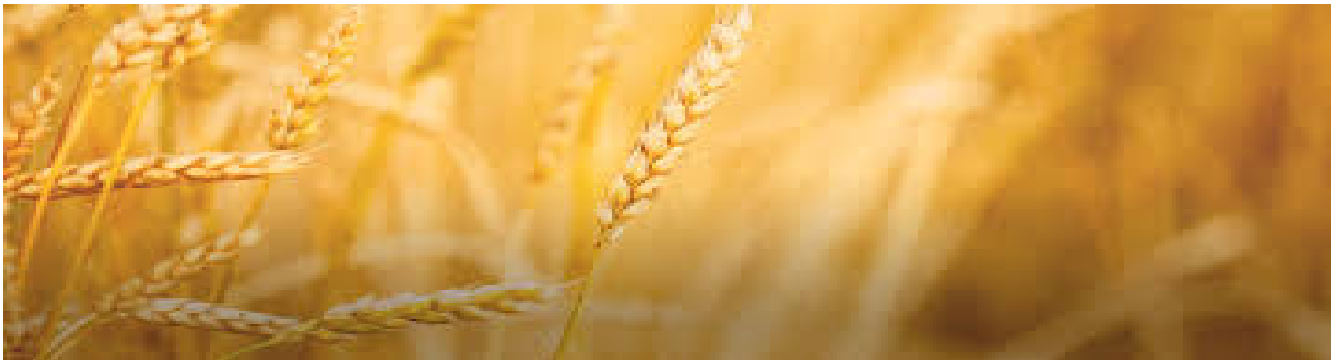


# ONTARIO SEED GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL MEETING REPORT



**Monday, March 18, 2024**  
**London ON**



# Choose Certified Seed

- High Quality Pure Seed
  - Marketing Power
  - Risk Management
- New Variety Development

**It's Your Guarantee!**



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## President's Report ... Andrew Dawson

Welcome to the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Ontario Seed Growers' Association – Broadening Our Horizons.

The OSGA board thanks you for taking the time to attend and be engaged in the activities of your association. We have the opportunity to enjoy fellowship throughout the day with our industry partners and fellow seed growers, to learn from one another and to recognize the significant achievements of some of our long standing seed grower members.

In 2023 there were 660 pedigreed seed growers in Ontario, that produced 169,773 acres of seed crops. That is an increase of approximately 1400 acres from 2022.

The past twelve months have seen the return to somewhat normal association business. We held a successful hybrid annual meeting in Guelph in January 2023 despite a winter blizzard. In June, Bayer CropScience hosted us at their research facility in Tavistock where we had interesting presentations, excellent plot tours and research demonstrations. If you have never been to an OSGA Grower Day, be sure to try to attend one in the future. They are held in a different part of the province each summer and continually bring forward new ideas.

Members of the board have been busy representing Ontario seed growers over the past year between the CSGA annual meeting in St. John's Newfoundland, Inter-provincial meetings in Saskatoon and provincial branch AGMs across Canada. Board members also participate regularly in committee and organization meetings with representation at the CFIA Seed Reg Modernization Task Teams, the Ontario Cereal Crops Committee, Ontario Pulse Crop Committee, Ontario Soybean and Canola Committee, Ontario Weed Committee, Ottawa Valley Farm Show, Farm and Food Care Ontario, and the Agricultural Adaptation Council. I want to thank all OSGA board members for your active involvement in the seed industry. Every director brings valuable questions, answers, input and experience to each meeting that we are asked to be a part of.

The sixth seed guide publication, SeedOntario, was published in January. An electronic copy is also available at [www.seedontario.ca](http://www.seedontario.ca). Providing a handy printed format of all the performance trial data, the seed guide also helps advertise seed retail operations and provides contacts for sources of seed by variety name and pedigreed seed class. The volunteer work put into the crop committees to manage the trials, collect the data and share it with us for printing is very much appreciated. Extra copies of SeedOntario can be ordered at [info@seedontario.ca](mailto:info@seedontario.ca).

Agricorp has been offering a pedigreed seed crop insurance program for a few years and the benefits of adding this coverage to your seed production fields provides an excellent risk management tool for your business. We encourage you to look into this offering if you have not already done so.

As our industry is ever changing, the CSGA's plans for revised membership categories that will broaden the association and welcome a cross section of stakeholders to join as members is circulating for feedback. Currently, the OSGA board has 3 industry voting positions, alongside 6 grower directors and 2 national directors. We support this proposed move by CSGA to welcome new members from the broader seed value chain into the organization. Stay tuned for more details.

May you enjoy a successful year ahead in 2024.



