



# **Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission Annual Report July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012**

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**Board of Directors 2011-2012**

**Chairman Report**

**Executive Director Report**

**Agenda of the Annual General Meeting – December 5, 2012**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting – December 5, 2012**

**Budget for 2012-2013**

**Programs and Activities for 2012-2013**

**2011-2012 Audited Financial Report**

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**Chairman's Report – David Maxwell**  
**December 5, 2012**

Hello fellow forage producers:

Once again, this year brought plenty of challenges to the agriculture industry. Many of us started the year with more water than we really needed. My timothy and alfalfa crops handled the water better than my annual crops. This is why we need to hedge the weather bet and plant forages. Later in the summer, however, my timothy crop was attacked by true armyworm. This is why we need more research and crop protection products in forage seed production.

Your Board has been working well this year through conference calls, in-person meetings and our summer field day. I want to thank the members of your Board for their dedication to the industry. We added two new Directors this year, Nels Smelland and James Silcox of Nipawin, SK. I have been the Chairman of the Commission for three years and it is certainly a great help to have the full complement of Board members this year. In 2014, we will see four of our Directors' terms expire. I want to encourage any levy payer who is interested in advancing our industry through the efforts of the Commission to contact me, or any of the Directors, to discuss the activities of the Board and to consider letting your name stand as Director.

Nancy Johns left the Commission in March to expand her crop advisor business. Thank you to Nancy for her efforts over the past five years! In the same month, we hired Ray McVicar as the new Executive Director. Ray has been doing a great job of organizing this bunch of farmers. Thank you Ray!

The Saskatchewan Agri-Food Council has been very helpful in keeping us on the straight and narrow regarding Provincial policies affecting Commissions.

The Commission continues to promote the forage seed industry with a limited budget. We have asked the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture to champion increased funding for forage seed research in the upcoming Growing Forward II program, and we are working with the newly formed Saskatchewan Forage Network to raise awareness of the need for increased forage seed research capabilities in our Province.

Our annual field day was held at Carrot River in July. Despite heavy rainfall the previous day, we managed to look at some research projects in the field and had a tour of the AG-Vision Seeds facilities. Thank you to AG-Vision Seeds and others for their hospitality and efforts.

I am pleased with the research projects that have been carried out this year. We continue to look for good research projects that will advance our industry. We spend your money on projects that will benefit your farm, so please contact any of the Directors to provide us with guidance for the future.

At the Commission, we are very positive about the industry as forages will always be a significant cog in the wheel of agriculture. Please keep forages in mind for spring planting next year. High input crops are okay, but forages have a great fit for spreading the workload, nitrogen production, improving the tilth of the soil and making money.

All the best in 2013!

David S. Maxwell

**Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission (SFSDC)**  
**Executive Director Report for 2011-2012**

Ray McVicar - December 5, 2012

The 2011-2012 year began with Nancy Johns working as Executive Director of the Commission. In March 2012, Nancy left to increase her crop advisor business. Nancy played a very important part of the Commission's past five years and her efforts are greatly appreciated.

I began with the Commission in April 2012, after retiring from Saskatchewan Agriculture after about 19 years in the Crops Branch. I want to thank the Board of Directors and the levy payers of the Commission for the opportunity to act as Executive Director.

The 2011-2012 fiscal year was the first year in many that saw an increase in the number of levy payers and an increase in the levy contributed to the SFSDC. The higher prices paid for other crops such as canola and wheat have placed pressure on forage seed crops to keep up in the competition for growers' acres. Forage seed prices did improve this year and it is hoped that this indicates the industry is on the move upward.

<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>
Levy funds collected	\$46,318	\$34,854	\$42,543	\$39,093	\$58,215
Less levy refund	\$64*	(\$365)	(\$768)	(\$850)	(\$1,308)
Levy Total	\$46,382	\$34,489	\$41,775	\$38,243	\$56,907
Producers contributing levy	175	138	149	229	313

\* levy refunds of (\$230.81) - \$294.81 adjustment from 2010-2011

The summary of the 2011-2012 forage seed levy is provided in the accompanying table. Red clover continues to be our largest crop, followed by timothy, hybrid bromegrass, sweet clover, perennial ryegrass, and others.

