Manitoba Pulse Growers Association www.manitobapulse.ca

pulse beat

Summer • No. 69, 2013

MASC Announces New Insurance Test Areas

FINAL RESULTS ARE IN! 2012/13 Membership Survey

PULSE VARIETY TESTING Can we accelerate the release of data?

FIELD OF VISION Soybean Diseases 101 *How to Recognize a Problem*

PM40016070

pulse beat

Manitoba Pulse Growers Association

Summer • No. 69, 2013

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Cover photo courtesy of
Dennis Lange – Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

IN THIS ISSUE

2013 MPGA COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

MPGA COMMITTEES – *The first listed is chairperson*

Executive – K. Friesen, J. Voth, R. Froese, R. Lewko

Finance – J. Voth, R. Froese, R. Lewko, S. Robinson

Edible Beans – J. Voth, R. Froese, J. Sawatzky, D. Lange, F. Labelle, A. Hou, Y. Lawley, B. Conner

Peas, Faba Beans & Lentils – F. Prince, D. Lange, F. Labelle, B. Conner, Y. Lawley

Soybeans – A. Turski, M. Chorney, R. Froese, R. Vaags, A. Knowles, J. Sawatzky, A. Saramaga D. Lange, A. Hou, Y. Lawley

MASC – M. Chorney, R. Froese, J. Voth, R. Vaags, D. Lange (adv.)

MPGA REPRESENTATIVES

Canadian Grain Commission Pulse Sub-Committee – F. Labelle, R. Lewko (alt.)

Canadian Soybean Council – R. Lewko, A. Knowles, M. Chorney, R. Vaags

Grain Growers of Canada – K. Friesen, R. Vaags (alt.), R. Froese (alt.)

Keystone Agricultural Producers – M. Chorney, R. Vaags, R. Lewko

- General Council – R. Lewko
- Pulse/Oilseed Sub-Committee – R. Lewko
- Commodity Group – M. Chorney, R. Vaags

MCVET – J. Sawatzky, D. Lange (adv.)

OOPSCC – J. Sawatzky, D. Lange (alt.)

PGDC/PRCPSC – J. Sawatzky, D. Lange (adv.)

Pulse Canada – R. Froese, R. Vaags (alt.), R. Lewko (adv.)

Western Canadian Pulse Growers Association

- **WGRF** – D. Hilgartner (APG)
- **CGC Western Grain Standards Committee*** – R. Krikke (APG, expires 2014)

**4-year term that rotates between: APG, SPG and MPGA*

OUTGOING DIRECTOR

Thank you Fred!

MPGA wants to wish Fred Greig a big and sincere thank you as he steps down after being a director on the board for eight years. Fred has offered tremendous input, wisdom and insight into many issues facing pulse production, particularly peas, and he has brought incredible value and knowledge to our association. He strongly supported and represented our members who farm on the western side of the province, was Chair of the Peas, Faba Beans, Lentils and Chickpeas committee for several years, and was a leader on the Finance Committee. We sincerely appreciate the dedication Fred displayed during his time as a director; his ideas around the board table will be missed. MPGA wishes you the best!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kyle Friesen
President

In agriculture there are very few certainties, but one of those certainties is that our industry is always changing. And through changing times the decision must be made whether to embrace and influence change, to sit on the sidelines and watch change occur, or to stand up and resist change. Very few of us can argue that there have been significant changes in agriculture over the course of our farming career, even if our career has been short, and in these times we must step back and take a good hard look at the changes and how they affect us.

The percentage of the population involved in primary production has and continues to decline over time. As farmers make up a smaller and smaller portion of the population our voice and influence with government is also reduced, which results in government spending less time and money focusing on the needs of agriculture. As commodity associations, we must evaluate the issues in our industry and ensure that all of the necessary work is getting done to take advantage of opportunities and mitigate threats. In order to address these challenges and make efficient use of the funds available to us, we may have to adjust the way our organizations operate and bring a more unified voice to government.

Farm organizations have long followed the model where each crop (or crop group) is represented by its own organization, in each province. This model has served agriculture well throughout history, but as our industry and the environment we operate in evolves, as noted above, we should re-evaluate this model to determine if it is still the most effective way to address our needs. A recent proposal has created a stir by suggesting that farmers would get better use of their levy dollars if farmer-funded groups were reorganized and consolidated. This proposal has gathered immense attention and media coverage. Feedback appears to indicate that most groups are supportive of the idea, but fear change, the unknown and the loss of power.

MPGA's board of directors has discussed this proposal at length on several occasions. Our concerns are obvious – we don't want local representation diminished, we don't want resources spread too thin, we don't want small acre crops ignored, and we don't want the regional work we focus on lost in transition. Above all else, we recognize that every farm group that exists today has come to exist because of a need for representation, and it's important to keep that need alive. However, as we discuss these concerns, our board of directors also recognizes that there is room for improvement to what exists today. A lot of commodity associations are very likely sending different or mixed messages, even though they are fighting the same battle and wanting the same result. Could farmers benefit if all messages were clear, consistent and concise? Could farm groups operate in a more efficient manner? Could farm groups work together in a way that brings more value back to the farmer? MPGA's board of directors believes the answer to those questions is yes.

As long as the concerns we have (as outlined above) are addressed, MPGA believes the suggestion to reorganize and consolidate farmer-funded groups is logical and worth exploring. Our board supports increased efficiency and effectiveness, and wants to see levy dollars put to the best and most results-oriented use possible. Ultimately, we believe in what's best for the farmer. We also recognize that most farmers grow several different crops, so they are not just soybeans growers, not just canola growers, not just wheat growers – they are all three and more. In order to have success and profitability from one crop, a farmer must be able to grow several other successful and

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profitable crops. A diverse and healthy crop rotation is necessary to maintain that success and profitability year after year. There are several instances where it is the responsibility of the perceived dominant money-making crop to support the research and development of other crop alternatives so that we can maintain diversity in the crops we grow. One of the best examples of that is right here with MPGA. It was levy dollars from edible beans and peas that funded the introduction, support and initial research of soybeans when they first arrived in Manitoba. Soybeans have become widely successful here since then, and now some levy from soybeans is used to help support the maintenance and growth of edible beans and peas in our province. Crops supporting other crops is fundamental to the success of agriculture and the future of farming.

Recently the agriculture industry has been working in a more collaborative manner. At the national level, we see Pulse Canada doing a tremendous amount of work to benefit all crop commodities (for example, their dedication to improving the transportation sector across Canada). At the provincial level, we also see some groups working together in ways they haven't before (for example, canola and flax will be joining the 'symposium' in 2014 and oats, wheat, barley, winter cereals and buckwheat are considering joining in 2015. Stay tuned – more details on this new event will be released this summer.) So perhaps we are already very slowly, but naturally moving towards what the proposal is suggesting.

A challenge our board, and we assume other boards, face is recruiting directors who have a passion for advancing the industry. The pool of farmers to recruit from declines each year, as does farmers within that pool who have the extra time, commitment and energy it takes to dedicate themselves to a board. It's not illogical to think that if each province had less provincial groups and thus fewer boards, then collectively we would find the best and most dedicated farmers to sit in these board seats. It would revert from quantity of farmers to quality of directors. At the end of the day, we see that as a real positive.

Whether you agree or disagree with the proposal to reorganize and consolidate farmer-funded grower groups, you have to admit it's a timely and valuable conversation to have. MPGA looks forward to seeing what comes of it. If you'd like to read the letter of support we sent in regards to this proposal, please contact the office.

NOTE TO MEMBERS

Resolutions to be presented at the 2014 Annual General Meeting must be received by **November 20, 2013**.

Please forward to Sandy at *sandy@manitobapulse.ca* on or before that date.

Thank you.

MPGA would like to extend sincere thanks and appreciation to Michael Reimer for all of his efforts and commitment this past year. Taking on the role of executive director for a one-year term is challenging, and he successfully kept our priorities moving in the right direction. We wish you the best in wherever your determination leads you!

It is hard to believe that by the end of April last year seeding was well on its way and winter had long been forgotten. This year, April felt more like February and the cold winds and snow-covered fields were a constant reminder of how cruel Mother Nature can be. Although some of the momentum from last year's outstanding harvest has been somewhat tempered by a sluggish spring, there is still an air of optimism.

Early estimates suggest that Manitoba is set to see an increase in planted acres of soybeans somewhere between 1–1.3 million acres. If these numbers are realized, it will mark a very significant breakthrough for soybeans in western Canada. Dry bean acres are expected to drop off from last year, but the size of the decrease is still up in the air. The general consensus from industry is that dry beans will be in the range of 75,000–100,000 acres planted; however, the possibility of flooding in late May could reduce this number even further.

2013 DRY BEAN REGIONAL TRIALS

A call for entries into the 2013 Dry Bean Regional (variety screening) trials was sent out in March. The trials are open to dry bean varieties that are registered in Canada, or being tested or registered in the USA. The MPGA Edible Bean Committee reviewed all submissions and 40 lines were accepted for testing in this year's trial. The lines being tested will be grown at three locations: Morden, Carman and Portage la Prairie. The data generated from these trials provides valuable production information to producers, breeders and seed companies.

2013 SOYBEAN REGIONAL TRIALS

A call for entries into the 2013 Soybean Regional (variety screening) trials was sent out in March. Roundup Ready and conventional soybean varieties will be tested in early- to mid-season, mid- to late-season and western locations. The seven early- to mid-season locations include Arborg, Beausejour, Stonewall, Portage, St. Adolphe, Carman and Morris. The six mid- to late-season locations include Morden, Rosebank, Carman, Morris, St. Adolphe and Portage. The six western trial locations in Manitoba include Carberry (irrigated and dryland), Boissevain, Roblin, Hamiota, Melita, and Wawanesa, and in Saskatchewan include Outlook (irrigated and dryland), Redvers, Rosthern, Saskatoon, Sutherland and Yorkton. The varieties in the western trials are also placed in a trial in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Seed companies pay an entry fee to have their soybean varieties featured in these trials, and the trials serve two purposes: to provide regional performance data of registered varieties for submission in *Seed Manitoba* and the *Pulse Variety Evaluation* insert, and to develop the Manitoba data package for unregistered soybean lines that will be presented by the Manitoba West subcommittee to the Ontario Oil and Protein Seed Crop Committee requesting support for registration of the line.

PRODUCTION SPECIALIST

Over the last year, the MPGA board of directors has mulled over the idea of hiring an agronomist to help better connect with producers and researchers on the front lines. A decision was finally reached in April after reviewing the feedback from our member survey, and Kristen Podolsky was hired on a six-month contract to serve as production specialist for MPGA from May to November. Kristen has a master's degree in Agronomy from the University of Manitoba and has previously worked for the National Sunflower Association of Canada. MPGA is very fortunate to have Kristen on board as she brings with her a wide range of skills that will bring great value to our members. Kristen will be producing crop reports, responding to grower inquiries and providing in-season support to soybean and pulse producers. If this new position

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proves to be successful and valuable, consideration will be given to extending her term or turning it into a full-time position with the association.

MPGA MEMBER SURVEY

Often times the biggest challenge in conducting a survey is collecting enough responses to ensure a representative sample. Thankfully, the MPGA member survey that was conducted this winter had a great response rate and I would like to acknowledge all of those who responded. Compared to similar surveys performed by other agricultural groups, the MPGA survey saw a better than average response rate – this demonstrates a high level of engagement within the MPGA membership group. Tracy Bowman, the independent consultant who developed the survey and analyzed the data, did a tremendous job in highlighting some key findings from the survey. You can read about these key findings on page 9 in this issue of *Pulse Beat*. The complete report is also available on MPGA's website – www.manitobapulse.ca. The findings of this survey provides the MPGA board with a baseline that can be used in the future to measure the effectiveness of the organization and identify areas of strengths and weaknesses. It also outlines what members feel we're currently doing well and what areas could use improvement. Understanding what members view as valuable will go a long way to help prioritize our efforts going forward.

ALL GOOD THINGS...

A Message from Michael Reimer

Things are once again changing in the MPGA office as Roxanne Lewko returned from her year of maternity leave to resume her role as executive director – this of course means that my term has come to an end. The past year has been an incredible experience for me and I need to thank the MPGA board of directors for giving me this tremendous opportunity. I also need to say a special thanks to Sandy Robinson, Shannon Beddome-Lorenz, and Dennis Lange – whenever I had a question I could always be assured that one of these three would have the answer. Finally, I need to thank Roxanne Lewko for making the transition into and out of the position of executive director very smooth. (I know it is not easy letting someone else use all of your stuff for a year!)

