

## Cereal Rusts Could Be A Major Concern In 2015



Photo Courtesy of Eric Amundsen (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada – Lethbridge)

Stripe rust continues to be reported in southern and central Alberta. Eric Amundsen from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada recently surveyed winter wheat fields for stripe rust. He reported finding the disease in five of 12 fields (two in Cardston County, one field in each of Lethbridge County, County of Warner and M.D. of Taber). Stripe rust was also reported in Mountain View County by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development researchers, Drs. Kequan Xi and Krishan Kumar.

It appears that the stripe rust fungus may have overwintered in both southern and central Alberta because all reports are on lower leaves and no striping yet on new leaves. Additionally, Eric Amundsen reported that he was able to recover viable stripe rust spores from winter wheat in southern Alberta on March 30.

Two of the five positive fields in southern Alberta had symptoms on more than one plant per square metre, indicating that

scouting for stripe rust in winter wheat should remain a priority.

It would be wise to scout winter wheat crops regularly for rusts as the wind trajectories and weather conditions are now putting southern Alberta cereal producers at risk for these diseases.

Mike Harding  
*Plant Pathologist*  
*Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development*

### ROCKY VIEW COUNTY'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

Implementing agricultural policies, programs, and services which support a sustainable future for Rocky View County residents.

911 - 32 Avenue NE  
Calgary, Alberta T2E 6X6

TEL 403-230-1401  
E-MAIL [AgServices@rockyview.ca](mailto:AgServices@rockyview.ca)  
WEB [www.rockyview.ca](http://www.rockyview.ca)



**ROCKY VIEW COUNTY**  
Cultivating Communities

## The 2015 Agriculture Tour:

# A Real Dog and Pony Show

Join us for our 30<sup>th</sup> annual Agriculture Tour!

**Date:** July 24

**Time:** 8 a.m.

**Location:** Balzac Hall

The cost is \$35 per person and includes a bus tour, lunch, and a terrific barbecued steak dinner

Register online at [www.rockyview.ca/agriculture](http://www.rockyview.ca/agriculture).  
The registration deadline is July 14, and space is limited.

### 8:00 a.m.

Check-in, coffee and donuts – Balzac Hall

### 8:30 a.m. sharp

Buses depart from Balzac Hall

Site 1: Rare Spanish Mustangs and  
Ravendale Ranch Kennels

Site 2: Ghost Dam site

Site 3: Western Sky Land Trust

Site 4: Stoney Nakoda  
weed management initiative

### 12:00 p.m.

Lunch – Nakoda Nation (Morley)

Master Farm Family award presentation  
4-H feature speaker

### 1:30 p.m.

Site 5: Simpson Ranching

Site 6: Wild feral horses in the foothills

Site 7: Pasture weed control site

### 5:00 p.m.

Arrive back at Balzac Hall

Displays, refreshments  
and BBQ steak supper

## Growing Forward 2 Update

Growing Forward 2 is a federal-provincial-territorial partnership with a mandate to support a profitable, sustainable, competitive and innovative agriculture and agri-food sector. Growing Forward 2 programs aim to help the ag industry position itself to respond to future opportunities and challenges and achieve its full potential as a productive and profitable sector of the Canadian economy.

Growing Forward 2 is currently accepting applications for more than 15 different programs available to farmers and ranchers. The On-Farm Stewardship program funds projects that positively impact water quality and the management of inorganic agricultural wastes. Categories within the On-Farm Stewardship program include Grazing Management, Manure Management, Crop Input Management, Agriculture Waste Management, and Innovative Stewardship Solutions. In most cases, participants are required to have a completed Environmental Farm Plan before they can apply for Growing Forward 2 funding.

If submitting an application to a GF2 program, remember to include a detailed project description, a comprehensive budget, your start and end dates, and aerial photos. It is also important to apply early as applications are reviewed as they are received.

