

**FARM  
FORUM  
EVENT**

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**November 9 & 10, 2020**

Farm Forum Event Goes *Virtual!*



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## Conference Agenda

**Note: All times are Mountain Time Zone**

**Monday, November 9, 2020**

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.

### **MC Welcome**

**Kevin Hursh, Hursh Consulting & Communications Inc., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**

### **Agriculture - Hang on for a Wild Ride**

(.5 CEU in Professional Development)

**Kevin Hursh, Hursh Consulting & Communications Inc., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**

While everyone acknowledges the huge changes that have occurred in agriculture, the rate of change will only accelerate. A multitude of forces from technology to politics will create the future operating environment.

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

### **Whatever You Think You Know About Agriculture - the Future Will Not Be What You Expect**

(.5 CEU in Professional Development)

**Stanford Blade, Dean, University of Alberta, Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences, Edmonton, Alberta**

Stanford will discuss the top 10 clichés about the future of agriculture and suggest that the future of agriculture and food will look very different.

9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

### **The Great Wind Erosion Mystery**

(.5 CEU in Soil & Water Management)

**David Lobb, Professor, Department of Soil Science, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Wind erosion is widely regarded as a major threat to crop production in the Canadian Prairies. Wind erosion events occur frequently and the dust they generate is very conspicuous. But does wind erosion result in significant soil loss, and if it does, where does that soil go?

9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

### **The Importance of Soil Health**

(.5 CEU in Soil & Water Management)

**Andy Kirschenman, Harvest Moon Farm Ltd., Hilda, Alberta**

Our farm is on a soil health journey and about the only thing we know is where we came from and how different it is from where we are now. As we learn more and more, we realize both how much we already knew, and how much we might never know all at the same time.

**Tim Nerbas, Chair, Board of Directors, Soil Conservation Council of Canada, NRG Farms Ltd, Waseca, Saskatchewan**

The importance of soil health cannot be overstated. Over the past 30 years, Western Canada has experienced a paradigm shift in its cropping systems. Direct seeding led to drastic reductions in both wind and water erosion. However, this was only one positive step to improving soil quality. Now we need to embrace the next stage of improving our soils. Adoption of new ideas, and technology and modifications to our own personal mindset are required to take the steps necessary to make the next meaningful change. Life is not static and neither are our soils. Sustainable Ag is not simple but Simple Ag is not sustainable.

