

## NOVA SCOTIA EVENTS

- Jan. 6 - 10, 2025 | NSCP Zone Meetings
- Feb. 5 & 6, 2025 | Digital Harvest & Innovations in Agriculture
  - Visit [www.perennia.ca/innovationconference/](http://www.perennia.ca/innovationconference/) to learn more or to register.
- Feb. 28, 2025 | Perennia Forage Day
  - Details TBD; keep an eye on [www.perennia.ca/learning/](http://www.perennia.ca/learning/) and the NSCP e-news for updates.
- Mar. 1, 2025, 10:00 AM | Truro, NS | NSCP AGM
  - Venue TBD; registration beginning at 9:30 AM. Watch NSCP's website, social media and e-news for further updates.

## REGIONAL EVENTS

- Jan. 28, 2025 | Amherst, NS | Maritime Angus Association AGM
  - Visit [www.cdnangus.ca/maritime-angus](http://www.cdnangus.ca/maritime-angus) for more information.
- Feb. 21 & 22, 2025 | Truro, NS | (Youth) Stars Leadership Conference
  - Contact [canadianshorthornoffice@gmail.com](mailto:canadianshorthornoffice@gmail.com) to learn more.
- Apr. 5, 2025 | Nappan, NS | Maritime Beef Testing Society Annual Breeding Stock Sale
  - Visit [www.maritimebeefteststation.ca](http://www.maritimebeefteststation.ca) for more information.



Scan the QR code to the left to learn about Holdanca Farms, winner of the Canadian Cattle Association's 2024 Environmental Stewardship Award.

ATLANTIC BEEF SCHOOL  
NEW MODULES FOR 2025

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**FEBRUARY 8, 2025 | PEI**  
Beef School: Cattle Handling  
Guest Lecturer: Reg Steward

Reg Steward is the Superintendent of Field Operations and the British Columbia Provincial Ranch Safety Consultant for AgSafe. He has served in this capacity for two decades.

**FEBRUARY 2025**  
Beef School: Advocacy & Leadership  
Launching Online & On-Demand!

**MARCH 15, 2025 | Amherst, NS**  
Beef School: Feeding & Nutrition

**In Person MODULE TUITION: \$100** Per person, HST included

Apply code **BEEF** at checkout to get **50% OFF**

For more information, contact **AMY HIGGINS**

Phone: (902) 957-2606  
Email: [projects@agricommodity.ca](mailto:projects@agricommodity.ca)  
Visit [maritimebeef.ca](http://maritimebeef.ca)



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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.

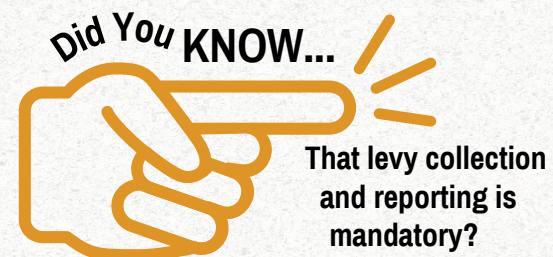
As a part of our work on the Nova Scotia Cattle and Sheep Sector Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, we partnered with Perennia Food and Agriculture and the Sheep Producers Association of Nova Scotia on a well-attended pasture walk series this summer and fall across the province. Additionally, Geoff Larkin, Climate Change Adaptation Coordinator, participated in multiple Interactive Biodiversity Workshops throughout Nova Scotia with Trevor Davison, Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture and Shane Wood, Perennia Food and Agriculture, where various biodiversity tools and management considerations were discussed.

The Maritime Beef Council (MBC) hosted the Maritime Beef Conference November 8th-9th, at the Delta Beausejour in Moncton, NB, which many NSCP Board representatives attended. This sold-out event saw great producer support, focusing on the Healthy Cattle, Healthy Grass, Healthy Profit theme. Stay tuned to MBC's website and social media for information on upcoming events, such as the Atlantic Beef School modules occurring this winter.

NSCP Zone meetings will be held January 6th-10th, 2025, and we encourage all producers to attend. A reminder that members can attend any of the meetings but will only be able to vote (where applicable) in their Zone. For 2025, there will be elections for Zones 2 and 5, as well as Zone 4, the position appointed by the Board in 2024. Additional Zone Meeting information can be found further into this newsletter.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on March 1st, 2025, in Truro. The location will be announced in early 2025 on the NSCP website, social media accounts and monthly e-newsletter. We hope to see you there!

The Maritime Beef Testing Station will once again offer a sale this year, occurring April 5th, 2025. For updates on the MBTS 52nd Annual Breeding Stock Sale, check their website frequently at [www.maritimebeefteststation.ca](http://www.maritimebeefteststation.ca) and follow them on Facebook.



