

Title of Special Initiative: Peace River Forage Association Seminar
“Managing Manure for More Resilient Pastures”
Report Title: Final Report
Report Covering Period: November 20, 2008 to February 28, 2008
Organization(s): Peace River Forage Association
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Objectives:

The objective was to bring an educational evening to the members and bring them up to date on the compost and manure project.

Accomplishments:

The objective was very well delivered to a group of 45 which we felt was a very good turnout. We had members from as far as Wonowon, BC and visitors from Vanderhoof, BC in attendance. Frank Larney, Ag Canada, Lethbridge, with his vast knowledge and 10 years of composting research, was very well received and an extensive question and answer period took place. There was a lively exchange of ideas.

After supper, there were 6 stations set up around the perimeter of the room. Each had samples of soils, composting, compost coffee demonstrations or a microscope and a person stationed to answer questions. These demonstrations also produced a great exchange of discussion and ideas, which would have continued much longer into the evening if not for the snowy blizzard causing very poor visibility.

Tasks in progress: not applicable for a short term initiative.

Extension and Communication:

- Advertising was done through the Forage First Newsletter, on local radio stations and through emails and phone calls to the PRFA membership.
- Our funders were acknowledged in the advertisements, agendas and verbally at the event.

Finances:

Income and expense report attached.

Variations from original work plan, schedule or budget:

One of the main speakers, Marie Boehm was unable to attend, so there was a last minute change and the time slot was filled by Julie Robinson and Sandra Burton. Also, the BC Institute of Agrologists generously contributed \$500 in sponsorship to the event. No money was spent on radio advertising because we were trying to keep costs down in accordance with changes in PRAD funding.

Summary comments, conclusions:

- A very worthwhile event with good attendance and positive feedback.
- A successful transfer of technology happened beef and sheep producers were still discussing how to apply it on a smaller scale to their own operations several days and weeks later.