



Native Prairie Speaker Series

Presentation: Carbon Sequestration on the Prairies: A 'Cool' Solution for the Hot Planet

Speaker: Sean Chuan, Program Coordinator, ARECA

Biography:

Sean is the program coordinator with Agriculture Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA). He graduated from the University of Alberta in Rangeland Ecology in 2017. For the past several years he worked on agro-ecosystem in Alberta to explore the linkage between land management and ecological function, especially the carbon sequestration in western Canada.

Presentation Summary:

All agricultural production originates from photosynthesis, which converts carbon dioxide from the atmosphere into plant material, above and below ground. Agricultural lands make a significant contribution to the world's carbon storage goals. Grasslands are found on nearly 16% of land in Alberta. They store from 70 to 140t/ha of carbon - a huge reservoir of carbon! However, converting pastures to annual crops causes the release of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. Discovering and implementing management practices, like no-tillage cropping and adaptive grazing will capture and hold more carbon in plants and soils. Currently, the ARECA's Carbon Pasture Pilot Project will provide some new insights into the low-carbon agriculture future for Alberta's producers to manage and monitor carbon storage on their land.

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