



A hot, dry summer is behind us, and it certainly kept many producers on their toes. Pastures and forage fields felt the stress in many parts of the province, but we hope you were able to harvest a good supply of quality feed for the winter ahead.

Here's a look at the projects and industry initiatives we have been working on these past few months.

## **Maritime Beef Council: Forage Field Day and Maritime Beef Conference**

In early August, NSCP board representatives attended the Maritime Beef Council's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Atlantic Forage Field Day in River Hebert/Minudie, NS. A full report on this event is provided further into this newsletter.

Join us for the upcoming Maritime Beef Conference in Moncton, NB, occurring November 6-7, at the Delta Beausejour. The NSCP are giving away a limited number of conference registrations to registered producers (current NSCP licensees), as well as youth (under 35 years old) interested in the beef industry. If you would like to **attend the Maritime Beef Conference for FREE**, please contact the NSCP office prior to October 9 (accommodations not provided). For conference information, such as the agenda and hotel booking information, please visit [www.maritimebeef.ca/events](http://www.maritimebeef.ca/events).

## **Pasture Walks & Climate Change Strategy**

As work on the Nova Scotia Cattle and Sheep Sector Climate Change Adaptation Strategy ends, we would like to thank Climate Change Coordinator Geoff Larkin, whose contract concludes this September, for his contributions and leadership throughout the project.

A detailed closing report on the Climate Adaptation Leadership Program (CALP) can be found later in this newsletter.

## **Maritime Beef Test Society**

The Maritime Beef Test Society will once again be offering a test this year, for both bulls and heifers. Consignment forms are now available at [www.maritimebeefteststation.ca](http://www.maritimebeefteststation.ca) and are due back October 9.

## **Funding Programs**

For 2025, the NSCP continues to offer two key funding programs.

- **Nova Scotia Beef Herd Renewal Improvement Program** – Closing: February 15, 2027 (first come first served basis)

This program supports elite sires, heifer retention, seed stock development, herd health, preconditioning services, VBP+ audits, and surveillance systems.

- **Nova Scotia Soil, Pasture & Forage Management Program** – Application deadline: November 30, 2026.

This program supports lime purchases, and/or soil, manure and feed analyses.

Program details and application forms for both programs are available at: [www.nscattle.ca/members/programs](http://www.nscattle.ca/members/programs).

## **Upcoming Zone Meetings**

Looking ahead, NSCP Zone Meetings will be held January 11-15, 2027, with full details in the December newsletter.

## **Annual General Meeting**

The NSCP Annual General Meeting will be held on March 27, 2027, with the location to be announced in the December NSCP newsletter.

## **Services Available**

NSCP continues to provide preconditioning and carcass ultrasound services to Maritime producers. More information is available on our website.

## **Maritime Livestock Price Insurance**

A reminder that Maritime Livestock Price Insurance (MLPI) is available to producers, providing coverage against unexpected market price declines. To learn more, contact Geoff Larkin at [projects@agricommodity.ca](mailto:projects@agricommodity.ca) or (902) 957-2291. Program details are also available at [www.lpi.ca/maritime-livestock-price-insurance](http://www.lpi.ca/maritime-livestock-price-insurance), where you can subscribe to the MLPI e-news for updates.

## **Stay Connected**

Please continue to check our website and follow us on social media for updates on events, workshops, and program opportunities. If you have any questions, please reach out to (902) 893-7455 or [office@nscattle.ca](mailto:office@nscattle.ca).

Sincerely,

*Larry Weatherby*

Larry Weatherby, Chair

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

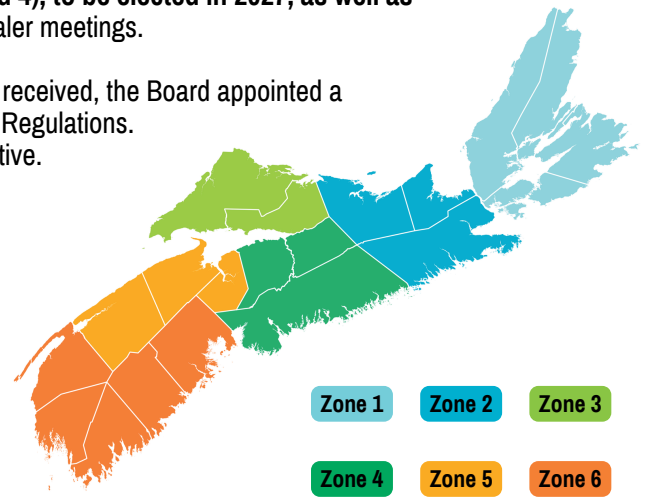
The NSCP are **seeking nominations for two Zone Director positions (Zones 1 and 4), to be elected in 2027, as well as one Dealer Director position.** Directors will be elected at their respective Zone or Dealer meetings.

Additionally, as no election was held in Zone 3 in 2026 because no nominations were received, the Board appointed a representative (Marshall Crowley) in accordance with the Cattle Producers Marketing Regulations. As a result, a vote will be held at this year's meeting to confirm the Zone 3 representative.

