



Who IS ON THE FARM

The Brophy family operates a dairy farm in Daniel's Harbour on the province's Northern Peninsula. Brophy's Dairy Farm was incorporated in 1983, and currently has approximately 440 head of cattle including replacement heifers, with about 200 being milked on average.

The family operation got its start in the 1970s when Stedman Brophy bought four calves from a farm in Reidville. At that time their business model consisted primarily of door-to-door sales. Since then, the farm has matured into the fully commercial 500 acre operation that exists today.

Stedman's sons Les, Leander, and Cornelius now carry out much of the work on the farm. Les sums up most days on the farm as having "a bit of everything". The day usually starts at about 4:30 or 5:00 am with milking

and lasts until about 8:00 pm when everything has finished up for the day. A lot of animal care and machinery maintenance take place in the winter, with land clearing and development, as well as forage production being major parts of summer work on the farm.

The modern freestall barn found at Brophy's



inside Agriview

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Federation of Agriculture.

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Who IS ON THE FARM

Dairy Farm today was constructed in 2003 after a fire destroyed the previous structure in 2002. The Brophys also lost their milking herd in that fire. Since that time they had to restart their herd from scratch, which has posed the challenge of also returning the genetic diversity of the herd to where it was before the fire.

The biggest challenge on Brophy's Farm is becoming self sufficient in forage production. This is particularly difficult due to the scarcity of available land in the area. A nearby community has put a hold on a 200 acre parcel of land that would provide enough forage production for self-sufficiency. Les has completed an environmental assessment on this parcel and now must submit an environmental preview report in order to be taken into consideration for further land acquisition.

Fortunately, labour has not presented much challenge for Brophy's farm. There is a heavy reliance on family for many positions, with Stedman and his three sons all working on the farm. Brophy's Dairy Farm usually employs 6-7 full time employees year round, which increases to a dozen or more in the summer months.

In the future the Brophys plan to continue to work toward self sufficient forage production. They are getting close to self sufficiency and Les estimates that they will need another 100-150 acres to achieve this goal. They also plan to build a new shed for sawdust storage, as it



is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain a steady supply.

With concrete plans in place to address the challenges which face them, and address the issue of farm sustainability and self sufficiency, the Brophys have positioned their dairy farm on a solid path toward future success.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture is pleased to profile Brophy's Dairy Farm, and to recognize the hard work and dedication of the Brophy family towards the advancement of agriculture in our province.

By Matthew Carlson

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Mervin Wiseman
President

As I prepare this message, a new year commences, and "what a difference a year makes". The economy has transcended and reversed itself over 2008 in ways that not even the best of us could imagine. Clearly, new economic realities will be the trademark of 2009. As governments at all levels try to cope with all its

consequences, farmers everywhere have to be worried about what this means for their operation and agriculture in general.

Ducking economic curve balls is not new to farmers in this province and elsewhere throughout the country. In fact, at the beginning of 2008 as our economy was wallowing in newfound wealth, farmers were trying to cope with the highest operational cost ever felt at the farm level. The price of energy pushed everything like transportation, fertilizers, seeds and even labour way out of bounds. On the other hand, consumers in this province probably had its first wake-up call on the vulnerability of our food supply. As food prices soared in response to new economic dynamics, the public began asking themselves and government about the security of our food.

Within the reconciliation of food security for this province, other important issues began to emerge. Clearly the production of food close to home not only means we do not go hungry, but it increases its safety in the face of what seems to be daily occurrences of such things as Listeria and

E. coli. What can be more environmentally sustainable than growing food in our own backyard? We reduce and eliminate serious carbon emissions created when we have to transport it into the province. Meanwhile, as increased farming activity in this province lends itself to mitigating overarching issues of food security, environmental sustainability, climate change and others, the resulting economic activity in a rural setting is a bonus that cannot be underestimated.

So here we are at the beginning of 2009 on the other end of the economic spectrum, which by all accounts is 180 degrees from where we were at the beginning of 2008. Ironically, it might be argued that farmers can better manage all those input costs that impacted them so greatly a year ago. This notwithstanding, we must not forget how close we were driven to the economic edge with our agriculture industry in this province. We must also be cognizant of the distance we need to go to reach a sustainable agriculture industry, economically and otherwise.

