

NEWS RELEASE

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BeefResearch.ca expands to a more comprehensive resource for beef-related research information

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The Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC) is pleased to announce another step toward enhanced knowledge dissemination and technology transfer in the Canadian beef industry.

The BCRC's website, www.beefresearch.ca, now has the capability for other organizations that fund beef, cattle and forage-related research of interest to the Canadian beef industry to create and submit research summaries to the website.

"The BCRC has always worked hard to communicate the objectives and results of in-progress and completed research projects funded by the National Check-off and the Beef Cattle Industry Science Clusters," said Andrea Brocklebank, Executive Director of the BCRC.

"Especially since launching BeefResearch.ca in August 2012, we've seen huge interest by producers and industry groups in our concise fact sheets, so in the collaborative spirit of the National Beef Research Strategy and the Science Clusters, we have built the capability for other organizations to develop and share similar fact sheets through the same channel."

Like-minded organizations can acquire login information from the BCRC, then draft fact sheets using customizable templates and indicate where they should appear in the website's navigation. Before being submitted, a fact sheet author must confirm that the lead researcher has reviewed and approved its content.

BCRC staff will moderate submissions to ensure that all posted fact sheets adequately summarize sound science that is valuable to the industry or pertinent to industry stakeholders. The system encourages fact sheets to acknowledge all of a project's funders and prevents duplicate summaries by multiple authors.

"Sharing research results is important. The BCRC's initiative to co-publish related research allows for greater distribution of results ensuring that targeted audiences are more likely to get up-to-date information," said Rob Hand of the Alberta Crop Industry Development Fund Ltd. (ACIDF). "ACIDF plans to put the ALMA/ACIDF Livestock Feeding Initiative research results on the BCRC website."

Staff at ACIDF and the Alberta Beef Producers (ABP) assisted the BCRC in the development of the system by testing it and offering user feedback. ABP and ACIDF fact sheets are among the first third party authored fact sheets to be posted on BeefResearch.ca.

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