



**CCA Award of Excellence
Presented to Anne Verhallen
January 10, 2018**

Anne Verhallen was nominated for the Award of Excellence by Christine Brown.

Anne has a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from the University of Guelph. She has been involved in agriculture for over 30 years and is employed by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. Anne is currently the Soil Management Specialist (Horticulture) for Ontario but has held various positions within OMAFRA including Soil Conservation Advisor and Horticulture Crop Advisor.

In her present role, Anne's areas of focus include cover crops, soil health, soil fertility, compaction, irrigation, reduced tillage and residue management. Her responsibilities include soil management promotion and education with farmers, agribusiness personnel, and rural landowners. Anne also spends time with researchers helping to identify industry needs and then developing projects to address those needs.

Anne has a long list of career accomplishments. She is a graduate of the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Class 12 – 2009, is a member of the OMAFRA Soil Team, and has been instrumental in providing input and ideas for workshops, BMP booklets, and research. Just a few of the publications she has assisted with include: Horticultural Crops BMP, Soil Management BMP, Controlling Soil Erosion on the Farm BMP, Publication 611 the Ontario Soil Fertility Handbook, the Ontario Cover Crops Strategy, and Publication 811 the Agronomy Guide.

The farmers and industry representatives with whom Anne works trust and respect the advice she gives. The farmers contacted as references valued Anne's knowledge and strong communication skills. One of her clients commented: "Anne has been particularly effective because of the way she delivers her message – by working with farmers on farm-located research and demonstrations. This is far more effective than lecturing and it brings real soil management issues to life."

Anne has been very supportive of the CCA program, receiving her designation in 1997. She currently sits on the Ontario CCA Exam Committee and was previously a member of the Ontario CCA CEU Committee. In her spare time, Anne volunteers with school and church functions as well as spending countless hours with her local 4H club to help ensure the future generation's success in agriculture.

Anne Verhallen received the 2017 Award of Excellence at the CCA Conference and Annual Meeting on January 10, 2018 in London, Ontario.