

# DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

We weathered a fairly warm fall this year, delivering a plentiful forage season. Looking ahead to winter, the NSCP will be busy with events such as the Zone and Annual meetings, as well as working towards the completion of ongoing projects.

The two NSCP Programs, Genetic Improvement and Soil, Pasture & Forage Management, will open back up January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, with the same two deadlines of June 30<sup>th</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup>. Applications can be found at [www.nscattle.ca/members/programs/](http://www.nscattle.ca/members/programs/).

Zone meetings will occur January 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. We encourage all producers to attend, and members are reminded that they can attend any of the meetings but will only be able to vote (where applicable) in their Zone. Please note that Zone 6 will be held virtually this year. There will be three elections in 2024 for Zones 1, Zone 4, and Dealer Director.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, in Truro. The location will be announced early 2024 on the NSCP website, social media accounts and monthly e-newsletter. We hope to see you there!

The Maritime Beef Testing Station (MBTS) will once again offer a sale this year on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024. For updates on the MBTS 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Breeding Stock Sale, please check their website frequently at [www.maritimebeefeststation.ca](http://www.maritimebeefeststation.ca) and follow them on Facebook.

On the **yellow inserted form**, you will find the 2024 Grower License Application and Verification of Levies Paid for 2023. It is important that this form is completed and sent back to the NSCP office each year, even if levies had been previously collected at the point of sale. By sending your completed form to the office, you are ensuring that you remain in good standing with the NSCP, receive industry updates, have access to industry events, and are eligible for cattle-specific programs. These forms are due back by January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

We continue to deliver two unique services to our members: On-Farm Cattle Preconditioning and Carcass Ultrasound. Through preconditioning services, producers can book any of the following services: handling equipment and help, tagging, age verification, vaccination administration, castration, dehorning and/or weighing. While the carcass ultrasound provides information on yearling bulls and heifers, for carcass traits selection before they are placed into your breeding program. For additional information, please visit [nscattle.ca](http://nscattle.ca) and select these services under the "For Members" page.

Please ensure you are opening your electronic newsletter that you are emailed monthly (the last Friday of each month) for industry events and updates, as there are also many important industry surveys happening right now.

A reminder that NSCP has resources relating to transportation regulations available on our website under the Animal Health section. This includes CFIA resources, as well as a fillable livestock manifest document. We also have manifest books available at our office for a fee of \$10 per book, which includes 50 triplicate copies.

Please ensure you subscribe to local agriculture podcasts, including Maritime AgCast and the Verified Beef Production Plus podcast, Simply Verified Beef. Maritime AgCast can be found at [www.anchor.fm/maritime-agcast](http://www.anchor.fm/maritime-agcast) and Simply Verified Beef – the Podcast at: [www.anchor.fm/simply-verified-beef](http://www.anchor.fm/simply-verified-beef). You may also stream both podcasts on your favourite podcast platforms.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the office at 902-893-7455 or [office@nscattle.ca](mailto:office@nscattle.ca).

*Larry Weatherby*

Larry Weatherby, Chair

## ZONE MEETINGS

Zone	Date	Time	Location	Election
1	January 8 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 PM	Whycocomagh Waterfront Centre	Yes
2	January 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Pictou Wellness Centre	-
3	January 9 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 PM	Super 8 Amherst	-
4	January 9 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	NSFA Conference Room	Yes
5	January 10 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 PM	Berwick Fire Hall	-
6	January 10 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Zoom (virtual)	-
Dealer	January 12 <sup>th</sup>	12:00 PM	NSFA Conference Room	Yes

Katie Trottier and Jonathan Wort, both of Perennia, will present at the Zone Meetings on keeping heifers – developing vs. buying, including coverage on heifer management, growing them out (breeding to calving), and touching on forage quality and mineral importance.

For the Zone 6 Zoom meeting link and information on the Zone meetings, please visit [nscattle.ca](http://nscattle.ca).

## NSCP ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The NSCP Annual General Meeting will be held Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, beginning at 10:00 am in Truro (location TBD). Registration will start at 9:30 AM. Please check NSCP website, social media and e-news for updates.

## SEEKING NOMINATIONS: PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

The NSCP is now accepting nominations for the Kings Mutual Producer of the Year Award. The objective of the award is to recognize a Nova Scotia beef producer or dealer annually for their outstanding contributions to the provincial cattle industry. Nomination forms are available by visiting [www.nscattle.ca/awards](http://www.nscattle.ca/awards) or by contacting the office at 902-893-7455. Completed nomination forms are due to the NSCP office by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, and the winner will be announced at the Annual General Meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. The winner will be presented with a plaque and a NSCP jacket.