With budget preparation well underway, agriculture in all its aspects needs to stand tall among those industries, institutions and agencies jockeying for a position in the economic stimulus that is coming down the government chute. Given its rationalization in the sustainability equation, this downturn may well represent one of the best opportunities we have seen in a long time to give agriculture the economic stimulus it must have to meet the needs and expectations of consumers and farmers alike. Lest we are forgotten, we need vigilance on the part of farmers, their organizations and the public to ensure we are properly served on this very important cornerstone.

FEATURE

2009 NLFA Annual General Meeting and Seminar to Take Place in Gander

March 11th and 12th, 2009

Hotel Gander in Gander, NL

"Keeping Good Things Growing"

Our annual general meeting (AGM) and seminar will be held on March 11th and 12th, 2009 at Hotel Gander. The early bird registration fee is \$90 for producers and \$100 for non-producers (a \$20 discount applies for **AgriVantage Cardholders**) for the two-day event if you reg-

ister on or before March 2nd, 2009. The cost is \$100 for producers and \$120 for non-producers thereafter, with the same \$20 discount available for **AgriVantage Cardholders**.

The fee includes your registration for the seminar and AGM, lunch for two days, nutrition breaks, and one ticket for the banquet, held on

March 11th. Additional banquet tickets can be purchased for \$45 for producers and \$55 for non-producers (a \$10 discount applies for **AgriVantage Cardholders**). To pre-register, please fill out the form sent in the AGM information mail-out and send it back to our office with your payment on or before the pre-registration deadline. If you did not receive the mail-out, please call our office at 747-4874.

This year's AGM is a particularly special event as the NLFA will also be taking part in the launching of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week on March 12th. Canadian Agricultural Safety Week (CASW) runs from March 11 – 17, 2009, and the theme this year is "*Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) only works if you use it!*"

Hotel reservations can be made directly with Hotel Gander by calling toll free, 1-800-563-2988. Please specify the Federation of Agriculture as we have a block of rooms reserved on a first come first served basis.

Resolutions to be considered at the AGM are requested at your earliest convenience so that they may be included in participant's registration packages. These should be sent by Tuesday, February 10th, 2009.

This will be an excellent opportunity to network with other farmers, government personnel, guest presenters, and your federation representatives. We look forward to seeing you in Gander!

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The Pride of the Burn

By Matthew Carlson

On every bag of vegetables from Triple E Farms you will see the slogan "The Pride of the Burn". Farm operator Dwight Eveleigh explains that this is paying tribute to the way his farm was founded. The Comfort Cove location currently occupied by Triple E Farms was in an area which had recently been burned by a forest fire at the time Dwight's grandfather Raymond started the farm some 80 years ago. The pride refers to the product from the land that was burnt over. The land which had been burned is referred to as the Burn. Dwight's grandfather coined the term.

At the time the farm was started there were no roads and Raymond Eveleigh was producing vegetables and sheep. Raymond continued to operate the farm until 1992 when Dwight and his father Junior decided to take up the family business. They had been fishermen, but when the cod moratorium came into effect, they decided to change careers.

The 60-acre operation now grows quite a variety of vegetables; which Dwight describes as "everything that will grow". Triple E produces 24 acres of turnip, 20 acres of potatoes, 7 acres of carrots, and 5 acres of broccoli and cabbage as their primary crops. They also produce parsnip, beets, pumpkins, cauliflower, green onions, and more than a half dozen others. Dwight will try a couple of different crops every year to see what will grow well. The vegetables harvested at Dwight's farm are primarily sold to retailers, restaurants and wholesalers Atlantic Groceries and Loblaws.

Despite the great variety of successfully grown vegetables at Triple E Farms, there are also many challenges involved. Dwight cites insects, weeds,



and the weather as the biggest challenges he faces at his operation. The lack of irrigation on his farm also poses a challenge as he must rely on Mother Nature. Financing can be difficult at times as well, since the market dictates prices, making it difficult at times to maintain profit margins.

