

## N.E.O.S.C.I.A. - Executive

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Janet Parsons ..... (705) 753-0730

### Secretary/Treasurer:

Morley Shepherdson ..... (705) 647-7108

## Ontario Soil & Crop Association Regional Directors

### Algoma, Manitoulin, Sudbury:

Murray Cochrane ..... (705) 842-5622

### Nipissing, Parry Sound, Muskoka:

Janet Parsons ..... (705) 753-0730

### Cochrane, Temiskaming:

Bill Muggler ..... (705) 647-8474

## District Soil & Crop Assoc. Contacts

### Algoma:

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### Cochrane North:

Bob Landis ..... (705) 272-6306

### Cochrane South:

Jim Clarke ..... (705) 232-4759

### Manitoulin:

Birgit Martin ..... (705) 282-1334

### Muskoka:

Kenneth Riley ..... (705) 764-1695

### Nipissing West/Sudbury East:

Gerald Beaudry ..... (705) 594-9149

### Parry Sound/Nipissing East:

Klaus Wand ..... (705) 724-2314

### Sudbury West:

Mack Emiry ..... (705) 865-2249

### Temiskaming:

Dennis Jibb ..... (705) 563-8405

## Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)

### Northern Ontario Regional Office

Ontario Ministry of  
Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
P.O. Box 521, Hwy. 64  
Caldwell Township Building  
Verner, ON P0H 2M0

**TOLL FREE / General Inquiry . . . 800-461-6132**

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*Beef Cattle Production Systems*  
*Program Lead . . . . . Tom Hamilton*

# Breaking Ground

(in Northeastern Ontario)

**SPRING 2007**

*A Publication of the North Eastern Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association (NEOSCIA)*

## On-Farm Research • 2007

It is said that for a farmer to be successful in the long term, he can greatly improve his chances by running at least three production experiments on his farm EVERY year. Yes, it does take extra time, but the potential benefits are considerable! There are also a number of community minded farmers who are willing to share these results with their fellow farmers. This year in the North-east will be a banner year for farm community-oriented field research, many of them funded in part by the OSCIA. Consider the following!

In Algoma we have a corn variety demonstration plot at Terry Brason's farm near Richards Landing. Sean Cochrane (Dekalb) supplied seeds in heat range from 2150 to 2650. Paul Oikari has demo's for Canola and high moisture grain near Desbarats, working with Sean Cochrane and Terry Phillips.

A three year project to study the sustainability of Reed Canary Grass is

taking place on Dave Wolgemuth's farm at Sowerby, with a second plot on the D-line road at Sailor's Encampment on St. Joseph island.

Hemp production and variety trials will be done by Ken McLeod of poplar Dale and Jason Koivisto on the Gordon Lake Road. Seed was provided by John Baker of Upper Canada Hemp. The project will determine the suitability of the area for fibre hemp production.

Elsewhere in Algoma are flax and soybean tests, and even farm-forest research into the production of Eastern Canadian Yew and hybrid willows.

In the Cochrane District, Darrel Becker of Val Gagne is undertaking an 11 variety oat trial. Seed is provided by Labonte Seed, La Coop Federee, SeCan, PRO Seeds, Belterre Seeds, Hyland Seeds, Bonis & Company Ltd., and Hendrick Seeds.

*Continued on page 5*



*John Guy assists Darrel Becker of Val Gagne in preparing for 2007 field research.*

### NOTE: **Sponsors/Advertisers needed for coming year. \$500 for 4 issues!**

This newsletter is published 4 times per year. Articles can be submitted in either English or French and should be submitted to the Communication Coordinator (see below). Please supply translation, if available.

Material in this newsletter is based upon factual information believed to be accurate. Action taken as a result of this information is solely the responsibility of the user. We reserve the right to edit articles.

*Send articles to:*  
Graham Gambles  
Box 586, Temiskaming  
Shores, ON P0J 1K0  
Tel: (705) 672-3105  
Fax: (705) 672-5959  
E-Mail: [gamblesgraham@yahoo.ca](mailto:gamblesgraham@yahoo.ca)

## Canada-Ontario Environmental Farm Plan

- protect soil and water resources
- enhance production returns
- show due diligence
- minimize environmental risk

Funding is now available through Federal and Provincial cost-share programs for beneficial management practices.

Contact the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association

1-800-265-9751



## Programme de planification environnementale à la ferme Canada-Ontario

- Protéger les ressources en sols et en eaux
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Vous pouvez maintenant obtenir une aide financière de programmes fédéraux et provinciaux à frais partagés pour l'adoption de pratiques de gestion bénéfiques.

Communiquez avec l'Association pour l'amélioration des sols et des récoltes de l'Ontario  
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[www.ontariosoilcrop.org](http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org)

The Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) A Federal-Provincial-Territorial Initiative  
Le Cadre stratégique pour l'agriculture (CSA) Une initiative fédérale-provinciale-territoriale

## Environmental Farm Plan Representatives

### Algoma:

Jonathan Stewart  
705 842-2182

### Muskoka:

Katya Riley  
705 764-1695

### Manitoulin:

Mary Scott  
705 377-4928

### Cochrane, Nipissing, Parry Sound, Sudbury and Temiskaming:

Clare Venne  
705 594-9194

# COMING EVENTS

## North Eastern Summer Tour 2007

July 25, 2007: Please see inserted flyer for information times and map.

In order to make lunch arrangements, the Parsons have asked those planning to attend to either email [janfarms@ontera.net](mailto:janfarms@ontera.net) or leave a message at 705-753-0730. Thank you for your co-operation.

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## Cochrane North Annual Soil & Crop Picnic

July 8, 2007 at 1:30 pm at the Sylvain Dairy Farm on Sylvain Road (just East of Kapuskasing). Pot luck supper. Drinks provided. Contact Bob Landis at 705-272-6306.

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## Algoma Summer Tour

Contact Murray Cochrane (705) 842-5622 for date and time.

.....

## Temiskaming SCIA Summer Tour & BBQ

Thursday, July 19, 6 pm at the 9-Mile.

## Tournée d'été 2007 le 25 juillet 2007

sur la ferme de John et Janet Parsons,  
1361 Chemin Gauthier, Cache Bay

8h45: Café

9h00: Atelier - Comment ajuster la moissonneuse-batteuse

12h00: Goûter - gracieuseté de la famille Parsons

12h45: Départ en autobus

13h00: Ferme Steven Roberge - Blé d'hiver et fèves blanches

14h30: Station de recherche agricole de New Liskeard - John Rowsell

14h30: Ferme Jean-Guy Séguin - Project de canola

15h15: Ferme Gérald Beaudry - Comment aménager le bord d'un cours d'eau avec Bill Hagborg

16h30: Retour aux voitures

NOTE: La famille Parsons veut une confirmation de votre présence pour planifier le goûter. Téléphonez: 705-753-0730

.....

## Western Quebec Livestock Tour

Aug. 2 & 3 visit beef, dairy & sheep farms on the "Western Quebec Livestock Tour" of Guiges, Poularis, Macamac & LaSarre. Contact Jay Labonte (OMAFRA) at 705-647-2089 or email [jay.labonte@ontario.ca](mailto:jay.labonte@ontario.ca)

## THE JOHN NETHERCOTT MEMORIAL AWARD

By Robin Flewwelling

John Nethercott was a crops farmer in Dymond Township (Temiskaming Shores) who died in an accident while delivering fuel. He was the Provincial Director to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture for the Temiskaming and Cochrane Federations and was very active at both the local and provincial levels. John also participated on the local Soil and Crops committee, Snowmobile club and other volunteer groups and could usually be found helping out whenever there was work to be done.

John was never afraid to try different crops or techniques on his farm. Sometimes the crops didn't turn out as good or the equipment would not do as well as he had hoped it would but he never gave up. John always learned from his experiences and carried on.

We feel it is very important to encourage those who try to improve the way they do things by thinking outside the box. Without those who are willing to take the risks of alternate crops or new technologies the in-

dustry would never move ahead. Without volunteers such as John was, events like this would never happen.

The first recipient of this award certainly meets the criteria. Although he farms on a much larger scale than John did, those qualities are very much a part of what he does. His work with biological soil treatments and fertilizers and willingness to share what he has learned with others shows his dedication to trying different technologies. Volunteering, for events such as this, show the leadership qualities that are very much needed in all farming sectors. His trials with crops such as hemp show that he is willing to take risks and think outside the box to improve his operation. This young crops farmer definitely exemplifies what we feel John Nethercott contributed to this industry and area.

It gives me great pleasure to present the 2007 John Nethercott award to David Schill of Schill North-Land Farms.

# RESOURCES • E-Bulletin

*Parry Sound - Nipissing - Sudbury*  
East Ontario Ministry of Agriculture,  
Food and Rural Affairs

**Northern Ontario  
Regional Office (NORO)**

Toll Free: 1-800-461-6132  
Fax: 705-594-9675

Please note that the target publication date of this bulletin is the first Friday of each month. Submissions for the bulletin and requests to subscribe/unsubscribe may be forwarded to: [pierrette.desrochers@ontario.ca](mailto:pierrette.desrochers@ontario.ca).

## Upcoming Local Events:

### 1. Open House for Final draft of West Nipissing's Official Plan, June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Auditorium of West Nipissing Public Library, 225 Holditch St., Sturgeon Falls, 7:00 pm.

Follow up meeting: June 26<sup>th</sup>. Same meeting place @ 7:30 pm.

The plan establishes the policies and principles for land development and use.

### 2. Power Breakfast-Feel Good Stories on West Nipissing, June 20<sup>th</sup>

Sturgeon Falls Comfort Inn, Hwy 17 W., Sturgeon Falls. 7:30 am.