Ontario Seed Growers' Association  
2023 Annual Meeting Agenda  
March 18, 2024  
Queen Victoria Room 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
DoubleTree by Hilton, London ON  
Theme: "Broadening Our Horizons"



11:30 am Registration

12:00 noon Welcome – Andrew Dawson, President  
Grace  
LUNCHEON – Sponsored by: Bayer CropScience Inc.  
Awards Recognition of Members for Long Standing Service – Tim

Montague

Grain Farmers of Ontario Greetings

1:15 pm President's Report - Andrew Dawson

1:25 pm Canadian Seed Growers' Association  
- Dale Connell, President  
- Doug Miller, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer

2:15 pm Canadian Food Inspection Agency – Wendy Jahn, National Manager Seed Section CFIA

2:40 pm Minutes of the 2023 OSGA Annual Meeting – Colleen Acres, Manager  
OSGA Financial Statements 2022/23  
2023/2024 Projected Budget  
Appointment of Financial Review for 2023/2024

3:00 pm NUTRITION BREAK –  
Sponsored by: SeedTrakr / Rimmertech Partners



3:30 pm 'CSGA Learns' – Panel Discussion

4:00 pm Seeds Canada – Ellen Sparry, President

4:20 pm ASCIS Association Report – Lynnell Pomedli

4:25 pm Nominations Report – Shannon Bieman

4:30 pm Resolutions / Questions – Sarah Fretz

5:00 pm Adjournment

Additional Sponsors



Trade Show Participants



# ONTARIO SEED GROWERS' ASSOCIATION 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>OSGA EXECUTIVE</b>			
<b>Past President</b>	Shannon Bieman	38837 Belgrave Rd. Belgrave ON N0G 1E0 Email: sbieman@secan.com	519-496-6196
<b>President</b>	Andrew Dawson	205 McIlquham-Blair Rd. RR 1 Lanark ON K0G 1K0 Email: ajdawson@storm.ca	613-259-3157 613-390-1197 (cell)
<b>Vice President</b>	Tim Montague	984 Concession 6 Walpole RR 1 Jarvis ON N0A 1J0 Email: t.montague@huron.com	519-718-3059 519-482-8383 (fax) 519-955-3440 (cell)
<b>Secretary Manager</b>	Colleen Acres	6830 Belmeade Rd Osgoode ON K0A 2W0 Email: info@seedontario.ca	613-826-2330 (cell)
<b>OMAFRA Advisor</b> (non-voting member)	Deanna Nemeth	Email: deanna.nemeth@ontario.ca	519-827-6878
<b>OSGA MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROWERS</b>			
	Joe Hickson	600 River Rd. Lindsay ON K9V 4R4 Email: joe.midnightacres@gmail.com	705-878-8200 705-878-7999 (fax) 705-878-3012 (cell)
	Ian Sponagle	7386 9 <sup>th</sup> Line Thornton ON L0L 2N0 Email: ians@agri-turf.ca	705-424-1410 (bus) 705-424-3837 (fax) 705-333-3184 (cell)
	Reuben Stone	18374 Highway 17 Cobden ON K0J 1K0 Email: restone84@gmail.com	613-646-9737 613-281-2734 (cell)
	Peter Szentimrey	508 St. George Rd. RR 1 Branchton ON N0B 1L0 Email: peter@ssltd.ca	519-620-1100 519-620-9560 (fax) 519-635-2511 (cell)
	Andrew Dawson	See above	
	Tim Montague	See above	
<b>Directors at Large/ Industry: Non-Members</b>			
	Sarah Fretz	265 Katherine St. S. RR 2 West Montrose ON N0B 2V0 Email: sarah@cibit.com	519-664-3701 x 45 519-664-1235 (fax)
	Phil Nadalin	Guelph ON N1G 3L2 Email: phil.nadalin@bayer.com	226-979-0162 (cell)
	Craig Rickard	3059 Highway 2 Bowmanville ON L1C 6G1 Email: ceresmorefarmslimited@gmail.com	905-431-4484 (cell)
<b>CSGA MEMBERS REPRESENTING ONTARIO</b>			
<b>Canadian Seed Growers' Association</b>	Shannon Bieman	38837 Belgrave Rd. Belgrave ON N0G 1E0 Email: sbieman@secan.com	519-496-6196
	Carl Bolton	43722 Winthrop Rd, R.R.1 Dublin ON N0K 1E0 Email: carl.bolton@tcc.on.ca	519-525-6430
<b>National Contact</b>	Doug Miller	P.O. Box 8455 Ottawa ON K1G 3T1 Email: dmiller@seedgrowers.ca	613-236-0497 x228 613-236-7855 (fax)

<b>REPRESENTING INSTITUTIONS</b>			
Canadian Food Inspection Agency	Darrell Mueller	174 Stone Rd. W. Guelph ON N1G 4S9 Email: darrell.mueller@inspection.gc.ca	519-826-2817 519-837-9772 (fax)
Ontario Agricultural College	Rene Van Acker	OAC Dean, U of G Guelph ON N1G 2W1 Email: vanacker@uoguelph.ca	519-824-4120 x52285
Huron Research Station	Chris Gillard	Ridgetown College P.O. Box 400 Ridgetown ON N0P 2C0 Email: cgillard@ridgetownc.uoguelph.ca	519-674-1632 519-674-1600 (fax)
Winchester Agricultural Research Station	Holly Byker	Email: hbyker@uoguelph.ca	613-340-7625

