



The focus of the BC Grain Producers Association (BCGPA) supports and connects grain producers in BC by providing a collective voice information and regionally relevant research to ensure grain producers in BC are profitable sustainable and recognized as providers of safe high quality food

SAVE THE DATE !

BCGPA Annual General Meeting and Farm Tour – July 12, 2023

The BC Grain Producers will be holding their Annual General Meeting starting at 9:30 am at the Cecil Lake Hall on July 12, 2023. Farm tour will follow, bus will leave at 1pm, We will be touring farms in the Cecil Lake Area.

The BCGPA association has been active



BCGPA Annual Love of Ag winter Seminar held Feb 14, 2023 @ Tower Lake Hall



on many advisory committees to the BC government on new Sustainable Agriculture Strategy. We have met with Government to ensure that concerns of BC Grain Producers are being heard. Our board and staff will be at the AGM to answer any questions you have about the advocacy work and research that our association is working on.

The BCGPA Field scale research program and Living Lab projects are entering the second year and the farm tour will showcase some of these sites. Please check our Facebook and Websites for more details.



BCGPA Director along with BCAC Reps meet with Federal Ag Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau

If you have any specific suggestions as to what you would like to see on our 2023 Farm tour or if you would like to RSVP please e-mail hello@bcgrain.com

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Special points of interest

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- JOB POSTING



BCGPA Directors meet with then AG minister Lana Popum at Ag Days in Victoria Oct 2022

BC Grain Producers Directors Meet with MP's Bob Zimmer and John Barlow

May 5th 2023 - Members of parliament Bob Zimmer and Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Agri-Food, and Food Security John Barlow met BC Grain Producer Association directors, North Pine Farmers Institute, and The Peace Region Living Lab Research team.



Discussion focused on carbon sequestration and climate change and the good things that agriculture is doing to address climate change. BC grain directors Ernest Wiebe addressed the MP's by saying "

Farmers are an important part of the climate as they are stewards of the land providing safe and quality food for Canadians and the world"

Wade Cusack North Pine farmer s institute member explained the importance of support from all levels of government, the agriculture sectors is facing environmental and economic challenges that are out of the control of individual farms. We need a government that looks at the bigger picture for agriculture to be sustainable.

BCGPA director Hannah Willms updated the group on the work that she has been doing on behalf of BC grain farmers in regards to the BC governments Sustainable Agriculture Strategy.

The BC Grain Producers continues to work with all levels of government to ensure that concerns of grain producers in BC are being heard. BC Grain Produc-

ers would like to thank Bob and John for the meeting.

" People need to understand the hard work that goes into the production of food for Canadians and the world"

- North Pine farmers institute member Wade Cusack-

Common Pea Root Rot Pathogen "APANOMYCES EUTHEICHES" in BC Peace

During the growing season of 2022, Pea growers in the BC Pace Region noticed that pea crops were starting to show signs of stress. Keith Uloth, with the Pest monitoring project, collected soil samples from 9 locations in the BC Peace rGion. These samples were sent to the Lethbridge Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada. In April 2023, Shimaila Ali and Syama Chatterton, of Lethbridge Research and Development Centre submitted a report summarizing the data collected from these soil samples.



Root rot caused by soil-borne pathogen Aphanomyces euteiches is considered a significant threat to pulse industry globally. Since there is no control available to cure the disease once established, disease avoidance remains the best disease management strategy. Therefore, it is very important to determine soil capabilities, in term of quantifiable amount of disease causing agent, to cause disease before planting a susceptible crop. Soil pH and texture play crucial role is root rot establishment. Soil biological and molecular assays have been developed to accurately determine the quantities of root rot pathogen at any time in any soil.

please contact Keith @ (250)613-0761 or e-mail

pest@bcgrain.com

Summer Students 2023

May 1, 2023– BCGPA and Peace River Forage Association of BC have partnered together to hire two summer students to work together as a team to complete summer field work such as completing different soil measurement data for the Living Lab project as well as other research the two associations are doing this summer. Many hands make light work and we are so happy to welcome Liam Walsh of Fort St. John and Ella Bennet of Rose Prairie to our teams for the summer.

BCGPA summer Student Liam just completed his first year at UNBC in Prince George working towards his environmental science degree. He took this job to learn more about the agriculture community to assist him in his future career. Liam's attention to detail as well as his knowledge of technology will be a real asset to the BC Grain .



Canola Variety Trials

May 9th 2023— Rose Prairie farm owned by Les and Hannah Willms, seeded some canola variety trials. Conditions at the time of seeding were fantastic and with the early spring.



This site will be used as part of the BC Grain field research program collecting information on 7 different InVigor canola varieties and demo trials of a Clearfield and Round-up ready variety in the same field.

