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*Agronomy Corner*

Wondering what's going on in the fields? We've got you covered! Be sure to sign up for our e-mail list to get all the current agronomic information you need. Just go to [countyfarmcentre.com/crop-inputs](http://countyfarmcentre.com/crop-inputs) and fill out your information. You can also follow us on twitter @ctyfarmcentre to see what's happening!

*Feed Department*

**Forage Production and The Potential Breakthrough of Reduced Lignin Alfalfa Varieties**

Alfalfa over the years has played a huge roll in dairy diets and has been a forage feed of choice for a lot of dairymen. Just when we thought we were reaching dietary plateaus for our dairy rations along comes new low lignin alfalfa varieties that have the potential to drastically rewrite the book on dairy cow diets.



I was able to attend the 2017 Herd Health and Nutrition Conference sponsored by PRO-Dairy at Cornell University with Mike and one of the seminars that we sat in on

was by Dr. Dan Undersander from the University of Wisconsin on reduced lignin alfalfa varieties and their potential impact they will have in the dairy industry.

Conventional alfalfa varieties have been a great source of high soluble proteins and rumen degradable proteins but their digestibility and intakes have been limited by low cell wall digestibility. Cell walls compose about 40-50% of harvested forage and are composed of cellulose, lignin and hemicellulose and these components limit rumen microbe degradation.

Recently three alfalfa breeding companies have announced the development of reduced lignin varieties with the idea that these varieties will have greater cell wall digestibility and as a result greater feeding value. These companies and their varieties boast reduced lignin values from 5% to 18% .Dairy cow feeding trials with a portion of these low lignin alfalfa's in the ration have shown an increase of over a kg of milk production per day.

Other studies on reduced lignin varieties have confirmed there can be a 7 day delay in harvesting time while still maintaining the same quality a 28 day schedule offers. This delayed schedule will allow greater yields with less cuts, less frequent harvest costs and less ground compaction. Producers will need to evaluate to see if these varieties - while more expensive - will work in their own specific circumstances but this is just the beginning. Quality Seeds already has a low lignin variety available.

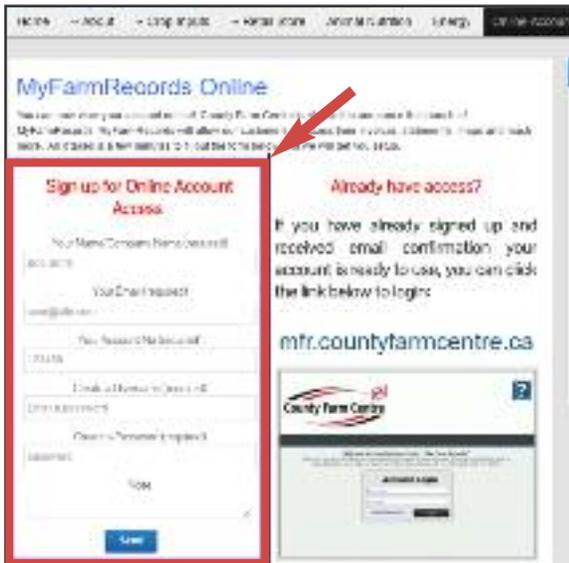
Good planting and be safe.  
Dave

## My Farm Records Online Account Access

County Farm Centre is pleased to announce the launch of My Farm Records - a website where our customers can view their account details, invoices, statements and more. My Farm Records is fast, easy-to-use and accessible from any connected device.

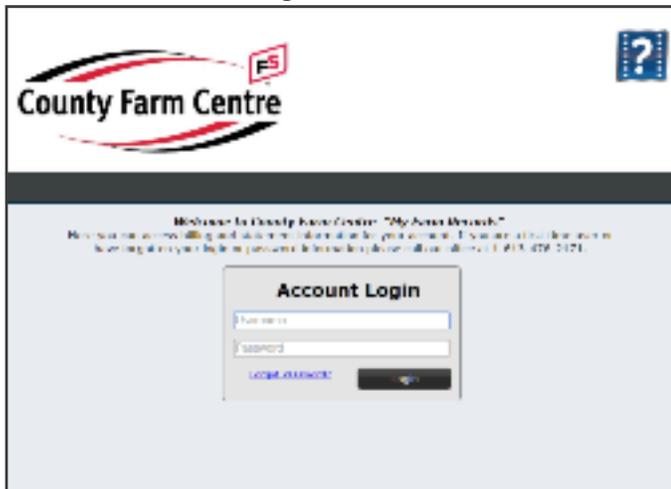
If you would like to signup for online access to your account, please follow the steps below:

1. Visit [countyfarmcentre.com](http://countyfarmcentre.com) and click on Online Account from the top menu.



2. Complete and submit the signup form. You will receive an email when your account is setup and ready to use.

3. Once your account is created. Go to [mfr.countyfarmcentre.ca](http://mfr.countyfarmcentre.ca)



4. Login with your username and password.

5. After logging in, a page loads displaying your accounts with balances. If you have multiple accounts, they will all be listed here. Click the blue account number to view the account details. Only one account can be viewed at a time.

Account	Current Balance	Prepay Balance
9999999	\$0.00	\$0.00

6. Account details can be restricted by date range to quickly find the transaction you are looking for. Invoices and statements have a PDF icon beside the invoice number. Click this icon to view a printable copy of that invoice. Alternatively, click the **“View All PDFs”** button to display only transactions with a printable PDF.

7. Personal information including email and password can be changed from your user profile. Access your profile by *clicking your name* above the logout button.

If you require support, please email [support@countyfarmcentre.com](mailto:support@countyfarmcentre.com) or call (613) 476-2171.

### Store News

# Mother's Day

With Mother's Day right around the corner, we at County Farm Centre want to help put a smile on your mother's face. We have all your mothers gardening needs from fertilizer, to tools, or even a new pair of boots. Come on in and we'll help find the perfect gift!