## **2023 OSGA COMMITTEES**

<b>OSGA INTERNAL COMMITTEES</b>	
<b>Education and Publicity</b>	Andrew Dawson (chair), Sarah Fretz, Phil Nadalin, Craig Rickard Grower Education Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter Szentimrey</li> <li>• OSGA – Ian Sponagle</li> <li>• CSGA – Shannon Bieman</li> <li>• Chris Gillard, Ridgetown College</li> <li>• Bryan Stirling, University of Guelph</li> <li>• Istvan Rajcan, University of Guelph</li> </ul>
<b>Constitution and Bylaws/Resolutions</b>	Tim Montague (Chair), Sarah Fretz, Carl Bolton and Peter Szentimrey
<b>Market Liaison/ Crop Insurance</b>	Joe Hickson (Chair), Tim Montague and Peter Szentimrey
<b>Interbranch Communication Committee (CSGA)</b>	Andrew Dawson, Tim Montague, Colleen Acres

<b>OMAFRA RESEARCH COMMITTEES</b>	
<b>Ontario Cereal Committee</b>	Sarah Fretz (Chair), Peter Szentimrey
<b>Ontario Pulse Committee</b>	Reuben Stone (Chair), Ian Sponagle, Carl Bolton (representing CSGA)
<b>Ontario Soybean and Canola Committee</b>	Phil Nadalin (Chair), Craig Rickard, Peter Szentimrey

<b>OSGA STANDING COMMITTEES</b>	
<b>Farm and Food Care Ontario</b>	Joe Hickson
<b>Ottawa Valley Farm Show</b>	Reuben Stone (Chair), Andrew Dawson
<b>Ontario Weeds Committee</b>	Peter Szentimrey (Chair), Phil Nadalin (Alternate)



# ONTARIO SEED GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

**2022 Annual Meeting Minutes**

**January 26, 2023**

**Hampton Inn & Suites, Guelph**

**Theme – “The Dynamic\$ of Seed”**

## Welcome

President Andrew Dawson called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. Participants joining virtually were welcomed and encouraged to type any questions into the chat or to raise their hand to be unmuted so that all could be heard and included in the meeting. Andrew introduced and thanked the OSGA board members and all special guests and speakers that would be making presentations. He thanked exhibitors for participating and encouraged everyone to connect with the exhibitors during the breaks and over lunch. Andrew then gave the President's report.

## AgriCorp Report

Geoff Smith spoke regarding the Pedigreed seed crop insurance program that has been developed and provided some information on acreage covered in the first couple of years of introducing the program. Currently only spring and winter wheat and soybeans are covered. When asked about expansion to other cereal seed crops that is still under discussion.

## CFIA Report

Wendy Jahn, National Manager of Seed Section presented information about the Seed Regulatory Modernization consultations currently underway. Wendy reported that at a high level the SRM objectives are to update seed legislation to allow a regulatory tool of incorporating by reference to add flexibility to the Seed regulations. During the consultative process they hope to hear from stakeholders a determination for the appropriate role for government and have the regulatory proposal co-developed with farmers, seed industry and grain trade stakeholders involved in the development process. The SRM involves using task teams and that work is continuing with recommendations shared from each team to the general committee. The efforts of including the entire value chain in task teams and developing recommendations ensures that all interested groups are being consulted and have input into the changes that will ultimately be included into draft regulation. Prior to any regulations being re-drafted a second opportunity for input is shared via industry surveys to ensure all stakeholders and grass roots producers can review and provide comments. The next task teams to be populated include Imports/Exports, Information and Labelling and recommended participants for those task teams can be submitted to CFIA.

## CSGA Report

Andrew thanked Caroline Lafontaine for attending and providing the CSGA presentation. President Dale Connell was introduced and congratulated for his role on the National CSGA Board. Questions from the meeting attendees were answered.

## Seeds Canada Report

Ellen Sparry Seeds Canada President provided an update on activities of the Seeds Canada Board and committees and staffing. Ellen spoke to the VUA platform, discussed membership classes of the Seeds Canada Association and shared plans for member education via “Seed School 101”. Andrew thanked Ellen for the presentation and for her ongoing contributions in serving the Canadian seed industry domestically and internationally.



### ASCIS Update

Lynell Olson presented a pre-recorded video message on the work of the Accredited Seed Crop Inspection Service.

### Annual Meeting Minutes

Colleen Acres presented the highlights from the minutes found in the circulated OSGA Annual Report.

- Moved by J. Hickson Second by R. Stone to approve the minutes. CARRIED

### Financial Statements

The audited financial statements were reviewed and questions answered by Colleen.

- Moved by Tom Montague, Second by P. Szentimrey to approve the financial statements as circulated. CARRIED
- Moved by J. Hickson, Second by R. Stone to appoint Deborah Strickland to review the financial records for 2022-23. CARRIED

### OSGA Budget

Colleen presented the proposed OSGA budget for 2022-23. The acreage fee of \$0.40 makes up the bulk of the association revenue and since the OSGA's fiscal year runs October to September the acreage fee income is already a firm number in the budget as was received in November from the 2022 growing season. The board is developing a policy on investments, reviewing the acreage fee and will be recommending an increase for the 2024 growing season. As per the bylaws, communication out to members will be provided prior to the AGM next year. The 2022/23 budget showing a possible deficit of \$11,860 was presented and reviewed line by line with members.