<b>CROP KIND</b>	<b>Weight (kg)</b>	<b>Total Value (\$)</b>	<b>Levy (\$)</b>
Alsike Clover	46,329	\$101,936.68	\$764.53
Birdsfoot Trefoil	12,466	\$119,887.33	\$899.17
Cicer Milkvetch	28,363	\$110,033.10	\$825.26
Red Clover	1,142,000	\$2,126,393.29	\$15,947.97
Sainfoin	28,273	\$50,758.70	\$380.69
Sweet Clover	190,445	\$364,171.70	\$2,731.29
Annual Ryegrass	191,791	\$72,291.47	\$534.69
Crested Wheatgrass	135,140	\$211,469.37	\$1,586.02
Dahurian Wild Rye	53,334	\$149,820.70	\$1,123.65
Hybrid Bromegrass	97,451	\$365,570.67	\$2,741.78
Intermediate Wheatgrass	81,069	\$124,567.30	\$934.25
Meadow Bromegrass	14,589	\$40,205.33	\$301.54
Meadow Fescue	9,964	\$17,572.80	\$131.80
Perennial Ryegrass	397,175	\$350,116.49	\$2,625.87
Pubescent Wheatgrass	544	\$1,199.00	\$8.99
Red Top	15,357	\$104,457.90	\$783.43
Reed Canarygrass	2,502	\$8,821.33	\$66.16
Russian Wild Rye	6,728	\$28,377.10	\$212.83
Slender Wheatgrass	61,306	\$172,912.00	\$1,296.84

Smooth Bromegrass	3,318	\$8,696.85	\$65.02
Tall Fescue	46,393	\$46,450.67	\$348.38
Timothy	781,000	\$1,279,535.06	\$9,601.44
Western Wheatgrass	77,570	\$180,417.00	\$1,353.12

Thank you to all of our levy payers and the forage seed crop buyers who contributed their funds, time and efforts to the Commission.

The Commission's research focus continued with a number of forage seed research projects completed or continued in 2011-2012 and two new projects were initiated. ADOPT projects with funding from Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture were: Fertilizing Forage Grasses for Seed Production (continued), Pod Sealant Technology in Trefoil Seed Production (completed), Bromegrass Seed Midge Control (completed) and Fungicides for Use in Forage Seed Grasses (initiated). Thank you to Saskatchewan Agriculture for their support.

The SFSDC continued the research into Bromegrass Seed Midge Control by funding its own project on hybrid bromegrass in the Carrot River area during the 2012 growing season. The report will be available shortly.

The SFSDC provided \$4,000 towards the initiation of a new fertility project "Improving Nitrogen Use Efficiency in Forage Seed Production" led by Dr. Fran Walley at the University of Saskatchewan. An initial report is included in the Fall 2012 SFSDC Newsletter.

We continue to partner with the University of Alberta by providing \$1,000 per year for three years to their research on "Pheromone-Mediated Mating Disruption" for red clover casebearer. The project is currently in year two, and their interim report is included in the Fall 2012 SFSDC Newsletter.

The Invasive Plant Species project with Saskatchewan Forage Council and the Frenchman-Wood River Weed Management Area continued with an assessment of the Weed Free Hay project and the production and distribution of Invasive Plant Species Best Management Practice publications. A booklet was also distributed on indentifying invasive plant species.

Significant efforts were made by Nancy Johns and consultants toward the development of the SFSDC Website. We continue to make improvements and updates at the site, so please check it out at: [www.skforageseeddc.com](http://www.skforageseeddc.com)

The SFSDC Board of Directors held five board meetings or conference calls during the 2011-2012 year as well as the grower information session held in Nipawin, SK on December 6, 2011. Unfortunately, the very wet weather washed out the annual field day planned for July 2011.

Prairie Seeds Newsletter is an extremely important method for the Commission to communicate with our levy payers, buyers and researchers. Two editions were planned and published during the 2011-2012 year. If you receive more than one copy or have some suggestions for articles you would like to see in future newsletters, please notify the SFSDC office. The Commission also provided copies of the Forage Seed News to current levy payers in order to help keep up on current issues in the forage seed industry throughout the Prairies.

More information about the levy, past research projects, links to production bulletins, as well as copies of our past newsletters are available on the SFSDC website at: [www.skforageseeddc.com](http://www.skforageseeddc.com)

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# **Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission 2011-2012 Annual General Meeting**

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**Wednesday, December 5, 2012**

**Chair: David Maxwell**

## **AGENDA**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Agenda**
  - **Approval of the Agenda**
- 3. Minutes of the 2010-2011 Annual Meeting – Ray McVicar**
  - **Approval of the Minutes of the 2010-2011 Annual Meeting**
  - **Business Arising from the Minutes**
- 4. Reports**
  - **Chairman Report – David Maxwell**
  - **Executive Director Report – Ray McVicar**
  - **2011-2012 Financial Report – Ray McVicar**
  - **2012-2013 Budget – Marcel Enns**
  - **Approval of the Reports**
- 5. New Business**
  - **Appointment of Auditor for 2012-2013**
- 6. Other Business**
- 7. Adjourn**



**Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission  
2011-2012 Annual General Meeting**

Wednesday, December 5, 2012 Evergreen Centre - Nipawin, Saskatchewan  
MINUTES

Chairman: David Maxwell

Recording: Ray McVicar

Note: There were 24 forage seed growers in attendance.

