

Saskatchewan flax Grower



Allen Kuhlmann
Chair,
Saskatchewan
Flax Development
Commission

Our Mission

"To lead, promote,
and enhance the
production,
value-added
processing and
utilization of
Saskatchewan flax."

**October
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Saskatchewan
Flax Development
Commission*



SaskFlax

Chair's Report

What a difference a year can make!!

The Canadian dollar is at par! Agriculture has gone from where governments are not interested in basic research (because we only grow commodities which are in surplus) to where prices have exploded on many of those same commodities. Nations are blocking exports to protect domestic food supplies and importing no matter what the cost. WOW! I wonder if those in Ottawa and elsewhere that fund agronomic research have noticed?

How high would those prices be if the Canadian dollar was .65 or .80? Interesting times for sure! I hope this optimism and good times survive longer than higher input costs!

Now to more mundane but also important issues. The Flax Commission needs 2 new directors as Gordon and Dave must retire this year. Step up to the plate people – please. It is a great opportunity to learn about your industry.

Flax Day 2008 is January 7, 2008 – I hope the good times bring record numbers to the show. Hope to see you there.

The Commission is sponsoring a straw management workshop on February 12 and 13, 2008. Green people are aiming their sights on fire – learn how not to burn straw and maybe make a buck. As a result of the environmental concerns the Commission will continue working with the Ag Environmental Group to modify farm practices. Read more regarding this in the following pages.

After a very long wait and much pain to dial up internet users, we have a brand new website: www.saskflax.com. Check it out if you haven't already.

Areas where I have traveled suggest flax yields didn't suffer as much as some other crops. I hope this was the case on your farm. Happy marketing and please don't create excess demand for southern vacations till after Flax Day.

Allen Kuhlmann
Chair

Up Coming Events

November 6 to 9, 2007

Short Course
"Flaxseed: Adding Functional Food Value"
Northern Crops Institute
Fargo, North Dakota

November 28, 29, 2007

Bio-Fibres Symposium:
"Binding Innovation to Opportunity"
Edmonton, Alberta

January 7, 2008

"Growing Flax First" –
Annual General Meeting/Flax Day Update
Canadian Room, Saskatoon Inn
Saskatoon

February 12, 13, 2008

SFDC/AEGP
"Effective Straw Management Workshop"
Esteran Room, Hilton Garden Inn
Saskatoon

July 21 to 24, 2008

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
(FAO) International Bast Conference
Hilton Garden Inn
Saskatoon

2009

International Year of Natural Fibers
As proclaimed by the Food and Agriculture
Organization (FAO) of the United Nations

Effective Flax Straw Management: Review and Update

According to the Flax Growers Survey, the most common problem flax producers face is in dealing with the straw after harvest. This information has been reinforced at flax meetings, field days and is a regular topic in conversations with producers.

In many growing areas the world over, unwanted crop residue has a history of being burned. However changing times and a greater attention to environmental issues has seen the practice largely banned in many places. Burning creates emissions that have the potential to affect public health and negatively impact the environment, particularly air quality. At a time when reducing greenhouse gas emissions is becoming an evermore pressing issue at both the personal and political level, greater constraints are going to be placed on agricultural producers to look at alternatives other than burning to effectively manage straw.

Saskatchewan producers have long been mindful of the shortcomings of burning albeit a quick and easy method of dealing with the frustrations of flax straw. Through improved harvest technology, research generated by leveraged check-off dollars and the leadership of the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission, producers have been able to and respond to alternate methods of dealing with it. In order for any strategy to be accepted by producers it has to be financially viable as well as environmentally and socially acceptable. In other words, it has to be sustainable.

At the present time, SaskFlax, through the Agricultural Environmental Group Plan is in the process of developing Beneficial Management Practices that will meet that criterion. Some management practices will focus on methods that will return the straw to the field where it can breakdown naturally increasing the health of the soil. Others will look to generating a profit from oilseed flax straw requiring a new suite of management practices that would supply a consistent and dependable source of flax fiber in a variety of value-added opportunities.

Chopping and Spreading

According to David Larson, Provincial Soils Specialist with Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food, a straw chopper is the primary tool for managing flax straw in Saskatchewan. Larson goes on to say, "In order to get the desired results the producer needs to have an effective well maintained straw chopper and a combine with sufficient power to run it properly. There are a number of choppers that are effective for flax and have the ability to spread the straw over the entire width of the swath."



