



Your POGA Board at Work

Shawna Mathieson, POGA Executive Director, participated in a May meeting in Regina with the Honourable Heath MacDonald, Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, where priorities for the Next Policy Framework were discussed (such as AgriInvest, AgriStability, AgriMarketing and AgriInsurance). The meeting was arranged by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC).

Picture caption: Minister MacDonald (front row, fifth from left), Shawna Mathieson (third from right) and industry leaders from Saskatchewan's crop and livestock sectors

NEW! POGA-Supported Project Advancing Lodging Assessment in Cereals

(Principal Investigator: Dr. Scott Noble, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Saskatchewan)

This three-year project focuses on: developing tools and methods to improve quantitative lodging scores of wheat, barley and oats; improve tools that breeders can use to assess physical characteristics of plants; and associate these measurements with lodging resistance.

The specific objectives are:

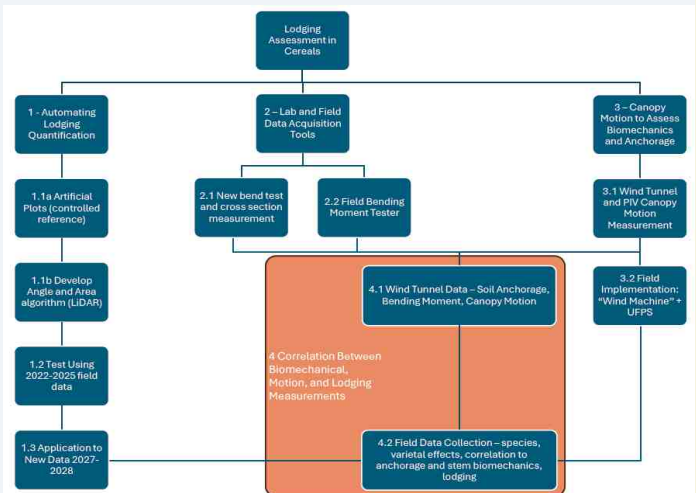
- 1) Automating lodging score quantification;
- 2) improved tools for lab and field measurements of lodging predictors;
- 3) canopy motion to assess biomechanics and anchorage; and,
- 4) correlation between biomechanical, motion, and lodging measurements.

Notes: Objective 1 will be applied after lodging occurs. Objectives 2-4 are aimed at development of predictive tools that can be used by breeders to assess lodging susceptibility before, or in the absence of, lodging. See diagram for a breakdown of each objective.

The project has the potential to benefit breeders and researchers by equipping them with reliable, fast and easy-to-use tools for assessing lodging resistance in cereal crops. The research will help mitigate lodging through improved crop traits or management strategies, directly enhancing yield stability.

Producers may also benefit by having earlier access to high-performing, regionally adapted cultivars that are more resilient to extreme weather events, particularly the increasingly frequent high winds and heavy rainfall we have recently seen in some areas. Reduced lodging translates into improved harvest efficiency, better grain quality and higher yields.

This project is co-funded by Prairie Oat Growers Association (POGA), Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission (SWDC), and Western Grains Research Foundation (WGRF).



The Prairie Pest Monitoring Network (PPMN) Continuing Project: a Tool for Producers ✍

Project Leads Meghan Vankosky (AAFC-Saskatoon), Jennifer Otani (AAFC-Beaverlodge Research Farm), and Boyd Mori (University of Alberta) have submitted their Year 3 report.

The project was announced in the March 2023 Oat Scoop and interim reports included in the 2025 and 2024 June issues (<https://poga.ca/communication-advocacy/oat-scoop-newsletter/>). This five-year, POGA-supported project, *Insect response to climate change and ag-inputs across the prairies*, addressed the following objectives during this reporting period (a selection of observations and/or achievements are included for each objective below in italics - please read the full report for all details):

- 1) Understand insect pest population dynamics and forecast pest populations.
 - a. Conduct field and lab experiments to understand the biology of insect pests and the response of these pests to biotic and abiotic factors.
 - Experiments to determine the effect of soil moisture on life stages and population dynamics of pea leaf weevil are continuing, with an aim to improve methods each year, and will continue, pending the collection of adult weevils in spring/26.
 - Sweep-net collections of adult grasshoppers at 154 sites were conducted across the Peace River region to assess the earliest maturation of in-season grasshoppers to adulthood. Densities were higher in 2025 compared to 2024. Adult male grasshoppers were targeted to assess species diversity (437 adults were retrieved between Jul 8 - Aug 27/25 and species identified).
 - b. Maintain and add to historical records of insect distribution and relative abundance across the western Canadian prairie ecozone.
 - Annual surveys of key pests were completed (sample observations are included here; read the full report for all observations). Grasshopper densities were patchy in 2025, with unexpectedly low densities in southern SK, lending support to the theory that very wet conditions in spring/25 contributed to grasshopper egg and nymphal mortality. Wheat midge populations were higher in southern SK than other parts of the prairies, where spring conditions were wetter. Cabbage seedpod weevil distribution and abundance continue to increase in the eastern prairie region, with very high populations observed in some parts of the prairies in July 2025. Pea leaf weevil were again highest in wetter areas of the prairies and this invasive species is now being found in high numbers in western MB. Wheat stem sawfly damage was reduced in 2025 compared to 2024, but was still quite high in southern SK and southern AB. Bertha armyworm numbers increased in 2025 compared to 2024, which could signal that population growth is underway. Monitoring for bertha armyworm and timely scouting could be important in 2026. Diamondback moth were detected in the majority of pheromone traps in the spring, but reports of damage were sporadic.

- c. Use new biological information to develop and validate phenology models and forecasting tools for insect pests.
 - A refined bioclimate model for cabbage seedpod weevil and a new model for canola (its primary host plant) was developed and validated in 2024. The research team plans to use the model to predict how both canola and cabbage seedpod weevil will respond to different climate change scenarios and how the distribution of these species could influence the establishment of imported parasitoids for cabbage seedpod weevil biological control.
- 2) Assess the current status of insecticide resistance in western Canada.
 - a. Collect live specimens of insect pests and conduct laboratory bioassays to determine the current susceptibility of insect pests to insecticides, and,
 - b. Evaluate the current risk of insecticide development in populations of insect pests of prairie field crops, and,
 - c. Incorporate insecticide resistance into risk/forecast maps for insect pests on the prairies.
 - No insecticide resistance to lambda-cyhalothrin was noted in populations of pea leaf weevil or cabbage seedpod weevil collected and used for bioassays in 2025. Mortality of cabbage seedpod weevil was 100%, even at application rates below the recommended rate of lambda-cyhalothrin. Pea leaf weevil mortality ranged from 70-100% at the recommended rate of the lambda-cyhalothrin.
- 3) Develop new insect information resources.
 - a. Project collaborators contributed to 16 Weekly Update articles and 16 Insect of the Week articles in 2025. A 'Priority Insects' poster was developed and PPMN helped to publicize it for the Prairie Region. PPMN collaborators are continuing to take pictures to be used in a library of insect images (to be produced at the end of the project). Monitoring protocols were updated and added to the PPMN website.