For more information on Growing Forward 2 and to access the application forms, please visit [www.growingforward.alberta.ca](http://www.growingforward.alberta.ca). If you have any further questions, contact the Rocky View County Agriculture & Environment Services department at 403-230-1401.



## The Alberta Living Laboratory Project Wants to Restore Your Wetland

A new University of Alberta research project in the Nose Creek Watershed will have a team of economists and scientists investigate the economic, social, and environmental benefits associated with wetland restoration. Over the next three years, as part of the program, the team will pay landowners in Rocky View County to restore wetlands on their property.

If you have dug a ditch or re-graded to help drain water out of a wetland and off your land, the research team may be interested in restoring your wetland.

***Wetlands aren't always wet – and that makes them special.***

Water is an important part of a wetland but you might not see water all of the time. Many wetlands in southern Alberta only hold water for a couple of weeks or months in the spring, before the surface water dries up, but

the soils underneath are unique and tend to be saturated with water throughout the year. These seasonal wetlands are important for supporting waterfowl during the spring migration—they warm up and become ice-free sooner than more permanent wetlands, providing food and rest for waterfowl as they migrate north in the spring.

Other wetlands hold water permanently and only dry up under extreme drought conditions. These wetlands provide important year-round habitats for wildlife such as frogs, songbirds and insects.

***Wetlands are good for us – and our environment.***

Per acre, wetlands support more wildlife than any other type of habitat. In fact, many plant and animal species are only found in wetlands, making wetlands incredibly important for supporting a diversity of species. Additionally,

wetlands also have many ecological functions that directly benefit people.

For example, wetlands filter out sediments and nutrients, improving the quality of both surface and ground water. Wetlands also store water in times of flooding and release it in times of drought, which helps to balance the amount of water available for human use.

***Interested in learning more?***

The research team will be hosting a number of community events throughout the summer and fall to provide more information about the project, and how you can get involved. In the meantime, if you would like to learn more about the project, please visit the project website at [www.restoreourwetlands.ca](http://www.restoreourwetlands.ca) or contact Stacey O'Malley at [wetlands@ualberta.ca](mailto:wetlands@ualberta.ca) or 780-248-1073.

---

## Important: Alberta Swine Traceability Regulation

On June 27, 2014, Alberta's Swine Traceability Regulation under the Animal Health Act, which regulates full movement of swine and deadstock, came into effect. Swine are defined as any live member of the species *Sus scrofa* that is commonly known as a domestic pig or farmed wild boar.

In addition, on July 1, 2014, an amendment of Part XV of Canada's Health of Animals Act came into effect which made the reporting of all pig and pig carcass movements mandatory across

Canada. Regulated persons within Alberta in custody or in care and control of swine are required to comply with requirements set out in both federal and provincial legislation. As Alberta's swine movement database uploads data to meet federal requirements to PigTrace, a single, national system is achieved.

In order to meet the standards set by both federal and provincial regulations it is important that regulated persons (shippers, transporters, or receivers)

complete their section of their manifest within 48 hours. The receiver must submit the Swine Manifest to Alberta Pork within 48 hours of receipt of swine or deadstock. For those shipping swine or deadstock outside of Alberta, the shipper must submit the Swine Manifest to Alberta Pork within 48 hours of the departure time.

Christina Carley  
Traceability coordinator  
Alberta Pork





## Seniors' Housing Needs Assessment

Rocky View County is conducting a seniors' housing needs assessment to determine current and future needs, and to develop a plan for the County to help meet this need.

If you're 55 or older, we'd like to hear from you. We'll use your input to help guide seniors housing plans in the County.

