

pulse beat

Summer • No. 72, 2014

Involving Growers
in the Research Process
MPGA ON-FARM NETWORK®

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Manitoba Pulse Growers Association – 2014 Board of Directors

Elected Producer Directors

- Kyle Friesen, President – *Altona*
- Jason Voth, Vice President – *Altona*
- Andrew Knowles – *St. Andrews*
- Ben Martens – *Boissevain*
- Frank Prince – *Deloraine*
- Joni Sawatzky – *Altona*
- Andreas Scheurer – *Dugald*
- Ernie Sirski – *Dauphin*
- Albert Turski – *La Salle*
- Rick Vaags – *Dugald*

Advisory Directors

- Anfu Hou, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada – Morden Research Station

Dennis Lange, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

Yvonne Lawley, Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba

Interim Executive Director – François Labelle
Email – francois@manitobapulse.ca

Production Specialist – Kristen Podolsky
Email – kristen@manitobapulse.ca

Business Manager – Sandy Robinson
Email – sandy@manitobapulse.ca

Director of Communications and Member Relations – Donna Sagin
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MEMBER PRIVACY POLICY

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Please direct your comments or concerns to Sandy Robinson at 204.745.6488 or email sandy@manitobapulse.ca



Kyle Friesen
President

Spring has finally arrived in Manitoba and with it comes the opportunity to be back in the fields, doing what we do best – farming! While patiently waiting for spring to arrive, the board of directors has been busy working on your behalf. I would like to welcome three new directors to the board this year – Ernie Sirski, Dauphin; Ben Martens, Boissevain; and Andy Scheurer, Dugald. These producers stepped up and we look forward to working with them in the coming years.

BOARD PRIORITIES FOR 2014

Each fall, MPGA's board of directors decide which research projects to fund with check-off dollars for the next fiscal year. The directors meet to review the submitted proposals and evaluate each one to determine if it has the potential to assist growers in their production, i.e., reduce input or production costs, protect or increase crop yields, increase ease of production or increase market opportunities. The board also looks at projects that can improve the quality of Manitoba pulses for specific markets and the development of cost-competitive uses for Manitoba pulses. 2014 was no different with a large number of proposals being submitted and twenty-four projects were selected to receive funding (see page 39 for

complete listing). Through the selection process, directors recognized a need to establish a long-term strategy on research projects, which includes developing MPGA's research priorities today and in the future. We have also seen the need to build research capacity to support the increase in pulse and soybean acres. This will all lead to added collaboration with other pulse associations to ensure relevant research is being shared and not duplicated.

Another key priority for MPGA is providing education to new soybean growers. Manitoba soybean acres are continuing to expand into new regions and with that comes new challenges for those farmers. By providing a network of information to the new producers, we can help them mitigate the risks and learn from experiences in more established growing areas.


With any producer funded organization, sustainability is always a priority and MPGA is no different. We must continue to identify our member needs and work towards fulfilling them. Being relevant to each producer and showing where their check-off dollars are invested in the industry is a key part of the board's mission. To position the association for the future, the board has scheduled a strategic planning session this fall to create a road map to achieving success for our members.

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

In February, we held the first annual CropConnect Conference in Winnipeg, organized by five commodity associations – Manitoba Corn Growers, Manitoba Pulse Growers, National

Sunflower Association of Canada, Manitoba Canola Growers and Manitoba Flax Growers. This event allowed us to work together to create efficiencies and minimize event duplication and brought world-class speakers and presentations to over 700 participants in one venue. This highly educational event also played host to the annual general meetings for each commodity group. Plans are already in the works for next year's conference so be sure to mark the dates on your calendar – February 17–18 in Winnipeg.

Grain transportation and logistics has been a hot topic all winter. With a bumper crop in 2013, producers needed to market additional grain stocks and were met with logistical roadblocks. I attended several transportation meetings along with other producer groups to find a solution to the bottleneck. As well as dealing with the current issues, these meetings also focused on developing a plan for the future, ensuring accountability throughout the supply chain to improve service levels. There is still work to be done but we are headed down the right path.

The financial and agronomic impact of pulses and soybeans continue to drive the industry and 2014 is no different. Increasing acres of both crops indicate the willingness of Manitoba growers to find ways to incorporate them into crop plans and marketing plans. The future of the pulse and soybean industry in Manitoba is strong and MPGA is committed to supporting members by providing education, research and market development opportunities that will help grow and sustain our industry. 

Wild Oats Grain Market Advisory

This weekly newsletter covers crops grown in Manitoba – *canola, wheat, oats, flax, soybeans, peas, canary, edible beans and barley.*

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François Labelle
Interim Executive
Director

As I am writing this, it's been over three months since I have taken on the executive director position. Time has gone by quickly, and there is no shortage of things to do! A large portion of time has been spent on research programs, hiring our new director of communications and member relations, working on the new national soybean association, transportation issues, Pulse Canada, collaborating with other provinces and more.

With the new Growing Forward 2 (GF2) program, MPGA has an opportunity to leverage more of your research dollars but changes in the funding agreements increase the time investment for MPGA. GF2 dollars flow to the province from the federal government and we apply for funding, to match grower dollars through the ARDI program. Previously, if we were successful in our application, ARDI would make an agreement directly with the researcher and funds would flow directly from ARDI to the researcher. With changes in the program, funding agreements are now with the applicant (MPGA) and in turn, we now have an agreement with the researcher. This means we need to make certain all expense and reporting requirements required with ARDI are passed to the researcher, which involves more contracts, reports and overall administration for all office staff. As GF2 is new this year, it has taken more time to get the program up and running, resulting in concern that project start times may be delayed. Staff has been working with all the groups to make certain this does not happen. The good thing is that once we get the ball rolling, we should be good for the next five years until the next generation of funding programs is announced. Looking at research in the future, we have begun reviewing our research

program and started discussions at the board table on how we will be looking at research. With the growth we have seen in the last few years, we have greater opportunities to fund research to increase profitability to all our growers.

MPGA continues to work as part of the Soy Canada steering committee to create a sustainable, relevant, national organization. Initially, the discussion focused on whether MPGA should be part of Soy Canada, and I am pleased to announce that the board has decided to join. We are working with the other members of the steering committee to ensure it is organized properly, and that it will serve the interests of the Manitoba and western Canadian soybean growers.

Supporting Pulse Canada's efforts on the transportation issues this winter, MPGA was well represented at a number of meetings and announcements by the federal government. It took the support of many groups to get the railways moving grain, and we were proud to be part of the solution for all producers.

Biosecurity has become a subject in the past few months, especially while

discussing soybean cyst nematode and clubroot. It also comes into play with resistant weeds and the need to look at biosecurity on all aspects of the farm including the crop sector. MPGA has reviewed last fall's provincial program and we are hopeful it will be running again this year. Keep an eye out, as there may be funding in the future to start a biosecurity program on your farm.

We are very pleased to announce that the position of director of communications and member relations has been filled by Donna Sagin. This is a very important role in our association to facilitate better communication with members as well as reaching out to other groups, associations and the public. Welcome Donna!

2014 marks the 30th anniversary of MPGA and the association is working on plans to celebrate this milestone as well as to guarantee the association continues to serve the pulse and soybean growers of Manitoba for the next 30 years. Stay tuned to hear more about the celebration!

Until next time. 🌱



Soybean Scout

Can you identify the cause of these soybean injury symptoms?



Answers can be found on page 41

Do you have a production question related to pulse crops that you just can't find the answer to? Maybe you're looking for an opinion or advice? Write to us! Email: kristen@manitobapulse.ca

NEW FACE JOINS MPGA



Donna Sagin
*Director of
Communications
and Member
Relations*

Donna comes to Manitoba Pulse Growers Association with a background in agriculture and event management. Graduating from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness, she has worked extensively throughout the Canadian prairie provinces. Working with the Swift Current Agricultural and Exhibition Association as the general manager, she gained an immense amount of experience working with a board of directors and in developing, organizing and executing various public and private events in Saskatchewan. An opportunity to

influence change in Saskatchewan agriculture presented itself and Donna took on the role of regional farm business management specialist with the Ministry of Agriculture and began work within the Growing Forward agricultural policy framework, providing farmers with an incentive to improve their farm business practises. Moving back home to Carberry, Manitoba in 2011, Donna worked with Cargill as a grain marketing advisor throughout southern Manitoba before making the move to pursue her own business, DS Management and Consulting. In addition to her role as director of communications and member relations with MPGA, Donna is also providing contract services to the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba as an event coordinator.

Donna grew up in the Carberry area on an equine ranch and has stayed

involved with the local agricultural community as a director with the Carberry Agricultural Society and is also serving on the Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies board of directors.

Donna is looking forward to working with the MPGA to increase both member awareness and public awareness of the pulse and soybean industry in Manitoba. 🌱

NOTE TO MEMBERS

Resolutions to be presented at the 2015 Annual General Meeting must be received by **November 19, 2014**

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

2014 MPGA COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

MPGA COMMITTEES – *The first named is chairperson*

Executive – K. Friesen, F. Labelle, E. Sirski, F. Labelle

Finance – J. Voth, A. Scheurer, S. Robinson, F. Labelle

Communications/Member Relations – E. Sirski,
R. Vaags, F. Labelle, K. Podolsky, D. Sagin

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

Peas, Faba Beans, Lentils & Chickpeas

– F. Prince, B. Martens, D. Lange, F. Labelle,
B. Conner, Y. Lawley

Soybeans – A. Turski, F. Prince, R. Vaags, A.
Knowles, J. Sawatzky, E. Sirski, A. Scheurer,
D. Lange, A. Hou, Y. Lawley

MASC – R. Vaags, F. Prince, E. Sirski, D. Lange (adv)

MPGA REPRESENTATIVES

**Canadian Grain Commission Pulse
Sub-Committee** – F. Labelle

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

Keystone Agricultural Producers – R. Vaags, E. Sirski,
F. Labelle

- General Council – F. Labelle
- Pulse/Oilseed Sub-Committee – F. Labelle
- Commodity Group – R. Vaags, E. Sirski

MCVET – J. Sawatzky, D. Lange (adv)

OOPSCC – A. Knowles, D. Lange (alt)

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

Pulse Canada – R. Vaags, F. Prince (alt),
F. Labelle (adv)

Soy Canada – F. Labelle

Western Canadian Pulse Growers Association

- WGRF – D. Hilgartner (APG)
- CGC Western Grain Standards Committee
– E. Sirski

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How is MPGA involved in variety development for peas, edible beans and soybeans?

Several comments/questions were received in the membership survey regarding variety development for peas and edible beans (disease tolerance, higher yielding, and earlier maturity) as well as requests for more variety trials. This article will provide an overview of what involvement and support MPGA provides in the area of variety development and testing of pulses and soybeans that benefit farmers in Manitoba.



PEAS

“Why can’t we access select seed from the Crop Development Centre (CDC) in Saskatoon?”

Field pea varieties grown in Manitoba have been bred through the Pulse Breeding Program in Saskatoon – a collaboration between Saskatchewan Pulse Growers and the University of Saskatchewan’s Crop Development Centre. Annually, more than \$2 million dollars of grower levy investment flows from Saskatchewan Pulse Growers to the CDC. Up until about 10 years ago, MPGA contributed proportionate funding to the pulse breeding program, based on acres of peas grown. Compared to Saskatchewan, this is a small amount and this small proportion was reflected in the allocation of select breeder seed – Manitoba growers received select seed only after quota for growers in Saskatchewan was met. This resulted in a one-year delay of receiving select breeder seed and subsequently,

commercial seed. As a result, Manitoba growers have been accessing commercial seed from Saskatchewan growers in order to grow the newest varieties in the first year of availability. Due to this delayed access and budget constraints, the MPGA board of directors had decided at the time to withdraw funding to the Saskatchewan Pulse Breeding program.

With heightened interest in growing field peas in Manitoba, the MPGA office has received several requests over the past few months for us to gain access to select breeder seed from the pulse breeding program in Saskatoon. MPGA’s board of directors agrees and we have started to take action on this matter. In consultation with Saskatchewan Pulse Growers and in order to re-gain access to select breeder seed, MPGA will once again contribute proportionate funding. However, we are mindful of the delay that previously existed and will work to ensure that a minimum amount of select breeder seed is made available to Manitoba seed growers.

MPGA also provides funding to the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada pulse crop pathology programs in Morden and Brandon, Manitoba, as well as Lacombe, Alberta. These programs have teams in place working on detecting root rot pathogens present in Manitoba pea fields and assessing pea cultivars for their reaction to these root rots. Results from these studies enable field pea breeders to incorporate disease resistance into

their programs and will aid producers in making informed decisions on the selection of field pea cultivars for their farm operations. Work on the development of field pea cultivars

with resistance to downy mildew and Asochyta blight is also supported by MPGA. Each year, the MPGA board of directors allocates \$17–37,000 of grower levy investment for field pea pathology work.



EDIBLE BEANS

A large portion of edible bean breeding remains publicly funded. MPGA provides substantial annual support to Dr. Anfu Hou at the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Morden Research Centre. Over the past six years, Dr. Hou and team have developed eight dry bean lines that have been supported for registration in Canada – after this point, it is up to the seed companies to commercialize a variety. Two varieties that have recently entered the marketplace are “Portage” navy bean and “Carman” black bean. Dr. Hou also conducts the edible bean Cooperative Registration Trials in Manitoba. Breeding lines from private and public breeders (from both U.S. and Canada) are tested in these trials so that they can be registered in Canada for marketing. In collaboration with Dr. Robert Connor, quantifying reactions of dry bean cultivars to common bacterial blight, white mould, anthracnose and other diseases, to identify lines of resistance that can be incorporated into breeding lines is also an important component of this research program.

Each year, MPGA provides \$40–80,000 of funding to support Dr. Hou’s breeding program. Having a dedicated breeding program for edible beans in Manitoba is a top priority for MPGA to ensure that growers have access to varieties that are suitable to our region, with good disease tolerance and quality that will keep Manitoba

The pea breeding program in Lacombe, Alberta was previously housed in Morden, Manitoba and funded by MPGA. The pea breeding program was moved to Lacombe when the MPGA board chose in favour of an edible bean breeding program at Morden.

continued on page 7

beans competitive in the marketplace. It takes approximately 10 years of efforts to develop a commercial cultivar, so long-term commitment and support of breeding programs is important. Edible bean acres are small relative to other major crops but have remained steady over the past 10 years and provide a significant contribution to our economy.

MPGA also invests grower dollars in variety performance trials for all classes of registered edible bean cultivars. Each year, 40–60 varieties are tested at six to eight sites throughout Manitoba. The sites are divided into wide row and narrow row production. The list of sites for the 2014 edible bean variety trials are listed in Table 1.



SOYBEANS

Breeding efforts in GM soybeans are primarily made by private industry. Therefore, MPGA's primary role is to provide funding and in-kind support for independent variety testing across the eco-regions of Manitoba. This program has two main objectives:

1. To provide regional performance data of registered varieties.
2. To develop the Manitoba data package for unregistered soybean lines that will be presented to the registering committee.