For more information, visit the Prairie Pest Monitoring Network (<https://prairiepest.ca>). To read all the detailed project reports (and accompanying maps and figures) to date, go to: <https://poga.ca/research/research-projects/> and filter for 'Principal Investigators: Vankosky'.

This project is co-funded with the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) of Saskatchewan under the Canadian Sustainable Agricultural Partnership, a federal, provincial, territorial initiative, and by Western Grains Research Foundation (WGRF), Alberta Grains, Alberta Canola Producers Commission, Manitoba Crop Alliance, Manitoba Canola Growers Association, SaskOilseeds, Prairie Oat Growers Association (POGA), Saskatchewan Pulse Growers, and Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission.

DO YOU HAVE WEED CONCERNS?

Go to the Prairie Weed Monitoring Network (co-funded by POGA) <https://www.prairieweeds.com/resources/>! There, you will find prairie-wide weed maps, WEED survey series reports and fact sheets (under the Resources tab), and peer-reviewed articles.

2026 SASKOATS-SPONSORED SUMMER EVENTS/TOURS at the SASKATCHEWAN AGRI-ARM SITES

Continue to check the websites below as they update their information and open up registration for the events. (For more information about the Agri-ARM network, go to: <https://agriarm.ca/>)

Conservation Learning Centre (CLC) (south of Prince Albert): Annual Field Day, July 29. Registration is required (free; online via the website or contact CLC at phone# below). Event starts ~9:00am (TBC on website). To learn more, email info@saskclc.ca, phone 306-960-1834 or visit their website: <https://saskclc.ca/>

East Central Research Foundation (ECRF) (south of Yorkton): Crop Plot Tour, July 28. Free registration in advance (Contact@ecrf.ca) or on-site at 9:00am (tour starts at 9:30am). For more information, visit the website <https://ecrf.ca/> or email g.tomcala@suncrestcollege.ca.

Indian Head Agricultural Research Foundation (IHARF) (Indian Head): Bell Barn Crop Management Field Day, July 21. For more information, visit the website for updates: <https://iharf.ca/>

Irrigation Saskatchewan (Outlook): Field Day, July 9, 9:00am to ~4:00pm (free lunch 11:00am - 1:00pm). No registration required. For more information and to register, go to: <https://irrigationsaskatchewan.com/icdc/>

Northeast Agricultural Research Farm (NARF) (Melfort): NARF/AAFC Joint Field Day, July 15. Free registration. For more information phone 306-231-8900, email Brianne.mcinnis@neag.ca, or check for website updates: <https://neag.ca/>

South East Research Farm (SERF) (Redvers): 25th Anniversary Field Day, July 9, 9:30am - ~3:30pm. Registration \$20: <https://serfsk.ca/resources-events#field-day>. For more info call 306-840-7116, email marndt@serfsk.ca, or check the website for updates: <https://southeastresearchfarm.org/>

Western Applied Research Corporation (WARC) (Scott): Annual Field Day, July 8 at the WARC acreage. For information, call 306-247-2001, email contact@warc.ca, or check updates on the website: <https://www.westernappliedresearch.com/>

Wheatland Conservation Association (WCA) (Swift Current): Annual Field Tour, July 16. For more information, visit the website for updates as they are made available: <https://wheatlandconservation.ca/>

SASKOATS SPONSORED a Nutrition for Menopause Summit

SaskOats sponsored this live virtual Summit organized by Spark Nutrition Communications which took place on March 25, 2026. The event was a resounding success, with over 450 registrants (doubling the expectation). Registered Dietitians made up 93% of attendees; the rest of the audience was made up of nurses and researchers/academics. 97% of participants rated the Summit 'Excellent' or 'Very Good'.

Comments from the survey included: "Speakers were very knowledgeable. Good combination of higher level evidence and practical strategies." "Varied presentations within the overall topic, practical tips provided within each presentation, current research discussed."

Jenn Salib Huber's cookbook 'Eat to Thrive During Menopause' was included as a draw prize. It included a recipe for Cranberry Energy Balls made with oats, cranberries and dates. The OatsEveryday website was mentioned during the day, and the 1/3 page ad at the top was included in the takeaway package.



Oats Are Cast in the Starring Role on TV! A POGA-Funded Initiative

Shannon Crocker, registered dietitian, was contracted to create and deliver two CHCH TV segments showcasing oat-based recipes. We have provided links to the TV segments as well as the written recipes on OatsEveryday. Please let POGA know if you try any of the recipes and give us your opinion!

The first segment, Oats Beyond Breakfast aired on Nov 4/25. Content focused on the versatility of oats in every meal through three prepared dishes. To view the TV segment, go to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZPR_FgfKttc

- Chocolate Pumpkin Oats Energy Bites. <https://oatseveryday.com/recipes/wprm-chocolate-pumpkin-seed-oat-energy-bites/>
- Kale Salad topped with Sesame Ginger Granola. <https://oatseveryday.com/recipes/wprm-grilled-kale-salad-with-sesame-ginger-granola/>
- Mediterranean-Inspired Meatball Nourish Bowl. <https://oatseveryday.com/recipes/wprm-mediterranean-inspired-meatball-nourish-bowl/>

The second segment, Oats for Heart Health, aired on Feb 18/26. To view the TV segment, go to:

<https://www.chch.com/morning-live/heart-healthy-overnight-oats-recipe/>.

- Carrot Cake Overnight Oats. <https://www.chch.com/morning-live/heart-healthy-overnight-oats-recipe/>.

Speaking with One Voice: Grain Growers of Canada's (GGC) 25 Years on Parliament Hill

This article was submitted by GGC.

Every spring, grain producers across Canada make enormous financial commitments before a single crop is in the ground. What happens in Ottawa during that same window shapes the conditions those investments will face for years to come. Input costs, market access, transportation reliability, and the policy decisions surrounding them are often the difference between a viable season and a difficult one.

GGC's advocacy work this spring reflected the breadth of challenges facing grain producers heading into the 2026 season. Through direct engagement with parliamentarians, ministerial staff, and senior officials, we worked to advance priorities that affect producers across all commodities and provinces, from trade and transportation to research investment and business risk management.

That direct engagement on Parliament Hill is what GGC has built over 25 years of national grain advocacy. Grains Week is the centerpiece of that effort, an annual initiative that brings producers from across the country to Ottawa for a concentrated week of structured engagement with Parliament, putting farm-level realities directly in front of the decision-makers shaping federal agricultural policy.

Held in Ottawa this February, the initiative brought together producers from across Canada, including two board members from POGA, for more than 30 meetings with MPs, senators, and ministerial staff. Discussions throughout the week focused on four issues shaping the sector's near-term outlook.

During a roundtable with Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Heath MacDonald and Deputy Minister Lawrence Hanson, producers raised concerns about recent research reductions at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the

long-term impacts on research capacity, productivity and crop development.

Later meetings focused on trade relationships with Canada's largest grain export markets, with conversations centering on market access and the importance of ensuring grain producers have a seat at the table before major trade decisions are made.

