



**CERTIFIED
CROP ADVISER**

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CCA CHATTER

CERTIFIED CROP ADVISOR ASSOCIATION® • 195 St. David Street S., 3rd Floor, Fergus, ON N1M 2L4
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International CCA of the Year – Paul Hermans

Congratulations to Paul Hermans who was named the 2024 International CCA of the Year Award winner! Paul is only the third Canadian CCA to receive this recognition. Dale Cowan and John Heard (Manitoba) are the other two.

Paul was recognized at the International CCA Board Meeting in Florida in September. See the back page of the newsletter for more coverage. Paul will also be recognized at the upcoming American Society of Agronomy Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas in November 🌱

Ontario CCA Aaron Breimer Elected to International CCA Board

Aaron Breimer has been elected as the Vice Chair of the International CCA Board of Directors. Aaron will assume the role as of January 2025.

Aaron is only the third Canadian to join the Executive of the International Board. Tom Bruulsema from Ontario was the first Canadian Chair of the ICCA (2003). The second was Tom Weir from the Prairie CCA Board in 2017.

Aaron is the current Chair of the Ontario CCA Board and will complete his two-year term at our Annual Meeting in January. Nicole Weber is the incoming Ontario CCA Board chair. 🌱

2025 CCA Conference and Annual Meeting: Are you Registered?

Mark your calendars for the 2025 CCA Conference on January 14th and 15th! We are returning to the Best Western Lamplighter Inn, in London, Ontario for our 22nd CCA Conference and Annual Meeting. The preliminary agenda is posted to the website <https://ccaontario.com/cca-conference/>. You can register on-line at the same link or scan the QR Code to register online.



Early bird conference registration is \$250 + HST until December 1st! After this date, registration will be \$295 + HST.

The program is structured a bit differently this year. We will start on Tuesday, January 14th at 1:00 p.m. with an afternoon of sessions, followed by the evening banquet and Award of Excellence presentation. The following day will be a full day of presentations, ending around 4:00 p.m. The new format is the result of feedback from the 2024 conference. 🌱

CCA Office Staff

Congratulations to Erin Burton, CCA Program Administrator on the birth of a baby girl, Elsie Jane on July 27th, 7 lbs. 8 oz. While Erin is on maternity leave, Daina McMurray will be the Interim CCA Program Administrator. You can reach Daina at office.tfio@bellnet.ca or contact Susan Fitzgerald, CCA Executive Director at susan.tfio@bell.net Erin's email address also remains active and is being monitored. 🌱

Seeking Annual Award Nominations!

It is that time of year again when we recognize the accomplishments of CCAs who have made exceptional contributions to Ontario agriculture.

Award of Excellence

The CCA Award of Excellence recognizes a crop adviser who delivers exceptional customer service, is highly innovative, has shown that they are a leader in their field, and has contributed substantially to the exchange of ideas and the transfer of agronomic knowledge within the agriculture industry. Anybody can submit a nomination for an Ontario CCA to receive this award.

The winner of the CCA Award of Excellence will receive \$1000 and an additional \$1000 will be donated on their behalf to an agricultural charity of their choice, along with a commemorative plaque.

The award is jointly sponsored by CropLife Canada and Syngenta Canada. Nominations are due October 31, 2024.



Innovation Award

The CCA Innovation Award was new in 2023. It is intended to recognize an individual, group or organization who has demonstrated significant innovation or research within the crop advising field. We are defining "innovation" as a novel advancement or practice that has had significant adoption or impact in Ontario crop production.

A nomination can be initiated by a customer, employer, peer, or other associate. The nominee does not have to be a CCA.

The winner of the Innovation Award will receive \$1000, along with a commemorative plaque.

The award is sponsored by Honeyland Ag Services. Nominations are due October 31, 2024.



Emerging Leader Award

Also new in 2023, was the Emerging Leader Award. This award is for CCAs who have recently attained their CCA designation but are already demonstrating leadership. Nominees should exhibit a passion and willingness to learn and adopt new technologies and production strategies.

Nominations are due December 13, 2024.

