

FROM THE CHAIR

Message from Jim Gowland

It's hard to believe that we are already four months into 2017 and by the time this newsletter reaches you, I'm sure you'll be well into planting. 2017 has seen an improvement in demand and associated price opportunity for most market classes. Here's hoping that Mother Nature is a little more cooperative this year so that we might reap these rewards.

Thank you to everyone who attended and presented at a very successful AGM in Kirkton on February 22. We welcome two new directors, Adam Ireland (District 2) and Tyler Vollmershausen (District 1) and recognize Dave Vandewalle (District 3) and Larry Jenner (Director at Large) on their re-election. I would like to extend my thanks, on behalf of growers, to Sean Ernewein and Dave Woods on their service over the years to OBG. Both Sean and Dave have volunteered to serve as delegates in their districts.

Speaking of AGMs, the Farm and Food Care Ontario (FFCO) AGM was held recently and OBG's Board of Directors nominated me for re-election to the FFCO Board. I'm pleased to report that I will continue my work on this board as treasurer on the FFCO executive.

I encourage everyone to sign up to receive our Eblast that is sent out whenever we have timely news to share. And for anyone who wants to follow our consumer promotions, we have launched "The Bean Scene" – a monthly newsletter that will feature recipes and information aimed at consumers. You can sign up for both on our website.

In my December message, I mentioned that OBG had signed on with a marketing agency to distribute recipes and articles about beans to various media. At the time of that report we had reached 527,000 people via radio only. I am pleased to report that we have hit 38,598,151 impressions through print media, radio and websites. The board is very happy with this result.

As I sign off, I would like to wish everyone a safe and productive growing season and hope to see you out at our Summer Research Day on August 22.

JIM GOWLAND | OBG CHAIR



SAVE THE DATE!

Ontario Bean Growers' (OBG) Annual Research Day will be held on Tuesday August 22 at the Huron Research Station. As more details of the day become available they will be posted on OBG's website and shared via our Eblast list. Not on the list? Sign up on the website or send your contact information to jennifer@ontariobeans.on.ca.

BEECONNECTED APP ENCOURAGES COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN BEEKEEPERS AND FARMERS

CropLife Canada and the Canadian Honey Council have partnered to bring BeeConnected, a new tool to help encourage communication between beekeepers and farmers, to Canada.

BeeConnected, is an app that anonymously connects registered farmers, beekeepers and pesticide applicators – free of charge – to provide information on any pesticide application activity or beehive locations near them – all through the use of a web browser, iPhone or Android device. More information about the app is available on the website at www.beeconnected.ca.

RESEARCH UPDATE

Your check off dollars at work

Continued on back page



OBG SECURES FUNDING FOR BENCHMARKING SURVEY

The Ontario Bean Growers (OBG) are on track to knowing who consumes our product with help from Growing Forward 2.

OBG is conducting a survey of 2000 Canadians to help better understand our consumer. The results will give some insight into the average consumer, how often they eat beans and how they incorporate beans into their diet. We're also looking to identify where these consumers look for information on recipes and nutrition.

Armed with this data, OBG will be able to make informed decisions about what types of promotional activities it should undertake to

increase consumer awareness of the health benefits of eating beans, with a goal of increasing bean consumption in the province.

This study will serve as a benchmark for future studies so that we can measure the success of our promotional activities, identify areas for improvement and keep abreast of current trends.

This project was funded in part through Growing Forward 2 (GF2), a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. The Agricultural Adaptation Council assists in the delivery of GF2 in Ontario.

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH BREEDING PROGRAM PAYS OFF

Ontario Bean Growers invest a significant amount of money into the bean breeding program at the University of Guelph. Over each of the last five years, OBG has contributed \$91,000 to the program matched by \$222,000 per year from government and other industry sources through Growing Forward 2 (GF2). What do growers get in return?

After years of superior white beans, including Rexeter, Mist and Lighthouse, coming out of the program, we are starting to see some coloured beans making an impact. Taking only Dynasty (dark red kidney), OAC Inferno (light red kidney)

and Yeti (white kidney) into consideration versus private varieties we calculate just over \$700,000 back to growers. We know there were at least 5000 acres of Dynasty, Inferno and Yeti planted last year and that those acres are increasing. Based on the average yield increase of the trials times the average Ontario yield as reported by Agricornp, the yield of these three varieties has increased by 14.8%. At \$0.50/lb the total return to growers is \$715,000 or \$143/acre. The chart below shows a comparison between varieties in the trials and the Agricornp stats.