We're holding consultation sessions at the following locations:

- **Monday, June 15 – 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.**  
KIK Seniors Club  
519 - 1 Avenue, Irricana
- **Tuesday, June 16 – 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.**  
Spray Lakes Sawmills Family Sports Centre  
800 Griffin Road East, Cochrane

- **Wednesday, June 17 – 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.**  
Langdon Field House  
34 - 4 Street, Langdon
- **Thursday, June 18 – 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.**  
Bragg Creek Snowbirds Seniors Lodge  
19 Balsam Avenue, Bragg Creek
- **Friday, June 19 – 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.**  
Bears paw Lifestyle Centre  
253220 Bears paw Road

Please register for a session, before Tuesday, June 9, by calling or e-mailing Susan Shaak at 403-520-3958, or [sshaak@rockyview.ca](mailto:sshaak@rockyview.ca).

## 2015 Agricultural Waste Round-up Schedule

Bring your empty pesticide containers, tires, electronics, wire, agricultural plastics, and paint for us to recycle. Eight round-ups will be set up throughout Rocky View County from June to September. The dates and locations are:

- Wednesday, June 3, 2015 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Scott Lake Transfer Site – 252016 Sibbald Creek Trail  
(Highway 1 and Highway 68 in the Volker Stevin yard)
- Wednesday, July 8, 2015 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Viterra Grain Facility – 29340 Highway 2A  
(Between Crossfield and Carstairs)
- Wednesday, July 15, 2015 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Springbank Community Church – 32242 Township Road 245  
(South of Calaway Park)
- Wednesday, July 22, 2015 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Balzac Fire Station 107 – 291015 Rocky View Drive  
(Highway 566 east of Queen Elizabeth Highway overpass)
- Wednesday, July 29, 2015 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Weedon Pioneer Hall – 42299 Weedon Trail  
(Corner of Highway 22 and Big Hill Springs Road)
- Wednesday, August 5, 2015 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Bottrel General Store – 4 Bottrel Street Range Road 284  
(West of Highway 22)

- Wednesday, September 9, 2015 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Madden Transfer Site – 285090 Symons Valley Road  
(Northeast of the intersection of Highway 772 and Highway 574)
- Wednesday, September 16, 2015 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Delacour Community Hall – 275194 Township Road 254  
(East of the intersection of Highway 791 & Highway 564)
- Wednesday, September 30, 2015 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Jumping Pound Hall – 44208 Township Road 250  
(North of the Jumping Pound turn off on Highway 1)

For more information, including a list of unacceptable materials, and a guideline on how to properly prepare all waste materials visit [www.rockyview.ca/RoundUps](http://www.rockyview.ca/RoundUps).



**ROCKY VIEW COUNTY**  
Cultivating Communities

## Weed Watch



### ***Dame's Rocket***

(*HESPERIS MATRONALIS*)

Dame's rocket has fragrant flowers and attracts pollinators, but don't be fooled by this "pretty flower," newly added to the Weed Control Act in 2010. This designated noxious biennial is a prolific seed producer. It requires disturbance to become established and can outcompete native vegetation.

Dame's rocket has four petals and the flowers can be white, lavender-pink or purple. It has alternate leaves that are dark green, hairy on both sides, and have serrated edges. It is sometimes confused with Garden phlox, which has five petals and opposite leaves.

This plant often contaminates wildflower seed mixes – don't purchase seed mixes that don't list the Latin names of the contents.

Hand pulling is the most effective control as the roots come out easily from moist soils. Plant density may increase the year following control work (because of disturbance), but repeated removal will exhaust the seed bank.



### ***Scentless Chamomile***

(*TRIPLEUROSPERMUM PERFORATUM* SYN. *T. INODORUM*)

Scentless chamomile is commonly found along roadsides and disturbed areas and is well adapted to heavy clay soils and periodic flooding and dry sites. The seeds float on water and are widely spread this way. Stems are erect and may be reddish in colour, growing up to one metre (three feet) tall. Leaves are alternate and finely divided into short segments (carrot-like), and are odorless when crushed. Flowers are composed of a yellow central disk surrounded by white petals (like a badminton birdie).

Weed seed contamination in crop/grass seed and livestock forage is common so make sure to check for the Latin name when purchasing seed.

