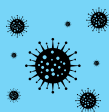




AG BULLETIN NEWS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATION FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

Soil, Pests, and Diseases

Agricultural Pests and Soil Conservation Acts of Alberta



The **Agricultural Pest Act** of Alberta stands as a defence against potential pest and disease infestations that have a significant risk of establishing in Alberta if left unchecked. For example Wild boar, Warble flies, and Rats are declared pests under The Agricultural Pests Act. It is the responsibility of every livestock producer to control pests and for thier own benefit as well as the benefit of neighbors and the livestock industry.

Local Agricultural Service Boards are the designated officers for the Agricultural Pests Act and contribute to the provincial inspections program. In 2024-2025, 3,114 pest, disease, and insect surveys were completed including Grasshopper, Wheat midge, Bertha armyworm, and Diamond back moth to name a few. There was also 99 Wild boar sightings reported and 4 reported Rat infestations were confirmed after investigations.

The **Soil Conservation Act** of Alberta is meant to deal with soil loss and deterioration issues. This includes the duties of a landowner (on thier own land) to prevent soil losses and if it is happening, to stop the loss or deterioration from continuing. Local Agricultural Service Boards are the designated officers for the Soil Conservation Act and contribute to the provincial inspections program. In 2024-2025, 88 soil erosion issues were resolved which affected 5,945 acres of farmland.

In the case where soil loss or deterioration is taking place, to stop the loss or deterioration from continuing, the Soil Conservation Officer shall serve on the landholder a notice directing them to take timely remedial measures.



Name That Pest!

Answers found on the bottom of page 2.



A



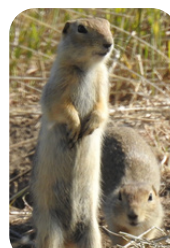
B



C



D



E



F



G



Grant To Apply For

Waterton Biosphere Reserve Associan - Carnivores and Communities Program

Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association's Carnivores and Communities Program (CACP) works to reduce conflicts between people and large carnivores by reducing attractants for large carnivores through deadstock pickup, reducing the economic impact on landowners coexisting with large carnivores, and providing bear safety training for rural residents in and neighbouring Waterton Biosphere Region.

Supported cost-share projects could include, but are not limited to, electric fencing of attractants, grain bin retrofits or upgrades, installing bear-resistant grain bin doors, and hopper bottom installations.

Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association
Program Coordinator
1-403-653-2267
jbectell@watertonbiosphere.com

Find out more at:
<https://watertonbiosphere.com/stewardship-hub/carnivores-and-communities-program/>



Flowering rush

Butomus umbellatus

ID characteristics: This plant can grow as a submerged plant and also in or near water. It has umbrella shaped, pink flowers with green sepals. The plant can grow to 150 cm tall and reproduces vegetatively. Stems are triangular near the base and the leaves are long, slender, and have a triangular cross section.



Find out more on the Alberta Invasive Species Council's website: <https://abinvasives.ca>

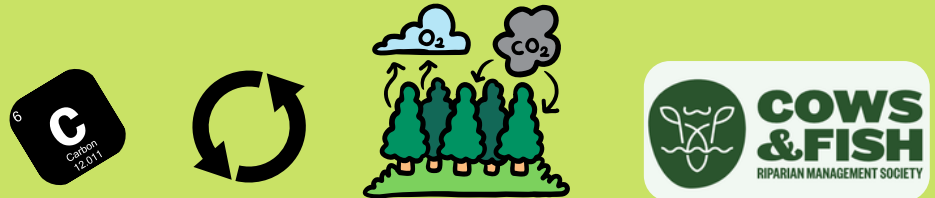
Soil Health and Carbon

Cows and Fish - Riparian Management Society - Grazing, Cropping, Carbon Factsheet

Carbon storage in soils is an important and complex topic that has many different considerations. It is another important aspect to address for producers who are already responsible for providing many other ecosystem services. Landscape features and attributes that interact with carbon storage can include: soil type, slope, climatic regimes/events, and all the species interacting on the landscape, etc.

