



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Foxboro

PO Box 280
552 Ashley St.
Store: (613) 962-0769

Picton

38 Cold Storage Rd.
Store: (613) 476-2171
Crops: (613) 476-9183

Madoc

278 Lawrence St. W
Store: (613) 473-9040

countyfarmcentre.com



Fuel: 1 (866) 924-2322

AGRONOMY CORNER

Hay Fertilizer - Fall is the time to put fertilizer on your hay field to give it the required nutrients for the next growing season. See the table below for the amount of nutrients removed in a crop of alfalfa. Remember these numbers should be multiplied by the yield and number of cuts taken.

Nutrients Removed in Alfalfa (lb of nutrient/ton of alfalfa)		
Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Potassium
56	15	60

GPS Soil Samples – After your wheat comes off is an excellent time to get your fields GPS soil sampled. Soil sampling is the first step in Precision Ag and leads to pinpointing problem areas and site-specific recommendations. Once the samples are done, variable rate fertilizer can be applied.

**** Keep in mind fall is an excellent time to apply Potash and rebuild your levels. ****



Store News

As the weather begins to cool, it's time to think about winterizing and storing seasonal items. RV antifreeze is in stock, along with tarps, straps, bungee cords and rope. Moisture control products are available to help keep storage areas dry.

County Farm Centre has over-winter, heated storage for your cars, boats or recreational vehicles. Space is limited. If interested, contact Chad at 613-476-2171



There's still time to can fruits and veggies. We still have plenty of canning supplies. Apple season has already begun. County Farm Centre has bushel & peck baskets, apple bags, peelers and more.

Stop in and see us!

*We are proud of our past and can't wait to show you what's next!
Come visit us at the FS site at **Canada's Outdoor Farm Show**
Sept 11-13 on 4th lane.*

Learn about how we can provide the Whole Farm Plan and show us this coupon to receive a special gift from the Ontario FS Co-operatives.

We reserve the right to limit quantities

Bringing you what's next.



ANIMAL NUTRITION

Highly Fermentable, Soluble Forages and now what looks to be a high grain to forage ration in Corn Silages.

This year's hay crop came off in nearly perfect weather conditions and as a result I'm seeing some awesome forage analysis with great ADF and NDF numbers. Digestible values indicate we should be able to take advantage of this year's forage and really be able to drive production. Silage corn for the most part looks to be shorter this year but the cobs are filled nicely resulting in more acres to fill silos, bunks and bags but the starch and sugar values should be high. All this sounds like we should have an awesome year for producing milk.



One of the challenges for nutritionists in maximizing milk production is stick handling around ruminal acidosis particularly subacute ruminal acidosis (sara).

There is an increasing concern about the frequency of subacute ruminal acidosis in well managed and high producing dairy herds given the high DMI (dry matter intake) and the greater levels of grain (starch) in these herds. Understanding the risk of developing SARA especially in a year where there is an abundance of highly fermentable forages, higher levels of faster digestible fraction carbohydrates, and how feeding and management practices can minimize risk is very important.

Acidosis is the result of a PH drop in the rumen after a cow has a meal. Depending on how long and how low the Ruminant PH stays below 5.8 will indicate the severity of the acidosis. Volatile Fatty Acids (acetate, propionate, butyrate) are created during digestion and depending on how quickly the ruminant is able to dissipate these will determine how quickly the PH will return to a more normal PH of over 6.0. Dietary factors like starches and sugars and fiber in the ration have a direct effect on VFH production, too much or too little results in optimal or poor cow production, health and performance.

The difference in a year is remarkable. Last year forage quality was poor and we had real difficulty getting forages to release their starches and sugars and had to count on a higher concentration of faster fermentable carbohydrates in grains to try and

drive production. This year those same starches and sugars are a lot more available and as a result we need to be very careful not to over use these fast fraction carbs (grains).

Plunging Cows into a state of SARA because of poor dietary nutrition can cause poor dry matter intakes, manure becomes runny with a very strong pungent smell, poor milk and fat production laminitis and potentially bloat. Fresh cows are particularly susceptible to SARA as their rumens are not totally adapted to the abrupt increase in fermentable intake that occurs. Cases of acute acidosis need to be cared for immediately by a veterinarian as the end result can lead to death, on the other hand subacute acidosis can be controlled by a number of feed management practices. Ration balancing and getting the right balance of energy and forage ratio's, the use of buffers like sodium bicarb and crop chop length can help minimize SARA and push production to high levels.

I guess the take home here is that we are working with some exceptionally good feed this year so let's take advantage of it but we need to be careful not to push too hard because the cows will soon tell us where their limits are. Using manure screening and shaker box testing can give us a good idea where those limits are. Call anytime and we will do on farm testing.

Farm Safe! Dave...



PROANE

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