Visit: [www.westnipissingouest.ca](http://www.westnipissingouest.ca) Call to register: 705-753-5737

### 3. North Eastern Summer Tour 2007, July 25<sup>th</sup>

Presented by North Eastern Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association in conjunction with the West Nipissing East Sudbury Soil and Crop Improvement Association

**Start Location:** John & Janet Parsons, 1361 Gauthier Rd, Cache Bay,

**Start time:** 8:45 am- 4:30 pm

**RSVP by email:** [janfarms@ontera.net](mailto:janfarms@ontera.net) or by phone: 705-753-0730

Watch for details in the coming issue of "Breaking Ground"

## Upcoming Provincial Events:

### 1. Maple Syrup Producers Summer Tour & Conference 2007, July 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>.

Richard's Landing, St. Joseph's Island. Registration Deadline: June 1<sup>st</sup>.

For information and registration, contact: Sharon Stevens @ 705-246-2264 or [wesley\\_stevens@hotmail.com](mailto:wesley_stevens@hotmail.com)

### 2. Eastern Ontario Crop Diagnostic Day, July 17<sup>th</sup>

Winchester Research Farm, Kemptville Campus, U of G

### 3. July 22, 2007 – Ecological Farmers Association presents a workshop on Renewable Energy

McSmith's Organic Farm, beginning at 1:00 pm until approx. 4:30 pm. For more information or to register, contact McSmith's Organic Farm, 42828 Shorlea Line, St. Thomas, 519-631-0279.

### 4. August 4, 2007 – Ecological Farmers Association presents a workshop on Organic Crops and Beef

At the farm of Bruce and Diane Hahn, R.R.# 3 Monkton. For more details or to register contact the Hahns, #5657 Perth Line 55, east of Monkton, 519-347-2742.

### 5. August 28, 2007 – Farm\$mart Farming Systems Expo – Farm and Ag Industry Day

Elora Research Station, University of Guelph. Wednesday is 4H and Rural Youth Day. For details call 1-877-424-1300 or visit <http://www.uoguelph.ca/farmsmart/>

### 6. September 11 – 13, 2007 – Canada's Outdoor Farm Show

Canada's Outdoor Park, Woodstock, Ontario. Full details at <http://www.outdoorfarmshow.com/enter.html>

### 7. September 18 – 22, 2007 – International Plowing Match and Country Festival

Leeds-Grenville County at Crosby, Ontario. Details available by visiting <http://www.ipm2007.ca/>



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## Resources

1. **New & revised publications** – Available through Northern Ontario Regional Office @ 1-800-461-6132

a) **Publications:**

Publication 3845: 2007 Supplement, Turfgrass Management Recommendations

b) **E-Newsletters:**

Horse News and Views is now available on our web site at: <http://www.omafr.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/horses/news.html>.

CEPTOR Animal Health News refer to the website at [www.omafr.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/ceptor/news.html](http://www.omafr.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/ceptor/news.html)

Virtual Beef now available on our web site at: <http://www.omafr.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/beef/news.html>

Vegetable Viewpoint now available on our web site at: <http://www.omafr.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/veg-news/2007/vg0607.htm>

*Continued on page 7*

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# Nipissing/ Parry Sound/ Muskoka SCIA News

by Janet Parsons, Director

The North Eastern Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association Summer Tour is being held in conjunction with the Nipissing West SCIA summer tour on Wednesday July 25, 2007. The details are elsewhere in Breaking Ground but we want to extend an invitation to everyone to attend.

The Verner test plots which are managed by the New Liskeard Research Station have moved to a new location on Hwy 64 south of Verner. They're just past the hydro transfer station. Please stop in and have a look at the plots or join us on the tour.

Katya Riley of Muskoka SCIA reports that they are busy working on a labor initiative for farmers and "hopefully we'll be able to pull it off" she says. One proposal involves working with the resorts in an apprenticeship program that would bring farming to the resorts and young people to the farms.

The West Nipissing Seed Fair and Conference held in March at the Verner arena was a big success again this year with Norm Delorme the overall champion showman and France Beaudry the runner-up. Special thanks goes out to the many sponsors of prizes and awards: Leisure Farms and Coverall Buildings, Groulx Garage, Verner Ag Center (Co-op), Brouillette Builders, Gerald Beaudry, Spectrum Feeds (Bernard Proulx), Cambrian Insurance (Gaetan Beaudry), R.L. Equipment, Caisse Populaire de Verner Ltee, Pioneer Seed (Murray Jantzi), Banque National, WNES Milk Committee.

## Hybrid Poplar At NLARS

*John Rowsell and John  
Kobler, Northern Stations,  
University of Guelph*

If you are driving east on Hwy 65, you will notice about 10 acres of bare ground with some small trees planted in it. We have established a hybrid poplar clone site trial in conjunction with the University du Quebec en Abitibi-Temiscamingue (UQAT) and Forestry Research Partnerships (FRP).

Hybrids are created by crossing two species of the genus *Populus* that do not normally interbreed, such as *Populus nigra* (Lombardi Poplar) and *Populus deltoides* (Eastern Cottonwood). Crossing two species can result in trees that grow very rapidly, and may reach harvest diameters in 15 -20 years in our climate, 7-8 years in Oregon. Fast growing strains of these hybrids are referred to as 'clones' because they are produced by cuttings rather than seed, and are genetically identical to the tree from which they came. They are not genetically modified.

There is renewed interest in hybrid poplar. Its is seen as a potential source of fiber for the forest products industry, as a renewable source of 'hog' fuel for co-generation plants, as a potential source of feedstock for cellulose-based ethanol production, and as a good sink for carbon dioxide thereby helping to fight global warming. Much work was done on hybrid poplar by MNR and the University of Toronto about 20-30 years ago. Interest waned because many of the clones developed at the time were not very winter hardy.

We established plantations at our research stations in Thunder Bay and Emo in 1999, and in Emo in 2002-2004. The results have been disappointing. These trees are very fussy. They need lots of moisture, but not too much. They do not compete well with weeds for water and nutrients, and require warm soils to develop their root systems; hence, recommendations call for bare ground to be maintained until the tree's canopy closes and shades the ground (5 years). They are also delicious to deer (eat the tops), mice and rabbits (girdle the trunks) and tent caterpillars (eat the leaves).

So, why are we trying them here in New Liskeard? There has been a lot of work done recently to develop hardier mate-

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rial. Our partners at UQAT and FRP have a great deal of expertise in this area. We are evaluating 18 clones in the trial. Some started as cuttings, some as rooted stalk. The trial has 3 replications and the clones are randomized within each replicate so we can deal with effects of location on tree performance. The trees at NLARS are planted in a grid 12.5' apart so we can get between them with our cultivation equipment to maintain bare ground.

Northern Ontario has large quantities of underutilized private land that may be suited to production of hybrid poplar. They could be considered as a long-rotation crop for northern farms. We are working to identify the clones that will survive and then develop management techniques that are practical.

## Northern Ontario Agri-Food Education & Marketing Inc.



1540 Hwy. 17E  
Wahnapitae, ON P0M 3C0  
PH: 705 694-4396 FAX: 694-2030  
noront.agrifood@sympatico.ca  
www.norontagrifood.org

Feed North

# North Eastern Ontario Winners of Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence

By Janet Parsons, Director

Five districts in North Eastern Ontario had regional winners in the Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence. More than 230 individuals and businesses across Ontario shared their ideas, inventions and innovations. A committee of their peers selected just 55 to be presented with the award. Mack Emiry of Sudbury West was one of the judges. The following were selected as regional winners.

**Muskoka District - SAVOUR Muskoka** is a collective of farmers united with two clear objectives: to provide regional and unique products to consumers and to promote agri-businesses in the region. The successful marketing program includes a logo and wide promotion of the products. This initiative has revitalized local producers in the region. Muskoka Soil and Crop Improvement Association was a founding member of SAVOUR Muskoka (SM) and many of its members are SM members.

**Algoma District - Algoma Cattlemen's Association** - Internet marketing has allowed members of this association

to directly market whole animals to the consumer in convenient 25 and 50 pound packages. Producers are happy with their returns and customers keep returning for the quality beef. The future looks bright as this association expands into a year-round business.

**Nipissing District - Roche Court Farms** - Finding specialized service for farm equipment in the north was not easy until the Parsons hit on and developed the idea of having a team from John Deere visit their community to provide repair and maintenance for several farmers at once. This has saved many farmers excess overhead costs and down time.

**Manitoulin District - Burt Farm country Meats** - Max Burt has a good business going, now that he has added meat processing and retail sales to his organic sow production operation. Burt learned how to cure and smoke the meat he was producing and he also converted workshop space into a retail outlet. Now, he has a sustainable, vertically integrated and profitable establishment.

**Parry Sound District - Spring Valley**





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**Farms - Keeping livestock safe, sound and profitable during transport** inspired James Zulak to invent a bumper system to protect animals in trailers. The bumper system has been moulded out of a polymer called Salflex 562, a product used by automobile makers. This profitable endeavour has provided a useful tool that can be added to any trailer for the safe transportation of all livestock.

This is a 5 year program and farmers are encouraged to participate. For a complete list of winners and guidelines for next years' competition, go to the OMAFRA website.

## On-Farm Research • 2007

*Continued from page 1*

Temiskaming has an extensive set of corn plots running on the farms of Basil Loranger, Lee Laframboise and Raymond Plante. Corn varieties in the 2175 to 2425 Corn Heat Unit range are being tested. This includes material from Pickseed, Elite, Pioneer, Pride, NK, Dekalb, and Speare Seeds. Extensive labour on the research is provided by Dan Tasse and summer student Jay Labonte of OMAFRA.

In Nipissing, Steven Roberge is evaluating winter wheat while Jean-Guy Seguin has a field project on Canola. John Rowsell of NLARS is also active in developing new research plots in the Verner area.