- Moved by W. Hillgendaag, second by P. Nadalin to approve the OSGA budget as proposed. CARRIED

### Long Service Awards

Tim Montague OSGA Vice president introduced himself and thanked the CSGA staff for preparing certificates and the list of recipients for Long Service awards based on CSGA membership records. All members receiving awards were listed in the December OSGA newsletter and in the Annual Report. Tim announced the names and welcomed several recipients in attendance to come forward and receive their certificates. Those not in attendance will receive certificates via mail. Congratulations to all members for their many years of seed crop production.

Shannon Bieman presented a Past President certificate to Peter Szentimrey as that was not presented during the previous years of virtual AGMs. Thanks to Peter who continues to serve as a grower director on the OSGA board.

### Guest Speaker

The Dynamics of Genome Editing Policy and Development Trends – Dr. John McMurdy, CropLife International

Craig Rickard introduced and thanked the guest speaker who joined the meeting virtually.

### Seed Variety Development Report

Andrew Dawson introduced Helen Booker from the University of Guelph to provide an update and overview of the priorities in the variety development plant breeding programs underway.

Dr. Jamie Larsen from AAFC Harrow provided a similar update on his breeding program.

Andrew thanked both presenters for the information shared.

### Nominating Committee

Past president Shannon Bieman was asked to present the Nominating Committee report.

Voting on those directors completing their term is required.

Shannon declared the three positions for growers vacant and one industry rep position vacant. The nominations committee received the following names for grower directors Tim Montague, Ian Sponagle and Reuben Stone and for the industry representative position Phil Nadalin.

All nominees agreed to let their names stand and with no further names submitted all were acclaimed to their positions.

Andrew Dawson presided over the nomination for National Director – Carl Bolton has completed the first year of a 2-year term. Shannon Bieman has completed her second year of 2-year term. The position was declared vacant. The nominating committee put forward Shannon Bieman for re-election as National Director.

- Moved by J. Hickson, second by R. Stone to close nominations. CARRIED

Shannon was declared nominated as National Director for a 2-year term.

- Moved by J. Hickson, second by P. Szentimrey to accept the nominating committee report. CARRIED

Andrew thanked the board members and congratulated them for their work on behalf of Ontario's seed grower members.

#### Resolutions

Peter Szentimrey, reported that no resolutions were received last year so there were no actionable items to report on. Peter then presented one resolution that was received during the 2022 AGM.

*Whereas*

*CSGA has successfully conducted pilot projects working towards modernizing the seed sector, adapting to new technologies*

*Whereas*

*New technologies could assist in field crop inspection services*

*Be it resolved that*

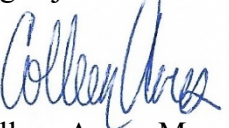
*CSGA work with CFIA, ASCIS and Seeds Canada to initiate a pilot project investigating alternative crop inspection methods with a focus to increasing transparency, reducing field inspection costs and modernization of field inspection methods.*


*Moved by: Reuben Stone      Second by: Shannon Bieman* CARRIED

Andrew thanked Peter for the report.

- Moved by P. Nadalin and Second by J. Hickson to approve the Resolutions committee report. CARRIED

Andrew thanked all the presenters for an informative meeting. The sponsors and exhibitors were acknowledged and also thanked for their support of the meeting. Chairman Andrew Dawson declared the meeting adjourned.

  
Colleen Acres, Manager

  
Andrew Dawson, President

I have examined the Balance Sheet of the Ontario Seed Growers' Association as at September 30, 2023 and the Statement of Operations for the year then ended.

My examination included a general review of the accounting procedures and such tests of accounting records and other supporting evidence as I considered necessary in the circumstances.



In my opinion the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the association at September 30, 2023 and the results of the operations of the year then ended.

Guelph, Ontario  
February 2, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Strickland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Deborah" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Strickland".

Deborah Strickland, CPA, CMA

ONTARIO SEED GROWERS' ASSOCIATION  
BALANCE SHEET  
As at September 30, 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<u>Current</u>		
Cash and short term deposits	6,244	915
GIC Investments	230,396	217,205
Interest Receivable	5,711	2,396
HST Receivable	4,184	865
Accounts Receivable	0	0
Prepaid Expenses	-15,000	5,400
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>231,535</b>	<b>226,780</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Accounts Payable	4,206	-299
	<u>4,206</u>	<u>-299</u>
<u>Equity</u>		
Association Equity (Exhibit A)	227,329	227,080
	<u>231,535</u>	<u>226,780</u>
Approved on Behalf of the Board:		
 <hr/> President	 <hr/> Secretary-Manager	

ONTARIO SEED GROWERS' ASSOCIATION  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