Nominations forms for all awards are available at <https://ccaontario.com/awards/> or by contacting the CCA office 519-787-4322 or office.tfio@bellnet.ca. All winners will be announced during the CCA Conference in January. 🌱

Welcome New CCAs

We are pleased to announce that since the spring newsletter, there have been 7 new fully certified CCAs. Congratulations to:

Thomas Bowman Anna Stephen
Curtis Vanrooy Joe Ratapkevicius
Andre Bazinet Caleb Brockman
Kaitlyn Brubacher

If you know these newly certified CCAs, make sure to extend your congratulations to them on this achievement. 🌱

Looking to get a few more CEUs? Attend Soil & Water Day in November!

In partnership with Mosaic, the Ontario CCA Association will be hosting the 8th Soil & Water Information Day on Tuesday, November 12, 2024. The event will take place at the GrandWay Event Centre in Elora for those able to attend in person. There is also a virtual option available.



There are 5.0 SW CEU credits for attending or watching this event. This is a great way make sure you meet your SW CEU credits if your cycle ends this year. Registration to attend in-person is \$100 + HST, and access to the livestream is \$70 + HST.

Registration and the agenda are on the CCA website. Scan the QR Code to the left.



This is the seventh year that Mosaic has sponsored this event. We are very appreciative of their on-going support. 🌱

2025 CCA Renewals

The Ontario CCA office collects all renewal fees from Ontario CCAs but must remit a portion of those fees to the International CCA office.

The Ontario renewal fee will remain \$80, but the ICCA has increased the international portion to \$105.00. For 2025 renewal, this means that the total fee will be \$185 CAN plus HST. The CCA specialty renewal fee will also be increasing to \$60.00 CAN plus HST.

Renewals have been mailed to the address you have on your CCA profile. If your mailing or email address has changed, contact the Ontario CCA office to make sure it is updated 519-787-4322 or office.tfio@bellnet.ca 🌱

Board of Directors – Nominations are Open!

As of December 31, 2024, there will be two seats on the Ontario CCA Board of Directors up for election. These seats are designated for an Ontario CCA duly elected by the CCA membership in Ontario.

Each term is three-years and directors are eligible to stand for re-election for a second term if they wish. There are two full-day Board meetings each year (spring and fall) and directors are expected to serve on one of the standing committees.

If you are interested in standing for election or wish to nominate a CCA colleague, please contact Susan Fitzgerald susan.tfo@bell.net by November 15th. The on-line voting will commence in early December. 🌱

In Memory – John Vanderspank

Suddenly, on May 25, 2024, John Gerald Vanderspank of Lanark passed away at the age of 47. John, a man deeply passionate about farming, devoted himself wholeheartedly to nurturing his farm business and cultivating his crops. His thirst for knowledge was insatiable, and he constantly sought to enhance his skills. Over the years, he forged a successful career in agricultural sales, culminating in a decade of dedicated service

at MacEwen Agricentre. His genuine love for working alongside fellow farmers was evident in his eagerness to both learn from them and offer his assistance. 🌱

New Ethics CEU Requirement

NEW! Starting in 2026, CCAs will have to acquire one CEU credit in ethics. Anyone who has a two-year cycle ending as of December 31, 2026, will require 1.0 CEU in ethics.

The International CCA office will be preparing webinars and online material to assist CCAs in acquiring this 1.0 CEU. 🌱

How to Self-Report CEUs

You can self-report CEUs for events you attend that did not apply for CEUs. There are detailed instructions regarding how to do this on the Ontario CCA website <https://ccaontario.com/ceu-centre/>. Scroll down the page to the section "For CCAs". Audits of self-reported CEUs are conducted to ensure the events reported meet the CEU criteria.

If the event you attended had CEUs granted but you missed scanning or signing the sheet or the CEUs are just missing from your report, DO NOT self-report. Contact the Ontario CCA office and we will work through getting the credits assigned to your account. It would be helpful if you have the exact name of the event and the date it occurred. 🌱

THE SNEAK ATTACK.

Now available in residual herbicide form for corn.

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New Amnesty Policy

The International CCA Board has approved a new amnesty policy which provides a one-time pathway for former CCAs to be reinstated without having to retake exams.

This would be available to CCAs who were dropped from the program due to non-payment of renewal fees or insufficient CEUs between two and five years ago. If they were dropped less than two years ago, there is already a different process in place for them.

For qualifying former CCAs, they are required to submit a letter requesting amnesty, explain the circumstances around their drop from the program, and explain why they wish to be reinstated. They also must supply a letter of recommendation from their supervisor, a client reference, and sign a new Code of Ethics.

