



Annual Report

2024 Activities

THE MPSG STRATEGIC PLAN

POLICY & ADVOCACY

RESEARCH

EXTENSION

MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Governance & Administration

- Effectively applies core capabilities •
- Anticipates and manages changes in resources •
- Understands and is guided by the needs of farmers •
- Focuses the board on governance, strategy and value to farmer •
- Integrates sustainability in all aspects of operations and services •
- Prioritizes financial prudence and accountability •
- Manages risks to the organization •
- Manages mis-information •

Core Capabilities

- Ag Science and Technology
- Knowledge transfer to farmers
- On-farm research
- Leveraging check-off revenue
- Forging of partnerships
- Pursuit of farm sustainability

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Research Highlights

Jan. 1 to July 31, 2024

Research goals and objectives have been **reduced from four categories to three:**

1

Improve Yield and Capture New Markets

2

Reduce Losses from Pests

3

Improve Soil Quality and Agri-ecosystem Health

Research projects started in 2024

	Project	Crop(s) Addressed	Principal Investigator
1 Improve Yield and Capture New Markets	Development of remote sensing tools to evaluate the in-field results of adopting best management practices (BMPs) for soybeans and pulses	Soybeans, dry beans, peas	Dilshan Benaragama, University of Manitoba
	Influence of seed moisture content and fan speed on air seeder damage of dry bean	Dry beans	Charley Sprenger, Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute
	Prolonged nitrogen fixation during periodic moisture stress to enhance yield and protein accumulation in soybean	Soybeans	Yvonne Lawley, University of Manitoba
	Optimizing nitrogen and phosphorus management for dry bean production in southwestern Manitoba	Dry beans	Ramona Mohr, AAFC-Brandon
	Effects of preceding residue management on dry bean in southwestern Manitoba	Dry beans	Ramona Mohr, AAFC-Brandon
2 Reduce Losses from Pests	Accelerate discovery of root rot solutions for pea and lentil in Saskatchewan	Peas, lentils	Sabine Banniza, University of Saskatchewan
	Faba bean in crop rotation: Impacts on pea and soybean root rot, soil chemistry, microbiome and yield of most important crops in Western Canada	Faba beans, soybeans, peas	Ahmed Abdelmagid, AAFC-Morden
3 Improve Soil Quality and Agri-ecosystem Health	Irrigated and rainfed field trials to maximize biological nitrogen fixation: Assessing the legacy impact of soybean and pea on residual soil nitrogen and yield of cereal and oilseed crops	Soybeans, peas	Kevin Baron, N49 Genetics Inc.
	Effects of using low ground pressure (LGP) traffic systems for seeding on soil compaction and yield in different soil types	All crops	Lorne Grieger, Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute

Number of projects addressing each crop represented by MPSG

-  5 soybean
-  5 dry bean
-  5 pea
-  1 faba bean

Total expenditure on research from Jan. 1 to July 31, 2024

\$584,832

Note: Due to changes made at the last AGM, the fiscal year end was changed from December to July 31. This reduced the available reporting period for this year’s AGM.

Agronomist-in-Residence (AiR) Programs

University of Manitoba-MPSG AiR

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Kristen P. MacMillan

The second field season was initiated in 2024 for each of the three projects currently underway:

- Biological Nitrogen (N) fixation of dry beans and N management strategies to refine production recommendations in Manitoba
- Investigating pea crop rotation length and sequence for sustainable production in Manitoba
- Fine-tuning soybean production practices: iron deficiency chlorosis, weed control timing and land rolling

Assiniboine College-MPSG AiR

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: TBD

A new program is in the process of being launched in partnership between Assiniboine College and MPSG, focused on sustainable pest management. The position of Research Agronomist-in-Residence was developed and a job posting was circulated.

National Collaboration

Pulse Root Rot Network

The Canadian Root Rot Task Force including members from Saskatchewan Pulse Growers, Alberta Pulse Growers and MPSG issued a global call for expression of interest early in 2024 to “Solve the Root Rot Complex in the Canadian Prairies.” The aim of this call was to seek the most innovative solutions to this problem on an international scale.

