

Environment, Technology and Research Committee
OCPA Annual Meeting Report
March 9, 2009

OCPA Supported Research Projects:

Each year, Ontario Corn Producers' Association (OCPA) invests a portion of license fees in research projects. This license fee investment is often used to leverage government and industry sources of funding. The research funding landscape changed in 2008 when the CORD IV (Canada-Ontario Research and Development) program was completed, with no federal replacement program available. From April 2005 to December 2007 CORD funded nearly \$1.2 million in corn research.

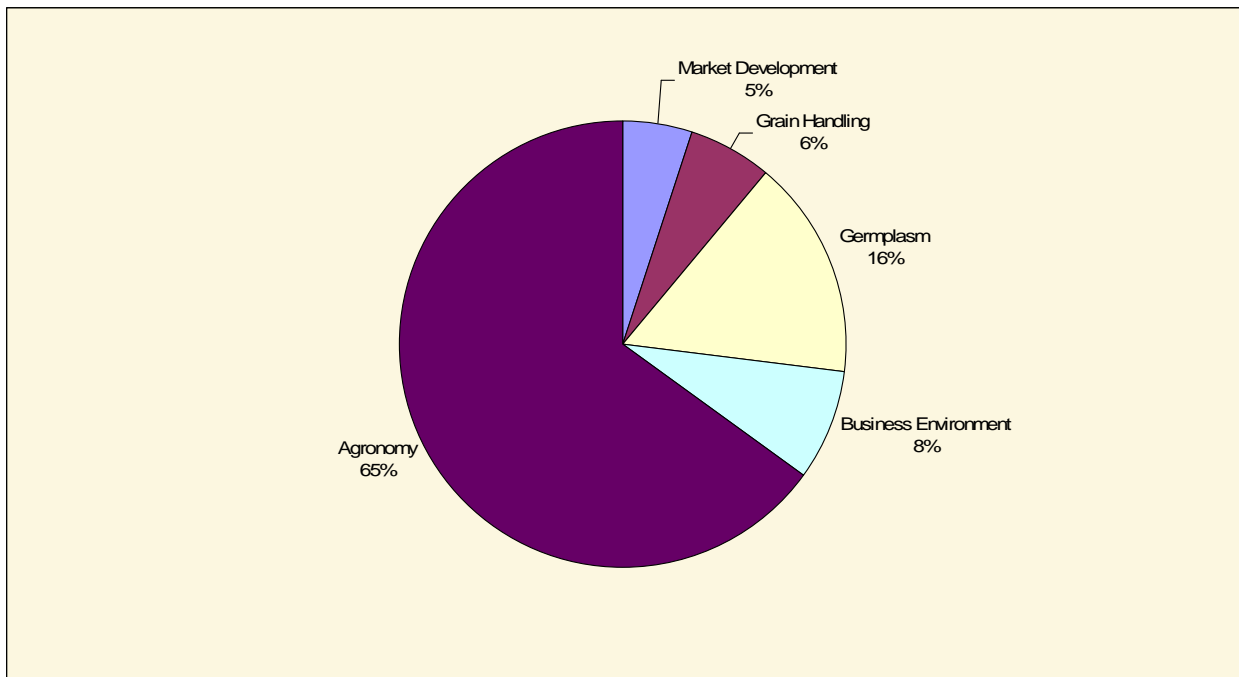
In January 2008, the provincial government announced \$2.5 million in funding toward a new Ontario Research & Development Program (ORD). The program is being delivered by the Agricultural Adaptation Council in much the same way as the CORD IV program. This program is intended to partially offset the gap created due to the CORD IV program not being renewed for 2008. The funding is split between the field crops, horticulture and livestock sector. Over the two year program, ORD will fund approximately \$185,000 of Ontario corn research.

Through OCPA's annual research budget of \$160,000, producers are supporting a number of important research projects. In June 2008, a call for research proposals was issued to researchers asking for new research proposals and ideas that will add value to Ontario corn producers. OCPA received a number of proposals that were reviewed by the research committee and board. A total of 20 projects are now underway (11 new projects and 9 continuing projects).

