

Minnesota Canola Council

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2016 OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

The Council's Outstanding Service Award recognizes and rewards significant contributions to the Minnesota canola industry. The 2016 award was presented to Nancy Ehlke, professor and Head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics. She is the principal investigator of the Council's Canola Production Centre (CPC) funded in part through the National Canola Research Program. She has collaborated on other projects, including Agronomic Value of Crop Rotations in NW Minnesota and a new project, Reducing Canola Input Costs through Singulation & Row Spacing – both funded through MDA's AGRI Crop Research Grants.



Ehlke joins past recipients: Brian Jenks, NDSU (2015); Dave Grafstrom, CPC Site Agronomist (2014); Senator Leroy Stumpf (2012); James Loewen, Bunge Canada (2011); Rob Proulx, CPC Site Agronomist (2010); Derek Crompton, CPC Site Agronomist (2009); David Severson, MCC board member (2006); Cenex West Plant – Roseau (2005); Jim Johnson, Interstate Seed Company (2004); Paul Porter, University of Minnesota (2003); Dave LeGare, CPC Site Agronomist (2002); Art Lamey, NDSU (2001); Erv Oelke, University of Minnesota (2000); Steve Dahl, MCC board member (1999); and Senator Leroy Stumpf (1998).

COUNCIL AWARDED OVER \$79,000 IN NEW RESEARCH FUNDING

The Council was awarded more than \$79,000 by MDA's Crop Research Grant Program to study Reducing Canola Input Costs through Singulation & Row Spacing, a three-year project. The Council is pleased to be working with Nancy Ehlke, Donn Vellekson, and Dave Grafstrom (UM), and Travis Messer (Plains Grain & Agronomy). The project compares a systems approach of integrated planter technologies with singulation vs. standard air seeder/drill for canola placement and stand establishment, providing yield comparisons. It will also identify optimal seeding rates based on establishment or % loss with each system, and demonstrate yield benefits and ability to reduce planting rates with the use of automatic row-by-row downforce control.

2017 CANOLA PRODUCTION CENTRE (CPC)

The 2017 CPC was located in Roseau, MN, across from Northern Resources Co-op, with a satellite site for the singulation and row spacing trial on the Tony Brateng Farm south of Roseau. Trials, spearheaded by Nancy Ehlke, Donn Vellekson, and Dave Grafstrom of the University of Minnesota, included: Variety & Systems Comparison; Seeding Rate, Row Spacing, & Singulation; Canola Management Strategies to Improve Return on Investment; Direct Harvest Canola Shatter; Nitrogen Rate, Source, & Timing; and Unmanned Aerial Systems as a Management Tool in Canola. Small plot canola trials were planted on May 19, 2017, with a base fertility program of 30-40-40-20s on the entire area.

2017 SCLEROTINIA RISK IN CANOLA FORECAST PROGRAM

The *Sclerotinia Risk in Canola Forecast Program* continues to be a useful tool to help farmers assess sclerotinia risk. The forecasting program was developed by the NDSU canola pathology program with support from the Sclerotinia Initiative, Northern Canola Growers Association (NCGA), and the Minnesota Canola Council (MCC). While the information is based on extensive research data, it is only intended to serve as a guide. The risk maps and the calculator can be found on the MCC website: mncanola.org.

JOINT RESEARCH COMMITTEE

MCC and NCGA have a joint research advisory committee to determine the most productive allocation of available research dollars, including North Central Regional NCRP and Sclerotinia Initiative funds. The committee meets annually and includes farmers and industry representation from each state. In addition, the committee includes university representatives from Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Copies of the reports are available through the Council.

'16-'17 JOINT COMMITTEE

Hugh Hunt, MCC - Farmer
Eric Kukowski, MCC - Farmer
James Loewen, MCC - Industry
Ryan Pederson, NCGA - Farmer
Kyle Rollness, NCGA - Industry
Dave Gehrtz, NCGA - Industry
Brian Jenks, NCGA - University

2017 CANOLA-SPECIFIC SCLEROTINIA INITIATIVE RESEARCH FUNDING		
Researcher	Project	Funding
NDSU (<i>del Rio</i>)	Characterizing Resistance and Pathogenicity Genes Associated with Infection of <i>B. napus</i> by <i>Sclerotinia Sclerotiorum</i>	\$60,280
NDSU (<i>del Rio</i>)	Improving Resistance to <i>Sclerotinia Sclerotiorum</i> in Spring Canola	\$41,155
Total		\$101,435

2016-2017 SPONSORS

DIAMOND: \$2,000 +

Bayer CropScience
CHS - Hallock

SILVER: \$1,000 - \$1,999

AgCountry Farm Credit Services
Bunge Canada
CHS Northwest Grain
DEKALB
Monsanto
Mycogen Seeds/Dow AgroSciences
Syngenta
WinField United

