

# E-Newsletter

An update from Manitoba Beef Producers

## Upcoming Events

Nov. 18 - StockTalk

The MAFRD farm production team produces a free monthly webinar for the livestock industry - live and on demand. MAFRD specialists and invited guests will speak to a variety of topics related to livestock feed and nutrition, marketing and production management. To register, click [here](#).

Dec. 10 Prairie Livestock Expo.  
Victoria Inn and Convention  
Centre, Winnipeg. For more info  
click [here](#).



Manitoba Beef Producers' members in District 7 made their way to the Rossburn Community Hall for their annual district meeting Wednesday. The evening included an update from general manager Melinda German.

## Find Us Online

[mbbeef.ca](http://mbbeef.ca)



[Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/ManitobaBeef)



[@ManitobaBeef](https://twitter.com/ManitobaBeef)

## MBP district meeting schedule underway

Manitoba Beef Producers is coming to a district near you! Starting with Monday's District 14 meeting in Durban, MBP staff and directors have been making their annual trek throughout the province to meet with members at 14 district meetings. Thus far, four meetings have been held and attendance at each of them has been solid. The schedule resumes next week with the District 11 meeting in Ashern. As always MBP encourages producers in each district to attend their meeting and get informed on the issues that are directly impacting their

business. Attendees will also have the opportunity to shape the future of MBP by submitting resolutions to be voted upon by the membership at large during the annual general meeting in February in Brandon. Members will also have the opportunity to see the various resolutions prior to the meeting as they will be printed in the December edition of *Cattle Country*. Further information about the AGM will also be included. A complete list of district meetings can be found on page 4 of the newsletter.

## In the News

A look at the news impacting Manitoba's Beef industry

- The October edition of *Cattle Country* is online.

- Four frustrating agriculture messages that need to be fixed.

- Talk, tweet and shout about antibiotics in food animals.

- Canada Beef is looking at ways of bringing more Canadian beef to China.

- Vet table tilts a cow's world.

- Flipping for mechanically tenderized beef.

- AAFC's AgrilInnovation program accepting applications for funding.

# Managing a year-round mineral program that's right for you: webinar Nov. 4

The Beef Cattle Research Council is offering a webinar to help producers ensure their animals are getting the proper minerals. In an announcement from the BCRC, it was noted that some herds across Canada aren't getting enough of some necessary minerals. It was further noted that if animals' mineral needs are not met, the results are costly.

Without adequate mineral intake, cow-calf producers will see poor performance, disease resistance and reproduction in their herds. Mineral requirements for cattle depend on their weight, age, and expected performance (maintenance vs. weight gain vs. pregnancy). Mineral supplementation needs also depend on the feed, water and soil chemistry around the herd.

Producers are encouraged to register for this free webinar, which is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. on Nov. 4, to hear from experts on how to develop and manage a mineral program that works for your cows to improve your bottom line. Among the topics will be:

- why the cost of buying minerals is worth the expense;
- which minerals to feed, at what concentrations and when;

- how to better understand mineral tags to compare different mixtures;
- advice on getting your cows to consume the right amount and
- how to troubleshoot an existing mineral program.

Producers will also hear about the latest research done on mineral supplementation strategies, and have the opportunity to ask questions.

To register for the webinar click [here](#).

If a producer is interested but unable to attend, they are encouraged to register anyway as the webinar will be recorded and posted online at a later date. All registrants will receive a link to the recording and supplemental learning resources. Speaking during the webinar are John McKinnon and Reynold Bergen.

McKinnon is a professor, researcher and the Saskatchewan Beef Industry Chair in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science at the University of Saskatchewan.

Bergen is the Beef Cattle Research Council Science Director and provides scientific and industry expertise to the BCRC, Beef Science Cluster and Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA).



## Attention Cattle Producers Find out what MASC's loan options for cattle mean to you

The Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation has been providing financial assistance to producers for over 50 years. If you are a cattle producer looking to grow your operation, you should learn more about how we can help you.

**Stocker Loans** – these loans provide short-term financing for producers who purchase feeder cattle or heifers for breeding.

**Direct Loans** – these loans can be used for purchasing or raising breeding stock with terms up to ten years. Unbred heifers purchased for breeding have a first-year interest-only option.

All our loans feature no pre-payment penalties and our low rates are fixed with flexible repayment terms that match your cash flow.