As I move on from MPGA I will certainly continue to keep a close eye on soybeans and pulses in Manitoba and I look forward to seeing the fruits of some of the new MPGA initiatives. The great thing about working in agriculture is that it is a very small world – no matter where a person ends up it seems like there are always a lot of familiar faces around.

MEET OUR NEW PRODUCTION SPECIALIST

Kristen Podolsky

Kristen is a graduate student at the University of Manitoba wrapping up her MSc thesis in Agronomy. Specifically, her project investigated reduced tillage implements for managing a green manure cover crop. Prior to pursuing her MSc, Kristen completed a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture with a major in Agronomy and minor in Soil Science (2008) and a general Agriculture Diploma (2006), all at the University of Manitoba. During this time, Kristen held summer positions with Viterra, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the National Sunflower Association of Canada. As part of her Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) scholarship for her MSc, Kristen also spent time working with Pulse Canada on their sustainability portfolio.

Kristen also comes from a farming background in beef and grain production. Her practical experience in farming and technical knowledge of field crop agronomy and cropping systems make her a great fit for providing production information to Manitoba pulse growers. Kristen is looking forward to joining the Manitoba Pulse Growers Association and providing agronomic support to growers. Her favourite thing to do is be in the field, working with growers and transferring knowledge. She is very excited about the rise in soybean acres and thinks that the diversity of crops grown in Manitoba, especially the contribution of legume crops, is something to be proud of. There is a lot of potential to increase the productivity, profitability and sustainability of the soybean and pulse crop industry by conducting research and adapting new strategies. She looks forward to seeing you in the field!

Kristen will be scouting soybean and pulse fields throughout the summer. If you would like her to visit your fields, or for production inquiries, please email **kristen@manitobapulse.ca** or phone **204.293.4424.**

Stay tuned to **manitobapulse.ca** for updated production information and crop conditions during the growing season.

2012/13 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY – FINAL RESULTS ARE IN!

Manitoba Pulse Growers Association conducted a mail and online survey with current and past (within the past three years) members between December 2012 and March 1st, 2013. A total of 2,740 surveys were mailed and we were delighted to receive 467! Thank you to everyone who responded.

According to survey respondents:

- Most (84%) are or have been soybean growers in the last three years, followed distantly by about 1 in 5 edible bean (23%) and pea (20%) growers.
- Nearly all (95%) reported that pulses are important in their crop rotation, including 61% who said it is very important.
- Crop rotation (84%) and price being good/fair/market demand for pulse crops (82%) are the two main reasons respondents said they grow soybeans. Other reasons include: weed control (65%), low input cost/cheaper to produce (62%), easy to grow (56%), and diversification (46%).
- The TOP THREE reasons respondents plant pulse crops (not just soybeans, but all pulse crops they grow) are crop rotation (40%), price is good/fair/market demand (31%), and low input costs/cheaper to produce (20%).
- Two-thirds (65%) said they anticipate growing about the same number of pulse crops in the next three years than they do now, while one-quarter (26%) anticipate growing more.
- Three-quarters (74%) reported they currently access information on pulse varieties from retailers, while nearly 6 in 10 (58%) reported accessing information from *Seed Manitoba* and half (49%) via word of mouth.
- Suitable varieties was considered the NUMBER ONE pulse crops production-related issue growers face (35%), followed by disease (18%), equipment (15%), and crop insurance (13%). Approximately 15% of respondents cited other issues, including weather, weed control, seed-related issues, consistent yield, and price/market volatility.
- Nearly three-quarters of survey respondents have a positive impression of MPGA – either very (20%) or somewhat (52%) positive, while over one-quarter either did not know (15%) or did not provide a response (11%). Only 2% have a negative impression of MPGA. While the positive results are encouraging, one-quarter of those surveyed either do not feel they know enough about MPGA to provide a rating, or did not want to provide their impression.
- Survey respondents feel they have an average level of awareness of MPGA's core priorities with an average rating of 4.1 out of 7, although 28% of respondents said they either did not know or did not provide a response.
- Respondents rated all six-core priorities at least a 4.7 out of 7, suggesting that most respondents feel MPGA is focusing on the most appropriate activities and priorities. Respondents were most likely, however, to rate variety research and crop production knowledge as being higher priorities compared to market access, government relations, linkages with strategic industry partners and member communication. The other main core activities respondents would like MPGA to focus on include:
  - Increased/better communication with members
  - Market development/marketing/market demand information
  - Crop production knowledge/research trials
  - Vigilance for early detection of emerging diseases and insect problems.

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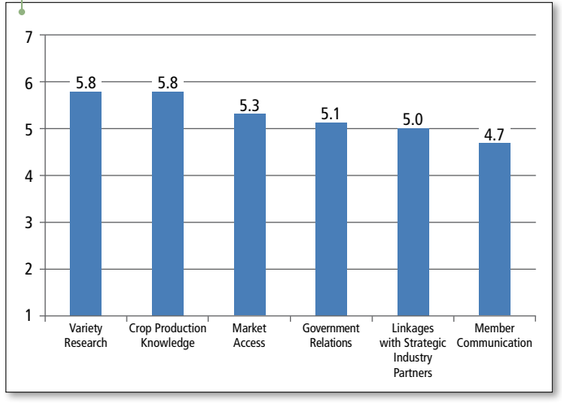
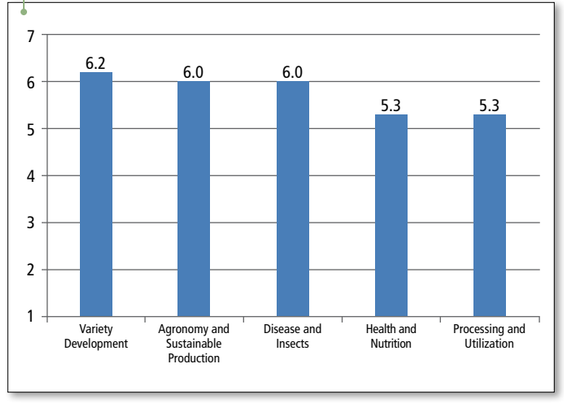
MPGA CORE PRIORITIES – Ratings on 1 to 7 scale (1 = Low Priority, 7 = High Priority): Average Ratings (n = 467)



RESEARCH PRIORITIES – Ratings on 1 to 7 scale (1 = Low Priority, 7 = High Priority): Average Ratings (n = 467)



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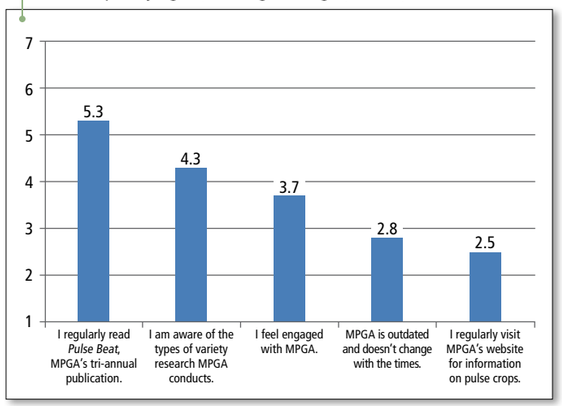
- Respondents' top research priorities are variety development, agronomy and sustainable production, and disease and insects.
- Respondents' top market development priorities are to increase value-added processing in Manitoba and develop and support domestic and local markets, followed closely by improving export market access and assist with improving transportation systems (reducing costs).
- Respondents felt maintaining linkages with strategic partners such as Pulse Canada and the Canadian Soybean Council is fairly important, although maintaining a strategic partnership with both the Keystone Agricultural Producers and Grain Growers of Canada was considered less important.
- Two-thirds of respondents believe the 0.5% level of check-off levied against sales of pulse crops in Manitoba, which funds MPGA, is appropriate, while another 13% feel it's too high. Nearly one-fifth did not know or provide a response. Pea growers, and respondents who have more of a positive impression of MPGA and who have greater awareness of MPGA's core activities, are more likely to report the 0.5% level as appropriate.
- Among respondents who feel the 0.5% check-off level is too high, most said they lacked information about what MPGA does, membership benefit or value, and what the organization does with the check-off funds.
- By far the most common method of accessing information about MPGA is through reading *Pulse Beat*, the organization's tri-annual publication (83%).
- Most growers surveyed use one or more online or social media technologies regularly, that is a few times per week, with the Internet in general being the most common (used by 83% of respondents). Facebook and Twitter are not as commonly used by growers. Interestingly, few respondents regularly visit the MPGA website for information on pulse crops with an average rating of 2.5 out of 7.
- Some 6 respondents in 10 (62%) believe MPGA is communicating with its members just enough, while over one-quarter either said they did not know (20%) or did not provide a response (7%). Most respondents also said they regularly read *Pulse Beat* (average rating of 5.3 out of 7) and that they receive sufficient communication from MPGA (average rating of 4.8 out of 7).
- Respondents are more likely to rate the IMPORTANCE that an organization like MPGA exists (5.7) higher compared to the VALUE they feel they receive from the organization (4.9) as well as the VALUE of the Summer Tour (5.1).
- Respondents rated MPGA moderately in terms of MPGA membership benefits me (4.6) and I am aware of the types of variety research MPGA conducts (4.3).
- Feelings of engagement with MPGA and awareness of membership benefits received lower than average ratings (3.7 and 4.0 out of 7, respectively).
- These results show there is an opportunity for improvement in terms of better and more regular communication with members about their membership benefits and how being an MPGA member benefits them.

Thank you again to everyone for responding to this survey – you provided invaluable information that MPGA is acting upon right now to provide you with the very best membership value. If you have any questions regarding the final survey results or the survey in general please contact MPGA Executive Director, Roxanne Lewko.

The entire report can be reviewed on MPGA's website **www.manitobapulse.ca**

AGREEMENT WITH STATEMENTS ABOUT MPGA
Ratings on 1 to 7 scale (1 = Completely Disagree, 7 = Completely Agree): Average Ratings (n = 467)



AGREEMENT WITH STATEMENTS ABOUT MPGA
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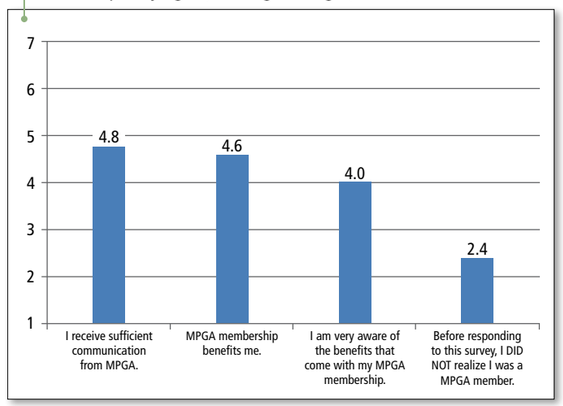

MPGA–*Working for You!*

Research

- M. Reimer participated in a Grain Growers of Canada (GGC) Research Committee conference call on April 10th. The GGC Research Committee was established to identify and address national research/technical issues such as changes to the varietal registration program and publicly funded research programs.
- M. Reimer attended the fifth meeting of the Pulse Industry Roundtable (PIRT) on April 8th and 9th in Winnipeg. The meeting focused on learning about ongoing changes at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) with the beginning of *Growing Forward 2*.
- The Board of Directors hired Kristen Podolsky to be a production specialist for a six-month term, from May to November 2013. K. Podolsky will be scouting soybean and pulse fields, providing MPGA members with in-season support and production information, and responding to grower inquiries.

Market Development

- R. Froese, R. Vaags, and M. Reimer attended a Pulse Canada board meeting on March 21st in Winnipeg. Mr. Nick Sekulic, a producer director with the Alberta Pulse Growers Commission was elected the new Chair of the Pulse Canada board. R. Froese was elected Treasurer.
- M. Reimer attended a Canadian Soybean Council (CSC) meeting on April 11th in Toronto, Ontario. The meeting was held to discuss the future structure of the CSC. With expanding acres of primarily GMO soybeans in Canada, CSC is expanding its focus from what was previously dedicated to food-grade soybean market development.

