



Certified Crop Advisor Association^{®4}

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CCA Research Priorities Survey Results

January 2024

The Ontario CCA Research and Innovation Committee surveyed CCAs during January 2024 regarding crop challenges and research needs.

The following are production issues that CCAs believe will pose a significant challenge in the next five – 10 years. CCAs were asked to select three for each crop listed. These are the top three concerns for each crop.

Soybeans

1. Controlling existing or evolving herbicide-resistant weeds (72.65%)
2. New weed species (42.74%)
3. Mold and other disease challenges (39.32%)

Corn

1. Mold and other disease challenges (46.55%)
2. Controlling existing or evolving herbicide-resistant weeds (34.48%)
3. Insect pressures (26.72%)
3. Managing nutrient losses such as nitrous oxide or dissolved reactive phosphorus (26.72%)

Wheat

1. Crop establishment that is related to weather, climate, and/or soil health (32.46%)
2. Plateauing yield trends (31.58%)
3. Mold and other disease challenges (29.82%)

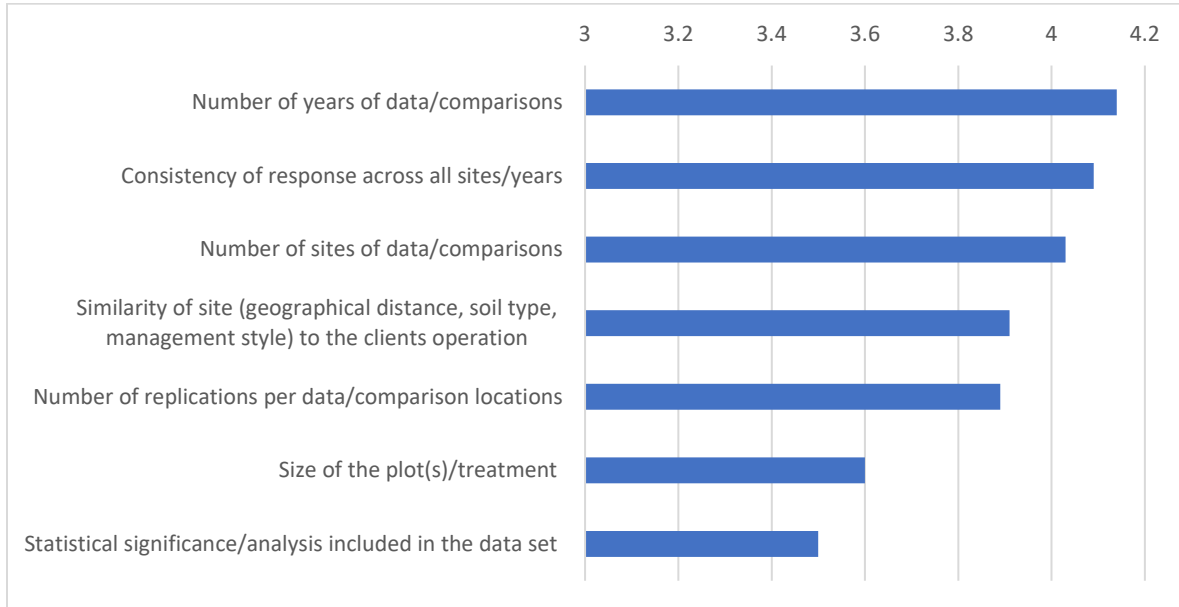
Dry and Edible Beans

1. Do not advise (51.89%)
2. Controlling existing or evolving herbicide-resistant weeds (33.02%)
3. Mold and other disease challenges (32.08%)