The nomination period will be open from November 1-30, 2026, with nominees being announced in the December NSCP newsletter. Please contact the office for a nomination form.

**Not sure which NSCP electoral zone you're in?** Check the map → to find your county and corresponding zone.

Zone meeting details will be shared soon through NSCP communication channels, including our website, Facebook page, and member e-news.



## CLIMATE ADAPTATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAM: FINAL REPORT

As we head into fall, the Climate Adaptation Leadership Program (CALP) is wrapping up. The program officially finishes on September 30<sup>th</sup>, so I thought this would be a good opportunity to look back at some of the work that has been completed and, more importantly, what will continue after CALP.

The goal of CALP has been to help cattle and sheep producers prepare for Nova Scotia's changing climate. When the original Climate Change Adaptation Strategy was developed, producers identified things like land, healthy soil, water, quality feed and infrastructure as some of the areas most vulnerable to climate change. A lot of the work since then has focused on taking those broad priorities and turning them into information and opportunities producers can use.

Over the last few years, we've held more than 30 producer events including workshops, webinars and field days. Topics have ranged from silvopasture and targeted grazing to agrivoltaics, forage management, animal health and biodiversity. We've also developed tools and materials such as the Climate Change SWOT Analysis, Self-Assessment Tool, monthly checklists and weekly Best Management Practice posts.

One project that had a lot of producer interest was the 2024 CALP Lime Program. Lime may not immediately come to mind when we talk about climate adaptation, but improving soil pH helps plants make better use of fertilizer and can improve pasture productivity. With fertilizer being a significant expense, getting more out of what we apply makes sense from both an economic and environmental standpoint.

Research has also been part of the program. Projects have looked at methoprene and its effect on dung beetles, the potential for wool pellets as a soil amendment and edible netwrap trials. We've also worked on livestock comfort information specific to our region. Some of these ideas may develop into useful tools for producers, while others may simply help us better understand what works under Nova Scotia conditions.

One thing I've learned through CALP is that climate adaptation doesn't have to mean completely changing the way you farm. Often, it is about looking at what you're already doing and finding areas where you can become more prepared. Improving soil health, having reliable water, extending the grazing season or providing livestock with more shade can all help an operation handle challenging weather.

Although CALP finishes September 30<sup>th</sup>, there are still a couple of projects to look forward to.

In 2027, we are planning silvopasture webinars and workshops. There has been quite a bit of interest in silvopasture through previous CALP events. Using trees and pasture together may provide livestock with additional shelter while also making use of areas of the farm that aren't always utilized for grazing. The upcoming sessions will give producers a chance to learn more about where silvopasture might fit on Nova Scotia farms.

We're also working on a children's book, *Willow and Fern the Wildlife Helpers*, planned for spring 2027. The book will help younger generations understand roles cattle and sheep can play in Nova Scotia's ecosystem and agricultural landscape.

Thanks to everyone who participated in an event, filled out a survey, hosted us on their farm or shared an idea over the last few years. There is still plenty of work to do, but hopefully CALP has provided a few more tools and ideas producers can use along the way.

As I've said before, not all change is bad, and we need to be ready to adapt as we move forward.

Geoff Larkin, CALP Coordinator

## MARITIME BEEF COUNCIL: FORAGE FIELD DAY UPDATE

The 2026 Atlantic Forage Field Day took place on August 5 and brought together nearly 50 farmers, researchers, and extension and industry representatives from across the Maritimes. The event consisted of the morning session held at the River Hebert/Joggins & Area Community Centre, with participants travelling to the Minudie Community Pasture for an afternoon pasture walk. This was a departure from the event's traditional location at the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Research Farm in Nappan.

The event was offered free of charge to participants through support from the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs in PEI, NB, and NS, the Farmers for Climate Solutions (FaRM) program, and sponsors of the Maritime Beef Council. This support was instrumental in making the event accessible to producers and industry participants from throughout the region.

The morning presentations covered a range of forage and grazing management topics. AAFC researchers Dr. Kathleen Glover and Dr. Yousef Papadopoulos provided updates on research taking place at the Nappan Research Farm, including high-stock-density grazing and forage breeding. Jason Cavadini with the UW-Madison Division of Extension spoke about maximizing pasture performance through effective management, forage selection, legumes, and consideration of forage maturity. Geoff Larkin of the Agri-Commodity Management Association discussed the use of virtual grazing and e-collars at Minudie, while Kevin Smith, a patron of the Minudie Community Pasture, shared information about the pasture's background and history.

Participants travelled by bus to Minudie for a pasture walk, delivered in partnership with Perennia Food and Agriculture as part of its Pasture Walk Series. Jason Cavadini, Shane Wood, Perennia's Forage Specialist, and Katie Trottier, Perennia's Ruminant Livestock Specialist, facilitated discussions in the pasture and addressed questions from attendees. Kevin Smith also provided an update on improvements to the livestock handling facilities and shared additional information about the community pasture.

The Maritime Beef Council is pleased to continue supporting this annual event and welcomes ideas for future speakers and topics at [projects@agricommodity.ca](mailto:projects@agricommodity.ca).