Meanwhile, NEOSCIA is completing its 3 year study into the relationship between canola yields and Sulphur fertilization in

Nipissing and Temiskaming. This year the primary tests are being run on the farms of Janet Parsons (Hwy #17, just east of Verner) as well as on the farms of Darren Gray, Harold Leaton, Bill Muggler and Clair Simpkin in Temiskaming. Funding for these projects comes from OSCIA, Agri-Food Laboratories of Guelph, and the "Northern Heritage" grants from OMNDM.

These sites are available for all farmers to see. Make a point of viewing the ones in your area at the very least. All results will be listed in the upcoming issues of Breaking Ground. ( Now isn't that a good reason to support your local Soil and Crop Association? Membership is \$10 for the year. Make out a cheque to NEOSCIA and send it to Morley Shepherdson, Treasurer.



**West Nipissing  
Soil & Crop  
Improvement  
Association**

# Temiskaming IPM 2009 Update

May 2007 marks one year since we received the news that Temiskaming would indeed be the 2009 host of the International Plowing Match. In that one short year we have accomplished a great deal, but the best is yet to come.

On June 26<sup>th</sup> 2007 the Temiskaming IPM 2009 will host the official launch. The event will be held in the southwest corner of Ferme Rivadale's alfalfa field which borders on Hwy. 11 and Gravel Road. Lunch will be served featuring Northern Ontario Golden Beef and Thornloe Cheese and should the weather prove to be too wet or windy, the launch will be moved to the Earlton Community Center to ensure drier conditions. Watch for more information on this very exciting event.

The Souvenir Cookbook is being created by a local committee of good cooks. IT will be ready for sale by the fall, in time for gift giving at Christmas 2007.

New Liskeard Agricultural Society has graciously donated space to the Temiskaming IPM 2009 at the Fall Fair 2007. Watch for

our booth and come out and support our fundraising initiatives.

The Horse Show Committee of the Temiskaming IPM 2009 will be creating a calendar for 2008 with full colour pictures of local draft horse teams & hitches. Each page will highlight draft horse owners from our area. These calendars will be available for sale as a fundraiser for the IPM 2009.

Our logo is almost ready!! By the next update, we will be showcasing the logo and starting to use it as our identifying brand for the Temiskaming IPM 2009.

Our Board of Directors has changed! Unfortunately, Fred Deacon decided to step down because of other commitments within the community, but he will remain as a special assistant to the Chairman during the Match in 2009. Stepping in to take over Volunteers, Gates and Information Booths is Alvin Willard. Welcome to the Board Alvin.

The Executive has been touring northeastern Ontario making presentations to Municipal Councils to educate and inform

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them on the Upcoming Temiskaming IPM 2009. The reception has been warm and welcoming and the support has been excellent. The communities from North Bay to Hearst are excited about the opportunity to shine at the Temiskaming IPM 2009.

Watch for more updates on the IPM 2009 in the next Breaking Ground.

# 50 Years with Blessing and Thanks

*by Nora Egan, Cochrane Times - Post, Friday April 20, 2007*

He came from a family of 11 and she only had one brother but George and Ada Struyk although they both came from Holland came from two different worlds, met and have been blessed in life with a loving family, successful in their endeavours and are thankful for every moment that they share.

On April 17th the children of Ada and George held an open house at the Cochrane Christian Reform Church to celebrate a milestone, 50 years of marriage and a time to celebrate with family and friends and to share they years which the two look back on fondly.

Ada was the first to move from Holland with her family in 1947. In 1949 George and his large family pulled up roots and also moved to Canada. Neither new one another in Holland so how did the two meet?

Ada was quick to respond to this question.

"I was asked to attend a youth rally by a friend and I wasn't going to go because we didn't have a ride home but I ended up going anyway. At the end of the rally George came up to me and offered me a ride. I had no way of getting home so I said yes. When he dropped me off he asked if he could come back on Saturday and I said alright."

That Saturday, after confirming with her mother that George would be arriving the clock ticked, 8:00... no George... 8:30 no George finally he arrived.

George told his tale about the late arrival. "When I brought her home it was dark and when I returned, I couldn't remember what road I had gone down. I stopped at one place and said I was looking for a girl Ada and that she was a daughter of a pig farmer." He was then given directions. The irony of this tale was there were two girls living on the same road about the same age and both pig farmers daugh-

ters. He went to the right farm and on April 5, 1957 Ada and George Struyk were married in Hamilton, Ontario.

It was in 1969 they moved to Cochrane and Ada commented, "We have never regretted it a day!"

They began life on the farm, something they were both familiar with and focusing on dairy cattle and cream.

Of course, over the years their two distinct ways of being raised, raised eyebrows but between the two, they learned to compromise. "Everyone is different and you have to adapt and accept. The mainstay has been our faith, we begin each day with a prayer and before each meal and before we go to bed," added Ada.

Over the years Ada and George have raised their family in Cochrane and watched them grow and some move on. Their children, Carolyn, Adrian, Lene, Richard and

*Continued on page 16*



## RESOURCES - E-Bulletin

Continued from page 3

For a complete listing of OMAFRA newsletters, browse to: <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/newsletters.html>

Categories include crops, livestock, agri-cultural business

### New Business

#### 1. Province Recognizes On-farm Innovation in North Eastern Ontario

The five-year, \$2.5-million Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence, announced as part of the 2006 provincial budget, recognizes that farmers have always been innovative in the running of their businesses and will foster even greater innovation across the province's agri-food sector.

Four local producers received the regional Premier's Awards for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence.

Algoma Cattlemen's Association, Algoma District Internet marketing has allowed members of this association to directly market whole animals to the consumer in convenient 25 and 50 pound packages. Producers are happy with their returns and customers keep returning for the quality beef. The future looks bright as this association expands into a year round business.

Burt Farm Country Meats, Manitoulin District Max Burt has a good business going now that he has added meat processing and retail sales to his organic sow production operation. Burt learned how to cure and smoke the meat he was producing and converted workshop space into a retail outlet. Now, he has a sustainable and profitable establishment.

Roche Court Farms, Nipissing District Finding service for farm equipment in the north was not easy until the Parsons developed the idea of having a representative from John Deere visit their community to provide maintenance for several farmers at once. This has saved many farmers excess overhead costs and down time.

Spring Valley Farms, Parry Sound District Keeping livestock safe, sound and profitable during transport inspired James Zulak to invent a bumper system to protect animals in trailers. The bumper system has been moulded out of a polymer called salflex 562, a product used by automobile makers. This profitable endeavour has provided a useful tool that can be added to any trailer for the safe transportation of all livestock.

Individuals and/or groups representing agri-food businesses and organizations were eligible to submit applications. The innovation had to have been developed and used on an Ontario farm, must have the potential for use on a broader basis and for having a positive effect on the agriculture industry. Applications were reviewed by an independent panel comprising a cross-section of Ontario's agri-food industry. Four broad criteria were used: Uniqueness and originality, Stage of development, the impact or benefits of the innovation, Adoption and/or commercialization.

Congratulations to our local winners! Start thinking of your on-farm innovations and prepare to apply for the 2007 Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence! For more information, visit: [http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/premier\\_award/index.html](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/premier_award/index.html)

#### 2. Heat Stress Reduction by Barry Potter, Regional Livestock Specialist

As the warm weather starts to invade the north, remember three key steps to reduce heat stress in dairy barns:

- Ensure the natural ventilation system is working effectively by reducing any barriers to natural air flow around buildings and checking the wall design. Some screening used to keep birds out can greatly reduce air flow.
- Provide adequate water space and volume. Water consumption increases as temperature increases. It's important to have an unrestricted water supply when and where cows need it.
- When natural ventilation cannot handle the heat load, supply supplemental cooling over the cows. This can increase their convective cooling rate significantly. If heat stress is still a problem, sprinkler or fogging systems can be used to increase the evaporative cooling rate.

Read the article by Harold House on Keeping Cool: Set Up Supplemental Fans Now to Comfort Cows Next Summer at: [http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/dairy/facts/info\\_keeping.htm](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/dairy/facts/info_keeping.htm)

#### 3. FCC AgriSpirit Fund

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) is accepting applications from rural community groups under its AgriSpirit fund until June 15, 2007. This \$500,000 program supports community enhancement capital projects including but not limited to emergency



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services equipment, playgrounds, museums, community markets, recreation centers and community halls. Successful applicants will receive between \$5,000 and \$25,000 to assist with the implementation of their project. Eligibility criteria and the on-line application can be accessed at:

[http://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/AboutUs/Responsibility/agrispiritfund\\_e.asp](http://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/AboutUs/Responsibility/agrispiritfund_e.asp)

#### 4. Cost of Production Payment

The \$400 million Cost of Production Payment is a direct payment to producers this year to help address high production costs over the last four years. Most producers do not have to apply and will receive a payment automatically. New farmers or producers who did not participate in CAIS for 2004 are eligible but must send in an application. Application forms are now available. The deadline to apply is September 1, 2007. For more info, visit: [www.agr.gc.ca/cop](http://www.agr.gc.ca/cop)

#### 5. Mosquitoes are back!

To protect yourself and your family from West Nile Virus, read OMAFRA's Controlling Mosquitoes on Horse Farms and Rural Properties factsheet @ [http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/horses/facts/info\\_mosq.htm](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/horses/facts/info_mosq.htm)

#### 6. Agricorp Reminders

T1163 Form for CAIS Details: Individuals and partnerships must submit a T1163 Form to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) by June 15, 2007. Email: [contact@agricorp.com](mailto:contact@agricorp.com) Visit: <http://www.agricorp.com/en-ca/>

## ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

by Len Davies

More and more farm families who are contemplating the transfer of the farm to the next generation since the first wave of the baby boomers are now at that point in life that their farming children are actively involved in the farm business. At first it may appear to be a daunting task but it does not have to be. Some of the following alternatives may help you in your thought process. There are however many other options available and you have to choose the option that suits you and your farm situation the most.