To learn more about how MASC's financing options will help you grow your operation, please contact your local MASC lending office or visit [masc.mb.ca](http://masc.mb.ca)



**Lending and Insurance**  
*Building a strong rural Manitoba*



# Attend Your MBP District Meeting

Meet with MBP representatives and fellow beef producers to discuss the timely issues affecting your district and industry. Elections will be held in odd numbered districts. All meetings begin at 6 p.m. with a beef on a bun supper.

	Director	Date	Location	Address
District 14	Stan Foster	Oct-27	Durban Community Hall	612 1st St. N, Durban
District 13	Ben Fox	Oct-28	Credit Union Place Arena	200 1st St. SE, Dauphin
District 7	Larry Gerelus	Oct-29	Rosburn Community Hall	10 Main St. N, Rosburn
District 6	Larry Wegner	Oct-30	Heartland Virden Auction Mart	1 mile south of Hwy #1 on Hwy #83
District 11	Caron Clarke	Nov-03	Ashern Royal Canadian Legion	3 Main St. E, Ashern
District 12	Bill Murray	Nov-04	Ste. Rose Jolly Club	638 1st Ave., SW, Ste. Rose
District 10	Theresa Zuk	Nov-05	Bifrost Community Centre	337 River Rd., Arborg
District 4	Heinz Reimer	Nov-06	Grunthal Auction Mart	Provincial Road 205
District 3	Cheryl McPherson	Nov-10	Elm Creek Community Hall	70 Arena Rd., Elm Creek
District 2	Dave Koslowsky	Nov-12	Crystal City Community Hall	Conklin St. S, Crystal City
District 1	Ted Artz*	Nov-13	Deloraine Legion Club	115 Cavers St. N, Deloraine
District 5	Ramona Blyth	Nov-14	Carberry Memorial Hall	224 2nd Ave., Carberry
District 8	Tom Teichroeb	Nov-17	Royal Canadian Legion	425 Brown Ave., Neepawa
District 9	Dianne Riding	Nov-18	Teulon Hall	14 Main St., Teulon

## Western Canadian Cow-Calf Survey

[Click here for more information and to find the survey](#)

This survey was first conducted in Alberta in the late 1980s. It is now being expanded to western Canada through a combined effort involving representatives from the Provincial Producer Associations, Provincial Ministry of Agriculture specialists, the Beef Cattle Research Council, Canfax and the Western Beef Development Centre.

The survey asks producers questions about their operation and management and marketing practices as they relate to the 2014 calf crop, starting with breeding in 2013 and ending with weaning of 2014-born calves.

The results of this survey will be used in a number of ways:

- Offer historical comparison with previous study findings to determine how the industry has changed given that the last time this survey was conducted was 16 years ago in 1998;
- Guide extension and research efforts;
- Validate anecdotal evidence on production matters;
- Identify which management practices are linked to strong production performance;
- Generate an updated set of production benchmarks for the cow-calf industry.

Information is being collected for the purpose of monitoring the productive efficiency and management practices of Western Canadian cow-calf herds under the authority of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

It is subject to the provisions of this Act. Results from this survey will be published in aggregate so as to protect the identity and information of survey participants.

Individual results will remain under the strictest of confidence.

The last day to participate in this survey is February 28, 2015.

The aggregated survey results will be widely shared starting Spring 2015.

To receive a complimentary report summarizing your performance indicators in comparison with regional, provincial and/or herdsize benchmarks, please provide your contact information at the end of this survey.

The survey is 58 questions in length and is estimated to take between 30 to 45 minutes to complete.

If there are any questions a producer does not want to answer they can leave it and move on.



# Verified Beef Production Workshops



MAFRD together in partnership with Manitoba Beef Producers will be hosting Verified Beef Production workshops by video conference throughout the winter at a number of MAFRD locations in the province.

VBP is Canada's verified on-farm food safety program for beef – a dynamic program to uphold consumer confidence in the products and good practices of this country's beef producers.

Grass-roots driven and industry-led, the program is part of a broad effort by Canada's food providers to ensure on-farm food safety. The overall result is stronger competitiveness for Canada's beef industry, as food safety continues to grow as a major factor in consumer buying decisions.

