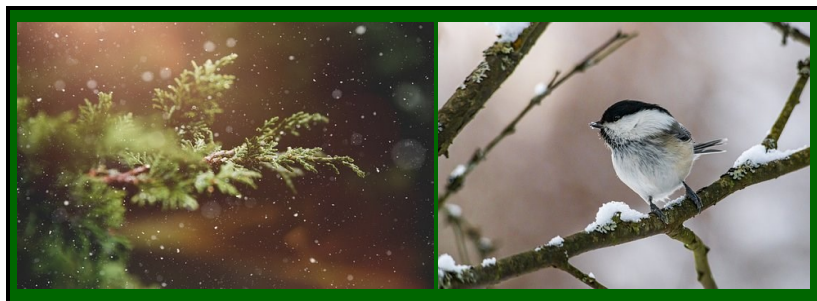


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# The Municipal Agricultural Connection



## EFP & CAP Reminder

Have an interesting topic you want discussed in the newsletter or municipal meeting?

Send suggestions to Asst. Agricultural Fieldman Tanis Ponath, [asb@mdwainwright.ca](mailto:asb@mdwainwright.ca) or call 780-842-4454.

The M.D. of Wainwright's Agricultural Services Department is looking for input from rural ratepayers on our rural extension programs. Please head to the M.D. of Wainwright Facebook page or website to fill out a quick survey. Your feedback will help us plan future webinars that will hopefully be a benefit to you and your operation.

Make sure to stop in at the M.D. office and grab a 2021 calendar if you haven't already. We only have a few copies left!



There is still grant funding available to producers through the Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP). There are multiple categories to apply to in each program within CAP. The Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change Producer Program and Farm Water Supply Program are open to applications. The Efficient Grain Dryer Program is closed for applications till further notice.

### Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change Producer Program:

1. Category A Riparian Management: Riparian Area Fencing and Management; Year-Round/Summer Watering Systems; Watercourse Crossings; Riparian Management Strategies; Wetland and Riparian Assessments.
2. Category B Manure and Livestock Facilities: Engineering Investigation and/or Feasibility Assessment; Construction or Upgrade of a Surface Water Management System; Improved manure Facilities; Relocation of a Livestock Facility and Permanent Wintering Site or Confined Feeding Operation; Improved Land Application of Manure; Manure and Livestock Facilities Management Strategies.
3. Category C Agricultural Input and Waste Management: Improved Pesticide Management; Improved Nutrient Management; Plastic Rollers and Compactors; Shelterbelts and Eco-Buffers; Agricultural Input and Waste Management Strategies.
4. Category D Innovation: Innovation Solutions.
5. Category E Commercial Manure Applicators: Improved Land Application of manure; Manure Management Strategies.

### Farm Water Supply:

Standard incentive projects include water supply development and conveyance projects, including the construction of water sources such as wells, dugouts, spring developments, dams, pipelines and connections to a multi-user water supply pipeline. Water protection projects include aeration systems and off-source watering systems and monitors. These projects are eligible for reimbursement of up to one-third of expenses to a maximum of \$5000.00 per applicant. Special incentive projects include well pit conversions, water level measurement devices and wetland assessments for the purpose of planning. These projects are eligible for reimbursement of up to 50% of expenses for a maximum amount that will be specified per project. Well decommissions are eligible for 50% reimbursement for each well and up to 20 wells per applicant. You must have a completed Long Term Water Management Plan to be eligible for funding.

Now is a great time to start an Environmental Farm Plan (EFP). If you have been thinking about completing the environmental self assessment of your operation contact the Assistant Agricultural Fieldman at 780-842-4454. Or you can visit [www.albertaefp.com](http://www.albertaefp.com) to learn more information and sign up.

## Clubroot and Resistance Issues

Clubroot is one of the biggest challenges that producers face in Alberta. In 2009, the first genetically resistant clubroot cultivars (CR) became available and utilized what is known as first-generation resistance. The source of the resistance in most of these first-generation CR canola cultivars is believed to come from a European oilseed rape cultivar called 'Mendel'. When clubroot was first discovered in Alberta in 2003, and for several years following, the predominant clubroot pathotype was 3H as designated on the Canadian Clubroot Differential Set. Cultivars with first-generation resistance are effective at controlling pathotype 3H, as well as various other pathotypes that had been reported in Canada before 2013.