We hope to see you at the Maritime Beef Conference on November 6-7 at the Delta Beauséjour in Moncton, NB! For more information, visit [www.maritimebeef.ca/events](http://www.maritimebeef.ca/events).



MARITIME BEEF  
COUNCIL

### MARITIME BEEF CONFERENCE



Delta Beausejour, Moncton, NB



November 6-7, 2026

#### INCLUDING:

- CATTLE MARKET UPDATE - BRENNIA GRANT, CANFAX
- ANIMAL HEALTH, MARKETING & VALUE-CHAIN ROUNDTABLE
- BANQUET DINNER
- KEYNOTE ADDRESSES - JACLYN WILSON & ANNIE WILLIAMS
- MARITIME EXTENSION PANEL

AND MORE!

Beef Producers  
& Students Get

**50% OFF**

With Promo Codes:

**BEEF** or **STUDENT**

#### EARLY-BIRD PRICING

**2 DAYS = \$150**

**1 DAY = \$90**

Ends October 8



Keynote:  
*Jaclyn Wilson*



Wilson Flying Diamond Ranch



Keynote:  
*Annie Williams*



Mineral Advice Limited

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO REGISTER,

PLEASE VISIT: [www.maritimebeef.ca](http://www.maritimebeef.ca)



Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et  
Agroalimentaire Canada

## ATLANTIC STOCKYARDS LTD. FALL FEEDER SALE DATES

**Tuesdays @ 10:00 AM:**

- October 6 & 20
- November 3 & 17
- December 1

**Special Sale - Breeding Stock:**

- Saturday, Oct. 24 (12:00 PM)

Producers are encouraged to pre-book all feeder cattle as early as possible.

Pre-registered cattle will be listed on their website.

Vaccinated cattle must be accompanied by a vaccination declaration and a receipt for the vaccine used. Vaccinated cattle will be uniquely identified.

For future sales, please visit [atlanticstockyards.com/sale-dates](http://atlanticstockyards.com/sale-dates).

## MARITIME BEEF TESTING SOCIETY

The Maritime Beef Testing Society (MBTS) is now accepting applications for the 2026-27 winter bull and heifer test. We are entering the 12<sup>th</sup> season of using the GrowSafe feeding system to evaluate bull performance.

This year's consignment forms have been added to the MBTS website and are due back by October 9, 2026, and are available at [www.maritimebeefteststation.ca/consignment](http://www.maritimebeefteststation.ca/consignment).

## UPCOMING SALES



**Balamore Farm Shoreline Female Sale**

**October 12 @ Balamore Farm, Great Village, NS**

More information can be found on their Facebook page - reach it by scanning the QR code to the left!

**Atlantic Alliance Production Sale**

**October 24 @ Maritime Beef Test Station, Nappan, NS**

Check out their Facebook page for full details, available at the QR code to the right.



## LIVING LABS RESOURCES



Living Lab - Nova Scotia has **two new factsheets** to help navigate two of the beneficial management practices they are trialing: **shelterbelts** and **restoring riparian zones**. These factsheets help guide you through the choices that need to be made and have tips to help make your installations a success.

Check them out to learn the how-tos of installing a shelterbelt or a riparian zone on your farm:  
[www.nsfa-fane.ca/living-lab-resources/](http://www.nsfa-fane.ca/living-lab-resources/)

## 2026 NSCP PROGRAMS

**Nova Scotia Beef Herd Renewal and Improvement Program\***

Funding support for elite sires, heifer retention, seed stock development, herd health initiatives, preconditioning services, VBP+ audits, and surveillance systems.

**Application Deadline: February 15, 2027**



\*Program funding provided by the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture.

**Nova Scotia Soil, Pasture & Forage Management Program**

A funding program for lime purchases, and/or soil, manure and feed analyses.

**Application Deadline: November 30, 2026**



For payment details and program criteria, scan the QR code to the left or visit: [nscattle.ca/members/programs](http://nscattle.ca/members/programs)

Programs from the NS Dept. of Ag. are available at [novascotia.ca/programs](http://novascotia.ca/programs).



## ADVANCE PAYMENTS PROGRAM

ADVANCES AVAILABLE IN MULTIPLE PROVINCES

ADMIN@AGRICOMMODITY.CA 902-895-0581 AGRICOMMODITY.CA/APP



## CASH FLOW FOR FARMERS

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product

### AVAILABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING COMMODITIES

CHRISTMAS TREES, MINK, LIVESTOCK, MAPLE SYRUP, GRAINS/OIL-SEEDS, BERRIES, APPLES, FIELD VEGETABLES, GREENHOUSE PLANTS & VEGETABLES, NURSERY TREES & SHRUBS, AND OTHERS

THE ADVANCE PAYMENTS PROGRAM IS A FEDERAL PROGRAM, ADMINISTERED BY THE ACMA.



Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada  
Advance Payments  
Program

Agriculture et  
Agroalimentaire Canada  
Programme de  
paiements anticipés

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