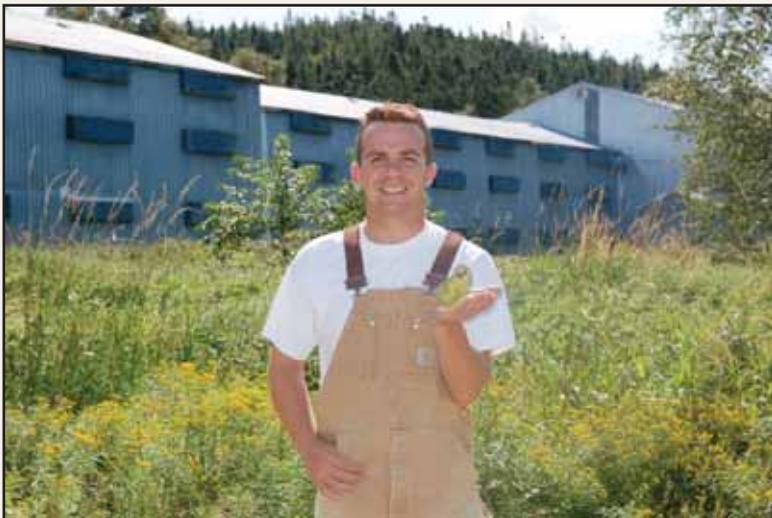




Who IS ON THE FARM

Darryl Legge operates ChrisDarMar Farms Ltd., a chicken farm in Holyrood. The farm spans two locations, has over 100,000 chickens at any given time, and covers about thirty acres. Darryl decided farming was the best career for him after giving it up for about five years and exploring other career options. As he tried on other careers for size, he saw more and more of the value in farming until it was clear that it offered him the best fit.

Darryl is a third generation farmer. His grandfather got into farming in the early 1970s after moving here from Toronto. Darryl's parents started farming about ten years later and bought his grandfather's operation. They combined the operation they had with his to create the farm that exists today.



A day on the farm for Darryl usually begins at about 7:30am. He starts by cleaning the equipment, checking air quality, feeding the birds and refilling their water. This is repeated three or four times throughout the day. He then moves onto his paperwork, then

inside Agriview

Who is on the farm?	1
Presidents Message	3
Feature:	
National Agriculture Conference A Success	3
Agricultural Member Profile:	
Growing Cranberries in Terra Nova	5
Events and Happenings:	
Energy Solutions for Our Farms & Communities	
Farm Industry Board Meeting Dates	
Make More Money With Better Budgeting	7
Be A Part of Something Big	11
Agri Adapt Council Inc. Update:	
Vacuuming Your Chinch Bugs Away	
ACAFA Supports NL Young Farmers' to Attend Summit of Americas	8
Labrador Report:	
Pallet Shed Construction	9
New and Exciting:	
AgriVantage Returns With Two New Partners	11
Agricultural History Society Unveils New Exhibits at Farm Field Day	14
Does Your Farm Have a Story to Tell?	15





Newfoundland and Labrador
Federation of Agriculture.

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Who IS ON THE FARM

does any necessary maintenance. His day will usually end at around 8:30pm. If you were to ask Darryl what is the main objective in doing all this work, he would tell you it is to "create a high quality, safe product for the Canadian public".

Being safe, clean and responsible are all priorities at ChrisDarMar Farms. Biosecurity is the primary focus. The farm is On Farm-Food Safety Assurance Program (OFFSAP) approved, it is gated at all times, and the doors are locked with access only provided to authorized personnel. Upon entry, clothes and boots must be changed to ensure no disease is able to enter or leave the farm. In 2006 the Farm completed an Environmental Farm Plan which involved safeguards such as reducing the potential for manure leakage by paving around buildings. These principles also extend to community support, as ChrisDarMar Farms supports local sports teams and charities.

When he is not on the farm, agriculture is often not far from Darryl's mind as he is also very involved in local farming organizations. He sits on the Board of Directors for the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture and he is the Vice President of the NL Young Farmers' Forum.

Darryl sees some challenges in running his farm. These include labour concerns, time management, money management (squeezing every dollar), and animal welfare. He miti-



gates these issues as best as he can from day-to-day and has long-term ideas for handling them as well.

In the future Darryl would like to build new more efficient farm buildings which would help to reduce labour and utility costs. He would also like to diversify the business into forage and organic to capture new market opportunities and reduce costs.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture is pleased to profile ChrisDarMar Farms, and to recognize the hard work and dedication of Darryl Legge towards the advancement of agriculture in our province.

By Matthew Carlson

Photos by Denise Dunne Photography

Index of Advertisers

Agribusiness.....	Back Cover	NL Kubota.....	13
Central Daries.....	11	Stone Valley.....	6
Marine Atlantic.....	10		





Rhonda Thornley
Acting President

As many of you are no doubt already aware, Merv Wiseman stepped aside from his role as President to run in the Federal election.

