



FROM THE CHAIR ↘

Message from Jim Gowland

I hope this message finds you well and not melting from this extraordinary heat we've been experiencing.

In May of this year we entered into an agreement with Koeslag Consulting Inc. to provide administration services to OBG. This effectively means that OBG no longer has any employees, though for all intents and purposes KCI staff tend to think of themselves as staff of OBG. This arrangement will make operations much more efficient, including being able to produce this newsletter in house (content, design and printing).



The International Year of the Pulse continues and OBG is doing its part to promote beans and their versatility. We had a booth at the annual Queen's Park Farmers' Market and handed out Romano Bean Chocolate Chip Cookies to approximately 800 MPPs, Queen's Park staff and members of the public. We are also making plans to be at the Zurich Bean Festival at the end of August.

Three of our directors and two staff had the opportunity to attend the Pulse and Special Crops Convention in early July in Toronto. This year's convention boasted the highest attendance ever with delegates coming from around the world.

On a more somber note, it has been a very dry summer in Ontario and I know that many of you are feeling the effects of the drought. We've also received the official acreage numbers from Agricorp and we are down 27,000 acres over last year. Full details can be found inside the newsletter.

Wishing everyone a safe harvest!

JIM GOWLAND | OBG CHAIR

↘ JOIN OBG's EMAIL LIST



In an effort to improve communications with growers, as well as to reduce costs, OBG is working to create an email distribution list.

You can opt in to receive the newsletter (to be issued 3 times per year) and other communication pieces (items requiring timely distribution) electronically by subscribing online through OBG's website, ontariobeans.on.ca, or you can send your email address to jennifer@ontariobeans.on.ca and she'll add you to our email list.

↘ 2016 LICENSE FEES

License Fees for all market classes of dry beans will remain \$6.80 per MT.

RESEARCH PROJECTS ▼

Your check off dollars at work

Ontario Bean Growers is currently engaged in the following research projects, either as the project lead or collaborator.

Growing Forward 2 Projects (administered by Ontario Bean Growers)

- Approaches to Weed Management in Edible Beans in Ontario
- Assessment of hard seeds in Ontario navy beans
- Breeding Otebo Beans for production in Ontario
- Reproductive biology and overwintering success of the Western Bean Cutworm
- Reduction of blood glucose with beans: defining the minimum dose
- Adzuki Bean Agronomic field trials for Ontario Farmers

Pulse Science Cluster Project Activities (administered by Saskatchewan Pulse Growers)

- Selecting dry bean lines with improved canning quality attributes in the Cooperation Registration Trials and advanced yield trials in Ontario and the three Prairie Provinces.
- Ontario bean breeding program is developing new adapted bean varieties that incorporate enhanced multiple disease resistance and higher yield and quality with higher levels of beneficial compounds and to develop new knowledge of the inheritance of the traits of interest in the program for sustainable production in Ontario.
- Isolating and characterizing dry bean genotypes with tolerance to imazethapyr to integrate the trait into the Ontario breeding program. Develop tolerance to imazethapyr, glyphosate and glufosinate in dry bean through an innovative stable transformation platform.
- Identifying molecular diagnostic procedures for the rapid, specific and sensitive detection of root rot pathogens in symptomatic dry bean roots.
- Developing and refining pest management programs for key dry bean pests in Canada.
- Determining the interaction of soil health and nitrogen fertilizer, to maximize dry bean yield and economic returns.

Updates on these projects will be shared via the newsletter and on OBG's website as they are made available to us.



▼ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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From left: Bernie Wolfe (grower), Jennifer Mitchell (OBG) and Kim Dietrich (grower/owner of Full of Beans) served Kim's Romano flour Chocolate Chip Cookies to approximately 800 visitors to the Queen's Park Farmers' Market.

▼ OBG AT QUEEN'S PARK

As part of Local Food Week celebrations, Ontario Bean Growers participated at the annual Foodland Ontario Queen's Park Farmers' Market on June 9th. OBG joined other commodity groups in serving up delicious local foods to MPPs, government staff and the public reminding them that "good things grow in Ontario".

↘ NEW ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AT OBG

The Ontario Bean Growers (OBG) has entered a contractual partnership with Koeslag Consulting Inc (KCI) to perform the administrative duties of the organization, including those of the Executive Director position.

"We think that this arrangement will be efficient, increase capacity and extend the producer dollars into more areas than achieved previously," says Jim Gowland, Chair of OBG.

KCI, headed by Ryan Koeslag, already manages the administrative needs of Mushrooms Canada and the Ontario Agricultural Commodity Council (OACC), allowing all organizations to benefit from reduced administrative costs and share in collaborative opportunities.

"A number of organizations have been taking advantage of this type of administrative arrangement for years and the efficiency is undeniable," says Koeslag. "This is a true partnership that not only leverages efficiencies by sharing administrative resources, but also gives OBG the opportunity for additional representation."

An example of this efficient administrative partnership will be reflected in the future promotions and marketing efforts of OBG. Currently, KCI conducts an extensive promotions and marketing campaign for Mushrooms Canada which can be adapted for edible beans, reducing costs and helping OBG meet its promotions and marketing objectives.

"Being able to benefit from work already established through KCI's existing relationships means Ontario's bean growers will be able to better leverage producer dollars in support of the industry," Koeslag adds.