So let's look at some alternative options.

The following scenario is what I have used to develop the options. We have a farm couple Mr. and Mrs. Smith who have one son who wants to farm and 2 daughters who are living in a city, all with careers of their own.

### Alternative #1

The son farms with his parents until the last parent passes away. At that point the son buys his sisters out. This scenario has several problems:

- What happens if the parents change their wills and leave it to the girls only?
- Can the son afford to buy out his sisters at that point in time?
- What happens if one of his sisters (or both) want to continue owning the farm?
- What happens if the son loses interest since he has no ownership?
- Is it fair for the son to wait that long to see what the end result will be?
- If he was not on the farm the parents may have had to sell the farm years before their death at a value far below what it would be when he has to buy it from his sisters. If the son had to purchase it then he would be buying out some of his own equity.

### Alternative #2

The Smiths could purchase a last to die life insurance policy on them leaving the son the farm and the two daughters the life insurance benefit at the death of the last surviving spouse.

So let's look at this scenario:

- Both parents must be healthy to apply for a life insurance policy.
- The premiums maybe too high if the parents are older or the parents qualify but a health issue makes the premiums more expensive.
- Does the son want to wait that long to eventually get ownership of the farm?
- Life insurance premiums are far less expensive than mortgage payments.
- The son feels better knowing a plan is in place for him to become the eventual owner.

### Alternative #3

You could look at an option where the son buys the farm at the death of his father. He may purchase a life insurance policy on the life of his father only. At his father's death his mother would have the funds to retire on. Any funds not utilized by the mother would be passed on to the two daughters. Under this scenario:

- The son gets ownership earlier if the father dies first.
- Father has to be insurable.
- Premiums could be expensive if father is in advancing years or has a health problem.
- Life insurance premiums are less expensive than mortgage payments.

### Alternative #4

Split the farming enterprise in two. One part could have all the farming assets other than the farm land and which would pass to the son at the death of the first person. (may have some of the farmland in it also) And the second part would have just the land in it. There could be a first to die policy to purchase the first portion of the assets to be transferred. The purchase of the remaining assets transferred at the last death would funded by the proceeds of the last to die.

- The main advantage here is to get some of the assets into the son's hands sooner than waiting for the last death.

- The mother if she is the survivor will get access to some cash to fund her retirement rather than relying from proceeds from the already cash strapped farm.

- A last to die policy is less expensive than a first to die policy. Both in this alternative will be used to fund 100% of the farm transfer.

- One drawback is that the son does not get ownership of the farm land until the last owner dies.



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- Assets other than land will not be eligible for capital gains exemption so your tax liability could be higher using this scenario.

### Alternative #5

Incorporate the farm would be an easy way to let the son get ownership of the farm immediately. An incorporated scenario would look like this:

- Son would own minimal shares now and as the farm appreciates in value the increase would go to the son.
- The parents would own preferred shares which would not increase in value and an estate freeze would be in place.
- There are extra costs involved when incorporating.
- You would lose your capital gains exemption if you included your residence in the corporation.
- A last to die life insurance policy could be purchased to fund the purchase of the preferred shares by the corporation from the daughters. This must be backed up with a buy-sell agreement that is triggered at the death of the preferred shareholders.
- Incorporation may not be for everybody since it is difficult to dissolve later if that becomes an issue. One must be aware of the downsides of incorporating before they decide to go that route. Research this option carefully before you decide to incorporate.

There are many other alternatives available to transfer the family farm. You need to develop one that suits your needs, goals and objectives and those of your immediate farm family. We have not even touched on the financial, tax and legal implications of these scenarios. These are the reasons why you need to include all of your farm advisors when drafting up a succession plan for you and your farming enterprise.



**Len Davies** CFP CLU CIP EPC CAFA  
Member of Million Dollar Round Table

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# Timmins Farm Wins Business of the Year Award

In April The Timmins Chamber Of Commerce held their fourth annual Nova Awards to recognize excellence in business. The Nova Awards were established in 2003 as a way to recognize the accomplishments of Timmins area businesses. For the 2007 ceremony more than 60 nominations were received for consideration in the fourteen award categories. One of this year's recipients was Haasen Farms Limited, a Timmins dairy herd operation, which was recognized with the Business of The Year award for companies with one to five employees. Haasen Farms Limited was nominated for this prestigious award by Andre Legault, of Legault Sod Farms. The farm is run by Frank and Ivy Haasen with help from their youngest son Eddy, Frank's father John as well as their herdsman Jim Kirkman.

The Haasen farm was originally purchased by John Haasen and his wife Dina shortly after they emigrated from Holland in 1959. At that time the farm consisted of 23 milking cows and 159 acres. Their son Frank, who is now the primary operator of the farm, joined the family business in 1975 after graduating from the agricultural program at New Liskeard College. Today the farm has grown to over 500 acres with 80 milking cows, producing over 2100 litres of milk a day. Frank's youngest son Eddy has recently joined the family business after completing a two year diploma at Kemptville College.

The Haasens are part of a dying breed in the Timmins area, though there were four dairy farms in Timmins less than ten years ago, today only their operation remains.

There are many hurdles that must be overcome to farm in the sometimes harsh climate in Timmins, but the Haasens have taken an innovative approach to running their operation. They started installing tile in 1976 to help with drainage, and now over half a million feet of it run through their fields. This has allowed Haasen Farms Limited to produce larger volumes of more nutritious feed for their cattle. The Haasens also have to deal with a lack of agricultural suppliers in the Timmins area. To resolve this problem they often deal with suppliers of the mining and forestry industry,

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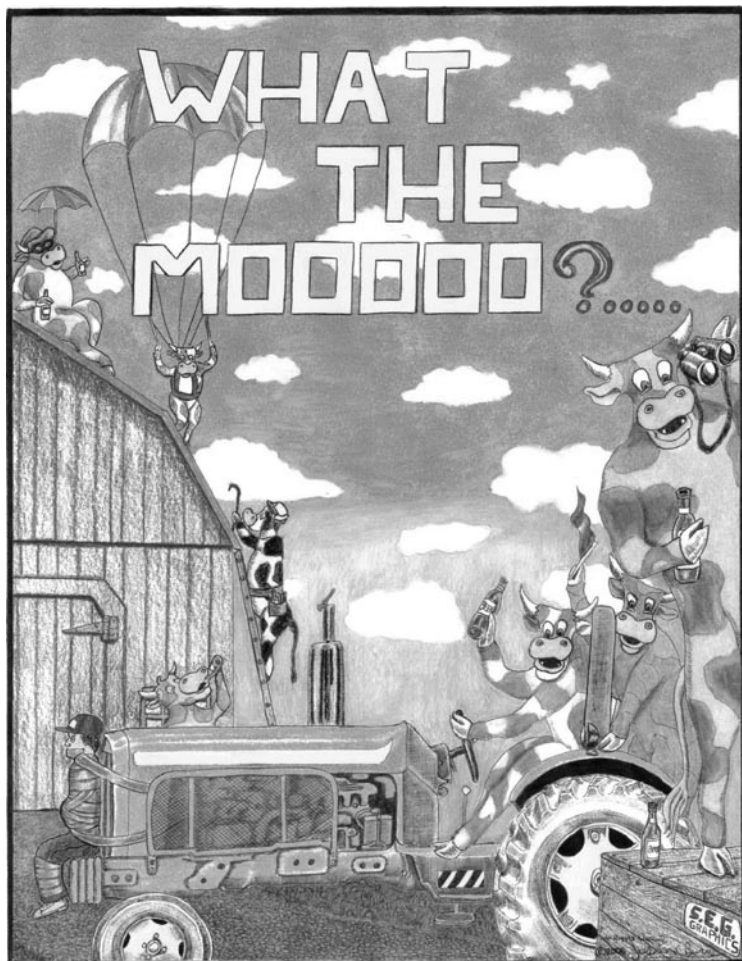
The Nova Award is not the first honor Haasen Farms Limited has received for excellence in Business. The farm was awarded the Gold Seal Certificate of Excellence in 2006 from the Dairy Farmers of Ontario for "shipping milk of excellent quality." In 2006 their BCA was 220 milk, 228 fat and 227 for protein. Haasens have also won several awards from individual cows. Since 2000 they have been the highest producing herd in the Cochrane district.

Haasen Farms Limited has been well established in the farming community for many years, and now it seems that they are catching the attention of their business counterparts in the city of Timmins. They are proof that the family farm can still thrive in Northern Ontario.

## Fermier de Timmins gagne prix d'affaires prestigieux

En avril, la chambre de commerce de Timmins a célébré leur quatrième prix annuels Nova pour récompenser l'excellence dans les affaires. Les prix Nova ont été créés en 2003 en guise de reconnaissance pour les accomplissements des entreprises dans la région de Timmins. Cette année, au delà de soixante nominations ont été reçues, dans l'espoir qu'elles soient reconnues dans l'une des quatorze catégories de récompense. Un des récipiendaires cette année fut La ferme Haasen Farms Limited, une entreprise de troupeaux de vaches laitières à Timmins, qui a été reconnue dans la catégorie de «compagnie

*Continued on page 20*



This month's cartoon comes from Justin Burry of Englehart. View more of his work at <http://justin-burry.tripod.com>



# OSCIA News...

June 2007

A NEWSLETTER TO UPDATE OSCIA MEMBERS,  
PRESIDENTS, SECRETARIES, TREASURERS, DIRECTORS,  
AND OMAF CROP TECHNOLOGY CONTACTS —

## Table of Contents

Message from the President

OSCIA Membership Cards

2007 Ontario Forage Masters Program

Farm Safety - Operation of Augers

OSCIA Membership Display

Peas as a Cover Crop

OSCIA Resolutions

Ontario Forage Expo

OSGA Growers' Update

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Web site: <http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org>

## OSCIA 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

**Date:** February 5 & 6, 2008

**Place:** Sheraton Fallsview  
Niagara Falls

## Message from the President

As I am writing this report, it is a very dark and rainy day. Some early cut hay that was either wrapped wet or silaged went in as very good quality feed. Each day the grasses do mature, but it is very difficult to make dry hay with the weather we are experiencing now. Corn and small grains look great here in the East Central area of Ontario. Soybeans are advancing well too, with some concern about the talk of a drop in temperature tonight (June 5) to very close to freezing, I hope the forecasts are wrong!