Communication

- M. Reimer attended the Special Crops Production Day (SCPD) in Brandon, Manitoba on March 6th. The SCPD had a number of great speakers that covered topics from changes to the insurance coverage areas for soybean, corn, and sunflowers to the need to have more on-farm research.
- M. Reimer was a judge for Pulse Canada's Mission ImPULSEible competition that was held on March 27th at the Paterson Global Foods Institute in Winnipeg. The Mission ImPULSEible food development competition was created by Pulse Canada in 2009 as a way to get university and college students interested in using pulses and pulse ingredients in the development of new food products. The winner of this year's competition was a group of Red River College culinary students who created a delicious ice cream sandwich that incorporated pulses into both the cookie and ice cream portions of the sandwich.
- MPGA sent a letter of support to Danny Penner on May 2nd in response to his proposal to re-organize and consolidate farmer-funded commissions. MPGA believes levy dollars should be used in the most efficient and effective way possible, and that there is room for improvement to what exists today.

For updated information check the website (www.manitobapulse.ca) or call the office at (204) 745-6488.

Canadian Grain Commission Harvest Sample Program

Your Participation is Important

The **Harvest Sample Program** is voluntary and is an opportunity to receive a free, unofficial Canadian Grain Commission grade and quality results that include:

- Protein content on cereal grains and pulses
- Oil, protein and chlorophyll content for canola
- Oil and protein content and iodine value for flax seed
- Oil and protein content for mustard seed and soybeans

The grade provided through the Harvest Sample Program is considered unofficial because:

- The sample size does not meet the minimum weight requirement of 750 grams
- Dockage is not retained
- The sample isn't collected by a Canadian Grain Commission grain inspector

Many producers have indicated that having this quality information for their sample before delivering their grain is very useful.

We encourage you to send your samples as soon as harvest is complete. Please call the MPGA office at **1-204-745-6488** for an envelope.

Send your sample, get a free grade!

Municipal Amalgamation: What's the Rush?

Amalgamation wasn't even on the Association of Manitoba Municipalities' radar until two days before last fall's November 19 throne speech, when it was notified by the Province that an initiative would be announced in the speech that required smaller municipalities to amalgamate.

"We had previous talks with the Province on regional projects such as water treatment facilities that would include several municipalities, but this came as a complete surprise to us," said Doug Dobrowolski, president of AMM – the organization that represents all 197 incorporated local governments in the province.

Under provincial legislation, municipalities must have 1,000 residents – and currently, 92 of them are not in this category. With the government's sudden decision to enforce the regulations, these smaller municipalities will have to amalgamate in time for the 2014 municipal elections.

Due to regulations in *The Elections Act*, however, Dobrowolski points out that arrangements will actually have to be finalized by May of 2014.

"There is so much to be worked out before then – and that includes service-sharing arrangements, debt arrangements, asset reviews, and the development of new mill rates," he explained. "The government is saying 'sign now and work it out later,' but we want a more planned approach."

The AMM has been asking for an extension so that municipalities can take the time to plan and to learn from each other, Dobrowolski said, but as of press time, there has been no government response to this request.

"Some municipalities are ready to go at this point," he noted. "We could use them as a model, and build on the process if we had the time."

Keystone Agricultural Producers vice-president Curtis McRae, who is also former chair of KAP's Rural Development and Land Use Committee, agrees with Dobrowolski.

"KAP supports the AMM in this request because right now there are questions everywhere you turn," McRae said. "People most certainly need the time to look at test projects, view the process, and get clarification."

At its recent annual meeting, KAP passed a resolution to press the provincial government to halt its current plans related to rural amalgamation and begin consultation with rural municipalities on the issue. It will also press for collaboration as a tool for amalgamation, as opposed to use of across-the-board regulations.

Dobrowolski said the AMM is not against amalgamation, but he, too, stressed that the decisions must be made at the municipal level.

Dobrowolski does question, however, why amalgamations has become such a priority.

"The Province is trying to eliminate the public process," he said. "There should be an opportunity for the public be heard through the Manitoba Municipal Board. In addition, some communities want to consult their residents."

"The government feels that immediate amalgamation of smaller municipalities will allow for efficiencies – but we feel that this is not addressing the real problems that exist in rural Manitoba," Dobrowolski said.

"I'm referring to the real need for economic development, revenue for infrastructure, and improved cell phone service. These will still be here whether amalgamation takes place next year or not."

2012 INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT

Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED)

PRODUCERS WHO CONTRIBUTE PULSE CHECK-OFF OR LEVY dollars to the Manitoba Pulse Growers Association are able to claim a portion of that levy as an investment tax credit through the Scientific Research and Experimental Development program (SR&ED). Please note – A farm producer may not claim investment tax credits (ITC's) on any portion of check-offs or levies that are refunded by the Manitoba Pulse Growers Association.

Canada Customs and Revenue Agency has very specific criteria in order to qualify as an approved research facility. As a result, some of the dollars MPGA allocates to research do not qualify for the Investment Tax Credit. For the 2012 tax year, 29.74% of the dollars MPGA spent on research qualify for the SR&ED Investment Tax Credit. This means that for every levy dollar that was deducted from the sale of pulse crops in Manitoba, 29.74% of that amount is eligible for the Investment Tax Credit.

Individuals can calculate their total check-off contribution by referring to their sales receipts. As an individual, farmers can claim this tax credit at the rate of 20% while corporations are able to claim at the rate of 35% by filing a T2038 (IND) for farm proprietorships or a T2SCH31 for farm corporations.

The investment tax credit earned may be used to offset federal tax owing in the current year; or if you do not owe federal tax in the current year a portion may be refunded to you as an individual or all may be refunded if you are a corporation (CCPC). Other options include carrying the credit forward up to 10 years to offset federal tax or carried back up to three years. All check-off investment tax credit applied against taxes payable, or refunded, must be reported by the producer as income in the subsequent year.

For more information on the process of claiming the tax credit, please consult your accountant or visit the Canada Revenue Agency website at *http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/txcrdt/sred-rsde/pblctns/chckff-eng.html*.

TRADE MISSION TO ASIA

Ensuring Strong Markets for Canadian Soybeans

Market opportunities continue to be strong for Canadian soybeans in Asia. Representatives from the Canadian soybean industry recently returned home from an international trade mission to Asia promoting Canadian soybeans. The theme of this year's program was Canada's comprehensive research programs and our commitment to delivering high-quality soybeans in the future.

The program was sponsored by the Canadian Soybean Council (CSC) and coordinated by the Canadian International Grains Institute (Cigi). The five member delegation included: Nicole Mackellar, Program Coordinator, CSC; Hugh Dietrich, an IP soybean producer from Ontario; Barry Senft, Chief Executive Officer, Grain Farmers of Ontario; Daryl Beswitherick, Program Manager Quality Assurance Standards and Re-Inspection, Canadian Grain Commission; and Dr. Linda Malcolmson, Manager Special Crops, Oilseeds & Pulses, Cigi. The program was also supported by the Canadian Soybean Exporters Association who had their members attend the seminars, industry association meetings and visits associated with the program.

The trade mission was part of ongoing market development activities conducted by CSC to strengthen marketing opportunities for Canadian soybean farmers. Throughout the week the Canadian delegation was able to

experience a number of different activities focused on the soy food industry in each country. Activities included round table discussions with key soy food industry representatives in Taiwan, tours of industry leading soy beverage and tofu manufacturing facilities and one-on-one meetings with representatives from the top four associations representing the natto, miso and tofu manufacturers in Japan.

Since returning from the mission CSC is in the process of finalizing two membership applications for associations the delegation met with while in Japan. The first is the National Federation of Tofu Commerce and Industry Trade Association who represent small- to medium-size tofu manufacturers and make up 60–65% of the tofu market share. The second membership is with the Japan Tofu Association, who represent medium-

to large-size tofu manufacturers and make up approximately 35%–40% of the tofu market share in Japan. These memberships will allow the Canadian soybean industry better opportunities to communicate information on the advantages available when sourcing soybeans from Canada

PRODUCTION AND GLOBAL DEMAND

World Soybean Research Conference

The ninth edition of the World Soybean Research Conference (WSRC) was held in Durban, South Africa in February. The conference brought together over 600 leading researchers and agriculture representatives from all over the world; including China, India, Brazil, Argentina, the United States, and across Europe. The Canadian Soybean Council supported the attendance of three Canadians at this leading international soybean research event: Meghan Moran, Research Coordinator, Grain

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NEW VIDEOS EXPLORE THE PULSE CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD

Denis Tremorin, *Director Sustainability at Pulse Canada*

Pulse Canada

TRUE OR FALSE?

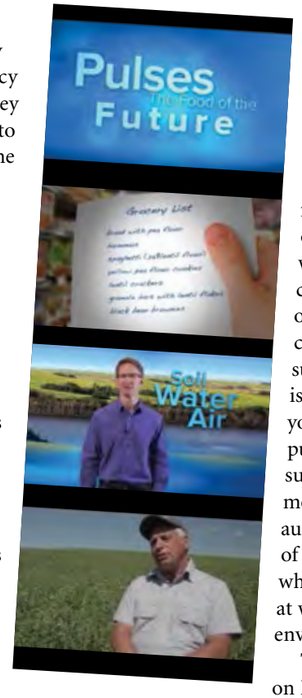
Feeding the world's growing population means agriculture's environmental footprint will also grow.

Sustainability experts say this doesn't have to be true.

On April 22nd, in recognition of Earth Day, Pulse Canada launched two dynamic videos that demonstrate how pulses can contribute to the sustainability of global food production, and how consumers can reduce the environmental impact of their diets by choosing to eat more pulses.

The first video titled *Food of the Future* focuses on the environmental challenges facing the global agriculture industry in feeding a growing world population, and how pulses provide an opportunity to feed the world's population while making a positive contribution to the environment.

The second video called *Big Plans* shares Pulse Canada's vision of the future – a future where consumers can reduce the environmental footprint of their food choices every day, at every meal. Consumers often think about the cars they drive, the energy efficiency of their homes or how they reuse or recycle, as ways to reduce their impact on the environment. This video shows how consumers can further reduce their environmental impact by choosing to eat more pulses. Another part of Pulse Canada's big plan is to encourage the development of new, innovative food products containing pulses.



A third video, targeted for May release, captures the on-farm perspective, and includes interviews with John Bennett and Lee Moats of Saskatchewan. This video explores what drives farmers to adopt environmentally friendly farming practices, and how pulse crops contribute to the environmental footprint of their farms.

The video series is part of Pulse Canada's strategy to communicate the health, nutrition, functional and sustainable attributes of pulse crops. The target audience is food companies, so Pulse Canada will be including these videos in communication efforts with food companies. A secondary audience is consumers, with social media being the vehicle for reaching that audience.

Utilizing multiple forms of media to deliver the message on why and how farmers, consumers and the rest of the food value chain can make a difference in sustainable agriculture is important. Whether you want to read about pulses and agricultural sustainability, or are more impacted by the audio/visual experience of video, you can find what you are looking for at www.pulsecanada.com/environment.

The videos are posted on Pulse Canada's YouTube channel, have been shared via Facebook and Twitter and were featured in Pulse Canada's April PNN electronic newsletter. In addition, the videos have been featured on RealAgriculture.com and FCC Express (Farm Credit Canada's online news portal).

The new videos can be viewed at www.pulsecanada.com/environment/videos.

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Farmers of Ontario; Mario Tenuta, a soil ecologist at the University of Manitoba; and Louise O'Donoughue, a soybean breeder at CÉROM in Quebec.

The theme of the conference was, *From China to Africa, can research close the gap between production and increasing global demand?* The aim of the conference was to promote the interchange of scientific information on all aspects of soybean research.

The conference included keynote addresses from representatives from around the world touching on a wide variety of topics including; Chinese soybean breeding programs, genetic bases in soybean varieties, early planting and yield increases and the role soybeans play in aquaculture.

The conference also included panel discussions on biotechnology and sustainability. The discussions seemed to indicate that Canadian producers are ahead of the curve when it comes to this topic. Most of the sustainable on-farm practices discussed are already commonplace in Canada, such as no-till, integrated pest management (IPM) approaches, diverse rotations, and limited irrigation. There are no 'silver bullets,' but with the continued development of genetics and research into systems approaches to IPM and crop management we can improve our sustainability and continue to address environmental concerns.

Attending the WSRC allowed an excellent opportunity for the Canadian representatives to investigate synergies with partner associations and opportunities for collaboration.

Richard Phillips, *Executive Director*
Grain Growers of Canada

SUMMER MEETING

Grain Growers' Summer Meeting this year is at the George Dawson Inn in Dawson Creek, BC, July 3rd–4th. If you are planning on attending, remember to book your hotel room and flights before you head out to the field this spring. The registration form and itinerary are on the right-hand side of the Grain Growers' website (www.graingrowers.ca).