## Verified Beef Production Video Conference Workshops

All workshops will take place from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Date	Location	Pre-register by
Thursday, Nov 20, 2014	MAFRD Video conference site	Thursday, Nov 13, 2014
Thursday, Dec 18, 2014	MAFRD Video conference site	Thursday, Dec 11, 2014
Thursday, Jan 15, 2015	MAFRD Video conference site	Thursday, Jan 8, 2015
Thursday, Feb 19, 2015	MAFRD Video conference site	Thursday, Feb 12, 2015
Thursday, March 19, 2015	MAFRD Video conference site	Thursday, March 12, 2015

For more information on the training, to find your closest video location site or to pre-register, call your local MAFRD office.



Canada

Growing Forward 2  
A federal-provincial-territorial initiative

Manitoba 

# Mitigation of Agricultural Greenhouse Gases in the Livestock Industry: An International Perspective



Greenhouse gases (GHGs) emissions from human activity are significant contributors to global climate change. Major human activities contributing to GHGs are agriculture and livestock production.

Two perspectives are featured on reducing GHGs from agriculture industries from both sides of the Atlantic.

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Agriculture's Contribution – James Breen**  
**Managing Environmental Issues Related to Livestock – Tim McAllister**

Some of the questions this webinar addresses:

- How is agriculture and livestock industry influencing climate change?
- How can greenhouse gases be mitigated in agriculture and livestock industry?
- What policies exist in regards to GHG and the livestock industry?
- Is everything the same everywhere in regards to GHG (international perspective)?
- What role is technology playing in the environment and sustainable agriculture?
- What are the policy implications?



<p><b>FREE WEBINAR</b>  <b>Wednesday, November 12, 2014</b>  <b>Time: 10:30 am – 11:30 a.m. (CST)</b></p>	<p>For more information or to register  <a href="mailto:adedirany@brandonu.ca">adedirany@brandonu.ca</a>   204-571-8585  <b>RSVP by November 7, 2014</b></p>
<p>Audience: Policy Makers, Environmentalists, Scientists, Ag Practitioners, Livestock Producers, Academics, Students, Mayors, EDOs, NGOs, CDCs and Decision Makers.</p>	

Together, these two presenters will provide valuable perspectives on GHG emissions, climate change, and policy implications giving examples from their wide experience and relationships with scholars in the field. Discussion will follow.

### **Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Agriculture's Contribution – James Breen**

In 2007, the European Commission made “an independent EU commitment to achieve at least a 20% reduction of greenhouse gases by 2020 compared to 1990 levels and an objective for a 30% reduction by 2020 subject to the conclusion of a comprehensive international climate change agreement” (European Commission 2008). Ireland is a significant net exporter of food, with a high ratio of bovine and ovine animals. Agriculture accounts for 29 percent of total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Ireland, it accounts for more than 40 percent of Ireland’s non-ETS emissions.

Agriculture’s contribution to Ireland’s GHG emissions is a reflection of the relatively small heavy industry sector within Ireland. Given the sizeable contribution to total GHG emissions made by agriculture, the sector is vulnerable to policy focussed on reducing GHG emissions. It is in this context that a wide variety of GHG abatement technologies are under consideration in Ireland.



**Presenting is Dr. James Breen**, lecturer in food chain management at University College Dublin. He completed his PhD in Agricultural Economics at the University of Missouri in 2011, his PhD research examined agriculture's contribution to Greenhouse Gas emissions and the potential impact on farm profitability of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture. His research interests are predominantly in the area of farm-level modelling and specifically in the examination of the impact of alternative agricultural and environmental policies on Irish farmers.

### **Managing Environmental Issues Related to Livestock – Tim McAllister**

The global human population is projected to reach 9 billion by 2050 with an increasing portion of this population living within urban communities. Growth of the economic middle class is projected to nearly double the per capita caloric and protein demand by 2050. Presently, livestock production for meat export occurs in few regions of the world and if these areas expand to satisfy future demands, their environmental sustainability will be questioned. Expansion of meat production will require sustainable intensification with more meat being produced using less land; as opportunities to expand arable land globally is limited. Steps are being taken to account for and reduce agriculture’s contribution to greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) as well as consider its impact on water use and biodiversity.



**Presenting is Dr. Tim McAllister**, principal research scientist in Ruminant Microbiology, Nutrition and Biotechnology at the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Research Centre in Lethbridge, Alberta. Tim obtained his Ph.D. in rumen microbiology and nutrition from the University of Guelph in 1991. He has given presentations on aspects of greenhouse gas emissions in Norway, New Zealand, Australia, Japan and Canada. His participation on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was recognized by the awarding of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize shared between the IPCC and former Vice President Al Gore.