1. Meeting called to order at 3:00 PM
2. Agenda
  - Moved by Roger Kirk, seconded by Marcel Enns to approve the agenda. Carried.
3. Minutes of the 2010-2011 Annual General Meeting were reviewed by Ray McVicar.
  - Moved by Randy Tulloch, seconded by Marcel Enns that the minutes of the 2010-2011 AGM be accepted. Carried.
  - Business Arising from the Minutes - none
4. Reports
  - Chairman's Report – David Maxwell
    - Wet weather conditions again in 2012
    - True armyworm infestation in timothy
    - Added James Silcox and Nels Smelland as Directors
    - Nancy Johns was replaced by Ray McVicar as Executive Director
    - More forage seed research is needed – looking for input from growers
  - Executive Director Report – Ray McVicar
    - Increase in levy to \$46,382 and number of levy payers to 175
    - Research projects included: Fertilizing Forage Grasses for Seed Production (continued); Pod Sealant Technology in Trefoil Seed Production (completed); Bromegrass Seed Midge Control (completed); Fungicides for Use in Forage Seed Grasses (initiated); provided \$4,000 toward Dr. Fran Walley's Nitrogen Use Efficiency project; and provided \$1,000/year for three years to U of Alberta for research on red clover casebearer.
    - Invasive Plant Species Project continued
    - SFSDC Website was developed and launched
    - Five board meetings or conference calls were held during 2011-2012
    - The grower information session was held on December 6, 2011
    - Prairie Seeds Newsletter - two editions were published
    - List of planned programs and activities for the 2012-2013 fiscal year were highlighted
  - 2011-2012 Financial Report – Audited report was distributed and reviewed by Ray McVicar
  - 2012-2013 Budget was distributed and reviewed by Marcel Enns
    - Moved by Ed Sauder, seconded by Randy Tulloch that all the Reports be accepted. Carried.
5. New Business
  - Moved by Marcel Enns, seconded by Roger Kirk to appoint Bob Milton, Milton & Associates, Regina, SK as Auditor for 2012-2013. Carried
6. Other Business - none
7. Moved by Marcel Enns to adjourn the AGM at 3:25 PM. Carried.

**Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development  
Commission**

**Budget 2012 / 2013**

For the Period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013

	2012/13 <u>Budget</u>
<b>INCOME</b>	
Estimated levy income	\$40,000
Estimated levy refunds	-\$700
Estimated other income	
Research	\$1,525
Interest	\$2,500
 Total Income	 \$43,325
 <b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Administration	\$12,000
Director Meetings	\$500
Promotion / Advertising	\$1,000
Annual General Meeting	\$500
Bank Charges	\$100
Database Management	\$1,500
Director Expenses	\$3,000
Website Maintenance	\$1,000
Newsletter (2)	\$3,000
Postage / Freight	\$300
Auditor	\$1,400
eNews / Forage Seed News	\$4,000
GST Paid	\$500
Subtotal:	\$28,800
 Research	
Weed Control in Grasses	\$1,500
Weed Control in Legumes	\$1,500
Fertility in Grasses (Agrotain)	\$350
Red Clover Cases Bearer	\$1,000
Bromegrass Midge	\$3,275
Fertility in Grasses	\$5,000
Fungicide on Grasses	\$7,800
Subtotal:	\$20,425
 Total Expenses	 \$49,225
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>-\$5,900</b>



## **Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission Planned Programs and Activities for 2012-2013**

- Summer research field day
- Develop and submit SFSDC Policies to Agri-Food Council
- Secure insurance for Directors and Officers
- Maintain SFSDC Grower Database
- Maintain contact with Agri-Food Council regarding reporting and regulations
- Participate in the Saskatchewan Forage Network
- Provide *Forage Seed News* Magazine to current levy payers
- Continue Research Program
  - ADOPT projects: Fertility on Grasses, Fungicides on Grasses
  - U of S Nitrogen Use Efficiency, U of A Red Clover Casebearer, Bromegrass Seed Midge
  - Investigate potential new research projects with Northeast Ag Research Foundation, U of S, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Manitoba Forage Seed Association, etc.
- Identify minor use needs for forage seed production
- Promote increased research in forage seed crops – Growing Forward II and Saskatchewan Agriculture
- Grower Information Session – December 5, 2012
- Publish two issues of Prairie Seeds Newsletter
- Regularly update the SFSDC Website