In the face of these challenges, though, Dwight sees opportunity in the future saying, "I've got some big dreams". Dwight hopes to double his current acreage over the next 6-7 years. He also plans to invest in more storage facilities to go along with the extra land and a new harvester is due to arrive in time for the coming harvest season.

In looking forward to his future plans, Dwight also sees just how far his farm has come since he began farming, and the even greater strides it has taken since his grandfather started the farm. At that time, his grandfather had to carry the vegetables to his schooner and steam to Twillingate. There he would store his harvest in a merchant's cellar. When Dwight and Junior began farming the

AGRICULTURAL MEMBER PROFILE



potatoes were dug by hand and sprayed with the garden hose.

Today this is done by harvester, and the washing and bagging are also mechanized. There is still a sizeable amount of labour involved in the process, but it has truly come a very long way.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture wishes Dwight and Junior Eveleigh a successful future at Triple E Farm. With their record of success, determination, and dreams for the future, their innovative farm achievements will undoubtedly continue.

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Farm Industry Review Board Meeting Date

March 10 & 11, 2009

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

Upcoming Annual General Meetings of Commodity Groups

Chicken & Egg Producers

The Egg Producers of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Chicken Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador will be holding their Annual General Meetings together in St. John's at the Sheraton Hotel on March 18th, 2009.

Newfoundland and Labrador Young Farmers' Forum

The Newfoundland and Labrador Young Farmers' Forum will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in conjunction with the Federation's AGM in March. It will be held in Gander, March 10th, at the Hotel Gander.

Canadian Agricultural Safety Week to be Launched in Gander

Newfoundland and Labrador will be given the honour of hosting the launch of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week (CASW) this March in Gander. The event will happen during the Federation's Annual General Meeting at the Hotel Gander on March 12th.

Representatives from the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Farm Credit Canada, and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association will be present for the ceremony.

The theme of this year's safety week is "Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) only works if you use it!" The theme focuses on the use, fit and access of personal protective equipment in agriculture. Canadian Agricultural Safety Week (CASW) runs from March 11 - 17, 2009.

The NLFA will have lots of copies of the children's farm safety storybook, *Safety First: Farm Safety*

for Children, available for safety week as well. *Safety First*, written by Mary Kelsey, with illustrations by Nicole Williams, is the latest in the Jacob the Farmer series. The book will be available free of charge to anyone attending the AGM and CASW launch.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) and Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) deliver CASW in partnership with Farm Credit Canada (FCC) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC).

Farm Credit Canada Forum

March 5th, Moncton, NB

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) will be holding a forum with Rex Murphy, CBC commentator, and Dave Chilton, author of *The Wealthy Barber*. Join the free event and network with other business owners.

Registration for the event is limited. Please register at least two weeks in advance. For all the details, an up-to-date listing of all FCC events or to RSVP, visit the Learning Centre at www.fcc.ca or call 1-888-332-3301.

Atlantic Farm Mechanization Show

Moncton Coliseum Complex
Moncton, NB
March 5, 6, 7, 2009

SHOW DATES & HOURS
Thursday, March 5 - 9:00AM - 5:00PM
Friday, March 6 - 9:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday, March 7 - 9:00AM - 4:00PM



For full details, please visit www.farmmechshow.com.
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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 ACAA 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 ACAA 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:

Dairy Sector Seeks Alternative Bedding Source

Sawdust, a traditional source of bedding for dairy cows, is becoming more expensive and more difficult to obtain in Newfoundland and Labrador. The province has large peat moss reserves, making it potentially a readily available replacement for dairy cow bedding.

The Dairy Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador have selected three farms for the study — one from the west coast, one from the central region and one from the east coast of the province.

The eight-month study will track the health of the dairy cows and the effectiveness of the peat moss as bedding material by measuring udder cleanliness, hock sores, bedding coliforms, absorbency of the bedding materials and ammonia levels.

Peat moss can hold up to 12 times its own weight in liquid and can absorb about four times more ammonia than some traditional bedding, all of which may contribute to better air quality for workers and cows.

