

**Title of Project: PRFSA Annual Tour 2001**

**Report Title:** Final Report

**Report Covering Period:** July 9 and 10, 2001

**Organization(s):** Peace Region Forage Seed Association

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**Objectives:**

- To bring forage seed producers, researchers, crop consultants, seed traders and agribusinesses together to update each other.
- To walk through a variety of seed crops and hear from producers in two new areas for the annual tour.
- To provide updates on current projects and to discuss priorities for new research projects.
- To provide a forum for discussing the latest production tips and equipment innovations among producers.

**Accomplishments:**

- Over 100 people attended either the tour in Clayhurst area on July 9 or in Falher area on July 10, 2001.
- Over a dozen resource people attended from research stations in Brooks, Lethbridge, Lacombe and Edmonton.
- Great financial support and participation in tour discussions from seed trade and agribusiness.

**Tasks in progress:** none

**Extension and demonstration:**

- Articles written prior to and post tour in local newspaper as well as Canada wide magazine Forage Seed News
- All sponsors including PRAD thanked verbally, with posters and in articles.

**Finances:**

Revenue:	\$ 1875.00
Expenditures	\$ 3298.94
Excess / <b>Deficit</b>	<b>\$ 1423.94</b>

**Variances from original work plan, schedule or budget:**

- More support from agribusiness and tour participants than expected, so requested amount is less.

**Summary comments, conclusions:**

- All who attended said tours were great this year and well worth the time and travel to attend.

**Attachments:** articles as sent to Forage Seed News for fall issue and detailed financial statement.

Budget Information: Peace Region Forage Seed Association Annual Tour

Income	Number	Units	Unit Price	Receipt #	Subtotals net gst	GST	Amount by PRFSA Pd	Rec'd	Actual Amounts	Approved Budget
Industry coffee/sponsorship	6	business	\$75.00					yes	\$450.00	\$300.00
Registration in Clayhurst	67	people	\$15.00					yes	\$1,005.00	\$600.00
Registration in Falher	28	people	\$15.00					yes	\$420.00	\$600.00
<b>Total Income</b>									<b>\$1,875.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>										
Bus rental - BC section				1	\$650.00			yes		
Bus rental - AB section				1	\$600.00	\$87.50	\$1,337.50	yes	\$1,250.00	\$1,400.00
<i>Bus rental Total</i>	2	days					\$136.75	yes	\$136.75	\$400.00
Tim Hortons (coffee & donuts both days)				2	\$136.75	\$0.00	\$136.75	yes		
<i>Morning coffee / refreshments Total</i>	2	days								
Safeway - cold drinks				3	\$53.56	\$0.84	\$54.40	yes		
Spirit River IGA cold drinks				4	\$36.90	\$2.21	\$39.11	yes		
A&M Confectionary - ice				5	\$5.75		\$5.75	yes	\$96.21	\$400.00
<i>Afternoon refreshments Total</i>	2	days						yes		
Lunch at Clearview Arena	60	people	\$7.00	6	\$420.00	\$29.40	\$449.40	yes		
Lunch at Guy Community Hall	50	people	\$9.00	7	\$450.00		\$450.00	yes	\$870.00	\$840.00
<i>Lunch both days Total</i>	1	day						yes		
Chevaliers Centre rental	1	day		8	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	yes		
Clearview Arena rental	1	day		9	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	yes		
<i>Hall rentals Total</i>	2	days						yes	\$110.00	\$75.00
Photocopying agenda /badges	10		\$19.18	10	\$19.18	\$1.32	\$20.50	yes		\$30.00
Targeted mailout, stamped env, extension costs	200	envelopes		11	\$335.04	\$23.45	\$358.49	yes		\$100.00
Peace Country Farmer ads	12		\$101.76	12	\$101.76	\$7.12	\$108.88	yes		
CJXX radio ads	13		\$380.00	13	\$380.00	\$26.60	\$406.60	yes		
<i>Advertisement: newspaper, radio Total</i>								yes	\$835.98	\$690.00
Contingency, administration										\$590.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>									<b>\$178.44</b>	<b>\$3,298.94</b>
<b>Total Request for Funds</b>									<b>\$3,477.38</b>	<b>\$4,530.00</b>
									<b>\$1,423.94</b>	<b>\$3,030.00</b>

## **Peace Region Forage Seed Association Update**

by Sandra Burton

The interest and membership in our Peace Region Forage Seed Association continues to grow. We have 178 producer memberships and 21 corporate memberships (as of August 15, 2001). We are also proud to report that we have 25 extension and research initiatives or projects for 2001. Surprised? So was I, when I was asked to compile our activities into a poster! Here's a glimpse of progress on a few of these initiatives over the past months.