Each trial location is open to the public and we strongly encourage growers to take an afternoon or evening tour of their local variety trial site. This way, they can make their observations on maturity and other physical characteristics such as height and disease susceptibility that may not be reported in the trial data. For trial locations and plot plans, please contact the MPGA office. Often, there are crop tours held at trial locations and we will advertise these on our website.

Annually, there are a total of 14–16 sites across Manitoba in which soybean varieties are tested, listed in Table 1. We are planning to add a site in the Dauphin/Ste Rose area for 2015. Data on maturity, yield and lodging is collected for each variety and each site. Data is published annually in MPGA's *Pulse Variety Evaluation* as well as in *Seed Manitoba*. This data allows growers to make variety decisions for their farm based on independent regional data. Aside from financial and in-kind

support from MPGA, seed companies also pay an entry fee to cover the costs of running the soybean variety trials.


Non-GM soybeans, on the other hand, are bred primarily by public breeders, located in southern Ontario where the majority of Canadian food grade soybeans are grown. In Manitoba, the proportion of non-GM soybeans has consistently been around 5% of total soybean acres. However, it still represents an important niche market. Annually, MPGA provides \$17–18,000 of grower investment into a breeding program in Ottawa, Ontario that focuses on improvement of short-season non-GM soybeans. In 2014, the Morden Research Station (MRS) will be receiving crosses from Ottawa to select for maturity and adaptability in Manitoba and develop cultivars for very early maturing soybeans. MRS has also been conducting yield trails in Manitoba (Morden, Portage) with elite food grade soybean lines from Ottawa. 

Table 1. 2014 locations of pea, edible bean and soybean variety trials

Peas	Arborg, Boissevain, Hamiota, Melita, Thornhill
Lentils	Hamiota, Melita
Faba Beans	Arborg, Roblin
Edible Beans	
Wide row	Carman, Morden, Portage, Winkler
Narrow row	Boissevain, Carberry, Hamiota, Thornhill, Roblin
Soybeans	Roundup Ready and Conventional
Long season	Morden, Rosebank
Core sites	Carman, Morris, Portage, Winnipeg
Short season	Arborg, Beausejour, Stonewall
	Roundup Ready only
Western sites	Boissevain, Carberry (irrigated and dryland), Hamiota, Melita, Roblin

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on-farm network®

PARTICIPATORY • PRECISE • PROACTIVE  MPGA

Manitoba Pulse Growers Association is committed to increasing our investment into on-farm research throughout the province and have officially launched the MPGA On-Farm Network®. The MPGA On-Farm Network® is a network of research related to soybean and pulse crops that is conducted on-farm and is fully funded and directed by Manitoba Pulse Growers Association (MPGA). MPGA began funding on-farm research in 2010 and has continually seen the benefits to growers and industry. Conducting on-farm research allows us to answer production questions over a wide geographical region using an approach that is timely and relevant. It also gives us the ability to include growers in the research process and work with them to answer production

questions in a scientific way. We are confident that growers will see the benefits in conducting on-farm research. Farming is an important business enterprise and we want to assist growers in making the best decisions on their farm when it comes to new products or practices related to soybean and pulse production. To achieve this, all research in this network is based on three important principles;

1. **Participatory** – conducted on-farm with growers.
2. **Precise** – uses precision tools and technology to test new products and practices and produce data that is unbiased, accurate and robust.
3. **Proactive** – delivers results to guide management decisions and improve productivity and profitability.

In 2014, we will have four on-farm research partners conducting trials with 40 growers throughout Manitoba. The 2014 trials will aim to answer the following production questions:

- Can I reduce my soybean seeding rate by 30,000 seeds/ac for a cost savings of \$12–13/ac?
- Is there an effect on yield if I use only liquid inoculant, compared to liquid plus granular, in fields with a history of soybean?
- Is a fungicide application on soybean economical?
- How should I manage my soybean residue in the fall?
- What is the optimum row spacing?

We plan on increasing our capacity to work with both soybean and dry bean growers in 2015. Here are a few things that you should keep in mind if you are thinking of participating in the MPGA On-Farm Network®:

- **Passion.** It's important that you are passionate about the research topic and producing true and reliable results for your farm and other soybean and pulse crop farmers in Manitoba.
- **Patience.** One of the goals of on-farm research is to make it minimum work

continued on page 9



Field Days

2014

Thursday, July 31, 2014

AAFC Research Station – Brandon, Phillips farm location

Thursday, August 7, 2014

AAFC Research Station – Morden

REGISTRATION opens at 8:45 a.m.

TOUR 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. – *lunch will be provided*

Everyone is welcome to attend!

For more information contact | MPGA Office – 204.745.6488
or visit our website www.manitobapulse.ca

Plot tours will include bean breeding, pathology and agronomy information.

for farmers but a time commitment is involved. Generally speaking, you will be comparing a normal practice to one alternative practice in alternating strips across the field.

- **Precision technology.** Growers must be equipped with GPS and yield monitors and agree to carefully record field management, i.e., where treatments were applied.
- **Must be a member in good standing with MPGA.**

You can also read about the protocols on our website. We strive to ensure that protocols are simple and practical to implement, because we know that farming runs on tight deadlines during the growing season. On-farm research generally focuses on comparing a normal practice compared to one or two alternatives in alternate strips across a production field. This keeps it simple enough to initiate over a relatively short period of time, to coordinate across multiple sites and to keep growers actively engaged.

A huge time investment is not required – growers are required to apply the treatments, ensure uniform management of the trial (i.e., herbicide spraying) and to use the weigh wagon to measure yield at harvest. The research contractor will be present at set-up and harvest and will take all in-field measurements.



The results from all MPGA On-Farm Network® research trials from 2010–2013 are available on our website, and will be updated with

2014 results in late fall. Check it out at www.manitobapulse.ca/for-producers/on-farm-network.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is on-farm research?

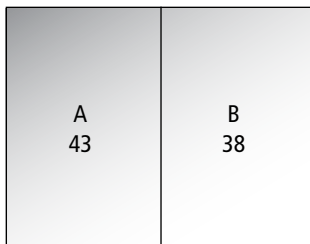
On-farm research is scientific research that is conducted on real, working farms. It involves farmers in the scientific method, in collaboration with research specialists. The scientific method is used to ensure that results are true and reliable. For example, all treatments are replicated at least four times across the field. Side-by-side comparisons may be misleading due to differences in environment (landscape, soil type, moisture, fertility etc.) or by random chance. It's important to make sure that an observed difference is consistent before we start making important economic management decisions.

What is the goal of on-farm research?

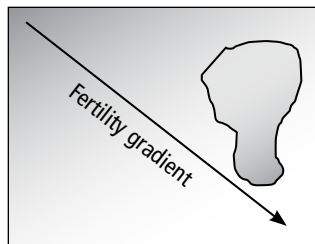
The goal of on-farm research is to discover and test new practices

continued on page 10

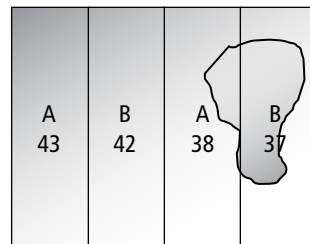
AN EXAMPLE OF WHY TREATMENT REPLICATION IS IMPORTANT



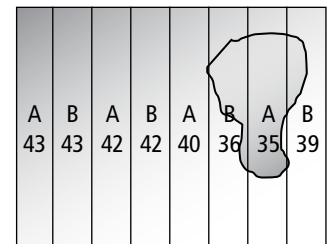
Side-by-side comparisons can be misleading due to the effects of underlying factors and random chance. In this scenario, we may be tempted to say that product A is superior to product B by 5 bu/ac.



If we look at a soil map, we can see that the east side of the field has an underlying deposit of gravel and there is a fertility gradient from NW to SE. Both of these factors are likely skewing the results.



BETTER
If we increase the number of replicates to two, both treatments A and B intersect the gravel ridge.
Average Trt A = 41
Average Trt B = 40



BEST
If we increase the number of replicates to 4, both the fertility gradient and gravel ridge are spread evenly between the treatments, increasing accuracy.
Average Trt A = 40
Average Trt B = 40
In the end, we can confidently say that there is no difference between treatment A and B.

or products over a wide range of growing environments, to guide management decisions. For example, should I change my seeding rate? Is a fungicide application economical? Before adopting a new practice, it's a good idea to test whether it is good or bad. To determine whether a practice is good or bad, you may look at economic and/or environmental parameters.

What are the benefits of on-farm research?


First and foremost, on-farm research benefits growers because they can see how products or practices behave on their own farm, on their own land and with their own equipment. The question of whether or not research results apply to their soil type or environment is answered immediately. On-farm research also benefits the entire industry. By involving growers in the scientific method, we can draw results and conclusions from a wider range of environments. The amount of data produced adds up quickly and

can be used to make inferences and predictions that are relevant and robust over a wide, geographical region.

What is the difference between small-plot and on-farm research?

Both research systems have advantages. Small-plot research allows researchers to effectively compare numerous treatments at one time. For example, a small plot research study might compare three types of fertilizer placement methods (seed placed, side band and broadcast) at four different rates (20, 40, 60 and 80 lbs/ac), for a total of 12 treatments (3 methods x 4 rates). In addition, each treatment will be replicated four times for a total of 48 plots. An experiment like that is simply not practical at the field scale on-farm, both in terms of size and management. Small-plot research is also very cost-effective.

On-farm research allows us to test new ideas in real-world conditions over many different environments. In agriculture, we are constantly facing

change. There are new practices and products that can potentially offer benefits – these should first be tested on a small scale before being adopted across an entire farm, to minimize risk. On-farm research generally focuses on comparing a normal practice compared to one or two alternatives in alternate strips across a production field. This keeps it simple enough to initiate over a relatively short period of time, to coordinate across multiple sites and to keep growers actively engaged. Participation by growers delivers first hand results to their farm in two ways – observations made during the growing season and at the end of the season, which yields data that can guide management decisions for the next year. 



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MPGA—Working for You!

Throughout the year the staff and directors of MPGA are hard at work managing the association to bring the most possible value to our membership. This includes such activities as: supporting and funding research and initiatives, market development, advocating in response to key industry issues and communicating and networking with industry leaders. The following are some of our recent activities that support these objectives:

Research and Production

- K. Podolsky presented on soybean agronomy and research at grower and agronomist meetings in Morris and Oak River, MB as well as Southey, SK.
- Participated in edible bean grower meetings in Altona.
- Edible bean committee met to decide on entries for 2014 variety trials and to discuss new agronomy extension opportunities.
- Launched MPGA On-Farm Network® that includes a new web page and logo. Check out the list of approved on-farm research projects for 2014 and results from previous studies at www.manitobapulse.ca.
- Developed the new MPGA Bean App. This mobile app is available for growers and agronomists to assess soybean plant population and estimate yield.
- Worked closely with Western Grains Research Foundation (WGRF) and Agricultural Research and Development Initiative (ARDI) to leverage grower dollars for soybean and pulse crop research in Manitoba.
- Developed an outline for Soybean School West 2014 episodes.
- Initiated the development of best management practices for managing and preventing glyphosate resistant kochia in roundup ready soybean production systems. This is a new project that has been started but is not yet complete.
- Worked with MAFRD to coordinate both the 2014 edible bean and soybean trials.
- MPGA was invited by Saskatchewan Pulse Growers to participate in their Soybean Croppportunity meeting via conference call to share our experiences in soybean production in Manitoba as the crop is catching on in Saskatchewan. This type of collaboration ensures that research is not unnecessarily repeated in either province.
- Directors and staff met with MASC board and staff to discuss the 2013 programs. This is an annual meeting that reviews progress and allows any concerns to be addressed as well as discussion on possible improvements MPGA would like to see to the programs. This year's discussion centred on the Experimental Test Area and giving growers' insurance coverage in areas previously not insurable.


Market Development and Sustainability

- Participated in the Canadian Grain Commission Special Crops Sub-Committee meeting with no major issues arising. However, after the meeting, comments were made that the lower protein in Manitoba soybeans resulted in them trading at a discount at the coast compared to beans from other areas. This concern will be investigated further.
- Attended the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Crops (CRSC) inaugural meeting in Winnipeg. The formation of this group is the result of consumer and food industry demands in other areas of the world beginning to emerge in our markets. As this was an inaugural meeting, we discussed terms of reference, guiding principles and the beginning of a strategic plan to ensure we have a coordinated industry approach. Committees that were established include Steering, Assessment, and Communication/Outreach.
- Attended Pulse Canada board meeting in Calgary, Alberta. Discussion was held on 2015 being the International Year of Pulse Crops and the planning being undertaken by Pulse Canada to mark this momentous occasion. With all the efforts put forward by Pulse Canada on the transportation file, they have become busier but it has allowed them to develop excellent rapport with government and industry. Their nutrition and health file is also ramping up as it has been proven that consumers are including more pulses in their diets and more pulse ingredients are being used in the food industry. Many efforts are put forth to increase consumer awareness, and it is paying off in terms of consumer demand.
- Took part in a Pulse Canada conference call to discuss work on sustainability. This includes three main focus areas: sustainability indicators for Canadian grains, oilseeds and pulse crops, development and piloting of on-farm sustainability measurement tools and on-farm fertilizer use survey.
- E. Sirski has been named to the CGC Western Standards Committee and will represent pulse growers from all western provinces on this committee with regards to all CGC grading and standards issues.

We've been busy! ...continued on page 13

- E. Sirski was invited by Pulse Canada to attend and participate in the Sustainable Production Seminar and Tour in Seville, Spain April 1–3, 2014. A full recap is included in this issue of *Pulse Beat*.
- Attended KAP Grain, Oilseed and Pulse meeting to discuss UPOV 91, Bill C-18, and biosecurity.
- Met with YES Winnipeg to discuss opportunities to increase business and employment with regards to pulse crops and soybeans in Winnipeg and Manitoba.

Communication

- Developed the *Manitoba Pulse Report* – a daily radio broadcast that will be aired on Simmons Multimedia (Maverick 105.1 and KNDK 1080) and will feature everything and all things related to pulses and soybeans. Broadcasts will increase member and public awareness of MPGA activities including information on production and research information, health, cooking and recipes, market and policy information as well as news and events.
- Presented at Cigi for a Moroccan delegation. They were very interested in the evolution of our industry and how farms have changed production methods. There were questions on grower groups, the importance of partnerships between growers and industry and how they all worked together to be successful. One surprising question was, “Did our growers ever harvest pulse crops by hand?”
- Participated in meetings held by the CropConnect committee to review the success of the 2014 event and begin planning for 2015. Be sure to mark February 17 and 18, 2015 on your calendar to attend this world-class event at the Victoria Inn, Winnipeg.
- Met with a number of life science companies to discuss projections for soybeans and pulses in Western Canada over the next five years and to discuss ongoing efforts in research and technology by industry stakeholders and MPGA. 

