
MESSAGE FROM THE OIA PRESIDENT

We live in a time of change. Our industry is faced with some big challenges with differing viewpoints from the consumer public, environmental interests, agribusiness and production agriculture.

What is the role of the OIA in taking a stand on these issues? Many of us have followed some fervent discussions recently on neonics and their effects on pollinators like honey bees – both very valuable elements in the production of food in Ontario.

Our Institute, and you individually as an Agrologist, should expect:

- a professional scientific approach,
- facilitation of an intelligent, balanced debate, and
- participation of qualified Agrologists in that same debate.

One of the greatest benefits of membership in the OIA is the ability to network with other professionals and groups in our industry. By networking we do not simply mean chatting at a social event – networking is the interactive facilitation of information sharing, including the opportunity to dig deeper into current topics, to challenge assumptions, and to debate in a constructive manner with others in varied segments of the agricultural industry.

What issues and topics matter to you? Let your local Branch Executive and your provincial Board Directors know, and we will collectively make sure the topics important to many Agrologists are opened for discussion at Branch meetings, OIA communications in various formats, and provincial events like our annual conference coming up in Niagara next spring.

Sincerely



Drew Orosz, P.Ag.
President



OIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Members of the Niagara Branch of the OIA have already begun to plan for our annual conference to take place in Niagara-on-the-Lake April 17 and 18, 2015. A hotel has been selected and the program committee has already met three times. Please mark the dates. More information will be coming soon!

ST. ISIDORE CROP TOUR

In St. Isidore Ontario, Agri-Trend recently held their annual East Ontario/West Quebec Crop diagnostic field day and two other field days were also conducted. The events included a tour of local soybean, corn and wheat fields, as well as informative workshops. Among the workshop speakers were three OIA accredited members: Dr. David Hume, P.Ag., Jim McComb, P.Ag., and Andy Van Niekerk, P.Ag. Past OIA President, Frank Reddick, P.Ag. and OIA Board Member Christopher Dufault, P.Ag., also attended along with accredited OIA members Andrew Mess, P.Ag., Bruce Thompson, P.Ag., Elaine Vininsky, P.Ag. and Krishan Jindal, A.Ag. Bob Dalton, a member of



Quebec's Ordre des Agronomes helped to organize terrific learning opportunities for all attendees.

NEW PERK FOR ACCREDITED OIA MEMBERS

CountryGuide
STRATEGIC. BUSINESS. THINKING.

As Canada's oldest farm publication, with roots back to 1886, Country Guide is about the business of farming and providing farmers with strategic business thinking.

As agriculture evolves into more sustainable and environmental friendly practices so is Country Guide there to cover the scopes of Agrology practice. Country Guide is published by Farm Business Communications, part of the Glacier FarmMedia family.

As part of the OIA's new marketing initiative and partnerships, accredited OIA members will receive a free subscription to Country Guide. We hope you enjoy this new value added benefit of membership.

RECOGNITION OF OIA MEMBERS

Mark Eastman, P.Ag.

On June 21st, Ontario Nature, recognized the exceptional contributions to natural habitat protection made by six individuals and two groups. At the award ceremony Mark Eastman, P.Ag., received the J.R. Dymond Public Service Award for public service work resulting in exceptional environmental achievement.



Members that attended Mark's presentation at the June Central Branch meeting at the Credit Valley Conservation Authority are now quite aware that he has led numerous private land stewardship initiatives. The outcome is that landowners better appreciate the importance of pasture and manure management, invasive species control, wetland fencing and wildlife habitat protection. Under Healthy Lands for Healthy Horses, Mark connects landowners to funding and service providers for the implementation of best management practices. His open and honest approach has resulted in long-term buy-in and strong relationships between landowners and Credit Valley Conservation, Mark's employer. Congratulations to Mark!



Don Lobb, P.Ag. Hon.

Those who know Don Lobb, P.Ag. Hon., know about his years advocating for the sustainable management of soils. Recently his efforts were rewarded at a ceremony where Don and his family uncovered his stone on Caledon's Walk of Fame. *"It's about time we got somebody on here for agriculture,"* the Mayor of Caledon stated. OIA members know very well of Don's efforts in soil protection and the advancement of a soil-care ethic, both of which he has practiced on his own farm. Systems to improve crop production that are reliable, sustainable and environmentally friendly are owed to Don and this recent recognition is proof of Don's ongoing contribution to agriculture in Ontario. Congratulations Don!

U OF G NOMINATIONS FOR H.R. MACMILLAN LAUREATE IN AGRICULTURE

An award of \$10,000 is made by the University of Guelph every five years to the Canadian who is judged to have made the most significant contribution to agriculture in Canada during the preceding five years. First presented in 1969, this year will mark the tenth and final presentation of this award. Of the past 9 recipients, three times an Ontario Professional Agrologist was recognized (G.R. McLaughlin '74, Ernest Kerr '94, Peter Hannam '04.). Nominations are assessed by a national panel of judges selected by the University of Guelph. Nominations close Friday, August 29, 2014 and are to be sent to Dr. Rene Van Acker, P.Ag. (Associate Dean, External Relations, OAC), who is the Chair of the selection Committee. For more information please contact the OIA Registrar.

TAKEN FROM NEWSLETTERS OF THE PAST

Looking at the value of our branches and the vital nature of active branches within the OIA the following is taken from December 1987...



The Branch Structure of O.I.A.

Thirteen branches across the province provide the very fabric of which OIA is made. From the "Claybelt" branch in the north, to the "Head Office" branch in the central region, from the "Banana Belt" branch of southwestern Ontario to the "Capital City" branch in the Ottawa Valley, what a great cross section of professionals.

While OIA's "Head Office" is in Guelph at the University Centre, clearly the strength and purpose of the organization is to be found at the branch level. Here is where we develop our thinking, rub shoulders with our peers, and hear of new and exciting developments. Here is where we hone our organizational skills through participation in branch activities.

No matter how your membership is paid – it's an investment in your future and the future of agriculture. Failure to benefit from your investment is like failing to cash a bond that is past due. Looking after that investment pays handsome dividends.

AGROLOGISTS CANADA

As members are aware, we are 10 provincial regulators working together to:

- Meet our obligations for national labour mobility, and
- Inform Canadians about the agronomy profession.

Agrologists Agronomes Canada's new website will allow people to explore and connect with our profession, let us define ourselves to consumers of our advice and services, and help celebrate who we

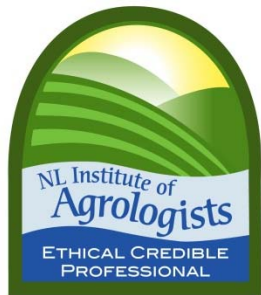


are. Increasingly, the public relies on accredited Agrology practitioners for ethical leadership in providing sustainable, science-based solutions and advice.

For more information please visit: <http://agrologistscanada.ca/home/>

While on the Agrologists Canada web site be sure to check out the video link as our new promotional video for the profession is provided. <http://agrologistscanada.ca/about-agrology/videos/>

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



Egg Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador (EFNL), formed in 1970, is a non-profit entity to govern provincial egg production according to federal-provincial agreements. EFNL are presently requesting proposals from firms or individuals to provide a “current state” assessment of the supply and demand of feed inputs as it relates primarily to Newfoundland and Labrador egg farmers; and secondly, to generate options for analysis, with supported recommendations for feasible and alternative feed input approaches that can be considered by the Newfoundland and Labrador egg industry which have high potential for commercial success. The overarching goal of this study is to enhance the competitive position of egg farmers in Newfoundland and Labrador. For more information please visit: <http://www.nleggs.ca/>