

THE BUZZ



News about the OMAF and MRA – University of Guelph Partnership

JUNE 21, 2013

Vol. V, No. 5

IN THE NEWS

Welcome Readers!

In this issue of The Buzz, you will read about the latest Partnership-funded research and innovation, including knowledge translation and transfer (KTT) initiatives that ensure the OMAF and MRA-U of G Partnership outcomes reach those who can put them into action. You will also find information about upcoming events related to the Partnership and the agri-food and rural sectors. We wish you a productive and happy summer season!

RESEARCH and INNOVATION

Local food in Ontario hospitals and long-term care facilities



A new report provides practical recommendations that will improve the ability of Ontario's healthcare sector to increase the use of local foods. The report makes suggestions for various stakeholders including the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, OMAF and MRA and the Ministry of Finance, as well as farmers, distributors, and food service managers to ultimately increase the use of local food in healthcare facilities. Read the full report [here](#).

Minimizing pathogens on chicken farms



Viral chicken diseases can lead to major financial losses for farmers, but factors that affect virus prevalence are not well understood. That's why Dr. Michael Eregae, recipient of a Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) Scholarship funded by the OMAF and MRA-University of Guelph Partnership, is identifying on-farm practices that influence the presence of pathogens on chicken farms. Click [here](#) to read the full story or [here](#) to view the video of his News@ (close to)Noon talk.

The Innovation Report



Vineland Research and Innovation Centre recently released their second issue of *Innovation Report*. The report highlights Vineland's many successes and tells the story of their commitment to real results. Click [here](#) to read the full report.

AGRI-FOOD AND RURAL LINK

Building the KTT toolbox



From knowing your audience to packaging the information, successful knowledge translation and transfer (KTT) requires a variety of tools to get the job done. That's why the *3rd Annual Knowledge Exchange Day* used real examples of KTT methods and techniques to help participants build their own 'toolkits'. Six workshops and 14 speakers shared many successful solutions that participants can implement in their KTT work. Click [here](#) for more information and to view the presentations from the day.

Sustainable food systems strengthen local communities



Developing farmers' markets, local food co-operatives, and other sustainable food systems across Ontario strengthens the economic, environmental and social health of local communities according to a recently released report. *Models and Best Practices for Building Sustainable Food Systems in Ontario and Beyond* will help Ontarians identify the next steps in creating their own local sustainable food systems. Learn more and download the report [here](#).

Introducing 'SPECIALITY CROPortunities'



SPECIALITY CROPortunities is an online tool designed to assist Ontario growers considering production of a wide range of crops. It features agronomic and marketing information tailored to specialty crops, as well as crop profiles for 100 specialty vegetables, fruits, nuts, herbs, field/grain and industrial crops. Information in the profiles was based on Ontario-specific research wherever possible. There is also a Crop Selection Tool to assist growers in identifying crops suited to their growing region and operation. Click [here](#) to access the tool.

CATALYST CENTRE (BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT)

OMAF and MRA Partnership enables inventiveness



Guelph is the most inventive university in Canada, according to a new study published by the Impact Group. The study ranked Guelph number one in the number of inventions per faculty position (at twice the national average) and in the number of discoveries per million dollars spent. Between 2007 and 2011, OMAF and MRA supported 85 to 94 per cent of the discoveries disclosed by researchers to the University of Guelph through the Catalyst Centre. Click [here](#) to read the full story.

RESEARCH STATIONS

Annual Muck Vegetables Growers' Conference



The conference, which has been held annually since 1950, continues to inform and educate muck vegetable growers. Topics of interest such as control of fusarium rot of carrots, the biology of root knot and lesion nematodes, improving the genetics of carrots, onion neck rot management and controlling thrips in New York state were discussed at this year's conference. For more information about the conference, click [here](#).

ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORY

Dairy veterinarians benefit from bacteriology workshop



Veterinarians treating mastitis in dairy cattle are careful to use antimicrobials only when they expect they will be helpful. However, many organisms that cause mastitis don't respond to treatments so it's important to be able to quickly identify the pathogen. An in-clinic or on-farm milk bacteriology lab is one of the ways to handle the challenge.

On April 23, 17 veterinarians and technicians met at the Animal Health Lab (AHL) in Guelph for a diagnostic bacteriology training session. Jim Fairles and Durda Slavic from the AHL, and Ann Godkin from OMAF and MRA provided instruction on proper sampling technique and how to verify results. The workshop was funded in part by the [Animal Health Strategic Investment of the Partnership](#).

STAFF AND STUDENT NEWS

Ontario Premier visits the University of Guelph



Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne was at the University of Guelph on April 22nd, marking her first official visit to campus as the Minister of Agriculture. She was on campus to discuss the Partnership between the University and OMAF and MRA, and to see Partnership research in action. She toured the Bioproducts Discovery and Development Centre, where

scientists use plant materials to make bio-based plastics and bioproducts. Click [here](#) and [here](#) to learn more about the Premier's visit.

New Ridgetown Campus director



Ken McEwan has been named director of the University of Guelph-Ridgetown campus. McEwan's 5-year term began May 1, 2013. He has been acting interim director since January 1, 2012. "Ken is a well-respected leader in the Ontario agriculture industry, and has clearly demonstrated ability in partnering with government and industry to

enhance our important sector" said Rob Gordon, Dean of the Ontario Agriculture College. Click [here](#) to read more.

Glenn Fox named senior fellow of Fraser Institute



Glenn Fox, Professor in the Department of Food, Agriculture and Resource Economics, and Research Program Director for the Partnership's [Agriculture and Rural Policy research theme](#), has been appointed senior fellow of the Fraser Institute. [The Fraser Institute](#) brings together academics, economists and policy analysts from around the world to provide market-based solutions to Canadian public policy strategies.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.

COMING EVENTS

- SouthWest Crop Diagnostic Day- Wednesday and Thursday, July 3rd and 4th at the Ridgetown Campus. Click [here](#) for more information about the day and to register.
- FarmSmart Expo 2013- Thursday, July 11th and Friday, July 12th- Youth Day. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Eastern Ontario Crop Diagnostic Day- July 16th at Winchester Research Farm,

University of Guelph. Contact the Kemptville OMAF Resource Centre at 613-258-8295 for more information.

- North American Manure Expo- Wednesday, August 21st at the Arkell Research Station, University of Guelph. Click [here](#) for more information.
- 1st Annual Canadian Biomass Conference- July 22nd and 23rd at the Minto Suites in Ottawa. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Precision Manure Management- August 21st at the Arkell Research Station, University of Guelph. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Hasting County Plowing Match and Farm Show- July 21st and 22nd at 255 Fairgrounds Road, Quinte West. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Canada's Outdoor Farm Show- September 10-12th at Canada's Outdoor Park in Woodstock Ontario. Click [here](#) for more information.
- International Plowing Match and Rural Expo- September 17-21 in Perth County, Ontario. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Royal Winter Fair- November 1-10th at the Exhibition Place in Toronto. Click [here](#) for more information.

Look for the next issue of The Buzz fall 2013!

About The Buzz

The Buzz is the electronic community news vehicle for the OMAF and MRA- University of Guelph Partnership. Click [here](#) to view previous issues of the Buzz.

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Find out more about the OMAF and MRA- U of G Partnership at:

http://www.uoguelph.ca/omafra_partnership
<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/about/uofg/>

