



Liaison CASA

May Edition 2007



Did You Know That...?

- Applications for the 2008 Progressive Agriculture Safety Days™ are due on July 15, 2007. For more information please visit the website www.progressiveag.org or phone Holly at 204-452-2272.
- CASA will be holding a CASA Council Session in Penticton BC on June 24th from 3:30 PM - 5:00PM to seek opinions and feedback for CASA's new strategic direction in preparation for submission for the next round of funding.
- Individuals can register for the National Institute's Farm Safety Conference, by calling Carolyn Pearce at 604-881-6078. Interested parties can learn more about the conference by visiting the NIFS website, which can be found through links on the CASA website. The conference will be held in Penticton, B.C. at the Penticton Lakeside Resort and Convention Center, between June 24th and June 28th.
- CASA will be sending applications for Membership Renewal in mid-June. CASA appreciates your past involvement and we look forward to your continuing support in the future.

Contact us:

**The Canadian Agricultural
Safety Association (CASA)**

Email: info@casa-acsa.ca

Tel: (204) 452-2272

Fax: (204) 261-5004

Word from the Chairman

Our agricultural industry is full of hope and optimism as our crops and animals grow and prosper. It is in this same positive spirit that we strive to bring our message of safety and protection to those who nurture our food stocks, especially during the long summer days when we all try to get as much done as possible.

We should also remember the importance of our own personal growth and development. During the last week of June, the British Columbia Farm and Ranch Safety Association (FARSHA) will be providing an opportunity to increase your knowledge of farm safety and health at the National Institute for Farm Safety's annual conference held in Penticton, BC.

On behalf of CASA, I would like to commend FARSHA for their efforts and commitment to farm safety in bringing together a group of farm safety professionals from across North America for this important conference. Please visit the CASA website for details about the conference and details on how you can attend it.

Glen G. Blahey
Chairman

News

39 Progressive Agriculture Safety Days to be held across Canada

The Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) is pleased to announce Canada's support for the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day™. For five years, this hands-on, fun, and educational program has been teaching children across Canada about the potential dangers and fatal consequences of unsafe behaviour on farms.

Each Safety Day is organized locally to ensure it meets each community's priorities. Every coordinator is supplied with complete planning resources to ensure the success of each Safety Day. This program is designed to instruct children how to be safe on the farm, however, through a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day™ the whole community soon realizes that it is not just the children learning how to be safe. Volunteers, families, and friends of the participants end up learning a little more about farm safety as they work towards becoming a safe farm community.

If You Have a Farm Safety Idea...

The Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) - under the Canadian Agricultural Safety and Health Program (CASHP) and through the support of Agriculture

and Agri-food Canada, is pleased to announce the launch of a Request for Proposals. CASHP has been developed to support CASA's mission of fostering a Canadian agricultural environment that is free of workplace injuries and illnesses. CASHP assists in the funding of initiatives in priority areas that CASA has identified. Local, regional, provincial, and national groups are encouraged to submit projects for consideration and must include a matching cash or in-kind component.

Farm Safety in Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan is vast; with an area of 651,900 km² (251,718 mi²), it accounts for almost half of Canada's total cultivated farmland. In 2003, the total value of exported crops was \$2.78 billion dollars, livestock exports equalled \$110 million dollars and products exported came to almost \$518 million dollars.

People

- Population: 978,933 (StatsCan, 2001)
- Number of farms: estimated 50,598 (StatsCan, 2001)
- Total realized net farm income: \$315.6 million (StatsCan, 2005)

Saskatchewan is a leader in cereal crop production across the country. Saskatchewan supplies 10 per cent of the world's total exported wheat and is Canada's most important grain-producing region. Types of cereal crops grown in the province include:

- Wheat - many varieties, including hard red spring and winter
- Durum wheat
- Oats
- Barley
- Rye - fall and spring

Saskatchewan's livestock industries continue to grow and expand at a competitive rate in relation to the rest of the nation. For example, on July 1, 2006, 29 per cent of Canada's beef cows were located in Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan Alliance for Agricultural Health and Safety

The Alliance is a volunteer organization and does not have a head office or staff. Their mission is "to shape a safe and healthy agricultural community through the collective and individual efforts of their members." Their goal is to network, communicate and collaborate with agricultural safety proponents to improve safety and health on Saskatchewan's farming communities. They support member organizations and individuals in their safety initiatives. The organization wishes to implement collaborative injury prevention strategies, be a point of contact and a source of information to anyone concerned with the safety and health of people on farms and ranches, and act as an advocate for farm safety and health in provincial and national initiatives.

The organization's current Board of Directors consists of:

CHAIRPERSON - Patty Williams - Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
VICE CHAIRPERSON - Ken Imhoff - Farm Stress Unit - Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
SECRETARY - Allan Reine - Saskatchewan Labour
TREASURER - Leanne Labrash - Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture

Directors:

Robin Anderson - Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
Gord Moker - Safe Saskatchewan
Bob Elian - Farmers with Disabilities
Kendra Ulmer - Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture
Judy George - Saskatchewan Safety Council

New members include:

Farm Credit
Humboldt & Area - Safe Community Coalition
Saskatchewan Central Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Program
S.A.R.M. - Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities Callin to You

They are presently developing a website, which hasn't been officially launched yet. However, if you would like more information on this wonderful initiative you can contact:

Patty Williams
Health Promotion Coordinator
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
Box 970, Grenfell, SK., S0G 2B0
PH: (306) 697-4026, Fax: (306) 697-2556
email: patty.williams@rqhealth.ca





Elections for CASA Council and Board

Consider getting involved with the CASA Council and Board. Keep an eye out for more information on the upcoming CASA elections, which will begin in late summer.

CASA will be looking for interested individuals to run for and fill Council positions for a 2-year term. The following positions are up for renewal in the 2007 year:

- One position for Government
- Five positions for Academia and Research Sector
- Five positions for Agricultural Services and Supply
- Five positions for Non-Profit/Individual

CASA is also looking for interested individuals to run for and fill the following CASA Board positions for a 2-year term. The following positions are up for renewal in the 2007 year:

- One from Government
- One from Academia and Research Sector
- One from Ag Services and Supplies
- One from Producer Organizations

Dates to Remember

- CASHP Deadlines : **June 8th and August 17th**
- CASA Council Session in Penticton BC - **June 24th**
- NIFS Conference in Penticton BC - **June 24th - June 28th**
- Membership Renewals: **mid-June**
- Progressive Agriculture Safety Day™ Application Deadline for a 2008 Safety Days: **July 15th, 2007**



A Special Project and a Big Success:

Sleepless in Saskatchewan - Funded by CASHP Program

“Sleepless in Saskatchewan”, a program funded by CASHP in 2005-2006, helped Saskatchewanians gain an understanding of the dynamics of sleep and how to make their sleep more effective. This workshop taught farmers, health professionals, and agricultural interest groups the skills and flexible tools necessary to manage stress and about the impact it has on farmers, their families, their workers and their operations.

Over 2,000 people attended the workshops organized by the Agricultural Health and Safety Network, the University of Saskatchewan, SARM, Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food Farm Stress Unit, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association. They featured sleep specialist, Jon Shearer, author of a book drawn from his successful presentations and workshops. The author has granted the rights to download the book to anyone interested; it can be found at: <http://www.cchsa-ccssma.usask.ca/ahsn/index.php>

