

CSGA 2009 Annual Meeting Resolutions

During the 2009 CSGA Annual Meeting held in Winnipeg in early July, five resolutions were put forward by members and passed by the membership present at the meeting. The first resolution was the standard, but very important, courtesy resolution thanking all sponsors and volunteers that contributed to making the Annual Meeting possible. Letters of sincere gratitude were sent to all sponsors and volunteers in early August.

The second resolution was a follow-up to a 2008 resolution regarding the development of nation-wide Errors & Omissions insurance for seeds men. As a result of the 2008 resolution, three insurance providers are now offering seeds men's insurance: Farrell Agencies, Marsh and Dolton Timmis. The 2009 resolution recognized some Associations have included mandatory Errors & Omissions Insurance as part of their membership dues. The 2009 resolution asked CSGA to investigate mandatory E&O insurance for all members. In response, we are currently discussing the potential with insurance providers to see how such a system could work to the benefit of all seed growers. Your comments, as a CSGA member, are appreciated, and can be sent to communications@seedgrowers.ca. How would you react to a mandatory requirement for Errors & Omissions insurance?

The third resolution dealt with a recognition of an increasing presence of ergot in western Canadian cereal crops. It asked CSGA to stress to plant breeders the seriousness of the ergot situation that occurred in Western Canada in 2008 and to challenge them to look at varietal lines showing resistance or tolerance to ergot. It also asked CSGA to call upon research groups to further explore all potential management practices which may reduce ergot presence. Lastly, it asked CSGA request ergot testing/data compilation be included in the Canadian Grain Commission Harvest Sampling Program and as part of the screening protocols in the co-op trials. Although no replies have yet been received

(at time of writing), letters were sent in late July to the Canadian Grain Commission, the Western Grain Research Foundation and the Cereal Recommending Committees on wheat, rye, triticale, oats and barley.

The fourth resolution relates to the structure and frequency of meetings held by CSGA and CSGA Branches. It recognized costs are increasing and attendance appears to be declining. The resolution suggested we look at combining the CSGA Annual Meeting (in July) with the Inter-Provincial meeting (a meeting of Branch Boards of Directors in November) in 2012. The concept would be to structure an agenda that accommodates all Branches and all regional issues. We will be investigating this option further, however, the

Canada Corporations Act requires that not-for-profit Associations hold an Annual Meeting within 15 months of their previous Annual Meeting. This provision within the federal statute under which CSGA is registered, inhibits scheduling the CSGA Annual Meeting in November but would not impact scheduling the Inter-Provincial meeting in July.

The fifth and final resolution passed at the 2009 CSGA Annual Meeting dealt with the validity of germination analysis on pedigreed seed and the need to place an expiry date on the germination test. CSGA was asked to encourage the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to institute a limit on the validity of official germination tests to a period not exceeding 12 months. Currently, the requirement is for the germination analysis to reflect the seed germination at the time of sale. It is the seller's obligation to provide a germination analysis to the buyer within 30 days of being requested and it is the buyer's right to request the germination analysis. However, there is misunderstanding, or lack of understanding, of seller obligations, buyer rights and the "life expectancy" of a germination analysis. CSGA is currently seeking informal clarification from CFIA on the implication(s) of a germination analysis expiry date provision prior to making a specific request.



Passages

Graham Ogilvie of Lacombe, Alberta passed away. He had been a seed grower since 1979 and received a 25 years long service award in 2008.

Dr. Doug Knott of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, wheat breeder and geneticist, passed away. Doug was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in 1999 for his contributions to wheat breeding and for his work on rust resistance and its inheritance in wheat. He was an Honorary Life member of CSGA and a former head of the Crop Science Dept. of the U. of Saskatchewan.

Elden Kaun of Penhold, Alberta, passed away. Elden was President of the CSGA (1973-1975), President of the Alberta Branch and a founding member of SECAN. He was a proud seed grower with 44 years of service and was honoured with the CSGA Outstanding Service Award and the Robertson Associate Award. He also received the Alberta Achievement Award of Excellence for Agriculture.