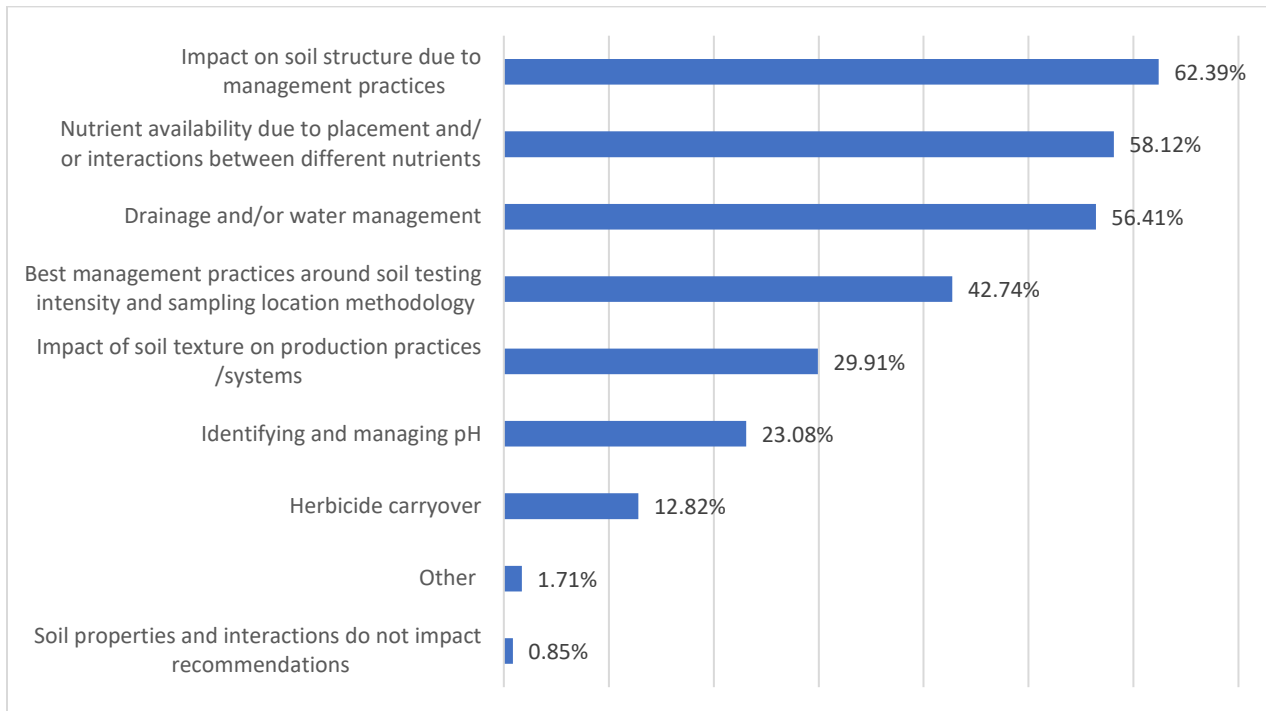
Forages

1. Winter survivability (32.08%)
2. Do not advise (30.19%)
3. Crop establishment that is related to weather, climate, and/or soil health (29.25%)

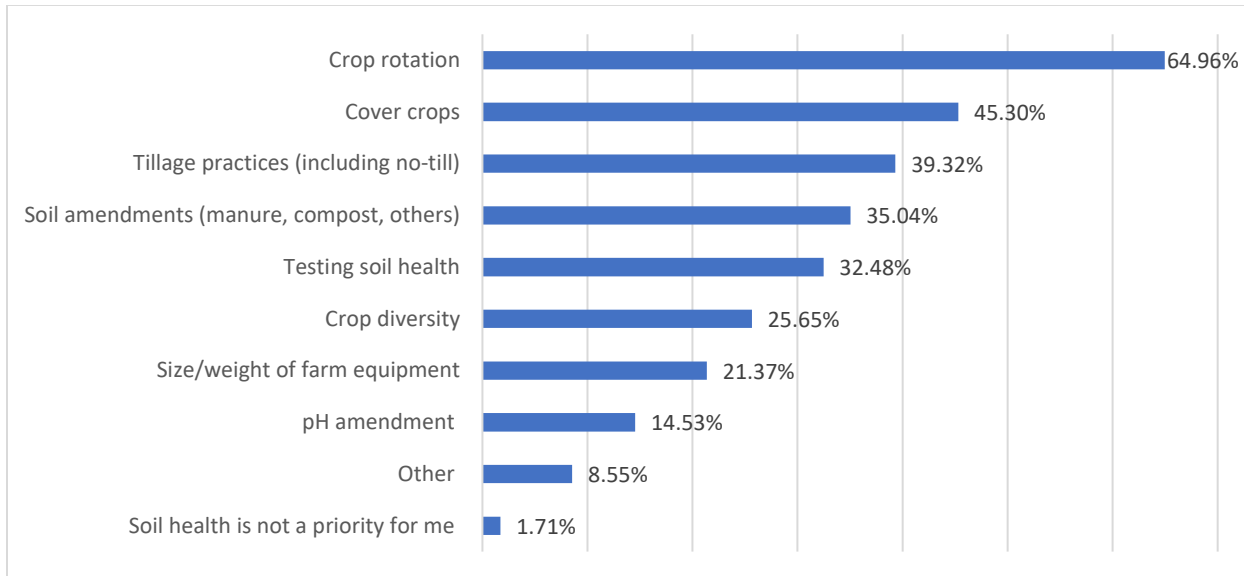
Based on a rate out of five, when evaluating the efficacy of a product, CCAs are very interested in knowing the number of years of data/comparisons, the consistency of response across all sites/years, and the number of sites of data/comparisons. Knowing these factors helps CCAs confidently recommend products to clients. The full list is included below.



CCAs were asked to select the top three general soil properties and interactions with productivity they feel will have the greatest impact on Ontario agriculture in the next 5 – 10 years. The chart below shows the percentage of CCAs who selected each response.



When asked what they feel should be the top three priorities for soil health improvement for Ontario agriculture, CCAs' top responses were crop rotation, cover crops, and tillage practices. The percentage that selected each response is included below.



The following figure shows the production issues that CCAs feel could post a significant challenge in the next five – 10 years.