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



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MPGA TO JOIN SOY CANADA

After much discussion and deliberation on the subject, the board has decided that it is in the best interest of Manitoba soybean growers that MPGA become a founding member of Soy Canada.

Soy Canada is a proposed national organization dedicated to drive growth and progress for the soybean sector in Canada. The new organization will represent the entire value chain and work collaboratively to promote and advocate for the industry. The challenges facing the Canadian soybean industry show a clear need for a single entity to act as a unified voice to address these challenges. Soy Canada will have a clear mandate to maintain and expand market access, open new markets, increase the profile of the soybean industry, and strengthen relationships among stakeholders and governments.

Soybean production has increased significantly over the past five years and is poised for further growth, but the industry faces challenges both domestically and internationally. In soybean export markets, there are issues related to trade barriers such as minimum access provisions, slow regulatory approvals in foreign countries and non-tariff trade barriers. In addition, other competitor countries have large promotional budgets and preferential trade agreements in importing countries that negatively impact Canada. Within Canada, the industry is challenged by a need to increase domestic crush capacity to match production, a reduction in publicly funded crop research and a

relatively low profile compared to other agri-food products.

Soy Canada aims to be a cohesive voice that can address industry challenges, replacing two existing national soybean-focused organizations. The Canadian Soybean Council (officially dissolved November 2013) and the Canadian Soybean Exporters Association (CSEA), pending board approval, will both be replaced by the proposed new soybean organization, reducing soybean-focused organizations from two to one. Soy Canada will work collaboratively to serve all facets of the industry, including domestic and export markets, soybeans and soybean products (soybean oil, soybean meal), industrial, food, feed uses, and GM and non-GM varieties/markets.

Soy Canada's goal to drive growth and progress for the soybean sector in Canada will be achieved through the following four focus areas that were developed by the Soy Canada steering committee, through consultation with industry stakeholders:

1. IMPROVING GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND MARKET ACCESS

- Maintain and expand market access by working to remove barriers
- Open new markets through improved trade policies/agreements

2. BUILDING THE PROFILE OF THE INDUSTRY

- Improve communication and educate all levels of the value chain and government on the soybean industry

- Build strong relationships throughout all links in the value chain

3. CO-ORDINATING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

- Provide a unified voice advocating for soybeans in order to attract and leverage more research funding
- Help align innovation and variety development efforts across Canada for both grower needs and end-use market needs
- Support and collaborate with soybean research organizations (public and private)

4. SUPPORTING MARKET DEVELOPMENT

- Position Canada as a leader in soybeans and soybean products in domestic and international markets
- Develop new markets for food grade and commodity soybeans
- Promote new uses for soybeans (e.g. bio-diesel, other bio-products, industrial uses, novel oil characteristics)

Soy Canada will take the lead on soybean specific issues, but will also take on a support/co-ordinating role with other organizations.

The proposed new organization will be governed by a board of directors with representatives from across the country and value chain, including producers, crushers, commodity and food-grade exporters, and seed companies. The board will hire an Ottawa-based executive director to lead all Soy Canada operations with specific emphasis on government relations and addressing

continued on page 15

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Pulse Canada

Greg Cherewyk, Chief Operating Officer, Pulse Canada

The transportation landscape continues to change rapidly with the government passing Bill C-30 on to the Senate on May 5 for review. Bill C-30 covered a lot of ground, both setting the stage for future change as well as implementing some immediate changes.

The *Fair Rail for Grain Farmers Act* amends the Grain Act and the *Canada Transportation Act* to provide additional protection for the interests of producers and to facilitate the movement of grain by rail.

The proposed amendments to the *Grain Act* would permit the regulation of contracts between grain companies and producers. Specifically, the amendments will make available an arbitration process for disputes between grain producers and grain companies with respect to contracts between the two parties for the purchase of grain. They also provide for the implementation of penalties or compensation to be awarded to producers for breaches of contract terms.

The government proposes to amend the Canada Transportation Act in a number of areas including:

- to provide for payment of expenses incurred by shippers adversely affected as a result of a railway's failure to fulfill its service obligations;
- to extend the provisions of the March 7, 2014 Order In Council directing Canadian National and Canadian Pacific to each move a minimum of 500,000 tonnes of grain per week from April 7 to August 3, 2014 (the end of the current crop year);
- to provide for the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, to specify the minimum amount of grain that each railway must move during any period within a crop year that begins on or after August 1, 2014;
- the requirement for the Canadian Transportation Agency, following consultation with the railways and grain companies, to provide the Minister of Transport with advice on the minimum amount of grain each railway should move during each month of that crop year;
- the requirement for the Canadian Transportation Agency, at the Minister of Transport's request, to determine if the railways are complying with targets established by the Governor in

Council and to report their findings to the Minister;

- to provide for Administrative Monetary Penalties against the railways of up to \$100,000 per day for violations of the targets established for the movement of grain; and
- providing the Canadian Transportation Agency with the ability to prescribe different distances to which interswitching regulations apply for specific regions and or goods – in its announcement on March 27, 2014, the government proposed to extend interswitching limits to 160 kilometres from the current 30 kilometre maximum for grain elevators located in the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta

While there has been a lot of public commentary in the media regarding the value of Bill C-30 and the impact of the orders requiring the railways to hit minimum targets, the true measures of success for shippers are whether or not railcar orders are fulfilled and whether or not railcars are spotted according to plan. Quite simply, is demand being met? If railways are meeting their customers' needs, they in turn can meet the needs of buyers of Canadian grain from around the world.

So how did the railways perform for pulse and special crops shippers who

continued on page 16

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market access issues. The strategy for Soy Canada will be to create a lean and efficient organization with low operating costs by sharing resources, such as office space and administration functions, with another organization.


The revenue/expenses for the proposed organization will be structured into two areas.

Core Funding – The groups represented on the board will provide core funding for the base operations of the organization through annual membership fees. Funding from provincial producer groups, crushers

and exporters will be set as a fee per metric tonne of annually produced/ exported soybeans. Seed company fees will be set on a tiered scale based on annual sales of soybean seed. Additional core funding will come from a flat annual fee from other regular members and non-voting affiliates.

Project Funding – Funding for additional specific projects will not be covered under the core funding. As these projects will meet more specific goals of individual members or groups, they will be funded through additional contributions by producer groups,

industry groups, individual companies and government (or a combination of the above).

Watch for more information in the upcoming months on this exciting new organization. 

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are part of the industry's performance measurement initiative?

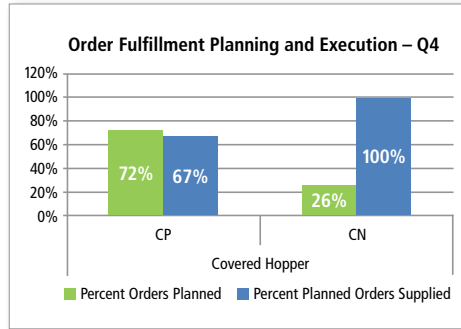
RAILWAY PERFORMANCE FROM JANUARY TO THE END OF MARCH

During the recently completed quarter (January – March 2014) participating shippers received 37% of boxcars and 43% of hopper cars ordered. This quarter performance is measured against approximately 12,000 shipper orders.

While neither railway's performance was stellar in this area, CP did plan to supply 72% of orders while CN planned to supply only 26% of orders. It is important to note that CP and CN represent 75% and 25% respectively of total shipper demand among program participants, meaning that CP's performance has a significantly larger impact on total performance.

It's also important to note that reporting aggregate figures for a three-month period can mask what shippers experience on a week-to-week basis, therefore the initiative also reports on

weekly performance. For this reporting period the inability of the railways to meet shipper demand for railcars has been compounded by significant week-to-week volatility in performance making it very difficult for shippers to plan their logistics and sales programs.



WEEKLY PERFORMANCE

On average each week, railways planned to supply 69% of shipper demand, achieved 65% of their plans and ultimately supplied an average of 45% of weekly shipper demand. Perhaps even more troubling for shippers was

that the railways only met 80–100% of weekly shipper demand in 16% of cases during the quarter and in 60% of cases shippers received no cars whatsoever against confirmed orders.

MEASURE WHAT MATTERS

While it can be tempting to focus on the wording of legislation or the number of service agreements that have been signed, we cannot lose sight of the measures that matter. When we get it right, enabling legislation and contractual agreements will simply be tools that will create an environment that results in a measurable improvement in performance. We're clearly not there yet.

With a focus on commercial solutions, creating an enabling legislative environment and ensuring that there's a measurement system in place, Pulse Canada and its partners across the agriculture industry will continue to work to ensure that all the supporting pieces 'move the yardsticks' in the right direction. 🍀



STORM

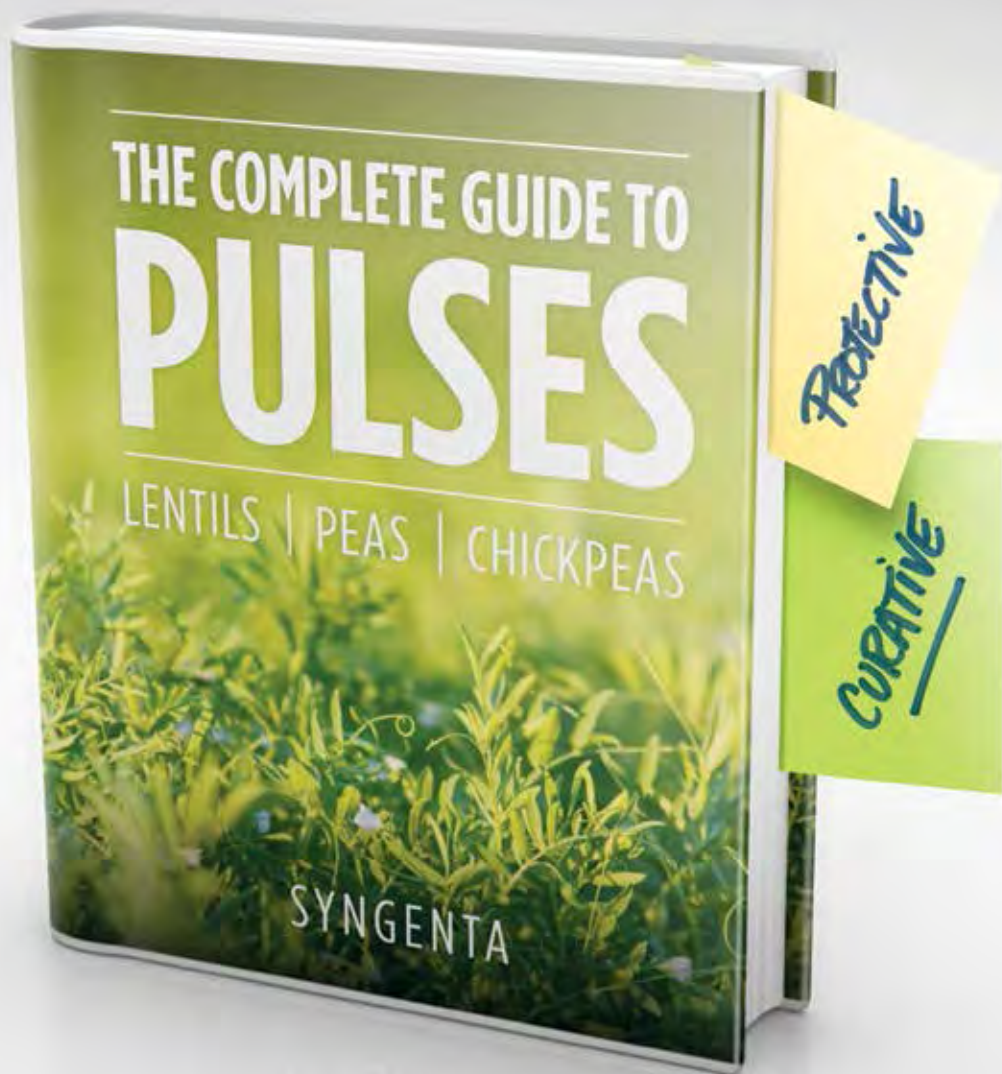
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Working for all Manitoba Farmers: Highlights from the Last Quarter

INSTRUMENTAL IN GETTING RAILWAY REFORM STARTED

KAP's intense efforts over the winter to alert the federal government and the public to the crisis in grain movement paid off when the government introduced legislation (Bill C-30) in April that sets minimum weekly rail service obligations, as well as \$100,000 per day in penalties payable to shippers for not complying.

This followed a government order-in-council a month earlier that ordered the railways to move a million tonnes of grain per week or face penalties.

Leading up to the federal intervention, KAP lobbied with news releases and a national editorial about the unfolding disaster, and KAP president Doug Chorney spoke tirelessly to the local and national media, highlighting the serious cash flow situation farmers faced.

KAP then joined other western leaders at a February meeting with Transport Minister Lisa Raitt in Ottawa that helped bring about the order-in-council.

When Bill C-30 was later introduced Doug again travelled to Ottawa, joining the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in stressing that service-level agreements

need to include mandatory penalty fees paid to shippers – an important addition that was not originally in the proposed bill and something that farmers have been advocating for.

WORKING WITH THE PROVINCE ON NUTRIENT APPLICATION

In order to avoid the situation of last year, where a late fall and warm soil temperatures meant farmers could apply fertilizer if it were not for the November 10 deadline, KAP is working with the province so that there is more flexibility in the regulations.

Both KAP and Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship agree that the application dates should take into account weather and soil temperatures. Stay tuned for more details that will make the process a whole lot clearer for farmers.

ENCOURAGING AND ASSISTING YOUNG FARMERS

KAP held a number of events over the winter for young farmers, including a luncheon at Ag Days where MAFRD Minister Ron Kostyshyn gave the keynote address, and a young farmer day at the KAP annual meeting where young farmers were provided with special sessions.

KAP also helped organize, in conjunction with MAFRD, the 2014 Young Farmers Conference in Portage la Prairie.

CONTINUING TO OPPOSE THE SCHOOL TAX SYSTEM

KAP has renewed its involvement with the Education Finance Coalition of stakeholders opposed to the way in which education taxes are structured in Manitoba. New actions by the coalition are in the works.

Meanwhile, KAP continues to lobby against 2013 changes to the Farmland School Tax Rebate program that include a \$5,000 cap on the rebate, a March 31 yearly deadline to file (previously it was three years), the new structure of the rebate that is based on farm ownership,

continued on page 19

Bryan Rogers
Executive Director
Grain Growers of Canada

Introductions

Greetings from Ottawa! This is my first time writing to you as the still relatively freshly minted executive director of the Grain Growers of Canada, so I thought a brief introduction might be in order. I came to the Grain Growers after having spent six years as the manager of government affairs for Scotiabank, which was preceded by a stint at the government relations firm Hill & Knowlton. Prior to (re)joining the private sector, I spent just over six years as a federal political staffer – two years in my hometown of Edmonton, and another four here in Ottawa, where I moved in 2003 to work for a then-Opposition Leader named Stephen Harper.

