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November 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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Laboratory Services Division celebrates 25 years



Congratulations to all the staff at the Animal Health Laboratory and the Agriculture and Food Laboratory for their ongoing dedication to providing comprehensive, reliable, accredited testing services to help build transparency and public confidence in the agri-food sector.

Learn more about the impact of the Laboratory Services Division

Join us at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair



Join the University of Guelph and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs as we help celebrate the 100th anniversary of The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair!

The Royal is happy to welcome guests back in person for 2022. This November discover, learn and celebrate 'A Century of Champions'!

Explore the U of G exhibit *The Future of Food* as it relates to climate change, food security, a strong food and agricultural economy, soil health, and One Health.

[Explore the Royal's website](#)

Skills for Research Impact Workshop Series





Two sessions remain this fall for the [Skills for Research Impact Workshop Series](#)!

[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.

Touring the Elora Research Station



After the easing of COVID restrictions, we have been thrilled to welcome back tours to the Elora Research Station, including the Ontario Dairy Research Centre, the Ontario Beef Research Centre and the Ontario Crops Research Centre.

From graduate students to members of the Ontario Council on University Research, we have welcomed groups with a research interest in beef, dairy and crops over the past several months and look forward to welcoming more.

Interested in organizing a tour? Please reach out to our research centre outreach coordinator at researchstation.info@uoguelph.ca. Please note there are biosecurity protocols in place for all visitors.

READ: Recognizing the potential for growth in the Ontario craft cider sector



An inter-disciplinary research team at the University of Guelph aims to expand and diversify the local craft cider industry.

The team, led by Dr. George van der Merwe, a professor in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, plans to help increase local cider production and expand markets in Ontario.

“Ontario plays an important role in Canada’s cider industry, but only one-quarter of the cider Ontarians consume is Ontario craft cider. The remainder is imported,” says van der Merwe. “Our research aims to address barriers in local cider production to grow the Ontario market.”

Launched in 2018, the project aims to improve growth of the craft cider industry by cultivating new yeast strains, developing new cider apple varieties and better understanding the impact of taxation on the industry.

[Read the full story](#)

Media

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

media.

Dairy sustainability lead has high hopes for 2050 emission goals (Oct. 27, Farmtario)

U of G professor Dr. Mike von Massow speaks about recent consumer surveys.

Modifying water's structure as low energy method for removing pollutants (Oct. 18, Canadian Light Source)

Dr. Erica Pensini is part of a team developing low-energy strategies to purify polluted water. "We've been looking at the purification of surface water, groundwater and wastewater," says Pensini, professor in the School of Engineering at U of G. "We found that it was possible to use molecules that are both water-loving and oil-loving to separate solvents from water."

Turning dairy into beef: Shaking up supply chains (Oct. 17, Farmtario)

Alliance-funded researcher Dr. Michael Steele talks to Farmtario about breeding beef genetics to dairy cows.

Weed management brings high return on investment in dry beans (Oct. 12, Farmtario)

Alliance-funded research Dr. Peter Sikkema shares data on weed management in dry beans. Sikkema was one of several researchers who presented their work at the Ontario Crops Research Centre - Huron at the recent Ontario Bean Growers research day.

A new perspective on inflammation (Oct. 11, Ontario Veterinary College)

HQP Scholar Dr. Saeid Tabatabaei is studying inflammatory response in bovine respiratory disease and could help design future approaches to prevent or treat BRD without the use of antibiotics.

What's keeping Ontario farmers up at night? (Oct. 7, TVO's The Agenda)

Dr. Sarah Epp, a rural planning and development professor, talks about farmland loss in Ontario.

Canada-wide avian flu outbreaks cause wildlife centres to turn away some bird species (Oct. 6, Cottage Life)

Dr. Shayan Sharif talks to Cottage Life about avian influenza outbreaks and poultry supply chains. Sharif, a professor at the Ontario Veterinary College, says it's possible the outbreak could affect poultry supply chains, but it seems unlikely given the current pattern of transmission.