If the application for reinstatement is approved, they are charged the current price of writing the International exam and local exam but they don't have to actually write the exams, they must also acquire at least 50 CEUs in their first two-year cycle. No back renewal fees are charged.

Any interested former CCA should contact the Ontario CCA office to see if they qualify. 🌱

CCA Exam Information

International, local board, and specialty exams are offered quarterly (four times a year). You can take the International and Ontario exams in one window, or you can split them between different windows.

Exam Registration Dates

September 25 - October 21, 2024
January 2 - January 27, 2025
February 26 - March 24, 2025
July 2 - July 28, 2025
October 1 - October 27, 2025

Available Exam Dates

Exams will be conducted during this time frame.
October 30 - November 11, 2024
February 5 - 19, 2025
April 2 - 16, 2025
August 6 - 20, 2025
November 5 - 19, 2025

NOTE: Exam registration is only available during the dates listed above, and only for the next available exam date. For example, if you want to take your exam in the February 5 - 19, 2025 exam period, you would register in the January 2 - January 27, 2025 period.

Section Testing

Exams are also now available to be taken by section. The International and Ontario exams are organized into sections, Crop Management, Nutrient Management, Soil and Water Management and Pest Management. Section testing allows

candidates to take each of the four sections separately, rather than all at once. They can choose to complete the sections in any order and at their own pace within a five-year timeframe. However, this is more expensive as a proctor fee is paid for each exam sitting.

JOIN THE CCA STUDY GROUP!

Are you interested in writing the Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) Ontario and CCA International Exams this coming year?



The CCA Ontario Board is organizing an online study group for individuals looking to write their exams in the **February 5-19, 2025** exam period.

Individuals interested in joining the study group will be added to a Microsoft TEAMS group where resources for studying will be posted. Weekly training sessions will be hosted online, beginning in December, and will be facilitated by industry professionals who will cover key content in each section and answer any questions candidates may have. Dates for these online sessions will be posted shortly.

THE COST TO JOIN IS FREE!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING, PLEASE EMAIL OFFICE.TFIO@BELLNET.CA AND PROVIDE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION



For additional details and to register for the exams, visit <https://www.certifiedcropadviser.org/exams> 🌱




CCA Board Mentorship Program – Now Accepting Applications

The CCA Mentorship Committee is now accepting new applications into the Board Mentorship Program. The application deadline is February 28, 2025.

The Mentorship Program encourages newer CCAs to consider taking on a leadership role in the Association. Each year, two CCAs will be selected to participate in the program. They attend CCA Board meetings; participate actively in Board and Committee work; and identify a CCA program-related project to work on and complete during the term of their mentorship.

To apply, you must be a CCA in good standing with preference given to CCAs who have been certified within the last five years. If you are interested in applying, you will be asked to complete a

short application along with a telephone interview.

If interested, please contact the CCA office for an application or visit the Ontario CCA website for further details. <https://ccaontario.com/communications/mentorship-program/> 

Revival of the Ontario Soil Management Committee (OSMC)

The Ontario Soil Management Committee (OSMC) is the new iteration of the group formerly known as Ontario Soil Management Research and Services Committee (OSMRSC).

The mandate of the OSMC is to maintain, update, and promote sustainable and responsible soil management and fertility recommendations. The primary purpose of the OSMC is to foster the following key objectives:

- Review and approve all soil management recommendations brought before the committee to ensure they encourage practices most likely to deliver improvements in the agronomic, environmental, and economic performance of agriculture, and provide the recommendations to be included in Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA) crop production guides and other resource material.
- In the course of the above, the OSMC will identify research needs in those areas and share this information with key research funding agencies.

In particular, the OSMC will concentrate on the following broad themes over the next five years:

1. Strengthening 4R practices and knowledge
2. Integrating and increasing knowledge regarding production economics and environmental impact
3. Soil conservation practices
4. Integrating all inputs into recommendation, such as manure/organic amendments.

Dr. John Lauzon is the OSMC Chair, Colin Elgie, CCA is OSMC Secretary, and Danny Jefferies, CCA is OSMC Communications Chair. 