Supply chain reliability remained a recurring concern, particularly labour disruptions across rail and port networks and infrastructure constraints at the Port of Vancouver, both of which threaten Canada's ability to move grain reliably to global customers.

Grains Week also served as an opportunity to reflect on GGC's 25 years of national advocacy, with more than 160 producers, policymakers, and industry representatives gathering on Parliament Hill for a parliamentary reception marking the milestone. Remarks from Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister Kody Blois, a commemorative certificate presented by Senator Rob Black, and a formal acknowledgement in the Senate reflected the relationships and credibility GGC has built across party lines over the past two and a half decades.

Now, that work continues under new leadership, with Bruce Burrows joining as Executive Director in early 2026. With four decades of experience across transportation, infrastructure, and government relations, he brings deep expertise on the files that matter most to grain producers.

None of this is possible without the organizations like POGA that make up GGC's membership. Canada's grain sector speaks with one voice on Parliament Hill, and that voice is strengthened by the 15 national, provincial, and regional grower organizations behind it. Together, those organizations ensure grain producers are represented at the national level and heard where decisions are made. That coordinated national voice remains critical as producers navigate growing economic, regulatory, and supply chain pressures heading into the 2026 season.

Alberta Oat Variety Trials 2025 This Marks 10 Years of Comparative Trial Data!

Kabal Singh Bhullar, P.Ag. (Research Agrologist, Gateway Research Organization (GRO), Westlock), has submitted the annual report for the project *Increase the Oat Acres in Alberta by Finding a High Yielding Oat Variety that Maximizes Producer Income and Meets the Demands of the Millers*. Since 2016, the POGA-supported GRO Variety trials have been conducted at two locations (GRO, Westlock; and, Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association (SARDA), Peace Region). POGA and Grain Millers Canada recommitted support for the project for three more growing seasons (2025 to 2027).

Producers may want to access some of the previous GRO trial articles, as they provide results during each year's specific growing conditions. The most recent articles can be found in the 2022 to 2025 June issues at: <https://poga.ca/communication-advocacy/oat-scoop-newsletter/> to revisit this valuable information. Readers can access the full reports at <https://poga.ca/research/research-projects/> to see all data tables detailing comparisons between the two sites, varieties tested throughout the project lifespan for all other measured results (e.g.: height, lodging, test weight, etc.) and varietal β -glucan content. (At the Research page, filter for Principal Investigator: Gateway.)

On the next page, two tables are presented which summarize the top three varieties for yield at both locations over the last ten years and the top three varieties for β -glucan for the last five years. The chart illustrates seeded acres by variety in Western Canada.

Morgan continues to be the most popular oat variety in Alberta. However, you will see that Morgan has not been in the top three in terms of yield since 2021 for Westlock or since 2020 for the Peace Region. Morgan is not resistant to crown rust, which has increasingly been advancing west into Alberta. It also has lower-than-required B-Glucan levels for oat millers and food processors to make the heart healthy claim on foods they produce.

The variety trials continuously test various high-performing varieties and rate them for production in Alberta conditions. Morgan is used as the check variety, and each trial year, newly developed varieties are added and those with declining acres and low yield are eliminated.

As is to be expected, location continues to significantly affect two of the most significant factors for the oat industry: yield and beta-glucan (β -glucan) levels. Here is the summary of conclusions, taken directly from the report: *In conclusion, weather conditions once again played a pivotal role in shaping trial outcomes this year. Both sites experienced rainfall below the long-term*

averages for their regions, with the Peace Region facing particularly severe drought, receiving less than 40 percent of its typical precipitation, while the Westlock site received approximately 65 percent of its average rainfall. Unfortunately, much of the rainfall at Westlock did not occur during the critical periods of crop development when moisture was most needed. By late June, the Peace Region recorded the lowest soil moisture ratings in the province, and a state of agricultural disaster was declared in the Municipal District of Smoky River at the beginning of August. This lack of moisture explains why plants were shorter, exhibited little to no lodging, and why average yields were substantially lower than in previous years.

This comprehensive study underscores the potential of modern genetics to deliver strong performance in both yield and quality. However, it is important to note that not all newer varieties will consistently outperform older ones. Careful research and selection remain essential when choosing the right variety.

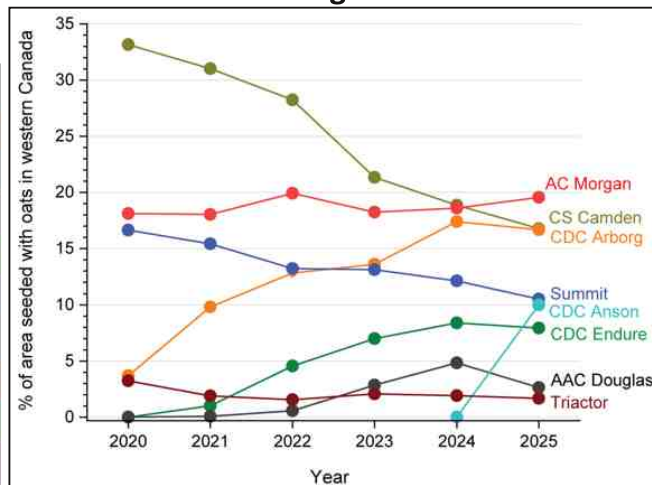
Overall, both cultivar selection and location significantly influence crop yield and beta-glucan levels. Environmental factors continue to play a critical role in determining a variety's productivity and quality traits, highlighting the ongoing need for research to optimize performance under diverse conditions.

This project is supported by Prairie Oat Growers Association (POGA) and Grain Millers Canada.

Crop Year	Top 3 Varieties for Yield at Westlock		
2025	CDC Anson	AAC Anthony	CS Camden
2024	CDC Buyer	CDC Endure	CS Camden
2023	CDC Arborg	AAC Douglas	CS Camden
2022	CDC Ruffian	AAC Wesley	CDC Arborg
2021	AC Morgan	CDC Arborg	CS Camden
2020	CDC Anson	CS Camden	CDC Skye
2019	CDC Endure	AC Summit	CDC Arborg
2018	Triactor	CDC Endure	AC Morgan
2017	CDC Ruffian	CS Camden	Akina
2016	CDC Ruffian	CDC Seabiscuit	AC Morgan
Crop Year	Top 3 Varieties for Yield at Peace Region		
2025	AAC Anthony	CDC Buyer	AAC Wesley
2024	CDC Ruffian	AAC Anthony	AAC Wesley
2023	OT 6024	CDC Arborg	CS Camden
2022	CDC Arborg	CDC Anson	AAC Wesley
2021	CS Camden	CDC Arborg	ORe3541M
2020	AC Morgan	CDC Ruffian	CDC Endure
2019	CDC Seabiscuit	CDC Arborg	CS Camden
2018	Triactor	AC Morgan	CDC Endure
2017	CDC Ruffian	Triactor	CDC Orrin
2016	CDC Ruffian	CDC Seabiscuit	AC Morgan

Crop Year	Top 3 Varieties for Beta Glucan at Westlock		
2025	CDC Anson	CDC Byer	CDC Hank
2024	CDC Anson	CDC Endure	CDC Byer
2023	AAC Douglas	CDC Anson	AAC Wesley
2022	CDC Endure	CDC Anson	AAC Douglas
2021	CDC Anson	CDC Endure	CDC Skye
Crop Year	Top 3 Varieties for Beta Glucan at Peace Region		
2025	CDC Anson	CDC Endure	CDC Hank
2024	CDC Anson	CS Camden	AAC Douglas
2023	CDC Anson	CDC Endure	OT6024
2022	CDC Endure	OT6024	CDC Arborg
2021	CDC Anson	CDC Endure	CDC Skye

2020-2025 Oat Acreage in Western Canada



Source: Government of Canada, Canadian Grain Commission (2025, November 4). Quality of Western Canadian Oats in 2025.

