

Title of Project: Farm Forage Facts (IAF Project A0286)
Report Title: Final Report
Report Covering Period: April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003
Organization(s): Peace River Forage Association of BC
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Objectives:

- Document innovations and forage growing tips for other producers.
- Share inherent knowledge developed by forage producers over time with other ranchers in the region.

Accomplishments:

- Surveyed readers to identify future topics and issues to compile Farm Forage Facts on.
- Contacted writers and co-authors to compile next batch of Farm Forage Facts.
- Organized photographic images by project and topic for easy retrieval.
- Farm Forage Fact 1 – 18 loaded onto website.
- Completed Farm Forage Facts #18, 19, 20, 21, 22 & 23 for circulation in mailouts.

Status of Farm Forage Facts:

- Farm Forage Fact #1 Peace Region Ranchers Knife Life into Forage Stands: compiled and circulated in fall, 2000; 2nd printing in December, 2001, 3rd printing March 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #2 Hot Tips from Electric Fencers: compiled and 1st circulation in fall, 2000; 2nd printing in December 2001, 3rd printing March 2002.
- Farm Forage Fact #3 Wisdom from Watering Holes: compiled and 1st circulation in fall, 2000; 2nd printing in December, 2001, 3rd printing March 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #4 Nose Pumps, Cattle Pump Water on Their Own: compiled in Sept, 2001; 1st mailing to 250 members Oct. 2001; 2nd printing for PRFA's AGM on Dec. 1st, 2001, 3rd printing March 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #5 Activities of the Peace River Forage Association of BC in 2001: compiled in Sept, 2001; 1st mailing to 250 members in Oct, 2001; 2nd printing for PRFA's AGM on Dec. 1st, 2001, 3rd printing March 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #6 Alfalfa Varieties Under the Test of Time and Field Scales: compiled in fall; 1st printing Jan 2002, 2nd printing March 2002.
- Farm Forage Fact #7 Solar Pumping Systems - Putting the Sun to Work for You. 1st printing Jan 2002, 2nd printing March 2002.
- Farm Forage Fact #8 Sulphur - Important for Animal & Plant Health. 1st printing Jan 2002, 2nd printing March 2002.
- Farm Forage Fact #9: Pot of Gold at the End of the Barn. 1st printing Jan 2002, 2nd printing March 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #10: Field Liming Impacts Forage Production; compiled in January 2002, 1st printing March 2002.
- Farm Forage Fact #11: Pasture Land Aeration Update; compiled in January 2002, 1st printing March 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #12: Increased Forage by Intensively Managed Controlled Grazing of Logged Lands; compiled in January 2002, 1st printing March 2002.

Status of Farm Forage Facts (cont'd):

- Farm Forage Fact # 13 Promoting Permanent Pasture for the Peace 1st printing May 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #14 Potassium - A Role in Root Carbohydrates & Winter Hardiness. 1st printing May 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #15 What's New for 2002: Forage Association Activities. 1st printing May 2002, 2nd printing July 2002, 3rd printing in Oct 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #16 Management Brainstorming: Taking a Closer Look. 1st printing Nov 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #17: Phosphorus - Important to Healthy Animals & Plants. 1st printing Nov 2002
- Farm Forage Fact #18: Feed Samples: Only as Good as the Sample You Take. 1st printing Jan 2003
- Farm Forage Fact #19: To Hay or Not to Hay: That is the Question. 1st printing Jan 2003
- Farm Forage Fact #20: What's What in Feed Tests: A Vocabulary Enhancer. 1st printing Jan 2003
- Farm Forage Fact #21: CAP Winter Water Systems: Solar Powered. 1st printing March 2003
- Farm Forage Fact #22: Cow Powered Winter Water Systems: Frostfree Nosepump. 1st printing March 2003
- Farm Forage Fact #23: Winter Watering: Kelln Solar System. 1st printing March 2003

Tasks in Progress cont'd:

- 3 Farm Forage Facts BMP'S
- Identifying other topics and writers for Farm Forage Facts to be published in 2003.
- Continuing to survey readers for their reactions to topics and writing style.

Extension and demonstration:

- Farm Forage Facts circulated to a mailing list of over 250 people and at 4 extension events throughout the past winter. They were also distributed at Pasture Management workshops, BC Cattlemen's AGM/Trade Show & at AGM of Peace River Forage Association and January Seminar.
- Feb 18 & 19 Farm Forage Facts were distributed at BCFC AGM in Abbotsford at Pacific Agriculture Show.

Variances from original work plan, schedule or budget:**Summary comments, conclusions:**

Farm Forage Facts to date have been well received. Every time knowledge is shared, there is a benefit to the forage industry. The perceived benefit to the industry was clearly demonstrated by the overwhelming response and support of another successful Forage Goods & Services Auction in Feb 2002 to raise seed money for continuing this project.

Attachments:

- Samples of the latest Farm Forage Facts. We would be happy to provide any others upon request.
- Detailed financial summary as provided by bookkeeper.