Two Issues of Seed Scoop

Our CSGA newsletter, *Seed Scoop*, will now be released twice a year each spring and fall. With the release of our new magazine *Seed to Succeed*, printed free of charge to CSGA through advertisement, we feel that two issues of *Seed Scoop* along with two issues of *Seed to Succeed* will enhance our communication to members while cutting down costs. The CSGA calendars that are typically sent with our fall issue of *Seed Scoop* will be sent to you in our November issue of *Seed to Succeed*.

New Midge Tolerant Wheat Website

The Midge Tolerant Wheat Stewardship Team launched a new website www.midgetolerantwheat.ca. The site is a great resource for seed growers to learn more about the benefits of this new technology, varieties available and the stewardship program to help preserve the trait for the future.

Midge tolerance is based on a single gene, which can become ineffective over a relatively short period of time as insect populations change. The website helps illustrate how the interspersed refuge system works to prevent the

build up of virulent (resistant) midge, extending the life of midge tolerance from as little as 10 years to 90 years or longer.

The Midge Tolerant Wheat Stewardship Team is a broad industry coalition representing plant breeders, government, seed growers, seed distributors and producer groups. The team is committed to maintaining the viability of midge tolerant wheat by educating Canadian wheat producers on the importance of proper stewardship of the technology.

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Staffing Announcement

Caroline Lafontaine, CSGA's Administrative Coordinator for the past four years, has returned from maternity leave in the new position of Member Services Coordinator. In this new position, Caroline will be responsible for our Seed Scoop newsletter, the new Seed to Succeed magazine, the CSGA website, and special projects targeted at enhancing the profile of seed growers and Certified seed.

We are delighted to announce that Latona Nicholson, who has been doing a great job filling in for Caroline over the last year, will stay on with CSGA as Operations Administrative Coordinator. Latona is completely bilingual and has experience as an Administrative Assistant with Royal LePage and a diploma in Early Childhood Education. We are pleased to have her onboard permanently and look forward to working with her in the years to come.



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Winnipeg, with its close proximity to the geographic centre of North America, bills itself as the "heart of the continent." And, because of its unique geographical shape, the province of Manitoba could well be called the "key to the continent," which was the theme of the 105th annual meeting of the Canadian Seed Growers Association, co-hosted by the Manitoba Seed Growers.

The 2009 meeting held July 8-11 at Winnipeg's Fairmont Hotel, which is located in the historic Exchange District, focused on using that thematic key to unlock several important issues facing Canada's seed industry.

To get the week started off in grand style, attendees made their way to the famed intersection of Portage and Main where the Millennium Centre is located for an evening of networking and "Unlocking the Flavours of Manitoba." Entertainment was provided by guest harpist Janelle Nadeau, daughter of seed growers Brian and Rochelle Nadeau of Fannystelle, MB.

Unlocking Research
Manitoba's research community has a wealth of insight and expertise that can directly

benefit Canada's seed industry. Here are some highlights from the week's presentations.

Based at the St. Boniface Hospital, Dr. Peter Zahradka's lab at the Canadian Centre for Agri-Food Research in Health and Medicine is investigating the application of new pharmaceutical compounds for treating cardiovascular disease.

Of interest to the seed industry is the novel work his lab is doing to identify novel bioactive compounds from buckwheat, wheat bran and pulses and testing these

compounds to determine their ability to manage diabetes, obesity and vascular disease.

Unlocking Potential
From the Winnipeg-based Composites Innovation Centre comes Sean McKay, one of Canada's main proponents and organizers for the country's national bio-fibres initiative. He has been instrumental in forming partnerships in research and commercialization that are developing the knowledge and technologies necessary to have natural fibres successfully adopted as economic and capable reinforcements for composite products.

Unlocking the Future
Moving beyond the borders of Manitoba, John Oliver, president, Maple Leaf Bio-Concepts in Oshawa, ON, presented his vision for the future of Canada's seed and plant breeding industries. According to John, there is a perfect storm gathering on the horizon that includes climate change, human health, water availability and our dependence on fossil fuels. While this may sound ominous, he believes that through plant science we can reduce the negative effects of this storm which will result in the seed industry being a major beneficiary.



