

Liaison CASA

July 2008

A word from the Chairman

Summer is a time also where the children who were at school a few weeks ago are now very present on the farm. As we all know the farm can be a dangerous place for children because they live where work is performed. It is difficult for children to separate their play from farm hazards. To a child, a grain bin is a fascinating and adventurous place. However, many of these adventures have tragic endings.

Children on their own cannot recognize farm hazards. They must be taught how to recognize farm dangers and how to avoid them.

With this matter in mind I am very proud that we at the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) announced the Canadian support for the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day™. This hands-on, fun, and educational program has helped children across Canada learn about dangers and potential deadly outcomes of unsafe behaviour on the farm.

For additional information on the above topic, do not hesitate to visit the website www.progressiveag.org or phone 1-888-257-3529 for more information.

Bruce Johnson
Chairman



News

Increasing partnership with Farm Credit Canada

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) is increasing their partnership with CASA by donating in-house expertise to conduct a national farm safety survey. The survey, developed in collaboration by FCC and CASA, will measure awareness and attitudes relating to a variety of farm safety topics. Over the summer, FCC will survey members of its Vision Panel, a national research panel with almost 9000 members of the agriculture community from across Canada. The results will be shared with CASA this fall.



Farm Credit Canada | Financement agricole Canada
Canada



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

Did you know?

- Members can now advertise an agricultural safety event in the CASA newsletter. Please send your request to hbrownlee@casa-acsa.ca, and we will do our best to post your event in our following newsletter. Please include a small description for your event (maximum 50 words).
- CASA members, keep an eye out for your CASA membership renewal. Membership can be renewed by cheque or as an online payment. Visit the CASA website for our list of benefits.
- Remember that when registering for the CASA Conference, that there is a reduce fee for CASA members. The CASA Conference is October 22nd – 24th in Saskatoon SK.
- CASA has resources available to be used by individuals, groups, or organizations to help deliver an agricultural safety messages. Each resource comes with a hands-on resource, instructions, and key messaging (coming soon). Resources are free to rent and only the return shipping back to the CASA office needs to be paid by the renter (unless you are a CASA member). Please note that a credit card number is needed solely for the purpose of unreturned, substantially damaged or if the resource is returned late and for ABSOLUTELY NO OTHER REASON! Once the items have been returned to our office, the credit card number is destroyed.

Contact us:

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

Email: info@casa-acsa.ca

Tel: (204) 452-2272

Fax: (204) 261-5004

Become a CASA Member

Become a member! We need help from people like you whom are interested in agricultural safety. Not only will you be supporting a national organization that strives to eliminate agricultural injury, but you can be a part of our efforts. See our website (www.casa-acsa.ca) for a list of memberships benefits and how you can become a member."



Glen Blahey Chairman of NIFS

Congratulation to our past Chairman Glen Blahey! He has just been named Chairman for the National Institute for Farm Safety (NIFS).

Agriculture in the Northwest Territories



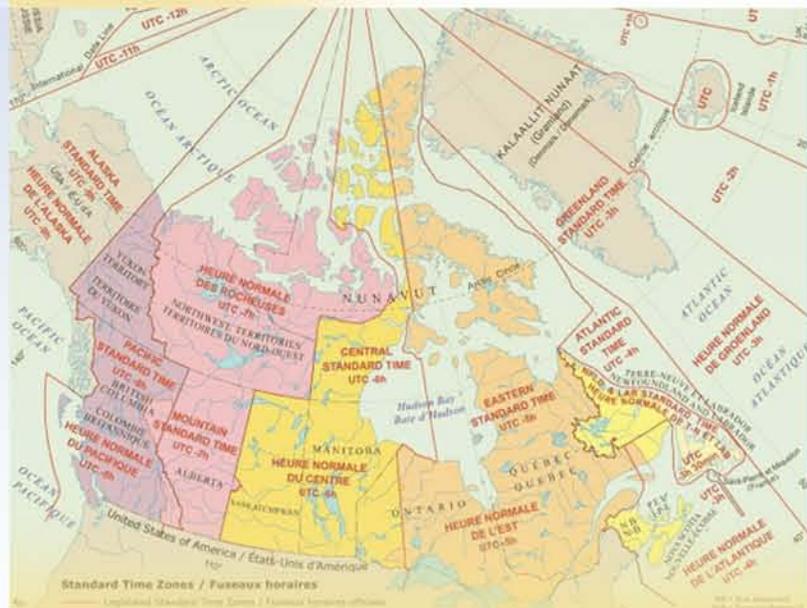
Each issue we present a project from a different province. This month we take a glance at agriculture in the Northwest Territories.

Agriculture, fisheries, trapping and commercial game harvesting generate income and employment for Northwest Territories residents by producing products and services consumed in the domestic and export markets.

Nunavut borders the Northwest Territories to the east, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia to the south, and Yukon Territory to the west. In the north the territories extend far above the Arctic Circle to incorporate numerous islands; several islands are also divided between the NWT and Nunavut, notably Victoria and Melville islands. The territories have an area of 1,526,300 square km (589,300 square miles) and a population of approximately 41,400.

