

AGRONOMY UPDATE 2020 FEATURED TIMELY INFORMATION FOR FARMERS

Held at the Cambridge Red Deer Hotel and Conference Centre in early January, Agronomy Update 2020 featured presentations on a wide variety of topics such as disease, insect and weed management, crop rotation, smart farming and biosecurity.



From left to right, Al Hampton, agricultural fieldman for Starland County, Nevin Rosaasen, Alberta Pulse Growers policy and programs specialist and Keith Gabert, Canola Council of Canada agronomy specialist, joined the Alberta Wheat and Barley Commissions' agronomy research extension specialist Jeremy Boychyn (standing) in a jam-packed panel discussion on crop rotation.





Keith Gilbert, John Mayko and Jeremy Boychyn talk shop on all things agronomy.

GRAIN ORGANIZATIONS INVEST IN VARIETY DEVELOPMENT

The Canadian Wheat Research Coalition (CWRC) is a collaborative body formed by the Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission, the Alberta Wheat Commission (AWC) and the Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association. The organization recently announced its first-ever contribution of more than \$9.6 million over five years to a core breeding agreement with the University of Saskatchewan's Crop Development Centre for the development of spring wheat cultivars. This investment marks a significant increase over the previous five-year commitment of \$5.4 million.



AWC region 3 director and CWRC board chair Jason Lenz announced the CWRC's wheat cultivar funding contribution at the CropSphere agronomic conference in Saskatoon, SK, in January. "This investment by the CWRC will benefit farmers across the Prairies by developing wheat varieties with improved resistance to pests and diseases along with improved yields," he said. Read more about the CWRC's investment at albertawheat.com.

CANADA'S AGRICULTURAL SUMMIT DREW A DIVERSE CROWD



The Alberta Wheat and Barley Commissions were proud coffee sponsors of Canada's Agriculture Summit, an event put on by the Calgary Stampede at the city's Big Four Building. This one-day event attracted more than 500 attendees. Moderated panel discussions tackled topics such as international trade agreements, crop marketing and co-operative business models.





From left to right, the Trade Agreements and Goods to Marketing panel included Curt Vossen, Richardson International president and CEO; Ray Price, Sunterra president; David Crawford, Greater Vancouver Board of Trade VP; Jeff Vassart, Cargill Limited president; and Art Froehlich, moderator and Agriview president.





From left to right, the Alberta Wheat Commission and Alberta Barley delegation included Erin Tateson, marketing and communications coordinator; Wade McAllister, Alberta Barley vice-chair and region 3 director-at-large; Jason Lenz, Alberta Barley region 3 director; Brian Kennedy, grower relations manager; Dave Bishop, Alberta Barley chair and region 1 director; Geoff Backman, business development and markets manager; Tom Steve, general manager, Jaron Penner, policy and markets analyst; Syeda Khurram, CFO; lan Doig, *GrainsWest* editor, Victoria Decker, communications manager; Gary Stanford, AWC past chair; and Shannon Sereda, government relations and policy manager.





FarmTech

CROP COMMISSIONS PRESENT CANADA'S PREMIER CROPPING CONFERENCE

The Alberta Wheat and Barley Commissions were proud to host FarmTech 2020 in partnership with Alberta Pulse Growers, Alberta Canola and Alberta Seed Growers. Held at Edmonton Expo Centre, the annual event features international speakers on a wide range the hottest topics in agriculture.



In his remarks at the event's kick-off reception, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Minister Devin Dreeshen discussed on the ministry's farmer-led research consultations, farm safety initiatives and attracting external investment to the province's agriculture sector.



Lauren Comin, Alberta Wheat and Barley Commissions director of research, discussed the next steps in the value creation conversation with Todd Hyra, SeCans Western Canada business manager, left, and Scott Ross, Canadian Federation of Agriculture assistant executive director.



To a full house, Scott Keller, Alberta Barley region 4 delegate, spoke on best practices and cost efficiencies in grain drying.







It was a proud moment for one Alberta agronomist as Tom Steve, Alberta Wheat and Barley Commissions general manager, announced the winner of the FarmTech award. Recipient Emile deMilliano is an agronomist with Nutrien. He has been an influential mentor to fellow agronomists as an advocate of direct seeding and the use of peas as a mainstay in crop rotation.





Visitors to the FarmTech tradeshow floor met the friendly faces of the FarmCash program. On the left, Sandra Fields, receptionist, and Tania Galanis, accounting coordinator, were keen to answer questions about the AWC cash advance program and how it can help farmers manage cash flow.





Check out RealAgriculture's FarmTech interview series at *realagriculture.com* to hear interviews with Alberta Wheat and Barley Commissions team members. Featured are discussions with Tom Steve, Lauren Comin, Jeremy Boychyn and Gary Stanford.

AWC AGM CHARTS A NEW COURSE IN A NEW DECADE





Farmers and industry professionals sign in at the AWC AGM for the 2020 commission update. The first 200 arrivals each received a pair of wheat socks (right). The sock giveaway has become an AGM annual tradition, with the fashionable footwear changing colour from year to year.



In his departing speech, Gary Stanford, past AWC chair, delivered the chair's report and election results. Stanford has served on the Alberta Wheat Commission board since the organization's inception in 2012.



 $Always \ quick \ to \ inject \ a \ note \ of \ humour \ into \ AGM \ proceedings, Tom \ Steve \ cracks \ a \ friendly \ joke \ while \ delivering \ his \ general \ manager's \ report.$



AWC said farewell to three directors during its AGM. These included Warren Sekulic (second from left) and Cole Siegle (middle), both region five directors, and Gary Stanford, (second from right). The three have made a substantial contribution to the organization and the farm industry as whole. AWC wishes you all the best in the future!



The current AWC board of directors, from left to right: Dean Hubbard, region 1; Justin Bell, region 2; Jason Saunders, region 1; John Wozniak, region 4; Hannah Konschuh, vice-chair; Todd Hames, chair; Janine Paly, director-at-large; Trevor Petersen, region 3; Dave Bartlett, region 5; Greg Sears, region 5; and Jason Lenz, region 3.