There are a few effective control methods. Late fall and early spring cultivation will control the rosettes, and frequent shallow tillage will exhaust the seed bank. Ensure equipment is cleaned after. Hand-pulling is effective in small infestations. A registered herbicide for scentless chamomile can also be used.



### ***Common Tansy***

(*TANACETUM VULGARE*)

Common tansy is another provincially designated noxious invader. The plant contains alkaloids that are toxic to both humans and livestock if consumed in large quantities. Tansy is unpalatable to grazing animals, so cases of poisoning are rare.

Stems are branched, erect and often purplish-red. Leaves alternate on the stem and are divided into numerous narrow, individual leaflets with toothed edges. Flowers are yellow, numerous and button-like, occurring in dense, flat topped clusters at the tops of the stems.

The most effective control for this plant is an integrated approach combining mowing or hand cutting with a chemical control and encouraging competition from native vegetation.



## Agricultural Supplies Available

### FOR RENT:

#### **Pasture sprayer**

No charge to rent. Cost covered by the Agri-Environmental Incentive Program.  
\$1,000 deposit required at drop off.

#### **Skunk trap**

Free for two weeks, \$25 per week after the first two weeks.  
\$125 deposit required.

#### **Magpie trap**

Free for two weeks, \$25 per week after the first two weeks.  
\$125 deposit required.

#### **Pigeon trap**

Free for two weeks, \$25 per week after the first two weeks.  
\$125 deposit required.

#### **Hay and soil probes**

Free for two weeks, \$25 per week after the first two weeks.  
\$125 deposit required.

#### **Tree planter**

\$50 per day

### FOR SALE:

#### **Pocket gopher traps**

\$10.95 each

#### **Weeds of the prairies**

\$30 each

#### **Alberta Invasive Plant Identification Guide**

\$5 each

#### **Bat boxes**

\$30 each

#### **Green Acreages Guide Workbook**

\$30 each

#### **Twine recycling bags**

FREE, pickup at the municipal building

*For more information or to rent or purchase any of these items please call 403-230-1401 and ask to speak with Agricultural Services.*

## Agri-Environmental Incentive program



Bona fide farmers are eligible to receive funding through this program. The program deadline is December 31, 2015. Any projects you wish to receive funding for must be completed on or before this date.

For a list of projects and available funding visit [www.rockyview.ca](http://www.rockyview.ca) and search for "Agri-Environmental."

If you would like an application form sent to you, or have questions about this program, please contact Laura Poile, agricultural services officer at 403-520-7273, or at [lpoise@rockyview.ca](mailto:lpoise@rockyview.ca)

## AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

### **Councillors:**

Earl Solberg, DIVISION 5, ASB CHAIR  
Liz Breakey, DIVISION 1  
Bruce Kendall, DIVISION 9

### **Farmer Representatives:**

Susan Church, COCHRANE  
Gwen Isaac, EAST AIRDRIE,  
Jim Dunn, WEST AIRDRIE  
Jessica Dugdale, SE ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

### **Agricultural Services Staff:**

Tim Dietzler, AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN  
Jeff Fleischer, AGRICULTURAL SERVICES TEAM LEAD  
Laura Poile, AGRICULTURAL SERVICES OFFICER  
Ashley Stewart, AGRICULTURAL SERVICES OFFICER  
Kristyn Smigelski, AGRICULTURAL SERVICES OFFICER

### **Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development Key Contact:**

Michelle McKinnon

### NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

The Agri-View newsletter is a free publication for Rocky View County residents. If you wish to be on the mailing list, please contact Agricultural Services.

If addressing is incorrect, or if you wish to unsubscribe, please contact Agricultural Services at 403-520-7273 or e-mail [AgServices@rockyview.ca](mailto:AgServices@rockyview.ca)



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY  
Cultivating Communities

For more information  
about Growing Forward  
and EFP call 403-230-1401

Growing Forward