

Profitable Pastures 2019 – Pasture management above and below the ground

Purpose

The purpose of the Profitable Pastures conference is to bring fresh ideas and new research results to Ontario's grazing managers across ruminant livestock sectors. It is a joint effort between the Ontario Forage Council and OMAFRA. The 2019 event was held on Tuesday, March 19. Between the main location in Mount Forest and four remote locations, 83 people attended. CEU credits were offered for this event.

Event Content

Topics presented this year were as follows:

- *Grazing Cover Crops* by Christine O'Reilly, OMAFRA Forage and Grazing Specialist
- *Grazing Cover Crops in Action* by Ken Mitchell, farmer
- *What Research Tells Us About Pasture Forage Mixtures* by Dr. Carole Lafreniere, Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue (retired)
- 2019 Mapleseed Beef Pasture Award winner Doug Gray, about his farm in Northumberland County
- *Get the Scoop on CFGA's Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Program Project* by Cedric MacLeod, Executive Director of the Canadian Forage and Grassland Association
- *4R Nutrient Stewardship for Forages* by Jake Munroe, OMAFRA Soil Fertility Specialist – Field Crops



Figure 1. Keynote speaker Dr. Carole Lafreniere

Key Learnings

Key learnings from this event were how forage crops improve soil health, and how well-managed, healthy soils improve pasture production.

Acknowledgements

OMAFRA Communications Branch for broadcasting the event.

Organizers and hosts of remote locations in Earlton, Emo, Powasson, and Thunder Bay.

Sponsorship from Beef Farmers of Ontario, Grey County Beef Farmers Association, Wentworth Cattlemen's Association, Farm Credit Canada, SGS Laboratories, Minto Ag, DLF Pickseed, and Green Tractors.

Event Contacts

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