



FACstracs

Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan Inc. Year In Review Edition - December 2004
Representing the livestock industry in advancing responsible animal care in agriculture

Fence Lines to Corporate Board Rooms

FACS is very pleased to once again host Canada's premier welfare conference, 'Fence Lines to Corporate Board Rooms.' Providing a line up of respected speakers, it is no wonder that this conference attracts attention from across Canada and the United States.

The success of our Conference is due in part to a strong board; being able to identify and provide respected speakers who address timely welfare topics; and due in large part to **committed Sponsors**, many of which have supported FACS activities since our inception. This year, FACS secured 35 Convention Sponsors who together recognize the importance and value of continually learning more about welfare issues and practices along with consumer trends and interests. Having such diverse sponsors makes a huge statement confirming the value and continued need for FACS. Thank you all!

Adele Buettner, Executive Director

Thank You to Our Sponsors . . .

Sponsors of FACS 13th Annual General Meeting and Conference, December 6 and 7, 2004 are:

- AIMS
- Big Sky Farms Inc.
- Canadian Western Agribition
- Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan
- Co-op Feeds, Division of Federated Co-operatives Ltd.
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- Elanco Animal Health
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- North American Equine Ranching Information Council
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- Saskatchewan Livestock Markets and Order Buyers Association Inc.
- Saskatoon & District Chamber of Commerce
- Saskatoon Prairieland Park Corp.
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- VIDO
- Warman Veterinary Clinic
- Western Beef Development Centre
- Westway Feed Products
- Wyeth

*FACS: Promoting Responsible
Animal Management*

FACS Welcomes New Staff Member

What do you call a staff member who does not eat, sleep or need to be paid? What if I also said that the staff member was able and willing to work anytime day or night, seven days a week?



FACS would like to welcome Fraser - the newest addition to the FACS Team. Fraser the Animal Care Specialist is a charming little fellow called a *Bike Bot*, which means he is a remote controlled robot that is mounted on a tricycle, and his voice and movement are controlled by a handler.

The great thing about Fraser is that he grabs the interest of everyone, young or old. Through his ability to connect with people, Fraser is able to continue to tell the story of livestock production in Saskatchewan. FACS plans to have Fraser touring agricultural fairs and shows around the province.

Fraser could not be made possible without the support of our partners, **Big Sky Farms Inc.** and **Saskatoon Prairieland Park Corp.** We are still actively seeking partners to come on board and be a part of Fraser. He is an innovative way for an organization to advertise themselves and their commitment to livestock production. If you are interested give the office a call and we will send out an information package to you. Plan to see Fraser out and about in 2005, and when you do, please remember to stop and say "Hi!"

**Prairieland
Park**

**Big Sky
Farms Inc.**

FACS . . . Working with Partners Keeping Industry Informed

A producer-focused Information Session on Avian Influenza was held on the evening of March 16, 2004 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Room 2302 of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan. Partners in offering this session were the Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan, the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. The Seminar proved to be a success with almost 60 participants including several media personnel.

Producers, academia, media and government came together on Tuesday September 28, 2004 to update those affected by the BSE crisis on the newly announced targeted surveillance program. The partners involved in this endeavour were the the Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan Inc., Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the Saskatchewan Stock Grower's Association, and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

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Chicken Farmers of
Saskatchewan

SK Egg Producers

SK Equine Ranchers
Association

SK Livestock Markets
and Order Buyers
Association

Wyeth

Also thank you to
SAFRR for their
continued interest and
support in FACS.

The RCMP and FACS A First for the Canadian Livestock Industry

Highway accidents involving livestock often occur with a number of dead and injured animals. In response to a request from the RCMP for information on how to safely handle and humanely euthanise livestock involved in traffic/highway accidents, FACS has developed a RCMP Livestock Resource Package which includes posters, fact sheets and wallet sized cards depicting methods necessary to humanely euthanise various species of livestock, general emergency handling and euthanasia information and emergency contact information.

Resource Packages have been distributed to every RCMP member in Saskatchewan with posters sent to all detachments. We are also pleased every cadet will be receiving this package as part of their training resource information. "The RCMP is pleased to be a partner with the Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan in developing educational material for front line police officers. We are often called to euthanise injured animals. These guidelines will assist our members in performing this unpleasant duty as humanely as possible, while ensuring police and public safety," states Inspector Brenda Lucki.

As a leader in animal welfare, FACS is pleased to play a significant role in assisting the RCMP in maintaining safe and conscientious control of our roadways and communities, by producing this one-of-a-kind information package. Not only will this help new recruits, but will serve as an educational or refresher document for long-term officers.

Appreciation is extended to the Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund for sponsoring the project, the Canadian Veterinary Medication Association, the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association and Alberta Farm Animal Care for endorsing the RCMP Resource Package. Also, thank you to Al Hingston, PAg, CAC for his project research and writing. □

2004 Stock Person's School

The Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (FACS) together with the University of Saskatchewan is pleased to present its 5th Annual Stock Person's School. This year's School will take place at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Room 2302 on May 10, 2005 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This annual one-day school has a welfare theme and addresses specific issues relevant to pasture riders and cattle producers, which will improve their knowledge and performance level. Check our website at www.facs.sk.ca for further information. □

SUPPORT FACS

A membership in FACS holds many benefits, including membership recognition, a quarterly newsletter, notification of special events, access to the FACS library, FACS publications, and much more.

Associate memberships are available for contributions of \$50 to \$199.99 (plus GST). Active (or voting) memberships are available for contributions of \$200 and over (plus GST). Receipts are issued for all contributions. Please complete the form to the right and return it with your contribution to:

Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan Inc.
502-45th Street West, 2nd Floor, Saskatoon, SK S7L 6H2

Name

Address

City/Town

Prov

PC

Tel

Fax

For more information, contact FACS by phone at (306) 249-3227 or fax at (306) 244-4497 or by email at facs@sasktel.net

Thanks to FACS and our Equine Partners, Our Youth Have Unique Opportunities!

On August 15, 2004 24 young horse trainers participating in the Saskatchewan Young Horse Development Project (YHDP) met in Moose Jaw to showcase their yearling and two-year-old projects. We were pleased to have Wayne Hutchinson as our Horse Judge, Bob Brickley and John King as our Public Speaking Judges, Lois Brickley and Heather McConnell as our Record Book Judges, and Jim Pollock as our Essay Judge and "Man on the Microphone."

Judge Hutchinson was very impressed with the progress shown by all horses. The YHDP is unique in that participants do not compete against one another, but simply present and are marked for their own benefit. Participants had many encouraging comments about the project saying it had given them an amazing educational opportunity not readily available to most youth. "There is no other program quite like this one in the province," said Adele Buettner of FACS. "It really exemplifies what partnering between organizations can do. It gives our youth an opportunity to advance their training skills by working their way through the clinics offered in the project." The YHDP is grateful to the Saskatchewan Equine Ranching Association (SERA) for their support. Thanks to our sponsors NAERIC, SERA, FACS, Barn Supply Co., Kathryn & Ralph Canitz and Avondale Farms.

The YHDP will start its application process for the 2005 - 2007 project in the new year. Watch the FACS website at www.facs.sk.ca for more information. □

Show Below: 2004 YHDP Participants.



Cattle FACS

FACS has just completed producing a series of drought-related Cattle FACS brochures. The topics include:

- Body Scoring Condition
- Managing Water Supplies in a Drought
- Feeding in a Cold Snap
- Feed Testing and Ration Balancing
- Early Weaning of Calves
- Creep Feeding Calves
- Dealing with Problem Feeds
- Annual Crops for Emergency Grazing
- Not Enough Feed for the Winter?
- Nitrate Poisoning

These brochures are additions to the existing nine Cattle FACS brochures FACS previously produced. Appreciation is extended to the Saskatchewan Beef Development Fund for sponsoring the project, as well as to the Western Beef Development Centre, Saskatchewan Livestock Association, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association and the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association for endorsing this project. We also thank Al Hingston for his project research and writing. □

Speakers Bureau

The Animal Care Speakers Bureau was introduced three years ago as a joint partnership between SAFRR and FACS. Through the Speakers Bureau, commodity organizations are able to gain access to quality speakers at a substantial reduction. This year, the Speakers Bureau assisted the Saskatchewan Horse Federation, the U of S/FACS Stock Person's School, Saskatoon Prairieland Park Corp., the University of Saskatchewan Stockman's Club, Sask Pork and the WCVM Bovine Club with bringing in world renowned speakers to address animal welfare issues. This partnership is the first of its kind in North America where industry and government work together to promote welfare through a speakers bureau. □

The primary function of FACS is to promote the responsible care and use of animals in the livestock industry. The material in this publication may be used with proper acknowledgment to the source. All information contained herein is deemed to be reliable and accurate to the best of the publisher's knowledge. (Publications Mail-Agreement Number 40845514, Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to 502 - 45th Street West., Saskatoon, SK S7L 6H2)