While it's no secret that my political background is Conservative, my professional approach to government

relations is multi-partisan, as it is in any organization's best interest to actively build relationships across the political aisles.

While my professional background is in government relations and politics, agriculture has always been a keen interest of mine. My family has had a long-standing connection with farming, as my great grandfather was a homesteader in Alberta, and growing up I seized every opportunity to spend time on an uncle's farm.

I remember informing my uncle when I was 10 or 11 years-old that I wanted to be a farmer. He just shook his head and told me that "nobody can make money farming anymore." I know he'd be shocked but ultimately pleased by the advancements in crop genetics, crop options, better management practices and marketing freedom, and the impact they've had on volumes and the bottom line. He wouldn't be surprised that we're still fighting for good rail service.

TRANSPORTATION

In early April, Grain Growers of Canada director and transportation committee chair Art Enns, appeared before the Standing Committee on Agriculture & Agri-Food for their study on Bill C-30, the *Fair Rail for Grain Farmers Act*. GGC supports this legislation, which builds on the Order in Council, as another positive step forward. We were also pleased to see the government's amendment to the legislation, which opens the door to Service Level Agreements with reciprocal penalties.

While Bill C-30 has not passed as of this writing, there is little doubt that it will become law shortly. The next step will be the consultation process on the relevant regulations behind the legislation, and then the expedited *Transport Canada Act* review, which may begin as soon as this summer. Grain Growers will be an active participant in both. Our goal is unchanged: to

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and the disentanglement of out-of-province landowners.

KAP is particularly dismayed that these changes, which all have effects on farm income, occurred after the 2011 election promise to increase the rebate.

SERVING ON THE PROVINCIAL GRAIN-MOVEMENT TASK FORCE

After taking the lead in urging the federal government to take action in moving Western Canadian, KAP became involved in a provincial task force of cabinet to address Manitoba-specific grain movement issues.

The Provincial Task Force on Grain Transportation struck by Premier Selinger, which includes four senior cabinet ministers, invited KAP and other stakeholders to participate. Its priorities were to ensure Manitoba got its fair share of rail cars, and that Thunder Bay was included in the grain movement equation.

A further priority was to ensure grain could be moved by truck during

spring thaw. As a result, the government allowed grain to be transported at restricted Level 1 weights (90 per cent of normal axle loading) on all Level 2 highways without a permit, as long as all posted weight restrictions on bridges were complied with.

CREATING AG AWARENESS

KAP joined *Discover Ag in the City* at The Forks in Winnipeg once again this year to help raise awareness with the urban public on the importance of farming. KAP VP Curtis McRae carried the event, giving a presentation to grade 11 Winnipeg students and other Forks visitors.

Also featured at the session were *4R* and *My Be Well* videos highlighting Curtis and his farm – which were very well received by the audience.


ADVANCING THE ASSINIBOINE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

KAP assisted the Prairie Improvement Network in organizing a spring meet-

ing where Assiniboine watershed stakeholders agreed to move forward with the establishment of an Assiniboine River Basin Commission. It would be multi-jurisdictional, similar to the Red River Basin Commission, involving stakeholders from Saskatchewan, North Dakota and Manitoba.

KAP VP Dan Mazier represented farm interests during the process, and is on the on the advisory committee that is looking into governance structures. Options and committee recommendations will be made at a fall stakeholders' meeting.

LOBBYING IN OTTAWA

KAP president Doug Chorney was in Ottawa several times this winter where he had the opportunity to meet with MPs, federal cabinet ministers, and leaders of the opposition parties to discuss issues affecting farmers – including rail transportation. 

help ensure a transportation system with adequate rail capacity to serve all commodities well.

TRADE AND MARKETING

It was a busy winter on the trade and marketing front, with GGC taking part in several trade missions and conferences. Gary Stanford, GGC president, attended the U.S. Wheat Associates AGM in Washington, D.C. at the end of January. In March, he attended the Global Grains Asia conference in Singapore, where he gave a presentation promoting Canada as a reliable supplier of high-quality grains, oilseeds, and pulses. In April, GGC director Irmi Critcher, took part in Minister Ritz's trade mission to Asia, celebrating the recent conclusion of negotiations on the Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement, as well as visiting Japan to assure our customers that despite the current transportation challenges, Canada remains a reliable supplier of good quality grain and oilseeds.

In April, I attended the inaugural Canadian Global Crops Symposium in Winnipeg. It was my pleasure to meet many of the key players in our sector, including several GGC and member association directors, such as MPGA's Kyle Friesen, and staff. It would be hard to meet a more dedicated, talented and friendly bunch of people anywhere. There were also many excellent presentations, including Pulse Canada's Nick Sekulic.

CANADIAN GRAIN COMMISSION

GGC was invited to submit comments to the CGC for their consultation on outward inspection and the quality assurance deduction (new funding model). In principle, GGC supports co-delivery of outward inspection, believing that the introduction of competitive market forces would be beneficial to producers in terms of bringing price discipline to outward inspection. However, we cannot support a new funding model that simply defaults to a grower check-off,

particularly if the current cost structure of the CGC is expected to be shouldered overwhelmingly by producers.

However, before making any decision on which alternative funding model will work best, a better understanding of the services the CGC provides and how these services are valued and used (directly or indirectly) by the entire value chain is required. Moreover, we believe that increased transparency of the CGC's operations, including better details on its costs, and further cost-reduction measures, are required.

SUMMER MEETING

Finally, a reminder that GGC's 2014 summer meeting, which is being hosted by Allison Ammeter of Alberta Pulse, will be held July 14-16 at Pigeon Lake, AB. We'll get the registration form and itinerary up on the GGC website as soon as we can - www.graingrowers.ca.

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Tracey Drabyk-Zirk

*Rural Leadership Specialist
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and
Rural Development, Beausejour*

Attitude can be our best business partner or our worst enemy – *It won't happen to me!* We can all recall thoughts that we've had when watching our neighbour down the road – drive too fast, work around the clock, or not take safety precautions. What might a few of those thoughts be? – *He is taking a chance. Playing with fate. One day there is going to be a severe injury, etc.* Remember, you are someone else's neighbour!

View each step that you take during seeding, spraying and harvest with an attitude that *it can happen to me*. Do others know where you are? Do you know where your workers or other family members are? A radio or cell phone will help only if an incident happens when you are close enough to use it or when there is adequate cell coverage.

If you have to call 911, telling them you are at "McLean's yard" will not help. How do you get there? Specific directions such as, section, township, range/RM road markers are important. One EMS worker in Eastman shared her story. She had a fire in her home and called 911. In the panic of it all, she could not give directions to her home. As she stated, "I know the importance of

time in an emergency. I drew a blank." It is easy to put a sticker with specific directions on your home phone so they can be read out in an emergency or when a babysitter is in your home.

WHAT IS YOUR PLAN FOR THE MANY FIELDS THAT YOU WORK, SHOULD YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE HAVE TO CALL 911?

Is there a *master list* with direction details stored in each implement and truck? Is there necessary information on a piece of paper that you or your workers carry in a pocket? Will the list be at home for the person you radio in an emergency? *Time is of the essence in an emergency!*

WHAT ARE THE BARRIERS/OBSTACLES ON THE LAND THAT YOU WORK?

You know them and in discussion could quickly tell me where they are. Knowing specific directions for each field is even more critical when there is a barrier that necessitates getting to a field a specific way. Fire personnel can tell you many stories of watching fires burn and not being able to access it, as there is a drainage ditch or natural barrier that could not be passed. *Time is of the essence in an emergency!*

I need not tell you what your action plan should be – you would not be in business if you did not think things through. The reality is that in many cases the business dealings get prioritized over safety. With intuition, experience and knowledge, you know

where the greatest risks are. Aren't those risks the ones that you warn your children about – the ones you tell young workers to leave for you? Why would you not take all precautions when it comes to these risks?

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU BEEN "WOUND UP" TO ADDRESS EVERYTHING IN A HURRY AND MET A NEIGHBOUR ON THE ROAD AND CONVERSED FOR A WHILE?

Think about this when taking a shortcut or rushing to get a job done. The extra few moments to get a job done well, will potentially save your life or the life of a family member, worker, etc. I have yet to meet a farmer who has lost a limb or has been permanently injured say, "I should have finished sooner!"

I close with one more thought... Your equipment, the newer stuff, has many warning lights. If you decided to change oil last evening when you were beyond tired, drained the old oil and forgot to put fresh oil in before assembling the filter, the driver this morning would soon know because a warning light would appear; if antifreeze levels are low, a warning light appears. *What are the warning lights on your body that tell you – I must take a break?*

Farming is considered to be one of the most hazardous occupations. Make it a business deal to protect the human assets on your farm!

Please be careful. We love you.
—Your Family 🍷



Great Tastes of Manitoba

More Beans Please

show will air on
Saturday, September 6th, 2014
from 6:30 pm–7:00 pm on
CTV TV Cable 5.

Great Tastes of Manitoba (GTOM) will be celebrating its 25th season this fall! MPGA's Roxanne Lewko will join host Ace Burpee on the first episode of the season titled *More Beans Please*.

This season's featured recipes – **Baked Beans** (originally presented in 1997), the **Original Bean Pie** and **BEST Chocolate Brownies** – are big enough for sharing and tasty enough to serve at special occasions. They're guaranteed to have people asking for "more beans please."

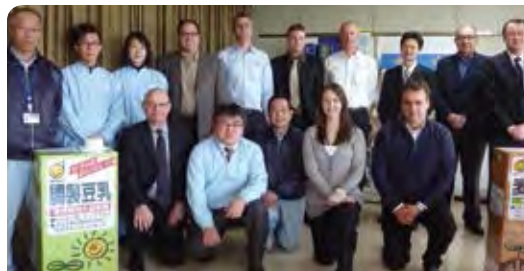
Manitoba Liquor Marts will also be there to select wines, beers or spirits to pair with the dishes.

For recipes featured on the show visit foodManitoba.ca

SW Manitoba Soybean Grower Leaves with Good Impression

Organized by the Canadian Soybean Council and focusing on strengthening relationships with government officials, industry representatives and soy food processors, a five-member group representing Canadian soybean exports travelled to Japan in mid-January. Jacob Mann of Medora, Manitoba, had the opportunity to bring a Western Canadian perspective to this important Canadian market.

“The Japanese like to have a close relationship with the people they are purchasing their food from and concerns have been raised from some buyers that Canadian soybeans are not going to be able to keep up with the growing demand,” Jacob commented. “Part of my role in the delegation was to illustrate that although the number of acres of non-GM soybeans in Ontario and Quebec are decreasing, the shift to grow soybeans in western Canada



Canadian delegation together with Japanese processors.

is increasing and western farmers are working to ensure a consistent supply to this market.” Over the past seven years, Japan has had a shift from buying Chinese soybeans to buying in Canada and now Japan represents Canada’s largest export region for non-GM soybeans. This is the result of many years invested in growing the market. Accustomed to the consistent and high-quality soybeans from Canadian farmers, Japanese importers and processors needed reassurance that their supply of food grade soybeans

from Canada would continue. “We have developed an excellent reputation for differentiating products and producing traceable, high-quality soybeans that match their processing needs. This has been proven by a record of large exports to Japan – exactly what these market development programs are meant to accomplish,” said Jacob.

Being from the Prairies, Jacob was captivated by the culture and its people. “Japan has some of the most densely

continued on page 24

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populated areas in the world but what makes it such a fascinating place to visit, is the people and their devotion to being perfectionists in almost everything they do. Their cities are clean, public transportation is excellent, the people are friendly, and the large selection of food did not disappoint!” A large portion of the island is covered in mountains, which doesn’t leave a lot of land left to farm. Even after travelling 450 km out of Tokyo, most by bullet train, the vast majority of the distance was filled with cities or small parcels of land with fields cut up into acre sized plots totalling at the most around 15 acres.

As part of the tour, the delegates learned more about the Japanese importers use of Canadian soybeans. Soy food products aren’t something that North Americans are familiar with eating in our everyday diets but the Japanese have some form of soy at breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They are the largest eaters of soy products in the world and it is a large source of protein in their diets. Some of the most common soy products they eat are: tofu, soy milk, yuba, and miso.

During the trip, Jacob was able to meet with Marusan-Ai Co Ltd., one of the largest importing companies of Canadian soybeans. This company is



Processing yuba into end-use tofu skin product often used in Japanese cuisine.
– Kitayama Food Co.

also one of the largest manufacturing companies of food products in Japan and produces mostly soy products such as miso, miso sauce, soy milk, and soft drinks. Touring one of their facilities in Nagoya, the Canadian group entertained questions regarding Canadian soybean supply and different varieties that may be coming. “A key discussion we had was how to incorporate Marusan-Ai’s desired traits and characteristics into our soybean variety research and the potential that could develop from those traits.”

According to Jacob, one of the most interesting tours was at Kitayama Food Co., which is a family-owned “yuba” maker currently using Canadian soybeans in production. Yuba is made by heating up soy milk to around

85 degrees Celsius, the top layer of the soy milk then gets a film or skin. The films are then removed and hung to dry to create yellowish sheets called tofu skin. The tofu skin has many uses in Japanese cuisine and is usually moistened in water before eating.

Visiting the processors’ facilities gave the tour participants a better understanding of the Japanese marketplace as well as the products being produced from Canadian soybeans.

“Seeing our Canadian soybeans processed in Japan showed me the value of growing both food grade and GM soybeans on my own farm. Not only does it diversify our marketing opportunities, it allows us to minimize risk – both agronomic and financial.”

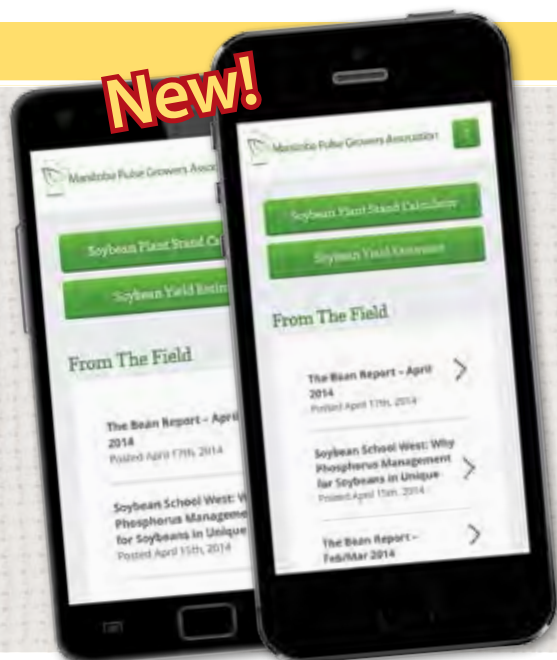
MPGA HAS A MOBILE WEB APP!