TRANSPORTATION

Rail Service legislation is now moving over to the Senate side for the rubber stamp of approval. At the end of February, Grain Growers testified at Transport Committee along with the Coalition of Rail Shippers, Pulse Canada, Forest Products, WGEA and the Shippers Coalition. Many more shipper witnesses also appeared.

Rail Service legislation has been on the government's fast track for approval since it was introduced in December (government fast track isn't quite the same speed as private-sector fast track though).

Unfortunately, despite a huge lobby effort, all six amendments we lobbied for were not included. We have already started meeting with Senators on the Senate Transport Committee, but it is highly unlikely they will make changes.

Therefore, we are now focussing our efforts on ensuring that Transport Canada lives up to its commitment for proper measuring and monitoring. There is a statutory review in 2015 that will provide another opportunity for shippers if service levels have not improved.

TRADE AND MARKETING

The US is fully engaged on phyto issues at Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), and has some new ideas they want to push. That plus Japan likely joining, means the talks will likely go on longer than originally thought. Of concern to most of us is the possible side deals the US and Japan may have agreed to in advance. If indeed they weaken the agricultural trade part, then this will be an uphill negotiation for Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

GGC, Canola Council and US farm groups are organizing a workshop on LLPs, MRLs and other phyto issues in conjunction with the next round of the TPP talks in mid-May. It appears Canada will support Japan joining the TPP, but will likely also continue with our own bilateral as well.

EU had a two-week break and negotiations are resuming again in Brussels.

Richard Phillips of Grain Growers and Will Hill of Canada Grains Council, along with AAFC, met with American industry and growers in Minnesota and North Dakota couple of weeks ago to update them on cross-border trade of wheat. The following week Richard and Peter Enns of JRI and AAFC met with growers in two locations in Montana. Key attendees were US farmers, grain companies and staff of some US Senators who have been critical about access to Canadian markets for US growers.

SUSTAINABILITY AND SOUND SCIENCE

Richard testified at the House of Commons Environment Committee meeting April 23rd regarding habitat conservation. We specifically mentioned the Manitoba ALUS program as one approach, but also reminded the Committee that with larger acreages and larger machinery today habitat maintenance is more challenging if it interferes with our ability to farm. Richard shared the story of a recent quarter he bought that he couldn't find anyone to farm as there were no half-mile runs on it due to potholes.

Along with Crop Life and Canola Council we met with senior AAFC, DFAIT and Market Access staff on the EU Environment Department's attempt to effectively ban up to 80% of all current fungicides used in the European Union. This is a case of an environment department acting in isolation to the reality of the Agriculture and Health Departments. This could affect Canadian grain exports as the EU would not import grain from any country which is using those banned products (endocrine disruptors). We would be forced back into using a limited number of older active ingredients.

Grain Growers is working with Crop Life on a communications workshop called *Confident Conversations*. It is to give farmers and industry people more tools and confidence to engage in conversations about modern agriculture with naysayers. This workshop will be open to MPGA members who wish to participate.

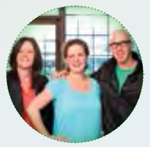
RESEARCH

The Grain Growers research committee discussed the AAFC Grains Round Table, Seeds Round Table, Canadian Seed Trade Association's Value Capture workshop, the Alberta farm group led value capture proposal, and received an update on Prairie Grain Development Committee. The committee also worked on modernizing cereals variety registration by highlighting changes that need to be made and indicating common positions of support amongst our domestic millers, bakers, pasta industry, as well as the CWB and grain exporters.

Great Tastes of Manitoba

Packin' Pulses for Lunch show will air on **Saturday, September 21st**, from 6:30 pm–7:00 pm on CTV TV Cable 5.

MPGA will be participating in the 24th season of *Great Tastes of Manitoba* (GTOM). Roxanne Lewko from MPGA joins host Ace Burpee for *Packin' Pulses for Lunch*. Everyone will enjoy the **Chicken and Chickpea Stew** and **Lentil Calzones**. You won't be able to resist the **Oatmeal-Coconut Raisin Cookies**!



Manitoba Liquor Marts will also be there to select wines, beers or spirits to pair with these tasty dishes.

For recipes featured on the show visit foodManitoba.ca

MPGA PULSE CASH ADVANCE PROGRAM

Manitoba Pulse Growers Association Inc.

Administered on behalf of MPGA by the Manitoba Corn Growers Association

Toll Free – Ph: (877) 598-5685 Fax: (877) 598-5686
Box 188, Carman, Manitoba R0G 0J0
Email: mbcorn@mts.net Website: www.manitobacorn.ca

The 2013/14 Cash Advance Program for Special Crops is now available. It entitles each producer to $100,000.00 interest free and an additional $300,000.00 with an interest charge of Prime –¼%. No producer is allowed to go over the $400,000.00 total at any time – this includes money received from any other administrators such as CCGA.

The federal government has approved the following post-production advance rates for this year:

White Beans	**$ 0.16**	**/pound**
Great Northern Beans	**$ 0.20**	**/pound**
Kidney Beans	**$ 0.25**	**/pound**
Cranberry Beans	**$ 0.26**	**/pound**
Pinto Beans	**$ 0.16**	**/pound**
Other Coloured Beans	**$ 0.16**	**/pound**
Peas	**$ 3.80**	**/bushel**
Soybeans	**$ 5.94**	**/bushel**
Faba Beans	**$ 0.07**	**/pound**
Desi Chickpeas	**$ 0.13**	**/pound**
Kabuli Chickpeas	**$ 0.15**	**/pound**
Lentils	**$ 0.10**	**/pound**
Corn (grain only)	$ 3.14	/bushel
Confectionery Sunflowers	$ 0.15	/pound
Oilseed Sunflowers	$ 0.125	/pound
Alfalfa Seed	$ 0.90	/pound
Annual Rye Grass Seed	$ 0.15	/pound
Perennial Rye Grass Seed	$ 0.25	/pound
Kentucky Blue Grass Seed	$ 0.25	/pound
Hay for Domestic Sales	$ 65.00	/tonne
Honey	$ 0.85	/pound

- **Applicants must be members in good standing with the Manitoba Pulse Growers Association, Inc.** or the corresponding Associations for the crop on which you are taking the advance.
- The Applicant must have a contract for crop insurance on the crop for which an advance is requested and agree that an Assignment to MCGA will be granted on all crops that an Advance is granted on.
- Applicants may not have outstanding balances under any other AMPA or APP program, other than what is indicated on the application form and may not be in default under any APCA, PGAPA, or AMPA/APP programs.
- **Each producer, partnership or corporate farm may receive up to $100,000.00 interest-free, and up to $400,000.00 in total. These totals must include any loans received as a partner or shareholder in any other entity, and these totals must include all Cash Advance Programs (i.e. CWB, Canola, Livestock, etc.). Loans over $100,000.00 will have an interest rate of Prime –¼% applied to them.**
- In fall if you are intending to use some of your crop for seeding yourself, **EXCLUDE** that amount from your application.
- **If you sell your crop under a Price Pooling Contract that portion of your crop will be ineligible for an advance.**
- The Pulse Cash Advance program is administered by the Manitoba Corn Growers Association – 38–4th Ave., N.E., Carman, Manitoba.
- Administration fees are **$250.00 for all advances.**
- The federal government guarantees only a portion of each loan, so to protect your Association a **2% deposit will be deducted.** Any extra charges (o/s interest, etc.) that may occur will be deducted from that deposit before the balance is refunded.
- Credit checks may be made prior to issuing advances and Bin checks may be done on your stored grain. If your grain is in storage, you will need to provide storage tickets. If your crop is in **price pooling it is ineligible.**
- A Priority Agreement signed by your financial institution is required. If more than one financial institution is used, a separate Priority Agreement must be signed by each one. If any suppliers hold a lien on the crop, each supplier must sign a separate Priority Agreement.

Repayments – Please Read Carefully

- Repayments must be made **directly** to the MCGA and **must be made as the crop is sold** and **on first crop sold**; or on any crop that has been adjusted through Crop Insurance and for which you have received a payment; or on any of the crop which has been disposed of in any other way. The repayments must be made within 30 days of the crop being sold. Repayments, with cheques made out to: **Manitoba Corn Growers Association, Inc.**, must be sent to the address above, along with copies of the sales receipts.
- The Cash Advance must be paid off by the crop year-end: **September 15, 2014**. The advance can't be rolled into the next year's program.
- **IMPORTANT:** *If the crop is not sold* by the program year-end or if the *advance is paid off without accompanying sales receipts*, interest of Prime –¼% must be paid on the outstanding balance, or on the amount not accompanied by receipts, *right back to the day that you were issued your Advance.* The government then treats it as an operating loan and not an advance loan on your crop.
- Application forms are available on the MCGA website. Contact the MCGA office for more information.

DEADLINE FOR PRE-PRODUCTION ADVANCES IS OCTOBER 31, 2013

MASC ANNOUNCES NEW INSURANCE TEST AREAS

Since 1960, Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) has provided insurance on most crops grown in Manitoba. As markets have shifted and farmers have moved to newer and more profitable crops, MASC has kept pace with industry changes. In 2013, MASC is introducing 'Insurance Test Areas' to provide coverage for crops that were previously restricted to designated areas within the province for AgriInsurance purposes.

Designated insurance areas have been established by MASC for soybeans, sunflowers, dry edible beans, grain corn, open pollinated corn, lentils, and canola. These areas limited where AgriInsurance coverage was provided. The various designated insurance areas have been fine-tuned over the years, based on recommendations from Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, as well as requests from producer groups in Manitoba. While not all requests were approved by MASC, insurance area reviews were requested on a near-annual basis. For example, MASC's soybean insurance areas have been revised in 2002, 2006 and 2009, largely due to the significant increase in planted acres in Manitoba.

But even as MASC has expanded its designated insurance areas for specific crops, farmers have had success growing them outside of these areas. As this limits their access to MASC's risk management programming, MASC began exploring options that could provide coverage outside of these areas without jeopardizing the financial sustainability of the AgriInsurance program.

Beginning in 2013 on a trial basis, MASC will offer coverage for previously restricted crops in new 'Insurance Test Areas' (ITA). Covering all arable acres in Manitoba outside of the existing designated insurance areas, an ITA for a specific crop provides 80% of the lowest available coverage available inside the designated insurance areas in the previous year.

Using soybeans as an example, in previous years MASC has used three designated insurance areas, with Soybean Area 1 offering the highest coverage and Soybean Area 3 the lowest coverage.

"Coverage levels correspond to the average 'probable' yield (PY) of soybeans produced in each area," says Doug Wilcox, Manager, Program Development – Insurance. "Soybean Area 1 has the highest average yield (PY: 0.805 tonnes/acre), Soybean Area 2 the next highest average yield (PY: 0.715 tonnes/acre) and Soybean Area 3 has the lowest average yield (PY: 0.678 tonnes/acre)."

The new soybean ITA carries 80% of Soybean Area 3's coverage (PY: 0.544 tonnes/acre). Premiums in the ITA, however, are similar to those charged in the most peripheral designated insurance area (in this example, Soybean Area 3).

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Consider the following scenario: a new farmer with no prior AgriInsurance experience is planning to grow soybeans on two quarter sections of land. The first quarter falls within Soybean Area 3 and the second within the Insurance Test Area (both in AgriInsurance Risk Area 03). For each field, the farmer wants the highest available AgriInsurance coverage.

The highest available coverage for soybeans grown in Soybean Area 3 carries a production value guarantee of $219.51 per acre, or $35,121.60 for the quarter-section. Premiums for this level of coverage amount to $19.86 per acre ($3,177.60 for the quarter).

Soybeans grown in the Soybean ITA and insured for the area's highest available coverage carry a premium comparable to Soybean Area 3 ($19.88 per acre, or $3,180.80 per quarter-section). Though the premiums are similar for both areas, the land insured in the ITA only has a coverage of $176.18 per acre ($28,188.80 per quarter), which is 80% of the highest available coverage in Soybean Area 3.

(The above is a simplified example; MASC uses a more complex formula for farmers with previous PY experience. For more information about your specific circumstances, contact your local MASC Insurance Agent).

Seeding deadlines within an ITA are set to the earliest date found within the existing designated insurance areas for that crop. The earliest seeding deadline for soybeans is in Areas 2 and 3 (May 30); therefore, the soybean ITA seeding deadline is also May 30. Unlike the existing designated insurance areas, however, the ITA has no extended seeding period.

"Of the options that MASC reviewed," says Wilcox, "this trial of extending our designated insurance areas was the best mix of value for farmers and management of risk for MASC. Obviously, MASC wants to offer the maximum recommended coverage to all farmers, but given the many different growing conditions in Manitoba, we are proceeding cautiously with this trial."