Producer Consent Form

At times, POGA receives requests from international oat buyers to source oats directly from producers. If you are a conventional, gluten free and/or organic oat producer in Alberta, Manitoba or Saskatchewan and are interested in being contacted by these companies for potential direct oat sales, head over to the main page at poga.ca/, click on and fill out the Producer Consent Form. Your contact info will be included in a list provided to companies inquiring about direct-from-producer sales.

NEW! SaskOats-Supported Project: Using Copper to Mitigate Diseases in Oat

This project will be conducted by Principal Investigator Ishita Patel, Northeast Agriculture Research Foundation (NARF). The overall objective of the one-year, Saskatchewan-based trial: *To assess the efficacy of copper-based products in controlling oat diseases.*

The specific objectives are:

- 1) To compare disease-controlling effects of a copper-based product with a non-copper-based product applied at two timings.
- 2) To examine the effect of the above products on oat maturity, straw greenness, and yield and quality of the harvested oat grain.

Copper has been shown to be effective in controlling various fungal and bacterial diseases in a variety of other cereal and non-cereal crops, and no copper-based product is registered in oats. Information generated from this project may provide oat growers with another tool to manage oat diseases.

In addition to the NARF (Melfort) site, plots will also be set up at Indian Head Agricultural Research Foundation (IHARF, Indian Head), South East Research Farm (SERF, Redvers) and East Central Research Foundation (ECRF, Yorkton).

CDC Arborg, the copper product Parasol® WG, and the non-copper-based product Nexicor® fungicide will be used at all sites. The trial will be fertilized so that all nutrients are non-limiting, and best management practices for weeds and insect pests will be applied.

Results will be published in an up-coming Oat Scoop issue, and where possible, the trial will be toured at collaborating sites' field days.

This project is funded by SaskOats.

The Prairie Crop Disease Monitoring Network (PCDMN): Fostering Further Network Development - Year Three Update ✍

The original project lead, Dr. Thomas Kelly Turkington, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), retired in early 2026. *POGA thanks Dr. Turkington for his dedication to the Network project and we wish him well for the future.* The project is now being led by Dr. Brent McCallum, AAFC, Morden Research and Development Centre.

This phase of the five-year project is focused on:

- 1) Further development and formalization of the PCDMN network including annual in-person and/or online meetings;
- 2) further development and refinement of survey protocols for researchers, producers and crop consultants as well as continued work on disease information and awareness initiatives;
- 3) development of weekly or biweekly forecasts of potential movement of cereal rust spores from the USA into the prairie region;
- 4) continuation of our recent collaboration with AAFC Geomatics in terms of the PCDMN Quick Disease Reporter Tool (QDRT), mapping of disease occurrence reports, etc. and risk initiatives; and,
- 5) technology transfer, including factsheets/disease info cards, etc., and field days, crop tours, fall/winter meetings, etc.

Regular updates are posted to the Prairie Crop Disease Monitoring Network website and Twitter feed:

- <https://prairiecropdisease.com/> (information includes the following pages: In-Season Updates blog; Cereal Rust Risk; Surveillance Protocols; and, Scouting Tips) (Producers: be sure to subscribe to receive all updates as they are produced.)
- <https://twitter.com/pcdmn>

This project is funded in part by the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) of Saskatchewan under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal, provincial, territorial initiative, and by Manitoba Crop Alliance, Manitoba Canola Growers Association, SaskOilseeds, Prairie Oat Growers Association, Saskatchewan Pulse Growers, Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission, and Western Grains Research Foundation.

Oat Gazpacho

A cooling soup for a hot day - with a boost from oats. For the recipe video, go to: <https://oatseveryday.com/recipes/oat-gazpacho/>.



Ingredients:

- 5 ripe tomatoes
- 1/4 cup oats
- 1 cucumber, peeled, seeds and coarsely chopped
- 1/2 onion, coarsely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1/2 red bell pepper, coarsely chopped
- 1 tbsp sherry vinegar or red wine vinegar (adjust to taste)
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper (to taste)

Optional for garnish:

- 2 tbsp diced cucumber
- 2 tbsp diced green apple
- 1/4 cup croutons
- 1/4 cup chopped hard-boiled egg

NOTES: If you prefer a smoother consistency, pass the mixture through a sieve. If it is too thick, add a little cold water or tomato juice. You can add a spicy touch with serrano chili or a fresh touch with herbs (basil or coriander).

Instructions:

1. Soak the oats for 30 minutes in water (to cover) and drain.
2. Cut an "X" in the base of the tomatoes. Blanch them for 1 minute in boiling water, transfer them to an ice bath and remove the skin. Cut them in half, remove the seeds and chop the pulp.
3. Place the tomatoes, oats, cucumber, onion, garlic and pepper in a blender. Blend until smooth (in batches if necessary).
4. Add the vinegar and mix. Drizzle in the oil while blending to emulsify.
5. Season with salt, pepper and vinegar to taste. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving.
6. Serve cold, with garnishes to taste.

Your POGA Board at Work

Greg Bott, POGA Co-President, hosted a delegation from South Korea (arranged through Alberta's Agriculture and Irrigation Export Development Team). Some South Korean companies are interested in importing Canadian oats and wanted to learn more about the 'farm to fork' process.



Bott provided a tour of his farm, showed ripe oats from the 2025 harvest season as well as soil samples and oats growing at different stages. He also provided oat snacks from the Oatseveryday website.



NEW! POGA-Supported Project On-Farm: Full-Scale SaskOat Variety Performance and Agronomy Trial

This one-year project led by Kayla Slind, Western Applied Research Corporation (WARC), will address the following overall objective: Evaluate variety performance under real on-farm Management (assess how oat varieties perform under typical farm practices (seeding rate, fertility, and weed control), rather than a controlled research setting).

Specific objectives:

- 1) Understand variety response to agronomic conditions (identify how varieties differ in response to: soil types, moisture conditions, fertility levels, seeding dates, plant density).
- 2) Measure key production traits linked to management decisions (focusing on informing management: emergence and stand establishment, lodging risk under various fertility levels, maturity timing and harvest-ability, disease response in local environments).
- 3) Support improved production recommendations for local farms (use varietal data to refine regional best-management practices (BMPs) for oats, such as: optimal nitrogen rates by variety, disease management strategies, and variety-specific lodging or kernel quality risks).
- 4) Quantify grain quality under realistic field conditions (evaluate how different varieties interact with agronomic and environmental factors to influence: test weight, kernel plumpness).
- 5) Assess risk and stability across environments (document how each variety handles stress, including drought, excess moisture, cool springs, uneven emergence).