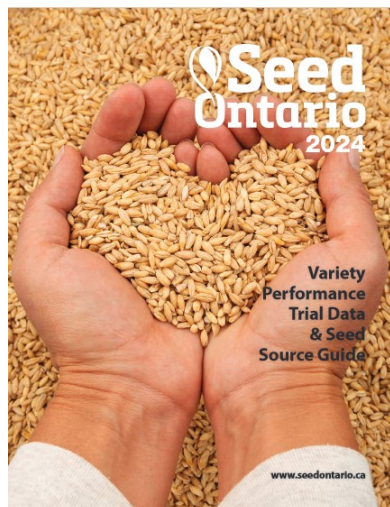
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
CSGA Branch Fee	67,415	65,528
Interest Earned (Schedule 1)	6,535	2,246
Other Revenue (Schedule 1)	<u>8,793</u>	<u>10,747</u>
	<u>82,743</u>	<u>78,520</u>
EXPENSES		
Ad Hoc Meeting Expenses - Expenses	0	0
- Per Diem	0	0
Affiliation Fees	1,950	1,950
Annual Meeting	4,423	0
Bank Charges/Late Fee/Penalties	160	1,410
Committee Meetings	585	0
CSGA Meeting	9,801	0
Director's/Provincial Meetings - Per Diem	6,325	1,125
Director's/Provincial Meetings - Expenses	8,890	931
Growers Programs - Expenses	4,570	4,401
- Per Diem	500	150
Insurance	5,400	5,215
Inter-Provincial Meeting Expenses	2,815	1,980
Host - Inter-Provincial Meeting Expenses	0	0
Miscellaneous Expenses	0	0
Office Expenses (Schedule 1)	3,383	2,044
Ottawa Valley - Expenses	0	0
Ottawa Valley - Per Diem	0	0
Promotion	3,310	2,740
Secretary/Manager Fees/Expenses (Schedule 1)	30,046	27,958
IT Website Development	335	263
Sponsorships	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	82,493	50,168
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	250	28,352
Add Equity, Beginning of Year	227,080	198,728
Equity End of Year	<u>227,329</u>	<u>227,080</u>

**ONTARIO SEED GROWERS' ASSOCIATION  
BREAKDOWN OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES  
REPORTED BY CLASSIFICATION ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>REVENUE</b>		
<u>Interest Earned</u>		
Current Account	0	0
Investment Certificate	6,506	2,246
Miscellaneous	29	0
	<u>6,535</u>	<u>2,246</u>
<u>Other Revenue</u>		
Annual Meeting - sponsors	2,600	0
Inter Provincial Meeting Sponsorship	0	2,250
OSGA Field Day Sponsorship	2,700	2,700
Miscellaneous	183	3,057
Calendars	3,310	2,740
	<u>8,793</u>	<u>10,747</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
	2023	2022
Secretary/Manager Fees and Expenses		
Fees	26,408	27,216
Expenses	<u>3,638</u>	<u>742</u>
	<u>30,046</u>	<u>27,958</u>
Office Expenses		
Office Supplies	267	183
Telephone/Internet	0	0
Printing	612	241
Postage	2,163	1,279
Auditing	<u>341</u>	<u>341</u>
	<u>3,383</u>	<u>2,044</u>



## Education and Publicity Committee Report .... Andrew Dawson

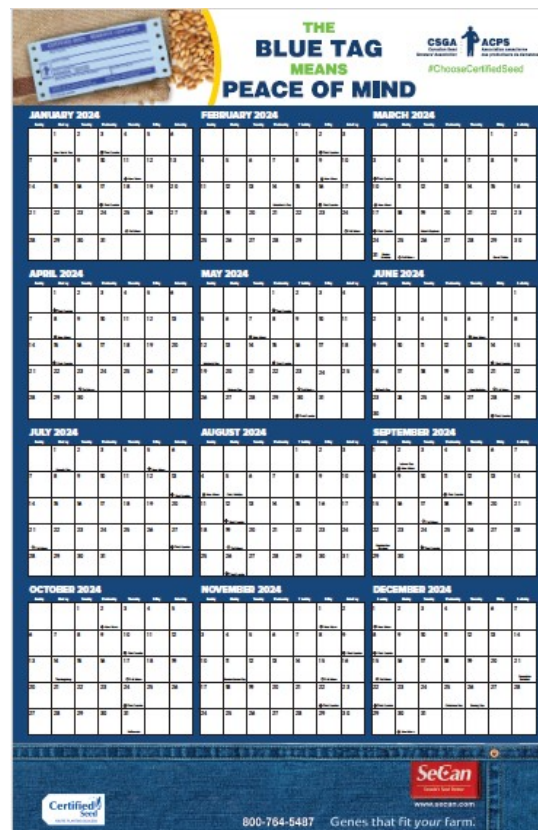


OSGA's summer Grower Field day was held at Bayer's Research Facility in Tavistock on June 27th. The morning saw growers rotating through six different demonstration stations and discussing various research trial work currently underway. The afternoon presentations were held featuring speakers on Nitrogen Efficiency & The Role of Biologicals, an update from CSGA and a practical Workplace Safety presentation.

Members received their OSGA calendar in the December newsletter mailout. A spring newsletter was distributed through a new e-blast service that allows us to better manage and track results. We can check email opens, clicks, and incomplete sends, see who's sharing our emails and stay out of people's junk mail, so that we can improve our newsletter content and better connect with our members.

