

Programs

Agriculture

- Agriculture Skills Student Bursary Program
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility Agriculture Support Program
- Organic Certification Rebate Program
- Plant Your Roots Program



For full list of programs, visit novascotia.ca/programs or scan the code above.



2025 NSCP PROGRAMS

Nova Scotia Beef Herd Renewal and Improvement Program*

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

Application Deadline: February 15, 2026 (first come first served)

***This program has been EXTENDED through to February 2029, thanks to funding provided by the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture. Changes to HEIFER RETENTION for the 2026 program year (opening April 1, 2026) include:**

- \$800 per retained bred heifer (an increase of \$500 from the current program offering of \$300!)
- Heifers will only be eligible once in their lifetime
- Annual marketings will be tracked for growth for producers who apply multiple years
- Heifers must be retained for 5 years



Nova Scotia Soil, Pasture & Forage Management Program

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

Application Deadline: November 30, 2025

For payment details and program criteria, scan the QR code to the left or visit our programs page at nscattle.ca/members/programs



NOVA SCOTIA CATTLE PRODUCERS

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PERENNIA RESOURCES

Perennia Livestock & Field Crops Extension on FB

Visit facebook.com/periennialivestockandfieldcrops for information on ruminant livestock and crop management, maintained by Perennia's Specialists in Ruminant Livestock, Dairy, Forages, and Field Crops.

Maritime Pasture Manual

This manual aims to guide Atlantic Canadian producers on beneficial management practices for pasture management to improve production, as well as environmental and economic sustainability. The updated version of the Pasture Manual was funded by the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's On-Farm Climate Action Fund program.

Check out the downloadable online version at ofcaf.perennia.ca/resources/rotational-grazing/ or get a physical copy when you attend an OFCAF event or visit Perennia's offices in Kentville and Truro.



ADVANCE PAYMENTS PROGRAM

ADVANCES AVAILABLE IN MULTIPLE PROVINCES

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



CASH FLOW FOR FARMERS

Up to \$250,000 interest free

Up to an additional \$750,000 available at prime minus 0.1%

Repay as you market 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



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As summer winds down, the hot, dry conditions have been hard to miss. While the heat challenged pastures and crops, we hope the season still brought strong harvests and quality feed. For up-to-date drought management tips from industry specialists, check out our Facebook page.

Here's a snapshot of what the Nova Scotia Cattle Producers have been working on over the past few months:

Atlantic Forage Field Day

On August 6th, NSCP board representatives attended the Maritime Beef Council's 11th Annual Atlantic Forage Field Day in Nappan, NS. With nearly 90 participants—including producers, extension staff, students, and industry stakeholders—it was a strong day of learning and networking. The day featured presentations from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Perennia Food and Agriculture, Agri-Commodity Management Association, and Atlantic Living Labs. Attendees also had the chance to view equipment displays from Kingston Farm Supply and Hustler Equipment.

Pasture Walks & Climate Change Strategy

As part of our ongoing 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 to host pasture walks this summer and fall across the province. In August, Geoff Larkin, Climate Change Coordinator, hosted Silvopasture workshops in Falmouth and Old Barns, where over 60 attendees learned the processes, opportunities, and practical implementation of silvopasturing from guest speaker Brett Chedzoy, Cornell University.

Maritime Beef Test Society

The Maritime Beef Test Society's 2025 Annual General Meeting will be held virtually on November 13th at 7:00 PM. Please register in advance of the meeting at maritimebeefteststation.ca.

Funding Programs

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

- **Nova Scotia Beef Herd Renewal and Improvement Program**** – Closing: February 15, 2026.
 - This program supports elite sires, heifer retention, seed stock development, herd health, preconditioning services, VBP+ audits, and surveillance systems.
 - ***This program has been extended to 2029, thanks to funding provided from the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture. See additional information, such as program updates, on page 4 of this newsletter.*
- **Nova Scotia Soil, Pasture & Forage Management Program** – Application deadline: November 30, 2025.
 - This program supports lime purchases, and/or soil, manure and feed analyses.

Program details and application forms for both programs are available at nscattle.ca/members/programs.

Upcoming Zone Meetings

Looking ahead, NSCP Zone Meetings will be held January 12-14, 2026, with full details in the December newsletter.

Beef Day @ UPEI

We're also gearing up for Beef Day @ UPEI, happening November 8th in Charlottetown, PEI. Register today at maritimebeef.ca/events.

Services Available

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

Looking Ahead: Livestock Price Insurance

A reminder that Maritime Livestock Price Insurance (MLPI) is available to Nova Scotia producers, providing coverage against unexpected market price declines over a defined period. To learn more, please contact Amy Higgins at projects@agricommodity.ca or (902) 957-2606. Full program details are also available at ipi.ca/maritime-livestock-price-insurance, where you can subscribe to the MLPI e-news for ongoing 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.

Sincerely,

Larry Weatherby

Larry Weatherby, Chair

MBC & AAFC HOST 11TH ANNUAL FORAGE FIELD DAY

The 2025 edition of the Forage Field Day was held on August 6th in Nappan, NS at the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Research Farm. This year's event had 85 attendees turn out from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island and included farmers, extension agents, and industry. The support of the various sponsors and partners like the PEI, NB, and NS Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, the Farmers for Climate Solutions FaRM program, and the various sponsors of the Maritime Beef Council is invaluable to be able to put on these types of programs at a low or no cost to the producers who attend.