The project will be conducted at two on-farm Saskatchewan locations to represent distinct agro-climatic zones and production environments (northwest, near Wilkie, and northeast, near Birch Hills).

A final report will be submitted to SaskOats and posted to POGA's website; results will also be reported in an upcoming issue of the Oat Scoop. Depending on crop conditions and timing, field tours may be held at one or both sites.

This project is funded by SaskOats.

OAT SCOOP CAVEAT:

POGA attempts to capture and represent the information provided by subjects. Their views and opinions may not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the POGA and/or oat commission boards.

Research Aimed at Reducing Oat Shattering and Lodging: Progress Report - Year Two (of Three)

POGA introduced the three-year project (led by Dr. Linda Gorim, University of Alberta), *Different Oat Varieties, Plant Growth Regulators (PGRs), Seeding Rates and the Interactions on Lodging and Shattering*, in the Nov/24 Oat Scoop (page 2 - this provides the overall and specific project objectives) and provided a summary of the first interim report in the Jun/25 issue (front page). We encourage readers to review both to gain a more thorough understanding of the work:

<https://poga.ca/communication-advocacy/oat-scoop-newsletter/>.

Below is an excerpt from Dr. Gorim's report. To read each year's full report and associated figures/tables, go to: <https://poga.ca/research-projects/varieties-pgrs-seeding-rates-lodging-shattering/>.

Acronyms: PGRs = plant growth regulators | CCC = Chlomequat | TE = Trinexapac-ethyl | BBCH #s = PGR application timing at specific Plant Growth stages (see Table S1 below for a quick overview of project agronomic activities and dates).

Non-technical summary

This study is exploring how plant growth regulators (PGRs) and seeding rates interact to influence oat performance across varying environments in Western Canada. This report presents preliminary findings based on field trials conducted over two growing seasons, supported by a controlled greenhouse study to better understand crop responses under drought conditions.

Results indicate that environmental conditions, particularly moisture before and after PGR application, are the primary drivers of crop response. Two years of field data indicate that under dry conditions before application (<10 mm rainfall in the 10 days before application), both CCC and TE applied at BBCH 31/32 effectively reduced plant height, with TE generally showing greater efficacy. Under moist pre-application conditions, early application was less effective, whereas TE applied at BBCH 37 resulted in greater and more consistent height reduction, independent of prior moisture conditions. In addition, the later application (BBCH 37), particularly with TE, was associated with improved yield performance compared with earlier application timing and CCC application.

Increasing the seeding rate generally had limited benefits. While it increased plant density, it often reduced the number of productive tillers, probably due to competition between plants and did not consistently improve yield. This suggests that using recommended seeding rates is more effective than increasing plant density.

The initial indications from two of the three years of the study found no interaction between PGRs and seeding rates, implying their effects were largely independent. Overall, environmental conditions were the most important factor affecting growth, with PGR effects depending on timing, and oat variety. Keep in mind, this is not the final report and the final conclusions may differ from these preliminary assessments.

Preliminary conclusions

Across both field and greenhouse studies, environmental conditions and oat varietal differences were the primary factors influencing oat performance,

while the effects of PGRs and seeding rate were generally limited and inconsistent. In the field, PGR (CCC and TE) effectively reduced plant height, with responses varying by variety, PGR application timing, and moisture conditions around application timing. The most consistent reductions were observed at BBCH 37, particularly in AC Morgan, indicating greater potential for lodging management at later application stages. However, PGRs had minimal impact on key agronomic traits such as yield, test weight, and thousand kernel weight (TKW), suggesting that their role is primarily structural rather than productivity-enhancing. (POGA note: See Table S1 below for PGR application timing dates and other agronomic activity dates.)

Varietal differences played a dominant role in determining agronomic performance, with CDC Arborg and AC Morgan consistently producing higher yields, while AC Summit showed superior test weight. Increased seeding rates reduced productive tillers across most oat varieties and did not improve yield or grain quality, indicating that higher seeding rates are not economically beneficial under the conditions of this study. Similarly, the interaction between PGRs and seeding rate did not result in additional agronomic advantages.

Greenhouse results further demonstrated that PGR responses are strongly influenced by oat varieties, application timing, and moisture conditions, with drought acting as the dominant stress factor that leads to further height reduction. While PGRs influenced plant height and stem characteristics under controlled conditions, their effects on yield-related traits remained minimal.

Overall, these findings suggest that variety selection and environmental conditions are the key drivers of oat performance. PGRs should be used strategically for lodging control rather than yield improvement. The final results are not in, however, based on the preliminary research to date, if a producer chooses to apply a PGR, application of TE at BBCH 37 may be recommended, particularly for taller and lodging-prone varieties such as AC Morgan. Based on the first two years of this research, increasing seeding rates beyond the recommended rates is not advisable, as it does not improve yield/quality and may reduce tillering efficiency.

Table S1. Agronomic activities, details and dates during which the activities were conducted.

Activities	Details	Dates	
		Cycle I	Cycle II
Mixing of sand and soil/filling of pots	Portable soil mixer	Aug 13-14/24	Dec 03/24
Soil sampling	-	Aug 16/24	Aug 16/25
Seeding	-	Aug 23/24	Feb 14/25
Fertilizer application*	-	Aug 23/24	Feb 14/25
Emergence	-	Aug 28/24	Feb 23/25
Staging/PGR application	BBCH 31-32	Sept 20-23/24	March 14-17/25
-	BBCH 37	Oct 03-04/24	March 23-24/25
PGR timing	-		
-	BBCH 31-32	Sept 24/24	March 18/25
-	BBCH 37	Oct 04/24	March 27/25

*Recommended rate targeted per pot: nitrogen (urea: 46-0-0) at 0.127 kg ha⁻¹; phosphorus (triple superphosphate: 0-45-0) at 0.038.5 kg ha⁻¹; potassium (Muriate of potash: 0-0-60) at 0.020 kg ha⁻¹; Sulfur (ammonium sulphate: 21-0-0-24S): at 0.007 kg ha⁻¹.

Benefits to the Industry

The findings of this study will offer practical benefits to oat producers by providing strategies to reduce lodging and improve crop stability. Lodging not only decreases harvest efficiency but can also cause significant yield losses. By identifying effective PGR treatments, optimal seeding rates, and suitable variety choices, growers can produce more uniform, sturdier crops that are easier to manage and harvest. These improvements in crop structure reduce the risk of mechanical damage during harvest and ensure higher quality grain, which is particularly important for processing industries such as oat milling and food production. Additionally, the ability to tailor PGR use to specific oat varieties and environmental conditions allows producers to adopt precise management approaches, making oat cultivation more resilient under both well-watered and drought-prone conditions.

Make sure to look for the results of this project in an up-coming Oat Scoop issue (next year) when the research project is complete.

