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September 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.

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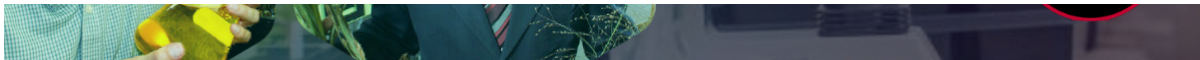
Alliance Tier 1 Research Program Call for Proposals

A banner for "Research Project Funding" featuring three images: a woman in a lab coat working with equipment, a man in a field holding a plant, and a man in a suit. The text "Research Project Funding" and "Apply Today" is prominently displayed in white. The Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance logo is in the bottom right corner.

**Research
Project Funding**

Apply Today

Ontario
Agri-Food
Innovation
Alliance



The Alliance Research Program funds research projects that support strong rural communities, help keep our food safe and develop a prosperous, environmentally sustainable agri-food sector in Ontario.

The single-stage call for proposals for project operating funding is open until 1 p.m. on Monday, November 7, with an intent process deadline of Friday, October 14.

[View Tier 1 Funding details](#)

Project proposals must align with OMAFRA Research Priorities 2022-23 and address a specific research question.

Eligible U of G researchers interested in applying for research project operating funding may do so through the Tier 1 Research Program Call for Proposals. If you have questions, email rescoord@uoguelph.ca.

Proposal Quick Tips

Click below for key tips on writing a quality proposal.

[Preparing Your Tier 1 Proposal](#)

KTT Workshop

Become familiar with knowledge mobilization and how to apply it. Join the first session in the Skills for Research Impact Workshop Series on Sept. 27.

[Register for the KTT Workshop](#)

WATCH: Inside the Precision Feed Facility

Precision Feed Facility



The Precision Feed Facility is the latest addition to a world-class platform at the Elora

Research Station.

Look inside the facility and hear how it's making a difference to research at the Ontario Dairy Research Centre and the Ontario Beef Research Centre.

[Watch the Precision Feed Facility Video](#)

READ: New peach-thinning product could transform the tender fruit industry



An orchard of Harrow Dawn peaches

Dr. John Cline, a professor at the Ontario Agricultural College, is evaluating a new spray product that will reduce the need for hand-thinning on orchards. A labour-intensive process, hand-thinning is normally required to remove smaller fruits from peach trees so that remaining peaches can reach commercial size at harvest.

With Alliance funding and access to the Ontario Crops Research Centre - Simcoe, Cline is de-risking the technology developed by Valent BioSciences to prepare it for commercial use. If successful, the new spray product will help mitigate labour stress in the tender fruit industry.

The research project, which began in 2021, will continue for four years and will be conducted on commercial peach tree orchards in Beamsville, Vineland, Jordan and elsewhere in the Niagara Peninsula.

[Read the full story](#)





Dr. John Cline

Support from the Alliance

Dr. John Cline uses several Alliance resources to conduct his research.

Tier 1: Research project operating funding

Research Centre: The Ontario Crops Research Centre – Simcoe

Highly Qualified Personnel: The research is training two graduate students - tomorrow's workforce

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 key topics relating to effective research communications and engagement of non-academic audiences.

[September 27: Planning for Research Impact](#)

[October 11: Approaches to Knowledge Mobilization](#)

[October 25: Clear Language Writing](#)

[November 8: Infographic Development and Design](#)

[November 22: Evaluating Knowledge Mobilization \(KMb\) 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.

Media

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

Plans to Cut Fertilizer Emissions Will Not Threaten Food Security (Aug. 26, U of G News)

Three U of G professors weigh in on the federal government's plan to cut fertilizer emissions by 30 per cent by 2030.

Two researchers with Alliance connections receive Research Excellence Awards (Aug. 25, U of G)

Dr. Ali Dehghantanha, School of Computer Sciences in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, and Dr. Ryan Prosser, School of Environmental Sciences, receive Research Excellence Awards.