Crop Protection Network Wants Your Input


<https://cropprotectionnetwork.org/>

The Crop Protection Network (CPN), a collaboration of university and provincial specialists, is developing an educational program focused



on pest management, which includes managing diseases, weeds, insects, and other organisms that damage crops.

We are conducting a survey to better align our courses with the needs of those in the agriculture industry. We value your expertise and invite you to participate in a survey that can be accessed here: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/24aa29c0cf48423984d941450e7ea657>

Participation in this survey is voluntary and should take about 10-15 minutes. You may skip any questions or stop at any time without consequences. Your identity will remain confidential, and the information will help assess the educational needs of the agricultural community. For questions, contact Daren Mueller (dsmuelle@iastate.edu). Thank you for your time and valuable insights. 

Farmland Health Check-Up Remains Available to Lake Erie Region Farmers

With the September 16th announcement of a new Agricultural Stewardship Initiative intake, the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) is anticipating a renewed interest among farmers in completing a Farmland Health Check-Up (FHCU). The FHCU provides farmers in the Lake Erie and Lake St. Claire watersheds with a unique opportunity to work with a CCA or P.Ag free of charge. The advisor is compensated for each Check-Up completed by the program. Each Check-Up produces an assessment of challenging areas on-farm, focused on soil and pollinator health. The outcome of the assessment may qualify the farm for access to cost-share funding opportunities, such as the Agricultural Stewardship Initiative.

CCAs who wish to become certified to deliver a FHCU should reach out to OSCIA to learn more about how to offer this resource to their clients: fhcu@ontariosoilcrop.org

The Agricultural Stewardship Initiative intake will be open to receive applications from October 16-29, 2024. Farmers who apply with a completed FHCU may qualify for increased levels of cost-share funding in the project categories of:

- Nutrient management and soil health planning,
- Erosion control structures,
- Equipment modifications to improve manure application,
- Nutrient application equipment modifications,
- Wetland restoration,
- Riparian buffers.

The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership is a five-year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal, provincial, and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of Canada's agriculture, agri-food, and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities and a \$2.5 billion commitment cost-shared 60% federally and 40% provincially/territorially for programs designed and delivered by the provinces and territories. 

Industry Updates

Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association

Submitted by Angela Straathof, Director of Research and Knowledge Transfer

The Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) is dedicated to advancing agriculture through enabling farmer-oriented, evidence-based best management practices. Formed in summer 2023, OSCIA's new Research and Knowledge Transfer department has quickly expanded our capacity to support that. With a focus on supporting OSCIA's research priorities, our department centers the needs and experiences of farmers, making our farmer cooperators the most critical component of our ongoing projects: Living Lab - Ontario, On-Farm Applied Research and Monitoring (ONFARM), and the Grassroots Research Grants. We are actively seeking new collaborative opportunities to enhance research trials and facilitate knowledge transfer. Certified crop advisors (CCAs) play a crucial role in this process, and we invite you to join us in sharing the learnings and contributing to the success of our research projects!

Living Lab - Ontario: Farmers at the Center of Co-Developing Innovation

Living Lab - Ontario is an innovative program that brings together farmers, researchers, and agricultural organizations to co-develop and test beneficial management practices (BMPs) aimed at climate change adaptation. The program is testing the following BMPs for their ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or enhance soil carbon sequestration:

- The use of perennial cover, alternative soil amendments and cover cropping
- Various 4R management strategies for nitrogen fertilizer efficiency gains
- Grazing livestock on cover crops
- Manure storage management strategies to reduce methane emissions from hog and dairy lagoons
- Using low-profit or marginal land to establish pollinator habitat; and
- Evaluation of farm-level financial and economic net benefits of the tested BMPs

Central to the program's success are our farmer cooperators, whose insights and experiences drive the research. There are currently 34 Living Lab host farmers across Ontario, and we are ramping up to include a total of 40 sites. By focusing on practical, on-farm applications, Living Lab Ontario ensures that BMPs are not only scientifically sound but also directly relevant to farmers' and advisors' needs. Funding for the project has been provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada under the Agricultural Climate Solutions – Living Labs program, and core partners. More information can be found at www.ontariosoilcrop.org/livinglab

ONFARM: Data-Driven Soil Health Recommendations

OSCIA has been supporting delivery of the ONFARM program since 2019, in collaboration with CCAs from the Soil Resource Group (SRG), and several Conservation Authorities in southwestern Ontario. With funding from the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), ONFARM will continue through to 2028. Sustainable CAP is a five-year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal-provincial and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities and a \$2.5 billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by the provinces and territories.