SeedOntario 2024 is our 6<sup>th</sup> edition of completing this annual seed guide. Distribution is through the GFO magazine mailing list and it is circulated to over 50 000 Ontario farm addresses. We will be reviewing opportunities with alternate publishers this coming year as our contract with the current publisher is now completed. A digital version of SeedOntario can be found at [www.seedontario.ca](http://www.seedontario.ca)

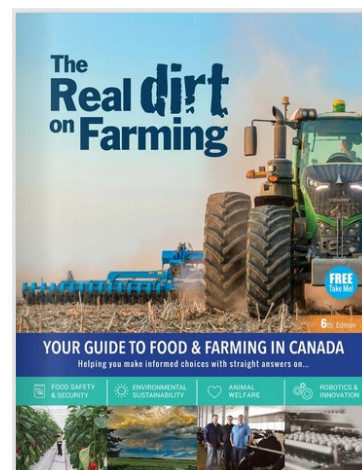
CSGA has invested in a social media campaign on Facebook, X and Instagram and created a micro-site. #ChooseCertifiedSeed [www.choosecertifiedseed.ca](http://www.choosecertifiedseed.ca) Videos profiling several familiar Ontario seed growers and Ontario value chain partners, along with others nationwide, explain the value and the quality that Certified seed offers. New OSGA Rollup banners featuring the #ChooseCertifiedSeed social media images will complement the campaign and are available for members to use at customer events, seed shows and other industry meetings.



## Farm & Food Care Ontario Report .... Joe Hickson

FFCO unveiled the sixth edition of **The Real Dirt on Farming** in November of 2023. The booklet is available in English and French. Distribution of the booklet will begin in 2024, with plans for mainstream media inserts and mailings to politicians across Canada. To date, more than five million copies of The Real Dirt on Farming have been distributed.

Three **Breakfast on the Farm (BOTF)** events were held across the province. Over 3,300 guests were in attendance at these events to meet farmers, view displays, livestock and enjoy all-Ontario breakfasts.



In 2023 FFCO, in partnership with AgScape, hosted 17 **Virtual Food and Farming Field Trips**. Over the series, more than 22,000 people registered to take a virtual tour. These virtual events continue to be a unique and convenient way to bring agriculture to audiences across Canada.

Two new **FarmFood360** Virtual Reality tours were launched in December of an Ontario berry and dairy farm. These tours are the most recent additions to a growing collection of virtual reality farm and agribusiness tours available at [www.FarmFood360.ca](http://www.FarmFood360.ca). Traffic to the website continues to grow with more than 3.5 million impressions in 2023.

In May of 2023, Farm & Food Care groups in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island relaunched **FarmPhotos.ca**. The library is freely available for non-commercial use, with images of Canadian farm animals, field crops, vegetables, fruits, farm families, animal care and handling practices, modern barns, environmental initiatives and food processing plants available for download.

Over the year, **Faces Behind Food** told the stories of 79 individuals from a diverse cross-section of commodities and food service types and answered 37 **Ask a Farmer** questions to an audience of 7,425 followers while garnering over seven million impressions on Instagram and Facebook.

FFCO staff conducted 10 photo/video shoots and conducted 50 interviews for the **More than a Migrant Worker** (MTAMW) campaign, hosted in partnership with the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association and its members. The MTAMW campaign was awarded Best Blog in November of 2023 by the Canadian Agri-food Marketers Alliance Best of CAMA awards.

FFCO hosted three tours for 70 **food influencers** and Registered Dietitians. These tours provide opportunities to gain knowledge of Canadian farming practices to address client and consumer questions on food production in Canada. In June, FFCO also hosted a tour through the Canadian Culinary Federation for 50 chefs. In addition to these, four Culinary Student Tours were conducted to connect with tomorrow's chefs and food influencers. More than 145 students and faculty from Algonquin College, Fanshawe College, Georgian College and Centennial College attended. Stops on these tours were a diverse cross-section of commodities and locations. Appreciation to the Grassroots Growth Initiative fund of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for its support of this programming.

In 2023 FFCO returned to the CNE with an 'Ask-a-Farmer' video booth and spent the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair sharing FarmFood360 virtual tours with the public.

In addition to public trust work, the FFCO team continues to work on other issues that are important to our members. Here are a few examples:

- 46 presentations and training sessions covering agriculture media training, Speak Up training, and presentations for member organizations and industry groups with commodity-specific content created for each.
- 16 Livestock Emergency courses held for 339 firefighters and first responders across Ontario. The three-year total is 1,112 trainees taking the course online or in person.
- Presentations made to insurance and commodity groups on farm emergency and fire prevention. FFCO also worked with police and municipalities on revised procedures for loose animals.
- Response to 13 Animal Care Helpline calls in 2023, working with commodity groups on cases of concern such as loose animals and provision for animals in extenuating circumstances.

