



Farm News from October

Tough month for vehicles on the farm. It was dark when I thought I should check my swaths to see if I'd be baling the next day. That's when I heard the sound of something metal I had run over. What I didn't realize was that I had poked a hole in the bottom of my engine oil pan, eventually leading to the truck having to be replaced.

I found a perfect replacement in Prince George and after \$12,750 of hard earned money and 12 hours of travel I was driving again, almost. My mechanic noticed the serial number had been glued on. Then the police became involved. They pressed charges against the previous owner which meant I was out the truck and the money, maybe for a long, long time.

Next came a deal near Edmonton. \$4500. The e-transfer of the deposit was rejected by the bank since that owner had a history of taking money but not delivering the goods.

Then there was the tractor in Invermay, Saskatchewan. "Only 1900 hours". "Worth the drive for a 50 year old tractor that is almost new" I thought. Unfortunately the odometer had gone around once. 11,900, not 1,900 hours. That drive was 2700 km.

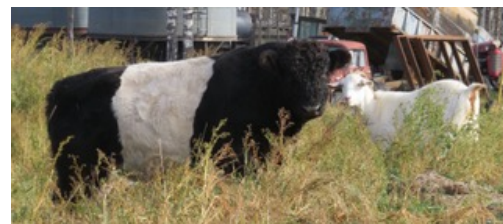
I finally found a truck, which I bought from a used car salesman. Sounds like the start of another story? We'll see.

Collecting eggs from the hen house is a regular event. That hen house was the first building I (we) constructed on the farm over 35 years ago. Tens of thousands of eggs have been collected, from generations of chickens. This month I saw something new. There was a Muscovy duck in the hen house.

What was even more surprising was that she had come to lay an egg. A similar size but more elongated, duck eggs are tough to crack but nutritionally superior to chicken eggs. No marketing plans however.

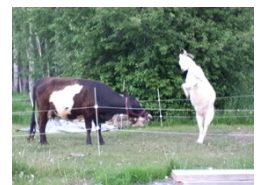


Fighting is a common thing with animals (and people) but head butting



is unique to one animal on the

farm - Edith the goat. Her sparring partner, Merle the Belted Galloway bull outweighs her by maybe 1500 pounds but the two seem well matched and appear to quite enjoy the playful match. Here's a



summer picture of Edith winding up for a head butt on our unsuspecting milk cow.