Peat moss has been successfully used as dairy cow bedding in other parts of the world. A team of farmers from Newfoundland and Labrador recently visited Finland to see how they use peat moss as a bedding source. Methods of harvesting, handling and storage of peat moss were also observed.

Funding for this project was provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing

Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food program. The Agri-Adapt Council Inc. approved \$203,000 for the project.

Local Farmers Attend Atlantic Energy Conference

Nearly 200 people, including 10 farmers from Newfoundland and Labrador, attended Energy Solutions for Our Farms, billed as Atlantic Canada's first energy conference for farmers. The event took place in Moncton, NB, November 18 – 19, 2008.

The conference was held to find some answers to energy costs that are dramatically driving up the cost of farming and to look at opportunities to generate revenue from alternative energy sources.

While energy auditors showed how changes to lighting and heating systems can add up to thousands of dollars in annual savings, industry experts and farm entrepreneurs shared their perspectives on wind and solar power, biogas and piston-pumping biofuels made from crops.

Members of the Newfoundland and Labrador delegation said the conference gave them an opportunity to gather and share information on alternative energy solutions with other farmers throughout the province.

The NL Agri-Adapt Council Inc. (AACI) approved \$11,029 in Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF) funding for NL participants to attend the event.



NLFA Welcomes New Labrador Director to Federation Board



The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture is pleased to welcome Tom Angiers to our Board of Directors. He will be replacing outgoing director Frank Pye as the representative for the Lake Melville Agricultural Association (LMAA).

Tom has a long history in farming and comes from a true farm family. He is a ninth generation farmer who was born and raised on a 200-acre mixed farm in Ontario. He later went on to become a farm manager in Keg River, Alberta where he produced oats for Quaker.

Currently, Tom is in the process of re-establishing his farm in Labrador. Five years ago his original farm location on the Trans Labrador Highway had to be evacuated due to potential contamination from the American military base. Tom's new

site is 22 kilometres away from the original site.

The process of setting up the new farm location on his newly leased land has led Tom to do a lot of land clearing. The five feet of snow currently on the ground hasn't slowed him down as his excavator still functions great in the snow allowing work to continue through the winter.

The new farm will be a mixed operation consisting of root vegetables and a greenhouse which will operate year round growing tomatoes, lettuce, peppers, and green onions. Tom's business plan for the new operation calls for a 320-acre facility by the time it is completed.

There are also plans to continue the Angiers family's long history of family farming. Tom's 23 year old son Chad has applied for a lease on a parcel of land next to his father's, where he plans to operate a 100-acre beef cattle farm.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture would like to take this opportunity to welcome Tom Angiers to our Board of Directors and wish him well in his renewed farming operation. We look forward to working with him in the future.

HUMAN RESOURCE FILE

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture (NLFA) has added a new member to its staff to address the widely known issues in the agriculture industry regarding human resources. Chris McCarthy joined the team in January, 2009 and will be working closely with farmers, commodity groups, and government organizations to further discuss the HR issues which are necessary in sustaining a viable and profitable agriculture industry in today's global trade environment.

The two year project will address the issues of employee recruitment and retention, availability of training resources, public image and knowledge of the agriculture industry, and increasing the amount of study of agriculture in our provinces classrooms.

In the upcoming months Chris will be contacting a number of the federation's members and industry

workforce to get a better understanding of the issues specific to Newfoundland. Also, he will be conducting research and studying existing programs and initiatives to develop a 'best practices' approach to the challenges facing the industry.

At the end of this project there will be an Agriculture and Agri-Foods Labour Market Symposium with recommendations of how to go forward. As well, a resource tool will be developed outlining available training programs, labour market information, and a profile of the various career options available in the industry. This information will be available to industry personnel as well as the public.

We are committed to agriculture and will do everything possible to keep good things growing in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Provincial Agrifoods Assistance Program Set for 2009-10

*Natural Resources
February 12, 2009*

The Provincial Government is now accepting applications under this year's Provincial Agrifoods Assistance Program (PAAP), with funding for 2009-10 provided primarily for land development and improvement.

