



FARM ANIMAL CARE YEAR IN REVIEW

2014 has been a busy year for the animal care team at Farm & Food Care. This issue of Farm Animal Care News recaps some of the accomplishments over the last year.

INNOVATIVE MANAGEMENT AND PRACTICAL ANIMAL CARE TRAINING PROGRAM (IMPACT)

The Innovative Management and Practical Animal Care Training program (IMPACT) was announced in early spring of 2014 with the goal of developing resources and practical training for anyone who works with farm animals. The two year, \$2 million funding was provided by OMAFRA as part of its commitment to improving animal welfare on Ontario farms.

IMPACT is well under way in the development stages of multi-species resources and training programs around the Codes of Practice, euthanasia, on-farm procedures, animal handling and more. These areas will be delivered through how to videos, smartphone apps, facilitated hands-on workshops, visual printed work books, and more.

To learn more about IMPACT please contact the office.

ANIMAL CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Farm & Food Care's animal care team works under the direction of its Animal Care Advisory Council which provides an open forum for input, ideas, dialogue and proactive discussion of on-farm environmental issues. The Advisory Council discusses current farm animal issues in Canada and provides insight into how Farm & Food Care can be part of the discussion and develop practical solutions.

The goal is to keep ahead of the curve of these issues wherever possible, and react as necessary. Topics discussed by the council at its quarterly meetings in 2014 have included updates on special interest groups and their activities, Codes of Practice, IMPACT, results from Farm & Food Care's producer attitude study, OMAFRA's animal care framework, and more. At each meeting, experts are invited to join the meeting to provide insight on agenda items. Moving forward, the advisory council will help to provide direction on the resources and training programs developed through the IMPACT program.

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UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

- ⇒ **Farm Innovation Tour**
Featuring greenhouse flower production and the Vineland Research and Innovation Center—December 10, 2013
- ⇒ **Farm & Food Care Annual General Meeting**
Teatro Conference and Event Centre - Milton April 14 & 15, 2014

Real Dirt on Farming Speakers' Bureau

Want to talk to people in your community about farming? Could you use some help polishing your presentation skills ?

Farm & Food Care is please to present the Real Dirt on Farming Speakers Bureau. Come to a session and be ready to speak about:

- The Real Dirt on Animal Care
- The Real Dirt on Farming and the Environment
- The Real Dirt on Farming and Food Safety
- Farming 101 in Canada
- The Real Dirt on Farming Myths

Two more dates are scheduled for January 27, 2015 in Guelph and January 29, 2015 in Rostock. To register email Farm & Food Care at info@farmfoodcare.org. Spots fill up fast, so register today!



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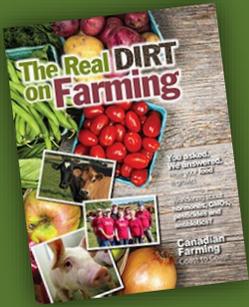


The Real Dirt on Farming

The third edition of The Real Dirt on Farming has now been published and can be viewed online at www.RealDirtOnFarming.ca

Copies can be ordered from the same website.

The 2014 edition has been completely updated with all new content, photos, statistics and farmer profiles. It is the Farm & Food Care Foundation's goal to distribute one million copies of this across Canada in the next couple of years.



WWW.LIVESTOCKWELFARE.COM

Livestockwelfare.com has become the home of all things relating to farm animal research and livestock emergency resources. The site has continued to be utilized with over 550 views per month and climbing in 2014. New to the site this year is an integrated data base with access to hundreds of research papers across livestock species relating to farm animal welfare.

This site is promoted and supported by the four farm animal councils in Canada, BC Farm Animal Care Council, Alberta Farm Animal Care Council, Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan and Farm & Food Care Ontario.

LIVESTOCK EMERGENCY VIDEOS

Farm & Food Care's four-part video series on livestock emergency has gained popularity with first responders across Ontario and even into the United States.

This video series takes a look at the basics of handling farm animals in a calm manor, how to deal with loose livestock, tips for responding to accidents involving farm animals, and priorities in dealing with a livestock emergency.

You can find the four part video series on www.livestockwelfare.com or on Farm & Food Care's YouTube channel <http://www.youtube.com/user/FarmandFoodCare/videos>

FARM INNOVATION TOUR SERIES

Farm & Food Care has hosted four bus tours over 2014, profiling innovation in animal welfare and the environment. Tour stops and topics have included innovative veal calf facilities, conservation

authorities to talk about water conservation techniques, beef farms marketing their own product direct to customers, greenhouse tomato production, farm machinery, on-farm dairy processing, Muck Crop research station and more.

The goal of these tours is to connect the people who work in policy and other related agricultural and agri-businesses industries to real farmers who are investing in unique and innovative on-farm practices.

Another tour is planned for December 10, 2014 to visit Vineland Research station and greenhouse flower production. To keep up to date on upcoming tours visit www.farmfoodcare.org.

FARM INNOVATION STORIES

Over the course of 2014, 30 stories have profiled real Ontario farmers in an effort to showcase innovative and new practices they have adopted on their farms. Stories have ranged from using shellfish to clean wastewater, to a young couples excitement by the challenge of farming, to a family starting up on-farm processing on their dairy farm.

These stories share key insights into the farmers story and why they chose to innovative and try something new. Stories have been published and shared across Ontario in an effort to share with other farmers some of the things their neighbours are doing. Read them at www.farmfoodcare.org or www.facesoffarming.ca.

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