

Title of Special Initiative: Winter Seminar "Low Cost Production: Reducing Your Variable Costs" Wed, January 26, 2005

Report Title: Final Report

Report Covering Period: January 1 to March 31, 2005

Organization(s): Peace River Forage Association of BC

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Objectives:

- To bring forage producers, ranchers, agencies, and agribusinesses together to converse with each other.
- To share knowledge and information about marketing and ranching strategies.
- To provide alternate feeding options, to help lower costs of production
- To provide a forum for discussing the latest production tips and equipment innovations among forage and livestock producers.

Accomplishments:

- Over 40 people attended this Seminar from all around the peace area
- Facilitated great discussion with our quality speakers and local innovative ranchers.
- Great support from several partners and agribusiness sponsors
- Complimented by ranchers, speakers, and sponsors on a worthwhile, well organized event.

Tasks in progress:

Extension and Communication:

- Submitted articles to Forage First, Peace Prospects page of Northern Horizon before and after seminar.
- Invited media reporters to cover news worthy topics and facilitated their interviews.
- All the funding partners and sponsors are thanked in 3 ways: in posters at seminar, verbally by chair & during presentations and in print in the ads or articles about the seminar.

Variances from original work plan, schedule or budget:

Summary comments, conclusions:

The seminar was well attended and resulted in excellent conversation between producers and speakers. Many producers said this was the best seminar they have attended yet. We discussed low cost methods of feeding to reduce producer expenses and spent a lot of time thinking outside the box, doing something unique to generate more income. The speakers focused on providing ideas and producer involvement about ideas like swath grazing, bale grazing, custom grazing and stockpiled grazing. We also spent some time looking at the risks involved in such practices. All in all the seminar went over very well.

Attachments:

- Detailed financial summary as provided by bookkeeper