Manitoba Pulse Growers Association (MPGA) has developed a mobile web app! The MPGA Bean App features a *soybean plant stand calculator* and *soybean yield estimator*. You will be able to access the mobile app from your desktop (IE10/11, Firefox, Chrome, Safari) and mobile devices (iPhone, iPad, and Android devices). MPGA plans on adding new tools to the app in the coming year.

Soybean Plant Stand Calculator – use this tool to assess your plant population and receive feedback based on scientific data conducted right here in Manitoba. This tool is a great example of how the results of scientific research can be applied directly to production practices.

Soybean Yield Estimator – use this tool to ‘estimate’ soybean yield. You may find it useful to estimate your soybean yield to help aid in judging storage capacity and for budgeting. But remember, it’s only an estimate! Soybean yields are highly variable within fields.

The mobile app is available at
www.mpgabeanapp.com





Ron Friesen

When Ron Tone started farming in 1978, there were two types of canola. Today there might be 100. The *Field Crop Protection Guide* was only a few pages long. Today it is a thick volume. Soybeans were barely on the radar screen in 1978. Now they are Manitoba's third largest and fastest growing crop. GPS, variable-rate technology and digital-age information were a distant dream. Now they are mainstream. All this and more in less than 40 years.

The wave of change that has swept over the agricultural industry in that time brought with it a tsunami of information that threatens to overwhelm growers. How can they keep up with it? Where do they find the time to manage the increasing workload that technological advancements bring?

That's where agricultural consultants like Tone come in.

Since 1996, when he formed his own company Tone Ag Consulting Ltd. in St. Pierre-Jolys, Tone, a registered professional agrologist, has provided agronomic advice to farmers for a fee. When he started, he was one of the few consultants of his kind in the region. Today, his client load is expanding steadily as he steers growers through the maze of an increasingly complex industry.

Why would a farmer hire an agronomist? For Tone, the answer is simple. "It's basically a chance to increase the profitability of your farm," he says.

Kristen Podolsky agrees. As a registered agrologist and production specialist with the Manitoba Pulse Growers Association, Podolsky says information and profitability go hand in hand.

"We're just bombarded with so much information – especially on crop input products that promise to deliver extra bushels," she says. "It's really important to have somebody who can sift through that information for you. Farmers are busy enough as it is. They don't necessarily have time to do the research. That's sort of what our role is – to take the time to go through the research, package it up and give producers a reliable message."

That's particularly true for soybeans, which are still a relatively new crop in Manitoba, despite the recent explosion in acres, Podolsky adds. A lot of research data about soybean production still comes from the U.S. and Ontario. Podolsky and her colleagues take that information and try to make it relevant to Manitoba (or equally important, to disregard what's not), with its varying eco-regions and microclimates. "Local research is really taking off now, and it's also my job to deliver that knowledge to growers and agronomists."

But it's not just research that makes an agronomist's services valuable to growers. Farms these days are so large that producers often do not have the time to do all the technical work themselves.

"The reason why they choose us is more of a time factor. That's probably the biggest thing," says Tone.

"That basically involves looking at your cropping patterns, scouting fields, checking for weeds, insects and diseases and long-term crop planning, including fertilizer, chemicals and things."

Jason Voogt, a professional agrologist and agronomist with Grassroots Agronomics, a subsidiary of Bud McKnight Seeds in Carman, describes his job as a business relationship between himself and farmers. He sells his time and professional expertise. In return, he works with clients on fertility programs, in-crop management, pesticides recommendations based on economic thresholds, and efficacy checking to see how well those pesticides are working.

Voogt lists four reasons for employing an agronomist: time management, peace of mind, the need for a second opinion and the possibility of a better financial gain. "We don't just make the recommendation and then walk away. We go back to see if it worked," Voogt says. "It's not an ad hoc or one-off program where you call us. It's a very proactive approach. For growers, the management decision comes to handing off that part of the responsibility of the farm to somebody else."

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WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE



NOW THAT YOU'VE DECIDED TO HIRE AN AGRONOMIST, WHOM DO YOU CHOOSE?

The Manitoba Institute of Agrologists can help. Executive director Jim Weir says information about registered agrologists in Manitoba is available on the MIA website at www.mia.mb.ca or by contacting the office directly at (204) 275-3721. MIA only provides information and does not make recommendations.

A word about terminology – agrology and agronomy are related but not interchangeable. Agrology covers all professional regulated practices in agriculture and the environment. Agronomy deals solely with crops and soil science. An agronomist registered with MIA is legally accountable and licensed to give agronomic advice in Manitoba.)

Tone also suggests phoning around and checking with other farmers to see who's available in the area. Then, when you've selected someone to meet with,


treat it as a job interview. Inquire about their training and experience, especially with the crops you grow. Assess the person's strengths and weaknesses. Ask for references. Talk to other farmers about their experiences with this person.

Credentials are also important to establish assurance and credibility. That's something farmers should ask someone they intend to hire: what's your designation?

As members of a regulated profession, agrologists have a PAG or TechAg designation through their provincial governing body. Podolsky emphasizes that this designation is an important component of her job, "It's my responsibility and obligation to ensure that I am presenting information in the best interests of our members, soybean and pulse crop farmers. I need to consider the source of information, accuracy and relevancy and share this with our growers to improve their profitability."

Another designation worth inquiring about is Certified Crop Advisor (CCA). Originating in the United States, CCA is a voluntary program for crop advisors that establishes standards and enhances professionalism through continuing education. It's another credential used to provide backing for technical training and expertise.

Most important, says Tone, make sure you feel comfortable with this person. After all, you're entering into a professional relationship based on trust and ethical responsibility. Ask yourself: Can I work with this person? Is he or she my type? Or should I look for someone else?

Payment for services can vary but it is often based on a per-acre rate. Some agrologists may charge a basic fee and then add a certain number of dollars per acre on top of that. Others may charge a lower fee up front but require more for extra services. These are all things to establish in advance. 



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Food industries are the biggest purchasers of raw agricultural materials. In order to rely on a constant, increasing

and safe supply of these agricultural materials, the industry recognized that the raw products must be grown in a sustainable manner. In 2002 Nestlé, Unilever and Danone created the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI) Platform, a non-profit organization whose mandate is to facilitate knowledge and initiatives to support the development and implementation of sustainable agriculture practices involving food chain stakeholders.

SAI Platform today engages over 50 members, who actively share a similar view on sustainable agriculture. The efficient production of safe, high-quality agricultural products in a way that protects and improves the natural environment, the social and economic conditions of farmers, their employees and local communities, and safeguards the health and welfare of all farmed species, is the basis of sustainable agriculture. The members of SAI are primarily food companies but affiliate memberships are available to attract other groups of the supply chain. Currently, these affiliate members represent sustainable agriculture in beef and dairy production in Europe, United States, and New Zealand. The creation of the affiliate membership provides an opportunity to engage in discussions with the food companies, however, SAI has not extended this to other supply chain companies, i.e., fertilizer companies.

SAI Platform continues to focus much of its efforts on being a central body around which its members can collaborate to advance the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices in a non-competitive manner. Many companies see this as a means of reducing costs by not duplicating efforts. The two main areas of activity for SAI Platform are: building capacity on sustainable agriculture, and communicating about sustainable

agriculture. There are a number of working groups at SAI including arable and vegetable crops, beef, coffee, dairy, fruit and water.

A major project being coordinated by the SAI Platform is the Farmer Self Assessment (FSA). This has been developed as a qualitative sustainability assessment tool for SAI Platform members. The FSA is meant to standardize the questionnaires and other tools currently being used to assess sustainability on farms. Many companies and sustainability schemes are now using qualitative assessments as a core component of their sustainability platform, including Unilever, Walmart, and Roundtable for Responsible Soybeans. Concerns have often been voiced for the preference of quantitative assessments such as sustainability calculators and other metric tools. These tools provide farmers with the opportunity to innovate to achieve a goal, while qualitative assessments provide less flexibility.


Although qualitative assessments are not preferred, many companies are currently and will continue to use these as part of their sustainable sourcing strategy. The advantage of the FSA is that SAI is attempting to develop a template that all companies can use, so that farmers and others in the agriculture industry won't have to deal with different questionnaires coming from different companies.

The Sustainability Performance Assessment (SPA) is another significant SAI Platform project which has the aim of arriving at more uniform criteria for measuring and reporting on-farm sustainability. The SPA represents the next step of assessing on-farm sustainability, where quantitative measurements are used. The SPA is meant to provide guidelines for the sustainability tool, so that metrics are developed which comply with the expectations of SAI Platform's members.

The Sustainability Performance Assessment has developed guidelines to measure:

1. Climate change and energy
2. Pesticides

3. Soil quality
4. Water quantity
5. Nutrients
6. Biodiversity
7. Land use
8. Animal welfare (dairy only)

SAI held its General Assembly meeting in Seville, Spain April 1–3 and was attended by Denis Tremorin from Pulse Canada, Ernie Sirski, director with Manitoba Pulse Growers Association along with representatives from food manufacturers, food service companies, agricultural cooperatives, brewers, and agricultural associations. Pulse Canada has been a member of the SAI Platform since 2013, and is a member of the Arable and Vegetable Crops Working Group. 



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LIFE IS GOOD!

Mike Street

*Manitoba Agricultural
Services Corporation*

Starting with the 2013 crop year, the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) extended AgriInsurance coverage regions for dry edible beans, grain corn, open pollinated corn, lentils, soybeans and sunflowers. New 'Insurance Test Areas' (ITAs) were established that extend coverage for these crops to all of agro Manitoba, where previously insurance coverage had been limited to designated insurance areas.

MASC now has one year of experience from growers in the ITAs, and though this is valuable data, unwarranted conclusions should be avoided, particularly when so many yield records were broken in 2013 across Manitoba.

To accommodate the historically riskier conditions in these areas, coverage in the ITA was initially set at 80 percent of the lowest coverage in the existing insurance area for each crop. The seeding deadline for an ITA is the earliest seeding deadline established for that crop, with no extended seeding period. The relative premium rate charged in the ITAs was also the highest of all insurance areas.

"Soybeans and grain corn showed significant uptake in ITA acres in the first year," says Doug Wilcox, Manager of Research Administration for MASC. "Both saw a large percentage of first-time growers, who wouldn't otherwise have had the opportunity to insure soybeans or grain corn."

For both soybeans and grain corn, producers tended to select early maturing varieties in the ITAs, with seeding dates for both crops not out-of-line with the dates that corresponding crops were seeded in existing insurance areas.

Soybeans had the largest uptake, with nearly 21,000 acres grown in the new ITA (2.1% of Manitoba's total soybean acres). Of the 123 producers who insured soybeans in the new ITA, 100 were 'first time' growers who had never before had the ability to insure soybeans. Soybean acres were widely spread throughout the ITAs.

Grain corn also saw significant interest from producers, with 2,110 acres grown in the ITA (less than one percent of Manitoba's total grain corn acres) by 23 producers. Of these, 13 producers were 'first time' growers of grain corn. Unlike soybeans, which had its largest ITA acreages grown around Duck Mountain Provincial Park, grain corn acres in the ITAs were concentrated near the borders of existing insurance areas.

Oil sunflowers and black beans were also grown in the ITA in 2013, though both saw very little uptake. The remainder of crops eligible for coverage in the ITAs, were not grown in these areas in 2013.

Harvest success in the ITAs followed closely to the nearby insurance areas for the corresponding crops. Grain corn was 80% harvested in the ITAs in fall 2013, as compared to 83% harvested in the nearby Grain Corn Areas 3 and 4. Province-wide, 94% of grain corn was harvested in fall 2013, with the majority of the remainder left to overwinter. Soybeans saw very few acres left unharvested in both the ITAs and across the province.

"No matter the growing area, it was a pretty good year for grain corn and soybeans across Manitoba," notes Wilcox. Corn yields in the ITAs averaged 95.8 bushels per acre – 76% of the provincial average, and 95% of the combined averages from nearby Grain Corn Areas 3 and 4. Soybeans in the ITAs average 32.3 bushels per acre – 83% of the provincial average, and 92%

of the yield average of nearby Soybean Area 3.


Overall, the yields of both grain corn and soybeans exceeded the 10-year assigned averages for the ITA and across Manitoba. Wilcox explains, "The soybean harvest from across Manitoba was 140% of what was expected, and was 160% of what was expected in the ITAs." Likewise, the grain corn harvest in all Manitoba was 160% of the 10-year assigned average, but was 220% of the 10-year average in the ITAs.

MASC also analyzed the Corn Heat Unit (CHU) ratings of varieties grown in the ITAs and insurance areas. Grain corn producers in the ITAs tended to grow lower CHU varieties than those in Grain Corn Areas 3 and 4, while soybean producers in the ITAs mostly grew CHU varieties similar to those in Soybean Area 3.

Losses in 2013 were low across Manitoba, mainly due to bumper crop yields. At the time of writing, soybeans are the only crop with ITA acres that had 2013 indemnities to date. Results from overwinter acres of grain corn have yet to be finalized.

Though yields were good across the province, producers in the ITAs made more claims than in other parts of Manitoba. Soybean growers in the ITAs represented 5% of all soybean growers, but were responsible for 18% of claims. Likewise, coverage on soybean acres in the ITA represented 1% of all coverage in Manitoba, but amounted to 4% of losses province-wide.