However, Wilcox cautions that producers must still exercise due diligence. "Just because MASC will insure a crop in either the designated insurance area or the new ITA doesn't necessarily mean it is an appropriate crop to grow in that area."

For now, MASC Insurance Test Areas will remain on a trial basis while the program is evaluated. The program's experience will be used to determine if ITAs should be continued or modified.

For more information about MASC's new Insurance Test Areas, contact your local MASC Insurance Agent. To see what areas your land falls within, visit www.masc.mb.ca and use MASC's Land Parcel Information tool.

MISSION: IMPULSEIBLE

STUDENT FOOD DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION

More than 30 innovative, tasty and nutritious pulse-based foods were recently dished out at provincial Mission ImPULSEible competitions. Mission ImPULSEible is a food development competition created by Pulse Canada in 2009 as a way to get university and college students interested in using pulses and pulse ingredients in the development of new food products. Throughout March and April, provincial-level competitions took place from coast to coast, with teams battling it out in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and the Maritimes.

Competing teams were tasked with the mission of developing a unique, healthy and delicious food product utilizing pulse ingredients. Teams were also required to present a business and marketing plan for their product including target demographic, packaging, price point, distribution, and nutritional information. A variety of judges representing many facets of the food industry tasted the culinary creations, scored the presentations, and ultimately chose provincial winners.

On March 27th, Mission ImPULSEible landed in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The competition took place at Red River College's newest culinary campus, the Paterson Global Foods Institute. Two teams from the University of Manitoba and one team from Red River College battled it out with their pulse-based food products. Competing products were a pinto bean smoothie, a black forest cake mix and an ice cream sandwich.

The judging panel included: Neola Henry, Technical Sales Manager at Source Nutraceutical Inc., Peter Ecker, Corporate Chef of Sysco Winnipeg, and Michael Reimer, Acting Executive Director at Manitoba Pulse Growers Association.

Each judge applied their respective area of expertise to the task at hand, and teams responded to insightful questions relating to their products' processing feasibility, shelf life, health and nutrition attributes, and market potential. It was challenging, but the judges eventually determined which team would move on to compete at the national competition.

Pinto Power Smoothie, Black Forest Cake, Pulse Power Ice Cream Sandwich

MANITOBA RESULTS

First – **Pulse Power Ice Cream Sandwich** – a snack sandwich comprised of lentil cake and chickpea ice cream (Hayley Walker-Ross, Scott Ball, and Ian Gerbrandt from Red River College)

Second –**Black Forest Cake** – a packaged cake batter made with chickpea flour and pea fibre (John Dupuis, Erika Jones, Jie Zhang and Jiajun Li from the University of Manitoba)

Third – **Pinto Power Smoothie** – a healthy, single-serve beverage made with whole pinto beans (Lindsey Boyd, Yuan Fang, Danielle Gundayao and Jaehee Jin from the University of Manitoba)

(L–R) Ian Gerbrandt, Hayley Walker-Ross and Scott Ball from Red River College

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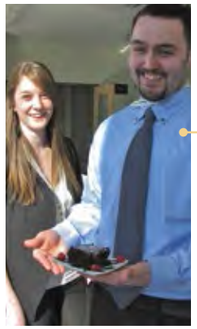
The team from Red River College will present their Pulse Power Ice Cream Sandwich at the national competition on June 25th in Calgary during the Pulse and Special Crops Convention 2013. All of the provincial winners now have the opportunity to revamp their presentations and optimize their products in preparation for the national competition. It promises to be an intense contest!



Erika Jones and John Dupuis from the University of Manitoba with their Black Forest Cake

(L–R) Danielle Gundayao, Lindsey Boyd, Yuan Fang and Jaehee Jin, University of Manitoba showcasing their Pinto Power Smoothie

NATIONAL COMPETITORS

British Columbia (University of British Columbia) – **Bean n' Butter** – a peanut butter alternative made of garbanzo beans, red lentils, green lentils, and great northern beans.

Alberta (University of Alberta) – **Chizza Pizza** – a pizza dough mix made with chickpea flour and an accompanying tomato sauce made with puréed red kidney beans.

Saskatchewan (University of Saskatchewan) – **Pummy** – a cookie made with lentil flour, oats and dried fruit.

Ontario (University of Guelph) – **Vita Snaps** – a cracker chip made with lentil flour, available in three flavours: rosemary and sea salt, sundried tomato and herbs, roasted chili and tamarind.

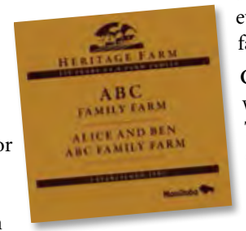
Maritimes (Holland College, The Culinary Institute of Canada) – **VegaMax**, a nutritional beverage made with chickpea milk.

For more information visit www.pulsecanada.com/mission-impulseible, or check out Mission ImPULSEible on Facebook.

Tracey Drabyk-Zirk
Rural Leadership Specialist
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Beausejour

With change being a constant, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives continues to change. What have the changes been in your operation over the past month? This past year? The past 100 years? 125 years? How do you celebrate milestones?

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives introduced the **Century Farm Program** in 1981 to honour Manitoba's pioneer families. The 125 Heritage Farm program was launched in November 2010 to celebrate farm families that have maintained continuous production for 125 years or more.



The contribution made by these families in Manitoba's agricultural community, both then and now, deserves to be recognized. Does your farm qualify?

Categories for the Century Farm Program include:

Category 1 – This is for families who own and operate a 100-year-old farm unit and still live on a farm, even if it's not the original farm site.

Category 2 – This is for families who own a 100-year-old farm unit. They do not have to live on or operate a farm when they apply.

Category 3 – This is for families who own and operate a 125-year-old farm unit and still live on a farm, even if it's not the original farm site.

Category 4 – This is for family who own a 125-year-old farm. They do not have to live on or operate a farm when they apply.

Application forms and more information is available:

- from all MAFRI GO Offices or Centres and Manitoba Rural Municipal offices
- at *http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/organizations/centuryfarms/*

4-H CELEBRATING 100 YEARS IN 2013 – JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION!

In 2013, the 4-H program is celebrating its 100th year. For 100 years, 4-H programming in rural communities has been helping youth build confidence, learn skills in agriculture, homemaking, public speaking and leadership. It has given thousands of adult volunteers the opportunity to continue to develop their leadership skills and give back to their communities.

Today, when you look at your community, you will notice many rural leaders who had their start in the 4-H program. This may include leaders in your rural municipality, council, school system, church or community organization. In fact, research from the Canadian 4-H Council states that 4-H alumni are involved in community organizations at a rate of 90 percent compared to the Canadian average of 32%! And 59% of former 4-Hers are involved at the executive level of their organization with only 9% in the general population represented at that level. There is much to celebrate and many ways to do it!

On a national level, 4-H Canada has set up a virtual history project. This history project will live online, and will showcase 4-H from its origins in Roland, Manitoba, all the way to the program that it is today. If you have any historical materials that you would like to share, you can upload photos, videos, articles and documents and help tell 4-H's amazing story! *http://www.4-h-canada.ca/core/en/e-history.*

4-H clubs across the country are participating in a National Food Bank campaign. Clubs will be collecting food for local food banks so please contribute if you are able.

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Informa Economics is launching a Canadian crop survey this spring...

Chris Ferris
Senior Grains Analyst, Canada
Informa Economics

You may ask, "Why should I become a respondent to a crop survey? What is the value of a crop survey to me?"

Crop surveys can play an important role in both production and marketing decisions. Survey information is valuable to **farmers**, and other members of the value chain. Having **timely area, yield and production estimates for Canadian crops, and knowing how to use the forecasts** can make a difference in the profitability of your farm or farm business.

THE VALUE OF AREA, YIELD AND PRODUCTION ESTIMATES

Fine-tuning Your Planting Decisions

It is important to have a good estimate of how much land Canadian farmers intend to sow, and to what crops. Knowing Canadian intended and actual acreage can help you fine-tune seeding decisions on your farm. It will also allow you to start implementing your crop marketing strategy well before harvest.

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$100 for 100 years is 4-H Canada's national legacy fundraising campaign. The goal of the campaign is to raise $100,000 in recognition of 100 years in Canada. One way to celebrate 4-H's 100 years is to join in the centennial theme by donating $100 to the legacy fund. Your contribution will go directly towards improving and expanding programs across Canada, growing 4-H opportunities in all areas of the country and introducing 4-H to a whole new generation. For more information go to *http://www.4-h-canada.ca/core/en/100-for-100-years* .

At a local level, 4-H clubs will be having their own celebrations. You too can join in on the celebrations. Here are some ideas to get you thinking: plant a tree in honour of 4-H (or plant 100); share your talents with a 4-H member; place a "Congratulations 4-H" sign in a prominent area of your field, etc. – there is no shortage of ways to celebrate.

To keep updated on Manitoba 4-H Council centennial information regularly visit *www.4h.mb.ca/100th_anniversary.php*. Congratulations 4-H on your 100th Anniversary!

For those of you who are trivia buffs, in 1913 there were also seven other communities in Manitoba who formed Boys and Girls Clubs: Darlingford, Manitou, Neepawa, Oak Lake, Starbuck, Stonewall and Warren.

If estimates for Canada show intended acres are above those being traded by the market, more abundant or less scarce supplies are implied. This tends to be associated with weaker prices. Alternatively, if estimates for Canada show intended acres are below those being traded by the market, scarcer or less abundant supplies are implied. This tends to be associated with stronger prices. In both cases, this knowledge helps you make changes to your marketing plan.

For Example

Hypothetically, let's say **your** initial crop budget indicated that soybeans would pencil out at a comparable net revenue per acre to canola. Then sometime before planting, a planting intensions survey came out and indicated higher soybean area and lower canola area than the market was trading prior to the report.

Say the market's reaction was to push canola prices higher and soybean prices lower. Switching some of your acres from soybeans to canola would make sense, particularly if:

1. You are able to capitalize on the improved price (via cash or future/option contracts),
2. Rotations are not a pressing issue,
3. River and/or overland flooding is not a significant issue,* and
4. Crop input costs are essentially unchanged from your initial budget, or at least do not overwhelm the change in crop prices.

The same type of decision holds for other pulse crops such as field peas, and beans vs. alternatives.

**As we all know, the potential for river and/or overland flooding during the planting season is a big wild card in 2013/14. At this point, no one is calling for unplanted area like 2010/11 or 2011/12 (up to 11.8 M acres). Still, given Manitoba's forecasts of a late flood crest on the Red River and the lingering snow across much of the prairie, we are likely to have elevated unplanted acres.*

During the Growing Season

Yield Estimates – Now, as we all know from experience, even with the best seed, crop yields are not guaranteed. Weather, disease, pests, inputs and

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other factors play a tremendous role in yield determination. This is why timely yield estimates are extremely important. National expected yields may not occur, throwing off your returns, even if your crop's yields are unaffected.

If estimates for Canada show seeded area and/or yields above those being traded by the market, more abundant or less scarce supplies are implied. This tends to be associated with weaker prices. Alternatively, if estimates for Canada show seeded area and/or yields below those being traded by the market, scarcer or less abundant supplies are implied. This tends to be associated with stronger prices. In both cases, having timely estimates helps you make adjustments to your marketing plan sooner rather than later.

Depending on the maturity of the crop, there are numerous crop management activities you can adjust in order to improve your return. The specifics of this are best discussed between yourself and those you depend on for agronomic advice.

A NUMBER OF FACTORS WILL INFLUENCE THE CHANGES YOU MAKE TO YOUR GRAIN MARKETING PLAN

The overall supply and demand sets the scene. Other factors include the availability of contracts in the spot and forward markets, and whether your crop is flat priced, or if you can use futures and/or options. These factors, along with your knowledge of your local market, will influence how you adjust your marketing plans.

For example, if your local market has a number of processors or feed buyers and "easy" access to offshore markets, market price moves are likely more influential. If your local market has few processors and poor access to offshore markets, this will tend to make market price moves less influential.

WHY PARTICIPATE?

If you choose to participate in this survey, Informa Economics will send you an easy to read summary of the high-level results for Canada, helping you stay informed.

Canadian Pulse Survey

Informa Economics is hoping to also cover Canadian field peas and lentil through our Canadian crop survey. With sufficient participation from Canadian pulse growers, we may be able to cover other pulse crops as well. So, with sufficient participation, we would release high-level results for the Canadian pulses we are covering. So if you choose to participate, please indicate what pulses you would like to report on.