U of G chemist turns greenhouse gas into potential industrial gold (Oct. 6, U of G News)

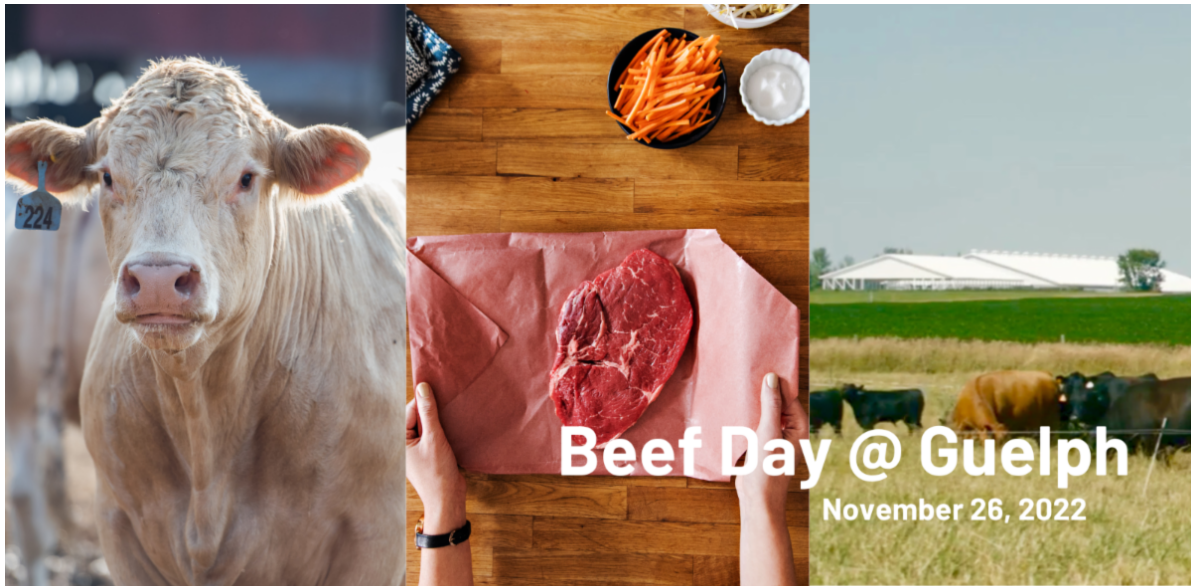
A U of G chemist has found a new way to turn methane into methanol, a discovery that may help stem global warming and create useful industrial products at the same time.

U of G partners with Human Colossus Foundation for better sharing of agri-food research data (Sept. 29, Food from Thought)

Michelle Edwards, director of agri-food data strategy at U of G, and her colleague Carly Huitema, manager, agri-food data strategy, are the driving forces behind the agri-food data strategy team, which is working to develop the semantic engine that will underpin U of G's new data strategy.

Events





Beef Day @ Guelph
Saturday, November 26, 2022

Join U of G researchers, OMAFRA specialists, and Beef Farmers of Ontario to learn about the latest Ontario beef research, take part in carcass quality sessions in the meat lab, and see the trials going on at the Ontario Beef Research Centre.

Beef Day @ Guelph event details & registration

Faculty Information Exchange Series 2022-2023: Data Management Plans and Open Access
Friday, November 4, 2022 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Are these plans more than just another funding requirement? Where do data management plans come into play and what support is available at U of G? Join the team to explore what this all means to your research.

Introduction and update from Office of Research Services:

- **Karina McInnis**, Associate Vice-President (Research Services), Office of Research Services

Perspective as a librarian, agri-food data strategist and a researcher:

- **Dr. Michelle Edwards**, Director, Agri-Food Data Strategy, Office of Research
- **Lucia Costanzo**, Research and Scholarship Librarian, McLaughlin Library
- **Dr. Mary Ruth McDonald**, Professor, Department of Plant Agriculture

Registration details

Make an Alliance Connection



Visit the Alliance website

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



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