10:15 - 10:45 a.m.	<b>The Contribution of Variety Development to Crop Management</b> (.5 CEU in Crop Management)
	<b>Erin Armstrong, Winnipeg, Manitoba</b>
	Variety performance, regardless of crop type, is a critically important piece of a farmer's crop management strategy. Variety development leads to improvements in performance, which farmers can take advantage of, and new approaches to variety development are increasing options for farmers.
10:45 - 11:15 a.m.	<b>Contemporary Soil Fertility Issues</b> (.5 CEU in Nutrient Management)
	<b>Rigas Karamanos, Senior Agronomist, Koch Fertilizer Canada, ULC, Calgary, Alberta</b>
	A number of issues have dominated the prairie agriculture in recent years, e.g., weather patterns, increasing size of farms, introduction of high yielding crop cultivars and fluctuating crop prices. Discussion will include the adoption of the 4R Nutrient Stewardship Principle have brought a number of fertility issues to the surface, among which, phosphorus fertility - balancing need to application rates, surface application of nitrogen and pros and cons of topdressing.
11:15 - 11:45 a.m.	<b>Biologicals – Is Your Farm Ready for the Future?</b> (.5 CEU in Nutrient Management)
	<b>Jarrett Chambers, EVP and Chief Commercial Officer, Concentric Ag; President, ATP Nutrition Ltd, Oak Bluff, Manitoba</b>
	Jarrett will be looking at how nutrients are taken up and move through the plant, and the increasingly important role that biologicals will play in the future.
11:45 - 12:15 p.m.	<b>Data-driven Management Decisions at the GFM Discovery Farm</b> (.5 CEU in Crop Management)
	<b>Blake Weiseth, Applied Research Lead, GFM Discovery Farm, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</b>
	Blake will provide an overview of the field-scale applied research projects at the GFM Discovery Farm highlighting the use of digital infrastructure to inform management decisions.
12:15 - 12:45 p.m.	<b>Canada's Plant-Protein Growth Opportunity</b> (.5 CEU in Crop Management)
	<b>Bill Greuel, CEO, Protein Industries Canada, Regina, Saskatchewan</b>
	There's plenty of potential for the plant-protein sector in Canada to grow, particularly when it comes to value-added processing. In this presentation, Protein Industries Canada's CEO Bill Greuel will discuss the state of Canada's plant-protein sector—its past, present and future.
12:45 - 1:15 p.m.	<b>Pretty Maps or Useful Insights?</b> (.5 CEU in Integrated Pest Management)
	<b>Aaron Breimer, General Manager, Veritas Farm Business Management, A Division of Deveron UAS, Chatham, Ontario</b>
	The ag industry has had 20+ years of generating maps from data layers but less than 5% of farmers are creating useful and profitable insights from their data. We will look at the value of employing analysis tools that help measure the interactions between data layers so that decisions that are more profitable can be made.
1:15 - 2:00 p.m.	<b>Training for Farm Succession and Whatever Comes Next</b> (.5 CEU in Professional Development)
	<b>Kelly Dobson, President, LeaderShift Inc., Fairfax, Manitoba</b>
	Farm succession can be one of the most emotionally demanding events a family will experience. Getting it right matters financially and to the ongoing relationships inside and outside of the farm. The good news is that high consequence and emotionally charged moments of modern farm business can be trained for. Our abilities can measure and the right training can develop our capacity to not only handle these pivotal moments, but to thrive in them. Kelly will discuss how integrated approaches to professional development are setting up the current and next generation of agricultural professional for success.

2:00 - 2:30 p.m.	<b>Foundational Plant Disease Knowledge: Getting the Most out of Current and Future Management Technologies</b> (.5 CEU in Integrated Pest Management) <b>Kelly Turkington, Research Scientist, Plant Pathology, Lacombe Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Lacombe, Alberta</b> Deriving cost-effective yet satisfactory levels of disease management is a concern for both existing tools and new technologies on the horizon. The presentation will demonstrate why having foundational knowledge of the nature of plant diseases allows for the effective use of these tools in terms of: 1) the right tool or tools; 2) the right rate or level of use; 3) at the right time; 4) and in the right place.
2:30 - 3:00 p.m.	<b>Connecting the Dots in AgTech</b> (.5 CEU in Crop Management) <b>Ron Osborne, Chief Technology Officer, Farmers Edge, Winnipeg, Manitoba</b> Agriculture is moving at lightning speed. Listen to where we came from, where we are and where we are headed in agronomy and agtech.
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.	<b>Practical Drone Workflows for Agronomists</b> (.5 CEU in Crop Management) <b>Markus Weber, Co-Founder, LandView Drones, Edmonton, Alberta</b> Drones may eventually replace some crop scouting functions, but for now human interpretation still trumps algorithms. But drones already provide value by saving agronomists time, measuring spatial extent of issues, and ensuring that critical issues aren't overlooked by providing a view of the entire field not possible from the ground.
3:30 - 4:00 p.m.	<b>Successes and Failures with Cover Cropping</b> (.5 CEU in Crop Management) <b>E. Blake Vince, No-Till Producer, Bla-Kar Farms, Merlin, Ontario</b> Blake will discuss the journey of embracing change of generational farming methodology and working towards an alternative model of productivity.
4:00 - 4:30 p.m.	<b>Taking a Closer Look at Your Soil's Health Assessment</b> (.5 CEU in Soil & Water Management) <b>Yamily Zavala, Soil Health &amp; Crop Management Specialist, Soil Health Lab Manager, Chinook Applied Research Association (CARA), Oyen, Alberta</b> Yamily will provide an overview of soil health assessments at the CARASHLab, show soil microbiology in action, provide a CARASHReport explanation and a Soil Health Management case study.
4:30 - 4:45 p.m.	<b>MC Closing Comments</b> <b>Kevin Hursh, Hursh Consulting &amp; Communications Inc., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</b>
4:45 - 6:45 p.m.	<b>Sponsor Table Talk Sessions:</b>
4:45 - 5:15 p.m.	<b>Corn in Your Crop Rotation Session</b> (.5 CEU in Crop Management) <b>Paul Rogalsky, Proven Seed Representative, Nutrien Ag Solutions, East St. Paul, Manitoba</b> With continued corn acre expansion across the Prairies, Paul will help you understand the benefits and challenges of adding this crop to your rotation. Feed demand, improved yields and genetics are among today's corn market drivers. Along with the benefits, growing corn can be costly if agronomic challenges are not anticipated.
5:15 - 5:45 p.m.	<b>Fall Fertilization Session</b> (.5 CEU in Nutrient Management) <b>Rigas Karamanos, Senior Agronomist, Koch Fertilizer Canada, ULC, Calgary, Alberta</b> Fall banding of nitrogen fertilizer has long been advocated as a desirable time to fertilize soils, especially in areas of the prairies, where spreading of the workload and reduction in spring tillage operations is desirable, while at the same time taking advantage of historically lower fertilizer prices in the fall. Late fall applications, when temperatures are normally less than 7-10 °C are normally recommended. However, with the recent weather patterns combined with the increased farm size, a number of practices, such as fall

