

Minnesota Canola Council

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2017 OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

The Council's 2017 Outstanding Service Award was presented to Donn Vellekson of the University of Minnesota. The Award recognizes and rewards significant contributions to the Minnesota canola industry. Donn has been the project manager at the Minnesota Canola Production Centre since the summer of 2012 and has been a critical part of the CPC's success ever since. He has maintained oversight of numerous canola trials which provided useful information regarding variety & systems comparisons, nitrogen applications, pre-harvest desiccants, straight harvesting, date of planting, and more. He was also one of the lead researchers on the Council's MDA Crop Rotation grant.



Vellekson joins past recipients: Nancy Ehlke, UM (2016), Brian Jenks, NDSU (2015), Dave Grafstrom, CPC Site Agronomist (2014), Senator Leroy Stumpf (2012), James Loewen, Bunge (2011), Rob Proulx, CPC Site Agronomist (2010), Derek Crompton, CPC Site Agronomist (2009), David Severson, MCC Board (2006), Cenex West Plant – Roseau (2005), Jim Johnson, Interstate Seed Co. (2004), Paul Porter, UM (2003), Dave LeGare, CPC Site Agronomist (2002), Art Lamey, NDSU (2001), Erv Oelke, UM (2000), Steve Dahl, MCC Board (1999), and Senator Leroy Stumpf (1998).

COUNCIL AWARDED OVER \$90,000 IN NEW RESEARCH FUNDING

The Council was awarded more than \$90,000 by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Crop Research Grant Program to study *Management Practices to Maximize Canola Profitability*, a three-year project. The Council is pleased to be working on this project with Nancy Ehlke, Donn Vellekson, and Dave Grafstrom. This project includes four applied research areas with an overall goal of maximizing profitability to canola farmers: small plot replicated trials to compare varieties best suited for direct harvest (pod shatter trait improves efficiency of direct harvest); large on-farm trials comparing standard swathing and harvest vs. direct harvest; small plot replicated trials to evaluate nitrogen rate, source, and timing with the objective to improve nitrogen efficiency in direct harvest canola; and small plot trials to compare various management strategies in direct harvest canola to improve return on investment.

2018 CANOLA PRODUCTION CENTRE (CPC)

The 2018 CPC was located on Rice Farms north of Roseau, MN. Trials were spearheaded by Nancy Ehlke, Donn Vellekson, and Dave Grafstrom and included: variety and systems comparison; canola management strategies to improve return on investment (with a satellite location on the UM Magnusson Research Farm); direct harvest vs swathing; nitrogen fertility rate, source, and timing; singulation and row spacing.

2018 SCLEROTINIA RISK IN CANOLA FORECAST PROGRAM

Sclerotinia Risk in Canola Forecast Program began June 16 and ran through July. The program was developed by the NDSU canola pathology program with support from the Sclerotinia Initiative, Northern Canola Growers Association, and Minnesota Canola Council. While the information is based on extensive research data, it is intended to serve as a guide. Risk maps and calculator were available at mncanola.org. New this year, they were also available through the NDSU Canola Doctor app for Android and iPhones.

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.

'17-'18 JOINT COMMITTEE

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

2018 CANOLA-SPECIFIC SCLEROTINIA INITIATIVE RESEARCH FUNDING

Researcher	Project	Funding
NDSU (del Rio)	Characterizing Resistance and Pathogenicity Genes Associated with Infection of <i>B. napus</i> by <i>Sclerotinia sclerotiorum</i>	\$39,280
NDSU (del Rio)	Improving Resistance to <i>Sclerotinia sclerotiorum</i> in Spring Canola	\$24,615
U of FL (Rollins)	Enhancing Basal Resistance to <i>Sclerotinia sclerotiorum</i> in Brassica	\$72,363
Total		\$136,258

2017-2018 SPONSORS

DIAMOND: \$2,000+

Bayer CropScience
CHS - Hallock

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

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

BRONZE: \$500 - \$999

ADM
Cargill
Cibus
Citizens State Bank
CROPLAN
Ziegler Ag Equipment

ALLIED: \$250 - \$499

American Family Ins - Hovda & Assoc
American State Bank of Grygla
AURI
BASF
Border State Bank
BrettYoung
Crop Production Services
Evergreen Implement
Farmers Union Oil - Grygla
ICE Futures Canada
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
Valent USA
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)
Robert Rynning - Vice Chair (Kennedy)
Kevin Severson - Sec./Treas. (Roseau)
Reed Engelstad (Red Lake Falls)
Jade Estling (Roosevelt)
Hugh Hunt (Hallock)
Eric Kukowski (Greenbush)

EX OFFICIO DIRECTORS

Jonathan Anderson - Mycogen/Dow Agro Sci.
Guy Christensen - Northern Sun-ADM
James Loewen - Bunge Canada
Dave McGlynn - Bayer CropScience
Zack Schaefer - CHS
Jordan Varberg - Bayer CropScience

STAFF

Beth Nelson - President
Jon Dockter - Associate Director
Katie Hammitt - Office Manager
Fae Holin - Communication Specialist
Sherry Liu - IT Specialist
Chelsea Russell - Communication Dir.

