



Saskatchewan Forage Council Presents 2010 Forage Industry Innovation Award

The Saskatchewan Forage Council (SFC) is pleased to announce that the 2010 Forage Industry Innovation Award has been awarded to Mr. Melvin Foth of Foth Ventures Ltd.

The Award recognizes exemplary innovation, leadership, service and stewardship in Saskatchewan's forage industry.

Melvin and Cheryl Foth own and operate a 350 cow dairy near Hague, Saskatchewan, with total average production of approximately 13,000L/day. Innovative and proactive management strategies have made this operation successful and forages are a vital and significant component. Alfalfa, alfalfa-grass mixtures, and barley are grown in rotation to provide baled feed, silage and grain. In addition, 1,000 to 1,500 tons of hay per year is marketed as a cash crop. In addition to dryland production, the total land base (2600+ acres) includes 450 irrigated acres.

Melvin has been involved in the Saskatchewan dairy industry since 1980, including serving on the Dairy Farmers of Saskatchewan Board of Directors where he is currently a member of the Research Committee. As noted by Jack Ford, fellow dairy producer from Wishart, Saskatchewan and SFC member nominating Melvin Foth for the Award, "Mel embraces research and incorporates it into his operation. He is the one to watch in the dairy industry for new and innovative ideas that can work on his farm, not just in the research field."

As part of this year's Saskatchewan Forage Council Tour and Annual Meeting (held July 8 in Hague), attendees had the opportunity to visit Foth's dairy operation and see first-hand how forages are central to the dairy production system. A note of thanks to the Dairy Farmers of Saskatchewan for partnering on this year's event, Viterra for sponsoring lunch, Melvin Foth for the excellent tour, and to all participants who attended this year's event.

Foth is clearly leading the way when it comes to managing forages for success within his livestock operation. And he is working for the benefit of his fellow producers – sharing innovative ideas and management strategies. The Saskatchewan Forage Council extends their sincere congratulations to Melvin Foth and Foth Ventures Ltd. on winning the 2010 Forage Industry Innovation Award.

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To request more information regarding this event or award please contact::

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