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Nov. 2020



A collaboration between OMAFRA and the University of Guelph

Alliance Innovations

Stories of the Alliance people, places and programs generating impact in the agri-food sector in Ontario and around the world.

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In this issue:

- Information about applying for a KTT Mobilization Initiative;
- Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) scholars share how the program has helped prepare them for the changing demands of the agri-food and rural sector;
- A virtual tour of the Ontario Beef Research Centre in Elora;
- Explore the Ontario Crops Research Centre – Ridgetown and see what studies are ongoing at other research centres across the province;
- Virtual events running in December; and
- News and recent media links highlighting Alliance-funded projects and researchers.

What's New?



U of G partners with SVG Ventures | THRIVE to elevate Canada's agri-food sector



Spotlight on research centres and Alliance research at the Royal

The U of G exhibit *A Place to Grow* included information



KTT in Agri-Food webinar recording available

The webinar, hosted live on Oct. 28, attracted 163

This relationship will complement the investment in U of G from the Ontario Government, through the Alliance, providing additional channels to transform groundbreaking made-in-Ontario research into agri-food solutions with global impact.

about Ontario's agricultural research centres and their contributions to real-world outcomes, and showcased the impact of some Alliance-funded projects. Content will remain on the website until next year's Royal.

participants. You can watch it again—or for the first time—on the Alliance website.

Hear from keynote presenter Dr. Laurens Klerkx as well as U of G Profs. Erin Nelson, David Kelton and Ataharul Chowdhury.

[Read the story >](#)

[Register to visit >](#)

[Watch the recording >](#)

Research and Program Highlights

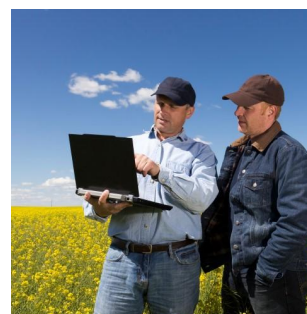
! Reminder: Funding deadlines approaching

Mark your calendars for the approaching deadlines:

- [Project Operating Funding \(Tier I\)](#): Dec. 2, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.
- [Knowledge Translation and Transfer \(KTT\) Funding Program](#): Dec. 15, 2020 at noon.
- [Gryphon's LAAIR Market Validation and Product Development Grants](#): Dec. 15, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.
- [Highly Qualified Personnel \(HQP\) Program](#): Jan. 15, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Apply for a KTT Mobilization Initiative

KTT Mobilization Initiatives provide one-time financial support of up to \$5,000 for a product that translates and transfers research that benefits Ontario's agri-food sector or rural communities. Applications will be accepted and reviewed on an ongoing basis while funds are available.



[Learn more >](#)

Sharing stories from the next generation of agri-food innovators

HQP Highly
Qualified
Personnel



Scholars

THE NEXT GENERATION OF AGRI-FOOD INNOVATORS



The [Highly Qualified Personnel \(HQP\) program](#) supports the development of highly skilled graduates who can meet the changing demands of the agri-food and rural sector. The health of these sectors depends on a vibrant talent pool of skilled, forward-thinking learners.

As co-funders of the HQP program, the Alliance and [Food from Thought](#) are [hosting an event](#) on Dec. 3 to recognize HQP scholarship recipients and their work. In the lead-up to the event, we are sharing stories from past HQP participants about how the program facilitated the development of new skills, enabled collaborations, catalyzed knowledge mobilization and influenced their academic and career plans.

"The HQP Program has been invaluable as I work towards my future career as a food waste consultant to support governments and businesses to reduce food waste in Canada's agri-food system."

– Chloe Alexander,
2019/20 HQP Scholar

[Read their stories here >](#)

Take a 360° tour of the Ontario Beef Research Centre in Elora

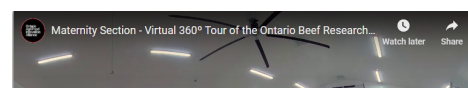
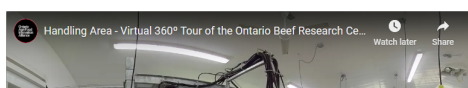
Explore the [Ontario Beef Research Centre – Elora](#), a unique, state-of-the-art, 165,000-square-foot research centre that serves as a platform for discovery, learning and outreach. The Centre results from a vibrant collaboration among the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario, OMAFRA, the University of Guelph and the Ontario beef industry. Now you can explore this research centre using your touchscreen or mouse to pan around four areas inside and outside the barn.



[Cow-calf housing >](#)

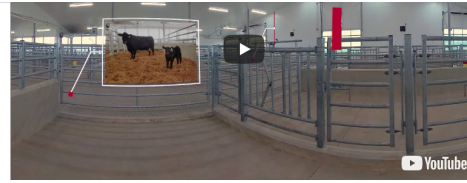


[Pasture >](#)





[Handling area >](#)



[Maternity area >](#)

Focus ON: Ontario's Agricultural Research Stations

A world-class network of research stations across the province, owned by the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO) and operated and managed by the University of Guelph, enable multidisciplinary research that powers innovation in Ontario.

