

April 2015

Volume 9, Issue 2

Have an interesting topic you want discussed in the Newsletter or municipal meeting? Suggestions to Asst. Agricultural Fieldman Tanis Ponath, asb@mdwainwright.ca or 780-842-4454



Annual Grazing School for Women

This year marks the 15th annual Grazing School for Women held June 10-11. This year the event is being held in the M.D of Bonnyville and the County of St.Paul showcasing the Tallieu Farm and a tour of the Elk Farm located north of Bonnyville on day 1. Accommodations will be at the St. Edouard Renewal Center in St.Paul, supper and entertainment provided. Day 2 will showcase a variety of presentations on electric fencing, grazing management, climate change and plant ID. If you are interested in attending or would like more information please contact Tanis Ponath Asst. Agricultural Fieldman at 780-842-4454.

Strychnine Update
The M.D. anticipates that we will be receiving our order of strychnine in April. More information will be provided once the product has been received . Strychnine will be \$9.00 a bottle or &216.00 for a case of 24 for the 2015 season.

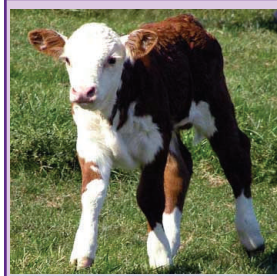
Municipal District of Wainwright No.61

The Municipal Agricultural Connection



Alberta
Agriculture and Rural Development

Partners in Rural Conservation
www.mdwainwright.ca



Are your spruce trees turning brown??

With spring just around the corner you may be noticing browning of your evergreens . There are many possible reasons why needles will change color, it is important to be able to interpret the problem to administer the proper treatment. Events that can affect your evergreens include frost, drought, winter cold, pruning, salt, animals, pollution, and nutrient deficiencies. Depending on the severity of injury needles can turn yellow, brown, reddish-brown, or reddish- purple. Color change is usually the most prominent symptom, however it is good practice to investigate the roots, branches and trunk.



Autumn Needle Shed:
Evergreens will naturally lose their interior needles in the fall. This leaf drop usually takes place gradually but there are occasions where many needles will discolor and drop at the same time. This is natural however, any increase in stress on the

tree can intensify autumn needle drop.

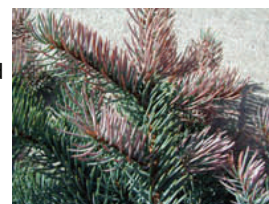
Spring Frost Injury:

New growth on spruce trees can become severely injured by frost if there happens to be a late spring frost. Frozen new growth will turn brown and drop off the branch. This not usually result in long term damage however pruning may be required to re stimulate growth on older trees.



Winter Injury:

Springtime discoloration on needles is most commonly associated with some form of winter injury. Winter injury includes death, sunscald, and cold—temperature damage. There are several symptoms of winter injury and they can vary between tree species. Spruce and pine needle tips turn brown and become dry while cedar leaf scales turn from green to light tan or reddish—brown. Winter damage can occur anywhere on the tree from the top, to a few side branches or the entire tree. The ability of your trees to survive winter are dependent on a few different influences that include plant



variety, soil drainage, geographical location, on-site location, and the

environmental conditions leading into winter. For example, a warm fall followed by cooler than normal temperatures in October/November can result in improperly hardened plants which can become susceptible to freezing. If we are experiencing an abnormally warm winter needles can become dry because they are constantly losing moisture in their needles and it is unable to be replaced. If you are located in areas with dryer than normal soils, or it has been a dry year that is likely to cause root damage compared to soils that

contain good soil moisture. Root injury can also worsen if there is little to no snowfall. It is important to take note of this because it may to be noticed till late summer when trees suddenly die. Watering evergreens in the fall can help deter some of these issues, repeat this process in spring once the ground has thawed.

Nutrient Deficiency:

A big problem in irrigated areas or alkaline soils iron chlorosis which is caused by an iron deficiency. This problem can be curbed by a simple application of chelated iron.

Spring Clean Up Waste Disposal Coupon

For Residential Only

This coupon entitles the holder to **ONE FREE DUMP LOAD, up to a 3/4 ton truckload at the Wainwright Regional Waste to Energy Facility and Landfill Site.**

Valid Only May 11-16 and 19-23, 2015

Coupon must be presented upon arrival and has no cash value. MD of Wainwright residents only.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Proof of residency may be requested. Refrigerators, deep freezers, air conditioners, toxic and hazardous material will not be accepted.

Please sort your wastes to facilitate disposal.

WAINWRIGHT REGIONAL WASTE TO ENERGY FACILITY

780-842-4051

Regular Business hours

Monday to Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wainwright Regional Waste to Energy Facility Info:

DISPOSAL

To facilitate disposal, wastes should be sorted into the following categories:

- Tires
- Burnables (lumber)
- Compostables (leaves etc.)
- Metals
- Clean Concrete
- Tree Branches

E-WASTE

You can dispose of the following electronics at no cost:

- Televisions
- Computers including monitor, keyboard, mouse, cables and speakers
- Printers and printer/scanner/fax combination

RECYCLABLES

Visit the Town of Wainwright Website @ www.wainwright.ca/municipal/recycling or pick up a brochure at the Town Office

For further information contact the Wainwright Regional Waste to Energy Facility at 842-4051

On May 2, 2015 from 10:00am– 2:00pm bring in your old computers TV's and paint to the HAZARDOUS ROUND-UP at the Wainwright Waste to Energy. For more information please contact Carol at 780-842-4051

You will also be able to enjoy a customer appreciation BBQ Lunch provided by GM Pearson



Spring Clean—UP

The M.D. of Wainwright is once again providing a Spring Clean—up Initiative in your area. Details and locations below. For more information please contact Karen at the M.D. main office, 780-842-4454.