## MARITIME BEEF TESTING STATION

The Maritime Beef Testing Station (MBTS) will once again hold a breeding stock sale of bulls and heifers this year, occurring on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Please check [maritimebeeftestingstation.ca](http://maritimebeeftestingstation.ca) for sale updates.

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## ATLANTIC STOCKYARDS LTD - WINTER SALE DATES

Sales begin at 10:00am on:

- January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Special Sale:  
Balamore Farm Ltd. Thickness Sells Bull Sale (2:00pm)

Producers are encouraged to pre-register all feeder cattle, which Atlantic Stockyards Limited (ASL) will list 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. All cattle will be sold by order of arrival.

For more information, visit [www.atlanticstockyards.com](http://www.atlanticstockyards.com)

The holidays are here once again, so we are again issuing our annual challenge - give a gift that gives back to your whole community by committing to spending some of your holiday shopping budget locally. Many local businesses are struggling with increased costs and could use your help now more than ever. You are sure to benefit from a unique shopping experience as you help support local businesses, local jobs and the local economy by spending locally!

Local gifts have a richer story and are typically one-of-a-kind and handmade by talented and creative Nova Scotians who love what they do. You can not beat the customer service when you shop at local businesses or buy from local craftspeople or food and beverage producers. They know their products like nobody else and are more than happy to spend the time making sure you find that ideal gift for the hard to buy for person on your list!

This holiday season, please commit to local in your community. Start with one gift or one business at a time! Please do not forget that it's not just about gifting; you can also shift your holiday spending to local meats, produce, preserves, baked goods, Christmas trees and other holiday décor. You'll be surprised by how many local choices you can make once you start looking!

# NOVEMBER ATLANTIC STOCKYARDS LTD. FEEDER SALE RESULTS

## November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Sale Summary:

970 Head                                      571 lb Average                                      245 Cents per lb average                                      Gross Return \$1399/hd  
508 steers (\$273 @ 580lbs), 399 heifers (\$220 @ 547lbs), 63 bulls and stags (\$222 @ 637lbs)  
184 unvaccinated cattle sold for 221.0 cents per lb at 576 lbs for a gross return of \$1273  
786 vaccinated cattle sold for 249.0 cents per lb at 569 lbs for a gross return of \$1417 (\$144 premium)

## November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, Sale Summary:

428 Head                                      554 lb Average                                      275 Cents per lb average                                      Gross Return \$1524/hd  
208 steers (\$293 @ 605lbs), 169 heifers (\$257 @ 517lbs), 50 bulls and stags (\$271 @ 498lbs)  
88 unvaccinated cattle sold for 243.0 cents per lb at 559 lbs for a gross return of \$1358  
340 vaccinated cattle sold for 281.0 cents per lb at 553 lbs for a gross return of \$1554 (\$196 premium)



**ATLANTIC**  
**Beef**  
PRODUCTS INC.

## LOCAL AGRICULTURE PODCASTS

The Agri-Commodity Management Association (ACMA), hosts *Maritime AgCast* - an agricultural podcast based on discussions of important topics for livestock farmers with local, regional and national guests.



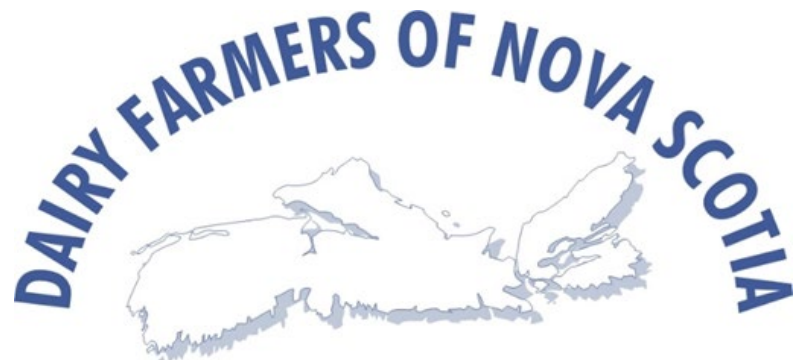
The podcast episodes include topics about disease management, forage and pasture management, bull selection, and much more!

Season 4 will resume in Fall 2024 – take this opportunity to miss out on any episodes you may have missed! Please visit [www.anchor.fm/maritime-agcast](http://www.anchor.fm/maritime-agcast) to listen now!



Into its second season now, the Verified Beef Production Plus podcast, *Simply Verified Beef*, focuses entirely on beef content. Such topics include processing, labelling, tough decisions, audits, and more!

Subscribe today through your favourite podcast platforms, such as Spotify, iTunes, or Google, or listen online at: [www.anchor.fm/simply-verified-beef](http://www.anchor.fm/simply-verified-beef).



## NOVA SCOTIA CATTLE PRODUCERS

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