Ontario Crops Research Centre - Ridgetown



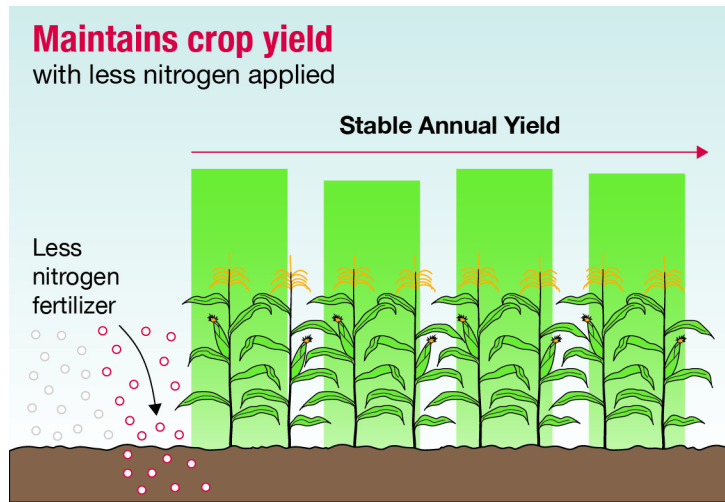
The Ontario Crops Research Centre – Ridgetown (at the University of Guelph Ridgetown Campus in southeast Chatham-Kent) was established in 1922. It occupies 450 acres in the heart of Ontario's rich agricultural region.

Research programs at the Ontario Crops Research Centre – Ridgetown cover a variety of areas including field crop agronomy, pest management (weed, insect and disease), horticultural crops, soil and environmental management, livestock production and applied farm economics.

Research programs are also conducted at two satellite stations: [Cedar Springs](#), with 30 acres of horticultural crops; and [Huron](#), with 125 acres of field crops. The unique

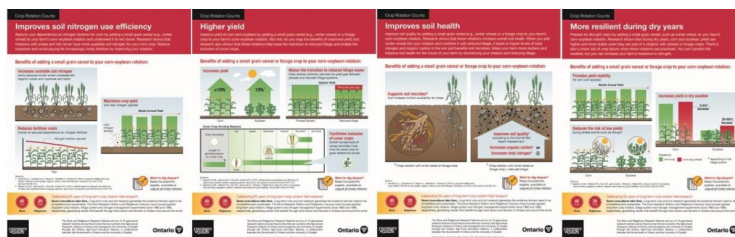
geography facilitates collaboration with industry stakeholders, as well as local agribusinesses and farmers who host research trials across Ontario.

Celebrating 25 years of long-term rotation plot trials



Ridgetown is also one of the sites where long-term rotation plot research trials have been going on for decades – this year marks the 25th anniversary of the Ridgetown plots. Findings from Ridgetown and the Ontario Crops Research Centre – Elora have generated evidence for farmers to use in making decisions on crop rotation, tillage systems and nitrogen management.

The Alliance partnered with [Soils at Guelph](#) to produce a series of infographics on the importance of crop rotation and how it affects on-farm outcomes including crop yield, resilience during dry years, nitrogen use efficiency and soil health. The series helps crop advisers and farmers make on-farm decisions to remain competitive and sustainable.



Explore [ongoing research projects at the Ontario Crops Research Centre – Ridgetown](#), available on the Alliance website.

Current studies under way include:

- Cover crop research: scaling up to plant health and scaling out to Ontario
- Pathogen surveillance for late blight management decisions in field tomatoes
- Development of cropping systems for hazelnut in Ontario
- Improving management of Cercospora leaf spot in Ontario sugar beets



Questions about the studies listed or about ongoing research projects at the research centres?

Contact:
researchstation.info@uoguelph.ca

To see or download the *Crop Rotation Counts* series of infographics, visit [Crop Rotation Counts: Key Findings from Long-Term Rotation Plot Research](#).

More studies underway at Ontario's agricultural research centres

What studies are under way at Ontario's agricultural research centres? See ongoing research studies, now posted:

- [Guelph Research Station](#)
- [Ontario Crops Research Centre – Bradford](#)
- [Ontario Crops Research Centre – Elora](#)
- [Ontario Beef Research Centre – New Liskeard](#)
- [Arnell Equine Research Facility](#)
- [Ontario Poultry Research Centre](#)

Media and Publications

A selection of Alliance people, places and programs cited in popular and trade media

1. [Ontario invests in agri-food research](#) (*Top Crop Manager*, Nov. 2)
2. [U of Guelph team tests produce decontamination technology on hospital gowns](#) (*CBC News*, Nov. 4)
3. [Genomics research moving Ontario hazelnuts closer to production](#) (*Farmtario.com*, Nov. 12)
4. [U of G researcher recognized for applying innovation to developing PPE sanitizing units](#) (*U of G News Service*, Nov. 24)

Events



**Exploring Research at
Ontario's Agricultural
Research Stations
Webinar Series: Ontario
Crops Research Centre –**



**Promoting Behaviour
Change for Soil Health:
Insights from Recent
Social Science Research**

Elora

Join us on Tuesday Dec. 1 for the second webinar in the series about Ontario's agricultural research centres. Participants will hear from Prof. Claudia Wagner-Riddle, School of Environmental Sciences, and Angie Straathof, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association.

[Learn more >](#)

Cultivating Business, Innovation and Leadership in Agri-food Research: A virtual event to recognize HQP Scholars

To highlight the achievements of 2019/20 Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) scholars and to announce the 2020/21 cohort of HQP scholars, the Alliance and Food from Thought invite you to a virtual event on Dec. 3 from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

[Learn more >](#)

A U of G–OMAFRA event in partnership with Soils at Guelph

Hear from Dr. Jay Arbuckle (Iowa State University), an OMAFRA soils specialist and U of G / University of Waterloo researchers in this event designed to share recent findings, promote knowledge-sharing and spotlight projects supporting the implementation of Ontario's soil strategy.

[Learn more >](#)

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