Hamlet of Greenshields (Public Works to pick up)

Pick up days will be Monday and Thursday each week. Schedule of May 4,7,11,14-2015. Municipal employees will collect material properly packaged in clear plastic bags placed out in front of your house. Dark or coloured bags will not be picked up. Acceptable materials are grass clippings and tree trimmings.

Clear Lake Area & Hamlet of Fabyan (Bin Provided)

A garbage roll-off bin will be supplied, and placed at the Clear Lake main beach area and also at the East end of Fabyan, for one week period over the long weekend in May; from Wednesday, May 13 to Wednesday, May 20. This provides the opportunity to dispose of yard cleanup materials and household materials that are not hazardous.

Ascot Heights, Ascot Estates, Silver Willow and Banjo Estates (Bin Provided)

A garbage roll off bin will be supplied, and placed at the Ascot Heights garbage compound for a one week period over the long weekend in May; from Wednesday, May 13 to Wednesday, May 20. This provides the opportunity to dispose of yard cleanup materials and household materials that are not hazardous.

Unacceptable materials are appliances, furniture, construction materials, metal, hazardous waste, household and yard chemicals and paint. *These materials can be taken to the Wainwright Waste-to-Energy Facility.*

IMPORTANT: The Edgerton Seed Cleaning Plant is going to be closing on June 10th for construction so any producers wanting their seed cleaned should book in before the 10th.

Roadside Mowing and No Spray Agreements

If anyone is interested in Landowner No-Spray Zone/Haying Option Agreements they must be submitted by May 1st, with roadside spray program commencing June 1st. A copy of the application can be picked up at the M.D. office. Roadside Mowing will begin after July 15th, and will be completed by August 31st. Ensure that any roadside haying operations have begun before July 15th. Please contact the M.D. office at 780-842-4454 for any questions.



Cooks Corner

Crock Pot French Onion Dip

Note* This recipe is made in a 2quart crock pot, anything bigger will cause it to burn. You can make this on the stove just heat until mixed together

- When finished whisk it really good to get rid of any lumps
- Garnish with green onion

ENJOY!!!

Ingredients:

- 1 can of Campbell's French Onion Soup
- 1 block of cream cheese
- 1/2 cup sour cream

For more delicious recipes visit www.thecountrycook.net

Directions:

- Add soup, cream cheese and sour cream to the crock pot, do not mix
- Cook on low for 2 hours



Solar Energy Workshop

Generating Electricity From the Sun

"It is becoming increasingly popular for farmers to generate their own electricity, and sell it to the grid"

The M.D. of Wainwright is hosting a one-day workshop focusing on utilizing renewable energy sources right on your property. The focus of this workshop is generated towards solar energy.

Solar

Focus on micro-generated options for Farmers

Rob Harlan: Executive Director of the Solar Energy Society of Alberta

Rob has taught workshops and classes in solar technologies in the United States and Canada. Mr. Harlan has provided renewable energy policy consulting to the City of Edmonton and the Province of Alberta. He served as the solar site assessor for the Alberta Agriculture Growing Forward Solar PV Equipment Pilot Program in 2012. In addition he has visited over 50 Alberta farms to facilitate their process of going solar.

April 16, 2015

9:00 – 5:30

Center for Sustainable Innovation, Vermilion AB

Transportation from Wainwright will be provided

\$15.00 Registration Fee to cover lunch.



If you would like to attend or have any questions please contact Tanis, Asst. Agricultural Fieldman at the M.D. of Wainwright. 780-842-4454 or asb@mdwainwright.ca by April 10, 2015. Limited Space Available.

Tillage Radishes the NEW “Wonder Crop” ??

Planting cover crops is a beneficial management decision that will aid in the protection of your soil and increase soil quality.

New research has shown tremendous promise in tillage radishes as the ultimate cover crop. This plant can aid in:

- providing erosion control
- Improving soil structure
- Adding organic matter
- Suppressing weeds and pests
- Reduced runoff
- Reduces soil erosion

The radishes long tap root soaks up nitrogen and other crucial nutrients from the soil in the fall when planted. Once decomposition has started in the spring the nutrients absorbed by the radish are then released back into the soil and become readily available to cash crops when needed. Research has shown that the greatest amount of nutrient availability occurred in May—June which coincides when crops need it the most. Another great advantage of the tap root, is the plant is able to access nutrients farther down (up to 5ft) that to most plants would be inaccessible.

Another advantage of the long tap root is when the plant decays the holes left by it will catch running water and increase infiltration into the soil which decreases run—off, it will also catch sediments before it leaves the field. The plants tap root can also be used to alleviate compacted soil. The long tap root grows down and in a “bio drill” ac-



Figure 2. Corn planted into wheat and oilseed radish residue.



tion penetrates the compacted soil, once this has occurred air and water are now allowed to circulate deeper into the ground further reduce compaction.

When planting tillage radishes it is best to plant them 30-60 days before the first “kill frost”. The plants rapid growth rate will out compete winter annual weeds with its dense canopy that shades out the weeds. This can decrease the need for a spring burn off. In addition to, with the sudden influx of nutrients in the soil and the availability to the plants it could decrease the amount to fertilizer that you apply. A good management practice is to get soil tested each spring to ensure the soils nutrient needs are being met.

During the spring decomposition a large amount of organic matter is contributed to the soil as well as an increase in microbial activity. Since the radishes have already died off there is no need for any additional cultivation, just continue on with your normal seeding routine in the spring time.

You can visit:

[Www.tillageradish.com](http://www.tillageradish.com) for more information.

Reference:

Well, R., C. White and A. Kremen. 2009. Forage Radish: New Multi-Purpose Cover Crop for Mid– Atlantic. Department of Agriculture, University of Maryland. Fact sheet 824.