Prairie County Producers,

September, 2019

There are lots of great events coming up this fall. I want to highlight three that will take place in Prairie County.

The Peterson Farm Bros. are a nationally-known act including brothers Greg, Nathan, Kendal and honorary “bro” Laura Peterson. They are siblings who farm together with their parents near Assaria, Kansas, and also produce entertaining and educational videos on their YouTube channel and social media outlets. The family act will be performing in Terry on Tuesday, September 24, at 7:00 p.m. at the Terry High School, with two of the brothers singing along with their famous videos and also sharing an encouraging message about agriculture. Tickets can be purchased from Evelyn Cameron Heritage Inc. and 4-Corners Convenience Store or online at Eventbrite.

The Prairie County Weed District received a Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund Grant to work on controlling houndstongue in Northern Prairie County. A Fall Weed Tour will take place in the grant project area on Thursday, September 26th beginning at 2 p.m. with a focus on fall spraying, cheatgrass management, and ATV safety. Landowners from across Prairie County are invited to attend.

Each year Prairie County Extension teams with the Prairie County Grazing District and a group of ranchers to plan an annual tour of Fort Keogh. I think we have selected some great topics this year and look forward to having you attend. The tour will take place at Fort Keogh in Miles City on Monday, October 7th beginning at 9 a.m.

Additional details on all these events is included in this newsletter. Please feel free to stop by or give us a call at the Extension Office if you have questions or would like more information.

Sincerely,

Sharla Sackman
Prairie County Extension Agent

The Montana State University Extension is an ADA/EO/AA/Veteran’s Preference Employer and Provider of Educational Outreach.
9:00 a.m.-Noon  Research Updates

**Fort Keogh: Introduction & Research Overview**- Dr. Lance Vermeire, will share an update on current range and livestock research being conducted at Fort Keogh.

**Lodgepole Complex Fire Recovery**- Dr. Lance Vermeire and Amanda Williams will discuss their findings about the range recovery following the Lodgepole Complex fire that took place in Garfield County in 2017.

**Grasshopper Management**- Dr. Dave Branson will talk about how grasshoppers influence grassland health, grazing system sustainability, nutrient cycling and relationships between exotic and native plants.

**Long-Term Heifer Efficiency Study**- Dr. Andy Roberts will give an update on his research exploring the long-term effects of various heifer management strategies and their ultimate effect on herd productivity.

**Variability in Cattle Gestation**- Your calving book likely has a 285 day gestation table in it to help you calculate when you want to calve, but is that number accurate? Dr. Andy Roberts will discuss variability in gestation length and factors that influence it.

**Genetic Improvement in Beef Production**- Dr. El Hay will summarize some of his current research in evaluating genotype x environment interaction in beef cattle, genetic mechanisms involved in heifer development, and genomic selection in multi-breed populations.

Noon-1:00 p.m.  Lunch  
*Sponsored by Stockman Bank and catered by the Airport Inn*

1:00-3:30 p.m.  Range Tour

**Technology in Research**- Cows are important research partners at Fort Keogh. We'll learn about the role cannulated cows play in beef cattle research.

**Grazing Management and Drought**- Dr. Kurt Reinhart will discuss what they are learning about the interaction between long-term drought and grazing management.

*This program is brought to you by:*

- MSU Extension, Prairie County
- Stockman Bank
- Prairie County Grazing District
- USDA-ARS Fort Keogh Livestock & Range Research Laboratory

For more information, contact Sharla Sackman at 635-2121 or Sandra Brown at 635-5381
Have you checked our MSU Extension web page lately? We have added a bunch of new links on each of the pages. Don't forget we have also added a place on the home page for pesticide license holders to check to see where they are at with credits!

http://prairie.msuextension.org/
Do's & Don'ts of Fall Herbicide Applications

*Steve Saunders, Bayer Environmental Science Consultant*

When controlling tough noxious weeds like houndstongue, Canada thistle, and leafy spurge in the Fall, what can an applicator do to ensure that a fall herbicide application is successful? Steve Saunders, consultant for Bayer Environmental Science, will discuss the do's and don'ts for Fall herbicide treatments including plant biology in the fall, proper selection of herbicides, timing of herbicide applications, and herbicide rates.

