



# Ontario Seed Growers' Association Newsletter December 2025 *President's Message*

Merry Christmas and Holiday greetings.

2025 has been a year that many would like to put behind us and we all know that things will be better next year – right? With that in mind, we have started work towards planning for 2026 to be one for the memory books – in a positive way.

As we review the last 12 months we enjoyed seeing some of you out at the AGM in London last March where we honored some of our longest serving members. In August some of you joined us at our Grower Field Day held at the Port of Hamilton. Growers in attendance had a tour of the Bunge Plant and also the Richardson grain elevator. The group then attended the Hamilton Tiger Cats game and enjoyed an overtime close matchup against the BC Lions. A big thank you to our sponsors who help make these events possible. Stay tuned to hear what OSGA Board members are planning for summer 2026 and plan to take part. In November OSGA hosted fellow seed grower branch directors to Ottawa where it was Ontario's turn to host the annual Interprovincial Seed Growers meeting. We turned our "Passion into Policy" and spent some time interacting with industry partners and elected officials.

Production of SeedOntario seed guide, reviewing our insurance policies, advocating for Crop Insurance and providing commentary on Seed Regulatory Modernization policy paper in October and PMRA proposed regulatory revisions in November – these are some of the activities that have captured the attention and the guidance of OSGA board members in 2025.

On July 3-5, 2026, the CSGA Annual meeting will be held in Whitehorse, Yukon. What better way to see this part of our nation than through taking in the sights and attending the meeting with fellow seed growers. The CSGA website will have registration details and agenda posted soon at [www.seedgrowers.ca](http://www.seedgrowers.ca)

The OSGA board is a great place to learn and interact with fellow industry leaders. We have some board vacancies and would welcome your participation. Reach out to us to ask questions, find out what is involved and / or let us know of your interest.

Plan to join us on **March 23rd** in Niagara Falls ON for the OSGA annual general meeting. We hope you will attend and add your input into the operations of your association and help us to honour the work of our Long Service Award recipients (whose names are listed in this newsletter). The GFO March Classic will be held in the same hotel and follows our meeting. The Agenda and Registration details for OSGA will be available soon at [www.seedontario.ca](http://www.seedontario.ca).

Many blessings for a rewarding year in 2026.

  
**Tim Montague**  
President

  
**Colleen Acres**  
Manager

Ontario Seed Growers' Association  
6830 Belmeade Rd Osgoode ON K0A 2W0  
[info@seedontario.ca](mailto:info@seedontario.ca) 613-826-2330



## 2025 OSGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Tim Montague  
 1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT: Phil Nadalin  
 MANAGER: Colleen Acres  
 PAST PRESIDENT: Andrew Dawson  
 National Directors: Shannon Bieman, Carl Bolton

Joe Hickson  
 Ian Sponagle  
 Peter Szentimrey  
 Sarah Fretz  
 Craig Rickard  
 Michelle vander Spek

### Upcoming events / meetings

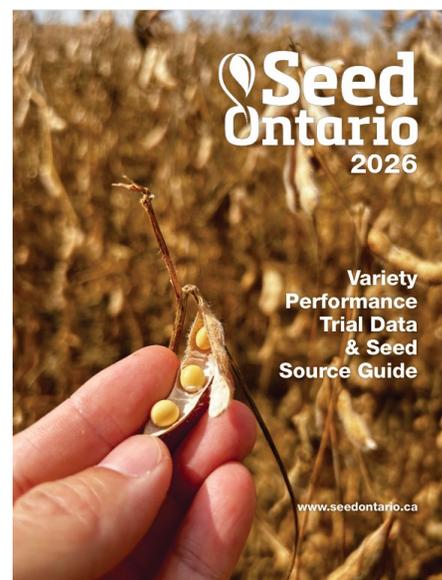
January 6-7, 2026 – South West Ag Conference [www.ontarioagconference.ca](http://www.ontarioagconference.ca)  
 January 12, 2026 – Grey Bruce Farmers Week Crops Day [www.greybrucefarmersweek.ca](http://www.greybrucefarmersweek.ca)  
 January 16, 2026 – MidWest Ag Conference [www.ontarioagconference.ca](http://www.ontarioagconference.ca)  
 January 27, 2026 – Eastern Ontario Ag Conference [www.ontarioagconference.ca](http://www.ontarioagconference.ca)  
 March 23, 2026 – Ontario Seed Growers’ AGM [www.seedontario.ca](http://www.seedontario.ca)  
 March 24, 2026 – GFO March Classic [www.gfo.ca/march-classic/](http://www.gfo.ca/march-classic/)  
 July 3-5, 2026 – Canadian Seed Growers’ Assoc. Annual Meeting Whitehorse, Yukon [www.seedgrowers.ca](http://www.seedgrowers.ca)