Unlocking the Continent

Destination Winnipeg's Tim Feduniw explored the challenges of trade with the United States. He observed that there is intense economic integration in both near-border jurisdictions as well as cross border trade. Because both countries enjoy similar economic, social, geographic, cultural and climatic features, deep and sustainable relationships have been formed. As neighbours, there are many more opportunities for collaboration in trade. Tim believes that a regional-based approach is the key to be able to increase access to US markets.

Unlocking Innovation

Each year, the offsite tours are always a highlight of the annual meeting. This year was no exception with attendees visiting the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods located at the University of Manitoba Smartpark. The Centre is dedicated to the discussion, discovery and development of functional foods and nutraceuticals with the focus on the crops of the Canadian prairies.

Unlocking Fun

What better way is there to wind up an intense and informative week of presentations and conversation than getting outside and enjoying a warm Prairie summer evening with family, friends and colleagues? Just a three minute walk from the Fairmont Hotel brings you to the Canwest Global Park, home to the Winnipeg Goldeyes. It was there where everyone enjoyed a delicious barbeque and nine innings of great baseball. It was certainly a fitting end to another successful CSGA Annual Meeting!

Save the Date!

You are invited to next year's Annual Meeting! Make your plans early to attend July 7-9, 2010 at the Delta Grand Okanagan in beautiful Kelowna, British Columbia. Remember this is your opportunity to have your voice heard. Join us!

Specific details will be announced next spring. For more information on Kelowna, go to www.tourismkelowna.com and www.deltagrandokanagan.com.



2009 CSGA Award Recipients

CSAAC Honorary Member Honorary membership in the Commercial Seed Analysts Association of Canada (CSAAC) is awarded to a person who has rendered signal service in one or more of the fields of activity activities of the Association.

2009 Recipient: Ken Allison, Ottawa, ON

Clark-Newman-Clayton Award is in recognition of a person who has made an exceptional contribution to pedigreed seed production in Canada and to Canadian agriculture through research, plant breeding or administration. The recipient is to choose a Canadian university that will be requested to name a suitable post graduate student to receive a \$2,500 grant from the CSGA. The person chosen by the university must be personally involved in a seed related project of value to seed growers.

2009 Recipient: Dr. Vernon Burrows of Ottawa, ON who chose Santosh Kumor of the University of Manitoba as the scholarship recipient.

CSGA Honorary Life Members Award is presented to persons who by distinguished services to the Association have contributed to the betterment of Canadian agriculture.

*2009 Recipients:
Owen Beaver, Brandon, MB
Dave Campbell, Winnipeg, MB
Robert Forrest, Hensall, ON
Dr. Pierre Hucl, Saskatoon, SK*

The **Robertson Associates Award** is presented to those members who have fulfilled with utmost fidelity and success their obligation to the Association.

*2009 Recipients:
Douglas Black, Belleville, ON
Dan Kirkham, Saltcoats, SK
Keith Scott, Boissevain, MB
Blaine Sudom, Avonlea, SK
Henry and Anne Vos, Fairview, AB*

Your CSGA Executive Committee and Board of Directors

Several changes occurred on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee as 2009 was a year of electing a new President. As Ed Lefsrud of Viking, Alberta moved into the position of past-President, Neil Shanks of Wheatley, Ontario was elected President. Gerald Girodat of Shaunavon, Saskatchewan moved to 1st Vice President and Jim Baillie of Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia was elected to the Executive Committee as 2nd Vice President.

Several Directors retired from the Board in 2009. Retiring Directors were: Harvey Glasier and Gord Hill of British Columbia, Larry Kitz of Alberta, Robert Stevenson of Manitoba, David Mol of Prince Edward Island and Mike Price of New Brunswick.

New Directors to the CSGA Board are: Ken Nickel and Ed Hadland of British Columbia, Tim Ferguson of Alberta, Don Zeghers of Manitoba, Kathy Hardy of Ontario and Peter Scott of New Brunswick.



Left to Right Top Row: Danielle Bernier and Jim Baillie. Left to Right Bottom Row: Neil Shanks, Dale Adolphe, Ed Lefsrud and Gerald Girodat.