Ripe field

Although most combines come with a straw chopper, many producers choose an "after-market" chopper to better meet their needs. Saskatchewan manufacturer, Redekop Manufacturing operating out of Saskatoon, is a leader in straw and chaff management specializing in products that meet the challenges of producers. For more information go to their website at www.redekopmfg.com or call them at 1.866.733.3567. They will also be represented at many Trade Shows over the fall and winter including Agribition in November.

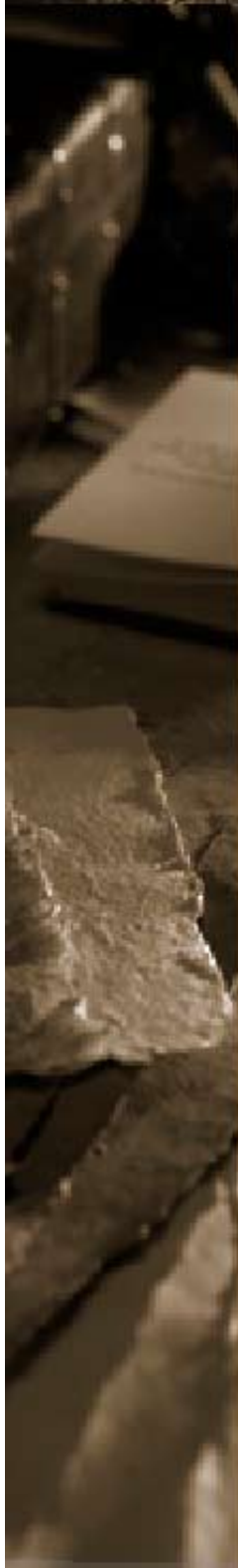
SaskFlax Board Member, Chris Hale has been chopping and spreading flax straw for the past 18 harvests. Currently he is using a John Deere combine equipped with a two-part Redekop Kit. Chris feels that combination is doing a good job on his operation in the Regina area. He admits the straw grows a little shorter there as compared to other places in the province and that helps. He does not find it necessary to desiccate his crops and with his management system including attention to his crop rotations he hasn't had straw problems in the following spring.

Gregor Beck, also a SaskFlax Board Member stresses the need to keep your chopper in good operating order. Given the volume of material that is fed through the chopper, the blades need to be sharp and there are two methods of doing this — either by removing the blade and having it professionally sharpened or by upgrading to the self-sharpening option.

Provincial Soils Specialist, Ken Panchuk confirms that chopping and spreading straw and chaff is a critical first step in a zero-till or min-till seeding system. "A well maintained straw chopper is the key to crop residue management."



M. Lee Peggly
Researcher and Author





Stripper header



Chopping and spreading

Stripper Header Technology

Recent market surveys and on-going research indicate there are many potential products that could utilize flax fibers to complement or replace glass, synthetic and cotton fibers.

There is growing optimism that Saskatchewan flax fiber will evolve from a "troublesome waste product" to an economically positive stream of additional income for those willing to take the additional time and effort and make the necessary financial contribution in managing their flax straw crop. According to Alvin Ulrich out of Saskatoon based Crop Fibers Canada, "Current research projects are hoping to prove that Saskatchewan producers have the ability to produce higher quality straw on a consistent basis. Positive results have been seen on small scale plots, but now it's time to see if those same results can be achieved on a full field scale and throughout our growing region." Demonstrations carried out with three producers from different regions in the fall of 2006 and the spring of 2007 have shown that it is possible to manage flax straw under a variety of stand conditions to improve the type of fiber and shive that can be extracted.

Lyle Simonson has been using stripper header technology for the past three years on his flax crop in southwestern Saskatchewan and sees many advantages in using one. He relates, "When we look at dates for harvest, typically in this part of the country we'll harvest our flax well into September or it's been into October. The last three years where we have had the experience with the stripper header we've started harvesting our flax as early as the beginning of August. The flax [bolls] are dry and ready to harvest and the flax straw is anything but ripe to cut, but it works out well with the stripper header. This is probably a month earlier than we would normally be doing it with a conventional header."

When asked about the merits of purchasing a stripper header Lyle feels the biggest consideration is what to do with the straw still standing in the field after the seed has been harvested. "To properly manage the straw takes a bit of work after it has been harvested. On our operation we have worked with cutting and baling, or rolling, raking and baling so there are different options to look at."