During that time I fulfilled the duties of President. It was exciting and challenging to take on the issues and opportunities that face our organization and industry.

Awareness of agriculture was front and centre this past summer at the National Agriculture Awareness Conference which took place in St. John's and was hosted by the NLFA. Leaders in agriculture awareness, representatives from agriculture in the classroom, and other experts from across the country networked and discussed how to advance the industry. This was the first time that the conference had been held in the province thus represented a milestone for the growing local industry.

All in all, over one hundred delegates were in attendance and heard eleven speakers from across Canada and the United States during the four-day conference. Wendy Mesley delivered the

keynote address on the subject of food labeling. The conference gave the Newfoundland and Labrador agriculture industry a chance to be showcased on a national stage. The Feature section of this issue contains a series of photos highlighting the event.

The Federation has received funding from Service Canada to hire a new HR Planner. The call for resumes has come and gone and now the Federation is in the stage of screening the applicants. We are hoping to have a new employee added to our team in the very near future.

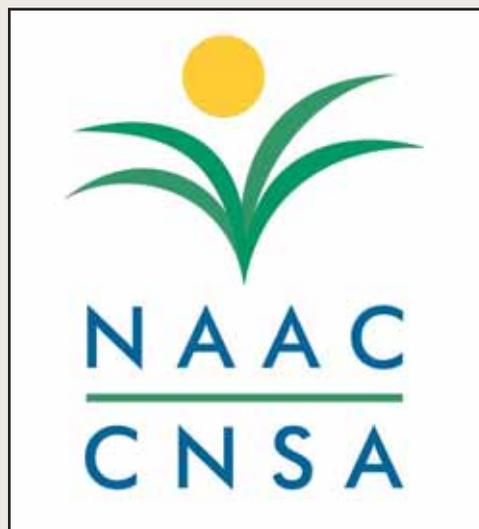
The new membership year has also begun with new sponsors joining the Federation's discount program for members. New pest control and farm equipment leasing companies have both signed on for 2008-2009, making NLFA membership an even better value.

The NLFA has been attending trade shows this fall, including the Harbour Grace expo and the Humber Fall Fair. The new Jacob the Farmer book, Safety First on the Farm: Farm Safety for Children has been very popular amongst the children visiting the NLFA booth. The Federation is pleased to have been able to reach so many children with the Jacob series and educate them about agriculture and other important issues, including farm safety.

FEATURE

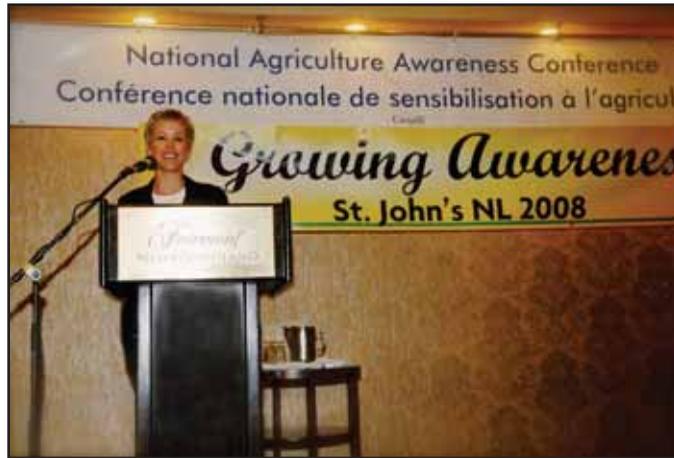
National Agriculture Conference A Success

In August, the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture hosted the 2008 National Agriculture Awareness Conference (NAAC) at The Fairmont Hotel in St. John's. This event drew educators, advisors and leaders of agriculture awareness groups, communicators, Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) administrators and members, marketing and public relations professionals, industry professionals and provincial and federal government agencies. In total, over 100 delegates attended the conference.



Wendy Mesley, host of the CBC television show Marketplace was our keynote speaker for the conference. Other speakers included Natural Resources Minister Kathy Dunderdale, and Dr. TA Loeffler, a motivational speaker from Memorial University.

On the next page there are some photos of the event to showcase the various aspects of the conference.



Keynote Speaker Wendy Mesley giving her presentation.



Natural Resources Minister Kathy Dunderdale speaks at the closing dinner.



Delegates attend a break-out session with Debra Spielmaker about Agriculture in the Classroom.



Delegates listen to a presentation.



Jeanne Cruikshank gives a presentation on behalf of the Canadian Grocery Distributors.



Representatives of Nutrients for Life provide information to a delegate.



Delegates dancing at the 'Kitchen Party' at Gatheralls in Bay Bulls.

Photos by Denise Dunne Photography



Growing Cranberries in Terra Nova

By Matthew Carlson



Walter Calloway is a cranberry and sod farmer based in Terra Nova, where he operates Pinedale Farm. Walter got his start in farming while growing up and helping out on his father's farm. He began his own sod operation in 1988. His farm dates back to 1944 when his father began farming with eggs and vegetables. Walter's father passed away in 1982 and his mom then ran the farm until about 1993.

