

Farmer's Update

September 2021



President's Message

As August comes to a close, New Brunswick producers are very busy managing the many commodities we produce and market in our beautiful province. We have enjoyed an exceptional growing season, and after recent difficult years, everyone is feeling fortunate to have a favourable combination of heat and moisture for plants. As many local livestock producers have more forage than they have storage space; our fellow producers in Western Canada are trying to survive a devastating drought and dozens of wild fires that have left them with no pastures, little stored forage and dwindling water supplies. The AANB is proud to be partnering with the other Maritime provinces and the CFA to organize the Hay West initiative. Although the quantity of feed available here is just a fraction of what is needed, every bit makes a difference and helps to remind both shippers and receivers of hay that we are all partners in Canada's food supply chain and we support each other in good times and bad.



While farmers are busy farming, there have been a number of meetings about various issues. Two of the biggest concerns to producers have been our presentation to the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship and the Municipal Reform Green Paper. The AANB was one of many groups invited to present in person to the Standing Committee, and we re-iterated our strong belief in a science-based approach to decisions on any regulations affecting the industry, especially those related to pesticide use. It is our understanding that there will be further activities with the committee this fall, and we look forward to the final report.

As part of the municipal reform process, we were very involved in the Land use Planning Committee, which met for 3 hours bi-weekly over several months. Rob English from DAAF and I both felt encouraged by the meaningful discussions on the importance of Statements of Provincial Interest for agriculture as one of the desired outcomes of the reform process. This is another issue for which we are eagerly awaiting "next steps"; with the white paper due later this year. I was pleased to hear all stakeholders, from City Planners to Conservationists, recognize that it is essential to protect our agricultural land if we hope to ensure a safe, secure and sustainable food supply in New Brunswick.

There are a few upcoming activities that I am very much looking forward to attending this fall. Our Advisory Commodity meeting in September is a wonderful chance to hear how the season has gone, what challenges and opportunities are facing various commodities and how the AANB can help support the activities of these groups which will benefit the industry as a whole. Our regional meetings will be held virtually again this fall. Although internet connectivity is a challenge for some of us, it is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to participate without travel and weather considerations. And finally, fingers crossed, many of us are looking forward to the Atlantic Farm Mechanization Show in November.

I will close by wishing each of you a safe and bountiful harvest. Please continue to check on your farming neighbours and reach out for support if things seem overwhelming and you need to talk.

All the best,

Lisa Ashworth
Agricultural Alliance of NB President



2022 AANB's Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Due to the ongoing pandemic and the uncertainties around gathering regulations, The Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick's Board of Directors has decided that the 2022 Annual General Meeting be held virtually once again. Please note that for the safety of members and staff, there will be no in-person meeting in January.

The AGM will take place on **Thursday, January 13th** via Zoom or by phone. More information will follow via email and by mail.

2021 Regional Meetings

We would like to invite you to the regional meeting of the Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick closest to you. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom this year due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Region 5 (Fredericton) – Tuesday, October 26th at 6:00 p.m.

Region 4 (Sussex) – Wednesday, October 27th at 6:00 p.m.

Region 6 (Wicklow) – Thursday, October 28th at 6:00 p.m.

Region 3 (Moncton) – Monday, November 1st at 6:00 p.m.

Region 2 (Bathurst) – Tuesday, November 2nd at 6:00 p.m.

Region 1 (Grand Falls) – Thursday, November 4th at 6:00 p.m.

More information will be sent by email and mail. If you are not sure which region you are in, please call the office at (506) 452-8101. If you wish to submit a resolution by mail please contact us for a resolutions sheet.

The Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) team Looking for Producers to Test NEW Online EFP

Likhita Potluri & John Russell are looking for producers to test the functionality and serviceability of the new Online Environmental Farm Plan. The Alliance is planning on launching the new program in January 2022 and it would be a good opportunity for producers to go through the plan to provide remarks and feedback. Benefits of the new Online EFP include:

- Access to your historical data from previously completed EFPs
- Storage and protection of data (certificate, action plan, aerial maps and soil maps)
- Easy access via the internet from the comfort of your own home or when on the go

Interested producers can reach out to Likhita Potluri, EFP coordinator, at efp-pfe@fermenbfarm.ca or 506-259-0020 or to John Russell, EFP Facilitator, at john@fermenbfarm.ca or 506-381-2887.