For more information please see: http://www.informaecon.com/canada/surveyrespondent.asp.

Soybean School

Visit **www.manitobapulse.ca** to view a series of informative production-related videos for producers.

Can we accelerate the release of data?

Patti Rothenburger, PhD, PAg
Agri-Genetic Specialist
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives – Agri-Food Innovation and Adaptation Knowledge Centre

A comprehensive testing system generates data to support variety registration. However, data generated for variety registration provides only limited comparisons with other registered varieties and does not provide sufficient information about the regional adaptation of new varieties. Producers require more detailed, unbiased comparative information to make varietal decisions. Provincial testing agencies have taken the responsibility to generate this third party unbiased resource for producers and seed companies.

The Manitoba Pulse Growers Association (MPGA) works in cooperation with Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI), Manitoba Crop Variety Evaluation Team (MCVET) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Morden Research Station to coordinate pulse variety testing throughout the province of Manitoba. Data from these trials is published annually in December in ***Pulse Beat*** and ***Seed Manitoba***. Without the continual support of producers through the check-off levy these variety trials and the *Pulse Beat* publication would not be possible.

In 2012, MPGA collected a producer levy totalling approximately $1.4 million. $650,000 of the levy was spent on research and variety development. Of the $650,000, $96,000 is allocated to variety development and $90,000 to pest resistance evaluation of edible beans, field peas, and soybeans. Annually, MPGA allocates $8,000 to variety testing in Manitoba. Industry pays a portion of the soybean variety trial costs as there is a fee for entry for Roundup Ready and Conventional soybeans. In 2013, companies could submit two free entries into the Western Trials, but were charged an entry fee of $700 for each additional variety. There is no fee to industry for edible bean testing. However, field peas, lentils, and faba beans are tested through the MCVET program and MPGA cost-shares these trials.

Annual planning of variety trials commences in January. Meetings are held to determine the types of variety trials and locations for the upcoming field season. Table 1 outlines this information for the 2013 growing season. Entry lists of new and current varieties of edible beans and soybeans are generated by a call for entries sent out in March by MPGA. The edible bean committee of MPGA review and approve the list of submissions. MAFRI specialists work together with breeders from University of Saskatchewan

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Table 1. 2013 Pulse Variety Trial Information

Trial Type	Location	Row Spacing
Round-up Ready Conventional Soybean		
– Core Sites	Carman, Portage la Prairie, Morris, St. Adolphe	7 inches
– Short Season	Arborg, Beausejour, Stonewall	7 inches
– Long Season	Morden, Rosebank	7 inches
Western Round-up Ready Soybean Adaptation Trial	Boissevain, Hamiota, Carberry (Irrigated, Dryland), Melita, Roblin	7 inches
Edible Beans		
– Wide Row	Carman, Morden, Portage la Prairie	24 inches
– Narrow Row	Arborg, Carberry, Melita, Roblin, Thornhill	12 inches
Field Peas	Arborg, Boissevain, Hamiota, Thornhill, Wawanesa	7 inches
Lentils	Hamiota, Melita	7 inches
Faba Beans	Arborg, Roblin	7 inches

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to develop entry lists for field peas, faba bean, and lentils. Manitoba and Saskatchewan have a unified approach with these crop types, i.e. we use the same seed source, entry list and check variety.

Once the entry lists are generated, plot randomizations are created to make sure varieties are randomly placed in replicated trials in the field. Entries are replicated three times to help decrease variation in soil topography, texture, fertility, or other factors do not bias the results.

Seed companies and breeding institutions ship bare seed to the co-operator who will be treating and packaging the seed as early as the end of March. Seed treatment used is reflective of the industry standard. The amount of seed that is packaged per entry is dependent upon plot size, germination, and thousand kernel weights. Throughout the province, plot size varies from 8 to 16 meters squared. Seed is shipped to trial co-operators the last week of April to the first week of May. Plot randomizations, workbooks and protocols are sent to co-operators to ensure the trials will be managed properly. Trial protocols remind co-operators of important factors when conducting plots including site selection, seeding, maintenance, weed control, and harvest. For example, when selecting a site ensure the plots are at least 30 meters away from a tree line and the field area is level and uniform. The site should follow proper crop rotation so there are not volunteers in the same crop type and confirm there are no chemical residues that will affect the plots in the trial. Site selection in a producer field with the same crop type is most desirable; therefore, the field has been prepared with appropriate fertilizer and chemical regime as the surrounding crop.

Based on crop type and weather conditions, co-operators will plant the variety trial similar in time to producers to ensure data will be relevant to the area. Once seeding is complete a tour of all trials is conducted at the start of July by the Agri-Genetics and Commodity specialists of MAFRI to ensure the trials were properly planted, have a good stand, and early weed control has been performed. This early-season tour allows co-operators to correct any issues with the trials before there is major impact to the trial. If there is a major problem, the trial will be terminated at that time. Notes taken on stand establishment usually help when data is received at the end of the season to detect problems with plots or if there is variety specific problem (i.e seed vigor or germination). Plots severely affected may be treated as missing plots when the data is analyzed. No fungicides are applied as the purpose of the variety trial is to measure genetic potential. A second tour is completed pre-harvest to determine if the trial was well maintained and to ensure there was no damage to the plots during herbicide application, weeds, or by wildlife. In crop types where phenotypic differences can be seen between varieties, such as green and yellow pea varieties, specialists verify varieties are located as per plot plan to ensure no seeding errors have occurred. Towards the end of the growing season, maturity notes are taken on soybeans. Yield is the only agronomic trait assessed for lentils, faba beans, field peas, and edible beans. Plots are harvested once all varieties have matured. Soybeans are grouped into early- and late-season trials to avoid harvest issues with co-operators as there is only one harvest date.

At harvest time, small plots are individually combined, bagged and tagged. Moisture is measured for each sample. Samples are cleaned and weighed in grams per plot or kilograms per hectare. Before the data can be analyzed the yield data is adjusted to the appropriate crop moisture to ensure all data is treated the same. Data is then converted into units that are understood by the producer (e.g., soybeans converted from grams/plot to bu/acre and edible beans to lbs/acre). Quality testing is performed on clean samples to determine relative seeds per lb, oil and protein for soybeans; visual scoring of quality for edible beans and thousand kernel weight for all other pulses.

The release of yield data for new pulse varieties, particularly soybeans, is critical. Seed companies are encouraging producers to make varietal decisions earlier in the fall due to limited seed supplies. Without independent third-party data, producers find this a difficult task. Producers need to remember collecting small plot data requires a longer period of time than strip trials. With strip trials, yield data is available right off the weigh wagon or calibrated combine. Small plot variety evaluation trials require plots to be harvested, bagged, tagged, cleaned, moisture adjusted, unit conversion and quality testing. The larger the number of varieties in a trial the longer the time to process samples to obtain the final yield number accurately. Variety trial summaries can be found on the MPGA website, in *Pulse Beat* and in *Seed Manitoba*. These data summaries report yield by location and long-term average, maturity, quality and disease resistance data for all pulse crops. MPGA is hoping to have preliminary numbers available by mid-November; however with the late season this may be a challenge for the 2013 year.

Frank Prince
Prince Farms

Originally from England, Frank Prince moved to Deloraine with his parents, three sisters and one brother in 1997. Seven years after graduating high school, Frank has turned his lifelong passion for agriculture into a career.

The Prince farm initially grew, baled and hauled hay and straw to sell to the dairy industry. Then 10 years ago they started experimenting with corn and soybeans on 40 acres of irrigated land. "We started getting incredibly low yields – six bu/acre soybeans and 60 bu/acre corn," shares Frank. "We learned a lot and now produce much higher yields. We've since converted all our irrigated hay land into corn and soybeans." With a recent purchase of more dry land, the Prince family now farm 4,500 acres of both irrigated and dryland acres.

Three years ago, Frank also became a Precision Planting Premier dealer. To obtain the premier designation, dealers must successfully complete the most comprehensive training offered on Precision Planting products.

Frank had an interest in joining a board and becoming an involved director. MPGA saw this as an opportunity and appointed him to our board in April. He was particularly interested in joining MPGA's board of directors because of the increased success of soybeans in western Manitoba. Frank also recognized that MPGA did not have director representation from his area of the province. "I want to represent soybean growers on the western side of the province," states Frank. "And I want to learn more about soybean and edible bean production." While the majority of his interest lies in soybeans, he has grown peas in the past as well.

Soybeans and peas fit well in his crop rotation because they help to build soil nitrogen levels. Soybeans are also beneficial from a disease management and weed control perspective. Frank noted that other crops have produced higher yields the year after including soybeans in the rotation. "Soybeans and pulses offer more diversity in our farming operation and have really helped in our production. We've experienced better weed control, less disease pressure, higher profits per acre, and seeding and harvest is spread out."

Looking forward, Frank would like to see more research on shorter-season soybeans, improved disease control in peas and better weed control options for peas. He believes pulses, especially soybeans, have a great future in Manitoba. "It's encouraging to see soybeans moving west from the Red River Valley, all the way into Saskatchewan," states Frank. "Soybeans have a bright future."

Frank has already been elected chair of the Peas, Faba Beans, Lentils and Chickpeas committee, and MPGA is looking forward to his involvement and input into our activities.

Thank You!

2013 MANITOBA SPECIAL CROPS PRODUCTION DAY

Thank you for your continued support, cooperation and participation in the 2013 Manitoba Special Crops Production Day.

The directors of Manitoba Pulse Growers Association thank everyone in the soybean and special crops industry for the tremendous show of support during the third annual Manitoba Special Crops Production Day.

Without the support provided by the following partners, this event would not be possible. MPGA also acknowledges the cooperation and contributions of Manitoba Corn Growers Association and the National Sunflower Association of Canada in assisting at this event.

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RESEARCHER	PROJECT TITLE	FUNDING
AAFC – Yu	Development of molecular markers linked to disease resistance of edible beans to CBB and anthracnose	$10,000.00
AAFC – Hou	Genetic improvement of protein quality in edible beans with adaptation to Manitoba	$12,000.00
U of Guelph – Gillard	Thermotherapy for the control of seed-borne diseases in dry beans	$7,500.00
Mount St Vincent University – Luhovvy	The effect of edible beans and peas on satiation, satiety and food intake in children	$5,000.00
AAFC – Hou	Development of dry bean cultivars/germplasm with high yield, disease resistance and marketable seed quality for production in Manitoba	$80,000.00
CGC – Wang	Evaluation of nutritional, physio-chemical and cooking quality traits in Manitoba-grown dry beans for breeding use	$18,000.00
AAFC – Conner	Evaluation of root rot resistance in dry bean cultivars	$12,000.00
Mount St Vincent University – Luhovvy	The development and functional characterization of bean flour-based snack product	$5,880.00
AAFC – McLaren	Root rot pathogens of dry bean; identification, distribution and risk assessment in Manitoba	$9,000.00
MPGA	Dry edible bean and pea reserves for future use	$58,820.00
U of Manitoba – Tenuta	Determination of the host status of field pea and associated rotation crops and weeds to the stem and bulb nematode in the Canadian prairies	$10,000.00
FDC – Meseyton	The performance of pea fibre compared to cellulose fibre in a white bread application	$8,000.00
AAFC – Conner	Evaluation of root rot resistance in field pea cultivars	$8,000.00
AAFC – McLaren	Root rot pathogens of field pea; identification, distribution and risk assessment in Manitoba	$9,000.00
U of Guelph – Gillard	Dry bean agronomy and pest management studies	$10,000.00
U of Guelph – Earl	Reducing the impact of soil water deficits on soybean yields in Ontario	$6,952.00
OMAFRA – Tenuta	Evaluation of nematicides for soybean cyst nematode (SCN) management	$2,300.00
U of Manitoba – Arntfield	Adding soybean presscake to tortillas and pizza crust to create innovative products and modify insulin response	$31,000.00
U of Manitoba – Lawley	Soybean crop rotation benefits for Manitoba farmers	$57,200.00
U of Manitoba – Arntfield	Production of zero trans palm oil substitute from soybean oil in supercritical carbon diaxide media as a dietary additive in par-baked frozen dough products	$18,000.00
AAFC – McLaren	Identification of the pathogens associated with root rot of soybean	$8,000.00
FDC – Nivet	Development of a soy saskatoon berry smoothie	$7,800.00
U of Manitoba – Ayele	Seed treatment for enhancing the performance of pulse crops under excessive moisture stress	$7,000.00
U of Manitoba – Costamagna	Soybean aphid control by natural enemies in Manitoba	$18,500.00
AAFC – Hou, Cober	Evaluation of soybean breeding lines for iron deficiency resistance	$8,000.00
Tone Ag – Tone	Soybean on-farm network: population and fertility trials	$32,550.00
GFO – Moran	Virulence of Phytophthora sojoe and soybean resistance to Phytophthora root rot	$5,750.00
GFO – Moran	Evaluation of starter fertilizer advancement for corn and soybeans	$2,415.00
AAFC – McLaren	Prevalence, incidence and virulence of Phytophtora root rot of soybean in Manitoba soybean fields	$60,000.00
U of Manitoba – Holloway	Biocontrol of bacterial blight and Sclerotinia and mildew by the enophytic micororganisms of soybean	$8,000.00
AAFC – Mohr	Agronomic management of soybean in Manitoba	$72,475.00
U of Manitoba – Gulden	Volunteer canola in soybean production	$20,000.00
Tone Ag – Tone	Soybean on-farm trials/effect of inoculants on yields	$32,550.00
U of Manitoba – Arntfield	Processing of soybean to improve palatability/digestibility of soy-based foods	$23,000.00
Agri Skills – Van Koughnet	Soybean field scale trials	$35,000.00
MPGA	2013 MPGA soybean trials	$8,000.00
MCVET	Manitoba Crop Variety Evaluation Trials (MCVET)	$7,000.00
Cigi – Malcolmson	Enhancing world market for Canadian pulses through secondary processing and value-added research	$10,000.00
	TOTAL	$744,692.00