Financial support for this project is distributed by Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR), with funding from the governments of Canada and Alberta through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP); additional project funding was provided by Western Grains Research Foundation (WGRF) and Prairie Oat Growers Association (POGA).

Supporting Mental Wellness for Manitoba's Farming Community

The Manitoba Farmer Wellness Program offers up to nine confidential counselling sessions each year at no cost for Manitoba farm families and employees. MOGA is proud to support this important program to help ensure mental health support remains accessible across the province and to reduce stigma in our farming communities. Learn more at <https://manitobafarmerwellness.ca>.

Mental Wellness Services for Farmers in Alberta and Saskatchewan

Services are available at:

Alberta - AgKnow:

<https://www.agknow.ca/farmers>

Saskatchewan -

SaskAgMatters Mental Health Network Inc.:

<https://www.saskagmatters.ca/>

Strychnine Application Training Now Available

Producers and RM-appointed pest control officers in eligible regions of Saskatchewan and Alberta can now complete an online training course.

The training is **a required step to gain access to two percent liquid strychnine**. Contact your RM office regarding eligibility.

Training can be accessed on the [Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities website](#). Make sure to read the information carefully, as there is specific training for either producers or RM administrators. The 2026 Strychnine Stewardship Training season is available from May 4 to Aug 1/26.

While strychnine supplies will initially be limited this spring, those interested are encouraged to complete training ahead of the recommended late summer application window, July 15-Sept. 1.

For more on the program, including a list of participating RMs and information on product distribution in Saskatchewan, see [Saskatchewan.ca/RGS-Control](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/RGS-Control);

(hard copy readers can go to: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/agriculture-natural-resources-and-industry> then choose the subpages:

Agribusiness, Farmers and Ranchers / Livestock / Pastures, Grazing, Hay and Silage / Richardson's Ground Squirrel Management). Alberta producers see: <https://www.alberta.ca/richardsons-ground-squirrel-control>

DT publishing by, and titles marked with a  (symbol) indicate article written by, **Pam Yule, POGA Newsletter Manager/Publisher**

POGA WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you have comments, questions or suggestions for the Oat Scoop?

Reach out to: PYule@poga.ca



Sponsored

Learn to Lead

On Mar 25-27/26, SaskOilseeds hosted 21 farmer delegates for the 8th Learn to Lead workshop.

Interactive sessions addressed governance fundamentals, dining etiquette and networking, media relations, confident communications, and leadership styles.

This personal and professional development program for Saskatchewan farmers, was designed to build confidence and competence for potential board directors and leaders within the agriculture sector.

Congratulations to all 21 delegates for pursuing this initiative in their leadership journey!



POGA is a Proud Sponsor of the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) BeGrainSafe Program

Below is a communication from CASA regarding POGA's support of this life-saving safety program for producers:

POGA has been a supporter of the CASA BeGrainSafe program since its launch in 2017. Since then the BeGrainSafe mobile trailer has been a cornerstone of our outreach efforts. Over the past eight seasons, the trailer has travelled more than 46,256 kilometers across Canada and provided training to 4,700 participants, delivering critical education on grain entrapment, confined spaces, and farm safety best practices.

In 2025, the trailer travelled 6,489 kms from Ontario to Alberta, stopping at 20 locations and training 420 participants. As part of our BeGrainSafe Week work, we produced one press release, Public Service Announcements (PSAs), feature articles about grain safety, safety advice articles, and more, to spread awareness about the dangers of grain and importance of being grain safe. We have had over 100k social media impressions and 500k Media Rating Points (MRPs) (total reach to Canadians).

Thanks to POGA and all sponsors, these conversations and experiences have saved lives and increased awareness of grain hazards and how to avoid them.

For more information on this valuable program or to request training for your community, go to: <https://casa-acsa.ca/en/begrainsafe/>

NEW! POGA-Supported Project
Extent and Implication of pH and Nutrient Stratification in Alberta Agricultural Soils
(Principal Investigator: Dr. Miles Dyck, Department of Renewable Resources, University of Alberta)

Dr. Dyck, and Co-Investigator Dr. Linda Gorim, will undertake this 3.5-year project. Soil acidification is a potential threat to the productivity and diversity of Prairie cropping systems. Under min- and no-till, most fertilizer is banded in fall or spring or seed-placed, focusing the majority of acidification from fertilizers in the top 3" of soil, potentially causing pH and nutrient stratification.

The overall objective of the research is to survey the prevalence of soil pH and nutrient stratification in Alberta and how it may impact agricultural productivity and soil health. The specific objectives are:

- 1A) Measure the extent and severity of pH and nutrient stratification in Alberta agricultural soils in the major soil/cropping zones of Alberta.
- 1B) Develop a statistical model to quantify the effects of soil/cropping zone, slope position, sample depth, management and equipment factors such as tillage, fertilization, seed opener seedbed utilization on soil pH, nutrients and other soil health indicators.
- 2A) Quantify the interaction of seedbed soil pH and moisture on the early development of current, high-acreage wheat, barley and oat varieties.
- 2B) Quantify the interaction of seedbed soil pH and moisture on the early development and nodulation of a high-acreage field pea variety.
- 2C) Assess the efficacy of simulated management interventions such as strategic tillage or seedbed lime applications to improve nutrient availability to seedlings.

One of the major deliverables resulting from this project will be the production of a fact sheet about soil pH and nutrient stratification that discusses the following:

- Best soil sampling practices to assess soil pH and nutrient stratification
- Management practices to manage soil pH and nutrient stratification such as: strategic tillage and banded granular lime applications.
- Effects of seedbed soil pH on early crop development
- Consideration of soil pH when determining yield targets in the calculation of fertilizer application rates to improve the balance between nutrient applications and harvest removals, and mitigate soil acidification

The main problems and potential benefit to producers are: One of the major causes of soil acidification is fertilizer N and S applications that significantly exceed harvest removals. As soil pH decreases, crop productivity decreases, reducing fertilizer use efficiency and further exacerbating soil acidification. This research will provide information on the extent of soil pH and nutrient stratification in Alberta to support the development of management practices to better manage soil acidity and improve crop fertilizer use efficiency.

Financial support for this project is made possible by Alberta Innovates, Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR), Alberta Canola Producers Commission, Alberta Grains, and Prairie Oat Growers Association (POGA).

PRODUCERS: STAY INFORMED OF TIME-SENSITIVE COMMISSION BUSINESS!

Due to unpredictable Canada Post disruptions, we can't always ensure that we can deliver time-sensitive notices to you via the printed newsletter. We encourage you to regularly visit the POGA website (<https://poga.ca>). Better yet, sign up to receive email notice for the e-newsletter and/or, for immediate notifications, follow our X or Facebook platforms!

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Search Prairie Oat Growers Association on Facebook,
[Click Here](#) or Scan the QR Code



On-Farm Applied Granular Herbicide Products for the Control of Wild Oats and Kochia After Oats SaskOats-Funded Final Project Report ✍

SaskOats entered into a 2024-25 agreement with Northeast Agriculture Research Foundation (NARF) for a project with the following project objectives:

- To evaluate the efficacy of Edge® and Fortress® Microactiv herbicides on wild oat and kochia populations when applied to oat crop residue.
- To demonstrate whether a light (45° tine angle) or heavy (70° to 90° tine angle) harrow would affect herbicide efficacy.