According to Mark Stumborg out of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Swift Current Research Station there is a number of economic advantages to using a stripper header. The biggest one is to further diversify and improve a producer's stream of income. Farmers can look at additional possible economic returns from an acre of flax other than the seed. That being said, farmers have never had to worry about straw quality in the past but in order to access those higher end fiber markets new management strategies will have to be implemented to achieve those market demands. In addition, changing the header technology and reducing the amount of material going through the combine reduces wear and tear as well as allowing the combine to move through the field more quickly.

The most important feature beyond making sure that the flax field is clean and uniform, is getting the straw to rot. Retting takes time, moisture, the appropriate temperature and assorted other variables, but the biggest problem is time. Using a stripper header opens up a much broader horizon for retting to occur given the earlier seed harvest time and very positive results in the area of field retting are being seen.

In Alvin Ulrich's words, "We have shown that large scale commercial retting of traditional oilseed flax is possible in Saskatchewan if certain nontraditional agronomic, harvest and straw management practices are carried out."

Other Stripper Header Straw Management Options

In a perfect world, all of Saskatchewan's flax fiber would have the option of moving into higher end markets, but as realists we know that there will always be some that doesn't make it. It could be for any one of several reasons including a want to return the straw to the soil for added ground cover and fertility, unfavourable weather conditions, a field that has too much second growth or an infestation of undesirable plants.

For producers in this situation, or those that have trouble managing flax straw in the spring, Wayne Kalthoff, Territory Manager for Saskatchewan based Schulte Products recommends producers consider the use of a rotary cutter. Their newest release Model FX742 is said to be the world's largest rotary cutter giving a 42-foot cutting width.

For any producer with an interest in shredding crop residue this Saskatchewan made line of products may provide some answers. According to Kalthoff, "It's our Fixed Knife Technology with strategically placed baffles that gives us the ability to shred crop residue and spread it evenly behind our cutter better than any rotary cutter on the market today. Field finish is what we aim for. A farmer can zero-till into it without any more field passes." He goes on to say, "As more areas restrict or ban the burning of crop residue, including straw, corn and cotton stocks, we see a need to respond to a world wide demand for methods to deal with it. These areas encompass large tracts of land in many regions and our technology is a natural fit." For more information on Schulte products in particular Schulte's Fixed Knife Technology go to www.schulte.ca or call 1.306.287.3715.



*N. Lee Pengilly
Researcher and Author*

Saskatchewan inDemand

N. Lee Pengilly

With over 75 booths showcasing everything from mining to government agencies, unique food products to a strong contingent of Natural Fiber producers, the first Saskatchewan inDemand Trade Show was held in Saskatoon at Prairieland Park from September 14 - 16. While visiting the food Trade Show booths attendees sampled new and unique Saskatchewan made (and produced) food products, attended cooking show demonstrations and listened to various guest speakers.

After months of planning, fiber producers including alpaca, lama, sheep and flax hosted 27 booths including 6 for a common demonstration area. In addition to a Fashion Show featuring clothing made of natural fibers, a Fiber Challenge was held with entries received from across the province. The adjudicated first and second places in a variety of categories were awarded ribbons and the items were on display at the show. A Peoples' Choice Award was given as voted upon by attendees. The Fibre inDemand Naturally group also arranged for on-going fiber related demonstrations in our "common" area. Hand spinning, drop spindle spinning, fleece preparation, punch art, needle felting and wreath making were just some of the talents showcased. Although not available in its finished form in time for the show, a Saskatchewan Fiber Directory was compiled and copies will be distributed to the SaskFlax office in Saskatoon in the near future.

Saskatchewan Flax was well represented at Saskatchewan inDemand. Among those promoting food products was a booth showcasing some great prairie ingredients, namely Saskatchewan's Flax, Mustard and Canola. This booth, hosted by Leslie Sanders with support from Linda Braun, provided taste samples of various dips as well as print material. In the fiber area, Randy Cowan demonstrated the traditional flax decorticating, hackling and scutching process. He was always busy, as people watched with fascination and asked a multitude of questions. Beside him as part of the Flax Group was Madelaine Walker from Christopher Lake. She alternated her demonstrations of spinning flax fiber into linen and weaving linen on a table loom

between our flax booth and in the "common area." I hosted the booth and provided attendees with a variety of SaskFlax print material. Also included within our space was Marie Saretsky of Burr. Marie provided demonstrations on the art of wreath making with a particular focus on flax. Using natural flax as well as flax dyed in a variety of colours, Marie mesmerized people as she transformed her homegrown plants and flowers into works of art.