Cheatgrass Management

*Steve Saunders, Bayer Environmental Science Consultant*

Many landowners struggle with cheatgrass infestations on their rangeland. Steve Saunders, consultant for Bayer Environmental Science, will explain the fundamentals of how this invasive annual grass grows and can dominate range sites. He will also share strategies for cheatgrass management.

ATV & Herbicide Safety

*Ken Nelson, MSU Extension Agent in McCone County*

Certified ATV instructor and MSU Extension Agent for McCone County, Ken Nelson, will share safety tips for utilizing an ATV for herbicide applications. Nelson will also discuss herbicide safety considerations when it comes to mixing, loading, and applying herbicides.

For more information on the Fall Weed Tour, contact the Prairie County Extension Office at 635-2121.

3 Private & Commercial Pesticide Recertification Credits Available
YOUNG AG LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
October 4-6, 2019
Copper King Convention Center — Butte, MT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

11:00 AM- 4:00 PM Event & Tradeshow Setup

4PM – 7:30PM Registration Open

6:00 PM Social

6:30 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Agriculture Trivia

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

7:30 AM – 5:00 PM Registration & Trade Show Open

8:15 – 9:15 AM Breakfast/Opening Session

The Truth for Modern Day Farmers
Jace Young - Legacy Farmer, LLC

9:30 - 10:15 AM Workshops

Ranch Economics
Tris Munsick-Plank Stewardship Initiative

Leadership Lessons from the Fence-line
Ben and Karli Johnson-RJ Feeds

Revegetation for Habitat Enhancement and Soil and Water Conservation
John Whittingham- Basic Biological Services, LLC

Writing Your Legacy
Laura Nelson-LCN Communications

10:15 – 10:45 AM Coffee Break and Trade Show

10:45 – 11:30 AM Workshops

Game Plan to Produce Profitable Cashflow
Jace Young-Legacy Farmer

Using Livestock and Tech as Tools for Pasture Improvement
Shaelynn Bauer-Maia Grazing
10:45 – 11:30 AM  **Workshops (cont')**

*Ag Policy-What’s Happening and Why Your Voice Matters*
Nicole Rolf- National Affairs Director and Eastern Montana Regional Manager

*Connecting with Customers-Using Social Media to Build Trust*
Susie Felton-Felton Angus Beef, and Felton Angus Ranch

11:45 – 12:45 PM  Lunch

*First Generation Agriculturists Panel - Financing Your Dream*
Northwest Farm Credit Services Team

1:00 – 1:45 PM  **Workshops**

*Intensive Nitrogen Management on Farm*
Shay Richter

*Beyond Farm Loans: USDA Resources for Producers, Rural Businesses & Communities*
Charles Robison-State Director of USDA Rural Development

*Families and Legacies: Challenging Decisions*
Marsha Goetting- MSU Extension Family Economics Specialist

*Influence of Social Media on Agriculture*
KRose Marketing Team

2:00 – 2:15 PM  Load Buses for Tours
*Sponsored by: Butte TBID Funding*

2:15 – 5:00 PM  **Local Industry Tours**

*Headframe Spirits*

*Montana Craft Malt*

*Montana Livestock Auctions*

*World Mining Museum Underground Tours*

*More TBA!*

6:00 PM  Patio Social

6:30 PM  *Saturday Night Dinner and Event*
90’s Country Theme-Music, Dancing, Games

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH**

9:00 - 10:30 AM  Closing Breakfast

*Monitoring-The Future Ain't What it Used to Be!*
Rick Caquelin - NRCS Rangeland Management Specialist
From Plant to Product Tour

Wednesday-November 13, 2019 – a shuttle will take you from the GranTree Inn to MSU Campus.

Montana Pulse Day will be held in Bozeman, MT for the first time this year. MSU Bozeman is the home to the Montana Pulse Breeding Program, Schutter Diagnostics Lab, Food Product Development Lab and of course, home of the BobCats!