The FFCO annual conference will be held on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at The GrandWay in Elora. Following the morning's business meeting, FFCO will host a speakers' conference for a day of learning and networking together. Speaking with a united voice on behalf of food and farming, FFCO continues



to build momentum and capacity for meaningful connections and towards the shared goal of earning public trust. Visit [www.FarmFoodCareON.org](http://www.FarmFoodCareON.org)

### **Ontario Cereal Crops Committee Report .... Sarah Fretz**

The Ontario Cereal Crops Committee (OCCC) continues to be recognized by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency as an official recommending committee for wheat (winter, spring and durum), barley and oats. In 2024 the committee supported the requests for registration of 2 soft red winter wheats.

The committee also produces variety performance test results, from trials at sites across Ontario, on winter and spring wheat, winter and spring barley and oats. Yield data is available from intensive trials that receive a foliar fungicide vs. no foliar fungicide. Please visit [www.gocereals.ca](http://www.gocereals.ca) for performance test results, location maps, and a description of OCCC's role. Note that later this year, the GoCereals website will be redirected to [www.GoCrops.ca](http://www.GoCrops.ca). This will become a one-stop centralized site for variety performance of cereals, corn, soybeans and edible beans. These same results from 2023 harvested trials are available in OSGA's Seed Ontario 2024 magazine publication at [www.seedontario.ca](http://www.seedontario.ca).

### **Ontario Pulse Crop Committee Report ... Reuben Stone**

The Ontario Pulse Crop Committee (OPCC) is the recommending committee for dry beans in Ontario. The committee co-ordinates the Variety Registration and Performance trials for dry beans. Experimental and non-registered varieties may also be included in the trials, but data is not presented.

The performance trial report is available on the GoBeans.ca website and is printed in SeedOntario. Variety descriptions for most registered varieties of dry beans can be found on GoBeans.ca and the site also is home to research presentations on current dry bean topics. For 2024, the information will be compiled with all the other field crop trial data at GoCrops.ca

### **Ontario Soybean and Canola Committee Report ... Phil Nadalin**

The Ontario Soybean and Canola Committee is focused on promoting research, development and knowledge sharing for both the soybean and canola sectors in ON. The Ontario soybean trials are conducted annually by a combination of private and public tests conducted by research institutions in Ontario through OSACC. Through these tests they are able to share with growers product performance and information as well as variety registration recommendations to CFIA.

The Ontario Soybean Trials in 2023 were located at 19 sites across the province. Members of the committee are made up of both public and private groups, including the OSGA.

For more information, please visit [www.gosoy.ca](http://www.gosoy.ca)

### **Ottawa Valley Farm Show Report ... Reuben Stone**

The 2023 edition of the Ottawa Valley Farm Show welcomed strong crowds and sold out exhibit space for its March 14-16, 2023 show. The first event held since March 2019, it was a long-awaited return. The 2024 show was held March 12-14.

Tracing back to 1927, OVFS is Ontario's longest running agricultural trade show with more than 360 exhibitors occupying over 200,000 square feet under one roof. The OVFS continues to boast its seed show roots, proudly displaying the Court of Honour at the centre of the show. The annual Ottawa Valley Championship Seed, Feed and Forage Show welcomes top entries from all local county seed shows, seeing almost 200 exhibitors enter up to 600 exhibits. Entries are evaluated by a team of judges,

and winning entries are then showcased in the Court of Honour along with 4-H field crop and life skills exhibits. The OVSGA recognizes and rewards the achievements of winning exhibitors at the annual Seed Show Awards Ceremony held at the OVFS.

A Prestigious Pedigreed Seed Sale is held each year at OVFS featuring lots of pedigreed seed donated by area seed growers along with many other donated items. Thanks to the generosity of partners, exhibitors, and visitors, the sale has raised more than \$180,000 for the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. Following the auction, many of the lots of pedigreed seed are donated to The Canadian Food Grains Bank.

For more information, visit [www.ottawafarmshow.com](http://www.ottawafarmshow.com)

## Ontario Weeds Committee ..... Peter Szentimrey, Phil Nadalin

Leanne Freitag serves as the Chair of the Ontario Weed Committee.

The Objectives of the Ontario Weed Committee are:

1. To identify gaps in management solutions for weedy plants that negatively affect Ontarians; to compile and publish this list annually
2. To compile and publish confirmed populations of herbicide resistant weeds in Ontario; to nudge Ontario agriculture towards adoption of integrated management practices that reduce the risk of selecting for herbicide resistant weeds.
3. To review the content and layout of the OMAFRA Guide to Weed Control (Publication 75). To provide constructive feedback and support that will improve the quality of this resource and ensure that it is available to Ontarians.
4. To showcase weed management research initiatives in Ontario.

The Ontario Weed Committee is made up of individuals who are involved in weed management at some level, be it as a primary producer, researcher, agronomist, commodity organization or registrant.

A discovery of Palmer amaranth in an Ontario field was confirmed by DNA testing this summer. The OWC summer plot tour was well attended. It was held at the Elora Research Station on Thursday July 13<sup>th</sup>

The fall OWC meeting covered the following topics

1. Cover crops & herbicide residuals - results from trials at Elora
2. Ag Robotics update
3. Problem weeds, herbicide resistance and 2023 learnings
4. Supplier herbicide/herbicide trait update
5. 2024 Summer weeds tour planning
6. Grad student project summaries
7. Digital herbicide management tools

The Ontario Crop Protection Hub is OMAFRA's official crop protection resource. Use this site to find pest management and crop protection options for Ontario. <https://cropprotectionhub.omafra.gov.on.ca> A mobile integrated pest management tool is under development.