Two major climate zones, the arctic and subarctic are present in the Northwest Territories. While both regions have extremely cold and long winters, the arctic climate has a shorter and cooler summer with the average monthly temperature remaining below 10°C (50°F). The subarctic climate has a longer and warmer summer, with at least three months having average monthly temperatures exceeding 10°C. During the long, cold winter, temperatures often reach -50°C (-60°F) in both climate zones.

Agricultural production has had a long history in the Northwest Territories starting with vegetable gardens and early agricultural ventures by traders of the Northwest Company and the Hudson's Bay Company. The first recorded garden was near the mouth of the Athabasca River in 1789. In this year Alexander Mackenzie, on his way to explore the river that now bears his name, reported an excellent garden around the fur trading post of Peter Pond.



Soon after this, the fur trading posts and missionaries established gardens at several other points. Every Hudson Bay Post as far north as Aklavik had its own garden by 1826.

In 1915, a research station was established at Beaverlodge, Alberta and experimental plots began in both Fort Resolution and Fort Smith. In Fort Smith, the Anglican Mission and the Hudson Bay Company participated in the growing of crops and vegetables such as potatoes, turnips, carrots, beets, onions, cauliflower, cabbages, peas, and barley.

Agricultural activities were monitored by various government agencies during the 1930's and 1940's. In the 1930's the Department of the Interior reported on the crops grown in the Mackenzie District which included cereals, grasses, vegetables, root and cole varieties. Crops and vegetables grown included wheat, barley, western ryegrass, timothy, brome grass, red top, carrots, turnip, potatoes, cabbage, swiss chard, parsnips, cauliflower, beets, beans, celery, lettuce, radishes, tomatoes and occasionally fodder corn and cucumbers.



Agriculture in the Northwest Territories (continued)

Local interest in agriculture weakened in the 1960's with the construction of highways connecting communities in the Mackenzie, Liard and Slave River Valleys as they permitted the replacement of locally grown subsistence agricultural products by imports. A few people continued to be engaged in agricultural activities, usually on a part-time hobby farm basis. In spite of the decline of agriculture, land was readily available. Prospective farmers were able to purchase up to 65 hectares of arable land or lease up to 259 hectares for farming purposes or up to 259 hectares for grazing.

There was a brief revival of interest in agriculture following the phenomenal increase in beef prices in 1970. The interest was directed at low cost grazing lands for potential operations that would serve southern markets. That interest was accompanied by applications for large tracts of land for grazing purposes.

In the mid 1980's, intensive agricultural projects such as the egg operation in Hay River sparked the GNWT to renew its work on the development of a policy. In 1990, the then Dept. of Economic Development and Tourism worked on a background report for a policy.

In October of 1997 the TFA undertook an economic impact of the proposed NWT agricultural policy on the Government of the Northwest Territories. The study provided a quantification of direct and indirect costs and benefits resulting from the activities of farm operations on the GNWT.

Currently, agricultural development in the NWT consists primarily of family-operated enterprises that combine personal and commercial production. It is driven, to a certain extent, by market needs but mainly by a dedicated group of farmers who are committed to producing food in the north for the north. The Territorial Farmers Association (TFA) currently represents many of these farmers.

The Territorial Farmers Association was established in the early 1970s in Fort Providence, Northwest Territories, to promote the interests of NWT farmers and the agricultural industry in general. The TFA is a registered non-profit society that is guided by a constitution and bylaws that clearly identify the organizations' objectives and structure and is governed by a Board with offices and a full-time executive director in the Town of Hay River.

Source :

<http://www.farmnwt.com/State%20of%20the%20Industry%202000.pdf>



Get to know the **CASA** Board

Dean Anderson
Treasurer

Dean Anderson of the Ontario's Farm Safety Association CEO and President. The Farm Safety Association is a non-profit organization legally incorporated in 1973. As one of Ontario's safety and health associations, its primary funding is through employer premiums paid to Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Board.

The Farm Safety Association offers a board range of training and consultation services to its members. Its vision is the elimination of all agricultural workplace injuries and illnesses.



Dates to remember:

- **The CASHP deadline is July 18th.** Applications can be found on our website or by visiting: <http://www.casa-acsa.ca/english/PDF/CASHP%20Application%20Formulaire%20de%20demande%20PCSSA%20v15.pdf>
- **Deadline to hold a 2009 Safety Day in your community is July 15th, 2008.** This program helps education children how to be safe on the farm and ranch through hands-on display material. To apply to have a safety day in your community, please visit the CASA and Progressive Agriculture websites. The applications are available in English and French. If you would like to learn more about this program, please visit www.progressive.ag.org
- **CASA Call for Nominations for CASA Board Members will be September 2nd – 12th.** More information on the upcoming election will be posted on our website.
- **CASA's Annual General Meeting and Conference** will take place **October 22nd -24th in Saskatoon SK.** You will be able to register for this event through our website. The registration fee can be paid either by cheque or online. The registration fee can be paid either by cheque or online with a credit card.