MPSG's Regional Variety Testing Program

MPSG's Regional Variety Testing Program is an extensive and long-standing program which continued in 2024 with 48 trials across Manitoba. These trials evaluate soybean, dry bean, faba bean, lupin and field peas, the later of which are tested though the Manitoba Crop Variety Evaluation Team (MCVET). These regional trials provide access to local, practical information on annual

yields, long-term yields and various agronomic characteristics. These support farmers in making informed variety selection decisions and to have data when considering a new crop type for their farm.

Testing was conducted in close association with Manitoba Agriculture, MCVET and the seed industry.

2024 Regional Variety Trials

Crop Type	Number of Varieties	Number of Trials
Soybean		
Herbicide tolerant	58 Eastern / 54 Western*	13
Conventional/non GM/IP	26 Eastern / 7 Western	10
Dry Bean	53	4 wide-row / 5 narrow-row
Field Pea	20	10
Faba Bean	12	3
Lupin	12	3
Total Variety Trials	242	48

* Varieties have been adapted to the various regions including eastern and western.

Find the latest variety guide at manitobapulse.ca



On-Farm Network Research Trials

36 Soybean trials

- 12 Seeding Rates
- 8 Biological Products
- 6 Row Spacings
- 4 Fungicide Applications
- 3 Double vs. Single Inoculant
- 1 Iron Chelate Product

18 Pea trials

- 9 Fungicide Applications
- 5 Seeding Rates
- 3 Seeding Treatments
- 1 Double vs. Single Inoculant

4 Dry bean trials

- 4 Fungicide Applications

58 Total On-Farm Network trials

3 trials with significant yield responses

Soybean Seeding Rate
SSR06
RM Richot

Soybean Seeding Rate
SSR12
RM Swan Valley

Soybean Row Spacing
SRS05
RM Hanover



Find these reports and more at manitobapulse.ca

Communications Highlights

Bean Report

683 subscribers
on farmer list

25% farmer list
open rate

505 subscribers
on industry list

18% industry list
open rate

- Audience remained mostly the same as previous years
- Posts on social media from this newsletter perform well

Dry Bean Bulletin

67 subscribers

54.5% open rate

Pulse Beat

4130 total print subscribers

2 editions published in spring & winter

News & Events mailing list

470
subscribers

38.7%
open rate

Social media engagement has increased since MPSG implemented a plan centred on strategically scheduling posts linking to MPSG's large library of crop production information.

Facebook
680 followers

Instagram
678 followers

X
4027 followers

170k+ impressions in 2024
4.5k engagements in 2024

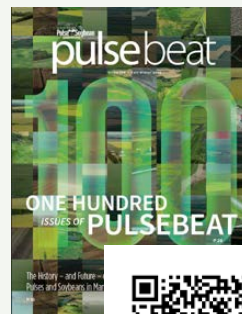


HAPPY 40TH
ANNIVERSARY
MPSG

MPSG celebrated 40 years in June 2024 with an anniversary golf tournament and BBQ in Dauphin.

Production and Extension Highlights

- MSPG continued to engage with members and industry throughout the year. MSPG staff planned or were involved in several farmer-focussed events/workshops in partnership with other organizations. Some events included the Dry Bean Tour in August, the On-Farm Trial Appreciation Event in December, the MSPG sponsored morning session at Manitoba Ag Days and the Dry Bean Industry Appreciation Event in February.
- MSPG uses social media, email and mail to keep members informed, along with paid advertising.
- The Bean Report, MSPG's crop production-specific e-newsletter, which goes out every two weeks during the growing season and a few other times throughout the year, is sent to 1188 subscribers. In 2024, 16 Bean Report emails were sent to subscribers.
- The Dry Bean Bulletin was launched in February 2024. It was developed to create a dry bean farmer community within Manitoba. It's another avenue MSPG uses to reach farmer-members with targeted and helpful information. In addition to being handed out at dry bean events, the newsletter has a growing list of 67 subscribers.
- For external extension, MSPG staff participated in 9 video interviews, 12 article interviews, 3 podcasts, and 14+ events.
- MSPG recently launched a new website complete with a new, polished look, and more modern research and production resource databases.
- Pulse Beat published two issues including the 100th edition for the fall/winter.