The morning program featured a trip out to the AAFC plots and the beef and forage research team of Dr. Kathleen Glover, Dr. Yousef Papadopoulos, and John Duynisveld all talked about the various research projects that have been ongoing at the farm relating to bioactives, parasitic nematodes, frost seeding and legume incorporation, and management through drought. This was a great opportunity which many took to engage with the researchers to establish how to use the work happening locally in Nappan to improve their own forage production on farm.

The afternoon sessions featured PEI's Les Halliday, who presented on the importance of measuring forage production, followed by an update from the NS, PEI, and NB Living Labs projects, who are now seeing results from some of these multi-year farmer collaborator projects that have been happening in the Maritimes. This was followed by a couple of equipment demonstrations/talks from Kingston Farm Supply and their Arrowquip cattle handling systems and Rangeward fencing products, as well as Leonard Fraser, who brought a Hustler-mounted bale unroller to demonstrate. Shane Wood, Geoff Larkin and John Duynisveld then hosted a presentation about frost seeding which held some very practical tips about the various ways that can be done and some of the challenges and opportunities to get more legumes into the mix.



The feedback on the day has been very positive, with farmers taking elements learned that day back to incorporate into their farm operations. The Maritime Beef Council looks forward to continuing this annual event with AAFC and other partners. If you have any ideas on speakers or topics for future programming, don't hesitate to send them along to projects@agricommodity.ca.

Photo (left to right): Dr. Kathleen Glover, Research Scientist, AAFC & Dr. Yousef Papadopoulos, Research Scientist, AAFC, speaking on research in frost seeding legumes.

SAVE THE DATE!

BEEF DAY JOURNÉE DU BOEUF

• November 8, 2025 / le 8 novembre 2025
• University of Prince Edward Island
• Charlottetown, PE / Î-P-É

@UPEI

\$ 50, TVH inclue. 50% de rabais pour producteurs & étudiants.

\$50
HST included.
Producers & Students
50% OFF



maritimebeef.ca
Facebook: @maritimebeef



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The NSCP are seeking nominations for two Zone Director positions, for Zones 3 and 6, to be elected at their respective Zone meetings (January 12-14, 2026), as well as a Director-at-Large position, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The NSCP AGM will be held on March 7th, 2026, with the location to be announced in the December NSCP newsletter.

The nomination period will be open from November 1st-30th, 2025, with nominees being announced in the December NSCP newsletter. Please contact the office for a nomination form.

MARITIME BEEF TESTING SOCIETY

The Maritime Beef Test Society's **2025 Annual General Meeting** will be held virtually on November 13th at 7:00 PM as a business meeting only. If you are planning to attend, please register ahead of the meeting at maritimebeefteststation.ca.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (CALP) UPDATE

This summer, over 60 producers and industry staff attended pasture walks in Falmouth and Old Barns to learn about silvopasture. Silvopasture is an agroforestry practice that integrates trees, forage, and livestock. Led by Brett Chedzoy, a forester and farmer from New York, the workshops showed how managing woodlots for grazing can boost productivity and help farms adapt to our changing climate. Manning Family Farm and Round Barn Farm were excellent hosts and provided a great environment to explore the topic further.

Silvopasture isn't just about turning animals loose in the woods. It starts with thinning the canopy to let sunlight in and managing debris to establish a healthy seedbed for forage. Grazing is done rotationally to control brush, suppress weeds, and support tree health. The goal is roughly 50% canopy cover (around 60 ft² of basal area per acre). The idea is to let in enough light to grow grass while still providing shade and shelter.

One key takeaway was the concept of "living barns:" establishing shelterbelts or evergreen stands that protect livestock during storms or extreme heat. Brett described using different wooded areas on his farm for shelter during blizzards and cold snaps, saving on infrastructure costs while improving animal welfare.

With more heat stress, dry spells, and intense storms in Nova Scotia, silvopasture offers real benefits. Shade keeps animals cool and extends the grazing season. Tree roots improve soil structure and hold moisture, helping pastures withstand extremes. Plus, it's a chance to make use of underutilized woodlots already on the farm.

If you're trying it already or are curious to learn more, please reach out by email at climate@agricommodity.ca. We are just scratching the surface with this adaptation strategy, and we're excited to explore new opportunities. We farm in a forested landscape; it's time to make use of the resources right at our fingertips.

Geoff Larkin
CALP Coordinator

LIVESTOCK TAX DEFERRAL

Due to changing weather conditions, many regions of Nova Scotia now qualify for the 2025 Livestock Tax Deferral. This support helps producers manage the impacts of extreme weather.

To see which regions were added, please visit www.nscattle.ca/members/programs/ or scan the QR code to the right:



ATLANTIC STOCKARDS LTD. - FALL FEEDER SALES

Tuesdays, beginning at 10:00 AM:

- November 1 & 18
- December 2

For more information, please visit atlanticstockyards.com.

Producers are encouraged to pre-register all feeder cattle. Atlantic Stockyards Limited will list all pre-registered cattle 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.