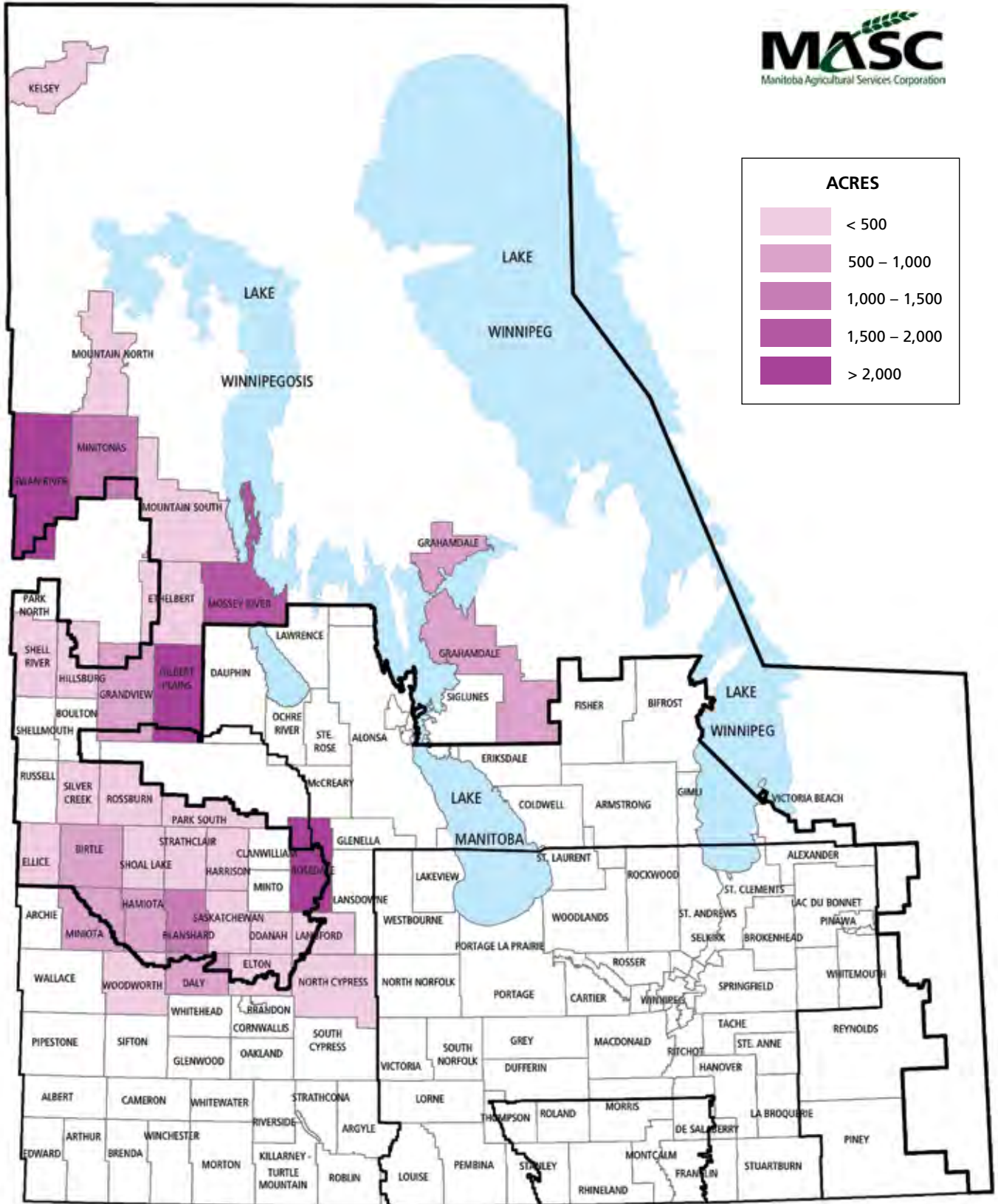
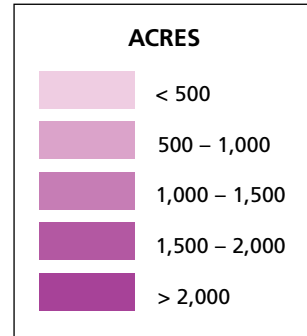
This information will surely influence the ITA policy direction to be taken by MASC beyond the 2014 crop year, but no decisions will be made in the short term. As Wilcox explains, "2013 was a great year for yields in Manitoba, and we'd like to see a few more years of data before making any major decisions related to the ITA."

The new ITAs were implemented in 2013 on a trial basis, and one year of results is not enough for decision making. MASC plans to continue providing AgriInsurance coverage in the ITAs on a trial basis for the foreseeable future to evaluate its feasibility over the long term. 



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

SOYBEAN ITA INSURED ACRES – 2013 (BY RM)



Created by: Janos Boda March of 2014



CANADIAN POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS TAKE ON THE TOUGHEST CRITICS – KIDS!

This spring, more than 25 teams of students enrolled in food science, culinary arts, business and even film battled it out by developing new, innovative pulse food products. At stake, the top prize in the 2014 MISSION:IMPULSEIBLE competition!

MISSION:IMPULSEIBLE is a food development competition created in 2009 by Pulse Canada as a way to get university and college students interested in using pulses and pulse ingredients in the development of new food products.

This year student teams from coast to coast developed innovative, tasty and marketable food products containing whole pulses (peas, beans, lentils and/or chickpeas) and pulse ingredients such as flours and fractions. The 2014 competition included a new twist where teams were asked to develop a product for the toughest of critics – KIDS!

“What students learn from their experience with MISSION:IMPULSEIBLE can be taken with them throughout their careers. The products developed during the competitions may also

inspire food companies to take a different look at pulses in food product applications,” says Christine Farkas, Manager of Food Product & Culinary Innovation with Pulse Canada.

Some products coming out of the University of Manitoba and Red River College included Star Power Cookies, a cookie sandwich containing chickpea flour and pea fibre, and Sweet Pea Cakes, a jelly biscuit made with whole peas. Other culinary creations that judges sampled this year included pea butter cups, cake pops, pulse pizza pockets and much more!

Specific nutritional guidelines were set and each team was responsible for achieving outlined targets. Also new this year was the requirement that each team create a promotional video for their product which was shared on the MISSION:IMPULSEIBLE Facebook page and on YouTube. The videos help students gain additional exposure and a leg-up in the competition, as the number of “likes” and views were tracked and counted toward bonus marks for the teams. Videos from all of



Manitoba’s Sweet Pea Cakes and Star Power Cookie packaging

the 2104 competitors can be found on the Pulse Canada website (<http://www.pulsecanada.com/food-health/mission-impulseible>).

“This competition emphasizes both the creative and the entrepreneurial spirit of the students. The videos have certainly added an interesting challenge for competing teams. We’re blown away by the level of creativity that students have brought to this year’s competition. Half the battle is to have kids like their products – but the teams were all up to the challenge!” says Farkas.

Winning regional teams will compete at the national MISSION: IMPULSEIBLE event, held at the Pulse & Special Crops 2014 convention in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, July 6–8, 2014. 🍌

2013 INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT

Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED)

PRODUCERS WHO CONTRIBUTE PULSE CHECK-OFF dollars to Manitoba Pulse Growers Association (MPGA) are eligible to claim a federal tax credit through the Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) program. Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) 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 2013 tax year, 17.1% of the Manitoba pulse check-off qualifies for the SR&ED Investment Tax Credit. This percentage is significantly lower than in 2012 because effective January 1, 2013 the claim for SR&ED expenditures on third party payments was restricted to 80% of the cost to the payer. In previous years organizations were able to claim 100% of such payments.

Producers 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.

Please note – A farm producer may not claim investment tax credits (ITC’s) on any portion of check-off that has been refunded by the Manitoba Pulse Growers Association.

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/>.

MPGA PULSE CASH ADVANCE PROGRAM



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Soybeans • Dry Beans • Peas

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 2014/15 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 pre-production advance rates for this year:

White Beans	\$ 0.17 /pound
Great Northern Beans	\$ 0.19 /pound
Kidney Beans	\$ 0.24 /pound
Cranberry Beans	\$ 0.25 /pound
Pinto Beans	\$ 0.16 /pound
Other Coloured Beans	\$ 0.17 /pound
Peas	\$ 3.40 /bushel
Soybeans	\$ 6.86 /bushel
Faba Beans	\$ 0.06 /pound
Desi Chickpeas	\$ 0.11 /pound
Kabuli Chickpeas	\$ 0.135 /pound
Lentils	\$ 0.10 /pound
Corn (grain only)	\$ 2.15 /bushel
Confectionery Sunflowers	\$ 0.15 /pound
Oilseed Sunflowers	\$ 0.115 /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	\$ 60.00 /tonne
Honey	\$ 0.90 /pound

- 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.
- Pulse Crops are included in the Cash Advance program 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, 2015**. 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.

FINAL DEADLINE FOR PRE-PRODUCTION APPLICATIONS IS OCTOBER 31, 2014

Ernie Sirski, director with Manitoba Pulse Growers Association was invited to attend Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform's production tour and seminar in Seville, Spain April 1–3, 2014. This international seminar focused on water stewardship issues in agriculture with an emphasis on water use for irrigation, a critical global concern. The first day of the seminar focused on agricultural water issues in Spain and included a tour of a rice farm and a beef farm.

Water is a precious commodity and was the emphasis for the majority of the discussions. The numbers are staggering – 99% of the water used on the planet is for human consumption and of that 40% is in danger. Wetlands including aquifers, cover over 1.5 billion hectares but have decreased by 40% over the past 40 years and 70–80% of the water used from wetlands is for agricultural production. It's interesting to note that only 20% of agricultural land in the world is irrigated, the remaining 80% is dependent solely on rainfall.

Spain is the driest of the European Union (EU) countries but there is no physical shortage of water, only poor or ineffective application of the governance or regulation pertaining to water. It is believed that in the future, there will be two types of farmers: farmers who are paid by the state to be stewards of the environment; looking after wetlands, wildlife, ecosystems, for the good of the people. The other type will be the commercial farmers whose income will be derived from the market, and will supply the majority of the food

Denis Tremorin near the entrance to the pumping station on the Guadalquivir River.



View of the irrigation channel that provides water for irrigating rice in the Guadalquivir River basin.

consumed by consumers. The challenge will be how to allocate water between these systems.

RICE FARM TOUR


The rice tour was coordinated by Kellogg's, which procures some of its long-grain rice from the region. There are approximately 87,000 acres of rice grown in the Guadalquivir River basin, with all of the acres under irrigation. The reason rice is grown in this area is two-fold: the soil itself was originally swamp land, drained, and is naturally saline with the other reason being that the water used to irrigate comes from downriver and is saline as well. The only possible use for this estuary water is irrigating rice, which is relatively salt tolerant (unless the water is desalinated).

Rice production itself is not economically sustainable with average production of 9–10 tonnes/ha, and an average sale price of 300 Euros/tonne. The subsidies paid to farmers under CAP (common agricultural policy) are about 200 Euros/ha, which has made

rice production profitable. A condition of the subsidy is that an agrologist who monitors pest levels must recommend and provide permission to apply all pesticides. In other rice growing regions of Spain with more water resources, winter flooding is required in order to get a subsidy. This means that the fields are flooded when there is no crop to provide habitat for migratory birds as well as to keep salinity levels in the soil down.

The plots of land that were toured are quite large by EU standards, with some fields up to 100 ac, but the average farm is 30–35 ha (75–87 ac). Even with the need to laser level fields every one to two years due to the flood irrigation process, the use of conservation tillage is not adopted here. The fields are sprayed prior to seeding, then tilled, and planted. The area has a very strict policy regarding pesticide use in order to protect the nearby Donana National Park. Technicians monitor the rice plants throughout the growing


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A field being prepared for planting rice in the Guadalquivir River basin.

season and each agronomist looks after 600 ha (1500 ac). Almost all the rice is sold to a cleaning/processing facility nearby which then contracts the rice to Kellogg's for use in their cereals as it is of high quality and consistent in supply.

BEEF AND OLIVE FARM TOUR

The mixed farm was located on the outskirts of Donana National Park, near the Atlantic coast in southwest Spain. Currently, the farm has 300 cows but has a desire to expand to 900 cows. The pastures are hilly, gravelly, and lack an abundance of grass, leading to a stocking rate of 3 ha per cow. Feed supplements are used and include olive tree trimmings. Spanish beef are a cross-breed of Charolais/Simmental/Retinto – a native Spanish breed. This cross produces an animal with growth potential along with the ability to handle the local conditions.

The other part of the farm was the olive trees, which account for a significant amount of the acres. Olive trees under irrigation produce 140 kg/ha, non-irrigated olives produce 40 kg/ha. The non-irrigated olives are further away from the water source, and are grown on poorer soil. This farm employs 30 full-time people and up to 300 people during peak periods such as olive harvest.

OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

The conference itself was centred on European production and procurement but there were participants from many parts of the world and they were genuinely interested in the process. Although the conference itself was centred in the Seville, Spain area, it was used as an example of the issues and challenges involving agriculture.

The concept of water management is a global issue, with some countries being net exporters of water through the agricultural products they export, while some are net importers through the food they import.

There was a real benefit of being a farmer at the event. The other attendees were genuinely interested in a producer's perspective. The one-on-one conversations with other participants were productive in the sense that the food companies are interested in knowing whether producers would take part in the Farmers Self Assessment.

Although this conference was largely EU focused, the global implications

are clear. As producers of agricultural products, we will have to be aware of the requirements of the procurement companies if we want to be included in the value chain. Farmers need to be part of the discussion that takes place in events such as these conferences since what happens in Europe will eventually happen in North America. While we may not be able to set the standards of sustainable production, we may be able to influence the guidelines to ensure the economic well-being of our farms and those of the people we represent. 🌱

Soybean and Dry Bean Surveys Being Launched in Summer 2014

Two new surveys will be initiated by Manitoba Pulse Growers Association beginning in August 2014.

1 The first will be a **Soybean Field Survey** that will focus on surveying soybean fields throughout the Red River Valley for disease incidence and volunteer canola density. The survey will take place in late July/early August and will characterize the incidence of important soybean stem diseases that may otherwise go undetected. An assessment of volunteer canola and soybean aphids will also be made. Field surveys provide valuable information on the diseases present and their relative severity in one particular growing season. Pest patterns shift from year to year and it is useful to monitor this. The information will be available to growers and industry to recognize potential problems and develop priorities for new practices and product development.

2 The second survey will be a **Dry Bean Grower Survey** that will be distributed to all dry bean growers in Manitoba in fall 2014. The purpose of this survey is to characterize cropping practices among dry bean growers including seeding and fertility rates, pesticide use and major weed challenges. Understanding patterns in cropping practices will enable us to develop guidelines for optimum production and to guide research priorities. Again, this information will be made available to growers and industry. We hope you will take the time to participate in the survey.

We plan to conduct these surveys on an annual basis and start a database of production practices and pest problems for soybean and pulse crops in Manitoba.

SOYBEAN INSECT AND DISEASE SCOUTING CALENDAR

GROWTH STAGES

MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Emergence		R-1/R-2	R-5/R-6		
	Vegetative		R-3/R-4	R-7/R-8	

INSECTS

MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Seedcorn maggot					
Cutworms					
Wireworms					
	Grasshoppers				
	Soybean aphids				
	Twospotted spider mites				
	Green cloverworm & other caterpillars				

DISEASES

MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Seedling diseases					
	Phytophthora root rot				
	Rhizoctonia root rot				
	Fusarium wilt				
	Leaf spots (Septoria, Cercospora, Frogeye)				
	Bacterial blight				
	Virus diseases on foliage				
	Downy mildew				
	White mould				
	Stem canker/pod and stem blight				
	Soybean cyst nematode				
	Soybean rust				

Potential Impact on Soybean Production and Quality in Manitoba



High



Medium



Low



Not in MB yet

Aaron Glenn, *Research Scientist
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*
in collaboration with

**R. Mohr, B. Irvine, AAFC; C. Linde,
CMCDC; P. Halibicki, R. Burak, PESAI;
J. Kostuik, PCDF; S. Chalmers, WADO**

The continued development of early-maturing soybean varieties has allowed for a significant expansion of soybean acreage in Manitoba over recent years. With soybean being a “heat-loving” and short-day plant, growth and reproductive maturity are related to both growing season temperatures and photoperiod. A greater accumulation of crop heat units (CHU) and shortening days (more importantly longer nights) as the growing season progresses are associated with rates of development and maturation. Until recently in Canada, company CHU estimates have been used extensively to rate the suitability of early-maturing soybean cultivars for different locations, which have been inconsistent when comparing the growth

and maturity of the same varieties grown in eastern regions (Ontario and Quebec) vs. when they are grown in the west (Manitoba and Saskatchewan). In the United States, a maturity group rating system is used that is based on the photoperiod sensitivity of different early-maturing cultivars, with those in the 0, 00, and 000 maturity groups being best adapted to northern latitudes. With the expansion of soybean acreage into cooler, northern regions; researchers, seed distributors and producers have found that many of the early-maturing varieties tested will reach physiological maturity with respectable yields at much lower CHU than suggested by breeders and companies. This has resulted in questions arising as to the role that photoperiod response in early-maturing varieties may be playing at higher latitude growing regions such as on the Canadian Prairies. There has recently been a shift by some seed companies to abandon CHU ratings and switch to using the U.S. system of

maturity ratings, while most distributors in western Canada now include both the CHU rating and relative maturity group.