## 2025 PEDIGREED SEED ACREAGE \*

Year	Acreage	Growers	Major Crops	Ontario 2025	Ontario 2024	Ontario 2023	Ontario 2022	Ontario 2021	Ontario 2020
2025	157,390	647	<i>Barley</i>	2,027	2,034	2,383	3,278	3,820	4,012
2024	168,772	662	<i>Field Beans</i>	2,542	1,540	2,024	2,485	2,770	3,152
2023	168,714	656	<i>Corn</i>	13,289	12,063	13,296	18,835	16,258	16,224
2022	168,385	661	<i>Oats</i>	2,879	2,887	2,956	3,455	3,484	4,611
2021	163,686	671	<i>Soybeans</i>	118,337	129,575	127,783	121,830	115,227	120,495
2020	170,481	694	<i>Wheat</i>	17,625	19,840	20,245	17,748	21,770	21,324
2019	171,596	715							
* as reported by CSGA November 2025									

Thank you to SeCan Association for their sponsorship support of the OSGA year-at-a-glance wall calendar. Additional copies are available by request to: [info@seedontario.ca](mailto:info@seedontario.ca)

**SeedOntario 2026** – Ontario’s Seed Guide will be out in January in your FarmTario newspaper. Keep an eye out for this handy resource guide containing all the Variety Performance Trial Data and Seed Grower/ Retailer source listing. Thanks to all the advertisers who assist with offsetting the printing and distribution costs.



---

## Seed Regulatory Modernization Update

It's expected that in early 2026, CFIA will publish a summary of what they heard from the most recent consultation and engagement on their Policy paper which accepted stakeholder comments throughout September and early October 2025. The CFIA's Policy paper included **52 proposals** along with recommendations for the future of Canada's seed system. The submitted comments will help to inform final decisions for the draft amendments to the *Seeds Regulations*. It is anticipated that these proposed amendments will be pre-published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I in winter 2026. A public comment period will be available for Canadians and other interested parties to provide feedback on the regulatory proposal.

---

## Proposed Special Review Decision of Dicamba and Its Associated End-use Products by PMRA

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) recently gave notice of changes to the use of Dicamba herbicide in Canada.

**PMRA is proposing the following changes to the label for Commercial-class Dicamba products with over the top (OTT) uses to mitigate risks from volatilization:**

1. Proposed reduction in the maximum height of DT field corn crop from 76 cm to 50 cm for post-emergence applications.
2. Proposed a single pre-plant or pre-emergence application in DT soybean.
3. Proposed cancellation of the use for DT soybean seed production, because currently the label does not allow for in crop OTT applications of Dicamba on pedigreed soybean production, so the use is being pulled for seed production all together.

As you are likely aware, the use of Dicamba is an important tool for DT soybean seed production. The chemistry allows for more flexibility within Circular 6 for land use requirements, and helps to guarantee the purity of the seed lots. Furthermore, the chemistry helps protect seed lots from contamination of herbicide resistant Canada Fleabane and waterhemp.

The full document can be found by [clicking here](#)

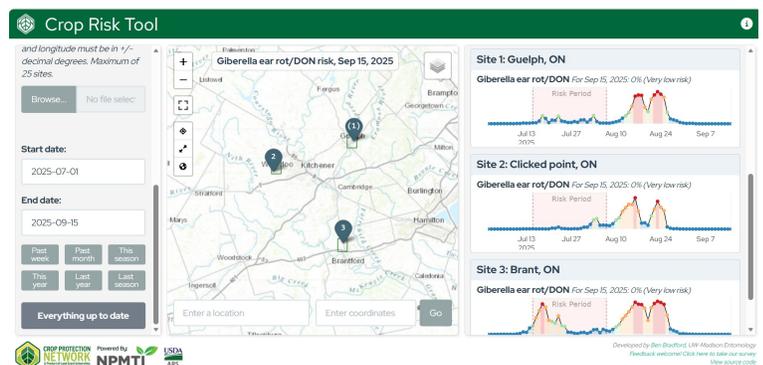
You can comment during the comment period until December 16 through the [PMRA public consultation portal](#) here

## SICA training

Interested in Seed Import Conformity Assessor (SICA) training for you or your team? In early 2026, Seeds Canada is planning to offer a couple of 1.5-day, in person SICA training sessions in Québec in January and in southern Ontario in January or February (dates and locations TBD). If you are interested in either training session, email Seeds Canada at [info@seeds-canada.ca](mailto:info@seeds-canada.ca). All Registered Seed Establishments should have received separate notice about this training opportunity directly from Seeds Canada.