Within a clubroot positive field, there is typically a mixture of clubroot pathotypes, although typically one is predominant or more common than the rest. If a resistant cultivar is continuously grown in that field, for example a cultivar with resistance to pathotype 3H, you will slowly deplete the 3H inoculum in your soil, allowing other pathotypes that are present in smaller quantities to rapidly expand their populations.

In 2013, severe symptoms of clubroot were reported on several CR canola varieties. This led to the identification of numerous 'new' clubroot pathotypes. Several of the 'new' pathotypes were able to overcome first generation resistance. This was likely a result of over utilizing the same sources of resistance.

Recently, cultivars with second-generation resistance have been released by various companies, which are reported to have resistance to many of the 'new' pathotypes discovered in Alberta. The genetic basis of this resistance, however, is not in the public domain. Therefore, the source of this new resistance or the relationship between the resistance in some of the different new cultivars, is unknown.

If you suspect a pathotype shift in your field, and are seeing clubroot symptoms on clubroot resistant cultivars, you should consider lengthening your rotation out of canola. It may also be beneficial to switch to a cultivar with second-generation resistance. At present, commercial pathotyping of samples is not available, although the University of Alberta is leading research to obtain an overview of the pathotype structure in the province. Robust rotations are a great way to reduce the likelihood of pathotype shifting, and reducing the level of pre-existing clubroot inoculum in your field.

Rotating sources of resistance, if known, is also a great way to reduce the likelihood of a shift to a new pathotype. Proper sanitation of equipment is very helpful in reducing the introduction of new pathotypes into your field, as well as preventing the spread of clubroot inoculum from one field to another.

*Respectfully submitted by Keisha Hollman,  
Graduate Student, Sessional Instructor for Plant  
Sciences at the University of Alberta.*



## Expanded Electronics Recycling Program

Back in May the Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA) announced the expansion of the electronics recycling program. The ARMA Electronics Expansion Pilot Project is a two year project that could see an additional 24,600 tonnes of electronics recycled through the program. The Wainwright Regional Waste to Energy Authority was one of the landfills chosen for the pilot program and the program launched at the beginning of September. For a full list of accepted electronics please visit [www. Armaepilot.com](http://www.Armaepilot.com) or if you have any questions please contact the Wainwright Regional Waste to Energy Authority at 780-842-4051.

### Examples of Products Included in the Pilot Project

Small Appliances	Audio Visual	Telecom Devices	Power and Air Tools	Games, Toys & Music
◆ Clock	◆ Clock Radio	◆ Answering Machine	◆ Drill	◆ Amplifier
◆ Fan	◆ Digital Camera	◆ Cell Phone	◆ Grinder	◆ Guitar
◆ Hair Dryer	◆ DVD Player	◆ Landline Phone	◆ Nail Gun	◆ Keyboard
◆ Heater	◆ Satellite Dish	◆ Modem and Router	◆ Air Compressor	◆ Microphone
◆ Iron	◆ Speakers	◆ Pager	◆ Shop Vacuum	◆ Video Gaming Equipment
◆ Microwave	◆ Satellite Radio	◆ Satellite Phone	◆ Skill Saw	◆ Toy Vehicle
◆ Toaster	◆ Video Camera	◆ Speakerphone	◆ Table Saw	

## Beating the Winter Blues

Winter is in full force, the short days and cold nights can have us feeling a little bit down. The winter blues are characterized by the mild depression, lack of motivation and low energy that many people experience during the cold season. Luckily, there is a lot you can do to both prevent the blues from coming on and get yourself back to normal.

**Exercise:** Exercise is not only for maintaining your weight and staying healthy, it is great for relieving stress. The effects of a good workout can last for several hours after the fact. You will notice more energy throughout the day and your metabolism will stay elevated.

**Eat a Healthy Diet:** What and when you eat has a great affect on your mood and energy. Try to incorporate more complex carbohydrates into your diet (whole wheat breads, brown rice, veggies, fruit). These healthier options provide your body with nutrients, stabilizes your blood sugar and your energy levels.

**Get Some Sun:** Sunshine provides you with Vitamin D but did you know that it also improves your mood? Similar to exercise, sunlight exposure released neurotransmitters in the brain that affect mood. Try to spend a little more time outdoors or try changing the light bulbs in your home to “full spectrum bulbs” that mimic natural light.