South Manitoba to South Africa

Mario Tenuta
Department of Soil Science
University of Manitoba

With the growing importance of soybean as a major crop in Manitoba and new soybean research initiatives at the University of Manitoba with funding support from the Manitoba Pulse Growers Association (MPGA), I very much anticipated attending the World Soybean Research Conference in Durban, South Africa in February. The conference went by the title "WSRC IX 2013," which made it seem like the Super Bowl of soybean conferences or a cage match for the last combatant standing.

As a newcomer to soybean agronomy there were many aspects of the conference that were illuminating. I will relay here the most important things relevant to us in Manitoba that came from the conference.

It's no surprise that global markets and supplies are most influential in determining soybean pricing. The U.S. produces about 80 million tonnes (T) of soybean per year, but production acreage is holding. In contrast South American soybean production is rapidly increasing. Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay combined produce 140 million T per year and are increasing every year; however, not all is salsa dancing and carnival throughout the year in South America. Argentina, for example, despite bumper production of soybean is having difficulty marketing in global trade because of domestic policies. Soybean exported from Argentina is levied a 35% tax by the Argentinean government. The purpose of the tax is to promote domestic crushing so that the country can export oil and meal rather than unprocessed grain. So far the policy does not seem to be working well due to lack of capacity to process domestically and aging of poor infrastructure to transport the products to processors and shipping terminals. These issues mean Argentina

is exporting much less soybean and soybean products than it could. Poor infrastructure generally limits production growth in South America. Unconstrained by infrastructure, production would be expected to be four times higher than it is currently. If resolved, supply will dramatically increase likely resulting in a drop in soybean pricing. Let's hope the roads of South America are no better than the pothole-filled streets of Winnipeg or our gravel/dirt roads.

Demand for soybean is increasing. In 2011 there was a deficit of 23 million T of soybean globally. China has stagnated in its production of soybean; however, the Chinese appetite for it is steadily increasing. The next largest market hasn't even begun to really draw on global supplies: India has little potential to produce soybean and imports little at the moment. However, increasing demand for poultry is driving importation of soybean in that country.

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Further, soybean aphid, sudden death syndrome, Asian rust and soybean cyst nematode limit yield increases of soybean in mature production areas such as the U.S. South America is now experiencing reductions in yield as a result of these diseases. There simply is not enough soybean produced to meet current global demand. Without major increases in production there will be a drastic shortage of soybean in the future. If those roads and ports in Brazil improve, that alone is expected to ramp exports to 110 million T by 2020.

Most of the soybean grown is used for oil and livestock protein feed. So could canola satisfy world oil demand? Not so. Canola currently accounts for 12% of food oil demand, soybean accounts for 62% and the remainder is mainly palm oil. The potential for global canola production increases is small. Soybean and palm are expected to be pressed to meet the demand. The introduction of the oleic acid gene Plenish promises to make soybean oil healthier, making its nutritional analysis similar to that of canola oil. Thus demand may shift more proportionally to soybean than unhealthy palm oil.

The potential future demand for Manitoba, and surely to follow Saskatchewan, soybean does seem very good. Closer to home, U.S. soybean acreage has stagnated and corn wins out in profitability for producers where soybean and corn are production options. Thus, new sources of North American soybean are being sought. For this Manitoban, it was with great pride to hear Denis Brown, VP of Crop Production with DuPont Pioneer, tell conference attendees that increasing demand for North American soybean sources has resulted in Southern Canada rapidly increasing production from 30,000 to nearly 1,000,000 acres in less than a decade. Clearly he was talking about Friendly Manitoba.

If I learned anything at this conference, investment in soybean production and processing in Manitoba seems like a good bet. Further, from a soil scientist's perspective, the option of having another crop in rotation and the nitrogen supplying capacity of soybean should result in improved soil health. But we will save that topic for another discussion.

I would like to thank MPGA, Grain Farmers of Ontario and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for allowing me the opportunity to learn so much at WSRC IX 2013, and assure everyone that I did not spend all of my time on the beautiful beaches of Durban. I should note the conference was this past winter in February; our winter that is, summer in South Africa.

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PRODUCTION OF SOYBEAN-CORN TORTILLAS

Haiyan Zhong and Susan Arntfield
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Tortillas are widely used to make tacos, burritos, and enchiladas. Usually tortillas are made from wheat or corn flour. In this project, soybean presscake was mixed with corn flour to improve the nutritional value of tortillas. Different percentages of soybean presscake were used in the project. The objective of the project was to determine the influence of the level of soybean added on the color, texture, and ash content and trypsin inhibitor activity (TIA) of corn tortillas.

The Masa corn flour used for this project was white in colour while the soybean presscake appeared to be more green-yellow. For corn tortillas, consumers expect a product that is soft, flexible, rollable and corn-coloured, so it is necessary to measure the colour of fortified tortillas. In addition, TIA of soybean presscake-corn tortillas was measured because trypsin inhibitors can reduce the availability of trypsin, which is necessary for protein digestion. The inhibitor naturally present in soybeans can interact with trypsin, thereby limiting its availability to digest protein (Kunitz, 1947). Therefore, it is essential to have control of the trypsin inhibitor activity in food products.

The ingredients used to prepare the tortillas were corn Masa mix flour, soybean presscake, salt, xanthan gum and water. Soybean presscake (provided by the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals) was used to replace the corn Masa at levels of 0, 10, 20, 30, and 35%. Xanthan gum was added to make the dough since soybean presscake was not as sticky as corn flour. Six samples were prepared at each level of soybean. Doughs were prepared, pressed and cooked using an electric pan at a temperature of 228±8°C. Each tortilla was cooked for 15s on one side, 20s on the second side and an additional 5s on the first. Tortillas were cooled for 8 minutes (covered for 6 of the 8 minutes) prior to testing. Texture was evaluated using a burst test with a TA-XT 2 plus texture machine; force to break (maximum force), elasticity (slope of the curve) and work (area under the curve) were measured. Colour (L*, a* and b* values) was measured using the Minolta spectrophotometer. Samples were freeze-dried for ash and TIA analysis. Ash was measured by heating at 550°C after a pre-ashing step. Samples for TIA analysis were then defatted using hexane, pH adjusted to between 8.4 and 10 and TIA determined following the method of Kakade et al. (1974).

Addition of soybean presscake had an effect on tortilla colour (Table 1). With increasing levels of soybean presscake in the tortillas, L* values decreased and a* and b* values increased. This indicated that the tortilla containing soybean were

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Figure 1 – Picture of soy-corn tortillas with different amounts of soybean presscake.

Table 1. Colour and texture of soybean-corn tortillas.

% Soybean in Tortillas	Colour			Texture		
	L* Value	a* Value	b* Value	Work	Force to Break	Elasticity
0	73.07	-0.38	20.55	1.705	0.301	0.025
10	72.10	-0.44	21.68	2.042	0.356	0.028
20	70.23	-0.51	22.74	1.744	0.328	0.028
30	71.19	-0.27	25.36	1.469	0.292	0.028
35	69.76	0.77	28.75	1.362	0.274	0.028

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not as light and had higher levels of red and yellow pigments. It should be noted, however, that these differences were relatively small and the tortillas containing soybean, looked very similar to the corn tortilla (Figure 1).

The addition of soybeans also had an effect on texture (Table 1). Lower values for work and force to break were obtained as the level of soybean increased; changes in elasticity were minor. It would appear that the addition of soybean is resulting in a softer product.

One of the benefits in the process (nixtamalization) used to treat corn flour for use in tortillas is that it increases the ash content. The addition of soybean presscake to the corn tortillas further increased the ash content with values for the 35% addition being almost double those of the corn control (Table 2). Addition of soybean presscake to the corn tortillas also resulted in an increase in the level of trypsin inhibitor activity. As trypsin inhibitors are more prevalent in soybean than corn, this is not surprising. Unfortunately, the cooking protocol used was not sufficient to completely inactive these inhibitors, some of which are relatively heat stable. The presscake may need to be subjected to more severe heat treatment prior to incorporation into tortillas to further reduce these levels.

Table 2. Levels of ash and trypsin inhibitor units (TIU) in soybean-corn tortillas

% Soybean in Tortillas	Ash Content (%)	TIU/mg
0	1.77±0.04	0.78±0.34
10	2.32±0.00	2.34±0.16
20	2.64±0.02	3.57±0.17
30	3.11±0.01	4.74±0.22
35	3.38±0.04	4.74±0.17

Overall the addition of soybean presscake to corn tortillas resulted in a product that was slightly darker, but softer. The increase in ash content could be beneficial but the higher level of trypsin inhibitors could be a problem, particularly for anyone on a diet with limited protein intake. A heat pretreatment of the press cake may be required to address this issue. Otherwise the product was very similar to the control corn tortilla.

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Levy Dollars at Work
Manitoba Pulse Growers Association Inc.

Soybean Diseases 101 – How to Recognize a Problem

Holly Derksen, *Field Crop Pathologist*
Dennis Lange, *Farm Production Advisor*
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives – Altona Go Centre

During the last ten years Manitoba has seen an increase in soybean production from 215,000 acres in 2003 to a projected 1,000,000 acres in 2013. The success of this crop can be attributed to earlier season genetics and the plants ability to tolerate excessive moisture. To date, Manitoba has not seen any major losses due to disease but that does not mean we are immune. We have been receiving reports of various diseases showing up in soybean fields around the province. These diseases have begun to show up in areas with a long history of growing beans and in some cases, where the field history has shown very tight rotations. If this trend continues we could eventually see yield reductions. This article will look at various soybean diseases and the control measures that producers should be looking at implementing.

ROOT ROTS

One of the most common soybean disease issues in Manitoba is root rot. This disease in soybeans can infect plants from seedling stage until maturity. There are a number of different pathogens that can cause root rots, but the most common are *Phytophthora sojae* and *Rhizoctonia solani*. The root rot pathogens can survive under a wide range of conditions, however Phytophthora root rot is most prevalent when soils are saturated and temperatures range from 20 to 27°C. Rhizoctonia root rot also prefers warm temperatures, but soils do not need to be saturated for this pathogen to thrive. Typical symptoms of root rot include brown or necrotic roots that may be noticeable at the soil level and creeping up the stems. Rhizoctonia root rot symptoms are characteristically brick red in colour whereas Phytophthora root rot symptoms tend to be darker coloured. When severe, root rots can girdle the stems of plants and prevent the uptake of water and nutrients. This can result in leaves that are wilting or discoloured to necrotic. Often, root rot shows up in patches in a field where plants are dying off, or if the infection occurred early, there may be a decrease in emergence. More instances of soybean root rot have been observed in the province where growers are tightening their rotations. While *R. solani* has a wide host range, *P. sojae* only infects soybeans and, therefore, Phytophthora root rot can be managed by a good rotation. In addition, genetic resistance to Phytophthora root rot is available, so variety selection also plays a role in managing this disease. Overall, when root rots infect plants later in the season the damage that results is often much less severe than if they infect at the seedling stage. Plants that were seeded into ideal conditions with good fertility have the best chance of naturally defending themselves against root rot. In addition, the use of a seed treatment can protect plants against these root rot pathogens during the first two to three weeks after planting. This can help get plants off to a good start when conditions are less than ideal, but will not protect plants through the entire season.