BRONZE: \$500 - \$999

ADM
Citizens State Bank
Valent USA
Ziegler Ag Equipment

ALLIED: \$250 - \$499

American State Bank of Grygla
BASF
Border State Bank
BrettYoung
Cargill
Cibus
Crop Production Services
CROPLAN
Evergreen Implement
Farmers Union Oil - Grygla
ICE Futures Canada
K & D Enterprises
KQ92
Northern Ag
Northern Farmers Co-op Exchange
Northern Resources Cooperative
Proseed
Roseau County Co-op Association
South 89 Seed & Services
Star Specialty Seed
Titan Machinery-Roseau
Weinlaeder Seed
Wilbur-Ellis

MINNESOTA CANOLA COUNCIL

MISSION STATEMENT

The Minnesota Canola Council is dedicated to the canola industry through leadership, research, and education, providing a competitive edge to Minnesota's producers and the canola industry.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tony Brateng - Chair (Roseau)
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Jade Estling (Roosevelt)
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Paul Gregor - WinField United
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Nate Smithson - CHS

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Fae Holin - Communication Specialist
Sherry Liu - IT Specialist
Chelsea Russell - Communication Dir.

2016/2017 EXPENDITURES AND YEAR-END LOSS

Income		
Checkoff (6¢ per cwt)	\$19,217.00	
Interest; Grants; Donations; Misc.	<u>76,025.00</u>	\$95,242.00
Expenditures		
Research	42,207.00	
Regulatory; Legislative	14,016.00	
Promotion; Education; Public Relations	28,700.00	
Administrative/Board	<u>15,813.00</u>	<u>100,736.00</u>
Net Loss		\$-5,494.00
2016/2017 Ending Fund Balance		\$76,299.00

CANOLA FARMERS, INDUSTRY GATHER TO 'GO FOR THE GOLD'

Frigid temperatures didn't stop more than 90 canola farmers, university personnel, and industry representatives from coming together in Roseau last December to attend Go for the Gold: Add Canola to Your Team – Reduce Risks in a Competitive Environment. The day was filled with educational sessions, a social hour, and "Funny Money Auction." Farmers also had the opportunity to win one of nine lots of 20 acres worth of seed provided by Bayer CropScience, Cargill, Cibus, CROPLAN, DuPont Pioneer, and Star Specialty Seed. Visit mncanola.org to view conference presentations.

2017 CANOLA WINTER MEETING HELD IN ST. HILAIRE

Go for the Gold: Add Canola to Your Team – Reduce Risks in a Competitive Environment, the Council's 2017 canola winter meeting, was held at Northwest Grain in St. Hilaire, MN,

and featured educational sessions on row spacing, fertility, and direct harvest, as well as disease management and ragweed concerns. The Council holds additional meetings in locations in NW Minnesota that have potential for increasing canola acres. Thanks to Northwest Grain for hosting the St. Hilaire meeting and to our expert canola presenters: Dave Grafstrom - UM (Add Canola to Your Team: Row Spacing, Fertility, & Direct Harvest); Madeleine Smith - UM-Crookston (Disease Management in Canola); and Tom Peters - NDSU (Tackling Ragweed in Northwest Minnesota).

MINNESOTA CANOLA COUNCIL PARTICIPATES IN AG AWARENESS DAY

The Council participated in Ag Awareness Day in April on the UM Minneapolis Campus. Ag Awareness Day is an event coordinated by the University's Agriculture Education Club to spread awareness and information about agriculture to those who may not have the opportunity to experience it any other way. It also gives students and faculty the opportunity to learn more about where their food comes from and meet some of the people producing it. The event featured booths staffed by commodity organizations, ag-related businesses, and farmers. More than 1,500 people attended. The Minnesota Canola Council was fortunate to be a part of the event and, with a generous donation of prizes from the Alberta Canola Producers Commission, was able to reach many college-aged students and teach them about the benefits of using canola oil.



Miranda Schwartz staffs the MCC Booth at Ag Awareness Day.

CANOLA HACKERS TURN OUT FOR JULY 6 FIELD DAY, GOLF SCRAMBLE

The Council's Canola Production Centre (CPC) held its field day across from Northern Resources Co-op in Roseau with a healthy crowd hoping to learn more about the 2017 canola research trials. A morning plot tour, a noon lunch, and a beautiful afternoon of fierce competition at Roseau's Oakcrest Country Club marked the CPC's 20th year of production. CPC Project Manager Donn Vellekson and Site Agronomist Dave Grafstrom led the plot tour, which included six research trials (see CPC article). The 15th Annual Canola Hackers Golf Scramble followed the field tour with more than 80 golfers representing 22 teams. A first place prize of \$200 brought out the competitive spirit of participants with a year's worth of bragging rights. Winning the \$200 first place prize for the sixth straight year (and a remarkable eighth time out of the past nine years) was the formidable team of Hagen Farms. Taking home the \$80 second place prize was the U Boyz team. The afternoon ended in the clubhouse with refreshments, socializing, an awards ceremony, and a pig roast dinner.



2017 Canola Hackers 1st Place: (L to R) Chad Helgeland, Steve Czeh, Rich Anderson, Randy Wahlstrom.



2017 Canola Hackers 2nd Place: (L to R) Jim Foss, Brian Snyder, Donn Vellekson, Will Hulst.