Walter began cranberry production in 1999 when he availed of a government initiative to encourage development of the cranberry industry in the province. He currently has about 10 acres of cranberries in production.

A day on the farm for Walter usually consists of cutting sod, irrigation, cranberry maintenance and construction for cranberry production. This construction involves the use of an excavator and dump truck to make the terrain suitable for cranberries.

When it comes to producing cranberries, less conventional equipment is used, as a lot of the work at Pinedale Farm is done using homemade equipment. There is not much equipment commercially available for a smaller scale cranberry producer, so Walter makes a lot of his own equipment. Walter has made equipment to aide in various parts of the production process including a

AGRICULTURAL MEMBER PROFILE

picker for harvesting as well as a cranberry conveyor.

After the product is harvested, much of it is sent to be processed, where much of it will eventually end up as juice. Indian Bay Frozen Foods buys most of the cranberries produced in Newfoundland and Labrador, and all of the berries produced at Pinedale Farm. Walter would like to one day see all the secondary processing done in this province, so his berries will go from being grown within the province to leaving with a UPC code on the product.

Pinedale Farm is fortunate to have reliable, steady employees, and thus labour is not of much concern to Walter. He has had the same crew for many years, some having been there over twenty years.

One challenge that Walter does see, however, is dealing with the Newfoundland and Labrador climate, saying "Mother nature is always your best

friend or your worst enemy." He cites bugs, diseases, unseasonable frost, and an uncharacteristically warm or cold winter as challenges to his operation.

Walter has been grateful for the support he has seen in establishing and expanding his business over the years. He is very pleased with the support provided by both the provincial Department of Natural Resources and the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture.

In the future, Walter would like to expand to 40 acres of cranberries in about five years, and he would like to produce a million pounds of cranberries a year. Walter says his "passion is to work with cranberries." This enthusiasm combined with his goals puts Pinedale Farm squarely on the path to continued success.

Photo by Dick Oram

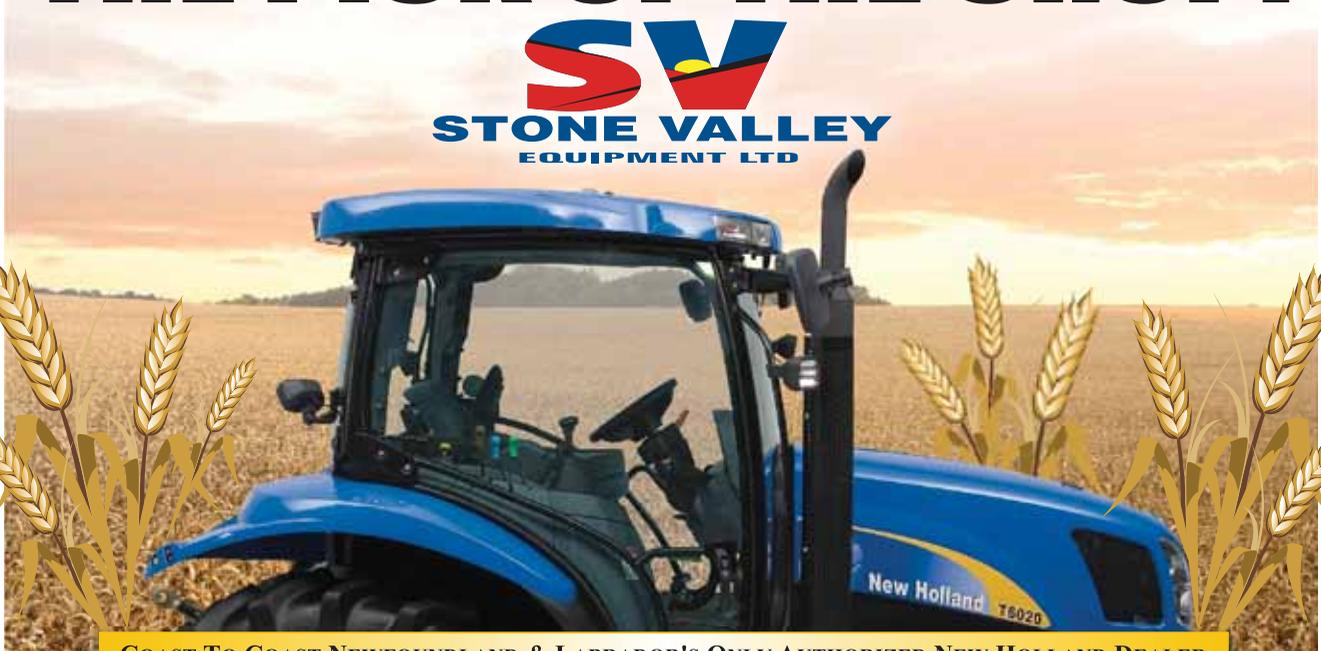
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This is the first conference dedicated to finding energy solutions that will work for the agriculture industry in Atlantic Canada. The possibilities and opportunities to help manage and generate energy are real. It will be an opportunity to network with experts and farmers who are actively using technologies and processes to reduce input costs and generate revenues. Hear from Dr. Thomas Homer-Dixon, the award-winning author of *The Upside of Down: Catastrophe, Creativity, and the Renewal of Civilization* on how societies can adapt to complex economical, ecological and technological change.