Principal Investigator Brianne McInnes (NARF) submitted the final report. Here is a selection from the Project Rationale:

Fortress® Microactiv is a group 3 and 15 granular herbicide that contains 10% triallate and 4% trifluralin. Edge® Microactiv is a group 3 granular herbicide that contains 10% ethalfluralin. Both herbicides are taken up through the soil, and provide residual control of emerging weeds such as wild oats and kochia. Incorporation after application is ideal, however, in no-till continuous cropping areas such as Saskatchewan, managing crop residue before application is an important consideration.

For soil applied herbicides to be effective, they must be present within the soil profile where weed seeds are germinating (Iowa State University). Mechanical incorporation has typically been used; however, with the adoption of conservation tillage, rainfall is often relied upon by producers to move soil-applied herbicides into the soil profile. Another consideration for producers is the surface crop residue following harvest. Crops such as oats can leave behind a considerable amount of crop residue on the soil surface, which has the potential to interfere with the efficacy of soil applied herbicides. A study conducted at The University of Western Australia found that high levels of crop residue intercepted the leaching of soil-applied herbicides from rainfall

significantly as compared to no or low levels of crop residue. In this study, cereal crop residues (wheat and barley) also intercepted greater amounts of soil-applied herbicide than canola or pulse residue due to its greater ground cover in comparison. This study further supports that residue management is an important consideration for herbicide efficacy when utilizing soil-applied herbicides.

A selection from the Conclusions and Recommendations:

Overall, Edge and Fortress did not demonstrate significant differences in their ability to control wild oat in one year of this demonstration. However, wild oat populations were greater in the spring after application of the herbicides as compared to the fall, which suggests that the herbicides did not necessarily provide optimal control of wild oat. Moreover, wild oat is usually an annual weed, so more wild oats may have germinated in the spring as opposed to the fall, demonstrating an increase in populations that wasn't necessarily reflective of herbicide performance. To evaluate this better in the future, a no-herbicide control would be beneficial. Unfortunately, kochia was not identified in the field and control could not be evaluated. As to the effect of harrowing, there were never any significant differences in wild oat populations or canola yield when comparing a light versus a heavy harrow. This suggests that light and heavy harrowing had the same effect. Lastly, there was never a significant interaction of herbicide and harrowing, suggesting that the performance of each herbicide was not improved with a heavy harrow as compared to a lighter harrow.

To read the full report (which includes the methodology and data), go to <https://poga.ca/research/research-projects/> and filter for Principal Investigators: NARF.

This project was funded by SaskOats. Brad Tomtene (Tomtene Seed Farm) provided land, applied treatments and collected yield data for the demonstration.

On-Farm Applied Granular Herbicide Products for the Control of Wild Oats and Kochia After Oats - Renewed for a Second Year

SaskOats is funding this project again for the 2026 growing season. (See the article above for the first year final report.)

Principal Investigator Brianne McInnes (Northeast Agriculture Research Foundation) will use the following set-up: *The project will be field scale and will be conducted in local farm fields. Ideally, a full quarter section (approximately 160 acres) will be used for each site. Two fields will be used near Star City, SK. The project will compare two granular herbicides of Edge® and Fortress®, both of which control and/or suppress wild oats and kochia, in combination with different post-harvest residue management techniques. The project will take place on 2025 oat stubble following oat harvest. Producers will light harrow at a 45° angle and heavy harrow at a 70°-90° angle.*

Stay tuned for the report in an up-coming Oat Scoop issue.

Your SaskOats Executive Director at Work

Shawna Mathieson, SaskOats Executive Director, regularly participates in meetings with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and other key players within Saskatchewan Crop Commissions to find long-term solutions for the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Agri-Arm research site closures at both Indian Head and Scott. SaskOats is hopeful that we can publicly share more information very soon!

RENEWED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT Summer Student Focused on Bacterial Diseases of Oat

In 2025, SaskOats and the University of Saskatchewan entered into a six-month project agreement to evaluate cultivate response and comparison of bactericide bacterial leaf streak (BLS) control options. The Oat Scoop reported the results in the Mar/26 issue (page 4); to read the article, go to: <https://poga.ca/communication-advocacy/oat-scoop-newsletter/>

This 2026 project is a continuation of last year's work. The project will be undertaken in two parts:

1. Evaluation of three oat cultivars for susceptibility or resistance to BLS caused by five bacterial species or pathovars: *Xanthomonas translucens* pv *undulosa*, *X. translucens* pv *cerealis*, *Pantoea ali*, *Pantoea agglomerans* and *Pseudomonas syringae*. The cultivars will be evaluated in hill plots (~20 seeds/plants per hill) in a BLS disease experiment. Each cultivar will be replicated four times (four hills). The experiment will be inoculated with the various pathogens at flag leaf emergence and mist irrigated to promote epidemic development. Assessment of the cultivars for BLS (and other disease) severity will take place at least twice, approximately 10 and 20 days after inoculation. Plants will be assessed for incidence (number of plants in each hill with symptoms) and severity of symptoms on the flag and penultimate leaves (% tissue affected). Data will be analysed and summarized, and a report on the findings prepared for SaskOats.
2. Evaluation of the same three oat cultivars and the five bacterial species or pathovars will be done under controlled conditions. Evaluation will be conducted in the growth chamber using temperature and humidity conditions suitable for each bacterial species/pathovar over four replicates.

The Principal Investigator is Dr. Randy Kutcher and Research Assistant Valentina Anastasini (MSc) will oversee the project, during which time a student will be trained to conduct the trial work.

The results will be published in an up-coming Oat Scoop issue.

This project is funded by Saskatchewan Oat Development Commission (SaskOats).

Your AOGC Board at Work

The AOGC board met with The Honourable RJ Sigurdson, Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, on March 24, 2026 and discussed oat insurance premiums, transportation, research facilities and the next policy framework. Follow up was also conducted specifically on oat insurance premiums with Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC).



Left to Right: Greg Bott, Justin Newton, Jordan Schmaus (Audit Chair), Shawna Mathieson (Executive Director), Minister Sigurdson, Dylan Robinson (Chair), Dane Voegtlin, Jason Wiese (Vice-Chair)

Evaluating the fertility package of newly available oat milling varieties in SK Interim Project Report

SaskOats is supporting this two-year project. A similar, previous one-year study was conducted in 2024, and was covered in the Nov/25 Oat Scoop (page 4); to read the article, go to: <https://poga.ca/communication-advocacy/oat-scoop-newsletter/>.

Principal Investigator Matthew Struthers, Saskatchewan Production and Development Branch, oversees the Saskatchewan Agri-Arm collaborator project activities. Brianne McInnes, Northeast Agriculture Research Foundation (NARF in Melfort) heads the collaborator team comprised of NARF, Western Applied Research Corporation (WARC in Scott), Indian Head Agricultural Research Foundation (IHARF in Indian Head), and East Central Research Foundation (ECRF in Yorkton).