University of Guelph Breeding Program (data from Ontario Dry Bean Variety Trials)		Other (data from Ontario Dry Bean Variety Trials)		Agricornp Stats
Variety	Yield (lb/acre) 3 year average	Variety	Yield (lb/acre) 3 year average	Yield (lb/acre) 3 year average
Dynasty	2,372	Red Hawk	2,005	*note – average kidney bean acres for the last 3 years were 16,425
OAC Inferno	2,378	GTS 104	1,976	
Yeti	2,293	Pink Panther	2,151	
Average yield (lb/acre)	2,347	Average yield (lb/acre)	2,044	1,930

For more information about these varieties and other varieties included in the Ontario Dry Bean Variety Trials visit gobeans.ca.

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OMAFRA UPDATE



REQUEST FOR BEAN GROWERS TO PARTICIPATE IN WBC TRAPPING NETWORK

Meghan Moran, OMAFRA Canola and Edible Bean Specialist

Western Bean Cutworm (WBC) levels seem to be increasing in Ontario's dry edible beans. In 2016 increased WBC activity was



Universal moth trap; 2 required per edible bean field.

observed, with hot spots located around the Bothwell and Thamesville area as well as Innerkip and Princeton. Peak WBC flight occurred from July 18 – 24 in the sandier soils of Oxford, and July 25 – 31 across Norfolk. Pod feeding typically occurs 10 to 20 days after peak flight. Slight to moderate pod feeding was observed through August and September. Although larvae have been nearly impossible to find in the bean crop in the past, several larvae were found in a few fields in 2016.

Farmers and agronomists across Ontario participate in a WBC trapping network to monitor movement across the province's corn fields. In an effort to better inform dry edible bean growers of moth movement, and to protect the bean crop from WBC damage, bean growers are also being asked to participate in the trapping network.

Edible bean growers from all areas are encouraged to take part and submit their trap data. Purchase of two universal moth traps (all green in colour) is required for each field, as well as vapour strips to exterminate trapped moths. WBC lures will be provided. The website is currently under maintenance, but after bean planting farmers and agronomists can create a profile at www.cornpest.com and mark their trap locations. Participants will then log in at minimum once per week to share their trap count data. Email wbctrappingnetwork@gmail.com to participate. Complete details on trapping, sharing data, and WBC factsheets will be provided. Participants will be informed by email when the traps should be set up in fields. All participant data are used to make interactive weekly maps that can be viewed on AgMaps at: <http://arcg.is/2nTD7PF>.

Given how difficult WBC is to find in dry beans prior to signs of pod feeding, there is currently no threshold at which growers should spray edible beans for WBC. Current recommendations are to monitor flight activity using traps, monitor egg mass activity in adjacent corn fields, then scout

edible bean fields for signs of feeding on pods. If dry bean traps accumulate 50 moths or more per trap, and adjacent corn fields are beyond tassel stages, that is a good indication the dry bean field is at risk. Watch www.cornpest.com for WBC peak flight information from your area, and scout for pod feeding each week after the peak flight period. High risk areas include regions around Bothwell and Innerkip, and fields with sandy soils although any location in Ontario can experience WBC activity.

Within bean fields the WBC larvae typically remain in the soil during the day and enter new pods to feed each night. If spraying is conducted as soon as some surface feeding scars or entry holes are observed on pods, larvae will come in contact with the insecticide when they next come out to feed. Farmers should follow the insecticide labels and take note of the pre-harvest intervals for each product.

To participate in the trap network contact wbctrappingnetwork@gmail.com, or for more information contact Meghan at meghan.moran@ontario.ca or 519-546-1725.



Example of WBC pod feeding

RESEARCHING MORE OPTION FOR WEED CONTROL IN ONTARIO BEANS

As our growers are aware, there is a limited number of herbicides available for weed management in dry beans. Currently, Pursuit (imazethapyr) and Permit (halosulfuron) are the only soil-applied herbicides registered for broadleaf weed control in Ontario dry beans. Although Pursuit (imazethapyr) is a very effective soil applied broadleaf herbicide, it has a narrow margin of crop safety, especially in the small seeded market classes of beans, specifically white and black beans.

