

Title of Project: Fescue Rejuvenation
Report Title: Annual Report March 2003
Report Covering Period: April 1, 2002 – March 31, 2003
Organization(s): Peace Region Forage Seed Association
Contact Person: Randy Graw (Treasurer) / Sandra Burton (Coordinator)
Address: Box 1, Manning, AB T0H 2M0
Telephone: (780) 836 2256 **Fax:** (780) 836 2243 **Email:** rgraw@telusplanet.net

Objectives:

- Evaluate various methods and timing of fescue stand rejuvenation.
- Provide information and updates for fescue production manual.
- Assist the directors of Peace Region Forage Seed Assoc. in launching their voluntary Producer Research Fund by illustrating how producer funds can be matched and multiplied to carry out necessary research.

Accomplishments:

- Setup monitoring program at plot comparing 6 different rejuvenation methods.
- Hired a summer student, Rae Haddow, to carry out monitoring for 2002 season.
- Organized contractors for custom operations at the rejuvenation plot.
- Hired a contractor, Julie Robinson, to conduct 12 interviews with producers about their fescue rejuvenation methods.

Tasks in progress:

- Hiring and orientating Rae Haddow, agriculture student, to carry out monitoring and compiling economic information for 2003 season.
- Organizing custom operators, arranging equipment, organizing field lab.
- Regrouping for final year of monitoring at Two Rivers site.

Extension and demonstration:

- Display at Annual PRFSA Seminar, Grande Prairie Classic Agrishow, Falher Ag Trade Show & ongoing dialog with producers about project.
- Collaborated with producers in designing methodology, partial funding and managing project.

Variances from original work plan schedule or budget:

Support for this project came forward with contributions in kind from new individuals and businesses in support of the project this year, as well as some of the anticipated contributions in kind (i.e. Ed Hadland and Agricore United).

Summary comments, conclusions:

The PRFSA appreciates continued support of this project by PRAD board and of the producers writing individual cheques to the Producer Research Fund. After reporting at the annual seminars on how the Producer Research Funds had been used for several projects, contributions to the fund increased to 3 times what they were in 2001. This is one of several indicators of growing industry support for this producer-managed project.

Attachments: Financial statements as provided by bookkeeper.