OBG's office will remain at its same location in Guelph on 660 Speedvale Avenue West, Suite 302. KCI is also excited to announce Jennifer Mitchell as the OBG Project Coordinator who will be coordinating research projects and other board directed activities. Marianne Muth has also been hired as a Project Coordinator, sharing her time between OBG and Mushrooms Canada.

↘ 2016 DRY BEAN ACREAGE REPORT

	White Beans	Black Beans	Cranberry Beans	Kidney Beans	Japan/ Other Beans	Adzuki Beans	Total
Ontario	46,198	13,636	9,757	17,025	9,985	10,265	106,866

Data provided by Agricorp

Planted acres in Ontario are down this year from 134,568 in 2015 to 106,866. This represents a 20% decrease in acres planted. White beans have incurred a significant drop in acreage (46,198 from 62,693) over last year, followed by a large drop in cranberry acres (9,757 from 15,921).

Manitoba also saw an overall reduction in acres as well with an 11% decrease from 128,382 acres in 2015 to 113,624 acres in 2016.

(Source: The Bean Report, Manitoba Pulse and Soybean Growers)

In the US, North Dakota, Michigan and Minnesota continue to lead bean production with 600,000, 220,000 and 170,000 acres planted respectively. Total US dry bean planted acres for 2016 is 1.689 million which is down 75,000 acres from 1.764 in 2015 or 4%.

(Source: USDA <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/Acre//2010s/2016/Acre-06-30-2016.pdf>)

↘ PULSE AND SPECIAL CROPS CONVENTION

OBG Directors Jim Gowland (Chair), Larry Jenner (Vice-Chair) and Dave Vandewalle and OBG Staff Ryan Koeslag (Executive Director) and Jennifer Mitchell (Project Coordinator) attended the Pulse & Special Crops Convention held in Toronto from July 6-8. Pictured here with the original Stanley Cup.



A pre-convention lunch session titled "Delivering Nutritious, Healthy and Sustainable Foods" kicked things off. Topics ranged from the global utilization of pulses to opportunities for marketing pulses and their nutritional benefits. During the presentations, delegates were served a lunch that included pulses and foods made with pulse ingredients including a delicious pasta and chocolate brownie.

The Welcome Reception, held at the Hockey Hall of Fame was a time for networking and, of course, having photos taken with the Stanley Cup.

On Day 2 Peter Hall, Vice President and Chief Economist with Export Development Canada gave an update on global economics. Other speakers included Lee Moats, Chair of Pulse Canada (Transforming the Food System), a panel of experts talking about international trade and market access considerations for Pulse crop protection products and Keynote Speaker Matthew Corrin, founder of Freshii restaurants and Next Gen Den panelist.

The event wrapped up with a global market outlook with our own Chair, Jim Gowland,

OMAFRA UPDATE



PRE-HARVEST HERBICIDES ↘

Reminders on the use of pre-harvest herbicides

Meghan Moran, OMAFRA Canola and Edible Bean Specialist



Farmers across Ontario, with the exception of the far northwest, have been dealing with dry conditions this season that have caused poor emergence and uneven growth of crops. Fortunately, many were able to achieve good establishment of their edible bean crop and in general have not faced major replant scenarios or issues with disease. Anthracnose has not been reported, risk of white mould is low, and for the most part root rot is limited. Growth in some areas may be less than ideal but recent rains have helped the crop move forward. As the crop moves through reproductive growth the next stage in management is evaluating maturity and applying a pre-harvest herbicide if needed.

Bean dealers may have restrictions in place on what products can be used pre-harvest for certain bean classes or markets, and in this particular year growers should ensure they confirm with their dealer. Concerns around the use of glyphosate are at the forefront again. Authorization of glyphosate in the European Union was set to expire in June and re-authorization came in the form of an 18 month extension in the final days of discussions.

For this reason some bean dealers may have restrictions on the use of glyphosate pre-harvest.

Scout your fields to see if perennial weeds are an issue. Eragon and glyphosate can be used alone or in combination to control perennial weeds and prevent regrowth of the bean plants. Persistent dry conditions may slow uptake of glyphosate if weeds are not actively growing. Alternatively, regrowth of bean plants may occur if there are late season rains following the dry summer conditions we have had this year. Indeterminate plant types can also flower again after pod development. Remember that activity of glyphosate is fairly slow.

Field research by Drs. K. McNaughton, C. Gillard and colleagues in Western Canada over a 4 year period shows that unacceptable levels of glyphosate are taken up by the seed if it is applied before plants reach 75% maturity. Also, application of glyphosate with Eragon at 75% maturity reduced bean yields by 16% compared to application at full maturity. Hundred seed weight, pick and quality (colour) are improved when pre-harvest glyphosate or glyphosate plus Eragon are applied around

100% maturity so careful determination of the crop maturity is important.

If your goal with application of pre-harvest herbicides is the rapid dry down of weeds and crop plants, contact herbicides or true desiccants can be used. Contact products, including Aim, Reglone and Ignite, require higher water volumes and good coverage. Be sure to follow label recommendations including application rates and pre-harvest interval and again, your bean dealer must be consulted to confirm which pre-harvest herbicides are approved for the bean type and market.

Pre-harvest herbicides will not speed the maturity of the plants or decrease seed moisture, but can shorten the time between crop maturity and harvest. Pod colour change is the best indication of maturity; leaf drop and leaf colour are not good indicators. Once a herbicide is applied, late pods will not continue to mature so ensure the beans have the desired colour before application.

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