Issue Updates

1) Agriculture in the Classroom:

Although we hired a new coordinator at the end of June, she resigned in August, with the main reason being that there is too much work for one person. After looking more closely into what exactly we offer and how it has expanded exponentially in the last couple of years, it is clear now that we do need a second person to deliver all the programs under Ag in the Classroom. The Little Green Thumbs and Little Green Sprouts programs alone would require a full time position to run them year-round. We have met with the minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, the Honourable Minister Johnson, to discuss the future of Agriculture in the Classroom in New Brunswick.

2) Resolutions Meeting with the Ministers

In April, the AANB had a virtual meeting with Minister Johnson of the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, and Minister Holland of the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development, in order to discuss the resolutions from the 2021 AANB AGM. The meeting was very productive and initiatives from that meeting will be brought forth at the upcoming Regional meetings.

3) Agricultural Climate Solutions Federal Program

This is a multi-year, multi-million dollar project set out by the Federal Government. The goal of the Agricultural Climate Solutions Program (ACS) is to accelerate co-development, testing, adoption, dissemination and monitoring of technologies and practices, including beneficial management practices (BMPs) that sequester carbon and/or mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The AANB hired Cedric McLeod as coordinator in order to apply for the first phase of this multi-year project, which occurred in June. In September, we received the news that the proposal had been accepted. Cedric has been working diligently to get stakeholders together in order to get ready to apply for the second phase in October, where a clear plan on the actions to be taken in the upcoming years must be presented.

4) Rural Roads Program

The applications forms have been received and will individually be put in the scoring grid in order to see which roads will be worked on in 2022. AANB will work closely with DTI in order to establish the priority of the roads to be worked on.

5) Designated Roads Program

The application for the designated roads program will be sent shortly, with the application deadline being December 1, 2021.

6) Agriculture NB

The AANB, along with the National Farmers Union in NB, and Really Local Harvest, continue to work collaboratively together on issues of common interest, and have sent out letters / press releases to government related to farmers markets, temporary foreign workers, the craft alcohol industry, and the Federal Bill C-206. We are currently looking at the level of interest of farmers to have more accurate weather forecasts, and have sent out a survey to our respective members. The survey is also included with this newsletter.

7) Hay West

Although this is an initiative of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA), the AANB has been collecting the information of farmers who are interested in selling or donating hay to be sent to the drought-stricken provinces of the West. As of mid-September, there are approximately 55 producers on the list, and they will be contacted by CFA representatives once transport either by train or truck can be coordinated by CFA. The program will be running for some time to come, so producers who are interested can still contact the AANB office in order to supply the information needed.

8) NB Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship

Lisa Ashworth (AANB President) and Christian Michaud (AANB Vice-President) presented to this committee at the NB Legislature in June. The topic in question was pesticides, namely glyphosate, and the AANB position was one of support for the continued use of glyphosate as one of the many tools used in agriculture based on the scientific based research of Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Many groups presented to the committee, both for and against the use of pesticides. The committee is expected to release its recommendations this fall.

9) Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries (DAAF)

We continue to meet monthly with various representatives of DAAF in order to address issues and share information on both sides that is pertinent.

10) Trespass Committee

This committee is still active, and the AANB met with representatives of the Department of Justice and Public Safety and the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries in May in order to present proposed amendments to the NB Trespass Act. These amendments include increased fines, adding non-timber plantations such as maple syrup and Christmas trees, and including trespass by foot. In August, the AANB was informed that JPS and DNRED / DAAF are still working on briefing materials



Membership Renewals

We would like to remind you that the renewal period will start on **February 1st 2022**. To register, you may access the form by visiting your closest SNB office or by visiting our website: www.fermenbfarm.ca/membership/farm-business-registration/.