Left to Right Bottom Row: Kathy Hardy, Dawn Pate, Donna Edwards, Neil Shanks, Danielle Bernier and Jim Baillie. Left to Right Middle Row: Tim Ferguson, Don Zeghers, Dale Adolphe, Ed Lefsrud, Ed Hadland, Norm Lyster and John Brown. Left to Right Back Row: Daniel Lanoie, Robert Wiens, Bob Hart, Peter Boswall, Blaine Recksiedler, Gerald Girodat and Peter Scott. Regrets: Leonard McCardle, Dr. Claude Caldwell, Dr. Patti Cuthbert and Ken Nickel.

A complete listing of the 2009-2010 CSGA Board of Directors is available at www.seedgrowers.ca/contactus/directors.asp.

Changes in 2010 for Previous Land Use Requirements in Circular 6

As announced in previous issues of Seed Scoop, the following changes will be made in 2010 in the CSGA *Regulations and Procedures for Pedigreed Seed Crop Production (Circular 6)*.

Pulse and Soybean Crops: Section 3.2.2 a) will be revised to: "*Land requirements prevent production of a higher pedigreed status crop (of the same variety) than the pedigreed status of the crop produced on that land the previous year.*" This change will clarify that the pedigreed status of subsequent pulse and soybean crop kinds (in Section 3), just like cereal crop kinds (in Section 2), is limited by previous year land use. Soybean Select Plot land requirements in Section 12.4.3 will also be revised with this previous year land use limit on pedigreed status.

CERTIFIED Cereal Crop Land Requirements: Land requirements in Section 2.2.5, for production of CERTIFIED crops of Barley, Oat, Rye, Triticale and Wheat, will be revised to permit CERTIFIED crop production on land that in previous year produced non-pedigreed crops of any of the pulse and bean crop kinds in Section 3 of *Circular 6* (Bean, Fababean, Lentil, Lupin, Pea and Soybean) regardless of the land use two years prior. This change does NOT apply to crops of other pedigreed classes like Registered or Foundation cereal crops.

This change in 2010 means that in the year after they've grown a commercial pulse or bean crop, growers producing these CERTIFIED cereal crops can now plant a different variety (of the same cereal crop kind) than was grown on that land two years ago. Before 2010, the only land use and commercial crops after which Circular 6 permitted this rotation were summerfallow, canola, corn, potatoes and other vegetable crops.

This short rotation is NOT recommended because of the risk that CERTIFIED seeds crop may contain volunteers of the different variety from two years ago. But with less summerfallow acreage available and improved controls for volunteers, this rotation is now permitted by Circular 6. This should increase the crop rotation options available to seed growers of these CERTIFIED cereal crops.

EXAMPLE of land use NOW eligible for CERTIFIED production that was not eligible in 2009:

- 2010 : producing CERTIFIED Barley, Oat, Rye, Triticale or Wheat seed crop
- 2009 : produced a non-pedigreed crop of Bean, Fababean, Lentil, Lupin, Pea or Soybean
- 2008 : produced a DIFFERENT VARIETY of Barley, Oat, Rye, Triticale or Wheat crop

CSGA Website Helps Producers Find Organic Seed

New regulations for organic production in Canada were implemented in 2009 by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

The preferred source of seed in these organic production regulations is certified organically grown seed. Due to the limited supply of organic seed of new varieties and some crop kinds, the traditional or long standing exception has been included into these regulations to allow the use of untreated, non GMO seed from conventional agriculture. However, the exception for the use of conventional seed requires that the organic crop producer demonstrates that organically produced seed is not commercially available.

To help connect organic crop producers with organic seed vendors, the CSGA invites Canadian pedigreed seed growers, who are also organic producers, to self-identify to the CSGA for inclusion on a CSGA webpage listing sources of pedigreed organic seed available for sale in Canada. Growers wishing to self-identify must submit a Form 150 to the CSGA office to authorize the release of their contact information. The organic pedigreed seed listing and Form 150 can be found at www.seedgrowers.ca/links/organics.asp.