"The agrifoods industry is important to the economy of rural Newfoundland and Labrador," said the Honourable Kathy Dunderdale, Minister of Natural Resources and Minister Responsible for the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency. "Our continued investment will help bring the industry to the next level of land development and improvement and I encourage those eligible to take advantage of this program."

Eligible activities must support the objectives of the program, primarily opportunities for land development and improvement, and construction or upgrade of fruit and vegetable storage facilities and equipment, but also including; secondary processing and diversification; environmental stewardship; technology adoption; and farm infrastructure required to enhance commercialization and the competitive capability of the Newfoundland and Labrador agriculture and agrifoods industry.

Applications are being made available throughout

the province this week through the mail. Applications and program guidelines are also available on the department's website at www.gov.nl.ca/agric. The deadline for applications and supporting documentation is March 15, 2009. Applications can be returned to a regional agricultural office located at St. John's, Carbonear, Clarenville, Gander, Pynn's Brook or Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

Approval of all projects is subject to funding availability. This provincial program provides financial assistance to eligible applicants involved in primary or secondary processing activities which will improve the economic viability of the agriculture and agrifoods industry; promote commercialization and growth in the sector; and enhance the competitive capability of the agriculture and agrifoods industry.

The province's agriculture industry has annual sales valued at \$500 million and provides direct and indirect employment more than 5,000 people, mainly in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. Budget 2008 contained \$11.2-million in new funding for the agriculture and agrifoods industry, bringing the total annual provincial investment in this sector to \$32.8 million.

For more information on the Provincial Agrifoods Assistance Program, please contact the program manager at 709-637-2474 or by e-mail at sharonwright@gov.nl.ca.



Going to the NLFA AGM? Get your Membership First!

By Matthew Carlson

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is fast approaching. One of the most important parts of the meeting is voting for the Board of Directors and Executive! **But in order to vote, you must be a member in good standing of the NLFA.**

The benefits of membership don't stop at voting. When registering for the AGM, Federation members need only show their AgriVantage membership card to receive a \$20 discount on registration. Extra banquet tickets are also discounted for AgriVantage card holders. Members will even receive a discount on their hotel stay at Hotel Gander.

There are more discounts also available to AgriVantage members. Are you flying to the AGM?

Members receive special rates from Air Labrador. Discounts are also available for rental cars, heating oil, farm equipment purchases and leasing, as well as clothing and pest control.

The AgriVantage membership program entered its second year in September and has been growing ever since it launched. This year Cabot Pest Control and National Leasing joined the ever-expanding list of program partners.

Don't miss out on all these great benefits available only to members of the NLFA. Membership fees start at only \$50!

Full details of the program as well as the application form are available on our website - www.nlfa.ca.



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St. John's Farmer's Market is Going Co-op

By Mark Wilson

The St. John's Farmers' Market is looking into reinventing itself as a Farmers' Market Co-operative for the 2009 season. "We are investigating how the co-op can work best for customers, vendors, farmers and the surrounding community," says Emily Doyle, one of the members of the steering committee that will help initiate the process of co-op formation over the next few months. The St. John's Farmers' Market (SJFM) was incredibly successful over the course the 2008 summer season and has a lot of support and interest growing from throughout the city. It even won the "Best New Local Trend 2008" in The Scope Weekly Magazines annual competition.

As a farmer, I realize the huge potential for marketing fresh local produce, meats, and other agricultural and craft products here in St. John's every Saturday from June through November. Last summer there were simply not enough farmers involved to supply the demand that the city needs for local food.

The co-op formation process will allow for farmers, prepared food and craft vendors and consumers to provide input in order to understand how to co-operatively run this vibrant market. The benefits won't stop there though. Other ideas being considered include providing services to help farmers sell more food. "We'd like to help make links with between farmers and consumers that will help support local production of food on the Eastern Avalon Peninsula" says Emily Doyle, farmer and graduate of the McGill Management and Technology Program. We only produce roughly 10% of the vegetables that we buy here on the

island which means that there is 90% market to grow into. There is still virtually no meat, including fish, available at the market since Windy Meadows shut their doors. There are over 1,500 consumers ready to buy local. Now is the time to get involved.