Workshop topics

Energy Conservation
Heating Alternatives
Biogas Systems
Wind & Solar Energy Options
BioFuel Production
Energy Crops Options
Selling Carbon Credits

Conference Details

The Conference will be take place on November 18 & 19, 2008 at the Delta Beausejour, Moncton, NB.

REGISTRATION fee - \$50.00 (HST Included)

The conference is being sponsored by:

Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick
NL Federation of Agriculture
NS Federation of Agriculture
PEI Federation of Agriculture

For more information call NLFA, 747-4874.

Farm Industry Review Board Meeting Dates

December 11 & 12, 2008
 March 10 & 11, 2009

All meetings will be held in St. John's at the Provincial Agriculture Building on Brookfield Road, in Boardroom A. All meetings begin at 9am.

Make More Money With Better Budgeting

Learn to analyze your numbers for better performance. Sign up for the Farm Financial Management: Profitability and Budgeting Workshop and be better prepared for change, expansion and diversification with presenter Len Davies. The event is presented by Farm Credit Canada.

Wednesday, November 5th, 2008

Registration: 8:30a.m.

Workshop: 9a.m.-4:30p.m.

Glynmill Inn, Corner Brook

Register today. Seating is limited.

Call 1-888-332-3301

Registration is free for FCC and AgExpert service plan customers.

Events and Happenings continued on page 11...

The Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF) Program was developed as the successor to the Canadian Adaptation and Rural Development (CARD II) Fund, whose mandate expired March 31, 2004.

The ACAAF Program continues the innovative industry-led approach employed under the CARD II program, with projects delivered at both the national and regional level.

In Newfoundland and Labrador the ACAAF program is delivered by the Agri-Adapt Council Inc. (AACI)

The following are examples of projects recently approved by NL Agri-Adapt Council Inc. (AACI) with funding under Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF) program:

Vacuuming Your Chinch Bugs Away...

The presence of chinch bugs and their ability to destroy lawns has become an issue for homeowners and the landscape sector in Newfoundland and Labrador. In spite of the fact that the province is not known for its hot dry summers, chinch bugs have become fairly pervasive in the region. As a result of the problem, the NL Agri Adapt Council Inc. (AACI), with support through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF) program, previously funded a study to investigate the use of a modified vacuum to remove chinch bugs from lawns.

The research was successful in demonstrating that the use of vacuums could be an effective alternative to chemicals in reducing the number of chinch bugs found in a person's lawn. As a result of the successful test results, Landscape Newfoundland and Labrador expressed a further interest in building a commercially viable prototype vacuum.

Funding support to continue the research and develop the prototype is being provided through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF) program. The NL Agri Adapt Council Inc. (AACI) approved \$50,000 for the project.

ACAAF Supports NL Young Farmers' to Attend Summit of Americas

Young farmers between the ages of 18 and 40 from across North and South America will be attending the Young Farmers Summit of Americas in Calgary, December 7-11, 2008 to discuss best management practices, the primary theme of the summit, and to share information.

The summit will focus on one of the major challenges facing the agriculture industry today - attracting new entrants to the industry. New entrants to agriculture will play an instrumental role in the sustainability of the industry and help market agriculture as a desired career option.

This is the first time Canada will be hosting an international young farmer's event. The event will include speakers from Canada, the United States, and Australia discussing themes that include leadership, risk management, human resources, production, innovation, and environmental management.

Ten young farmers will be chosen to represent Newfoundland and Labrador at the summit. Funding support is provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF) program. The Agri Adapt Council Inc. (AACI) approved \$24,000 for the project.



Pallet Shed Construction



By Frank Pye

When Joyce and I took our first fumbling steps toward homesteading in Labrador a piece of our motivation was a loan from a friend of the Reader's Digest "A Guide to Self Sufficiency".

Twenty years ago the "back to earth" era was in full tide, and we were hooked. Over the years our homestead became a farm and we moved beyond simple self-sufficiency. But a recent inspiration led me to a construction project for which I claim original rights for an additional page to the Self-Sufficiency Guide as I have never seen this presented in any other manner.

The reader should note that this project is described here for "homesteader-at-heart", not the well to do farmer who calls in the local construction contractor when he/she requires additional shed space. It is for the do-it-yourselfer with a healthy ability for scrounging. It arises from my own experience, and observation, that most farms have large numbers of shipping pallets on the premises. Shippers delivering limestone, fertilizer, farm supplies, seldom if ever remove the pallets, so they are left on the farm.