For more information, contact our office by phone at (506) 452-8101 or email alliance@fermenbfarm.ca. Being a member of the Alliance provides you access to membership benefits, fuel purchasers' permit, farm plates and keeps you informed on important agriculture topics, and our activities.

Haskap NB

Haskap New-Brunswick, an association for producers of Haskap, advises you that any producer of Haskap are invited to become members. For more information contact Haskap NB President Paul Laplante at ibem.acadie@gmail.com

Workforce Development Strategy Update

Challenges with workforce attraction have existed in agriculture long before COVID arrived and the critical task of filling seasonal jobs has only heightened alongside the growth in economic contribution from New Brunswick's farms. Today we are competing for the attention of job seekers across *more* industries, with remote work options taking the lead, technology gaining the focus of much post-secondary programming, and manufacturing and construction drawing most labour off the farm.

A study by the Ontario Agricultural Human Resources Commission found "dissatisfiers" that influence attraction and retention of employees to the agriculture sector can be addressed in a job description by including:

- Details on the working conditions for both employees and livestock
- Information on job security (Do you rehire year after year?)
- Clear and detailed expectations, including physical requirements and tasks
- Access to sanitary facilities, emphasis on safety and good equipment
- Opportunities for growth and development in the role (provide regular training and feedback)
- The challenge and opportunity to nurture plants and animals
- Effective communication with the team and employer
- A sense of accomplishment and impact to the community

Agricultural recruitment strategies focus on a concise story of the above points while highlighting what is unique about agricultural work on your farm.

If you would like support writing job posts, and sharing those posts widely for this hiring season, please reach out to **Jessica McKenna, Workforce Development Coordinator**.

workforce.maindoeuvre@fermenbfarm.ca

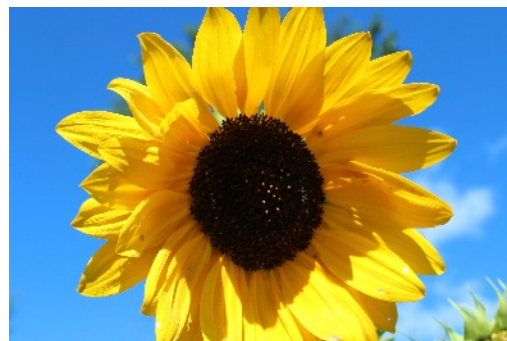
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Open Farm Day Report

The 21st Annual Open Farm Day was another successful event! This year was Atlantic Canada's first hybrid event which gave the farmer flexibility on how to participate. NB had 21 farms total participate and 70 farms across Atlantic participated.

AANB has the pleasure of collaborating with all four Atlantic Province to host the event and advertise to the public.

The group launched the all- new Atlantic Open Farm Day website on August 28th www.atlanticopenfarmday.ca.



We did a mix of radio, digital & social media, as well as print advertising to promote the event. The creation of a Facebook event's page was useful to post all the information about Open Farm Day including weekly highlights of participating farms, activities, videos, maps, contest, links and sponsorships. In total, 865 people responded to the Facebook event page. AANB also advertised on Facebook, to which the ads reached 31,866 people.

Access Prohibited Signs Still Available!

AANB printed Access Prohibited signs for members. Signs are available for purchase at \$5 each by cash, cheque or e-transfer. **The limit is now 20 signs per farm.** Signs must be picked up at the Fredericton office. Call 506-452-8101 or email us at alliance@fermenbfarm.ca to order.



1956-2021

Passing of Maarten Van Oord

The agricultural sector lost a great supporter and champion with the passing of Maarten van Oord on August 17, 2021.

Maarten was a great friend of the Alliance, and served as Director and President of what was then the NB Federation of Agriculture. He was instrumental in joining the Anglophone and Francophone Federations in 2006 into what is now the Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick.

