



# The KAP Alert

June 26, 2009

## Traceability Matters

*KAP Commentary by President Ian Wishart*

Earlier this month, KAP attended a research and development conference for agriculture and food traceability. Trace R&D was hosted by the University of Manitoba and it focused on examining traceability technology and looking into a national traceability research strategy. A considerable portion of the event highlighted perspectives on traceability from different points in the food supply chain, including the farm.



Traceability has become one of the most discussed developments in our modern agri-food system. Traceability systems can provide many benefits for producers and other stakeholders including increasing productivity and profitability related to farm operations, processors, and distributors. Though traceability does not guarantee food safety, it does provide a tool to help prevent food safety hazards from reaching more people when a problem occurs. Traceability is important to producers because it can offer market access, with buyers in many countries demanding it.

## Activities

**Monday, June 22:** The Executive met at the KAP office. President Ian Wishart and VP Robert McLean attended the Manitoba Pork Council Rally in Morris.

**Wednesday, June 24:** President Ian Wishart attended the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan Mid Term Meeting in Saskatoon (Wednesday to Thursday). Communications Officer Kristen Lucyshyn attended an Ag in the City planning meeting.

**Friday, June 26:** Commodity Group Members met at the KAP office.

Some consumers want to know where their food comes from for different reasons such as fears over food recalls and disease outbreaks. Another possibility is that they may be looking for value added, or want to buy local, organic, or non-GMO. They may be willing to pay for a material or non-material value endowed in food, such as food associated with a particular growing or production region. The question on how the costs and the values are shared with producers is yet to be answered, but it is clear that we need cooperation from all of the members in the value chain—so far this has been difficult to achieve.

We know “identity preservation” is important. But the fact is Canada is lacking in the ability to trace all foods from farm to fork. Around the globe, developed and developing countries are further ahead of us in establishing traceability programs.

What producers and farm organizations must do is work with the government to develop a system that is rapid, complete, internationally recognized, and nationally integrated. There is little sense in individual provinces developing independent systems if they are not compatible with systems in other provinces. A nationally integrated system is necessary in order for us to open up new markets and maintain existing ones. We also must help direct research and development in the field, and be willing to fully participate in traceability.



## KAP Golf Tournament

KAP's members and friends celebrated the summer with the 8th Annual KAP Klassic Golf Tournament on June 19, 2009. Almost 60 golfers took part in the event, which was held at the Carman Golf Club.

## Other Events

**June 26-27:** 127th Annual Killarney Agricultural Society Fair. [Website](#)

**July 7-8:** Canadian Swine Health Forum, Radisson Hotel, Saskatoon, SK. [Website](#)

**July 7-10 and 13-17:** Crop Diagnostic School at the Ian N. Morrison Research Farm, Carman, MB. The School is designed to refine the diagnostic skills of agronomists, producers and people involved in field scouting and assessing crop health. A total of 6 CCA credits are available. Registration fee is \$160 per person. To register call 745-5663. [Website](#)

**July 13-16:** Canadian Special Crops Association annual convention, The Fairmont Winnipeg, Winnipeg, MB. [Website](#)

**July 15:** Manitoba holistic management summer pasture tour for

The prize for best team score went to Team 9 (Bob Bartley, Trish Jordan, Johanne Ross, and Brian Kenyon). Team 12 (Justin Jenner, Scott Stykalo, Daryl Vanstone, and Henry Verhoven) was ranked second, ahead of the team with the most honest score, Team 6 (Glenn Young, Annette Young, Alan Brown, and Basil McCallister).



Following the tournament golfers enjoyed Danny's Whole Hog BBQ. A big thank you to Theresa Bergsma for hosting the supper. Special thanks to all who hit the links with KAP, we hope to see you again next year!



**Photos: Team 9 (top right), Team 12 (middle), Glenn Young accepts prizes for team 6 (below).**

managers and clubs.  
Call Jo-Lene at 825-3512.

## Request for Proposals

The Manitoba Livestock Manure Management Initiative invites individuals, partnerships, companies, and research organizations to submit proposals for innovative manure management research and demonstration projects under this [RFP](#). Deadline for submissions is June 30, 2009.

Interested parties are encouraged to contact Brandy Street (Executive Director) by phone at (204) 945-2122 or by [email](#).

## Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards

Celebrate sustainability champions and share



## Mark Your Calendar

### *Upcoming AgriStability Deadlines*

From [www.agr.gc.ca](http://www.agr.gc.ca)

#### ***September 30, 2009***

\* Deadline to submit the 2008 AgriStability/AgrInvest Harmonized Form without penalty.

#### ***December 31, 2009***

\* Deadline to submit the 2008 AgriStability/AgrInvest Harmonized Form with penalty.

\*\*If you miss the September 30, 2009 deadline, you can still submit the form until December 31, 2009 with a \$500/month reduction to your payment.

### ***2010 AgriStability Deadlines***

#### ***March 31, 2010***

\* 2009 Interim Payment Application deadline.

#### ***September 30, 2010***

\* Deadline to submit the 2009 AgriStability/AgrInvest Harmonized Form

their success stories!

To recognize Manitobans who embrace the spirit and principles of sustainable development, the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development established the Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards. The Awards recognize and honour people, projects, and ideas that successfully apply the Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development into concrete and lasting achievements.

Applications and nominations are being accepted for the 2009 Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards until Friday, July 10, 2009.

**Submit** an Application or Nomination

### **Problem predators?**

*Assistance is available if you are*

without penalty.

[AgriStability Program Link](#)

***experiencing  
predation on stock.***

Manitoba Conservation has entered into an agreement with the Manitoba Trappers Association (MTA) for MTA to administer Problem Predator Removal Services (PPRS).

This agreement is similar to previous ones. Producers who are experiencing problems should notify the Manitoba Agricultural Services (MASC) [office](#) nearest their location and report the problem. MASC will assign a claim number and an adjuster to investigate the claim. Producers may then contact the Manitoba Trappers Association at 1-204-345-9107 and request that a qualified trapper be assigned to deal with the issue.

For more information, contact Barry Verbiwski, Aboriginal Liaison Manager and the Head of the Furbearer and Problem Wildlife

Management Unit at  
945-7751.

## **Member Benefits Corner**

It pays to be a KAP member! We are pleased to offer a comprehensive benefits program to our members in addition to the ongoing policy work that we do on your behalf.

For more information, please call our Member Benefits line at 1-866-527-0123 or check out the website [here](#).

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