application of both granular and liquid nitrogen fertilizers, are becoming common. This Table Talk discussion will focus on the options that producers have for fall applications using stabilizers and share some of the recent research findings on the topic.

5:45 - 6:15 p.m.

#### **Drone School Session**

(.5 CEU in Crop Management)

#### **Markus Weber, Co-founder, LandView Drones, Edmonton, Alberta**

Markus will be discussing general questions on using drones within crop production and what to expect within their upcoming Ag Drone School.

6:15 - 6:45 p.m.

#### **Remote Ag in a COVID World Session**

(.5 CEU in Integrated Pest Management)

#### **Robert Saik, Founder and CEO, AGvisorPRO, Red Deer, Alberta**

Rob will be discussing what affect the COVID phenomenon has had on ag.

## **Tuesday November 10, 2020**

6:30 - 7:30 a.m.

#### **Sponsor Table Talk Sessions:**

6:30 - 7:00 a.m.

#### **Yara Delivers Complete Crop Nutrition without Complexity Session**

(.5 CEU in Nutrient Management)

#### **Markus Braaten, Market Development Manager, Yara North America, Kalispell, Montana**

It is often said “logistics trumps agronomy”. Faced with one of the shortest growing seasons in the world, nowhere is this sentiment potentially truer than in western Canada. Join Yara, as we explore how complete crop nutrition, delivered in manner that recognizes the need for operational efficiency; facilities vigorous, crops optimum productivity and maximum grower profitability.

7:00 - 7:30 a.m.

#### **Field Manager Demo Session**

(.5 CEU in Integrated Pest Management)

#### **Brent Nicol, xarvio Canada Lead, BASF/xarvio, Calgary, Alberta**

Brent will be discussing "Field Manager" and how it can integrate into your operation. Field demonstrations help farmers make educated decisions. In this session, you'll learn how xarvio FIELD MANAGER maximizes potential crop production by helping you make informed decisions about your fields. See how FIELD MANAGER uses satellite data to monitor your fields and learn how to create different spray tasks. When you understand how to farm smarter with digital solutions like xarvio FIELD MANAGER, you'll be able to maximize your yield potential season after season. The more you know, the more you'll grow.

