

PROCESSING

Abattoir closure leaves producers scrambling

7

WEATHER

Ranch suffers third natural disaster in a year

11

CROPS

Peace producers engage in on-farm research

19





Quality Seeds West

Forage Seed

1-800-661-4559

Produced by & available at TerraLink



COUNTRY LIFE IN BC

The agricultural news source in British Columbia since 1915

 OCTOBER 2022 | Vol. 108 No. 10

Animal welfare under review

Third-party audits possible

PETER MITHAM

VICTORIA – A third-party auditing program for commercial livestock operations is a provincial review of the framework governing animal welfare in BC.

“The framework includes a review of provincial legislation, policies and practices related to the welfare of farmed animals in BC,” deputy agriculture minister Peter Porkorny explained in an August 25 letter to stakeholder groups.

Third-party audits have been a long-standing wish of

See THIRD on next page ↩



Greenhouse effect

A state-of-the-art greenhouse is among the factors making Dutch Heritage Greenhouse in Chilliwack a leading domestic supplier of chrysanthemums. Backed by 50 years of family experience, the operation now sees its flowers distributed as far east as Quebec. See story on page 29. ANNA KLOCHKO

Grow MORE with less water.



Center Pivot and Linear Irrigation Systems





888-675-7999 877-591-4790

Avian influenza returns

PETER MITHAM

CHILLIWACK – Poultry producers across the province are once more on high alert for highly pathogenic avian influenza after three positive test results in mid September.

The disease was confirmed at a commercial flock in Chilliwack with approximately 23,000 birds on September 14, with a 10-kilometre control zone announced the following day.

Birds at O’Keefe Ranch in Vernon and at a property in Williams Lake tested positive

shortly afterwards. The two flocks are classified as “non-poultry,” meaning the birds were kept for household use or non-food purposes. In the case of O’Keefe Ranch, pheasants and peacocks were affected.

The outbreaks have prompted reinstatement of red-level biosecurity protocols for commercial flocks, boosted reporting requirements, and cancelled the APA Canadian National Poultry Show the Fraser Valley Poultry Fanciers Association scheduled for Abbotsford, October 28-30.

The show typically attracts hundreds of birds, but the risk this year was too great.

The three properties are the first in the province to report cases since June 18. They follow the relaxing of restrictions in early August when the Canadian Food Inspection Agency revoked the last of the 10 control zones first established following outbreaks this spring.

A total of 21 flocks representing more than

See BIRD on next page ↩

POSTES CANADA

Port payé

Post-Publications

40012122

CANADA POST

Postage paid

Publications Mail

40012122

Vol. 108 No. 10

Country Life in BC

36 Dale Road

Enderby, BC V0E 1V4

Postmaster, Please return Undeliverable labels to:

Country Life in BC

36 Dale Road

Enderby, BC V0E 1V4