Carbon is also being released when the decomposition process occurs and through soil disturbances. In this regard, it is recommended to not convert natural areas to cropland, as it may never reach the carbon storage potential of cropland converted back to natural area pasture again. In other words land in its unbroken form has the most potential to store carbon.

Find out more: <https://cowsandfish.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Grazing-Cropping-Carbon-Fact-Sheet.pdf>



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If you would like to contribute to this bulletin by writing an article, submitting a photo to be featured, recommending an organization, regulated weed, or grant, or any other suggestions, please send an email to ag3@ranchland66.com with the subject line "Bulletin". Thanks for reading and we look forward to your feedback!



Rancher Events Corner

Events and Information

- Foothills Forage and Grazing Association
 - Grazing Strategies in Limber Pine, **September 2** - Chimney Rock area
 - Stockmanship Schools with Jordie Waters
 - **September 29 & 30** - Gem
 - **November 5 & 6** - High River
- Environmental Farm Plan Workshops
 - **September 11** - virtual
 - **September 29** - virtual
- Farming Smarter - Dryland Corner Bus Tour - **September 24** - Lethbridge

Organization Highlight

Grassland Restoration Forum

The Grassland Restoration Forum (GRF) promotes the conservation and restoration of native grasslands in Alberta through education, outreach and research to improve reclamation practice and foster stewardship. The GRF began in 2006 as a collaboration between members of provincial agencies, the ranching community, conservation organizations, First Nations, industry, plant ecologists and reclamation practitioners.

The GRF contributes to policy development, develops guidance for positive influence for restoration and reclamation including published manuals. We host an information portal to facilitate information transfer on conserving and restoring native grasslands.

Find out more at: <https://grasslandrestorationforum.ca/>



RDAR Funding Opportunity

Producer Research and Evaluation Project



Funding of up to \$20,000 per project is available to support on-farm research that evaluates whether a production practice change is feasible on-farm. The goal is to help producers gather sufficient data to make informed decisions and understand how to further adapt a production practice. In most cases, producers are expected to be working with third-party service providers to support project trial design, delivery, and analysis. Proposals must include a sound project design and testing approach that supports the evaluation of whether the production practice results in a positive return on investment and is a favourable change for the farm. One active project example is Determining improvements in pasture health with foliar-applied nutrient products compared to untreated pasture.

Find out more at: <https://rdar.ca/funding-opportunities/producer-research-and-evaluation-project>



Public Reminder - On the MD of Ranchland No. 66 municipal website there is a “For Sale” section that hosts auction sales, check often! Contact ag3@ranchland66.com for any questions or more information.



If you are a Gmail account holder (or others, check your junk mail) to MD of Ranchland communications remember to add the domain @ranchlands66.com to your trusted senders list!!

Don't miss out on information, check your settings today!

Alberta Agricultural Pests, Disease, and Soil Facts

- In 1980, total losses due to Warble flies and grubs in Alberta was estimated at \$6.0 million, adjusted to 2026 that is approximately \$22.5 million.
- In 1980, Alberta had an estimated 31% of Canada's cattle and calves (4.155 million).
- In 2025, Alberta had an estimated 43% of Canada's cattle and calves (3.17 million).



Famous Cattle

- Beef is a massive steer in Vulcan, Alberta who was born in 2017 . He was six foot, five inches tall and weighing 2,400 pounds in 2025.
- Viatina-19 FIV Mara Imoveis is a Nelore cow (Brazilian beef cow breed) valued in 2023 at \$4.9 million USD.
- Cow 569 was a New Zealand black and white Friesian cow who became famous for saving a woman's life during the 2004 New Zealand floods.
- Shadow Jubilee was the holder of the record for the longest measured horns of any Texas Longhorn cow for 6 years. A measured spread of >89.9 inches, tip to tip was recorded in 2012.