*Frank Hoftyzer*

From the program updates, there are some that will have been completed with final reports being worked on. Others are ongoing, like the "Green Seeker" project to measure actual variability of N requirements in a field. Measurements will be done 4 or 5 times this year. Evaluating cover crops for N holding ability is another project that could prove beneficial to our farming practices. A number of new projects are under way at this time also.

Membership in OSCIA is always on our agenda, and we are eager to hear how county Soil and Crop Associations are meeting the challenge to increase membership. The new member's card that will be distributed shortly will add professionalism to our organization, and we hope that you will use them proudly, and talk to non-members about them.

The EFP program is very successful. As of May 15/07, 10,529 new and returning participants have taken the workshop over the past two years. Thank you to all the field staff for your commitment to the program.

The Ontario Forage Masters program is again being strongly supported. This year, 244 participants, many 4-Hers, have registered from 27 counties. Great! We appreciate the sponsorship of Pickseed Canada Inc. and Agri-Food Laboratories. Thank you to the participants and sponsors for their support of the 20<sup>th</sup> year of this successful program.

# Breaking Ground (in Northeastern Ontario)

I would like to thank the office staff, those who have been with OSCIA for some time, and others who have just joined us, for your commitment and energy in support of OSCIA.

I wish the best and safety to all who work to provide food and resources to all. ♦

## OSCIA Membership Cards

At the recent annual meeting of the OSCIA, the Board of Directors approved a new version of the OSCIA membership cards. The cards have a unique number and a location for the current year's sticker, along with a place for the member's name.

A supply of these cards are being sent to the secretary of each local association to complete and distribute to their paid-up members.

The OSCIA membership card may be used at select events/locations to provide registration fee discounts or any additional creative use provided by the local associations. Meetings are currently taking place with various event organizers to develop this partnership.

The Board trusts that you will find the membership card valuable, and that the members will carry them proudly to local Soil and Crop events. ♦

## Ontario Forage Masters Program enters 20<sup>th</sup> Year!

2007 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ontario Forage Masters program, and is off to a fantastic start. A record 244 participants from 27 counties/districts have registered for the program.

This year's sponsors include Agri-Food Laboratories and Pickseed Canada, in cooperation with the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association. ♦



## Farm Safety - Operation of Augers

*The following is reprinted from the Canadian Agricultural Safety Week 2007 - a supplement to the Elmira Independent, Fergus-Elora News Express, and Arthur Enterprise News.*

Some tips to operate your auger safely:

- Always leave shields in place.
- Keep children away from operating grain augers.
- Start grain augers safely.
- Empty the auger before stopping it.
- Be careful when moving augers.

- Adjust grain auger height carefully.
- Don't try to grab the crank.
- Set up carefully and block the wheels.
- Limit the number of people around the auger when in use. ♦

## OSCIA Membership Display

OSCIA has revamped and revitalized the OSCIA membership display which is available to local associations for meetings and events.

Please contact Evelyn Howse at the Provincial Office (1-800-265-9751) if you wish to borrow the display. ♦

## Peas as a Cover Crop

*The Thames Valley Regional Soil and Crop Improvement Association is conducting trials under the Partner Grant program. Following is the interim report on their activities:*

**Background:** Investigations into the opportunities for various cover crops after winter wheat harvest have been ongoing since 2004. From these trials, peas have shown great promise to either replace red clover as a cover crop, or be used to fill in gaps in a clover stand. Of note, trials in 2006 at one location near Lucan showed peas far outperforming either oat or oilseed radish when biomass production was significant, and fall tillage (fall 2005) was difficult due to the volume of cover crop production. Corn yields following peas were significantly higher in this situation than following any other treatment.

However, it is not well established if corn yields significantly improve following peas planted as a cover crop, as initial results have been extremely variable. To further investigate this potential, the Thames Valley Regional Soil and Crop Improvement Association (TVRSCIA) initiated a three year project in the summer of 2006. Strips of peas were planted in fields following winter wheat harvest throughout the region. Corn will be planted in these fields in 2007, along with two replicate tests of nitrogen rates on both the pea strips and the check strips (no peas planted). These plots will be repeated in 2007/2008.

**2006 Plots:** 23 plots were established across south western Ontario, with wide geographic distribution (from the Niagara peninsula to Lake Huron to Kent county). Pea seed was sourced from either western Canada (dry pea seed), or from by-pass fields that canners in Ontario had been unable to utilize (processing peas). Pea planting dates varied widely, from late July to early September. While most co-operators drilled the pea seed in, several growers broadcast the pea seed and disced it in, to attempt to reduce seeding costs. In one location disced pea seed was compared to drilled seed to determine relative establishment.



# Breaking Ground (in Northeastern Ontario)

## 2006 Results:

**1. Establishment:** Pea stand establishment was much less than expected. Seeding rates were targeted at 75 pounds/acre, but stands were thin at most locations. Even growers that bumped seeding rates to 100 pounds/acre had disappointing stands. It is unknown as to the reason for poor establishment. Seed source did not appear to have an impact, nor did baling straw vs spreading straw. There is some suggestion that slugs may have been feeding on and killing pea seed seedlings, but there is no proof of this hypothesis.

**2. Seeding Date:** Seeding date had a huge impact on the amount of growth achieved by the pea crop. Peas seeded in late July showed excellent growth, with plants flowering and setting seed before freeze-up. In the best fields, peas could have been harvested as fresh table peas just prior to killing frost. However, peas seeded in early September had minimal growth, and in many cases were only 4 inches (10 cm) high when killing frost occurred. This wide differential in growth is partly due to the extremely cool, wet fall conditions experienced, but also indicates that early planting will be essential if peas are to be successful.

**3. Seeding method:** Broadcast peas followed by disking showed significantly poorer establishment than drilled peas. In fields that were packed following the disc, establishment did improve but still did not equal that of drilled peas. Alternate, cheaper methods of pea establishment still need to be developed, in an effort to make this a more economical endeavour.

**4. Grower feedback:** Despite disappointing stand establishment, most growers were encouraged by what they saw. In many cases, green pea strips stood in stark contrast to unplanted strips, and the potential for increased corn yields and decreased nitrogen requirements have co-operators intrigued as to the outcome next corn harvest.

**2007 Plans:** Two replications of nitrogen rates will be imposed on the corn planted into these fields in 2007. Nitrogen rates will include both a zero N treatment, along with a "full rate" nitrogen treatment, and most economical rate of nitrogen (MER-N) will be calculated using the delta yield concept, for both the corn following peas as well as the corn following no cover crop. In fields that allow, 4 nitrogen rates will be replicated (0, 50, 100, 150), and MER-N will be calculated using the quadratic plateau method.

Sites will again be planted to peas following wheat in the summer of 2007. Good co-operators are always welcomed. Anyone interested in this project should contact their local Soil and Crop director, or Peter Johnson (519 271 8180, [peter.johnson@ontario.ca](mailto:peter.johnson@ontario.ca)).

## OSCIA Resolutions

A number of resolutions were passed at the OSCIA Annual Meeting held in February.

These resolutions have been mailed to relevant organizations, and as replies are received, they are posted to the OSCIA website.

Be sure to follow your local association's resolution by looking on the website under Members/Associations.

### ONTARIO FORAGE EXPO

The Peterborough County Hay Day and Ontario Forage Expo is being held in Peterborough County on **Wednesday, July 25.**

Demonstrations of the latest forage equipment.

Forage industry trade show exhibits.

Everyone welcome! No admission fee.

Lunch will be available.

Keynote forage speakers:

Jim Glenn - "Marketing Hay"

Joel Bagg - "Baleage Tips"

Sponsored by the Peterborough SCIA and the Ontario Forage Council

For more information, contact:

Ontario Forage Council 1-877-892-8663

### ATTENTION SEED GROWERS

Growers' Update - Thursday, June 28  
Petrolia

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This year an RSVP will be required

Watch for notices arriving soon!

OSCIA WEBSITE

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# CROP TALK



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Northern Ontario Regional Office: 1-800-461-6132  
OMAFRA Web Site: [www.omafra.gov.on.ca](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca)

### *Additional Information from OMAFRA*

Refer to the OMAFRA Website (see above) for the following topics of interest:

**No-Till Corn Planting Following Early Hay Harvests**

**Foliar Fungicides on Soybeans**

**Soil Management Workshop**

**FRENCH? All information in english from OMAFRA is also available in french at: [www.omafra.gov.on.ca](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca)**

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*Corn Industry Program Lead*

Tracey Baute  
*Entomology, Field Crops Program Lead*

Editor: Joel Bagg, *Forage Specialist*

Compiled by: Marian Desjardine, OMAFRA, London

## Recording Pasture Events

*by Jack Kyle, Provincial Grazier Specialist, OMAFRA*

What pasture records are you keeping for the 2007 grazing season? Was your pasture more or less productive than last year? Do you have records to show the results of each of the past years performance for both the pasture and the livestock? These records will enable you to make comparisons that will provide valuable management information. Over time record keeping can give you an informative picture of your grazing management, and provide the tools to make more profitable grazing decisions.