He was also crucial to the development of the Environmental Farm Plan, and the Agricultural Producers Registration and Farm Organizations Funding Act. Over the years Maarten sat on all sorts of committees, was President of various Agricultural Associations, has won all kinds of awards (including being inducted into the Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame) and traveled around the province to meet farmers and listen to their thoughts on how to have better policies on how to enrich and preserve the industry. His family was always very supportive and

helped on the farm when he was away serving the industry he loved. He will be remembered at the Alliance for not only for being a pillar of the agriculture sector, but for his kind, compassionate and calm demeanor; always willing to help, and always leaving positive energy wherever he went.

Feature article

Favourable commodity price and interest rates fuel farmland market

Strong commodity prices combined with low interest rates continue to sustain farmland value increases in most parts of Canada, according to a mid-year review by [Farm Credit Canada](#).

While the drought across most of Western Canada and the pandemic have captured most of the headlines, strong commodity prices and low interest rates have been quietly supporting a vibrant farmland market for the first six months of 2021. Higher-than-normal prices for wheat, canola and corn have improved the profitability of many operations in the second half of 2020 and early 2021, putting them in a better position to invest in farmland as the opportunities arise.

Average farmland values in Canada are once again showing steady increases for the first half of 2021, although the full impact of widespread drought this summer has yet to be weighed.

The average value of Canadian farmland increased by 3.8 per cent for the first half of this year, compared to an average increase of 3.7 per cent for the same time last year. This increase is in line with mid-year results over the past six years, which showed single-digit increases for the full year.

In general, Prairie and Atlantic provinces reported the most modest increases, while Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec had the largest increases.

Buyers from different sectors are competing for the limited amount of land on the market.

Interest rates declined at the outset of the pandemic and remain historically low, which is also supporting the demand for farmland and weakening the supply of available land for sale in the market.

While many crop producers have benefited from the high commodity prices and have been able to take advantage of low interest rates to buy land, not everyone is in the same boat. The outlook for revenues is murkier for 2021 and 2022 given exceptional production challenges in parts of the country.

Livestock producers, for example, have seen their cost of production increase and profits shrink as a result of the drought.

The overall economic environment of the next 12 months bears watching. The possibility of higher interest rates, inflationary pressures and the demand for ag commodities could influence the demand for farmland.

FCC recommends farm operators continue to exercise caution, especially in regions where the rate of farmland values growth significantly exceeded that of farm income in recent years. He also recommends operators maintain a risk management plan to protect their business from unpredictable circumstances.

J.P. Gervais, PhD
Vice-president and chief
Farm Credit Canada

Average increase in farmland values		
	Average % change Jan 2021 - June 2021 (6 months)	Average % change July 2020 - June 2021 (12 months)
BC	8.8	13.6
AB	3.7	5.6
SK	1.8	3.5
MB	3.5	6.3
ON	11.5	15.4
QC	8.1	13.7
NB	0.9	1.8
NS	4.5	5.8
PEI	0.4	1.5
NL	N/A	N/A
Canada	3.8	6.1



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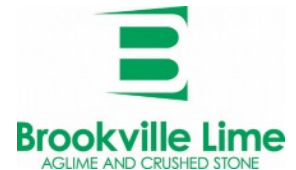
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Email: alliance@fermenbfarm.ca
Website: www.fermeNBfarm.ca

Associate Members



NB Chicken Farmers New Entrants Program

New Brunswick Chicken Producers will make available to new entrant producers, 15% of future growth in NB's quota allocation. All interested parties are invited to submit applications on or before December 1st, 2021. This quota allocation will be available for production in 2022.

For further information please contact Chicken Farmers of NB at (506) 452-8085 or Tom Byers at the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries at (506) 432-2150.

Impacts of Climate Change on New Brunswick Agroecosystems

One of the major constraints affecting agroecosystems in New Brunswick is the impact of climate change. Climate change is characterized by higher variability of rainfall, warmer temperatures and increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events (Natural Resources Canada 2010). More specifically, the water deficit or excess leads to drought or erosion while increasing temperatures affect productivity and promote the apparition of new pests or diseases.

