

First Nature Farms is a family farm in the Peace Country. Once a month, First Nature Farms owner Jerry Kitt writes about his experiences on the farm.



Farm News - July

Water, water everywhere but not a drop where it's needed! The beavers have been very active this year building lots of new dams and flooding many acres of creek side forest. With 3 creeks flowing thru First Nature Farms we have become a major center of beaver activity. The sound of beaver tails slapping the water as they dive has become a common occurrence. Meanwhile the rest of the land has been dry, dry, dry! No rain since the snow melted. As a result, the plants which would normally be harvested for winter feed are not growing. A severe shortage of winter feed is looming. To make matters worse, many neighbours have no choice but to feed their land reserved for hay to their animals who are hungry now.

Good karma? A month ago it was the end of a vending day at the Farmers Market. I put the accumulated cash into the back pocket of my newly purchased, cloth grocery cart. The problem was, there was no stitching in the bottom. As I was to walking my vehicle - the cash was falling out onto the busy sidewalk. The amazing thing is 3 different people found wads of bills outside the market and turned them in! All \$1035 was returned!

Lots of Berkshire babies running around. All 5 sows farrowed the same time so we have a "herd" of 36 black/white baby pigs enjoying their freedom and terrorizing their mothers.

ConocoPhillips flexing their mighty muscle. The energy giant wants to drill for gas in the middle of our forest. They would cut 15 truckloads of trees. Many of our repressed neighbours work in the energy sector. I said, "yes, but only if you replant the trees and offset the carbon." They said, "No" and now have legal documents to "expropriate" the land I have spent the past 30 years paying for and protecting.

Rosie the dog just doesn't get it. She does not speak "chicken". While some dogs may howl, our 150+ pound Irish Wolfhound likes to "crow" with the roosters. The result is a rather painful, pathetic wail. Although her attempt at interspecies communication is sung with heartfelt enthusiasm, it is very difficult to sleep through.

Prayers are answered! Rain finally falls. Some neighbours received only 1.5", we had 5.5 inches. The thirsty ground sucked up the rain before it had a chance to run off. Thanks! Jerry