### **Annual Summer Tours in Alberta and BC Peace:**

There was great response to hosting the tours in two new areas this year. Over 110 people attended either the tour in the Clayhurst area on Monday July 9 or the tour of the Falher area on July 10. One of many highlights was seeing and hearing about the attentive management at the farms of our two newest directors, Walter Ens and David Forgie. Another highlight was interacting with a dozen resource people from research stations in Lacombe, Brooks, Lethbridge, Beaverlodge and Edmonton. We had generous support from our tour sponsors, especially the Peace River Agriculture Development Fund, Brett Young Seeds (Rycroft) Ltd., Dupont Canada Inc., Dow Agro Services Canada Inc., Hannas Seeds, Dawson Seed Co. Ltd., Beaver Plastics Ltd. and Pickseed Canada Ltd.

### **Native Grass ID Summer Field Day in Fairview:**

This informative day was the sequel to the Native Grass Seed Workshop held in two locations last spring. Over 49 participants met at Golden Acre Seeds near Fairview, AB for some hands on experience learning to recognize native and tame grasses. Extra detail was provided by resource people like Cathie Erichsen AAFRD, Fairview), Collin Stone and Brendan Kowalenko (AB Public Lands, Peace River). There were also equipment demonstrations of hand held and quad mounted harvest units. Most of the day's activities took place on the banks of the Peace River, rich with many examples of undisturbed native grasses. The event was jointly hosted with Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development.

### **Ploughing Demonstration at Fescue Rejuvenation Plot:**

After several weather related delays, we hosted a small field day with a ploughing demonstration in early August at the fescue rejuvenation project site near Two Rivers, BC. Abe Unruh of Windsong Equipment in Flatrock, generously provided a Finnish Valtra Valmet tractor and French Gregoire-Besson roll over plough. All who attended reported the demonstration as interesting and thought provoking. This demonstration was part of a bigger project investigating various methods of fescue rejuvenation.

### **Fescue Rejuvenation Project**

The Peace producers have the ultimate ownership and management of this project, since the initial funds and idea for the project were theirs. Seed money for the project came from individuals writing cheques to support the Producer Research Fund. These funds were matched 4:1 by Agriculture and Agri-food Canada through the Peace River Agriculture Development Fund. There are many factors involved in the decision to rejuvenate (yields, price, disease, pests, weeds, sod/ stand condition, weather, moisture conditions, equipment availability). Thus it is an ideal research question to tackle on farms with producers partnering in their cropping systems management expertise. An 80 ac creeping red fescue field near Two Rivers was rejuvenated this summer, using 6 different methods. Various combinations of controlled burning, ploughing, aerating and fertilizing were done at field scales, either as demos or on a contract

basis. Each method will be monitored for soil moisture, weeds, disease, pests, stand density and yield over the next 2 years to determine the most effective method, in terms of stand health and economics. Contact Don Pedersen or myself for more information about this very interesting and challenging project.

#### **Control of Cutworms in Grass Seed Fields**

After the cutworm outbreak of 2000, farmers needed answers to help control the potentially devastating effects of this pest. The association partnered with Jennifer Otani to evaluate the efficacy of insecticides for the control of cutworms infesting grass seed fields in the Peace. There is very little information available in Canada as to what control measures are most effective on glassy cutworms. Two established grass seed fields were selected and 5 treatments applied in early spring. Treatments include Dimethoate (Cygon), Cyhalothrin-lambda (Matador), Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban), a granular product like Lorsban G and a control. Data was collected on stand history, stand density and yields. Insect densities and species identification was done at 3 and 14 days after spraying. Sample threshing and fall cutworm surveys are in progress at the time of writing. This project is another example of Producer Research Fund dollars multiplied 4:1 by Agriculture and Agri-food Canada through the Peace River Agriculture Development fund.

We have recently compiled a list of our association's activities in a color poster size format. Contact Sandra Burton at (250) 789-6885 or Calvin Yoder (780) 864-3597 if you would like a copy.