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October 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.



Celebrating Ontario Agriculture Week

From October 7-13, celebrate all things Ontario agriculture!

Show your support for Ontario's food sector by using the hashtags #ONTAgWeek and #LoveONFood across your social media platforms. You can also explore [AgScape resources](#).

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Celebrating the harvest with the Alliance

Is fresh Ontario-grown food on your plate this fall? Whether you're celebrating the harvest or just enjoying fresh, seasonal produce, chances are you're sampling the results of research and innovation coming from the University of Guelph – Canada's Food University.

For more than 150 years, the Government of Ontario and U of G have worked together for the benefit of the province's farmers and food processors. The collaboration, known as the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance, increases the production of safe, home-grown food for Ontarians to savour.

Agri-food research capacity by the numbers

20+ crop varieties, 7 livestock species

Supporting farm-tested innovations at research sites across Ontario

\$270 million invested by partners

Over five years, researchers leverage Alliance funding to amplify results

550+ students per year

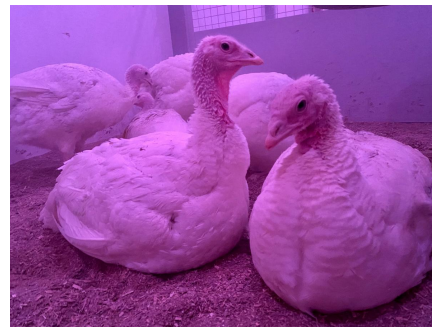
Training the next generation of agri-food innovators with hands-on learning

Top 10 feast-worthy foods brought to you by the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance



[Read the full article](#)

Student research lays foundation for improving turkey production



[Read the full article](#)

U of G researchers breeding the perfect wheat to resist major disease



[Read the full article](#)

A balancing act: Farmland preservation and economic growth in rural communities



[Read the full article](#)

U of G researchers: Research program operating funding available

CALL FOR PROPOSALS



TIER 1

Research Operating
Funding Available

FULL PROPOSALS
DUE NOV 5



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 **intent information due on 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.

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 (or knowledge translation and transfer) activities. Sessions will cover key topics relating to effective research communications and engagement of non-academic audiences, including policy, industry and community stakeholders.

Explore all the workshops

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

Infographics in practice for graduate students

Participate in the Skills for Research Impact Infographics workshop to learn best practices for designing engaging and visually appealing infographics.

[Register for the Oct. 29 Infographics workshop](#)

Graduate students can also participate in the Infographics in Practice program to showcase their creativity and communication skills by creating infographics.

Participants will receive a \$150 honorarium for their efforts. An additional \$100 bonus prize will be awarded to the top infographics.

[Complete the registration form by Nov. 1](#)

Agri-food Data Canada releases latest data verification tool



New Feature Alert: Data Verification

Enhance your data management with [Agri-food Data Canada's](#) (ADC) latest data verification tool. This is a new feature recently released in ADC's Semantic Engine.

Read the full blog post to learn more about how you can leverage this innovative new tool from ADC that saves researchers time, reduces errors and ensures data accuracy.

Read about ADC's new tool

U of G Office of Research photo contest returns



Only one month left to enter!

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 share compelling research stories for a chance to win one of five cash prizes.

Special agri-food category 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



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](#)

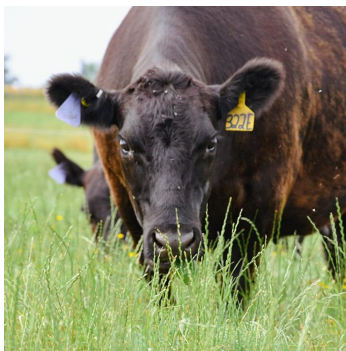


Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

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](#)



Animal Biosciences Graduate Student Symposium

December 10, 2024, U of G Arboretum Auditorium

Network with U of G graduate students from the Department of Animal Biosciences. Hear about current student research and the contributions towards agricultural science. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

[Event registration](#)

Media

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

[Scientists explore alternatives to antibiotics and zinc oxide to address postweaning diarrhea](#) (Sept. 23, Farms.com)

Alliance-funded researcher Dr. Vahab Farzan discusses potential alternatives to antibiotics and zinc oxide for protecting piglets during weaning.

[New chipping varieties catch the eyes of producers](#) (Sept. 16, Farmtario)

Vanessa Currie, a research technician in the U of G Department of Plant Agriculture, spoke about potato trials for "chipping" varieties at the August 21 potato research open house.

[U of G researchers receive funding to study youth mental health, greenhouse gas reduction, brain cancer, more](#) (Sept. 13, U of G News)

U of G researchers receive CFI grants to advance sustainable agri-food solutions.

[New dry bean expert to lead research in plant breeding and computational biology](#) (Sept. 9, Ontario Agricultural College)

Dr. Mohsen Yoosefzadeh Najafabadi to lead research in plant breeding and computational biology with a focus on developing cultivars that provide significant benefits to farmers and growers.

[Robots, research offer taste of farming's future in Holland Marsh](#) (Sept. 6, BradfordToday.ca)

A U of G team, including Dr. Mary Ruth McDonald, is testing the usefulness of farm robots in

Ontario's muck soil at the Ontario Crops Research Centre in Bradford.

World-renowned faculty honoured with Royal Society Fellowships (Sept. 3, U of G News)

A record number of University of Guelph faculty have been named Fellows of The Royal Society of Canada, including Alliance-funded researcher Dr. Manjusri Misra.

The problem solvers: Dr. Asim Biswas (September, Ontario Grain Farmers Magazine)

The Alliance-funded U of G researcher works to bring ballpark soil data to farmers for better on-farm decision-making.

Utilizing yeast in sow diets to optimize piglet growth (September, National Hog Farmer)

U of G researchers discuss current research and what it means for producers.

Purple coneflower supplements in dairy calves improves immunity and reduces inflammation (September, Dairy at Guelph)

Alliance-funded research shows purple coneflower supplementation in Holstein calves led to indicators of better immunity and anti-inflammatory properties.

Alliance expert in the news: Dr. Mike von Massow (September)

The Canadian Press, Globe and Mail and CBC News the National consulted the Alliance-funded U of G food economist on Vancouver grain terminal strike.

Make an Alliance connection



Visit the Alliance website



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

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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