We will be contacting farmers over the course of February and March to bring them in on our plans and to find out what they need to become involved in the market. We had farmers from as far as Eastport last summer and would welcome your phone call to discuss your involvement no matter what your acreage or herd size. Please contact us for more information, to participate in the market or co-op formation process, or even if you want to bring this type of innovation to your community. We can be reached by phone at 709-754-7172 or 709-579-0890 or by email at sjfmco-op@gmail.com. You can look online at the SJFM website at <http://stjohnsfarmersmarket.com> to find out more about the market and our co-operative development plan.

We will be having an open meeting on March 8th (location TBA) to present "The Plan" and to gather opinions and ideas from all of you. Become part of the process and get in touch with us now to help make it your marketplace.

Mark Wilson is a farmer and board member for the *St. John's Farmers' Market* (www.stjohnsfarmersmarket.com), the provincially based *Food Security Network* (www.foodsecuritynews.com), F.E.A.S.T. (www.feastnl.ca) and is the NL Director to the *Organic Federation of Canada*.



Local Farmer Eugene Legge Inducted into Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame

Eugene Griffin Legge was inducted into the Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame at a ceremony on the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) campus in Truro, Nova Scotia in October. Legge, a chicken farmer based in Harbour Main, has been involved in the industry since 1966.

At that time he worked as a summer student with Newfoundland and Labrador Farm Products. Upon graduating from high school in 1969, he began working full time with his father. He continued on that path until he established his own farm in 1973.

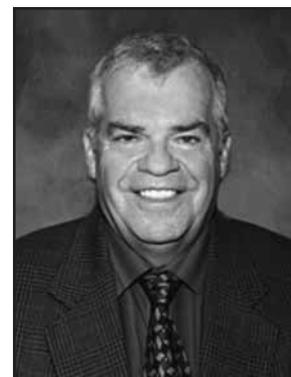
In 1985 after purchasing his second quota, he established ChrisDarMar Farms. He now shares the operation with his son Darryl. It produces over 800,000 birds a year.

In addition to having run a successful business, Eugene has always participated in organizations to enhance the future of agriculture. This includes President and Past President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture, Vice Chair of the Newfoundland and Labrador Chicken Marketing Board, Chair of the Agri-Adapt Council, as well as Director and Alternate for Chicken Farmers of Canada. He has also served on many committees at the national level.



(L-R) Frank Berkellar, NS, Eugene Legge, NL, Ronald Piper (represented by his wife, Yolanda), NB, and Don MacKenzie, PEI

Eugene has also volunteered his time and experience to mentor the future leaders in agriculture with the Young Farmers organization and has contributed to trade negotiations, agricultural research, diversification, technology enhancement, food safety, animal welfare, education and promotion of agriculture.



Eugene G. Legge

He has also promoted bio-security, soil and water conservation, supply management, land issues and disease management. In summary, Eugene has provided leadership in government relations, liaison among farmers and commodity organizations and always advanced agriculture.

Despite his busy schedule, Eugene has always had time for involvement in his community. He has served for over 32 years with the Sea Cadets as CEO, Supply Officer and Training Officer and he still plays an active role with this group. Eugene is a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 64 and has served in several positions such as treasurer, secretary and vice president. He has also been a member of the Harbour Main Town Council. Eugene was nominated by the East Coast Broiler's Association for his devotion and dedication to the agriculture industry of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame was established in 1968 and honours members of the agricultural community for outstanding contributions to the industry, community and farm organizations.

