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**ONTARIO FORAGE MASTER PROGRAM -
LOCAL FIRST-PLACE WINNERS INVITED TO ENTER
*PROVINCIAL COMPETITION***

**'The Value of Forages'
NOVEMBER 2009**

The Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) is pleased to announce a final provincial competition this fall to select an overall Ontario winner. This winner - the **2009 Ontario Forage Master** - will represent Ontario at the Forage Spokesperson Competition held as part of the American Forage and Grasslands Council conference which is taking place in Springfield Missouri. Unfortunately, a date has not yet been set for that event.

This competition is strictly **voluntary**, and in no way affects the prizes to the county/district winners.

Guidelines for entry:

1. The entrant must be the first-place winner in their county/district.
2. The entrant must be willing to compete and give a presentation in the American Forage Spokesperson Competition (representing Ontario) in Springfield MO in 2010.
3. A written report may be provided in the form of an essay/report, or MS PowerPoint presentation to communicate to the judging panel *'The Value of Forages'*.
4. This "written" submission is to include content of a 20-minute public speaking presentation that would be given if selected for the competition held at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in November.
5. The document should be structured so as not to exceed 20 minutes as a verbal presentation.
6. Submit to the OSCIA office in Guelph by regular mail, e-mail or fax **by October 1, 2009.**

Attn: Evelyn L. Howse

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Details re selection process:

1. Up to 6 submissions will be selected by the judging panel.
2. All entrants will be advised of the outcome by October 20, 2009.
3. The top 6 entrants will be invited to participate in a speaking competition being held at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in November 2009.

Judging criteria for above:

1. How well is 'The Value of Forages' explained?
2. What innovative techniques are used in managing forages?
3. Is the submission format well organized and clear, with ample use of photos, graphs, etc.?
4. Does the written content appear to be a sound foundation for a public speaking presentation?

Judging panel:

The judging panel for both the preliminary competition and the competition at the Royal will be made up of sponsors and the OSCIA Executive members.

What is provided to the finalists:

1. One night accommodation in a hotel near the Royal Winter Fair grounds; location not yet identified.
2. One admission ticket to the Royal.
3. One ticket to the horse show at the Royal.
4. One ticket to the Awards Luncheon on the day of the competition - also held at the Royal.

Finalist's obligations:

Responsible for own travel expenses to and from the Royal.

Ontario Forage Master:

The overall winner who is named the **2009 Ontario Forage Master** will be asked to participate in the American Forage Spokesperson Competition held as part of the American Forage and Grasslands Council Conference that is taking place in Springfield Missouri in 2010. A date for this has yet to be established.

The **Ontario Forage Master** may also be invited to speak at various farm meetings throughout the winter.

This program is made possible with the generous contributions of the sponsors:

