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October 2021



Alliance Innovations

A collaboration between OMAFRA and the University of Guelph

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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What's New?



Agriculture & Food Laboratory now offering cannabis testing

The Agriculture & Food Laboratory (AFL) at the University of Guelph now offers analytical and diagnostic testing services for the cannabis industry.

AFL holds a Health Canada Analytical Testing Licence for cannabis, is accredited by the Standards Council of Canada to ISO/IEC 17025 standards and has deep roots in regulatory compliance. With a leading-edge facility and world-class scientific expertise, the lab also provides testing services to a range of industries and regulators including the agriculture, food and pharmaceutical sectors.

The new cannabis service offers a full certificate of analysis and provides the convenience of a “one-stop-shop” for finished cannabis products. Clients can also personalize their order by selecting specific offerings to create a customized report.

AFL can accept samples for testing from:

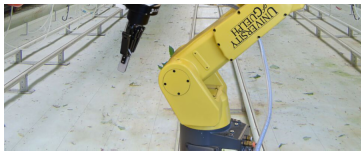
- Health Canada licensed producers and laboratories;
- Persons registered with Health Canada to produce a limited amount of cannabis for their own medical purposes under the Cannabis Regulations; and
- Persons registered with Health Canada under the Cannabis Regulations to have a designated person produce a limited amount of cannabis for the persons' own medical purposes.

[Learn more about AFL's cannabis testing service](#)



Three Funding Opportunities Now Available





TIER I FUNDING

The 2021/22 Tier I Research Program single-stage call for proposals is open until Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 1:00 pm. If you have not yet started a proposal but would like to, please contact rescoord@uoguelph.ca

[Learn More](#)



KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION AND TRANSFER FUNDING

The 2021/22 KTT research funding call is now open and will close on Tuesday, November 20, 2021 at 1:00 pm.

[Learn More](#)



GLAAIR FUNDING

The 2021/22 Gryphon's LAAIR (Leading to the Accelerated Adoption of Innovative Research) funding call is now open and will close on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 1:00 pm.

[Learn More](#)

Skills for Research Impact Workshop Series



Join us online this fall for one or multiple sessions from the [Skills for Research Impact Workshop Series!](#)

Faculty, research staff and graduate students interested in enhancing the impact of their research will learn how to successfully plan, execute and evaluate knowledge mobilization activities. Sessions will cover topics key to effective research communications and engagement of non-academic audiences.

October 5: [Stakeholder Engagement](#)

October 19: [Clear Language Writing](#)

November 2: [KTT Strategies and Dissemination](#)

November 16: [Digital Storytelling](#)

November 30: [Evaluating KTT Activities](#)

This workshop series is a collaboration among the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance, the Community Engaged Scholarship Institute and the Research Innovation Office at the University of Guelph.

For more information, contact us at kttadmin@uoguelph.ca.

Focus ON: Ontario Crops Research Centre – Emo



Technician, Kim Jo Bliss has worked at the Emo centre since 1988!

Kim Jo and her team have hosted multiple events over the years, worked closely with agricultural partners, and do their best to support and offer as much resource material as possible.

The centre in Emo is a valuable part of the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario's infrastructure.

The Ontario Crops Research Centre – Emo (previously known as the Emo Agricultural Research Station or EARS) is located in Chapple Township, Rainy River District. This 54-hectare station on clay loam soil operates from mid-March to Mid-December.

This centre focuses on adapted crop species including spring wheat, barley, oats, canola, soybeans, flax and perennial forages such as alfalfa, clovers and grasses.

Research areas include cultivar evaluation, crop nutrition and new species evaluation. Research has also been conducted on renewable fuel and fiber crops, such as hybrid poplar, hemp, switchgrass and miscanthus. More recently, a new hops yard has been planted and evaluated as a new crop.

Managed as part of the eastern and northern stations that also include research centres in New Liskeard and Winchester, the Ontario Crops Research Centre in Emo helps support research that develops field crops suited for cultivation in northern Ontario.

Yearbook: Helping farmers cope with the pandemic



The COVID-19 pandemic has taken a toll on mental health in rural Ontario — particularly on farmers. University of Guelph research has shown farmers are already at high risk for conditions such as depression and anxiety. The pandemic has exacerbated stressors

related to their jobs, including food chain disruptions, temporary foreign worker shortages, low grain prices and a dearth of rural mental health professionals.

Continue reading...

This article originally appeared in the 2021 Agri-Food Yearbook edition of Research magazine.

Media

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

Two U of G researchers named to Royal Society College (Sept. 8, U of G News)

Congratulations to Alliance researcher Dr. Asim Biswas, School of Environmental Sciences, for being named to the Royal Society of Canada College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists.

Canola guaranteeing, mental well-being, supply/demand foreseeing (Sept. 9, Between the Rows podcast)

Bruce Thorson speaks with U of G researcher Dr. Briana Hagen about a new way to help farmers, and those around them, learn to assess mental health needs.

Students Improving Life: Combining breeding and genetics research with an international development lens to evaluate food security in Africa (Sept. 14, U of G Ontario Agricultural College)

Deus Mugabe, HQP Scholar and PhD candidate in the Department of Plant Agriculture, is researching Canadian soybean breeding and genetics with a twist.

Biocomposites researcher awarded Royal Society of Canada medal (Sept. 14, U of G News)

Congratulations to Alliance researcher Dr. Amar Mohanty for being awarded the Royal Society of Canada Medal. The annual award recognizes significant scientific contributions toward solving environmental problems or improving ecosystem quality.

Creativity needed to address veterinarian shortage (Sept. 15, Canadian Cattlemen)

Dr. Jeffrey Wichtel, dean of the Ontario Veterinary College, speaks about the importance of mentorship and rural experience in veterinary education as one aspect to tackle the veterinary shortage.

Farmers mental health program developed by U of G researchers awarded provincial funding (Sept. 27, U of G News)

A mental health program for farmers, created by experts in the Ontario Veterinary College at the University of Guelph and funded by the Alliance, has received \$385,000 from the Ontario government.

Events



Stakeholder Engagement Workshop – Tuesday, Oct. 5

Reflect on how to engage your stakeholders throughout your research process to increase your impact, and review engagement best practices for policy, industry and community actors.

[Register Now](#)



Clear Language Writing Workshop - Tuesday, Oct. 19

Hone your clear communications skills! Get tips on how to structure and write clear language summaries of your research for dissemination to lay audiences.

[Register Now](#)



What's holding up advancing agricultural advisory services?

Hear from speakers and contribute to the discussion, 'What's holding up advancing agricultural advisory services?' Learn about a new platform called the North American Agriculture Advisory network (NAAN) and a recent survey conducted by NAAN.

Hosted by U of G School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, and the Livestock Research Innovation Corporation.

Register Now

Make an Alliance Connection



Visit the Alliance website

Comments? Feedback? Events or content to include? Email kttadmin@uoguelph.ca.



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