7:45 - 8:00 a.m.

#### **MC Opening Comments**

**Kevin Hursh, Hursh Consulting & Communications Inc., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

#### **The Political Landscape – Where Are We Headed?**

(1 CEU in Crop Management)

#### **Andrew Coyne, Political Columnist, Globe and Mail, Toronto, Ontario**

Known for his insightful, provocative commentary, Andrew offers insights on the intersection between policy and politics, specifically how it pertains to the agriculture industry - the economic and social policy challenges facing the country, and how well governments are facing up to them.

9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

#### **New Options for Engaging China on Agricultural Trade**

(.5 CEU in Crop Management)

#### **Carlo Dade, Director, Trade and Investment Centre, Canada West Foundation, Calgary, Alberta**

#### **Sharon Sun, Trade Policy Economist, Canada West Foundation, Calgary, Alberta**

As counterintuitive as it may seem, now is the time to rethink how to engage China on ag trade. A preview of forthcoming CWF research and data on a new convergence of interests between China and Canada in mitigating the harms to each country from the U.S.-China phase one trade agreement and how Canada can activate this and the broader convergence of interests around agriculture to reframe re-engagement.

9:30 - 10:00 a.m.	<b>Importance of Digitization in Agriculture</b> (.5 CEU in Crop Management) <b>Chris Terris, Vice President, TELUS, Calgary, Alberta</b> Chris will explore the importance of communication and data to Western Canadian farms and where it is heading.
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	<b>It's Getting Complicated Out There, and That's a Good Thing!</b> (1 CEU in Crop Management) <b>Sylvain Charlebois, Director, Agri-Food Analytics Lab, Dalhousie University, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia</b> The Canadian agri-food landscape is continuously changing to remain competitive. Disruptions in how Canadian consumers shop and buy food are a constant in today's fast changing world. Consumers today do not appear to enter the experience looking for a radical new way to shop, but they seem to be influenced by several aspects of their daily lives. Some aspects are obviously more predictable than others, but how will these influence managerial practices in the future? As the line between food service and retailing blurs, how will this impact agriculture and farming in general? By examining food cultures and trends more closely, along with technology-driven solutions emerging, Sylvain will engage in an open dialogue about the futurology of food systems.
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.	<b>Grazing Ruminants: A Resilient Solution to Long-Term Agriculture Profitability, Productivity and Climate Change</b> (.5 CEU in Soil & Water Management) <b>Ryan Boyd, 2019 Nuffield Scholar, South Glanton Farms, Forrest, Manitoba</b> Ryan will discuss how grazing ruminants provide many benefits to the agroecosystem including better nutrient cycling, promoting soil microbial life, plus enhancing the soil's ability to sequester and store carbon and use water more effectively.
11:30 - 12:00	<b>What Covid Taught Me About Canadian Ag</b> (.5 CEU in Crop Management) <b>Marty Seymour, Director, Industry Relations, FCC, Regina, Saskatchewan</b> Covid has clearly had an impact on the Canadian food system. From restaurant closures to packing plant disruptions, Canadian agriculture was dealt one curveball after another. While some parts of our food system quietly expanded and stepped up to meet changing demands, others were devastated by the sharp shift in consumer demand. There were bright spots in terms of the industry's ability to deliver on international trade commitments and there were clear breakdowns in the fragility of supply chains in meat processing. This talk offers some insights into the chaos and the bright spots that came out of the first wave in Covid that may serve as a guide as the pandemic continues.
12:00 - 12:45 p.m.	<b>Past, Present and Future of Digital Ag (How far we've come and what do we do with all this data!)</b> (.5 CEU in Integrated Pest Management) <b>Marty Cook, VP, Premium Services, METOS Canada, Glacier FarmMedia, Winnipeg, Manitoba</b> <b>Wade Barnes, CEO and Co-Founder, Farmers Edge, Winnipeg, Manitoba</b> Marty and Wade will sit down for a fireside chat to discuss the history of precision ag, how far we've come and what's next.
12:45 - 1:15 p.m.	<b>Smart Implements &amp; Data: Creating Value on Your Farm in 2021 and Beyond</b> (.5 CEU in Integrated Pest Management) <b>Michael Gomes, Vice President, Business Development, Topcon Agriculture, Sloughhouse, California</b> Overview and examples of how Smart Connected implements & sensors are creating value for Canadian wheat growers and others. A look into where Smart Connected implements may lead us in the future.
1:15 - 1:45 p.m.	<b>Biotech's Role in Integrative Pest Management</b> (.5 CEU in Integrated Pest Management) <b>Mark Belmonte, Professor, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba</b>

