

2023

Nov. 28 – Dec. 1

Harrison Hot Springs, B.C.



Forage Resilience in a Changing Landscape

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14TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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Chair Report

Welcome



I would like to welcome everyone to the 14th annual CFGA Conference – Forage Resilience in a Changing Landscape: Manage risk. Overcome challenges. Discover opportunities. On behalf of the CFGA board and its executive we are pleased to finally be able to host an in-person conference once again, and it is exciting to do so in beautiful Harrison Hot Springs, B.C.

2023 has brought many challenges to forage producers from drought in the western provinces to extremely wet conditions in some of the eastern provinces. Hay exporters saw growth in some foreign markets and, at the same time, experienced a decrease in volumes to Asian countries. Overall, however, prices of forage have been strong in 2023 and seem to be supported by record setting livestock prices around the world.

This year's conference organizing committee has worked hard to create an agenda filled with forage-related topics and speakers. As CFGA board members, we realize there are diverse interests in the forage sector. We represent many of those interests including dairy, beef and other ruminant farmers and ranchers, commercial hay growers, forage exporters and industry including researchers and government extension people. Clearly our collective purpose in the Canadian forage sector is to improve production of forages to provide economic stability and long-term viability in our industry.

This event could not happen without the support of all our sponsors, partners and speakers. We appreciate this opportunity to say thank you for your contribution and look forward to working with you throughout the year and in future conferences.

I'm certain this conference will be a great opportunity to learn and network with our fellow forage sector participants. I look forward to seeing and meeting many of you.

Best,
Eric Boot

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD MESSAGE



Greetings and best wishes to everyone attending the Canadian Forage and Grassland Association's 14th annual conference in Harrison Hot Springs. Welcome to those visiting from across Canada. I hope you enjoy your visit to beautiful British Columbia.

Forage Resilience in a Changing Landscape is the conference's theme and we've seen the resiliency of farmers this year as we've dealt with unprecedented drought and wildfires. Farmers everywhere are facing similar challenges which is why coming together at conferences like this one is so important. It lets us share stories and learn from each other so we are stronger going forward.

During the conference, you will hear from experts, network with your peers and learn about new research and environmental management practices. This event celebrates the key role you play in the stability of the livestock industry and your contribution to the nation's food and economic security through the sector's domestic and export markets.

Thank you to the CFGA for the valuable work you do in supporting Canada's hay and forage producers. Here in B.C., our forage producers play a vital role in keeping our dairy and livestock industry strong and as Minister of Agriculture and Food, I am committed to working together with them to ensure a bright future.

I hope you enjoy the conference and leave feeling inspired and prepared when you return home to your farms.

Thank you!

Pam Alexis

Minister of Agriculture and Food

CFGA CONFERENCE AGENDA

Agenda subject to change. All times are Pacific Standard Time.

November 28

PRE CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Grassland Inventory Workshop: Working to build consensus on collaborating effectively in mapping the Canadian Grasslands John Pattison-Williams – facilitator

8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Knowledge Translation and Transfer Extension Workshop
– How to reach the grower

7:00 pm

Welcome Reception

November 29

8:30 am – 5:30 pm

Trade Show

Theme: Policies and the Global Picture

9:00 am

Welcome & keynote kick-off – Livestock's path to climate neutrality
Frank Mitloehner (UC Davis)

10:15 am

Long-term impacts of maintaining perennial forages in rotation
Dan Undersander (University of Wisconsin)

10:35 am

Advancing pasture management to store carbon and reduce methane emissions Bart Lardner (University of Saskatchewan)

10:55 am

Panel 1 – Policy

CFGA Conference Agenda Continued

Theme: Industry Led Sustainability Programs: Partnering for Industry Engagement

11:45 am

Grasslands. The gold standard for regeneration!

Ross MacDonald (Regeneration Canada)

12:05pm

Ongoing Co-op forage programs and producer partnerships

Ken Wall (Federated Co-op)

12:25pm

Farmers and ranchers are part of the GHG solution

Andrew Rushmere (Farmers for Climate Solutions)

12:45 pm

Panel 2 – Programs

1:05 pm

Lunch

Theme: Advances in Science and What it Means to Industry

2:05 pm

Canadian perspective on carbon in agricultural landscapes science

Brian McConkey (Viresco Solutions National)

2:25 pm

Rangeland Management in British Columbia

Lauchlan Fraser (Thompson Rivers University)

2:45 pm

Rotational Grazing: Examining Perspectives for Sustainable Canadian Landscapes

Brooke McWherter (Dalhousie University)

3:05 pm

Panel 3 – Science

3:30 pm

Day 1 Closing Keynote

Measuring and reporting positive impacts for GHG

Dan Undersander (University of Wisconsin)

CFGA Conference Agenda Continued

4:00 pm

Leadership Awards Reception

5:00 pm

Living Labs and Solutions Pathways Event

November 30

8:00am – 9:00am

CFGA Operational/Financial Update

8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Trade Show

9:00 am

Welcome & Day 2 Keynote

Protect, manage and then restore: A hierarchy for implementation of natural climate solutions Ronnie Drever

9:45 am

Panel 4 – Producer and mentor panel

Theme: Measuring Impact: Mapping, Monitoring, Monetizing

10:45 am

Mapping Canada's grasslands Nasem Badreldin (University of Manitoba)

11:05 am

The Habitat and Biodiversity Assessment Tool Francois Blouin

11:25 am

North American grassland inventories: initiatives, strengths and challenges

Dr. John Pattison-Williams

11:45 am

Panel 5 – Measuring impact

12:10 pm

Lunch

Theme: Export and Markets: What Industry Needs to Know

1:10 pm

Canadian economic outlook: what now, what next? Aaron Goertzen (BMO)

CFGA Conference Agenda Continued

1:30 pm

Industry Government Forage Insurance Task Team update

Ryder Lee (Canadian Cattle Association)

1:50 pm

Current forage export market conditions Joshua Callen (Hoyt Report)

2:10 pm

Panel 6 – Export

2:35 pm

Closing Keynote

From knowledge to adoption in Living Labs

Madeleine Arseneau (Agriculture Agri-Food Canada)

3:05 pm

Closing Remarks

3:15 pm

End of Conference

December 1

POST CONFERENCE TOUR

9:00 am

Agassiz RDC forage research tours Dr. Jillian Bainard (Forage research scientist)

12:00 pm

Lunch / Health Break

Farm One

12:45 pm

Travel to Farm 1

1:00 pm Holberg Farm Ltd. Hosts: Holger and Alex Schwichtenberg (Agassiz, BC)

Farm Two

2:30 pm

Travel to Farm 2

2:45 pm Hoek Holsteins Hosts: Greg and Vince Vander Hoek (Agassiz, BC)

4:00 pm

Return to Harrison Hot Springs

ACCESS CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS CONNECT AND LEARN

Find the CFGA's 14th annual conference session recordings and resource materials as well as a place to connect on the CFGA's online learning platform.



As part of your registration, you will receive an email providing access to the CFGA learning platform. Follow the directions to log in and reset your password.

Alternatively, go to the CFGA learning platform login page. Click on "Forgot Password."

Use the email you used to register for the conference to reset your password.

Once inside the platform, click on "Dashboard" or "Courses" then select the 2023 Conference to see the content.

Click on settings to change details about yourself and your time zone or language preferences.

Introduce yourself, visit CFGA annual partner and conference sponsor listings, take part in online discussions and check out the resources provided by the speakers. Recordings of the conference session and panel discussions will be provided as time permits.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Trudy at info@canadianfga.ca.

<https://theforageresource.canadianfga.ca/courses/cfga-2023-conference>



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