Shipping pallets have, in great majority, consistent measurements of 48 by 40 inches. Thus six pallets laid out 48 inches across and 40 inches down the assembly will

form a floor four feet wide and 240 inches in length, 20 feet. In my own production I went for three pallets across and the six down for a 12 by 20 foot building, however a pallet building can be constructed in any multiple of four feet wide and 20 feet long.

Turning the pallet on edge for the wall provides a 40 inch height for each row of 5 pallets to match the six laid for the floor, 240 inches. In my own construction I wanted to utilize the full 80 inches of two pallet heights so I had a local saw mill operator run me out from my own wood lot logs 5 by 5 inch sills and corner posts, 5 inches being the universal depth of shipping pallets. One error I committed in my own shed was to neglect laying down a scrap plywood floor nailed to both the sills and the floor pallets which would have prevented any future movement of the sills and wall away from the floor.

Every shipping pallet has two groves designed for the loading forks. With the pallets standing on edge, these groves will accommodate 2 by 4 wall studs very nicely when nailed in flat rather than edged as in normal wall construction. I had planned to use two studs for each two pallets of my wall but found that just one to each pair made a very solid building and, adding a double 2 by 4 wall plate at the top of my wall gave me a full, and secure 7 foot wall on which to place my home made 12 foot 10 inch roof trusses. No doubt a three pallet wall of 120 inches in height would require the extra studs in the available spaces.



In all, my 12 by 20 by 7 foot shed, with wall and roof siding provided by scrap sheeting from a demolished building, and the locally



rough cut 5 by 5's and 2 by 4's cost me about \$350.00. It was erected by a senior and his 13 year old grandson in about one full

week. One final wisdom from experience, pallets come in two qualities, hard wood and softwood. The hardwood will resist a nail to the point of its curling under the hammer blows. They will make a very long lasting floor. The softwoods are much better for the

process of nailing in the wall studs and wall plate. A pallet shed built in this manner on a level, dry site should last 10 to 20 years, or more if tar or other wood preservative is applied to the floor pallets and sills which lie on the ground. This use of recycled material to construct a very useful building fits well into the increasingly important requirement for active environmental activities.

I would be happy to discuss this project with anyone interested, by telephone at 709-896-1502 after 7 PM, (mobile off peak) or through the Internet at email grandriver@xplornet.com. Good Luck with your efforts if you give it a try.

Frank Pye is an ordained United Church Minister who was engaged as an Adult Education Administrator with the Labrador College for ten years prior to his "retirement into farming" in 1996. He and his wife Carole Joyce operate Grand River Farm at Happy Valley-Goose Bay. He represents the Lake Melville Agricultural Association on the Board of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture.

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Events and Happenings continued from page 7...

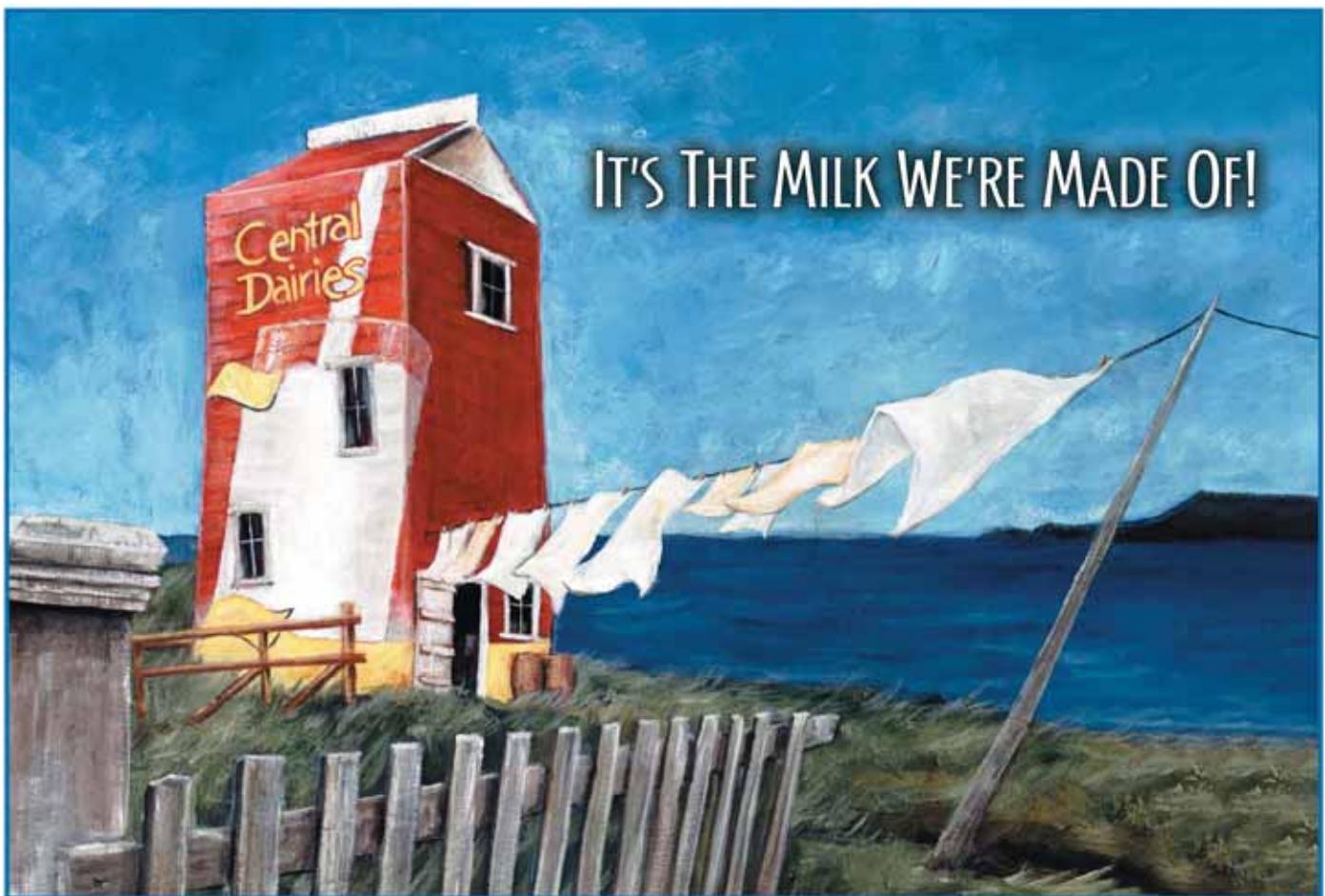
Be Part of Something BIG on January 28, 2009

