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February 2022



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.

In this issue:

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What's New?



Congratulations to U of G plant breeders!

Two University of Guelph plant breeders have received national recognition for their decades of dedication to genetic improvements in soybeans and dry edible beans, thanks partly to long-term support through the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance.

Dr. Istvan Rajcan received the **2022 Plant Breeding and Genetics Award**, an annual

award sponsored by Seeds Canada and Germination and presented to a public- or private-sector researcher for significant contributions to Canadian plant agriculture. Dr. Peter Pauls's Dynasty dark red kidney bean was chosen as the **2022 Seed of the Year** by the Ontario Bean Growers under a nationwide initiative to recognize publicly developed varieties of any commodity.

Continue reading

Skills for Research Impact Workshop Series



Join us online this winter 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 that are key to effective research communications and engagement of non-academic audiences.

March 1: [Science Policy Engagement](#)

March 15: [Infographic Development and Design](#)

March 29: [Evaluating Knowledge Translation and Transfer \(KTT\) 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.

Research Impact Case Study Series



Research Impact Case Study series now available online

The [Research Impact Case Study series](#) is a compilation of stories that showcase how investments in the Alliance are being transformed into impacts that support a competitive and sustainable agri-food system in Ontario and across Canada.

Readers can explore three different themes that demonstrate the long-term impact of research and knowledge mobilization activities in the agri-food and rural sectors. Through people, places, programs and partnerships, Alliance-funded research is making a difference.

Explore the series by clicking below:

Impact Case Study: Dairy **Novel genetic technology**

\$100
savings per cow

Breeding with Immunity+ genetics reduces incidence of disease and antibiotic use.

DAIRY

Impact Case Study: Breeding & Genetics **Potatoes**

Yukon Gold potato
Created at U of G and released in 1981.

BREEDING & GENETICS

Impact Case Study: Innovation **Biomaterials**

1B
PurPod100™ sold
The product helps divert waste and reduce greenhouse gases.

INNOVATION

[View the Research Impact Case Study series](#)

Media

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

[U of G Food Scientist Named Officer of Order of Canada](#) (Jan. 4, U of G News)

A long-time food scientist at the University of Guelph whose discoveries in everything from trans fats to chocolate have helped improve human health and agri-food sustainability has been awarded one of Canada's highest honours.

[U of G Launches Novel Online Farm Business Program](#) (Jan. 11, U of G News)

Believed to be the first of its kind in Canada, U of G's new "Foundations in Agricultural Management" online certificate course will enable farmers, and especially younger producers, to brush up on their farm business management skills.

[U of G Retains Second Spot in Top Canadian Research University Rankings](#) (Jan. 25, U of G News)

For the seventh year running, the University of Guelph ranks second among Canadian comprehensive universities in an annual national survey of top research institutions.

Does corn kernel weight matter more than quantity? (Jan. 26, Farmtario)

Dave Hooker, field crop agronomist and associate professor at the University of Guelph Ridgetown, says Ontario trials indicate kernel number and weight both make a difference in yield.

Two Rural Studies Experts Appear on TVO's The Agenda (Jan. 27, U of G News)

In a Jan. 25 segment, Dr. Wayne Caldwell, a rural planning professor, spoke about housing in rural Ontario, and in a Jan. 24 segment, Ashleigh Weeden, a rural studies PhD candidate in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development (SEDRD), returned to discuss attracting and retaining workers in rural towns.

U of G Prof Co-authors Expert Panel Report on Crop Plant, Food Security Threats (Feb. 2, U of G News)

Helping Canada to meet current and emerging threats to its crop plants and food security is the purpose of a new report by an expert panel including a University of Guelph plant scientist.

Research may yield new approaches to managing pneumonia in cattle (Feb. 2, AGCanada.com)

University of Guelph research could lead to revolutionary new approaches to preventing pneumonia in beef cattle while reducing the use of antibiotics.

U of G-Led Dairy Alliance Aims to Improve Competitiveness, Sustainability of Dairy Industry (Feb. 8, U of G News)

Improving human and animal health, ensuring environmental sustainability and further strengthening Canada's dairy industry are the goals of a newly funded, \$6.1-million project headed by a University of Guelph food scientist.

The Little Bean That Could: Why Dynasty Changed the Dark Red Kidney Bean Game (Feb. 10, Germination Mag)

Nearly a decade after its release, the Dynasty Dark Red Kidney Bean has set the bean world on fire and now comprises 90% of all dark red kidneys grown in Ontario.

Know Your Customer and Success will Follow: How Istvan Rajcan Built His Personal Brand (Feb. 10, Germination Mag)

Legendary soybean breeder Istvan Rajcan knows how to give the seed industry what it wants. His business savvy is one reason he's the recipient of the 2022 Plant Breeding and Genetics Award.

Events



Science Policy Engagement Workshop - Tuesday, March 1

How can you share your research to inform public policy decisions? Join us to receive expert advice and concrete tips to support your own science-policy engagement efforts.

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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