.

www.grasslandrestorationforum.ca

Find us online!

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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 ag2@ranchland66.com with the subject line "Bulletin". Thanks for reading and I look forward to your feedback!

ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT

Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta

https://wsfab.org/

Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta was started in 1999, and is a proud member of Wild Sheep Foundation (National). We are a volunteer run organization dedicated to the promotion and funding of sound wildlife and habitat management practices necessary to maintain viable Bighorn Sheep populations in our province, and ensure the preservation of our hunting heritage for today's youth and tomorrow's hunters.

Bulletin Content Written by MD of Ranchland Agriculture Staff