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September 2024



Alliance Innovations

Growing Ontario agri-food together: A collaboration between the Government of Ontario 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.



Visit us at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show

Visit us in the [OMAFA Innovations Pavilion](#) from September 10 to 12. You can also stop by the [Feeding the Future](#) listening post to share your thoughts on how to make Ontario's agri-food sector the best in the world.

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U of G researchers: Call for proposals Tier 1 research program operating funding

Town Hall Information Session
Thursday, September 19





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 Tuesday, November 5, with an intent process deadline of Thursday, October 10.

Visit Tier 1 funding details

Project proposals must align with [current OMAFA Research Priorities](#) 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.

Town hall information session

September 19, 2024 at 2 p.m.

In-person: ANNU room 141
(Animal Science and Nutrition building)

Virtual: [Microsoft Teams link](#)

Proposal quick tips

Click the link below for key tips on writing a quality proposal.

[Preparing your Tier 1 proposal](#)

The Alliance is growing veterinary capacity in Ontario

Farmers need reliable access to livestock veterinarians to grow their businesses and deliver home-grown food to Ontarians.

To build the province's supply of large animal veterinarians, U of G experts provide hands-on food animal training to veterinary students, investigate sector challenges and propose solutions to prepare the industry for the future.

Veterinary capacity by the numbers

500+

Number of veterinary students receiving training on food animal care every year

100%

Employment rate reported for graduates of the U of G DVM program

#1 in Canada

U of G is ranked #1 in Canada and #8 in the world in veterinary science

Answering the urgent call for veterinarians in rural

Student goat immunity project will help farmers

and northern Ontario



[Read the full article](#)

breed healthier herds



[Read the full article](#)

**Ruminant Field Services
clinic inspires student
veterinarians to work with
livestock**



[Read the full article](#)

**Ontario Veterinary College
celebrates 70 years of
Ruminant Field Services**



[Read the full article](#)

U of G Office of Research photo contest returns

**2024
research
in focus
PHOTO CONTEST**



Show the world how University of Guelph research has real-world impacts and improves life. U of G faculty, staff, students and postdocs: submit a photo of your research for a chance to win one of five cash prizes.

The U of G Research in Focus photo contest is an opportunity for U of G faculty, staff, students and postdocs to showcase pictures of their research for a chance to win one of five cash prizes.

The contest is a way for U of G researchers to share compelling research stories.

A special “agri-food” category is sponsored by the Alliance!

The best photo with an agricultural theme will win \$750.

Submissions are open until November 8, 2024.

Research in Focus photo contest details

Upcoming events



International Plowing Match & Rural Expo

October 1-10, 2024, Kawartha Lakes

Join the largest event of its kind in North America. The 105th International Plowing Match & Rural Expo is a five-day celebration of agriculture and rural living.

[Event details](#)



Arrell Food Summit

October 16, 2024, Toronto

This year's Summit will explore new and exciting innovations, highlight the impacts and experts emerging from research, and demonstrate how new ideas and cutting-edge technology can change the way we feed the world.

[Event details](#)



Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

November 1-10, 2024, Toronto

Celebrate the best in agriculture, local food and equestrian competitions from across the country. The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair is jam-packed with home-grown fun and the best in local food and animal entertainment.

[Event details](#)

Media

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

[U of G researcher leads national effort to reduce nitrous oxide, major source of Canada's emissions](#) (Aug. 30, U of G News)

Leading the network is Alliance-funded researcher Dr. [Claudia Wagner-Riddle](#) at the [School of Environmental Sciences](#) within the [Ontario Agricultural College](#).

[Ridgetown welcomes new field crop pathologist](#) (Aug. 21, Farmtario)

The University of Guelph's Ridgetown Campus has added a world-class field crop pathologist to its teaching and research repertoire.

[Soybean School: Scouting for fringe weeds maximizes herbicide tolerant technology](#) (Aug. 15, RealAgriculture.com)

"Nature abhors a vacuum": OMAFA specialist was on location at the Ontario Crops Research Centre - Elora for this Soybean School video.

[Canada's food supply — under threat?](#) (Aug. 10, CBC)

Dr. Ali Dehghantanha, who holds a Canada Research Chair in cybersecurity and threat intelligence at the University of Guelph, discusses cybersecurity threats in the agri-food sector.

[U of G research looking into use of robots on farmland](#) (Aug. 10, GuelphToday.com)

U of G researcher Dr. Mary Ruth McDonald discusses the use of robots to perform day-to-day tasks on farms and her project at the Ontario Crops Research Centre - Bradford.

[These self-driving, weed-cutting robots 'transform the future of farming,' says U of G researcher](#) (Aug. 7, U of G News)

An Alliance-funded study to compare robots to conventional farming methods.

[Two perspectives on building soil resilience](#) (July 31, Farmtario)

Dr. Laura Van Eerd, researcher at the University of Guelph's Ridgetown campus, shared data collected from 65 years of crop rotation research at a recent webinar organized by Quebec's provincial agriculture ministry.

[Finding workers: Online survey of labour force shortages in rural Ontario](#) (July 30, Farms.com)

U of G researchers share findings from their rural Ontario labour force shortage survey.

[Study could benefit canola growers](#) (July 20, TB News Watch.com)

Alliance-funded Northern Ontario canola research could help increase production.

[A robot that can harvest asparagus part of the 'next phase' of farming](#) (July 18, The Hamilton Spectator)

A Canadian company demonstrates an Asparagus-harvesting robot at Ontario Crops Research Centre - Simcoe.

Make an Alliance connection



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This newsletter is produced by the University's Office of Research. The views expressed are the views of the University and do not necessarily reflect those of OMAFA. Questions regarding the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance can be addressed to omafago@uoguelph.ca.



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