This research project will develop numerous precision weed management strategies that have an adequate margin of crop safety, provide consistent broad spectrum weed control, have low environmental impact and maximize bean yield and net returns.

The project will focus on determining the following:

- The efficacy of Treflan (trifluralin) plus halosulfuron applied alone and in combination for broad spectrum weed control in white bean in Ontario.
- The efficacy of Dual (s-metolachlor) plus Permit (halosulfuron) applied alone and in combination for broad spectrum weed control in white bean in Ontario.
- The efficacy of Edge (ethalfluralin) applied alone and in combination with Permit (halosulfuron), Pursuit (imazethapyr) or Authority (sulfentrazone) for broad spectrum weed control in white bean.
- The efficacy of pethoxamid (a new Group 15 herbicide) for weed control in white bean compared to other soil applied annual grass herbicides.
- Tolerance of dry beans to pethoxamid applied preplant incorporated and preemergence.
- Tolerance of dry beans to group 15 herbicides including Frontier

(dimethenamid-p), pethoxamid, Zidua (pyroxasulfone) and Dual (s-metolachlor) applied preplant incorporated.

- Tolerance of dry beans to group 15 herbicides including Frontier (dimethenamid-p), pethoxamid, Zidua (pyroxasulfone) and Dual applied preemergence.
- Tolerance of dry bean to 2,4-D applied at various preplant intervals for glyphosate resistant Canada fleabane control
- The sensitivity of dry beans to Eragon (saflufenacil), Sencor (metribuzin), FirstRate (cloransulam), Broadstrike RC (flumetsulam) and Classic (chlorimuron) applied preplant for glyphosate resistant Canada fleabane control.

The project will also confirm the efficacy of Permit (halosulfuron) for the control of volunteer adzuki and soybean in white bean.

Tankmixes of Permit (halosulfuron) with Treflan (trifluralin), Edge (ethalfluralin) or Dual (s-metolachlor) at proper rate of application have potential to provide broad spectrum weed control in dry beans but their efficacy for weed control without injuring dry beans needs to be established under Ontario environmental conditions.

Pethoxamid is a new selective, Group 15 herbicide that inhibits seedling growth of target weeds. It is a new herbicide in the chloroacetamide family which primarily provides annual grass control but also has some activity on small seeded broadleaf weeds. It provides partial control of glyphosate-resistant common ragweed and waterhemp. It can be applied preplant, preplant incorporated and pre-emergence. In the U.S. and Canada, major crops identified for its use include corn, soybean, cotton, rice and sunflower. Pethoxamid is being developed as a solo product, as well as in preformulated mixtures with other broadleaf

herbicides. Pethoxamid has the potential to provide broad spectrum control of common annual grasses and small seeded broadleaf weeds in Ontario. Tolerance of dry beans to pethoxamid and its weed control efficacy in Ontario is not known and needs to be determined.

Glyphosate resistant (GR) Canada fleabane is an increasing problem in dry bean production, especially in no-till and strip-till production systems. GR Canada fleabane was first reported in Essex county, Ontario, Canada in 2010. As of 2015 there were 30 counties in Ontario with GR Canada fleabane from Essex county in the southwest to Glengarry county adjacent to the Quebec border. In addition, there are 23 counties in Ontario with multiple resistant Canada fleabane (Group 2 and 9). When it comes to managing glyphosate resistant Canada fleabane, dry bean producers need exceptional (near-perfect) weed control from prior to dry bean emergence right through the growing season.

2,4-D has been shown to provide partial control of GR Canada fleabane as a preplant burndown in soybean production, but sensitivity of dry beans to 2,4-D is not known. This research intends to determine tolerance of dry bean to 2,4-D applied at various preplant intervals for GR Canada fleabane control. This study will also determine sensitivity of dry beans to other herbicides including Eragon (saflufenacil), Sencor (metribuzin), Broadstrike RC (flumetsulam) and Classic (chlorimuron-ethyl) applied preplant for GR resistant Canada fleabane control. These herbicides alone or in a tankmix are expected to provide full season, residual weed control.

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