We received many compliments for our booth set up as we showcased flax from field to finished product. A highlight moment for me within our booth area occurred as Madelaine was taking Saskatchewan fiber directly from Randy's hackling and scutching process and spinning it into linen before our eyes. And in the "common demonstration area" as Madelaine was spinning, several other spinners brought their wheels over and she helped them learn how to spin flax into linen, much to the fascination of onlookers (myself included). Both Marie and Madelaine had a variety of their own crafted flax/linen products on sale creating additional interest in our booth area and Randy had samples of some of the other products that could utilize flax fiber. A commonly overheard comment from folks was, "I had no idea flax could be used for so many things – and it's grown right here in Saskatchewan!" Coupled with our food booth, trade show attendees had ample opportunity to appreciate the full plant utilization of flax – something we continue to showcase and promote.

My thanks to Randy, Madelaine, Marie, Leslie and Linda for making the flax booths such a success. This was Saskatchewan inDemand's first year and although attendance was lower than anticipated, most feel that with a bit of fine-tuning and perhaps a date change, this Trade Show will come to be one of Saskatchewan's premiere events.



To Burn or Not to Burn is No Longer the Question

N. Lee Pengilly

A quick search on the Internet will reveal how extensive clean air legislation has become, particularly in the US and Europe. It has become commonplace and compliance is mandatory. Any burning, even in agricultural areas, is carried out by special permit only and on a very restricted basis. The interconnectedness of the ecosystem between the rural and urban interface is becoming more understood and with that a greater appreciation by urban folk of the extensive ecological goods and services provided in rural areas to enhance soil, air and water quality. Many futurists are seeing this emerging area as a lucrative stream of income for agricultural landowners, but along with that comes our responsibility to be congruent with our image as "true stewards of the land".

To sum up, if you do still depend on burning crop stubble as a management tool, it's time to be looking

for an alternate management strategy. In keeping with a tradition of creativity, innovation and market savvy, Saskatchewan producers and entrepreneurs are once again in the forefront in responding to this challenge.

For more information on flax straw management and to stay updated on the SaskFlax Agricultural Environmental Group Plan go to the SaskFlax website at www.saskflax.com.

Effective Straw Management Workshop

Calling all producers and researchers interested in straw/fiber from oilseed flax. Come and spend time with fellow producers, research scientists and industry to provide direction to the development of the flax fiber industry in Saskatchewan. Effective Straw Management is essential to industry expansion of flaxseed and fiber in Canada.

As part of the day, we're pleased to also address in detail the Greening of Flax – the Linoleum Story.

Linoleum is made up of natural ingredients, including linseed oil which comprises over 30% of the product. Headquartered in Switzerland is Forbo, the world's largest manufacturer of linoleum. Forbo is a dedicated proponent of environmentally sustainable farming and manufacturing practices. Linseed oil from Canadian flax is critical to their production and world sales. Forbo's approach to producing and marketing a truly environmentally friendly product made from flax grown on the Canadian prairie is a unique industrial model. Speaking at the Effective Straw Management Workshop will be Forbo's Tim Cole, Director of Environmental Initiatives and Jacco Vlaar, National Sales Manager.

Forbo is a contributing partner in Flax Canada 2015, an initiative to boost the beneficial impacts of flax and flax based products, coordinated with funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Effective Straw Management Workshop

AGENDA

February 12, 2008

11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Registration
11:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.	Welcome/Introductions (SaskFlax)
11:45 a.m. to Noon	Beneficial Management Practices & Ag Environmental Group Plan
Noon to 12:45 p.m.	Lunch
12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.	Breeding Tools for Effective Straw Management Fiber Content by Variety (Alvin Ulrich) Breeding for Enhanced Fiber (Gordon Rowland) What Breeders Need to Know (Paul Dribnenki)
1:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.	Producer Action – The Quebec Experience (Gilles Gagné)
2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Network/Refreshments
2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Straw Field Management – Chopping/Spreading (Panel)
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Straw to Fiber – Harvest Management (Panel)
4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Manitoba Experience (TBA)
4:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.	Wrap Up/Tomorrow's Agenda