Summary of Active Projects Supported by OCPA (current as of February 28, 2009)

Researcher	Institution	Project Title
AGRONOMY RESEARCH		
Greg Stewart	OMAFRA	Ontario Corn Extension Activities
Greg Stewart	OMAFRA	Dry vs Liquid starter fertilizer strategies
Dave Hooker	University of Guelph	Improving Corn Hybrid Management in Ontario through Relevant Replant Decisions and by clarifying hybrid fungicide interactions
OCPA		Support Eastern Ontario Plot Combine
Ontario Corn Committee		Corn Performance Trials
Clarence Swanton	University of Guelph	Evaluation of a flexible weed management program for glyphosate tolerant corn
Mike Cowbrough	OMAFRA	Public Trials Data Entry to WeedPro75 - Ontario's Corn Herbicide Selector
Art Schaafsma	University of Guelph	Development of an Integrated Mycotoxin Management System in Ontario Cereals
Ron Pitblado	Weather Innovations	Strategic Fungicide Application Advisory for Foliar Diseases in Corn
Dave Hooker	University of Guelph	Gains to be made from the long-term rotation trial at Ridgetown
Tracey Baute	OMAFRA	Western Bean Cutworm Trapping Network and Workshop for Ontario's Corn Producers and Crop Consultants
Peter Sikkema	University of Guelph	Weed Management in Corn (2008, 2009)
Peter Sikkema	University of Guelph	Management of Problem weeds in Corn, Soy and Wheat
BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT		
Ken McEwan	University of Guelph	Ontario Farm Input Price Monitoring
Richard Vyn	University of Guelph	Comparing Returns for Grain Corn Production under Various Marketing Strategies
GERMPLASM		
Liz Lee	University of Guelph	Corn Breeding Program Support
Laima Kott	University of Guelph	Developing Fusarium resistant corn inbreds
GRAIN HANDLING		
Dave Hooker	University of Guelph	Reducing the cost of conventional drying grain corn to zero
MARKET DEVELOPMENT		
John Michaelides	Guelph Food Technology Centre	Report on Global Emerging Market and Technology Opportunities for Corn Ingredients and Food Products Containing Corn

OCPA Funding Allocation by Research Priority Area



Growing Forward – the next Agricultural Policy Framework:

The federal government has been working towards designing the next APF (termed Growing Forward) as the previous APF expired in the spring of 2008. The federal and provincial governments agreed to a delayed start to Growing Forward in order to allow enough time to complete federal-provincial negotiations and design the new suite of programs. We are anticipating a new slate of programs to be launched by April 1, 2009, including new research resources.

Through the Ontario Field Crop Research Coalition, we have continued to work hard to make government aware of the importance of research programs such as the CORD IV program. Over the past few months this has been communicated through several face to face meetings and letters. Efforts are continuing to stress the importance of providing funds to research programs that allow producer groups to play a significant role in determining projects to fund.

We have received indications that a new program called the 'Canada-Ontario Farm Innovation Program (COFIP)' will be included in Growing Forward, as a replacement for the CORD program. Program details are not currently available, but are preparing for this program to be launched

in Spring 2009. Funding through the COFIP program will complement producer license fee investment in research and provide crucial funds for corn and field crop research in Ontario.

Grower Requested Own Use (GROU) Program:

The Grower Requested Own Use (GROU) program is up and running. Through our involvement in AGCare, we have a seat on the Pest Management Regulatory Agency Grower Nomination Committee.

OCPA and AGCare have met with the PMRA to express concern about several aspects of the GROU program. These challenges include the amount of paperwork involved by growers, inconsistent communication between PMRA and Canada Border Services Agency, and inconsistent cooperation by product manufacturers to supply equivalency data. We continue to push for a viable program to ensure price discipline in the crop protection product marketplace for Ontario farmers.

The PMRA has committed to performing a program evaluation, to determine GROU's progress in meeting its objectives. The PMRA has stated that it will re-open the old Own Use Import (OUI) program if pesticide manufacturers are not willing to co-operate with the GROU program.

AGCare has developed a 'How To' guide to assist farmers in importing products through the GROU program. This can be accessed at www.agcare.org.