NPGA and MSU have teamed up to bring you three tours with researchers Dr. Kevin McPhee, Dr. Eva Grimme, Dr. David Wheeler and Dr. Wan-Yuan Kuo on November 13th. This tour will provide pulse producers the opportunity to learn more about the pulse breeding program, disease prevention and how pulse products are being utilized at MSU.

The tour is limited to the first 50 registered attendees. The tour will begin at 1:00 p.m., with the bus departing from the GranTree Inn at 11:00 a.m. Followed by a complimentary lunch from 11:30-12:45. The tour will conclude at 4:00 p.m. and the bus will return to the hotel at 4:30.

Wednesday evening, the opening reception, social & dinner will start at 5:30 p.m. NPGA President, Chris Westergard will begin the event at 6:00 p.m. followed by service awards & motivational speaker – Bruce Vincent at 7:00 p.m.

Pulse crop producers, pulse industry or anyone interested in learning more about pulse crops are invited to attend this regional registered event. Wednesday’s tour, social and dinner are included in your registration fee. Registration will be in the hotel lobby starting at 10:00 a.m. You must have a name tag and ticket to get on the bus. To register for this event, go to www.northernpulse.com. The above times are tentative, please check times closer to the event.

MT Pulse Day

Thursday, November 14, 2019 – GranTree Inn

7:30 a.m. – Registration (if you have already registered for Wednesday’s tour, no need to register again – your name tag serves as your registration and gets you in the door Thursday.)
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Agenda TBA and will be posted on the NPGA website soon.

Place return this section so we can have an accurate head count (first come first serve basis for the tours.)

I/We will be attending #______ the MSU—From Plant to Product Tour, November 13th.
I/We will be attending #______ Wednesday Evenings Social/Dinner, November 13th.
I/We will be attending #______ Thursdays Lunch, November 14th.

Please list who will be attending: __________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
**MT Pulse Day**  
**November 13th & 14th, 2019**

- **GranTree Inn, Bozeman, MT**
- **Pre-registration Deadline:** October 16, 2019
- **Hotel Reservations:** 406-587-5261

*Block will be held until October 16th*

If you are unable to attend this year’s convention, renew your membership with the NPGA. Your membership dues are used to develop programs that increase the awareness and understanding of pulse crops in the region. All of these activities are done to foster the growth of the pulse industry.

With your membership contribution you will:
- Aid in funding disease research, production research, variety improvement, crop insurance, and producer education.
- Aid the Association in promoting pulses and working with federal and state government on crop insurance and farm programs.
- Receive the NPGA quarterly newsletter, *The Pulse*, and the USADPLC weekly edition of the *Pulse Pipeline* via e-mail.
- Contribute to efforts to establish a strong feed and food market for the regions’ pulse crops.

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### Pulse Producer Pre-Registration

- Please print additional names on back of this page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City/State/Zip</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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- Pre-registration for MT Pulse Day and/or NPGA Annual Convention
  - I/We will be attending:
    - MT Pulse Day $50 x _____ (# family attending) $_____
    - I/we will be attending the MSU tour. # ________ $ Included in reg.
    - I/we will be attending Wednesday Social/Dinner # _____ $ Included in reg.
    - I/we will be attending Thursday lunch # ________ $ Included in reg.
    - NPGA Annual Convention $50 x _____ (# family attending) $_____
    - NPGA 2020 Annual Membership $75.00 $_____

- 2020 Producer Membership $75.00 (not attending MT Pulse Day or NPGA Annual Convention)

*Membership dues to the NPGA are not tax deductible.*

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**NPGA Annual Convention**  
**January 27th & 28th, 2020**

- **Clarion Hotel, Minot, ND**
- **Pre-registration Deadline:** January 6, 2020
- **Hotel Reservations:** 701-852-2504

*Block will be held until January 6, 2020*

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**NPGA Annual Convention**  
**January 27th & 28th, 2020**

- **Clarion Hotel, Minot, ND**
- **Pre-registration Deadline:** January 6, 2020
- **Hotel Reservations:** 701-852-2504

*Block will be held until January 6, 2020*