February 12, 13, 2008
Estevan Room, Hilton Garden Inn
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

February 13, 2008

8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	Straw to Fiber - Research (Mark Stumborg)
8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.	Straw to Fiber – Retting (Alvin Ulrich, Denis Rho)
9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Working to Meet Market Demand (Geoff Kime)
10:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.	Network/Refreshments
10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.	Market Reaction to Saskatchewan Managed Oilseed Flax Fiber (Eric Laugier)
10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	The Path Ahead (Mark Stumborg, Alvin Ulrich, Lyle Simonson)
11:30 a.m. to Noon	BMP'S for Flax Producers by Flax Producers (TBA)
Noon to 12:15 p.m.	Wrap Up
12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Greening of Flax – The Linoleum Story (Forbo/Flax Canada 2015)

Registration fee \$100.00 payable to Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission, A5A – 116 – 103rd Street East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 1Y7

Canada





The following companies are registered to collect the Flax Checkoff and have agreed to have their company names listed in the newsletter.

ADM Agri Industries
P.O. Box 820
Watson, Saskatchewan
S0K 4V0
Telephone: (306) 287-3100
Fax: (306) 287-3521

Agricom International Inc.
213 – 838 Harbourside Drive
North Vancouver, B.C.
V7P 3R9
Telephone: (604) 983-6922
Fax: (604) 983-6923

Bioriginal Food & Science Corporation
102 Melville Street
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7J 0R1
Telephone: (306) 975-1166
Fax: (306) 242-3829

Bunge Canada
P.O. Box 750
Altona, Manitoba
R0G 0B0
Telephone: 1-800-203-9576
Fax: (204) 324-5995

Bunge Canada
P.O. Box 2230
Humbolt, Saskatchewan
S0K 2A0
Telephone: (306) 682-5060
Fax: (306) 682-5789

Bunge Canada
P.O. Box 546
Russell, Manitoba
R0J 1W0
Telephone: 1-800-665-0499
Fax: (204) 773-3077

C.B. Constantini Ltd.
730 – 1508 W. Broadway
Vancouver, B.C.
V6J 1W8
Telephone: (604) 669-1212
Fax: (604) 689-4145

C.B. Constantini Ltd.
4 – 3002 Louise Street
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7J 3J8
Telephone: (306) 373-9730
Fax: (306) 373-7907

CanMar Grain Products Ltd.
2480 Sandra Schmirler Way
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4W 1B7
Telephone: (306) 721-1375
Fax: (306) 721-1378

Cargill Limited
P.O. Box 5900
300 – 240 Graham Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 4C5
Telephone: (204) 947-6262
Fax: (204) 947-6143

Diefenbaker Seed Processors Ltd.
P.O. Box 69
Elbow, Saskatchewan
S0H 1J0
Telephone: (306) 644-4704
Fax: (306) 644-4706

Farmer Direct Cooperative Ltd.
2054 Broad Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 1Y3
Telephone: (306) 352-2444
Fax: (306) 352-2443

Fill-More Seeds Inc.
P.O. Box 70
Fillmore, Saskatchewan
S0G 1N0
Telephone: (306) 722-3353
Fax: (306) 722-3328

G.H. Schweitzer Enterprises Ltd.
P.O. Box 222
Eton, Saskatchewan
S0L 1A0
Telephone: (306) 962-4751
Fax: (306) 962-3251

Horizon Agro Inc.
P.O. Box 59 R.R. #1
Morris, Manitoba
R0G 1K0
Telephone: (204) 746-2026
Fax: (204) 746-2343

Johnston's
P.O. Box 160
Weylyn, Saskatchewan
S0A 4L0
Telephone: 1-800-324-7778

Keystone Grain Ltd.
P.O. Box 1236
Winkler, Manitoba
R6W 4B3
Telephone: (204) 325-9555
Fax: (204) 325-2240

Lakeside Global Grains Inc.
P.O. Box 430
Wynyard, Saskatchewan
S0A 4T0
Telephone: (306) 554-3030
Fax: (306) 554-3010

Larsen Seeds
P.O. Box 39
Aylsham, Saskatchewan
S0E 0C0
Telephone: (306) 862-7333
Fax: (306) 862-9552