Do you want to be part of something big? Join us on January 28, 2009 for Ag Day in Canada as 89 communities across the country recognize the people who live and breathe agriculture. Farm Credit Canada's (FCC) one-day event is free and open to all producers and agribusiness operators, FCC customers and non-customers.



"FCC created Ag Day in Canada to recognize the importance of the industry and provide timely and relevant information to producers throughout the country," FCC President and CEO Greg Stewart says. "It's great to raise awareness about what's happening here in Canada, and on the world stage, and what it means for the future."

Agriculture is an amazing



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AgriVIEW

industry and is the backbone of a strong and healthy Canada. Farmers generate \$130 billion in consumer sales each year and provide jobs for one out of every eight Canadians in the workforce.

Agriculture supplies more than our food and drink – it contributes to health care, renewable energy, a clean environment and delivers countless other benefits to people in all walks of life.

Agriculture is an industry with enormous potential and it's growing in ways unimaginable a generation ago. Safflower oil is being used to produce insulin, hogs contribute to many medications and soybean crops are a component of environmentally friendly oil paint, just to name a few.

At FCC, we know it is important to take time to appreciate and celebrate Canadian agriculture and all it means to this country.

So, why should you attend Ag Day in Canada?

Hear from your peers-over 9,000 producers and other members of the Canadian agriculture industry across Canada have weighed in on the important issues and opportunities in agriculture for the second year running as part of FCC's Vision Panel. Find out how the results compare to last year's findings.

Take a closer look at land values nationally as well as in your area with FCC's Farmland Values Report.

Investigate farm safety and how you can further protect your family and employees.

Learn about energy conservation – a very hot topic that has a direct impact on your business.

Discover the diverse advantages technologies like Smart Phones and GPS units have to offer.

Explore the benefits of the emerging biodiesel business.

Hear how young farmers are successfully growing their businesses, and get their perspectives on the future.

You will also have the opportunity to connect and share ideas with each other about the future of agriculture.

Stewart adds, "I am so proud to be part of this dynamic industry and I am continually impressed by the drive and passion of producers and agribusiness operators. Your pride in what you do is awesome and inspiring."

So, join us on January 28 at an Ag Day in Canada celebration near you to connect with others and open your mind to exciting, new ideas and trends. Above all, celebrate that you are part of a progressive and sophisticated industry like none other!

RSVP today to reserve your place. For more information visit www.AgDayinCanada.ca or contact your local FCC office at 1-800-387-3232.

Where & When

**The Fluvarium
5 Nagle's Place, Pippy Park
St. John's, NL
Date: January 28, 2009
Time: 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Event language: English**





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AgriVantage Returns with Two New Partners

By Matthew Carlson

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture's AgriVantage membership program entered its second year in September. The success seen at the launch of the program last year has continued and the program has been growing ever since. This year the discount list has continued to expand with Cabot Pest Control and National Leasing joining the program.