A good set of pasture records provides details of what has happened and will allow for accurate comparison from one year to the next. A pocket notebook and three-ring binder can form the basis for a good system. It can be expanded to a complex computer spreadsheet if you are so inclined.

The records can be as simple or as complicated as you wish, but can include:

- weather data - rainfall amounts, frost dates, extreme summer temperatures
- forage or sward - pasture species mix, fertilizer application, forage growth at different times during the grazing season
- livestock - size, type and number of animals, frequency of moves to new paddocks, beginning and ending dates of grazing season, amount of residual forage, supplemental feed required.

Each year is different in the grazing business, but with records you will be able to analyze the differences. Did

a lack of rain or too much rain affect production? One of the things that can happen is that lots of rain makes for green grass, yet cattle gains often are not as impressive as the grass growth. In a dry year, it often appears like the gains will be very low, and yet at weigh-off the gains can be better than might have been expected. Height and density are the two important components in

sward evaluation. There are a number of tools to assist in measuring the amount of forage present, including a grazing stick or pasture plate.

With a good set of notes and records you will be able to manage your pasture for maximum returns.



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# Field Scouting Tips

by Gilles Quesnel, Field Crop Integrated Pest Management Specialist, OMAFRA, Kemptville

When it comes to assessing crop establishment, early plant development and pest management needs, a simple windshield observation or drive-by will not do. While field scouting has to be kept simple, each field needs to be walked individually.

Basic tools for field scouting includes a clipboard to record information, a pocketknife, plastic bags to collect specimens, a hand lens, a measuring tape, and a hula-hoop for population counts.

When scouting, look for things that will affect yields, such as plant population, emergence, soil compaction, crusting, diseases, insects, weed escapes, herbicide injury etc.

Your field scouting pattern must be representative of the whole area. When scouting, take into account changes in variety/hybrid, soil type, past cropping history, fertilizer/manure application and any other factors that can affect plant growth.

To calculate plant population in row crops, count the number of plants in 1/1000 of an acre and then multiply the count by 1000 to obtain the number of plants per acre. Table 1 below lists the row length equal to 1/1000 of an acre at various row widths.

Table 1

What's 1/1000 of an acre	
Row Width In Centimetre (inches)	Length of Row Equal to 1/1000 Acre
33.0 cm (15")	10.62 m (34 ft., 10 in.)
50.8 cm (20")	7.97 m (26 ft., 2 in.)
76.2 cm (30")	5.33 m (17 ft., 5 in.)
81.3 cm (32")	4.98 m (16 ft., 3 in.)
91.4 cm (36")	4.42 m (14 ft., 6 in.)

To determine plant population and pest infestation levels in narrow row crops, a sampling frame with a known area can be placed on the ground for the counts. This is done using a square frame (e.g. 50 cm x 50 cm equal 0.25 m<sup>2</sup>) or a circular frame (e.g. a Hula-hoop). The Hula-hoop method is displayed in Table 2. Using the Hula-hoop, determine the number of plants per acre by counting the number of plants found inside the hoop and multiplying that number by the prede-

termined factor for the diameter of your hoop, which is listed in Table 2.

Table 2

Diameter of Hoop in Centimetres (inches)	Factor by Which to Multiply the Number of Plants Within the Hoop to Equal the Number of Plants per Acre
91 cm (36")	6,221
84 cm (33")	7,301
76 cm (30")	8,925
69 cm (27")	10,820
61 cm (24")	13,852

Regardless of the method used to determine plant population and pest infestation levels, at least 10 random counts should be taken in each field to determine an average.

The starting point for diagnosing problems is to look for patterns. Look for areas where the problem occurs and where it is absent.

- Crop problems that are consistent with the topography or the soil type of the field are more likely to be soil related than caused by pests or field operations.
- Problems which are worse on one side or edge of the field are likely to be related to spray drift or to the movement of insects into the field from one side.
- Problems, which occur on isolated plants throughout a field, may relate to diseases such as root rots.
- Problem areas within a field, which have sharply defined boundaries or appear in strips, are often related to field operations. Nematodes, however, are immobile enough that the edge of a nematode-infested spot may also be very distinct.
- Problems that are concentrated in one row but do not appear in an adjacent row are usually equipment or starter fertilizer related. The distance between affected rows will provide some insight into the width of the piece of equipment involved. At times, crop patterns may also relate to old field boundaries which could be up to ten years old or more.

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## Along the Road to Organic

by Hugh Martin, Organic Crops Lead, OMAFRA

Growers have heard about organic production and the potential for good financial returns. You also have probably heard of some horror stories. Every grower owes it to themselves to do some investigating to determine if there are opportunities for organic in their operation. Do some research.

How do you grow it? Where do you sell it? There may be some ideas that you would want to adopt.

*Don't be afraid to change.*

### Organic Farm Tours

There are often summer tours of organic farms where you can see what is being done. Some of these tours will be listed at [www.efao.ca](http://www.efao.ca). You could also visit some organic farms on your own. Some farms may have weeds or other issues, but make sure you see the whole picture. Looks can be deceiving! I remember 20 years ago when no-till was becoming more popular. No-till did not look very good to most of the experienced farmers, just because it was different!

### Organic Neighbours

If you have an organic farmer in your neighbourhood get to know them and

*Continued on page 16*



## Straw For Sale - What Is It Worth?

by Christine Brown, Nutrient Management Lead, Peter Johnson, Cereals Specialist, & Greg Stewart, Corn Lead, OMAFRA

Straw value is determined mostly by supply and demand. At what price is the straw better left in the field? Soil nutrient value of straw is at least 1.0 ¢/lb. This price should be at least 2.0 ¢/lb if nitrogen, organic matter and soil structure are a high priority for the field.

The sale of straw should at least recover the fertilizer replacement value. Fertilizer replacement value depends on the straw yield and cost of fertilizer, but there are also other factors to consider. Some of the reasons for removing straw may include:

- potential yield reductions caused from difficulties of no-till planting into straw residue,
- existing soil fertility levels are high and/or manure or red clover are returned to the field on a regular basis,
- additional trips or field operations are required to uniformly spread or incorporate straw and chaff, and
- low supply of straw resulting in higher demand and higher return. Determining Wheat Straw Yield

With current wheat varieties there is a tremendous range of straw yield. The traditional rule of thumb was that one bushel of wheat grain produced one small square bale (35 lbs). That would translate into about 1.25 tonnes/ac straw for an 80 bushel crop. Realistic straw yields range between 1 to 1.75 tons/ac and are closely tied to wheat variety and grain yield. A

straw yield of 2 tonnes/ac would be very optimistic, but not impossible. Table 1 shows the relationship between grain and straw yield based on variety.

Table 1: Impact of Wheat Variety Height on Straw Yield (2006 data)

Variety	Grain Yield	Straw yield	Straw yield	
Emmit	100 bu/ac	3525 lbs		1.6 tonne /ac
25R47	100 bu/ac	2200 lbs	1.0 tonne /ac	

### Determining Straw Value

If selling the straw off the field is the best option, then as a minimum the price should reflect the fertilizer replacement value of the straw. The values of straw types estimated in Table 2 are based on average nutrient removal and average fertilizer prices. These values do not include organic matter value or micro nutrients. Many growers feel that the organic matter value far exceeds the nutrient replacement value. Organic matter value is significant, but will depend on many factors differing for each field and is definitely an individual decision.

### Should Nitrogen Value be Considered in Straw Value?



Ruth Snider  
(705) 647-5937

The nitrogen contained in straw is not returned to the soil in the year following the wheat crop. For this reason some people only consider the phosphorus and potash value. Straw has a high carbon to nitrogen ratio, which means that soil nitrogen may actually decrease while the straw is broken down. The nitrogen in the straw is utilized by the microbial populations in the soil and becomes an important part of the soil organic matter. However, this process occurs over the longer term. This means that the nitrogen in straw will be more valuable from a soil quality perspective in a field that does not receive regular manure applications or does not have forages or red clover in the rotation.

Table 2: Estimated Nutrient Value of Various Straw Types

Straw Type	Grain Yield	Straw N - P - K Removal (lbs/ac)	Straw Value/ac P & K only <sup>1</sup>	Straw Value P & K only <sup>2</sup>	Straw Value/ac N, P & K <sup>1</sup>	Straw Value N, P & K <sup>2</sup>
Wheat	75 bu/ac	60-10-95	\$32.5	1.1 ¢/lb	\$62.5	2.1 ¢/lb
Barley	75 bu/ac	30-10-70	\$ 25	0.8 ¢/lb	\$ 40	1.3 ¢/lb
Oats	75 bu/ac	25-10-85	\$29.5	1.0 ¢/lb	\$ 42	1.4 ¢/lb
Rye	50 bu/ac	25-15-70	\$ 27	0.9 ¢/lb	\$39.5	1.3 ¢/lb
Corn stover	150 bu/ac	80-33-143	\$56	1.4 ¢/lb	\$96	2.4 ¢/lb

Source: Potash and Phosphorus Institute – 1998

<sup>1</sup> Commercial Fertilizer Value: N= \$0.50 P205= \$0.40 K20= \$0.30

<sup>2</sup> Value based on 3000 lbs/ac straw yield; 4000 lbs corn stover yield

## Along the Road to Organic *Continued from page 14*

their practices. Work with your organic neighbours on cropping practices. Don't allow pesticide spray to drift onto your neighbours. They will likely be "certified organic", which means that they applied for certification last spring. This included a very detailed application form on their production practices, and they will be inspected this summer.