On the **purple inserted form**, you will find the 2025 Grower License Application and Verification of Levies Paid for 2024. You may notice this year's form looks a little different, as we are trying to gather Nova Scotia herd information to keep within the NSCP office. Please complete these new data questions to the best of your ability. 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. Forms are due back by January 15th, 2025.

A reminder of the two available NSCP programs: the Nova Scotia Beef Herd Renewal & Improvement Program, and the Nova Scotia Genetic Improvement Program. Both programs have February 15th, 2025, final application deadlines, however, the Beef Herd Renewal & Improvement Program applications will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis until program maximums have been reached (so don't wait until the February 15th deadline for this one!). Program applications can be found at [www.nscattle.ca/members/programs](http://www.nscattle.ca/members/programs).

We are still in the process of establishing Livestock Price Insurance in Nova Scotia but are optimistic to hopefully launch this service shortly!

A reminder that we continue to deliver two unique services to NSCP members: On-Farm Cattle Preconditioning and Carcass Ultrasound. For additional information, please visit [nscattle.ca](http://nscattle.ca) and select these services under the "For Members" page.

The NSCP Board and office staff wish you a joyous holiday season, and a very happy New Year.

Please ensure you regularly check the NSCP website and social media for upcoming meetings and workshops. For any questions, comments or concerns, please contact the office at 902-893-7455 or [office@nscattle.ca](mailto:office@nscattle.ca).

*Larry Weatherby*  
Larry Weatherby, Chair

## RECENT ATLANTIC STOCKYARDS LTD. FEEDER SALE RESULTS

## Nov. 19, 2024, Sale Summary

465 head sold for 351 cents per lb (586 lb average) for a gross return of \$2056.86 per head  
227 steers (\$398 @ 603 lbs), 199 heifers (\$332 @ 562 lbs), 39 bulls and stags (\$320 @ 619 lbs)  
154 unvaccinated cattle sold for 311.0 cents per lb @ 624 lbs for a gross return of \$1940.64  
311 vaccinated cattle sold for 372.0 cents per lb @ 564 lbs for a gross return of \$2098.08 (\$157 premium)

## Dec. 3, 2024, Sale Summary

526 head sold for 351 cents per lb (557 lb average) for a gross return of \$1955.07 per head  
294 steers (\$370 @ 583 lbs), 199 heifers (\$333 @ 531 lbs), 33 bulls and stags (\$325 @ 533 lbs)  
111 unvaccinated cattle sold for 311.0 cents per lb @ 598 lbs for a gross return of \$1859.78  
415 vaccinated cattle sold for 369.0 cents per lb @ 537 lbs for a gross return of \$1981.53 (\$121 premium)

## ATLANTIC STOCKYARDS LTD. WINTER FEEDER SALE DATES

- Beginning at 10:00 AM:** Producers are encouraged to pre-register all feeder cattle, which Atlantic Stockyards Limited will list on their website.
- **January 18, 2025**
  - **February 15, 2025** 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.
  - **March 14, 2025**
  - **March 16, 2025** For more information, please visit [www.atlanticstockyards.com](http://www.atlanticstockyards.com).

## NOVA SCOTIA CATTLE PRODUCERS

7 Atlantic Central Drive, East Mountain, Nova Scotia B6L 2Z2  
[www.nscattle.ca](http://www.nscattle.ca) | T: (902) 893-7455 | [office@nscattle.ca](mailto:office@nscattle.ca)





## 2025 Zone Meeting Schedule

Jan 6	Zone 1	7:00 PM	Whycocomagh Waterfront Centre	-
	Zone 2	1:00 PM	Pictou County Wellness Centre	Election
Jan 7	Zone 3	1:00 PM	Super 8 Amherst	-
	Zone 4	7:00 PM	NSFA Conference Room	Election
Jan 8	Zone 5	7:00 PM	Super 8 Windsor	Election
	Zone 6	1:00 PM	Coastal Inn, Digby	-
Jan 10	Dealer	12:00 PM	NSFA Conference Room	-

This year's Zone Meetings will feature a presentation from James McCaughern, Harper Adams University, on maximizing forage and greenhouse gas emissions reporting.

### NSCP ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The NSCP Annual General Meeting will be held Saturday, March 1st, 2025, 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.

### MARITIME BEEF COUNCIL UPDATE

Recently, the Maritime Beef Council held the Maritime Beef Conference on November 7 & 8. We had 130 people in attendance and feedback thus far has been positive! Also, it was encouraging to see the demographics in the room shifting to a younger generation.

