

Ontario
Canola Growers
Association
April 2021
Newsletter



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***Hubert Beaudry,
President,
The Ontario Canola Growers Association***

Canola Challenges 2021 — Bring in the Winning Yield!

The 2021 Canola Challenge will expand into two separate Winter and Spring Canola Challenges.



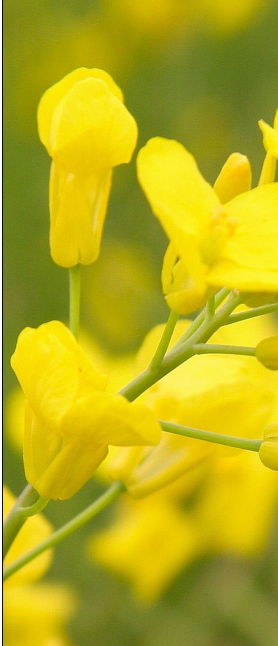
Spring Canola Challenge

1st place winner – \$2,000 cash

2nd place winner – \$1,000 cash

3rd place winner – \$ 500 cash

How Do You Enter? What are the Rules?

1. Submit your “Intent to Participate” (available at www.ontariocanola growers.ca) by Aug 30, 2021.
 2. Work with a supporting agronomist.
 3. Minimum 10 acre canola plot.
 4. Record yield from 1 acre of your field. Must be recorded by weigh wagon and verified by your supporting agronomist.
 5. Record your cropping and yield information and submit by Oct 15, 2021.
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Thank You to our Canola Challenges Sponsors...



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Winter Canola Challenge

1st place winner – \$2,000 cash

2nd place winner – \$1,000 cash

3rd place winner – \$ 500 cash

How Do You Enter? What are the Rules?

1. Submit your “Intent to Participate” (available at www.ontariocanola growers.ca) by May 30, 2021.
 2. Work with a supporting agronomist.
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New Canola Research Projects

Clubroot Research

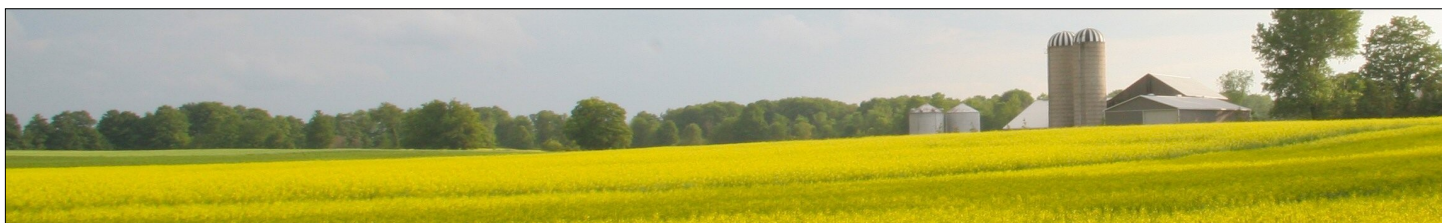
Canola is Canada's most valuable crop. However, canola production is under threat by clubroot, caused by the soilborne plant pathogen, *Plasmodiophora brassicae*. Clubroot is spreading across Canada including Ontario. The pathogen is difficult to control and host resistance has been short lived.

Recent research has shown that some biocontrol fungi that kill insects, such as *Beauveria bassiana*, can colonize plants and stimulate host defences. Other opportunities for control include a new formulation of mustard meal (TerraMG) that has been effective on clubroot in initial trials. And some rotation crops, such as daikon radish and wheat, may reduce resting spores in soil.

With support from Ontario Canola Growers Association, Dr. Mary Ruth MacDonald will be the Principal Investigator for a clubroot Ontario AgriFood Research Initiative (OAFRI) project that will evaluate these novel approaches to protect canola, and other Brassica crops, from clubroot and at the same time control insect pests, including thrips and flea beetles.

The trials will be conducted both in the greenhouse and field. Mary Ruth works at the muck research station which provides her with resources to easily conduct field trials.

Given our relatively low canola acreage in comparison to western Canada, Ontario is fortunate to have access to a researcher with Mary Ruth's level of experience and expertise. She has been working on canola research for several years, she sits on the national clubroot working group and Dr. Ruth's lab is one of only two Canadian labs in Canada that conduct pathotyping of clubroot samples.



Winter Canola Relay Cropping Research

Farmers in southern Ontario have reported some outstanding winter canola yields with yields often in excess of 3,500 lbs/acre in 2020 and interest in winter canola is increasing. Farmers are interested in how winter canola can fit into their existing rotations and for new possibilities that it may open up.

Double cropping soybeans after winter canola is common in the most southern parts of Ontario, but success can vary from year to year as farmers often use shorter season soybean varieties (with lower yield potential) to manage the risk associated of an early freeze or wet fall.

As an alternative to double cropping, relay intercropping is a system that offers the potential of a double crop with the option of growing a longer season soybean variety. Dr. Eric Page, a researcher with AgCanada at the Harrow Research Station will be carrying out a two year research project investigating the potential that relay intercropping soybeans with winter canola could achieve for longer season soybean varieties with greater yield potential.

Eric believes winter canola has good potential for success as a relay intercrop partner because it can be planted on wide rows, is cut high and can be harvested early, leaving sufficient growing season for the interseeded soybean crop to mature to maximum potential.

Through this research project Eric proposes to determine the optimal seeding date for relay intercropping soybean with winter canola and the cost of production of relay intercrop systems in comparison to conventional soybean production practices.

Ontario Canola Growers Association

New Districts, Directors and District Representatives

*** denotes OCGA Director

District 1 Northern Ontario — North of Tobermory

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Robert Hunter	613 399 3393	barbarahunter@kos.net	Wellington

District 4 Southern Ontario — South of Guelph

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