New members continue to see the value in the program and in supporting the Federation. There have been almost as many new members signing up as returning members so far this year! This has at least partially been the result of the satisfaction level of current members, as demonstrated in the survey sent out in the spring. Word of mouth is a powerful force.

For anyone who has not yet signed up – Now is the time to act! To get the most out of the membership which offers all the services of the Federation as well as discounts at business offering products ranging from travel to clothing to farm equipment purchases and leasing, sign up today.

Get your membership card today and avail of the services of the Federation and discounts at twelve participating busi-

nesses right now and enjoy a reduced rate at the NLFA's AGM in the winter where you will need your membership card to vote! Full details of the program as well as the application form are available on our website – www.nlfa.ca.

Agricultural History Society Unveils New Exhibits At Farm Field Day

A first ever exhibit on CENTURY FARMS showcases the Agricultural History Society's Century Farm programme, initi-



Ken Proudfoot, photo courtesy Agriculture Canada

ated in 2006. To date, 17 farms from across the province have been identified as Century Farms - that is, the same family farming the same farm continuously for 100 years or more and still actively farming today. (This is a continuing programme: if you are eligible, please apply for Century Farm recognition). The 17 Century Farms represent the early settlement in Conception Bay in the late eighteenth century, immigration from Cape Breton into the Codroy Valley in the nineteenth century, the need to supply the industrial towns which grew with the railway in the early twentieth century, and those farms which have traditionally supplied the people of St John's.

The exhibit POTATOES IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR celebrates the United Nations International Year of the Potato 2008. This exhibit tells the story of the importation of potatoes by the early settlers. And the fact that some of these potatoes carried pests. One of these was potato canker, first identified on Red Island in Placentia Bay in 1909. The other was Potato Cyst (Golden) Nematode, first identified in Conception Bay in 1962. O A Olsen at the Federal Agricultural Research Station in St John's initiated research into breeding canker resistant potatoes in 1957. Ten years later, Ken Proudfoot, an experienced potato breeder, was recruited to this programme. During his career in Newfoundland, Ken bred 11 canker resistant varieties, three of which are also resistant to Golden Nematode. All 11 varieties have been registered with the Canadian Food



Inspection Agency for commercial production. This takes place at the Glenwood Seed Potato Farm, established by the province in 1973. 75% of the potatoes grown in Newfoundland and Labrador today are grown from Ken's varieties.

The Society acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in the research and creation of these exhibits.

Does Your Farm Have A Story To Tell?

Do you have old photos and documents which record the history of your farm: root cellars? home made tools? an early tractor? clearing land? picking stones? hand harvesting of potatoes, catalogues from an agricultural supplier? a log book of sales deliveries made to customers? letterheads from agricultural suppliers now long gone? livestock?

Do you have a story to tell about your farm? The history of the farm? A memory of bottling milk on the farm? A description of exhibiting in an agricultural fair?

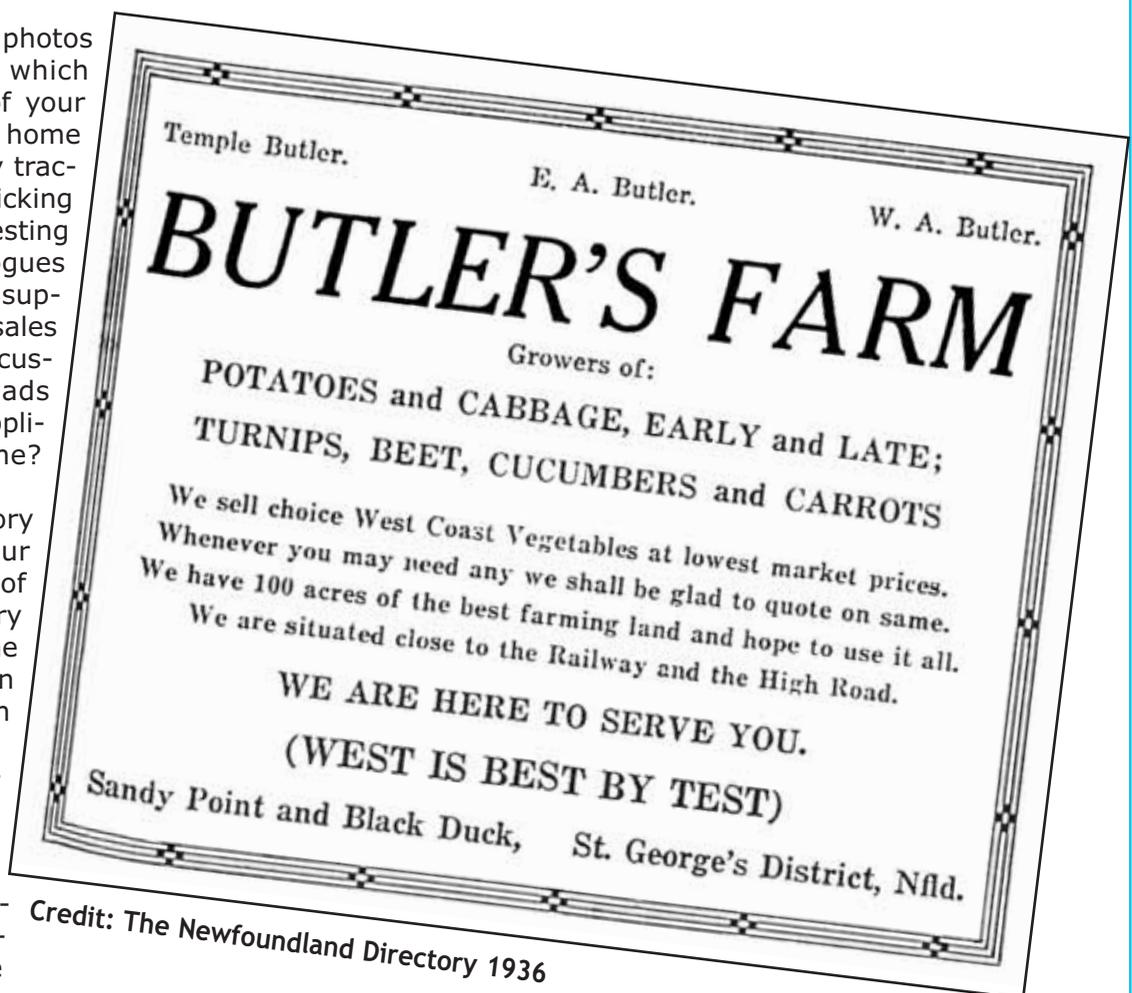
THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR volunteers its time to raising the profile of the history of agriculture in this province. We want