We went live with the Maritime Livestock Price Insurance Pilot Project back in June and continue to do some education around that piece. Calf and feeder indices in PEI and NB. NS had a last-minute regulation change that delayed their entry but they will be joining as soon as that is settled up. Head over to [maritimebeef.ca](http://maritimebeef.ca) and scroll down to sign up for the LPI newsletter that sends information out most Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. There will be no availability from December 13 to January 6; on January 7, the feeder (850 lb) index will resume, and on February 4, the calf (600 lb) index will resume in preparation for the 2025 calf run.



**RAISING the STEAKS**  
A MARITIME BEEF COUNCIL PUBLICATION | WINTER 24/25

WELFARE CONSIDERATIONS FOR Overwintering CATTLE

WHY ARE YOU SO LAME?  
EVALUATING LAMENESS IN CATTLE

IMPROVEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE Maritimes  
COW/CALF SURVEY INSIGHTS

Feedlot Dominance  
FEEDLOT MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

There will be 3 offerings of the Atlantic Beef School from January to March 2025. February 8 will be Cattle Handling Systems, featuring Reg Steward from BC; this session will be held in PEI. On March 15, we will host the Feeding & Nutrition module in Amherst, NS. The Leadership & Advocacy module will be available online by the end of February for you to complete at your own pace when convenient.

We also have plans on continuing feedlot club meetings, which will have happened in early December. The next round will happen in mid-March; there may be an additional date, depending on participant interest. The calf club had sold in some of the fall feeder sales at Atlantic Stockyards and recruiting for next year is ongoing. We have had 265 head selling in the Fall feeder sale run at Atlantic Stockyards. If anyone is interested in learning more about selling with this group, please reach out.

We also worked with some different beef organizations to work together on having a Beef Booth at the Farm Mechanization Show in order to promote some of the resources, and events that will be happening. The intention is to increase the visibility and reach hopefully, perhaps get some resources and information out to producers directly in a different way than we have before.

Lastly, if you haven't picked up a copy yet, check out this winter's Raising the Steaks publication at [www.maritimebeef.ca](http://www.maritimebeef.ca).

Scan the above QR code to read this season's issue of *Raising the Steaks* from MBC!  
Featured this winter: Overwintering Welfare Considerations, Evaluating Lameness & Cow/Calf Survey Insights.

### PRODUCER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

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 31st, 2025, and the winner will be announced at the Annual General Meeting on March 1st, 2025. The winner will be presented with a plaque and an NSCP jacket.

*Please note both the nominator and nominee must be in good standing with the NSCP.*

### CLIMATE ADAPTATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

A dry and warm October has transitioned to a wet and cloudy fall. With summer in the rear view, and winter on the horizon it's time for producers to get ready for the next season.



**BCRC**  
Extended  
Grazing  
Systems  
Checklist

For anyone looking to “dip their toes in” stockpiled perennials are a good one to start with. In the first part of August, identify a field or pasture that would work to stockpile, with the goal of grazing when other pastures become dormant. Choose a field that has adequate water, fencing, fertility, and forage species that will hold their palatability and nutritional value later in the fall.

Another option for our climate could be bale grazing, or a hybrid of bale grazing into the fall. Identify an area of your field of pasture that is low in fertility, low in production or has some weed pressure. Instead of committing to it for an entire winter, try it for a month to see if it's a good fit in your operation. Flexibility is key when it comes to extended grazing management. Every year is going to be different, so always be prepared with a backup plan in case conditions are not favorable. When conditions are good again, you can continue with your original plan.

There is also excitement and growth in both the cattle and sheep sectors in Nova Scotia. The Maritime Beef Conference and the 4th Annual Sheep Industry Conference were held in November with record attendance at both. Excellent speakers combined with an interactive crowd allowed for great questions and sparked some detailed discussions. Anytime that producers become more efficient in their operations it makes them more resilient to climate change. If you were unable to attend these sessions, make plans to attend them next time!

Take some time this winter and complete the CALP Self Assessment tool found on the NSCP website and the SPANS website, under the Climate tab. It's a great time to take stock of how you are adapting to climate change on your operation. To help become familiar with CALP, this self-assessment outlines key areas relating to climate adaptation goals and practices. You will be assigned a score based on your answers for each section, and an overall score that you will be able to see instantly. The key areas that it outlines are Soil pH, Nutrient Management Planning, Forages Species Selection, Grazing Management, Forage Quality and Genetic Selection.

### COMMIT TO LOCAL FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The holidays are upon us once again, so we are again issuing our annual challenge - give a gift that gives back to your whole community by 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 often 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 better than anyone and are 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 shopping local in your community. Start with one gift or one business at a time! A reminder 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!



**December Checklist**

Climate Adaptation BMPs

- ☒ Prepare for the upcoming calving season
- ☒ CALP SWOT analysis and evaluate the impacts of climate change on your operation
- ☒ Water test winter sources, and winterize systems

<https://nscattle.ca/climate/>