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Root Rot

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BACTERIAL BLIGHT

Typically this disease will move into plants that have been damaged in some way, for example, by strong winds, rain, or hail. Symptoms begin to show up 10 to 14 days after this weather event on the mid to upper leaves of the soybean plant. These are angular lesions with reddish brown centres and water soaked margins surrounded by yellow halos. Cool humid weather favours this disease and high temperatures halt disease development. Rotation and disease free seed are the key management tools with this disease. This disease can be spread through canopy if equipment is travelling through a field when the disease is present and plants are wet. Avoid travelling though fields under these conditions. It is important to note that this disease is caused by a bacterium and cannot be controlled with a fungicide.

SEPTORIA BROWN SPOT

This disease is relatively common across the province, but rarely, if ever, causes measurable yield loss. Generally, the symptomatic lesions of Septoria brown spot can be seen on the lower leaves of soybean plants. These lesions are small, dark brown and irregular shaped. Disease development is favoured by hot moist conditions but disease development slows in hot dry weather. This disease survives on infected stubble, so good rotation is the best management practice to employ for control.

Bacterial Blight – Upper Leaves

Septoria Brown Spot – Lower Leaves

WHITE MOULD

White mould in soybeans, caused by *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, exhibits the same disease cycle that you would see in other crops such as canola and dry beans. Symptoms will generally start to show up once the canopy is closed in and with periods of prolonged moisture. This disease will initially infect through senescing tissue such as flowers, senescent petioles, and leaves. Dead plants within the canopy are the first sign of the disease. Upon closer inspection of these plants one will note a cottony growth on the stems or branches of the plants and if you cut open these stems later in the season you will find the black sclerotia bodies. In 2010 there were instances of white mould showing up in various soybean fields around the province but to date has not caused any significant yields losses. Producers should still be aware that this disease can cause yield loss in high pressure mould years with very dense canopies and prolonged moisture conditions. Producers may need to apply a fungicide if conditions for disease development are favourable. The fungicide application should be timed to protect as many flowers as possible before the canopy closes in. Even though this disease can affect soybeans, it is much more prevalent in canola and edible beans, and these crops are much more likely to benefit from a fungicide application if conditions are conducive for disease development.

In conclusion, Manitoba soybeans have not seen any major losses due to disease. Saying this however, there have been fields around the province where root rot has begun to show up and on some fields reducing plant stands and yield potential. There are no easy fixes for this but a good one-in-three-year rotation will help to reduce overall disease build-up. It is important to remember that seed treatments alone will not fix root rot problems in a field.

Brian Clancey
Senior Market Analyst and Publisher

The spring of 2013 is another in a series of memorable seeding periods in North America and could do as the year where seeding was delayed longer than almost any farmer can remember.

Once again, the first seeded area estimates for Canada and the United States might be better described as revised seeding intentions. A large part of the acreage will be known, but many farmers will be forced to make critical management decisions about which crops to emphasize as this year's seeding window starts to close.

The late departure of winter on the Canadian prairies and parts of the U.S. Midwest simply continues the weather story that started last summer in Asia and continued as farmers in Argentina prepared to seed this year's crops.

Argentina is a "market maker" in large and medium caliber white beans. Speaking at this year's CICILS conference in Singapore, Olega SA's Tomas Ramsfelder said production will be down significantly from last year, forcing the country to reduce exports from almost 150,000 metric tons (MT) from the 2012 crop to under 110,000 MT from this year's crop. He added there is a significant risk the exportable surplus could be as small as 60,000 MT, which could create more demand for white beans from Ethiopia, Egypt, China, Canada, the United States, and other origins.

Asia grows different classes of beans than North American growers. Beans from the two regions do not compete with one another. But, production problems with mung beans, pigeon peas and black matpe beans increased demand for other types of pulses

Global mung bean output has plunged since 2010–11, when 3.25 million MT were grown. This year's crop is expected to approach 2.33 million MT, down from 2.595 million last year. Consumption averages 2.75 million MT per year, making this the second season in a row where production has fallen short of market needs. India is the biggest consumer, using an average 2.1 million MT annually, compared to 450,000 MT by China and 200,000 by all other countries.

The situation was similar for Toor whole or pigeon peas. India normally consumes 3.2 million MT annually, while typically producing 2.9 million MT. Exportable surpluses from other origins have fallen below that gap, forcing world prices dramatically higher, stimulating import demand for a wide range of pulses.

Ironically, while the world is struggling with tight edible bean supplies, surpluses in North America are causing farmers to reduce production. Part of the problem is that even as trading levels for other pulses have risen, many are significantly lower than asking prices for dry edible beans. Canada is effectively sold out of green peas and they are still cheaper than beans. Red and green lentils are two-thirds the price of beans, while yellow peas are less than half the price.

Canada's seeding intentions suggest area will drop from 300,000 to 240,000 acres. Statistics Canada came out with a smaller number because it did not estimate white bean area in Manitoba. That is expected to be at least 35,000 acres. Growers in the United States intend to reduce land in dry edible beans by 16% for 1.286 million acres.

If state-level yields are at their recent five-year average, this year's dry edible bean harvest in the United States could reach 1.016 million MT, down from 1.297 million last year. If farmers in Canada are able to seed all their beans, average yields would see production fall from 274,300 to 197,000 MT. Mexican production is expected be slightly higher than this season at 1.15 million MT.

The cutbacks in Canada and the United States will result in a smaller North American edible bean harvest. Total production could be down 21% at 2.12 million MT. That will be partly offset by unusually high ending stocks, with the result the available supply of beans may only drop 225,0000 MT to 2.57 million. Even so, supplies will remain ahead of domestic market needs, with the result exports need to increase to remove accumulated surpluses.

From a price perspective, growers need to be pleased with the fact Argentina's problems should result in improved demand for great northern and possibly navy beans. More importantly, the fact white alubia bean trading levels remain at their upper end of their historic ranges creates lots of room for North American beans.

Argentina's black bean crop has also been affected. Argentina is Brazil's primary supplier of imported black beans, but the prospective shortfalls have already resulted in increased demand for black beans from China. However, prices do not seem to have moved to levels, which are expected to encourage growers in China to increase output. The net result is that competition for available demand on coloured bean markets could be less intense in the coming months, creating a chance for North American suppliers to move product at better prices than was the case during the past winter.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Crop Diagnostic School
July 9–12, and **July 15–19.** To register call 204 745-5663.
See page 2 for more details.

Pulse Tour
Wednesday, August 7th at AAFC Morden Research Station
See page 3 for more details.

Manitoba Open Farm Day
Sunday, September 15th

Great Tastes of Manitoba
Saturday, September 21st
6:30 pm – CTV TV Cable 5

Check our website regularly for updates
www.manitobapulse.ca

MANITOBA PULSE BUYER LIST – MAY 2013

COMPANY	EDIBLE BEANS	FABA BEANS	LENTILS	PEAS	SOYBEANS	PHONE	LOCATION	CGC REGISTERED
Agassiz Feeds				✓		204-638-5840	Dauphin, MB	
Agassiz Global Trading	✓				✓	204-745-6655	Homewood, MB	
AgriTel Grain Ltd.				✓	✓	204-268-1415	Beausejour, MB	
Alliance Pulse Processors Inc.	✓		✓	✓	✓	306-525-4490	Regina, SK	✓
• SaskCan Pulse Trading – Parent Division	✓		✓	✓	✓	204-737-2625	St. Joseph, MB	✓
All Commodities			✓	✓		204-339-8001	Winnipeg, MB	✓
B.B.F. Enterprises Ltd.					✓	204-737-2245	Lettellier, MB	
B.P. & Sons Grain and Storage Inc.					✓	204-822-4815	Morden, MB	
Belle Pulses Ltd.				✓		306-423-5202	Bellevue, SK	✓
Best Cooking Pulses Inc.			✓	✓		204-857-4451	Portage la Prairie, MB	✓
Brett-Young Seeds				✓	✓	204-261-7932	Winnipeg, MB	
CB Constantini				✓		604-669-1212	Vancouver, BC	✓
Cargill Ltd.				✓		204-947-6219	Winnipeg, MB	✓
Delmar Commodities				✓	✓	204-331-3696	Winkler, MB	✓
• Jordan Mills					✓	204-331-3696	Winkler, MB	✓
Global Grain Canada	✓					204-829-3641	Plum Coulee, MB	✓
Hensall District Co-op	✓					204-295-3938	Winnipeg, MB	✓
Horizon Agro					✓	204-746-2026	Morris, MB	✓
JK Milling Canada Ltd.				✓		306-586-6111	Regina, SK	✓
JRS Commodities					✓	204-327-5582	Gretna, MB	
Kalshea Commodities Inc.				✓		204-737-2400	Altona, MB	✓
Kelley Bean Co. Inc.	✓					308-635-6438	Scottsbluff, NE	
Lansing Trade Group					✓	877-747-7599	Chatum, ON	✓
Legumex Walker	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	204-758-3597	St. Jean Baptiste, MB	✓
• Fisher Seeds Ltd.		✓				204-622-8800	Dauphin, MB	✓
• Duncan Seeds	✓					204-822-6629	Morden, MB	✓
• Walker Seeds Ltd.				✓		306-873-3777	Tisdale, SK	✓
Linear Grain	✓			✓	✓	204-745-6747	Carman, MB	✓
Monsanto					✓	–	Winnipeg, MB	
Natural Proteins					✓	204-355-5040	Blumenort, MB	
Nebraska Bean	✓					402-887-5335	Clearwater, NE	
Nutri-Pea Ltd.				✓		204-239-5995	Portage la Prairie, MB	
Nu-Vision Commodities	✓					204-758-3401	St. Jean Baptiste, MB	
Parrish & Heimbecker Ltd.				✓		204-987-4320	Winnipeg, MB	✓
Paterson Grain				✓	✓	204-956-2090	Winnipeg, MB	✓
Quarry Grain Commodities					✓	204-467-8877	Stonewall, MB	
Richardson International				✓		204-934-5627	Winnipeg, MB	✓
• Richardson Pioneer Ltd.				✓	✓	204-934-5627	Winnipeg, MB	✓
• Tri Lake Agri				✓		204-523-5380	Killarney, MB	✓
S.S. Johnson Seeds	✓			✓		204-376-5228	Arborg, MB	✓
Seed-Ex Inc.					✓	204-737-2000	Letellier, MB	✓
Shafer Commodities					✓	204-822-6275	Morden, MB	✓
Southland Pulse				✓		306-634-8008	Estevan, SK	✓
Sunrich LLC					✓	507-446-5642	Hope, MN	
Thompsons Limited	✓		✓	✓		519-676-5411	Blenheim, ON	✓
• Keystone Grain					✓	204-325-9555	Winkler, MB	✓
• Circle T Agri Services	✓					204-723-2164	Treherne, MB	✓
• Y2K Farms	✓					204-252-2132	Edwin, MB	✓
Vanderveen Commodity Services					✓	204-745-6444	Carman, MB	✓
Viterra				✓	✓	204-954-1528	Winnipeg, MB	✓
Viterra Special Crops	✓	✓	✓	✓		204-745-6711	Carman, MB	✓
• Receiving Station	✓					204-856-6373	Portage la Prairie, MB	✓
• Plum Coulee	✓					204-829-2364	Plum Coulee, MB	✓
• Prairie Mountain Agri Ltd.				✓		204-937-6370	Roblin, MB	✓
Walhalla Bean Co. (Canada Ltd.)	✓					701-549-3721	Walhalla, ND	✓
• Winkler Receiving	✓					204-325-0767	Winkler, MB	✓
Wilbur Ellis			✓	✓	✓	204-867-8163	Minnedosa, MB	✓
Zeghers Seeds Inc.			✓	✓		204-526-2145	Holland, MB	✓

To be included on our Manitoba Buyers List, companies should contact the MPGA office at 204-745-6488 to register.

NOTE – These companies are authorized to deduct and remit levy to MPGA. This list is provided by MPGA as a convenience to our members.

MPGA accepts no responsibility or liability for the accuracy of the completeness of the information provided. It is your personal responsibility to satisfy yourself that any company you deal with is financially sound. Questions regarding licensing and security should be directed to the Canadian Grain Commission at 1-800-853-6705 or 1-204-983-2770.

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