to create a greater awareness of the role which agriculture has played through centuries of settlement and development: from outport gardens to the sale of product via coastal boat and the rail-

way to the technology of today's farming techniques.

When we receive donations of historic photographs and documents, we deposit them for safe keeping with the Centre for Newfoundland Studies at Memorial University. Thus they enter the public domain and become part of the province's collections. We welcome more donations to grow this collection.

So, if you have something to send in, to swell the collection of documents relating to the history of agriculture, please contact Kevin Aucoin 196 Tucker's Hill Road, Portugal Cove-St Philip's, A1M 1N3, aucoin89@nl.rogers.com and (709) 895-2450 to discuss your contribution.





The New **ADVANCE PAYMENTS PROGRAM (APP)**

Making Programs Work Better for Farmers: Improvements for 2007 and beyond

- Higher cash advances available
- More money available interest free
- Expanded coverage to include livestock and an additional variety of crops
- More choice and flexibility

www.agr.gc.ca/app

THE NEW ADVANCE PAYMENTS PROGRAM

The Spring Credit Advance Program (SCAP) and the Advance Payments Program (APP) have been merged into a single program, and a number of significant improvements have been made starting this year.

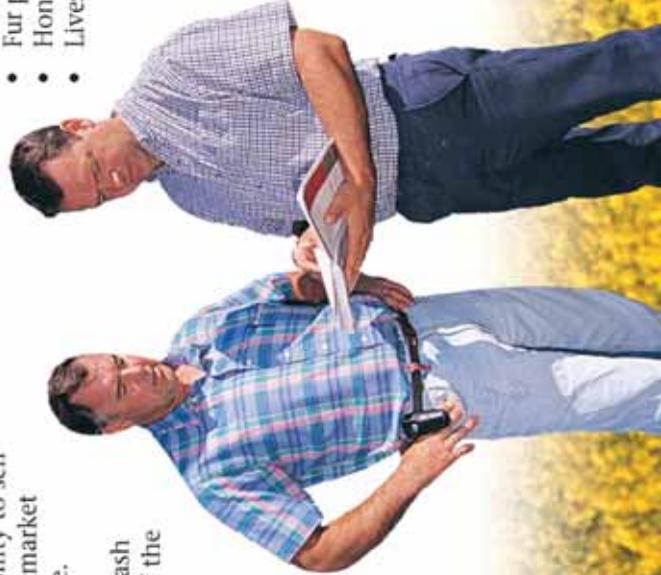
Program improvements

- The limit on cash advances has increased to \$400,000.
- The interest-free amount on cash advances has doubled from \$50,000 to \$100,000.
- Producers now have a longer period of time to get and repay cash advances.

Why participate?

Cash advances help producers access cash flow when they need it most. They also give producers flexibility to sell their products whenever market conditions are favourable.

Producers can receive a cash advance on up to 50% of the expected average market price of the agricultural product or commodity. A portion of cash advances is interest free.



Important information about repayment

With the new APP, the production period runs up to 18 months from April to September of the following year. A production period refers to the maximum period of time during which a producer can take a cash advance and repay it.

Eligible agricultural products

- Crops
- Field crops (including berries)
- Fur pelt
- Honey, maple syrup
- Livestock

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