**Act on your Resolutions:** Healthy, positive shift in your behavior and lifestyle can help lift mood. Making conscious changes in your lifestyle is a building block to a positive life change.

**Treat Yourself:** Having something to look forward to can keep anyone motivated.

**Relax:** You're busy! Farming, working, family, friends, appointments, meetings and even if you enjoy being busy, everyone needs some down time. Relaxation, can alleviate stress and leaves you with calm energy. Mental exercises like meditation and positive thinking can help keep depression at bay.

**Embrace the Season:** Instead of always avoiding the cold and the snow, look for the best that it has to offer. Take the opportunity to go ice skating, skiing, and sledding. After all, they are only here a few months of the year.

**Get Social:** Don't underestimate the power of friends, family, mentors, co-workers and neighbors. Something as simple as a phone call or a chat over coffee can lighten your mood.

**Catch Some Zzzz's:** With everything going on, sometimes sleep is the first thing to go. With a little time management and some self discipline you can meet your shut-eye needs. Aim for 7-8 hours a night and try to keep your bedtime and waking up times consistent. Don't forget naps! A short (10-30 minute) afternoon nap may be all you need to re-energize mid-day.

# Raccoons

Traditionally, Alberta's raccoon population has resided in the southeast of the province but in recent years their territory has expanded to central Alberta. Raccoons are normally around the size of a house cat. They are gray in colour with the distinct black face mask and their tail is marked by alternating black rings. Here are a few facts about raccoons:

- ◆ Raccoons make their dens in culverts, attics, chimneys, tree hollows, barns and abandoned buildings. They are mostly nocturnal however, you can see them during the day.
- ◆ Raccoons are omnivores that can easily adapt to what food sources are available to them. In the wild raccoons eat berries, insects, fish, birds, eggs and frogs. Near human habitation they will eat garbage, chickens, grain, compost, pet food etc.
- ◆ Raccoons are not true hibernators but they do spend the warmer months fattening up for winter dormancy. They will become inactive enough to lose up to 50% of their body weight.
- ◆ Raccoons have a highly developed sense of touch. They primarily use their hands to transmit information about the objects they are holding.
- ◆ Raccoons can carry diseases or parasites such as raccoon roundworm, canine distemper and leptospirosis. Care should be taken when cleaning up feces by wearing a mask and gloves. Although we do not see raccoon rabies in Alberta, they can carry the disease. All pets should be up-to-date on all vaccinations.

Signs you may have raccoons on your property:

- ◆ Small, hand shaped tracks.
- ◆ Stains or rub marks. Raccoons frequently use the same path and this causes a noticeable stain or rub on the surfaces they pass by regularly.
- ◆ Raccoons will leave their feces in large communal piles, called latrines outside their den.

To manage raccoons you can keep a clean yard site, block off access to hiding places around buildings, remove food sources and use deterrents such as a radio playing at night to discourage them. If you have raccoons on your property, remove the source of shelter and food. Once raccoons no longer have access to this they will most likely move and try to find another location. It is legal to hunt or trap raccoons throughout the province at anytime of the year. The M.D. of Wainwright has raccoon traps available for producers to rent.

**The Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC) is Canada's national industry-led funding agency for beef, cattle and forage research. They are offering a series of FREE webinars this winter to support advancements in the Canadian beef industry. Visit [www.beefresearch.ca](http://www.beefresearch.ca) for more information about the webinars and how to register.**

## **Reproductive Failure in the Beef Herd: Causes, Effects and When to Intervene**

December 2, 2020 @ 7:30 p.m.

Speakers: Dr. Rob Swackhammer; Upper Grand Veterinary Service, Dr. Martin Kaatz; Lethbridge Animal Clinic, Dr. Blake Balog; Bow Valley Veterinary Clinic.

## **Meeting Your Production Goals: Records for Animals Health and Performance**

January 13, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

Speakers: Kathy Larson; University of Saskatchewan, Tyler Fulton; Manitoba Beef Producer.

## **Breeding Goals: Practical Genetics for Beef Production**

February 17, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

Speakers: Lance Leachman; Big Gully Farm, Sean McGrath; Roundrock Ranching.

## **Record Keeping for Forage and Grassland Management**

March 24, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

Speakers: Ryan Boyd; South Glanton Farms. TBD.