The 34 farmers participating in ONFARM are engaged in testing a range of practices, including cover cropping, reduced tillage, and organic amendment applications. These practices are evaluated to determine their impact on soil health by monitoring levels of soil health indicators. Comprehensive in-field and lab-based soil health assessments have been conducted at benchmark locations across the treatments over four field seasons thus far. In-field measurements included parameters such as surface water infiltration, soil temperature, compaction, soil moisture, and bulk density. Laboratory analyses included soil organic matter (SOM), active carbon (AC), Solvita CO₂, Solvita Labile Amino-Nitrogen (SLAN), potentially mineralizable nitrogen (PMN), and aggregate stability. Agronomic assessments were also conducted. The annual ONFARM Research Forum is a great way for CCAs to learn the latest program updates and earn CEU credits.

New to the program in 2024 is the addition of two sites in Northeastern Ontario, and a partnership with Terranova UAV drone company, and testing of SWAT-Water by Fieldwalker

Continued on page 8.

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Agronomy Limited. You can learn more about the ONFARM program at www.ontariosoilcrop.org/onfarm

Grassroots Research Grants: Regional Innovation Through Collaboration

The Grassroots Research Grants program, funded by Sustainable CAP, supports regional agricultural innovation through grants to local and regional Soil and Crop Improvement Associations (SCIAs). This program funds applied research projects designed by member farmers, aimed at demonstrating and validating new technologies and best management practices.

In 2024, six Grassroots Research Grants were awarded after a call for proposals was issued by the OSCIA Research Committee. The Research Committee is formed by four OSCIA farmer-Directors, two OSCIA staff, and one OMAFA staff representative. Projects that best addressed OSCIA's research priorities and were feasible to implement and relevant to the members were successful. These projects (by SCIA Region) are:

- Ottawa-Rideau: Crop Fertility Through Aerial Foliar Application
- Golden Horseshoe: Optimizing the utilization of bio-sourced nutrients in Ontario agriculture
- Heartland: Critical micronutrient tissue test levels and filling the N-gap in soybean with biologicals
- North-West: Effects of rotational grazing implementation at Thunder Bay Community Pastures on soil and forage
- Thames Valley: Pursuing the Right Rate - Investigating Optimum Corn N Rates with Delta Yield
- Heartland: Integration of Cover Crops after Grain Corn and Soybeans

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dedicated to supporting a collaborative network where farmers, researchers, and certified crop advisors work together to advance agricultural practices. Our focus on farmer needs and experiences, coupled with a commitment to evidence-based solutions, positions us to make a meaningful impact on Ontario's agriculture sector. We are actively seeking new partnerships to expand our research trials and facilitate knowledge transfer. By working with CCAs, we can ensure that research outcomes are effectively communicated and implemented across diverse agricultural regions.

Connect with us to explore how we can work together to advance agricultural excellence and achieve our shared goals: research@ontariosoilcrop.org. 

Grain Farmers of Ontario

Submitted by Marty Vermey

Grain Farmers of Ontario supports many valuable initiatives that are beneficial for our farmer members. Below is a snapshot of a few of the agronomically focused initiatives.

GoCrops Website

The Ontario Cereal Crops Committee (OCCC), the Ontario Corn Committee (OCC), the Ontario Soybean and Canola Committee (OSACC), and the Ontario Pulse Crop Committee (OPCC) launched a new website in 2024: GoCrops.ca. The new site brings together four previous websites, www.gocorn.net, www.gosoy.ca, www.gocereals.ca and www.gobeans.ca, under one cohesive banner.

The goal of the website collaboration is to provide the Ontario agricultural community with a single site providing grain farmers with the third party variety/hybrid trial data that the committees are involved in. The site is designed to meet the requirements of ease of use while providing consistency and accessibility across all crops. The site is also optimized for use by mobile or desktop users. If a committee had other agronomic information posted in the past, relevant and updated information should be found at www.fieldcropnews.com as the repository for agronomic information. The GoCrops website will be focused on public facing trial data and for use of the committee members for data and trial management.