Cyber-attacks a Growing Threat to Farm, Food Security, Warn U of G Researchers (Aug. 17, U of G News)

Canadian farmers have long fought off crop and livestock threats from diseases and pests. Now add to that the growing threat of cyber-attacks, as producers in Canada and abroad adopt more on-farm smart technologies.

'It's hard to separate yourself from the farm'. Stress, burnout higher among farmers than general population, survey finds (Aug. 16, Simcoe Reformer)

Researchers surveyed 1,200 farmers in early 2021 and found higher rates of stress, emotional exhaustion and burnout than in the general population.

Agriculture Economist Makes Headlines on Future of Farming (Aug. 15, U of G News)

Ontario Agricultural College economist Dr. Alfons Weersink discussed the implications of a changing agricultural landscape with national media outlets.

Alliance Research Program Director Dr. Mary Ruth McDonald featured on AgAnnex Talks podcast (Aug. 12, AgAnnex Talks podcast)

Listen in as McDonald talks about her role with the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance (around 10:30), as well as trying new things, rolling with the punches and seeing research in action.

Scoring fecal consistency can help to better treat calves with diarrhea (Aug. 4, Farmtario)

Alliance-funded researcher Dr. David Renaud, veterinary epidemiologist in the Department of Population Medicine, speaks to Farmtario about how properly identifying diarrhea severity in calves can lead to better health outcomes.

Dry spell putting pressure on farmers in Ontario (Aug. 4, Observer)

Dr. Joshua Nasielski, professor in the Department of Plant Agriculture, talks about the impacts of an "abnormally dry" year in southwestern Ontario on farmers and yields in this article from the Observer.

Student veterinarians get hands-on training thanks to Veterinary Capacity Program

funding (July 29, U of G OVC)

Hear from a veterinarian who chose the rural community practice (mixed) stream for her 2021 externship, allowing her to work with both small and large animals.

Drought Will Affect Economy, Not Food Supply, Say U of G Crop Specialists (July 26, U of G News)

U of G researchers are developing solutions to drought in Ontario with the help of the Ontario Crops Research Centres in Elora and Ridgetown.

Plant Science Students to Compete in International 'Weed Olympics' (July 25, U of G News)

U of G students will face off against some of the most prominent schools in the U.S., including Cornell, Pennsylvania State, Rutgers, Virginia Tech, and North Carolina State.

Subsidize fertilizer prices to prevent food shortages, malnutrition: U of G researcher (July 18, U of G News)

Dr. Manish Raizada, a professor in the Department of Plant Agriculture at the Ontario Agricultural College who studies the development of low-cost technologies and natural biological resources, calls for governments worldwide to subsidize fertilizer.

Events



Bringing crops to

life in the
field

September 13, 14 & 15, 2022
outdoorfarmshow.com



Canada's Outdoor Farm Show

September 13 - 15, 2022
Woodstock, Ontario

Canada's Outdoor Farm Show returns as a full-scale, in-person outdoor farm show on September 13, 14 & 15, 2022. Look for U of G researchers showcasing their work.

[Click for tickets to Canada's Outdoor Farm Show](#)





Guelph Turfgrass Institute Opening Field Day

Friday, September 16, 1 p.m.
Guelph Turfgrass Institute

This free event officially marks the opening of the new research location and celebrates the 35th anniversary of the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. The Public Opening Field Day will include research plot tours and the opportunity to meet current turf students and the research staff.

[Click to register for the GTI Field Day](#)



Animal Biosciences Research: Graduate Student Symposium

Friday, September 30, 9 - 5 p.m.
University of Guelph Arboretum Centre & Virtual (Zoom)

Come learn from graduate students about the latest advances in Animal Biosciences Research at the University of Guelph!

Click to register for the Graduate Student Symposium

Make an Alliance Connection



Visit the Alliance website

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



IMPROVE LIFE.