2017/2018 EXPENDITURES AND YEAR-END LOSS

Income

Checkoff (6¢ per cwt)	\$31,683.00	
Interest; Grants; Donations; Misc.	<u>86,358.00</u>	\$118,041.00

Expenditures

Research	45,401.00	
Regulatory; Legislative	14,050.00	
Promotion; Education; Public Relations	32,283.00	
Administrative/Board	<u>16,443.00</u>	-108,177.00

Net Gain

		<u>\$ 9,864.00</u>
2017/2018 Ending Fund Balance		\$ 86,163.00

CANOLA SYMPOSIUM DRAWS NICE CROWD IN ROSEAU

The 2017 Canola Symposium offered an impressive lineup of speakers who gathered at the Community Center in Roseau December 6 for *New Management Strategies to Reduce Risk & Increase Profit*. More than 80 farmers, industry representatives, and university personnel enjoyed educational sessions, a social hour, and "Funny Money Auction." Farmers also had the opportunity to win one of six lots of 20 acres worth of canola seed provided by Bayer CropScience, Cibus, South 89, and Star Specialty Seed, giving six lucky farmers a head-start on their 2018 production plans. Visit mncanola.org to view conference presentations.

2018 CANOLA SCHOOL HELD IN ST. HILAIRE

New Management Strategies to Reduce Risk & Increase Profit, the Council's 2018 Canola School, was held at the St. Hilaire Community Center in St. Hilaire, MN, on January

19 and featured educational sessions on singulation, direct harvest, and rotational strategies with wheat and soybean to help canola farmers reduce risk and increase profit. The Canola School was organized in conjunction with the Small Grains Update meeting. Jordan Varberg of Bayer CropScience kicked off the event by discussing singulation, row spacing, and optimum seeding rates for canola, while Minnesota Canola Council Chairman and canola farmer Tony Brateng followed with his personal experience with singulation and direct harvest in 2017.

2018 MINNESOTA CANOLA ACRES UP AN IMPRESSIVE 28% FROM 2017

USDA's National Ag Statistics Service, responsible for tracking yield, acres, and production of various crops, released its October 2018 Crop Production Report estimating an encouraging 28% increase in Minnesota canola harvested acres from 2017 to 2018. While 2017 harvested acres came in at 34,500, 2018 acres grew to 44,000. Yield per acre, however, decreased 10%, going from 2,050 lbs/acre in 2017 to an average yield of 1,850 lbs/acre in 2018, primarily due to weather-related events. At the national level, however, yield increased a respectable 20%, going from 1,558 lbs/ac in 2017 to 1,864 lbs/ac in 2018. Total U.S. acreage saw a slight decline of 3%, going from 2,002,000 acres in 2017 to 1,941,100 in 2018. Despite a decline in acres, the increase in yield led to an overall increase in U.S. canola production from 3.1 billion pounds in 2017 to 3.6 billion pounds in 2018.

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

The Council's Canola Production Centre (CPC) held its field day on Rice Farms near Roseau with a healthy crowd eager to learn more about the canola research trials at the 2018 CPC. A morning plot tour, a noon lunch, and an afternoon of intense competition at Roseau's Oakcrest Country Club marked the CPC's 21st year of providing Minnesota's canola farmers with valuable CPC production research. CPC Project Manager Donn Vellekson and Site Agronomist Dave Grafstrom led the plot tour which included the following trials: variety & systems comparison; canola management strategies to improve return on investment; direct harvest vs. swathing; nitrogen fertility rate, source, & timing; and singulation/row spacing. Lunch and the 16th Annual Canola Hackers Golf Scramble followed the field tour with more than 88 golfers representing 22 teams taking part in the annual tournament. For the seventh straight year (and a remarkable ninth time out of the past ten years) the first place prize of \$200 went to the team of Hagen Farms. Taking home the second-place prize was the team of Crop Production Services. Prizes were awarded for the longest drive, longest putt, closest to the pin, longest drive with a hockey stick, and the "crazy kids putt." The afternoon ended at the clubhouse with refreshments, socializing, awards ceremony, and dinner.



2018 Canola Hackers 1st Place: (L to R) Will Czeh, Steve Czeh, Randy Wahlstrom, Lee Sorenson.



2018 Canola Hackers 2nd Place: (L to R) Gabe Magnusson, Markas Dahl, Conner Millner, Zach Johnson.