Federation of Agriculture Highlights Food Freedom Day

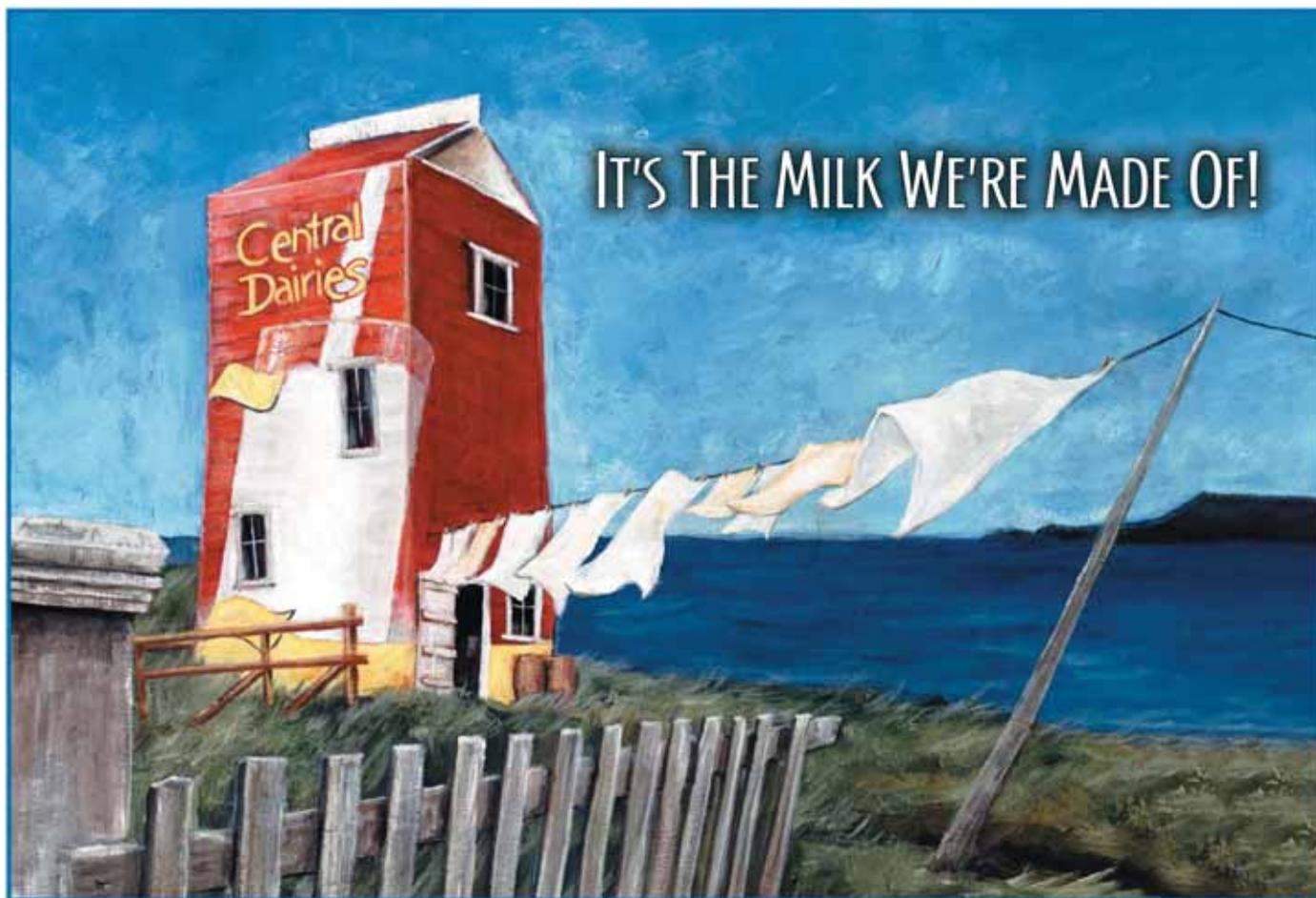
On February 12, 2009, the average Canadian has earned enough income to pay his or her individual grocery bill for the whole year. In observing Food Freedom Day, farmers in Newfoundland and Labrador and across the country are celebrating their role in providing consumers with one of the safest and most inexpensive food supplies in the world.

While prices in some agriculture commodities soared in 2008, many consumers in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador were forced to consider the role that local farmers could play in providing the security of their food. The president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture, Merv Wiseman said, "While local food production in this province is highly prized for its nutritional value and unique flavour, other features such as food safety, health, environmental enhancements and rural economic development are becoming more and more

prominent in the rationalization for a prosperous and vibrant agriculture industry in Newfoundland and Labrador".