Next generation biotech tools are currently being developed to protect some of Canada's most important crops. This talk will focus on the development and application of next generation molecular fungicides and pesticides using an integrative pest management approach.

1:45 - 2:15 p.m.

### **Sustainable Supply Chains and Carbon Markets: Challenges and Opportunities for Growers in a World Going Green**

(.5 CEU in Crop Management)

#### **Alastair Handley, President, Radicle, Calgary, Alberta**

Alastair will discuss how the demands of corporations for sustainable products and carbon pricing initiatives set by governments are creating challenges and opportunities for farmers. Alastair will also provide an overview of carbon markets and what they really mean.

2:15 - 2:45 p.m.

### **That's More Like It – Weather in 2020 and Outlook for 2021**

(.5 CEU in Crop Management)

#### **Bruce Burnett, Director of Weather and Markets, Glacier FarmMedia, Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Bruce will discuss the major happenings in the market and weather during the 2020 growing season. In addition, the initial outlook for the 2021 crop year will be covered.

2:45 - 3:15 p.m.

### **From 5,000 acres to 80: Our Value-Added Journey**

(.5 CEU in Crop Management)

#### **Barb Stefanyshyn-Cote, Owner/Founder, Black Fox Farm and Distillery, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**

In an effort to get closer to the customer, we switched from broad-acre to value-added farming. Rather than shipping our grain in rail cars we chose whisky barrels.

3:15 - 3:45 p.m.

### **Understanding How Ecological Functions Contribute to Modern Agriculture**

(.5 CEU in Nutrient Management)

#### **Dale Overton, CEO, Overton Environmental Enterprises Inc., Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Dale will discuss what ecological functions are important for modern farmers, organic matter management, disease suppression and how plant growth promoting microbes influence crop development.

3:45 - 4:15 p.m.

### **Navigating Grain Markets in Turbulent Times**

(.5 CEU in Crop Management)

#### **Mike Jubinville, Senior Market Analyst, MarketsFarm, Glacier FarmMedia, Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Grain markets appear to be emerging from a period of multi-year price bearishness as resurgent demand has universally lifted returns for grains, oilseeds and pulse crops. Let's run through the issues at work influencing price trends for the post-harvest period. With solid 2020 crop yields and quality, combined with rising grain prices relative to the past couple of years, let's hope the 2020-21 grain marketing campaign will be remembered as a profitable one for Western Canadian farmers.

4:15 - 4:30 p.m.

### **MC Closing Comments**

**Kevin Hursh, Hursh Consulting & Communications Inc., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

### **Sponsor Table Talk Sessions:**

#### **BioniQ Crops: How Combining Multiple Microbes Enhances Crop Performance**

(.5 CEU in Soil & Water Management)

#### **Jon Treloar, Regional Technical Sales Lead, Canada, Novozymes**

Jon will give our attendees an overview of this new technology from Novozymes.

5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

### **The ROI of Biology**

(.5 CEU in Soil & Water Management)

#### **Dale Overton, CEO, Overton Environmental Enterprises Inc., Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Dale will be discussing impact of microbes in the soil and how this impacts agriculture production.