Advocacy Highlights

MPSG continued its involvement in several consumer/advocacy initiatives such as Great Tastes of Manitoba, Love Canadian Beans, and Agriculture in the Classroom.

Great Tastes of Manitoba



MPSG continued its partnership with the show, Great Tastes of Manitoba in 2024. MPSG sponsored two episodes, each featuring recipes using ingredients our farmer-members grow.

Along with the recipe episodes, MPSG also funded two Produced on the Prairies videos. These videos profile a farmer or agriculture-related business in Manitoba. MPSG videos were titled, *We Produce Healthy Soils*, which featured MPSG board member, Frank Prince, and *We Produce Solutions*, which highlighted home-grown innovations in technology and plant breeding.

→ Visit greattastesmb.ca for recipes and episodes.

Love Canadian Beans



The Love Canadian Beans campaign had another very successful year. The campaign, aimed at increasing the consumption of Canadian-grown beans, continues to expand its reach and saw increased online engagement over the past year.

→ To learn more about the campaign visit lovecanadianbeans.ca

Agriculture in the Classroom

MPSG supports the Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) – Manitoba and their mission to inspire educators to promote agriculture literacy for a sustainable future. In May 2024, MPSG provided \$25,000 to support the organization. MPSG also continued involvement in the Follow a Farmer initiative.

→ To learn more about AITC-Manitoba and their programs, visit aitc.mb.ca.

Policy and Market Development Highlights

Policy Highlights

- Changes to capital gains tax
- Plant Breeding Innovation
- Bill C-282 for trade negotiations and supply management
- Federal Sustainable Ag Strategy
- Federal pesticide regulations
- Bill C-244 Right to Repair

Market Development, trade and access highlights

- On-farm sustainability measurement and reporting
- Renewed Soy Quality Program
- International trade issues & missions
- Pulse Market Diversification
- Dry Bean Market Development
- Transportation and Port Labour Interruptions
- CUSMA Extension

Main groups that represent MPSG on these issues



Elected Farmer Directors



Chair
Melvin Rattai
BEAUSEJOUR



Vice Chair
Brendan Phillips
HARTNEY



Alex Burgess
MINNEDOSA



Ben Martens
BOISSEVAIN



Robbie Misko
ROBLIN



Bryce Pallister
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE



John Preun
ST. ANDREWS



Frank Prince
WASKADA



Garrett Sawatzky
ALTONA



Ernie Sirski
DAUPHIN

2024 Committees and Representatives

MPSG Committees (*The first name is chair*)

Executive

M. Rattai, B. Phillips, E. Sirski

Governance H/R

F. Prince, G. Sawatzky

Ag Policy & Market Development

B. Phillips, A. Burgess, B. Pallister,
E. Sirski, J. Preun, M. Rattai, R. Misko

Finance/Audit

J. Preun, B. Phillips, M. Rattai

Resolutions

A. Burgess, R. Misko

Nominating

A. Burgess, R. Misko

Research & Communications

G. Sawatzky, F. Prince, B. Martens,
B. Pallister, M. Rattai, R. Misko

MPSG Representatives

Canadian Grain Commission

Pulse Advisory Committee

A. Burgess

Grain Growers of Canada

B. Phillips

Keystone Agricultural Producers

Grains, Oilseeds, Pulses

Industry Rep to KAP Board

A. Burgess

Commodity Group

D. Domitruk

MCVET

J. McCombe-Theroux

PGDC/PRCPSC

J. McCombe-Theroux, Cassandra
Tkachuk

Pulse Canada

B. Martens, J. Preun

Soy Canada

M. Rattai, E. Sirski

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