If you have tried different canola varieties on your farm this spring and have a side by side comparison the BC GPA research team would be interested in assisting in collection of this information to share with our membership. We also can offer compensation for your time put into these projects.

LH Willms INC is also a Pioneer seed dealer in the North Peace. We thank them for their continued support of our research program.



Canola Trial seeded May 9th

Our BCGPA President Malcolm Odermatt also is completing a second year of Canola variety trails on his farm in Baldonnel. This year the site will focus on comparing Optimun Gly Canola to other Canola varieties. We thank him for his continued time and effort with the BC Grain Producers.

BC Grain Board Looking for a New Director

Are you passionate about agriculture? Do you believe that our sector needs more representation? Do you enjoy engaging with other like minded farmers? If you answered YES then you should be a director on our board. Contact BCGPA office for more information.

Pest Monitoring Update

We are approaching some busier times this season and have already seen major growth in crops. The recent rains have really helped boost plant growth after that long, hot, and dry spell in the weeks before.

We wanted to give an update on the areas in the Peace that we are currently conducting weekly monitoring, as well as what pests we are also presently looking out for. We have many sticky traps set out in canola fields in the North and South Peace to monitor flea beetle, diamondback moth, and swede midge. In addition, we will also be setting up traps for wheat midge in the local wheat fields

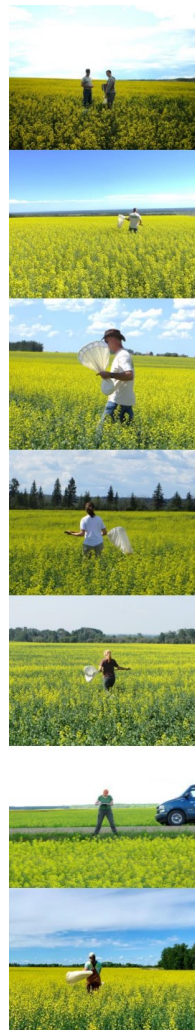


later in the season.

Alongside those sticky traps, we have been setting up pitfall traps in pea fields to start monitoring for pea leaf weevils, as well as weekly crop sweeps to look at the local lygus bug counts, and aphid populations.

As some of you may know, cutworms have been an issue this year in grass fields. In many fields that we have scouted, a substantial amount has been found in the roots and crowns of the plants. Cutworms can be very destructive to a variety of crops and we encourage growers to be on the lookout for these unfriendly pests as well!

If you have pest questions or concerns please contact Keith @ (250) 613-0761 or e-mail pest@bcgrain.com



HELP MAKE OUR 20th CANOLA SURVEY POSSIBLE!

The Beaverlodge Research Farm IPM Team needs your help this summer!

- Since 2003, our annual survey has been performed with the main objectives of (i) collecting insect pest data and (ii) to detect the introduction of the cabbage seedpod weevil into the Peace River region.
- We access around 100-200 commercial canola fields in early- to mid-flower stages across ALL main canola production areas of the Peace River region.
- This survey has resulted in valuable information on pest insect populations, species diversity, and beneficial insects for the past 19 years and we want to make sure this continues!

To do this, we need permission to access your fields! Scan the QR code more information and to sign up today!



Grain Industry Development Council Approves BCGPA 2023 funding

June 2023- The BC Peace River Grain Industry Development Council (GIDC) has supported projects sponsored by the BC Grain Producers Association (BC GPA) for many years. The GIDC considers the work of the BCGPA valuable as it provides advocacy and communication support on behalf of producers from the Peace Region in local, provincial and national discussions. The research projects undertaken by the BC GPA also provide producers with research information relevant to the Peace Region.

This past year, the GIDC has also provided funding to two exciting projects in both Fort St. John and Dawson Creek. Funds have been distributed to support the Fort St. John Seed Cleaning Plant and the South Peace Grain Cleaning Co-op as they have made upgrades to their system, installing grain cleaning and color sorting equipment to provide a much cleaner and superior finished product.



GIDC AGM
June 27, 2023
1:00 p.m.

NOTICE of AGM



Join us for the BC Peace River Grain Industry Development Council's Annual General Meeting.

Your participation is valuable and greatly appreciated.

Attendance:

Participation for members in this year's AGM will be in person at the BC Grain Producers Association Research Building
 401 114th Avenue
 Dawson Creek, BC

If you would like to attend, please email or call Maria.

250.263.2864
gidc@bcpeace.com
www.bcpeace.com

"I don't just want to know what works on other farms, I want to know what works on my farm"
 - Chris Moat-

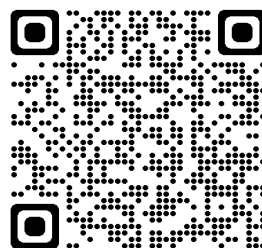
BC Hydro Agricultural Compensation Fund approves 2023 Funding

The BC Grain Producers would like to thank the BC Hydro Agricultural Compensation fund for the approval to help fund a second year of our field research program. Peace Region Grain and Oil seed producers are extremely innovative, projects like this offer opportunities for knowledge sharing and mentorship.