The project carried out this year by the Valorès research team will enable the implementation of a climate change adaptation plan to answer the observed issues in order to promote sustainable development of crops. To achieve this goal, the relationships between soil humidity and leaf hydric stress of various crops were investigated during all the growing season.



According to preliminary results, obtained in two months only, the researcher observed that these stress/humidity relationships strongly vary between species and between months. The Valorès research team will pursue these analyses until the end of the growing season, and will pair these results with meteorological data, such as the monthly amount of rainfall and or min, max and mean temperatures during these periods, in order to understand why these relationships are variable. Relationships defined by various parameters could thus be used to predict the hydric stress experienced on crops in function of soil humidity and or the real or predicted temperature or rainfall. The final objective would be to provide crop-specific tools for adaptation to climate change for each crop; tools that would allow farmers to better predict the current or future needs of each of their crops.

Figure 1: Illustration of the porometer used to measure leaf hydric stress

Agricultural Excellence Conference

The Challenge of Change

November 24-26, 2021

Virtual Conference



The Agricultural Excellence Conference (AgEx) welcomes anyone and everyone from farmers to advisors, academia, organizations, private industry, and government to join us to exchange expertise and insights to continue to position Canada's farmers for success through farm management excellence. Through a variety of speakers, discussion panels and interactive learning, we will feature top notch content through our virtual platform, so you can enjoy learning and networking from anywhere - your home, office, field, boat, barn or greenhouse!

AgEx is the only event in Canada dedicated exclusively to bringing farm management enthusiasts together to build their business acumen. This year's theme, **The Challenge of Change**, is about acknowledging that change can be difficult and also provide immense opportunity - learning how to confront change with confidence is the key. Conference-goers will come away from AgEx equipped with the information, tools and practical skills to prosper change.

For registration information please visit fmc-gac.com

Cleanfarms Names Regions for Unwanted, Old Ag Pesticides and Livestock/Equine Medications Collection this Fall

Cleanfarms has named the locations of its next regional events to collect unwanted, old agricultural pesticides and obsolete livestock, equine and poultry medications so that farmers can dispose of these agricultural materials safely and in an environmentally responsible way.

- **New Brunswick** – November 1st – 12th, at 11 locations: [map](#) | [poster](#)

"We run this program at no cost to farmers so they can remove unwanted, old and obsolete agricultural chemicals such as ag pesticides and ag animal medications from storage on their farms. The program is designed to help farmers keep their farms clean and sustainable. When they use our program, farmers have peace of mind that Cleanfarms will dispose of the materials safely," said Cleanfarms Executive Director Barry Friesen.

Materials accepted in the Cleanfarms program include:

- old or unwanted agricultural pesticides (identified with a Pest Control Product number on the label)
- commercial pesticides for golf courses and industrial and commercial pest control products (identified with a Pest Control Product number on the label)
- livestock/equine medications that are used on-farm for livestock, poultry or horses (identified with a DIN number, serial number, notification number or Pest Control Product number on the label).

The program does NOT accept:

- fertilizer, diluted solution, large quantities of unopened product, and treated seed
- needles or sharps, medicated feed, aerosol containers, premises disinfectants and sanitizers, veterinary clinic waste and medications, ear tags, or aerosols
- any other household hazardous waste.

Questions about which products are accepted in this collection program can be directed to 877-622-4460 or email Cleanfarms at info@cleanfarms.ca. Visit cleanfarms.ca for more information

NEW BRUNSWICK Nuisance Deer Management Assistance Program 2021 FACT SHEET

- What?** The Nuisance Deer Management Assistance Program (NDMAP) will allow Registered Agricultural Professional Producers (RAPP) who have experienced economic loss due to deer damage to receive special permits authorizing hunters to harvest ONE antlerless deer. The permits are issued to hunters who are chosen by the producer to harvest deer on their property. Permits will be provided to harvest only antlerless deer, as removal of those deer will have the greatest effect on controlling local populations. The number of available permits will be determined for each property by the Department of Natural Resource and Energy Development (DNRED) on a case-by-case basis.
- When?** NDMAP permits will be valid for use by hunters only during the open deer hunting season for the local area of the property (October 4 – November 21, 2021).
Application dates are September 1 to October 31, 2021.
- Why?** Deer can have significant impacts to agricultural producers. DNRED is working with the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries (DAAF) to help reduce local deer densities in a manner that is safe, effective and acceptable to most residents. Allowing hunters to harvest extra deer is an efficient approach to address the issue while allowing public benefit from the resource.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A NUISANCE DEER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PERMIT