Linear Grain Inc.
P.O. Box 219
Carman, Manitoba
R0G 0J0
Telephone: (204) 745-6747
Fax: (204) 745-6573

Louis Dreyfus Canada
1400 – 333 – 11th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2R 1L9
Telephone: (403) 205-3322
Fax: (403) 205-4408

Maviga N.A. Inc.
209 – 845 Broad Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4R 8G9
Telephone: (306) 721-8900
Fax: (306) 721-8988

MJW Farms Ltd.
P.O. Box 24
Arcola, Saskatchewan
S0C 0G0
Telephone: (306) 455-2509

North West Terminal
P.O. Box 1090
Unity, Saskatchewan
S0K 4L0
Telephone: (306) 228-3735
Fax: (306) 228-3877

Parent Seed Farms Ltd.
P.O. Box 36
St. Joseph, Manitoba
R0G 2C0
Telephone: (204) 737-2625
Fax: (204) 737-2248

Parkland Pulses Grain Co Ltd.
P.O. Box 848
North Battleford, Saskatchewan
S9A 2Z3
Telephone: (306) 445-4199
Fax: (306) 445-1650

Parrish & Heimbecker Ltd.
1400 – 201 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 3K6
Telephone: (204) 956-2030
Fax: (204) 943-8233

Paterson Global Foods Inc.
22nd Floor 333 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 4E2
Telephone: (204) 956-2090

Pioneer Grain Company Limited
2800 One Lombard Place
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 0X8
Telephone: (204) 934-5961
Fax: (204) 947-2647

Prairie Flax Products Inc.
P.O. Box 1057
Portage la Prairie, Manitoba
R1N 3C5
Telephone: 1-866-283-3331
Fax: (204) 252-2983

Precision Ag
P.O. Box 172
Carlyle, Saskatchewan
S0C 0R0
Telephone: (306) 453-2255

Precision Ag – Griffin
Griffin, Saskatchewan
S0C 1G0
Telephone: (306) 457-2220

Precision Ag – Carnduff
P.O. Box 909
Carnduff, Saskatchewan
S0C 0S0
Telephone: (306) 482-4343

Rayglen Commodities
1 – 3815 Thatcher Avenue
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7R 1A3
Telephone: (306) 249-9617

S.S. Johnson Seeds Ltd.
P.O. Box 3000
Arborg, Manitoba
R0C 0A0
Telephone: (204) 376-5228
Fax: (204) 376-2201

Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
2625 Victoria Avenue
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4T 7T9
Telephone: (306) 569-4081
Fax: (306) 569-4715

Sedley Seeds (2007) Ltd.
P.O. Box 70
Sedley, Saskatchewan
S0G 4K0
Telephone: (306) 885-4444
Fax: (306) 885-2035

Seed-Ex Inc.
P.O. Box 238
Letellier, Manitoba
R0G 1C0
Telephone: 1-800-258-7434
Fax: 1-800-454-8069

Van Burck Cleaning & Processing Ltd.
P.O. Box 7
Star City, Saskatchewan
S0E 1P0
Telephone: (306) 863-4377
Fax: (306) 863-2252

Walker Seeds Ltd.
P.O. Box 2890
Tisdale, Saskatchewan
S0E 1T0
Telephone: (306) 873-3777
Fax: (306) 873-5997

Western Commodities Trading
P.O. Box 69
Spalding, Saskatchewan
S0K 4C0
Telephone: (306) 872-2280
Fax: (306) 872-2283

Weyburn Inland Terminal Ltd.
P.O. Box 698
Weyburn, Saskatchewan
S4H 2K8
Telephone: (306) 842-7436
Fax: (306) 842-0303

Your Organization Needs You

The backbone of a strong and vibrant organization is a combination of both old and new talent at the Board level. Since its inception SaskFlax has had the benefit of both. That being said, we're always looking for new talent and that's where you come in! There's no better time than the present to give some serious consideration to putting your name forward to stand

for election to the Board. A diversity of talent, location, background and interest provide the solid foundation needed for our organization to move forward and best meet the interests of ALL Saskatchewan flax producers. If you are a registered flax producer, let your voice be heard. For more information and nomination details contact the SaskFlax office at: saskflax@saskflax.com or contact one of the current Directors.