Objectives of the project are:

1. To demonstrate suitable nitrogen rates for new oat varieties with higher yield potential in different soil and climatic zones within the province.
2. To demonstrate, to local oat growers, new varieties that are available to increase adoption of new oat genetics.

The oat varieties used are: Camden (the check variety), CDC Anson and AAC Neville.

The first year progress report has been received. Below are the interim conclusions from the report (*in italic*).

When variety was significant, CDC Anson tended to have greater plant stands, was shorter in stature and had higher yields 50% of the time (significant at Scott; but not Yorkton), and comparable test weights to the check variety. AAC Neville tended to have lower lodging at one location, higher yields 50% of the time (significantly greater at Scott and Indian Head), and higher test weights at all sites in comparison to the check variety. The check variety of CS Camden tended to have greater height, less lodging at Indian Head, lower or similar yields, and lower or similar test weights in comparison to the newer varieties. When nitrogen significantly affected oats, it decreased stands 50% of the time, increased height 50% of the time, increased lodging 25% of the time, increased yield linearly

at 50% of the sites, while having a quadratic effect on yield at 25% of the sites, and decreased test weight 50% of the time. When there was an interaction of variety and N rate, height, yield and test weight were significantly affected. For height, shorter varieties (CDC Anson < AAC Neville < CS Camden) demonstrated comparable height to taller varieties when higher N rates were applied. For yield, at Melfort, CS Camden was the only variety to demonstrate a significant increase in yield as N rate increased, whereas at another site, CDC Anson was only higher yielding than CS Camden at 120 kg/ha of N, and AAC Neville was only significantly higher yielding than CS Camden at lower rates of N (80 & 100 kg/ha). For test weight, at Melfort, AAC Neville was the only variety to demonstrate a significant reduction in test weight as compared to the other varieties (but only at high rates of N). Lastly, milling quality tended to be more impacted by location than treatment, but protein and sometimes β -glucan tended to increase at higher rates of N, while groat yield tended to be higher for CDC Anson, and lower for CS Camden and AAC Neville. Overall, based on the results of 2025, the new varieties, CDC Anson and AAC Neville, were not consistently more responsive to N than CS Camden, but did demonstrate similar attributes as to their varietal traits, such as shorter statures and greater yields, while AAC Neville had greater test weights, and CDC Anson often had greater groat percentage.

To read the full progress report, go to: <https://poga.ca/research/research-in-progress/> and filter for Principal Investigator: Struthers.

This Strategic Field Program (SFP) project is funded under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal, provincial, territorial government funding initiative, additional funding was provided by the Saskatchewan Oat Development Commission (SaskOats). The goal of SFP is to support targeted field-based projects that enhance and support the delivery of extension and knowledge transfer services to producers through targeted projects that demonstrate scalability of research.

A MOGA-Supported Campaign to Teach Students How to Make Nutritious, Affordable Meals



MOGA funded this Jan-Feb/26 Affordable Meals Campaign which provided University of

Manitoba students with practical, hands-on learning experiences and accessible nutrition resources centered on versatile, budget-friendly ingredients. To read the full report from Real Life Nutrition (the organization contracted to provide the program), go to:

<https://poga.ca/communication-advocacy/advocacy/supported-initiatives/> and scroll down the page to Real Life Nutrition.



Your POGA Executive Director at Work

Shawna Mathieson, POGA Executive Director, virtually met in April with Senior Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) officials to discuss the AAFC research cuts (which included two Directors of Research, Development & Technology and the Director of Science Partnerships).

Mathieson has also been working with seed companies throughout Western Canada to source and deliver seed samples for testing to an international company looking to expand their business from the Middle East to North America.

SAVE THE DATE!

AOGC 2027 AGM

**Devonian Room
The Edmonton Westin**

6:00 pm

Monday, Jan 18/27

Check the [POGA website](#) for the agenda and, closer to the meeting date, the meeting package



SAVE THE DATE!

MOGA 2027 AGM

will be held during

Ag Days

in the

Dome MPR Room

(at Keystone Ag Centre, Brandon)

2:00-5:00 pm

Wednesday, Jan 20/27

Check the [POGA website](#) for the agenda and, closer to the meeting date, the meeting package



SAVE THE DATE!

SASKOATS 2027 AGM

Saskatoon

Wednesday, Jan 13/27

Check the [POGA website](#) for the agenda and, closer to the meeting date, the meeting package





29th Annual Conference

Wednesday, December 2, 2026

Inn at the Forks

75 Forks Market Rd, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4T6

Join us **Tuesday, December 1, 8:00 pm** for a **Meet-and-Greet in the Forks Ballroom**

Wednesday, December 2, 2026 MEETING AGENDA*

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 8:00 am | Registration and Free Hot Breakfast (Forks Ballroom) |
| 8:40 am | Welcome and Introduction—POGA Co-President |
| 8:50 am | Respectfully Disagree. How to have Difficult Conversations in a Divided World.
Justin Jones-Fosu, Philanthropist, Speaker and Author of “Stop Chasing, Start Creating” |
| 9:50 am | POGA Annual General Meeting—POGA Co-President |
| 10:15 am | Coffee and Networking Break |
| 10:45 am | PGR effects on different oat varieties: impact on shattering and under moisture deficit conditions. Dr. Linda Gorim, Assistant Professor at the University of Alberta in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Sciences |
| 11:15 am | Carbon Lifecycle Analysis and the Path Forward for Breeding. Where Canada Is and Where it Could be. Karen Churchill, Chief Scientific Officer for Global Institute for Food Security |
| 12:15 pm | Hot lunch with cash bar and networking |
| 1:15 pm | Agri-Food Sector Amid Upheaval: Perspectives and Strategies. Sylvain Charlesbois, Senior Director for Agri-Food Analytics Lab, Dalhousie University |
| 2:15 pm | Oat Outlook, Randy Strychar, President of Oatinformation.com |
| 3:15 pm | Networking/Coffee Break |
| 3:45 pm | The Pursuit of Excellence: How to Cultivate Unstoppable Excellence in Yourself and Your Organization. Sarah Wells, Olympian |
| 4:45 pm | Wrap-up and Adjourn—POGA Co-President |
| 4:45 pm | Social Hour with cash bar at the Inn at the Forks |
| 6:30 pm | Banquet and Entertainment—The Undeniable Power of Creating Meaning, Justin Jones Fosu |
| 8:00 pm | Program Ends. See you Thursday, December 2, 2027 at Fantasyland Hotel in Edmonton AB for the 30th POGA AGM! |

*CEU Credits: Nutrient Management: 0.5; Soil and Water Management: 1.0;
Crop Management: 1.0; Professional Development: 3; Total: 5*

**Daytime seminars, breakfast and lunch: \$50.00 (\$60 at door)
Optional Evening Banquet \$50.00 (\$60 at door)**

***Times and agenda topics subject to change. For updates and to register, please visit poga.ca*

The Oat Scoop
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Regina, SK
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