

Title of Project: Forage Seed Research Site Maintenance
Report Title: Annual Report
Report Covering Period: April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001
Organization(s): Peace Region Forage Seed Association
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Objectives:

- To provide a location for a variety of groups to conduct forage seed & forage research in the BC Peace over the next three years.
- To provide for proper care and attention to the site
- To establish a long term working arrangement with the owner of the field.

Accomplishments:

- BC Grain Producers were relieved of responsibility for the site, and were able to only participate on a fee for service basis.
- A lease arrangement between PRFSA and landowner, Glen Aalhus was set up.
- Deanna Hill hired as a summer student in the summer of 2000 to coordinate all activities & groups at the site.
- New variety trials were seeded for Art Kruger, as part of a Canada wide Forage Seed Testing Program.
- Variety trials of creeping red fescue, tall fescue, Kentucky blue grass, brome and timothy, that were seeded in 1998 & 1999, were harvested.
- Nurseries of creeping red fescue breeding program of Dr. Brian Holl, Univ. of BC, were maintained and kept weed and pest free.
- BC Forage Council/ Peace River Forage Association seeded and established alfalfa and grass forage plots as part of a 3 year provincial wide Forage Variety Testing Program at this site.
- Weeds and insect pests were controlled in a timely manner, either by Deanna Hill or on a fee for service basis by Lothar Torheiden or Raymond Verboven.
- Processed harvest samples & data from 1998 and 1999 seeded plots.
- Packaged & sent Brian Holl's fescue nursery samples.
- Cleaned up site in preparation for next season

Tasks in progress:

- Hiring Mauriah Duncan, a summer student to coordinate research site maintenance.
- Re-evaluating resources allocated, work plan and expenditures for this project.
- Setting up a field lab in Farmington for weighing fine seeds to relieve bottle neck at Field Crops laboratory in Dawson Creek.

Extension and demonstration:

- Research site visited by over 55 people as part of Peace Region Forage Seed Association tour on July 10.
- Sign constructed and set up at site crediting funding agencies and cooperators.
- Monthly newspaper articles written about the research being conducted at the site for Peace Prospects, Northern Horizon.
- Self-guided tours and maps compiled for Baldonnel site.

Finances:

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| Total Project Budget: | \$7500.00 |
| Revenue from PRAD: | \$5400.00 |
| Expenditures (inc.BCGPA bill) | \$8938.40 |
| Difference paid by PRFSA: | \$3538.40 |
| Holdback requested: | \$ 600.00 |

Variations from original budget caused by several factors:

- Size of research site and number of plots increased in 2000.
- Weekly attention required for weed and pest control this year.
- Daily attention for timely harvest required.
- PRFSA, summer student & CCM new to managing research site.

Variations from original work plan schedule:

- Infestation of glassy cutworms required costly spraying Lorsban on a fee for service basis by Raymond Verboven.
- More time spent on weed control in 2000 by Deanna Hill and hired weed control by Lothar Torheiden than anticipated.
- Adverse weather conditions during harvest stretched usual harvest time.

Summary comments, conclusions:

- Maintaining this research site has been more costly to the PRFSA than anticipated.
- The majority of expenses were incurred over the summer months.
- Invoices from BCGPA (\$2450) for seeding and Lothar Torheiden for custom spraying included in expenditures.

Attachments: Detailed financial summary available on request.