## Current resistant weed situation in Ontario

Weed Species	WSSA Group	Weed Species	WSSA Group
barnyard grass	5	mustard, wild	5
Canada fleabane	2, 9, 22	nightshade, eastern black	2, 22
carrot, wild	4	peppergrass, field	22
cocklebur	2	pigweed, green	2, 5, 14
crabgrass, large	1	pigweed, redroot	2, 5, 6, 14, 27
foxtail, green	2	pigweed, smooth	6
foxtail, giant	2	ragweed, common	2, 5, 9, 14
foxtail, yellow	5	ragweed, giant	2, 9
goosefoot, late flowering	5	ryegrass, Italian	9
groundsel, common	5	waterhemp	2, 5, 9, 14, 27
lamb's-quarters	2, 5	witchgrass	5

22 species, common trend is more species with multiple resistance  
[Weed control search \(gov.on.ca\)](http://Weedcontrolsearch.gov.on.ca)

Ontario 

## 2023 Long Standing Service Awards Listing

<b>15 Year</b>			
MONTAGUE, TIM JARVIS ON	MUNRO, MATT CARP ON	DEPREZ, JOE KENT BRIDGE ON	GRONDIN, HARRY J. AMHERSTBURG ON
COLLINS, GREG W. KINCARDINE ON	KOSTER, ADRIAN THAMESVILLE ON	BROWN, JOANNE FINGAL ON	MOUSSEAU, JOHN
TETREAU, PIERRE-ANDRE TILBURY ON	KONECNY, TODD WALKERTON ON	COCHRANE, JOHN PARIS ON	COCHRANE, BRIAN PARIS ON
BYLSMA, AUKE AUBURN ON			
<b>20 Year</b>			
BROCK, MARK D. STAFFA ON	MC DONNELL, JOHN MONKTON ON	VERBEEK, RONALD MUIRKIRK ON	WEBER, MATTHEW NEWBURY ON
MITCHELL, NEIL WALTON ON	YEOMAN, KENNETH WOODSTOCK ON	FEVERY, JIM GRAND BEND ON	RHODES, DAVID CHATHAM ON
CANN, RAY PORT HOPE ON	BROWN, DENNIS L. LONDON ON	PINSONNEAULT, PAUL N. PAINCOURT ON	FERKET, JOE MOUNT BRYDGES ON
FERKET, JOHANNA MOUNT BRYDGES ON			
<b>25 Year</b>			
HAYTER, GERALD VARNA ON	AITKEN, ROBERT DRESDEN ON	DANGI, OM PRAKASH OTTAWA ON	LETOURNEAU, MARK DOVER CENTRE ON
COWAN, LARRY MOUNT BRYDGES ON	CRACKEL, GARY CHARING CROSS ON	ROY, BILL LONDESBOROUGH ON	ANDREW, WARREN LUCKNOW ON
SKINNER, DUNCAN STRATHROY ON			
<b>30 Year</b>			
VAN DAMME, WAYNE WALLACEBURG ON	JOHNSTON, WATSON KENT BRIDGE ON	COULTHARD, STEPHEN ST. MARY'S ON	BEATTY, TIMOTHY BLOOMFIELD ON
JACKSON, BRIAN TUPPERVILLE ON	CAMPBELL, WAYNE HENSALL ON	GIBSON, ALEX ST. MARY'S ON	SMALE, DONALD MOSSLEY ON
DODOK, MIKE CHATHAM ON	SKINNER, ANDY STRATHROY ON	MARTIN, JASON K. WEST MONTROSE ON	
<b>35 Year</b>			
VAN MOERKERKE, ERIC TILLSONBURG ON	CONSITT, SCOTT VARNA ON	TURNBULL, KIM CANFIELD ON	DEVLAEMINCK, ERIC LUCAN ON
CONNELL, MARY ANNE PALMERSTON ON	MARTIN, CRAIG WEST MONTROSE ON	LESY, PAUL BLENHEIM ON	
<b>40 Year</b>			
ELGIE, EARL KENNETH DRESDEN ON	BAKER, DONALD C. LONDON ON	LEGAULT, DIANE ST. ALBERT ON	FERGUSON, JIM C. ST. THOMAS ON
<b>45 Year</b>			
REABURN, LARRY J. WESTMEATH ON	HILGENDAG, WILLI BRANTFORD ON	ELLIOTT, RUSSELL STRATHROY ON	
<b>50 Year</b>		<b>55 Year</b>	
COLEMAN, JOHN KIPPEN ON	TAYLOR, DOUGLAS R. BELMONT ON	FERGUSON, STANLEY ST. THOMAS ON	BRODIE, JAMES CHATHAM ON

## NOTES

[illegible]

**THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE 2023  
OSGA AGM**

**Ontario Seed Growers' Association**  
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