Election Call

The need to increase flax productivity and profitability continues to be of utmost concern to producers. Directors of Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission define the vision and direction for the industry; establish policy and budget and work with the Executive Director and allied industry organizations to advance the industry through concentrated research and development initiatives.

The Commission operates with six directors elected from flax growers (registered producers). Two director positions are available annually. Each director serves a three year term and may be re-elected for a further three years.

Elections are held each fall, when required and new directors' responsibilities are initiated at the close of the annual general meeting in January.

Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission Flax Day 2008 – Growing Flax First

Monday, January 7, 2008

Canadian Room, Saskatoon Inn
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

- 8:00 a.m. Registration/Refreshments
- 8:30 a.m. Flax Council of Canada Update
- 8:45 a.m. AmeriFlax Update
- 9:00 a.m. SaskFlax Annual General Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Network/Refreshments
- 10:45 a.m. Growing Flax First: Short Season Flax
(Paul Dribnenki, Viterra)
- 11:15 a.m. Growing Flax First: The Survey Said?
(Scot Duguid, AAFC)
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch/Network
- 1:15 p.m. Growing Flax First: Harvest for Seed and Straw
– Panel (TBA)
- 2:15 p.m. Growing Flax First: Building The Processing Plant
(Alvin Ulrich, Crop Fibers Canada)
- 2:45 p.m. Network/Refreshments
- 3:00 p.m. Growing Flax First: Flax Straw Building & Pork
Production (Casey Smit)
- 3:30 p.m. Growing Flax First: Navigating The Web
(Penny Eaton, Eaton & Associates)
- 4:00 p.m. Wrap Up

Registration Fee \$25.00 on site (lunch, refreshment breaks included).

Take advantage of this opportunity to catch up on the latest on complete flax utilization from breeding to harvest and processing to building. See you in January!

NOMINATION FORM FOR DIRECTOR

SASKATCHEWAN FLAX DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

In accordance with the Saskatchewan Flax Development Plan Regulations, I, the undersigned, hereby submit my name as a candidate for election to a seat on the Board of Directors of the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission. I have sold flax within the past two years and have paid the check-off required pursuant to Sub Sections 15 (1) and (2) of the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission Regulations.

First Name

Last Name

Address

Town

Postal Code

Telephone

Facsimile

Signature

I nominate the above flax producer as a candidate for election as a Director of the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission.

Registered Producer (signature)

Please Print Name

Telephone/Fax

Registered Producer (signature)

Please Print Name

Telephone/Fax

Registered Producer (signature)

Please Print Name

Telephone/Fax

Please return this form along with you biography on or before Noon November 2, 2007 to:

Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission
A5A – 116 – 103rd Street East
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7N 1Y7
Fax: (306) 664-4404

In your biography please describe briefly what you would like to accomplish during your term as a director on the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission, and on what activities you would like to see the Commission concentrate its energies. Please also outline your reasons for wanting to be a director. Optional information about yourself might include your education, sports/hobbies, spouse's name and number of children and ages, what your farming operations include (crops grown, livestock) and other organizations you belong to.

Note: Only registered producers may vote, nominate or hold office. If your levy is collected under a company name contact us to designate your company representative.

Flax Checkoff Deadlines

Period 1 February 28, 2008

Period 2 August 31, 2008

Application forms are available by contacting SaskFlax at:

306.664.1901

306.664.4404 Fax

saskflax@saskflax.com

Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission

A5A – 116 – 103rd Street East

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

S7N 1Y7

Our Logo Tells A Story

The bright and lively crown of the sheaf of flax represents the coming together of many members into a solid organization.



SaskFlax

The stalks of the flax plant positioned in a woven manner represent fiber-based products as well as the close interaction between members of the organization.

The boll of the plant, made up of three oil droplet shapes, represents oil-based products as well as the overlapping areas of production, research and marketing.

Saskatchewan Flax Grower is published bi-annually by the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission, for registered flax producers, registered buyers and allied organizations.

Subscription rate for other individuals/organizations is \$50.00 per year. Contact office for more details 306.664.1901.

Help Us Be Accurate

Are you getting more than one copy? Address incomplete or name misspelled? Let us know. Call 306.664.1901, 306.664.4404 fax, or mail in the label for correction. Thank you.

2007/2008

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Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:

Saskatchewan Flax Grower

Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission

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