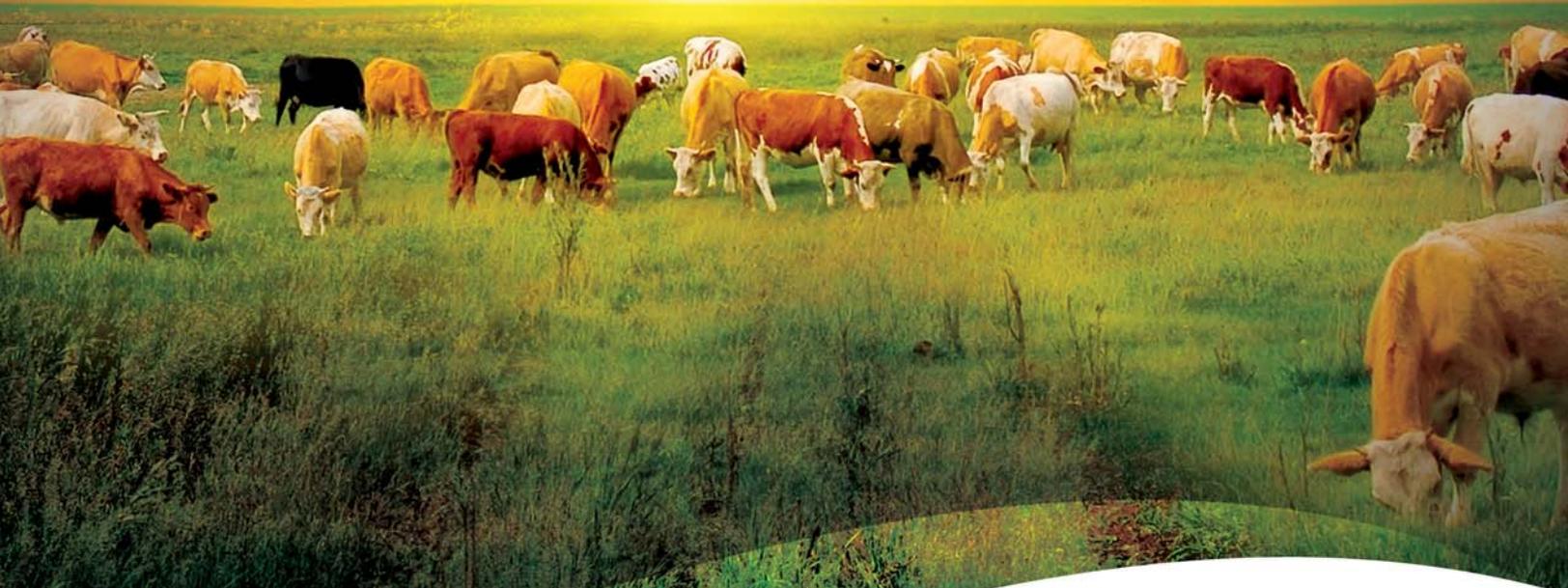




Dec. 7, 2012

# NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY THE MANITOBA BEEF PRODUCERS



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## Beef Producers Welcome TB Coordinator

Manitoba Beef Producers (MBP) applauded the announcement that a TB Coordinator position has been created to lead the effort to eliminate bovine tuberculosis from the Riding Mountain Eradication Area (RMEA).

"MBP has long called for the appointment of a TB Coordinator and we are pleased that governments have made our request a priority," said Ray Armbruster, MBP president.

MBP thanks all four Ministers involved in the creation of this position: Hon. Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food; Hon. Ron Kostyshyn, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives; Hon. Gord Mackintosh, Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship; and Hon. Peter Kent, Minister of the Environment.

"Agreements between two levels of government, four Ministers and five departments are not often easy to reach," noted Armbruster. "Ministers have taken this important, coordinated step towards the eradication of bovine TB in the RMEA because they recognize the impact the disease is having on both cattle herds and wildlife."

MBP would especially like to thank Minister Ritz for his work in spearheading the effort to introduce this important new role.

MBP welcomes Dr. Allan Preston as the Coordinator and thanks him for taking on this role to ensure accountability for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis.

"Dr. Preston brings a tremendous amount of industry knowledge and expertise to this position and we look forward to working with him," said Armbruster.

Beef producers continue to participate in bovine tuberculosis testing while carrying out best management practices to limit interactions between wildlife and their cattle in order to keep their herds disease-free. Testing and mitigation efforts inflict considerable costs on producers. MBP will continue to work with governments and other stakeholders on efforts to eradicate bovine tuberculosis from the RMEA.

### Upcoming Events

**Dec 11: Beef Producer Workshop**  
on Verified Beef Production, BIXS and Biosecurity, 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Ashern Legion. Contact [info@mbbeef.ca](mailto:info@mbbeef.ca) to register. No charge.

**Dec 12: Beef Producer Workshop**  
on Verified Beef Production, BIXS and Biosecurity, 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Lakeland Group facility in Stonewall. Contact [info@mbbeef.ca](mailto:info@mbbeef.ca) to register. No charge.

**Feb. 7-8:** MBP AGM, Victoria Inn, Brandon. [www.mbbeef.ca](http://www.mbbeef.ca)

### REMINDER: Proposed Changes to Manitoba Beef Producers Bylaws

All MBP members are encouraged to review the proposed bylaw changes and attend the Annual General Meeting Feb. 7-8, 2013 to vote on the changes.

Proposed changes approved by the Board of Directors to be brought before MBP's Membership at the 2012 Annual General Meeting: [Click here for Bylaws](#)

## CCA Pleased with New Growing Forward 2 Programs CCA Release

The Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) welcomed the announcement today from the Government of Canada regarding three new programs under Growing Forward 2 (GF2). The new programs are in direct alignment with the CCA's key priorities of research and innovation, competitiveness and market development.

"These top priorities of the CCA are fundamental areas that help to deliver long-term benefits to Canada's beef cattle industry," said CCA President Martin Unrau. "By focussing investments on research outcomes that address industry priorities, the Government is enabling Canada to maintain its status as a leader in agriculture."

Announced by Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Gerry Ritz, the AgriInnovation, AgriMarketing, and AgriCompetitiveness Programs will come into effect on April 1, 2013, ensuring continuous funding for critically important existing programs like the Beef Science Cluster.

As the national research strategy for the beef industry, the Cluster is necessary to improve market competitiveness, said Unrau.

"The Canadian beef cattle industry's ability to compete domestically and internationally is dependent on research to improve feed efficiency, improve feed, forage and grassland productivity, reduce animal health and welfare concerns, and ensure food safety. The Beef Science Cluster allows industry to partner with governments to seek advancements in all these areas."

Unrau also expressed his appreciation of the Government of Canada's efforts to improve service delivery of the programs.



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