Approved GROU products (current as of February 21, 2009)

GROU Approved Product		Canadian Registered Version
Product Name and U.S. EPA Reg. #	GROU Equivalency Certificate #	Product Name
Reglone Desiccant (EPA # 100-1061)	016	Reglone Desiccant (PCP #26396)
Nufarm Weedar 64 Broadleaf Herbicide (EPA # 71368-1)	015	Nufarm 2,4-D Amine 500 Liquid Herbicide (PCP #14725)
Sevin® Brand XLR PLUS (EPA # 264-333)	014	Sevin® Brand XLR PLUS (PCP # 19531)
BRAVO ZN (EPA # 50534-204-100)	013	BRAVO ZN (PCP # 28900)
GF-120 NF NATURALYTE FRUIT FLY BAIT (EPA # 62719-498)	012	GF-120 NF NATURALYTE FRUIT FLY BAIT (PCP # 28336)

AATREX 4L (EPA # 100-497)	011	AATREX® LIQUID 480 (PCP # 18450)
GAVEL 75DF (EPA # 62719-441)	010	GAVEL 75DF FUNGICIDE (PCP # 26842)
TOUCHDOWN HERBICIDE (EPA # 100-1117)	009	TOUCHDOWN iQ LIQUID HERBICIDE (PCP # 27192)
REFLEX HERBICIDE (EPA # 100-993)	008	REFLEX LIQUID HERBICIDE (PCP # 24779)
ROUNDUP WEATHERMAX HERBICIDE (EPA # 524-537)	007	ROUNDUP WEATHERMAX WITH TRANSORB 2 TECHNOLOGY LIQUID HERBICIDE (PCP # 27487)
CLARITY HERBICIDE (EPA # 7969-137)	006	BANVEL II HERBICIDE (PCP # 23957)
BASAGRAN HERBICIDE (EPA # 7969-45)	005	BASAGRAN LIQUID HERBICIDE (PCP # 12221)

Canadian Corn Pest Coalition:

The Canadian Corn Pest Coalition (CCPC) was founded in 1997 to work toward the common goal of responsibly deploying and managing new pest management technologies for corn as they are introduced in Canada to support their continued effectiveness. OCPA plays an active role along with representatives of the seed corn industry, other grower associations, regulatory agencies, academic institutions and extension and research staff from both provincial and federal governments.

The main focus of the CCPC is proactive stewardship of Bt corn hybrid technology for European corn borer (ECB) control. The group has recently turned its attention to include the development of similar strategies for Bt-based corn rootworm (CRW) control. This presents added complexity as there are several traits and combinations currently in the marketplace and several more in the process of approval. A main goal of this coalition is to promote use of scientifically sound and sustainable practices to minimize the development of ECB and CRW resistance.

More information is available to growers at www.cornpest.ca.

Source Water Protection:

OCPA is working through AGCare on issues related to the proposed Source Water Protection Act. AGCare is working with the Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition (OFEC) to provide feedback and comment on the Clean Water Act as the government moves forward with

developing regulations. Initial comments were submitted to the Ministry of the Environment this past summer by OFEC, responding to proposed regulations for assessment reports and technical rules. AGCare, also through OFEC, is providing training and support for the approximately 60 agricultural reps on the 19 local Source Protection Committees throughout the province. A preliminary two day training session was held in March 2008, with excellent feedback from the agricultural reps. A second session was held December 3-4 to provide updated and more in-depth training to the same reps as the clean water legislation moves through the political process.

Pesticide ban:

The Ontario government introduced legislation to ban the cosmetic use of pesticides in the province in April 2008. AGCare was actively involved in the consultative process on this issue, meeting with both the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. OCPA and AGCare twice submitted comments in response to the EBR posting, and AGCare's Chair and Vice Chair made a formal presentation to the Standing Committee on Social Justice, outlining growers' concerns with the legislation. AGCare also sent a letter to the Minister of the Environment in October asking for a meeting to provide input into the regulations being proposed under the act. The regulations were posted on the EBR in November and AGCare took the lead in crafting and submitting a response. The document was widely shared with AGCare's members. AGCare has also been working with CropLife and the OFA to represent agriculture at meetings with government on this issue.