The inspector will make sure that there is at least 8 metres of buffer zone between the organic crops and non-organic crops. There must be 18 metres between organic soybeans and Roundup Ready soybeans. The distance between GMO and organic corn is required to be 600 metres. The organic sector feels this dramatically larger buffer is necessary because of the large distance that corn pollen can potentially travel. This is similar for canola. The organic manufacturing industry has very low tolerances for adventitious GMO content in organic products. GMO corn has a huge impact on the potential to grow organic corn.

### *Transition Crops*

Most organic farms start with a good rotation. They need 36 months as a "transition period" before the harvest of the first organic crop. During that period,

only permitted organic inputs can be used. A hay crop that has not had any

pesticide or fertilizer can be a good transition crop. Winter wheat can be a good transition crop, but you may need nitrogen from a previous legume or from manure before planting.

Spring cereals underseeded with red clover can also be good transition crops. The best crop rotation rules are:

- a crop should never be repeated, and
- keep the ground covered with cover crops as much as possible.

### *Manure Use*

It is recommended manure be composted. Manure cannot be used within 120 days of harvest of a food crop, or 90 days if the edible plants parts do not touch the soil. Manure can be brought onto the farm from non-organic sources, with the approval of the certification body. Manure from caged layer operations or "landless" livestock operations are not allowed. Non-organic manure must be composted 6 months to reduce any residuals of non-organic feeds or other products in the manure.

### *Weeds, Insects & Disease*

The issues and challenges of each crop are different.

Weeds are a common problem, but good early management is key. Timely, shallow, mechanical weed control works



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in most crops. Early vigorous growth and healthy crops will help the crop to compete. Don't let the weeds get the upper hand.

Insects and diseases are not serious problems for most field crops. You cannot use treated seed or GMO traits, but good quality seed planted into warm soil conditions usually get the crop off to a good start.

Good crop rotations break pest cycles that result from continuous crops. Crops yield more with crop rotation.

As you drive down the road and see an organic farm look at the opportunities and wonder "what if"!



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## 50 Years with Blessing and Thanks

*Continued from page 6*

Aileen as well as their adopted children Ann, Kate, Brenda, Rick, Jackie and Jeff along with their 19 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren have brought them much joy over the years, and for that they are forever grateful.

Fifty years has gone by fast but the couple continue to do some farming. "In 1994 we sold the big farm to Adrian and Carolyn the other farm. We built the home we are in now and I still have 25 head of beef cattle to keep me busy and I help the others along with my potatoes which is my hobby. If I would really retire, I would die of misery," said George.

As for Ada, she remains involved in as much as possible, the Church, baking and

the Farmers Market. "I don't know how much longer I can continue doing the Farmers Market but I will do what I can," she added.

Following the beautiful open house held at the Christian Reform Church they both commented on how blessed they were and the words which summed up the past 50 years were: "We're all kind of like mountain climbers and we always need a hand the church community show how we help each other out along life's pathway. You need the valleys in order to appreciate the mountain tops. In the end He is in control and He can take it away. We have been blessed with everything we have." Ada and George Struyk.

# Pricing Standing Hay

by Joel Bagg, Forage Specialist, OMAFRA, Lindsay

## *What is standing hay worth and what is a fair price?*

The price of standing hay is what the market determines it is, not necessarily what we think it should be. From the seller's point of view, the price should cover the cost of production and provide a profit. However, there are limits to what buyers can and will pay that are related to the price of livestock, as well as the availability and price of other forages.

There is a tremendous range in standing hay prices. In recent years, we have seen prices from zero to over 3¢/lb of dry hay produced. The cost of production for a hay crop is typically at least 2¢/lb.

However, the market does not always recover this.

Some years, standing hay might trade from 1.5 to 2¢/lb for first-cut. Hay prices are often extremely volatile until after 1st cut, when there is a better idea of what the hay supply will be for the year. Similar to 2006 when there was a good hay crop, supply can exceed demand, reducing the price paid for second- and third-cuts.

## *Supply & Demand!*

When hay supplies are low during dry years or following winterkill, standing hay will be in demand and worth more. Poor pasture years, when hay is fed during the "summer slump", also results in greater demand. The amount of spring inventory "carryover" from one year to the next can have a big impact. Lots of hay has been advertised for sale. There appears to be the potential for adequate hay in most parts of the province.

## *Higher Corn & Soybean Prices?*

During years of higher corn and soybean prices, land shifts from hay to grain production, especially from some of the older, low yielding hay

fields. Typically, hay prices will then increase in the longer term. A decade ago when we had some higher corn and soybean prices, we also saw a much stronger market for standing hay. Hay supplies became tighter, and some standing hay prices jumped up to as high as 3 or even 4¢/lb.

## *Factors That Affect Price*

- **Cutting Date & Percent Alfalfa** -The earlier the date of cutting and the better the quality, the more the standing hay will be worth. Hay cut later will be worth less per pound, but there will be more pounds. Hay stands that contain more alfalfa are usually worth more.
- **Yield, Weeds & Age of Stand** -Higher yielding fields will be worth more per pound because the fixed harvesting costs per acre are spread over more lbs. Generally, newer stands are worth more, while hay fields that have been seeded down for a number of years will be weedier, lower yield, and worth less.
- **Location** -The location of the field relative to the buyer is important. A livestock producer may be willing to pay more if he doesn't have to haul long distances. A seller needs more than one interested buyer in order to bargain a higher price.

## *Considerations For The Seller*

Sellers should start by determining their own cost of production per pound of standing hay. In an example budget, assume a \$40 per acre land rental value, a four year hay crop, using typical custom rates and input costs, and a 6,000 lb annual hay yield in a 2-cut system. The cost of production for the standing hay in this example works out to about 2 cents per pound of dry hay, or \$120 per acre per year.

## *Don't Forget P & K Removal*

Forage has high fertility requirements

and these costs are increasing. With a mixed stand, the value of phosphorous and potassium removal is close to 1 cent/lb. As an example, assuming a mixed stand with a modest yield of 3 tons per year, hay will remove about 36 lbs of P205 and 138 lbs of K2O, with a value of \$56 (assuming P205 @ \$0.40, K20 @ \$0.30). Without manure or commercial fertilizer, the soil test will drop quickly. Assuming that it takes about 35 lbs/ac of P205 and 20 lbs/ac of K20 to move the soil tests by 1 ppm on some soils, after 5 years the P205 soil test could drop by 5 ppm and the K20 by 35 ppm.

Occasionally, standing hay is given away to avoid the down-side of leaving it in the field. The fixed costs, such as establishment, have already been paid regardless of whether or not the crop is harvested. As a minimum, a producer may want to recover the variable costs, which include the nutrient removal.

## *Considerations For The Buyer*

Buyers should consider what their costs will be after the hay is baled. In this same example budget, swathing and raking costs 0.7 cents/lb, while large round baling costs about 0.8 cents.

This means that the standing hay costing 2 cents per pound would result in a total cost of 3.5 cents, or \$28 per bale for an 800 pound bale in the field.

This may or may not reflect the local market. Also consider that in a standing hay transaction, the buyer assumes the weather risk of that hay getting rained on.

To accurately determine the pounds of hay sold it is helpful to weigh some bales or wagon loads. Pounds of haylage can be converted to a dry hay equivalent by adjusting for percent moisture.

It is important that you make your own assumptions and calculate your own costs to determine what you feel is an acceptable price. Then negotiate the best you can. Crop budgets and custom rates are available on the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs website at [www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/analysis.html](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/analysis.html).



# BULLETIN GRANDES CULTURES



**MAAARO – des spécialistes en grandes cultures – votre source d'information**

## Comparaison de la valeur de divers types de fumiers

par Christine Brown, chef, gestion des éléments nutritifs, MAAARO, Woodstock

Le fumier est précieux, d'autant plus que les prix des engrais continuent d'augmenter. Mais quelles sont les différences entre les divers types de fumier appliqués en quantités comparables? Le

tableau ci-dessous montre une comparaison des quantités de N, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> et K<sub>2</sub>O calculées à partir des teneurs moyennes du fumier de plusieurs types de bétail. Pour un épandage fournissant environ 130

livres de P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, ces chiffres reflètent des quantités correspondant à un épandage normal précédant une culture de maïs et conforme aux pratiques de gestion optimales des éléments nutritifs.

Valeur des éléments nutritifs de plusieurs types de fumiers, épandage des quantités habituelles pour le maïs				
Type de fumier(moyenne)	Quantité	Éléments nutritifs ajoutés 1 livres/ac N-P-K (~N de l'année précédente)	Valeur, 2007 (N-P-K à court et à long terme) Avant l'application Après l'application <sup>2</sup>	
Liquide, porc 5 000 gal/ac(galons/acre)	115-120-90	140 \$	90	
Liquide, élevage laitier	7 500 gal/ac	130-120-190	185 \$	110
Solide, élevage laitier	20 ton/ac	75-125-215	170 \$	110
Solide, boeuf de boucherie	15 ton/ac	(33) 55-125-185	150 \$	105
Solide, poudeuses	5 ton/ac	(15) 85-155-85	135 \$	120
Solide, poulets à griller	3 ton/ac	(30) 60-140-105	135 \$	125
Biosolides anaérobiques	10,000 gal/ac	130-130-0	135 \$	135

- On suppose un épandage au printemps et une incorporation en moins d'un jour.
- 1 Azote disponible pendant l'année de l'épandage
- 2 Coût de l'épandage, 10 \$/1 000 gallons ou 3 \$/tonne (le coût s'accroît avec la distance du point d'entreposage)
- Valeur en \$/livre N-P-K = 0,50-0,40-0,30

### Autres valeurs

Le fumier contient également des oligoéléments en quantité variable selon les rations, mais il permet de réduire les achats de zinc, de manganèse et de soufre dans le cas des élevages de bétail. Le fumier présente aussi l'avantage de fournir de la matière organique au sol. Il est difficile de chiffrer la valeur économique de la matière organique puisque son effet est moins évident à court terme. À long terme, des épandages réguliers de fumier, et en particulier de fumier sol-



ide, améliorent la capacité de rétention de l'humidité et le recyclage des éléments nutritifs, et ils rendent les cultures moins vulnérables aux conditions extrêmes comme l'excès d'eau ou la sécheresse.