## Crop Disease Forecasting Tool

A free web-based platform designed to assess the risk of major foliar diseases in corn and soybeans, as well as some horticultural crops. Provides daily updates and 7-day forecasts using local weather data. Features include a DON risk assessment model (predicts the likelihood of Gibberella ear rot and associated mycotoxins like deoxynivalenol (DON)), forecasting for tar spot and gray leaf spot in corn and white mould and frogeye leaf spot in soybeans – all diseases that can cause significant yield losses if not managed proactively. Check it out at [www.cropprotectionnetwork.org](http://www.cropprotectionnetwork.org)



All long standing service award recipients will receive a certificate of service presented at the OSGA AGM in Niagara Falls on March 23, 2026.

Congratulations and thank you for your many years of service!

## 2025 Long Standing Service Awards Listing

15 Year			
BAKKER, MARINUS AUBURN ON	BELL, DAVID COOKSTOWN ON	COLEMAN, BRANDON KIPPEN ON	DEMERS, RAYMOND DOVER CENTRE ON
DONKERS, BILL BRANCHTON ON	FORD, JAMES A. DUTTON ON	GILLAN, CHRIS AMHERSTBURG ON	HILGENDAG, LUKAS BRANTFORD ON
LAWTON, ALEX KENT BRIDGE ON	LEMOINE, MARC CASSELMAN ON	MC RAE, JONATHAN ALVINSTON ON	
20 Year			
BIRNIE, PAUL INNISFIL ON	CARYN, RICK THAMESVILLE ON	DEPREZ, JOHN RIDGETOWN ON	FINES, WILLIAM S.D. MIDHURST ON
HAERLE, THOMAS ST. ISIDORE ON	JACKSON, DENNIS DRESDEN ON	LAWTON, KENNON KENT BRIDGE ON	LAWTON, STANLEY KENT BRIDGE ON
LECLAIR, LEON GRAND POINTE ON	MURRAY, MARK SEAFORTH ON	SWANCE, BRAD TILLSONBURG ON	THRING, CHRIS EAST GARAFRAXA ON
VAN LAECKE, RICK COURTLAND ON	WEERNINK, CHRIS KIRKTON ON		
25 Year			
BURROWS, CLINTON EARL HANNON ON	CONNELL, DALE PALMERSTON ON	DEKAY, DAVID J. KOMOKA ON	FILSON, RAY DENFIELD ON
FILSON, DAVID DENFIELD ON	GAL, JOHN ALEXANDER INNERKIP ON	JACOBS, MATTHEW AYTON ON	JUBENVILLE, ANNA PAINCOURT ON
MAC GREGOR, TOM CRYSLER ON	MACTAVISH, PAUL ALVINSTON ON	NIEWELS, JOACHIM THORNTON ON	ORTON, PAUL S. RUTHVEN ON
PASSMORE, LEON AYLMER ON	ROE, GARRY DOVER CENTRE ON	SALTER, GEORGE HARROW ON	URQUHART, GARY ST. MARY'S ON
VOGELS, PAUL KIPPEN ON	WALKER, ALLEN R. WINGHAM ON		
30 Year			
COCHRAN, DONALD E. ALMONTE ON	COCHRAN, CATHERINE ALMONTE ON	HODGINS, MURRAY KINCARDINE ON	ILER, GREG HARROW ON
JOHNSTON, DOUG LISTOWEL ON	KAUMANN, HILMAR LUCAN ON	LANG, TONY CHEPSTOW ON	MANN, RONALD CHATHAM ON
MC GUIRE, WILLIAM OILSPRINGS ON	ROODZANT, KEN RODNEY ON	VAN DE VELDE, RONALD CHATHAM ON	
35 Year			
BOWMAN, ELAINE THORNLOE ON	DEKONING, PETER CHATHAM ON	FENTIE, BRUCE D. SPRINGFIELD ON	MUNN, BILL HENSALL ON
MURRAY, WILLIAM T. SEAFORTH ON	NOORLOOS, JOHN WYOMING ON	SKINNER, MAURICE STRATHROY ON	SMYTH, ROBERT JR. CHATHAM ON
40 Year			
CLARK, DOUGLAS LONDON ON	DUNLOP, LLOYD DRESDEN ON	FELL, ROGER STAFFA ON	GARDHOUSE, GUY R. EAST GARAFRAXA
HART, DOUGLAS K. WOODSTOCK ON	KERNIGHAN, MARK GODERICH ON	ROBSON, JAMIE ARVA ON	ROBSON, JOEL ARVA ON
ROBSON, JAY ARVA ON	WILLIAMS, JOHN CAMERON ATWOOD ON	WRIGHT, RICHARD G. FERGUS ON	
45 Year			
HENDRICK, DAVID JOHN INKERMAN ON	JANOVICEK, JOHN DRESDEN ON	MARTIN, QUENTIN WEST MONTROSE ON	PATTERSON, WAYNE K. KERWOOD ON
50 Year		55 Year	
ALLAN, JEFFREY BRUCEFIELD ON	DUNLOP, GARY G. DRESDEN ON	RICKARD, DONALD HENDRY BOWMANVILLE ON	