Thanks to farmers, Canadians still get the best deal in the western world for their food dollar. In many parts of the world, the cost of food is significantly higher. For example, Australians spend 12.7% more, the Japanese spend 35.7% more, and Mexicans spend over 125% more of their disposable income on food than Canadians.

People in Newfoundland and Labrador and across Canada are continuing to receive high quality, high-value food produced at the highest food safety and environmental standards. The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture would like to take this opportunity to thank our farmers for providing this service.



www.centraldairies.com



Central Dairies

Greenhouse Gas Calculator to Help Producers Mitigate Emissions

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture has hired a coordinator to test greenhouse gas calculating software on 20 farms across Newfoundland and Labrador. Christa Wright has been selected to coordinate the project in this province. She attended a National training session in January 2009, facilitated by the Soil Conservation Council of Canada (SCCC), to learn about the HOLOS software which the project will be based upon.

As coordinator, Christa will contact and develop relationships with Department of Natural Resources staff – Agrifoods branch, Environmental Farm division to access opportunities for group testing. Annual General Meetings of commodity organizations will also provide a good venue for group testing as well so the coordinator will make contact to pursue these avenues.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will provide a great opportunity to introduce and educate the farmers about HOLOS, the purpose of the project, the potential advantages, confidentiality of results and how the model works. There are two other trade shows on the East and West coast of the island that would provide good venues to present HOLOS. Look for us to be promoting this project at an event near you soon.

The results of the software tests are expected to be available one year from the beginning of the project. The full results of the project are expected to be made available to producers at the Federation's 2010AGM.

GROWING THE INDUSTRY TODAY for a brighter tomorrow

AgrilInsurance

- The Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador AgrilInsurance Program provides producers with some degree of income protection.
- The program offers affordable protection from crop losses due to uncontrollable, natural threats like drought, excessive rainfall or wildlife damage.
- Producers pay only 40 percent of the premiums with the remainder cost-shared by the federal/provincial governments.
- The program is available to any producer with one or more acres of potatoes, turnip, carrots, cabbage, beets or parsnips.
- To enroll in the AgrilInsurance program for 2009, producers must have their application submitted by April 30 2009. If you do not receive an application by the first week of April 2009, contact your regional agricultural inspector, agricultural representative or program manager.

Inspector- Western Region
Danny Brock
Phone:709-686-2702

Inspector- Eastern Region
Dwight Snow
Phone:709-729-7362

Program Manager
Ed Reid
Phone:709-637-2473

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
strategically investing in Agriculture and Agrifoods

Newfoundland
Labrador

AgriVIEW



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.

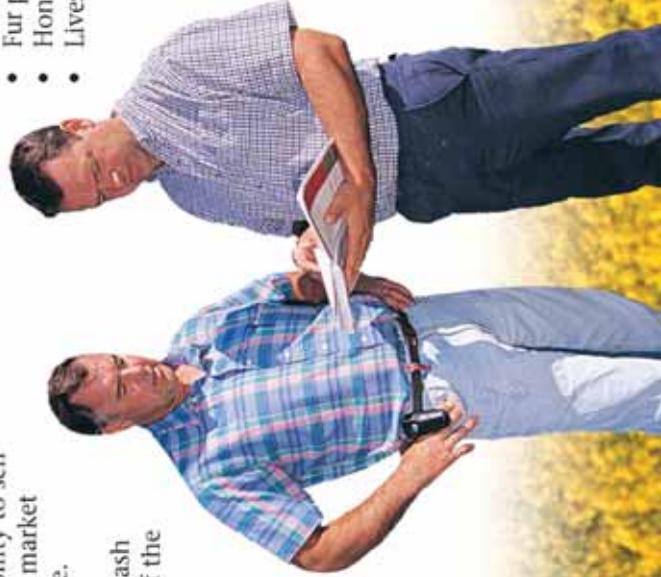
Program improvements

- 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

AgriBUSINESS

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