Pour calculer les quantités d'éléments nutritifs disponibles et la valeur du fumier de plusieurs types de bétail, veuillez consulter le site Web du MAAARO à l'adresse <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/french/crops/soils/fertility.html>.



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## L'épandage de fumier sur les fourrages, une solution économique

Christine Brown, chef, gestion des éléments nutritifs, MAAARO, Woodstock

Selon les résultats d'un essai effectué par l'Association pour l'amélioration des sols et des récoltes de l'Ontario (OSCIA) d'Oxford, l'épandage de fumier sur les cultures fourragères peut améliorer à la fois le rendement et la qualité par rapport aux épandages de potassium commercial ou à l'absence d'épandage.

Pendant l'été 2006, on a appliqué du fumier après une deuxième ou une troisième coupe (à raison de 2 000 à 4 500 gallons/acre) après des récoltes de foin ou d'ensilage préfané sur 8 parcelles semblables. Sur des récoltes de luzerne et graminée, l'épandage de fumier a permis une augmentation de 12 % du rendement et une légère amélioration de la qualité. Lorsqu'on compare les paramètres de qualité dans un tableau de calcul des quantités de « lait par tonne » de fourrage, on constate que l'épandage de fumier a produit une augmentation moyenne de 88 livres de lait/tonne (amélioration de la qualité) et de 229 livres de lait par acre par coupe (rendement + qualité). Ces résultats apparaissent dans le tableau.

### Avantages de l'épandage de fumier sur les cultures fourragères

La meilleure option est encore l'épandage de fumier au printemps sur les cultures de maïs, parce que qu'on obtient ainsi le meilleur rendement économique à partir de l'azote. Cependant plusieurs raisons peu-

vent inciter un éleveur de bétail à opter pour l'épandage de fumier sur les cultures fourragères, par exemple :

- répartition de la charge de travail sur les moments de l'année les moins occupés;
- réduction des besoins en entreposage du fumier;
- prévention du tassement des sols;
- davantage d'opportunités et de cultures de remplacement sur lesquels on peut épandre du fumier;
- quantités épandues plus faibles, donc risques moindres pour l'environnement. L'épandage de fumier sur les cultures fourragères permet de répondre à ces objectifs tout en fournissant le N-P-K qui permettra d'éviter l'ajout d'engrais commerciaux.

### L'importance d'effectuer l'épandage au bon moment

Lors de l'épandage de fumier sur les cultures fourragères, le plus grand défi est de procéder au bon moment pour éviter les lésions d'origine mécanique. Un champ d'ensilage préfané représente le cas idéal parce qu'il est récolté plus rapidement que le foin sec. Il est essentiel que l'épandage de fumier soit effectué aussitôt que possible après la récolte. Après un épandage de fumier sur une repousse de luzerne, les plantes touchées par les roues doivent recommencer leur croissance, et celle-ci se fera à partir des bourgeons de la cou-



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ronne et non par une combinaison des bourgeons apicaux et des tiges. Lorsque l'épandage de fumier a lieu d'une semaine et demie à deux semaines après la coupe, la perte de rendement peut atteindre 50 % aux endroits touchés par les roues.

Il est essentiel que le bétail reçoive des fourrages de bonne qualité; pour tous les fourrages, le choix de la date de la récolte est donc une priorité par rapport à l'épandage du fumier. Par conséquent, lorsqu'on prévoit

l'épandage de fumier sur des cultures fourragères, il faut disposer de la main-d'oeuvre et du matériel permettant d'effectuer à la fois la récolte et l'épandage de fumier au bon moment. D'autres solutions seraient de destiner

l'épandage de fumier aux champs qui sont coupés en dernier ou de faire épandre le fumier à forfait.

Amélioration du rendement et de la qualité après application de fumier sur les cultures fourragères (moyenne de huit parcelles en 2006)

	Rendement	Qualité	Livres de lait produites par le fourrage									
Traitement	Rendement par coupe (tonne/ac)	Différence	PB	FDA	FDN Lignine K UNT lb/tonne	Différence lb/acre	Différence					
(Nombre d'échantillons)	Tonnes, matériel humide	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	% (lb)		% (lb)	
Sans fumier (60)	6,41		21,8	36,0	47,0	7,5	2,8	60,1	1 442		1 485	
Avec fumier(68)	6,97	8,0	22,1	35,1	45,9	7,0	3,1	61,0	1 530	5,6 (88)	1 714	13,4 (229)

1 Obtenu à l'aide de Milk91 avec toutes les valeurs par défaut sauf les paramètres de qualité du fourrage (prix du lait, 72,55 \$/hL).

Milk91 est une feuille de calcul Excel qui se fonde sur l'analyse des fourrages (PB, FDA, FDN) pour calculer la valeur approximative d'une ration équilibrée à partir des valeurs du CNRC.

# NEOSCIA Annual Trade Show & Conference, 2007



For the first time ever, this Farm Show was held at Earlton and it can be considered to be a successful move!

tickets indicate that urban people, primarily from Temiskaming Shores, were the people who failed to attend this year.

There were 840 paid admissions at the door, plus 109 free tickets for children. In addition, the 68 attending vendors usually had 2 people on staff, many of whom were farmers themselves. We can therefore conclude that the total attendance was slightly in excess of 1000. This compares to between 1100 and 1200 people attending at New Liskeard last year. Registration

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Based on telephone numbers, we found that 77% of attendance was from Temiskaming, 9% from Quebec, 7% from Cochrane, 3% from S. Ontario, and 4% from all the other Districts of the North East.

The event is expected to be held in Earlton again next year in Early April.

## Fermier de Timmins gagne prix d'affaires prestigieux

*Continued from page 9*

de l'année ayant de un à cinq employés». La ferme Haasen Farms Limited a été nommée par André Legault, un fermier de gazon de Timmins. La ferme Haasen Farms Limited est gérée par Frank et Ivy Haasen. Les propriétaires de la ferme ont l'appui de leurs employés, soit Eddy Haasen, leur fils cadet, John Haasen, le père de Frank, et Jim Kirkman, le gardien des troupeaux.

Initialement, la ferme Haasen a été achetée par John Haasen et son épouse Dina. Le jeune couple a fait l'achat de cette entreprise lorsqu'ils ont émigré de la Hollande en 1959. À ce moment-là, la ferme comptait vingt-trois vaches à lait et cent cinquante-neuf acres de terrain. C'est ainsi que Frank, passionné par l'entreprise de son père, décide de se lancer en affaires avec sa famille en 1975. Cela dit, il obtient son diplôme en agriculture, du collège de New Liskeard. Depuis l'achat de la ferme, elle s'est accrue à plus de cinq cents acres et quatre-vingts vaches à lait. En tout, La ferme Haasen Farms Limited produit plus de deux mille cent litres de lait par jour. Récemment, Eddy, le cadet de la famille Haasen, s'est joint à l'entreprise familiale. Suivant le même parcours que son père, Eddy Haasen a obtenu son diplôme en agriculture après deux ans d'études au Collège de Kemptonville.

La ferme Haasen Farms Limited fait partie d'un genre d'entreprise qu'on pourrait quasi considérer «en voie d'extinction». Précisons. Environ une décennie passée, il y avait quatre fermes laitières à Timmins. De nos jours, La ferme Haasen Farms Limited elle la seule entreprise de son genre. En effet, il peut y avoir plusieurs obstacles lorsqu'on opère une ferme dans le climat difficile du nord de l'Ontario. Ainsi, La ferme Haasen Farms Limited a adoptée une approche innovatrice pour assurer le succès de leur entreprise.

En 1976, les Haasen ont installé un système de drainage dans leur établissement. Présentement, on peut retrouver plus d'un demi million de pieds de tuiles qui traversent les champs de la ferme Haasen. Grâce à ce système de drainage, la ferme Haasen peut maintenant produire de plus grands volumes de nourriture nutritive pour leurs bétails. Ajoutons que le climat n'est qu'un défi pour l'entreprise. La ferme Haasen Farms Limited doit également surmonter l'obstacle du manque de fournisseurs de produits agricoles dans la région de Timmins. Pour résoudre ce problème, ils décident de créer un lien avec les fournisseurs de l'industrie minière et forestière de la région, puisqu'elles sont bien équipées pour pouvoir répondre à plusieurs de leurs besoins.

A vrai dire, le prix Nova n'est pas la première reconnaissance dans le domaine des affaires pour La ferme Haasen Farms Limited. En 2006, la ferme fut reconnue par les fermiers de laiteries de l'Ontario avec un certificat d'or pour l'excellence pour leur «lait d'expédition de qualité». Entre autres, les Haasen ont aussi gagné plusieurs prix pour leurs vaches de «haute qualité». Enfin, en 2000, la ferme obtient une autre reconnaissance, soit celle du troupeau laitier le plus productif dans la région de Cochrane. Dans 2006 leur MCR était 220 lait, 228 gras et 227 pour la protéine.

Ceci dit, on peut conclure que La ferme Haasen Farms Limited est très bien établit dans la communauté agricole depuis plusieurs années, puisqu'elle reçoit maintenant la reconnaissance de ses pairs dans le domaine des affaires de la ville de Timmins. La ferme Haasen Farms Limited est donc la preuve qu'une entreprise familiale, telle qu'une ferme de vaches à lait, peut encore prospérer et connaître le succès dans le nord de l'Ontario.