We conducted field experiments evaluating the growth and agronomic performance of three early-maturing soybean varieties at eight locations in southern Manitoba over the growing seasons of 2011, 2012, and 2013. The three varieties grown had CHU ratings of 2325, 2475, and 2525, and maturity groupings of 00.1, 00.7 and 0.0, respectively. The sites selected spanned over 2° of latitude (Morden to Roblin) and have a naturally increasing photoperiod from south to north. For example, while daylight shortens to less than 16 hours by June 27 at Morden, it does not until July 13 at Roblin, 16 days later. The difference in the photoperiod between the two locations narrows as the autumnal equinox approaches, as days shorten more quickly at the higher latitude location, Roblin, than at Morden. This latitudinal gradient

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Roblin – August 2013



Brandon – September 2013


and detailed growth stage observations made at Morden, Brandon and Roblin during the 2011, 2012, and 2013 growing seasons were used to investigate the relative importance that time (days after emergence), CHU and photoperiod played in determining rate of development for the three varieties.

The number of days after emergence to reach various reproductive stages (flowering to physiological maturity) was not significantly different between the three locations for the two varieties that had lower CHU ratings and were from the 00 maturity group. However, for the variety with the highest CHU rating and 0 maturity grouping, the results indicated that the number of days after emergence to reach various reproductive stages was significantly shorter at Morden compared to Roblin. On the other hand, the accumulated CHU after emergence to reaching the reproductive stages for the three varieties was found to be higher at Morden than at Brandon or Roblin. At first glance, these results from the sites across 2° of latitude in Manitoba

suggest that the first two varieties (00 maturity group) were relatively insensitive to photoperiod, while the third variety (0 maturity group) likely was sensitive. In northern growing regions, where day lengths are longer, soybean varieties that are photoperiod insensitive or 'day-neutral' are beneficial for early maturity. If a soybean cultivar is 'day-neutral', the number of days to reach various reproductive stages will be similar, regardless of day length. This was found with cultivar 1 and 2 in the current study.

However, the degree of photosensitivity of the three varieties is hard to disentangle from days after planting (or emergence) or CHU at any of the locations given the short growing season, short window of optimum planting conditions, and the correlation between time, accumulating CHU, and photoperiod. For example, although it was found that one of the varieties (0 maturity group) took longer to mature at Roblin than Morden it is possible that this was at least partly due to the

genetic response to the lower rate of CHU accumulation at Roblin, not just a delay due to a different photoperiod. A more carefully controlled experiment where only photoperiod is manipulated with artificial lighting at one site would be required to sort out the impact on maturity for the later variety more clearly.

Results of the current study also provided some information regarding the impacts of growing season agrometeorological conditions and the timing of harvest on soybean yield and quality. For example, significant positive relationships were found between total precipitation and seed protein content at harvest for all three varieties. Harvesting before versus after the first killing frost of the year did not have a significant effect on yield, thousand seed weight, test weight or percent protein for any of the three varieties studied, but the oil content of soybeans harvested before the first fall frost was 1 to 1.5% higher than that of soybeans harvested after frost. Other data from the study showed that it is possible to achieve reasonable yields with adequate seed quality under conditions of apparently sub-optimal cumulative CHU, which confirms previous and parallel findings by producers, seed companies and extension agents in the region. Our results further strengthen and validate the recent moves away from utilizing CHU towards using maturity groupings to rate the suitability of different varieties for non-traditional growing areas. For example, while the CHU ratings were more similar for the second (2475) and third variety (2525) studied compared to the variety with the lowest CHU rating (2325), the relative rates of development and overall agronomic performance were better reflected by the maturity groupings or whether a variety was 00 or 0. Regional variety trials such as the Western Manitoba Soybean Adaptation Trial, as well as, the data published in Yield Manitoba provide an additional source of information regarding the relative performance of different varieties in non-traditional soybean production areas in Manitoba and may provide a useful reference for growers in these regions. 



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**Brandon
Research
Centre**

Q: What is the Brandon Research Centre and where is it located?

The Brandon Research Centre (BRC) is one of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's national network of science and technology centres and is located at 2701 Grand Valley Road in Brandon, Manitoba. The BRC lies in the Parkland region of the Canadian Prairies. It is one of the five original experimental farms established by the Government of Canada under the Experimental Farm Stations Act of 1886.

The BRC has a large collection of growth chambers and research greenhouses, as well as a half-section of land on a Newdale clay loam soil northwest of Brandon that is utilized for field research. These facilities provide significant capacity to conduct field and laboratory research and, using the knowledge acquired from this research, develop best management practices (BMP's) to ensure environmental sustainability in the portion of the prairie boreal ecosystem. It also operates a major cereal quality lab providing end-use quality testing for cereal breeders and research centres in western Canada.

Q: What type of research is conducted?

Research and development at the BRC and its satellite locations use expertise in agronomy, soil, water, organic and inorganic nutrients, invasive species, rangeland management, agroforestry, landscape-based resource management and cereal breeding to develop and evaluate crop production systems and practices that address the risks and opportunities in the agriculture and agri-food sector.

The BRC conducts research in two key areas: 1) Sustainable and Profitable Agri-systems and Agro-ecosystem Productivity and Health for the prairie climate, focusing on systems which are economically viable and environmentally sound and 2) Cereal (wheat, barley, and oat) Cultivar and Germplasm Enhancement.

Q: How does it contribute to crop production and profitability in Manitoba?

Advancements made by the BRC increase the profitability and sustainability of farming systems. Its research, development and technology transfer activities help to improve productivity, reduce economic risk, minimize the negative environmental impact of production practices and maintain access to international markets.

Q: How many staff and researchers are involved?

With the main facility and four satellite locations, there are approximately 105 full-time positions directly involved in research, development and technology transfer.

Q: How much land is used for this research?

The amount of land used for research in a given year varies according to the type of work and the crop rotation needed. The BRC has access to 890 hectares of land it owns and leases an additional 100 hectares.

Q: What type of research related to pulse and soybean production takes place there?

Most of the pulse work conducted by the BRC has been funded in part through the Manitoba Pulse Growers Association via direct applications by our staff for funding or through the Growing Forward 2 Pulse Cluster. In addition to growing advanced lines of dry pea in the AAFC breeding program, there are three main areas of research: 1) plant disease management, 2) impacts of pulses in crop rotations and 3) yield improvements in pulses by improving agronomic practices. It should be noted that crop disease management is always critical to yield, but some studies are clearly focused on disease management. One major area of disease management has been biological control of sclerotinia in dry bean. Root rot pathogens are currently being studied in dry bean, dry pea and soybean.

There has been considerable past work (involving dry pea) in different crop rotations evaluating nutrients, diseases and weeds. This has included work comparing the impacts of canola, dry pea and barley on malt barley yield and quality. There has been research on using liquid inoculant in the seed row compared with seed and granular systems. There have been two separate trials on the impact of various legumes (including dry pea, lentil, chickpea, faba bean, and soybean) on yield and quality of cereal grains. Dry pea has been part of trials on "pesticide-free" production as well as organic production. Dry pea was also included in a large trial on the impact of reducing pesticides using warm-season crops and forages.

There have been numerous agronomic trials on pulse crop production options. In dry pea, there have been intercropping trials with Clearfield™ canola and several dry pea cultivars. More recent studies have included a multi-site trial, conducted in collaboration with Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (MAFRD), to

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determine the optimal row spacing and seeding rate of soybean and the impact of latitude and year on the relative maturity of soybean cultivars. There are some growth chamber trials underway to evaluate cold tolerance in soybean. A manuscript currently under review determined the impact of two-, three- and four-year rotations over a 14-year period on the yield of soybean (soybean had not been in the rotation). Trials on cold tolerance and moisture management of soybean are being started in 2014. More information about these studies can be found on the AAFC website (www.agr.gc.ca) under the *publications* section, or by contacting the study authors.

Q: What is unique about the Brandon Research Centre?


One unique feature of the BRC is the broad range of AAFC expertise offered by professional staff with focus on crop production and environmental impacts of crop production. This diversity in expertise provides significant benefit

in the ability to develop strong multi-faceted collaborations and team approaches to undertaking research, development and technology transfer.

Q: What historical changes or major advancements have taken place?

Over the last 25 years, there have been major changes in cropping technology. The BRC has incorporated many of the changes into its cropping systems research, which includes pulses to a greater extent than in the previous quarter century. These changes include – but are not limited to – increases in pest control products, direct seeding and the rise of canola and pulses acres grown in Canada. The BRC itself has undergone many changes, with a new main building being opened in 1992 followed by a new shop and agronomy building in 1995.

Q: Where is the crop research farm located? Can farmers visit the research station?

The main facility is located at 2701 Grand Valley Road in Brandon and Phillips' Farm, the crop research site with a half-section of land dedicated to field crop research is located northwest of Brandon, near Forest, Manitoba. The locations of the four satellite sites are: the Cereal Quality Lab in Winnipeg, two sites associated with the Canada-Manitoba-Crop Diversification Centre (Carberry and Portage la Prairie), and the Development and Knowledge and Technology Transfer group in Winnipeg. Certain research associations have annual field tours and many scientists talk with producers on a one-on-one basis or in groups. In addition, summer field days at the BRC's Canada-Manitoba Crop Diversification Centres (Carberry and Portage la Prairie) are held on an annual basis. 

MPGA will be hosting their first annual field tour of soybean and pulse research at the BRC on Thursday, July 31, 2014!

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2014 APPROVED RESEARCH FUNDING

RESEARCHER	PROJECT	FUNDING
ON-FARM NETWORK		
U of M – Lawley	Soybean residue management	\$83,950.00
Tone Ag – Tone	Evaluating effect of foliar fungicides on soybean yield and maturity	\$36,750.00
Tone Ag – Tone	Comparing liquid vs. liquid + granular inoculant on soybean yield	\$32,550.00
Tone Ag – Tone	The effect of lower seeding rates on soybean yields – eastern Manitoba	\$32,550.00
Tone Ag – Tone	The effect of lower seeding rates on soybean yields – western Manitoba	\$25,000.00
Agri Skills – VanKoughnet	Navy and pinto bean direct harvest trial	\$55,000.00
Agri Skills – VanKoughnet	Soybean seeding date trial	\$18,000.00
Agri Skills – VanKoughnet	Soybean foliar nutrient trial	\$16,000.00
Agri Skills – VanKoughnet	Pinto bean fungicide trial	\$16,000.00
MPGA – Western	Soybean row spacing and plant population trial in western Manitoba	\$6,200.00
SOYBEAN – AGRONOMY		
U of M – Flaten	Phosphorus fertilization beneficial management practices in soybeans in Manitoba	\$96,980.00
U of M – Lawley	Soybean crop rotation benefits for Manitoba farmers	\$59,200.00
U of M – Tenuta	Manitoba soybean cyst nematode survey 2014	\$46,000.00
U of M – Tenuta	Soybeans for improved soil health	\$40,280.00
U of M – Daayf	Alternatives to reduce root rot in soybean and other pulses	\$35,000.00
AAFC – Mohr	Effect of soil temperature at different planting dates and residue management on soybean	\$32,100.00
AAFC – Mohr	Agronomic management of soybean in Manitoba	\$30,475.00
AAFC – Mohr	Enhancing Manitoba soybean yield and quality under sub-optimal conditions	\$27,083.00
U of M – Gulden	Volunteer canola in soybean production	\$20,000.00
CFCRA – Cober	Short-season soybean improvement and very short-season herbicide tolerant soybean development	\$18,000.00
MPGA	2014 soybean variety trials	\$8,000.00
U of M – Entz	Research and technical support for on-farm transition to organic soybean production	\$6,000.00
AAFC – Larney	Comparison of dry bean and soybean for agronomic traits, inputs, diseases and nitrogen-fixing benefits to following crops, water use and harvest losses	\$3,000.00
U of M – Costamagna	Soybean aphid control by natural enemies in Manitoba	\$1,325.00
SOYBEAN – PATHOLOGY AND BREEDING		
AAFC – McLaren	Soybean root rot: prevalence, incidence and virulence of Phytophthora root rot of soybean in Manitoba soybean fields	\$60,000.00
AAFC – McLaren	Identification of the pathogens associated with root rot of soybean	\$8,000.00
AAFC – Hou, Cober	Evaluation of soybean breeding lines for iron deficiency resistance	\$8,000.00
GFO – Moran	Virulence of Phytophthora sojae and soybean resistance to Phytophthora root rot	\$5,750.00
DRY BEAN – AGRONOMY		
U of M – Tenuta	Identification and significance of plant parasitic nematodes of pulse crops and soybean	\$36,500.00
U of M – Ayele	Mitigating the deleterious effects of above normal soil moisture on the productivity of pulse crops through seed treatment	\$30,000.00
AAFC – Marsolais	Developing herbicide tolerance in dry beans	\$10,000.00
MCVET	Manitoba Crop Variety Evaluation Trials for dry beans, peas, lentils and faba beans	\$7,000.00
U of Guelph – Gillard	Dry bean agronomy and pest management studies	\$5,200.00
U of Guelph – Gillard	Dry bean nitrogen management	\$4,800.00
DRY BEAN – PATHOLOGY AND BREEDING		
AAFC – Hou	Development of dry bean cultivars/germplasm with high yield, disease resistance and marketable seed quality for production in Manitoba	\$65,000.00
AAFC – Conner	Identify advanced dry bean breeding lines or coop entries with resistance to common bacterial blight, anthracnose and white mould. Develop new methods for controlling halo blight in dry beans.	\$15,000.00