GoCrops.ca was funded in part by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, and Grain Farmers of Ontario. On-going operation and content is the responsibility of the associated committee.

DON Information

Ontario Corn Hybrid DON Screening Trials Report 2023 – published at GoCrops.ca website corn section.

Provides the first third party hybrid testing of DON in Ontario. Many years of fine tuning the testing procedures has resulted in showing the differences corn genetics may experience in the

development of DON over multiple environments.

Improvements in DON testing have been achieved by using a 2 kg ground sample rather than a small 100 gram kernel sample. More kernels used in the ground sample increases the consistency of the DON test. Research has indicated doing the small test sample 11 times averages out to do one 2 kg sample. A video on improvements in DON testing can be found at <https://youtu.be/jnPQaU-V0k>

Great Lakes YEN (Yield Enhancement Network)


YEN reports will be going out earlier this fall to participants. Registration for the 2025 program year will start in October. To learn more about the program or check on registration please visit www.GreatLakesYEN.com Questions about the Great Lakes YEN program? Contact Alex Dacey (adacey@gfo.ca; 519 830-5633)

Be Drift Aware!

Grain Farmers of Ontario in collaboration with Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association, CropLife Canada, and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness have collaborated to create a drift awareness campaign for 2024.

Drift awareness campaign was launched in spring of 2024. This website is an online tool that will focus on all things drift. Visit www.BeDriftAware.ca to test your spray smarts and get practical tips for reducing drift.

Tar Spot information

If you are looking for tar spot resources for farmers, the agronomy section of the GFO website has information to be shared. <https://gfo.ca/agronomy/crop-management/> 

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Submitted by Christine Brown

- New minister Rob Flack and new ministry name Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness.
- Ontario Ag Conferences - SWAC January 7 and 8, 2025, the mid-west conference in Waterloo is January 16th and will have a precision ag focus, workshop in Kemptville on January 21st.
- The recently announced Agricultural Stewardship Initiative <https://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/agricultural-stewardship-initiative/> will provide cost-share funding to support farmers to accelerate the adoption of best management practices (BMPs) supporting soil health, water quality and productivity benefits on agricultural land across Ontario. The Initiative also provides enhanced funding on a regional basis for projects contributing to phosphorus reductions in the Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair watershed areas. The application intake opens on October 16th and closes October 29th. Projects will focus on:
 - Equipment Modifications to Improve Manure Application
 - Equipment Modifications to Reduce Soil Compaction

Continued on page 10.



FARMLAND HEALTH CHECK-UP

When it comes to soil health, farmers have questions. You have answers. Help potential clients build a plan for tomorrow.




You'll be compensated \$600 for each assessment you conduct with farm businesses, scan for more information on delivering the Farmland Health Check-Up.

How do I improve my soil health?



Continued from page 9 ~ **INDUSTRY UPDATES**

- Nutrient Application Equipment Modifications
 - Nutrient Management & Soil Health Planning
 - Erosion Control Structures
 - Adding Organic Amendments
 - Equipment and Technology to Enhance Manure Storage
 - Basic Energy Use Assessment (Level 1)
 - Detailed Energy Audit (Level 2)
 - Energy Efficiency Improvements
 - Larger-Scale Energy Efficiency Improvements
- Alltreat Farms at Arthur have a surplus of compost and selling for half price. Contact Diana (Deanna) Aquino daquino@walkerind.com and her cell number is 905-329-4285.
 - The Environmental Farm Plan is going through a review and updates – adding a GHG component, and fine-tuning the BMPs
 - The Ontario 4R Committee is working toward a new agreement. Over 31 fertilizer outlets across Ontario have been certified resulting in over 1.1 million acres in Ontario following 4R standards; 46 ag-retail locations have participated in a pre-audit (first cycle); 30 facilities have process to achieve full certification. Regional breakdown:
 - Lake Erie – Lake St. Clair (21 locations, 17 locations 4R Certified)
 - Lake Erie – Western Basin (4 locations, 3 locations 4R Certified)
 - Lake Erie – Central Basin (3 locations)

- Lake Erie – Eastern Basin (5 locations, 4 locations 4R Certified)
- Lake Ontario (4 locations, 3 locations 4R Certified)
- Lake Huron/Georgian Bay (7 locations, 3 locations 4R Certified) 

Do You Have Enough CEUs?