Registered Agricultural Professional Producers that are eligible for the **Wildlife Damage Compensation Program** or the **Wildlife Damage Mitigation Program** (administered by DAAF) are eligible to apply:

- STEP 1** **Contact your local DNRED office to express your interest in obtaining NDMAP permits for your property.** – Eligibility for the **Wildlife Damage Compensation Program** or the **Wildlife Damage Mitigation Program**, and Property Identification Numbers (PIDs) are required to apply.
- STEP 2** **Site Assessment** – Private properties greater than 1 acre with legal hunting potential are eligible. Properties may receive a site visit by DNRED staff to assess for any potential safety concerns and the number of permits to be issued. Hunting will NOT be allowed within 100 meters of neighboring dwellings. Discharge distances for archery may be reduced from the landowners dwelling with the landowner's permission.
Applications for privately leased lands must include signed permission from the landowner.
- STEP 3** **Approval** – Qualifying agricultural producers will receive written notification from DNRED of the number of NDMAP permits that will be issued for their respective property (PID) and any conditions that may be applied.
- STEP 4** **Selection of Hunters** – Most landowners desire some control over who accesses their property. It will be the responsibility of the producer to select hunters to hunt deer on their property under a NDMAP permit. Producers will provide each hunter's name, address and 2021 deer hunting license number to the local DNRED office to apply for NDMAPs. Once approved, eligible hunters can pick up their permit at the local DNRED office.

NOTE:

- Only hunters holding a current Class III Resident deer hunting license are eligible for NDMAP permits;
- Only one **antlerless** deer may be harvested under a NDMAP permit;
- The NDMAP permit is in addition to the normal one-deer bag limit;
- Hunters must register the harvested deer at an DNRED office.

For local DNRED offices, please see:

www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/erd/natural_resources/content/Regions.html

Application ends on October 31, 2021. Processing times for applications could take up to 3 weeks, but may vary depending on volume.



New Brunswick

Cleanfarms 2021 Unwanted Pesticides & Old Livestock/Equine Medications Collection

New Brunswick – November 1 to 12



Farmers! Got unwanted pesticides or livestock/equine medications?

Safely dispose of unwanted or obsolete agricultural pesticides and livestock/equine medications – **no charge!**

November 1 to 12

Take them to the following locations between **9 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

DRUMMOND

New Denmark Trucking
194 Station Rd.
506-473-1086

FLORENCEVILLE- BRISTOL

McCain Produce
16 McCain Produce Rd.
506-392-3229

FREDERICTON

Co-op Home & Farm
317 Saint Mary's St.
506-458-9308

GAGETOWN

Appleman Farms Ltd.
16 Fox Rd.
506-488-2147

HARTLAND

Hartland Agromart Ltd.
40 Industrial Dr.
506-392-7464

MONCTON

South Eastern Farmers
Co-op
200 Collishaw St.
506-858-6600

PETIT-ROCHER

Chaleur Fertilizers Ltd.
558 Industry St.
506-783-4216

SAINT ANDRÉ

Agromart Grand Falls
38 Després Rd.
506-473-1941

SAINT JOHN

Halifax Seed
664 Rothesay Ave.
506-633-2032

SALISBURY

Cavendish
3030 Fredericton Rd.
506-372-9309

SUSSEX

Sussex Co-op
25 Union St.
506-432-1826

- Next Cleanfarms collection in this area in fall 2024.
- COVID social distancing measures may be in place.
- For collection dates elsewhere, go to:
cleanfarms.ca/materials/unwanted-pesticides-animal-meds/

Partner



Cleanfarms.ca

info@cleanfarms.ca

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