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RESEARCHER	PROJECT	FUNDING
AAFC – Hou	Genetic improvement of protein quality in edible beans with adaptation to Manitoba	\$12,000.00
CGC – Wang	Evaluation of nutritional, physio-chemical and cooking quality traits in Manitoba-grown dry beans for breeding use	
AAFC – Conner	Evaluation of root rot resistance in dry bean cultivars	\$12,000.00
RRC – McRae	Recipe development for edible beans	\$11,960.00
AAFC – Yu	Development of molecular markers linked to disease resistance of edible beans to common bacterial blight and anthracnose	\$10,000.00
AAFC – McLaren	Root rot pathogens of dry bean; identification, distribution and risk assessment in Manitoba	\$9,000.00
FIELD PEA – AGRONOMY AND BREEDING		
MPGA – Ag Quest	Field pea multi-input agronomy trial	\$8,010.00
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
SOY AND PULSE – NUTRITION, UTILIZATION AND VALUE-ADDED		
U of M – Arntfield	Processing of soybean to improve palatability/digestibility of soy-based foods	\$23,000.00
FDC – Qi	Development of pulse-based gluten-free shelf stable ready-to-eat meal using retort technology	\$23,000.00
FDC – Kehler	Pea fibre utilization in ground poultry, beef and or/pork	\$24,500.00
FDC – Nivet	Extension of shelf life on refrigerated soy spread and utilization of soy in non-dairy yogurt	\$21,400.00
CCARM – Zahradka	Characterization of bioactive compound absorption and excretion, and relationship to improvements in cardiovascular function	\$20,000.00
U of M – Carlberg	Can increasing whole and fractioned yellow pea flour consumption in Canada reduce healthcare expenditures?	\$20,000.00
Cigi – Malcolmson	Enhancing world market for Canadian pulses through secondary processing and value-added research	\$10,000.00
U of M – Aluko	Use of organic pulses in an iron replacement supplement	
U of W – Holloway	Joining the green revolution: value-added fermentations of peas and beans	\$16,800.00
Pulse Canada	Expanding a health claim for lentils and post prandial glycaemia to include beans, peas and chickpeas	\$2,000.00
MSTVU – Luhovvy	The development and functional characterization of bean flour-based snack product	\$5,880.00
RESERVES FOR FUTURE USE		
MPGA	Soybean reserves for future funding	\$72,457.00
MPGA	Pea reserves for future funding	\$78,790.00
MPGA	Dry edible bean reserves for future use	\$101,510.00
TOTAL		\$1,500,000.00

AAFC – Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	CFCRA – Canadian Field Crops Research Alliance	MSTVU – Mount Saint Vincent University
Cigi – Canadian International Grains Institute	FDC – Food Development Centre	RRC – Red River College
CCARM – Canadian Centre for Agri-Food Research in Health and Medicine	GFO – Grain Farmers of Ontario	U of M – University of Manitoba
	MPGA – Manitoba Pulse Growers Association	U of W – University of Winnipeg



Brent VanKoughnet

Manitoba Wheat and Barley Association

The new Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association (MWBGA) is up and operating to serve the research and market development interest of Manitoba wheat and barley producers.

As of January 1, 2014, the organization obtained regulatory authority to collect a refundable check-off from all sales of spring wheat and barley in Manitoba, the check-off officially began February 1, 2014.

Manitoba now joins Alberta and Saskatchewan in making the transition to producer-led organizations in each province collecting and directing research and market development funds for cereals. Manitoba has chosen to combine wheat and barley in the same organization with one board of directors.

“We believe that producers want wheat and barley to be profitable crop choices on their farms,” says board chair Don Dewar. “It is important to judiciously invest growers check-off dollars in research and market development initiatives that do just that, increase grower profitability. Wheat and barley are important crops in Manitoba both as a cash crop and as part of a multi-year rotation.”

Although there may be a few Manitoba-specific research concerns,


it is recognized that any major research or market development project will require collaboration across the prairie provinces to be effective and efficient. Given the relative acres of wheat and barley in Manitoba as compared to Saskatchewan and Alberta, it is especially important to create coordinated working relationships that increase capabilities and reduce overlap. The Manitoba organization has already begun to contribute and lead on issues of importance to Manitoba and prairie growers.

In particular, the Manitoba organization recognizes the importance of variety development as a driver of innovation and market competitiveness. We have been served very well in the past by our public breeding system, yet it will be a challenge to sustain our Canadian competitive advantages as other international competitors are investing increasingly more dollars in their variety development systems. We may be on the verge of some substantial changes in variety development in Canada. Considering producers have already invested significantly in the development costs of public varieties, it will be crucial for producer organizations like MWBGA to anticipate and respond to market and regulatory changes. We will need to show leadership with well developed and supported solutions that will continue to serve producers’ long-term interests.

To this end, the MWBGA hosted a small gathering of selected farm leaders on April 10 to help solicit input and direction on the appropriate leadership role for the organization to prepare for a range of variety development scenarios. The meeting confirmed that variety development should be considered a priority issue and a number of strategic response strategies are now being developed.

“Operationally we have made every effort to operate lean and focused with as few overhead costs as possible,” says vice chair Fred Greig.

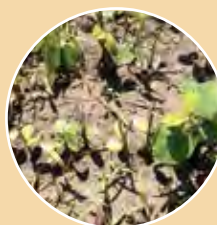
“We are pleased to have an administrative support agreement with the Manitoba Corn Growers and a technical support agreement with Agri Skills Inc. Those working agreements allow us to get up to speed quickly and efficiently on priority issues like variety development without the infrastructure and long-term overhead commitments of stand-alone offices and full-time staff,” says Greig. This is about making sure producer investment dollars go into projects that show results.

The MWBGA plans to hold its first AGM in conjunction with the next CropConnect Conference in February 2015. For more information about the Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers see the website mbwheatandbarley.ca or contact via email info@mbwheatandbarley.ca or telephone 204-750-2565. 

Soybean Scout ANSWERS



A – Group 4 herbicide injury (growth regulators). Symptoms of group 4 injury on soybean include abnormal growth such as stunted, cupped and crinkled leaves, twisting of stems and petioles, as well as elongated leaf veins. In this particular scenario, the injury is from Dicamba herbicide, and the obvious symptom seen in the image is parallel leaf venation and leaf curling. Group 4 herbicides are systemic and will affect the youngest growth first.



B – Group 2 herbicide injury (ALS inhibitors). Symptoms of group 2 injury on soybean include stunting, veins on the underside of leaves appear reddish or purple, yellowing and/or death of the growing point and leaf yellowing and distortion, depending on the active ingredient. In this particular scenario, the injury is from Simplicity herbicide (group 2 pyroxsulam). The obvious symptoms seen in this image are leaf yellowing and death of the growing point. Group 2 herbicides are systemic and will affect the youngest growth first.

Brian Clancey

Senior Market Analyst and Publisher

How many edible beans might be available from North American farmers became a little clearer with the release of Statistics Canada's seeding intentions estimates for 2014.

It is important to understand that intentions are not the same as what will actually be planted, with the result it is misguided to dismiss seeding intentions as wrong. The seeding intentions survey is the only chance farmers have to let markets know what they are actually thinking. This can be strikingly different than what companies think farmers have in mind for their land.

During the past five years, actual plantings ranged between 5% less and 22% higher than the seeding intentions for lentils; from 11% lower to 13% higher for peas; between 29% less and 64% higher for chickpeas; and from 24% lower to 18% higher than the seeding intentions for dry edible beans.

In western Canada, sensing how many pulses farmers will plant is complicated by the ongoing expansion of soybeans in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. For the sixth year in a row, Manitoba farmers intend to plant more soybeans than the previous year.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Crop Diagnostic School

July 8–11, and July 14–18. To register call 204 745-5663.

See page 35 for more details.

2014 Field Days

Thursday, July 31st – Brandon

Thursday, August 7th – Morden

See page 8 for more details.

Manitoba Open Farm Day

Sunday, September 14th

Great Tastes of Manitoba

Saturday, September 6th

6:30 pm – CTV TV Cable 5

Check our website regularly for updates

www.manitobapulse.ca

This year's intended area is 1.3 million acres, up from 1.05 million last year and 800,000 in 2012. Saskatchewan's farmers hope to seed 300,000 acres this year, up from 170,000 last year and 50,000 in 2012.

This year's expansion in soybean is not affecting other pulses. Farmers in Manitoba plan to increase in dry edible beans by 15,000 acres to 120,000 while leaving peas unchanged at 60,000 acres. Saskatchewan remains a marginal producer of dry edible beans, with the result all the expansion in pulse area is made up by lentils and peas. Land in each which could jump around 20% to 2.785 and 2.66 million acres respectively. Land in all pulses in Saskatchewan may jump from 4.715 to 5.545 million acres.

With their plan to only seed 120,000 acres of dry edible beans this year, Manitoba is giving up the top acreage spot to Ontario, which intends to seed 125,000 acres this year. Last year, Ontario grew just 90,000 acres of edible beans. Alberta is the third most important bean producing region in Canada, with farmers in that province intending to grow 48,000 acres this year, up from 46,000 last year.

Limited progress seeding pulses was reported in western Canada the last week of April. However, some market participants were already fretting about whether seeding of Canada's pulse crops would be more than half complete by the middle of May or late like last year. The later the crop, the greater the risk of adverse weather during harvest and/or an early frost.

Increased confidence that 2014 will experience an El Nino event has raised concerns about pulse and edible bean crops around the globe. A strong El Nino event could bring drought to Australia and Indonesia, and a weaker monsoon season on the Indian subcontinent. Western Canada might see a tendency for warmer and drier weather starting in the summer and possibly extending well into 2015. Everything depends on the length of the El Nino event and the quantity of heat added to the atmosphere.


If Canadian farmers stick with their plan to seed 293,000 acres of beans and

growers in the United States plant 1.686 million acres, combined area will be up 24% over last year at 1.979 million acres. If yields are at their recent five-year average, the combined harvest will be up 19% at 1.563 million metric tons.

Rising North American production comes at a moment of rising optimism about this year's prospective crops. At this time last year, Argentina's crop was being destroyed by drought. This year's crop is expected to be closer to normal, with large white bean production tripling from 32,000 to a forecast 94,000 metric tons; black beans jumping from 44,200 to a potential 135,000 metric tons; and all other classes more than doubling from 19,500 to 41,000 metric tons.

Argentina's white bean crop sets the upper price limit for white beans. Asking prices have been easing, with some market participants thinking that could accelerate. Part of the problem is that great northern bean exporters in Canada and the United States appear to have aggressively sold new crop beans. They took advantage of an initial unwillingness by Argentine exporters to sell to retain as much of the market share gained during the past year as possible. There is now a perception some great northern bean exporters have now pre-sold a significantly higher than normal percentage of new crop beans.

International black bean markets are also starting to trend lower. Brazil is one of the world's most important buyers. Importers there are expected to maximize direct purchases of field run beans from Argentine farmers. That lowers the competitive replacement cost for black beans from China and other origins. Unless Argentina or Brazil face unexpected problems, competition for available demand will only increase as the global harvest moves northward.

On balance, supply fundamentals should improve significantly in the coming marketing year, but worries about crops in other parts of the world, the risk of expanding drought in the United States and fears of a strong El Nino event will keep markets tense until it is able to start selling "the fact." 

MANITOBA PULSE BUYER LIST – MAY 2014

COMPANY	EDIBLE BEANS	FABA BEANS	LENTILS	PEAS	SOYBEANS	PHONE	LOCATION	CGC REGISTERED
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	Letellier, 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	✓
Farmer Direct Co-operative Ltd.	✓	✓	✓	✓		306-352+2444	Regina, SK	
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	✓
Kalshea Commodities Inc.				✓		204-737-2400	Altona, MB	✓
Kelley Bean Co. Inc.	✓					308-635-6438	Scottsbluff, NE	
Lansing Olam Canada Commodities ULC					✓	877-747-7599	Chatum, ON	✓
Legumex Walker	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	204-829-2326	Plum Coulee, 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	✓
Simpson Seeds			✓			306-693-2132	Moose Jaw, SK	✓
Southland Pulse				✓		306-634-8008	Estevan, SK	✓
Sunrich LLC					✓	507-446-5642	Hope, MN	
Thompsons Limited	✓		✓	✓		519-676-5411	Blenheim, ON	✓
Vanderveen Commodity Services					✓	204-745-6444	Carman, MB	✓
Viterra Inc.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Contact your local Viterra sales representative		✓
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.

Recipe Corner



Chickpea Hummus

Preparation time: 10 minutes / Cooking time: none / Serves 20 (600 g)

2 cups (500 mL) cooked chickpeas	3 tbsp (45 mL) canola oil
OR 1 – 19 oz can (540 mL) chickpeas, rinsed and drained	1/2 tsp (2 mL) ground cumin
1/3 cup (75 mL) tahini paste or peanut butter	1 tsp (5 mL) salt
1 garlic clove, minced	1/3 cup (125 mL) water
1/4 cup (50 mL) lemon juice	1/2 tsp (2 mL) hot pepper sauce

1. Place chickpeas in a blender or food processor with tahini paste (or peanut butter), garlic, lemon juice, oil, cumin and salt.
2. Purée, adding just enough water to make mixture creamy and smooth. Use more than 1/3 cup water if needed.
3. Add hot pepper sauce to your liking.
4. Serve in a bowl with pita cut into wedges.

Oatmeal-Berry Bars

Preparation time: 10 minutes / Baking time: 20 minutes / Makes 16 Squares

1 cup (250 ml) white bean flour*	1/4 tsp (1 mL) ground allspice
1 cup (250 mL) pure uncontaminated rolled oats**	1/4 tsp (1 mL) table salt
1/2 cup (125 mL) packed dark brown sugar	1/2 cup (125 mL/1 stick) unsalted butter or buttery spread, melted
1 1/2 tsp (7 mL) xanthan gum	2 tsp (10 mL) pure vanilla extract, divided
3/4 tsp (4 mL) cinnamon	2/3 cup (150 mL) berry preserves or berry jam

1. Place a rack in the middle of the oven. Preheat the oven to 350°F (180°C). Line an 8-inch square nonstick pan with foil that extends over the edges to make handles for easy removal. Grease the foil.
2. In a medium mixing bowl, whisk together the white bean flour, oats, sugar, xanthan gum, cinnamon, allspice and salt until thoroughly blended. Add the melted butter and 1 tsp (5 ml) of the vanilla and mix with a spatula until crumbly. Press 1 cup (250 ml) of this mixture firmly and evenly on the bottom of the pan.
3. Mix the remaining tsp of vanilla with the preserves and spread evenly on top. Sprinkle the remaining oat mixture over the preserves and pat firmly to make an even crust.
4. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until the top is lightly browned. Cool bars in pan for 10 minutes on a wire rack. Use the foil handles to lift the bars onto a cutting board. Cool completely before cutting.



* Gluten-free brand required if you want this recipe to be gluten-free.

** If you have celiac disease or gluten sensitivity check with your physician about eating pure, uncontaminated oats.



MANITOBA READY

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Thank you for being a part of this journey.

Novozymes greatly appreciates your past support and is excited to serve you moving forward. Our ag biologicals team is the same, but our name has changed to Monsanto BioAg. We will continue to respond to the ever-changing market demands, adjusting forecasts and production capacity to ensure all of your needs are met.

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For more details about Monsanto BioAg or any of our products, please contact your local Monsanto BioAg (*formerly Novozymes*) sales representative.