Please note, if your CEU cycle ends on December 31, 2024, you need 40 CEUs with a minimum of five CEUs in each of the four agronomic categories.

If you have the 4R NMS designation, you are required to have 7.5 CEUs in both the NM and SW categories. If you have the Resistant Management Specialty, you need 10 CEUs in IPM. With some cycles coming to an end December 31st, it is important to make sure you have the required number of CEUs.

Need a few CEUs before December 31st?

Try the online subscription from the American Society of Agronomy. A subscription to the live webinar and online classroom gives you access online learning tools from the ASA. The subscription costs \$100.00 USD and gets you unlimited access to numerous educational webinars and most courses for one year. You can earn as many CEUs as you need to meet your CCA requirements from a diverse array of topics that impact your daily work in the field and in the office. <https://www.certifiedcropadviser.org/education/classroom/subscribe>

Continued on page 12.



Provide the agronomy your clients have been asking for...

Task	SWAT Maps	Status Quo
Directed Scouting	Yes	?
<i>Match Input Rates with Crop Response for...</i>		
Seed	Yes	?
Nitrogen/Sulphur/Boron	Yes	?
Phosphorus/Potassium	Yes	?
Liming/Soil Amendments	Yes	?
Soil Applied Herbicides	Yes	?

To see if this proven process is a fit contact Jonathan Zettler 519-323-7505
jz@fieldwalker.ca
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Introducing GoCrops.ca



Bringing together www.gocereals.ca, www.gocorn.net, www.gosoy.ca and www.gobeans.ca under a new, centralized website.

Powered by Ontario's crop committees, www.GoCrops.ca will serve as a one-stop source to access Ontario field crop variety and hybrid performance information.

What can be found online:

- Third-party variety and hybrid performance and agronomic data for major Ontario field crops
- Head-to-head comparisons by year and growing area
- Variety information
- Disease testing results
- Historical variety and hybrid performance and agronomic data
- General crop committee information

Unique website features:

- An enhanced overall user experience for farmers and other website users
- A simplified and streamlined resource to support seed selection decisions
- A modern, updated and fresh appearance
- Mobile friendly features
- A consistent look and feel across all crop types



GoCrops.ca was developed by the Ontario Cereal Crops Committee, Ontario Corn Committee, Ontario Pulse Crop Committee, and Ontario Soybean and Canola Committee, with funding support in part from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and Grain Farmers of Ontario.

Continued from page 10 ~ **DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH CEUS?**

Other options for CEUs include:

American Society of Agronomy upcoming webinars:
<https://www.agronomy.org/education/online-courses>

Soil Science Society of America has webinars for CCAs:
<https://www.soils.org/education/online-courses>

There is a long list of on-line CEUs at <https://web.sciencesocieties.org/Learning-Center/Courses#category4>

And free CCA CEU quizzes on the Crop Protection Network website <https://cropprotectionnetwork.org/cca-ceu-quizzes>

If you do not achieve the required number of CEUs, it will result in you being dropped from the program. A hardship appeal is the only option to get back in and will involve you having to convince the Ontario Standards and Ethics Committee that there were extenuating circumstances preventing you from meeting this requirement.

If you are successful with your appeal, any CEUs that were lacking must be made up in addition to the required 40 during the next two-year cycle. 🌱



The graphic features two photographs of award presentations. The top photo shows Sandy Endicott, Donna-Lynn Manion, and Paul Hermans. The bottom photo shows Susan Fitzgerald, Paul Hermans, and Aaron Breimer. A central text box contains the event details: 'ICCA Quarterly Board Meeting', 'CERTIFIED CROP ADVISER' logo, and dates 'Sept. 25-26, 2024' and location 'Gainesville, FL'. A slide in the background of both photos reads 'Congratulations Paul Hermans'.

ICCA Quarterly Board Meeting

 **CERTIFIED CROP ADVISER**

- Sept. 25-26, 2024
- Gainesville, FL

Pictured: (Top photo): Sandy Endicott, ICCA Board Chair; Donna-Lynn Manion (Paul's spouse), and Paul Hermans (bottom photo) Susan Fitzgerald, Ontario CCA Board Administrator; Paul; and Aaron Breimer, Ontario CCA Board



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