This fund was created as part of the Site C Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan, BC Hydro has established a \$20 million fund to support agricultural production and related economic activity in the Peace Region. The [BC Hydro Peace Agricultural Compensation Fund](#) is governed by a regional

decision-making board, responsible for overseeing the management and disbursement of the fund.

Scan the below QR code to take a look at the 2022 research book.



Peace Region
 Field Research



Planter Vs. Drill side by side site in Rolla

Rolla producer Brandon Funk and Doe River Producer Willy & Edmund Rath are putting their equipment head to head to see which seeding implement grows the best canola crop. They are comparing a 34Ft Vaderstad Planter 17.5 " (45cm) row spacing @ 2.8 lbs./ac canola seeding rate to a 60Ft 3320 Bourgault paralink Drill 10 ' (25.4 cm) row spacing @ 5lbs /ac seeding rate. Data collection will be collected by BCGPA research team throughout the summer. If you want to learn more about this site or any other research site please e-mail hello@bcgrain.com. Stay tuned for more information.



VS



What we have saw so far



Drill May 9, 2023



Planter May 9, 2023



Drill
May 17, 2023

Drill May 17, 2023



Planter
May 17,
2023

Planter May 17, 2023

JOB POSTING

Harvest Sample Driver (On Call)
Location: Dawson Creek or Fort St John, BC

Our organization is seeking a self-motivated, hard-working **Harvest Sample Driver part-time (ONCALL)** to communicate with our field Producers come harvest season (August to October). This position will be within the Fort St. John and Dawson Creek BC area to collect grain samples from weigh wagon and record data using the BCGPA's provided truck, cell phone, and weigh wagon. This Job will be an on-call position on weekdays and weekends must be available at all hours . This job will run from August to October or until all fields have been harvested.

Qualifications: Must have a valid driver's license, able to work in Canada and speak fluent English. Strong communication and teamwork skills, farm experience and knowledge of the area an asset and ability to be on call weekdays and weekends as required. This is a part-time on-call position offering a competitive hourly rate. The start date will be flexible due to weather and when crops are ready to be harvested, estimated time could be as early as mid-July to late-October.

Please email cover letter & resume to admin@bcgrain.com or mail to:

We thank all those who apply but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Further information available at www.bcgrain.com.

Salary expectation: \$25

Application Deadline: July 31, 2023*

*spots may be filled prior to deadline if suitable candidates are found

BC Grain Dawson Creek Research Building being shared by Peace Region Forage Seed Assoc.

The BC Grain Producers research building in Dawson has been used for many years as a hub for the BC Grain Producers research. Earlier this year the Peace Region Forage Seed Association was looking for new office space and what a great opportunity for collaboration for the two organizations when working out of same building.

On May 5th the two associations hosted a full day of training for partner groups involved in the living lab projects. Keith with the Pest monitoring project and Nadia with Peace Region Forage Association of BC will also be working out of building throughout the season.

Meeting space is available for rent for agricultural meetings, please contact admin@bcgrain.com or phone 250-785-5774 to book this space.



Kids AG Safety Day

Over 200 students from 3 rural schools in SD district 59 attended an agricultural Safety day on June 9th. Thank you for **Prairie Coast Equipment** in Dawson Creek for being the main sponsor and **Ag Safe BC**. BC Grain Producers staff gave presentations on grain safety as well as a little education on different grains and oil seed crops grown in the Peace Region. Thank you to all the volunteers and Children for a fantastic day!



Production Insurance Spring Update

Seeded Crop reports need to be submitted by June 14th. Ensure your coverage is in place!

Hail Spot Loss is an affordable option to protect your crops from Hail or Wildfire. Premium rates per \$100 of coverage are \$1.68 Cereals & \$2.58 Canola/Peas/ Fine seeds.

Please welcome our New Staff in our Peace Region Offices: Stephanie Bieri as Program rep in Fort St John and our new admin in Dawson is Ginni Saggi.

Reminder to call in a Notice of Loss if your crops experience an insurable peril.

For more information please contact
Glen Mielke, Crop Risk Specialist
Business Risk Management Branch
Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Dawson Creek, BC
Phone: 250.784-2236 or e-mail

Sponsorship 2023 AGM & Summer FARM TOUR

The BCGPA is offering you an excellent opportunity to promote your business by reserving a display table at the Meeting.

These tables will be available at the Annual General meeting for producers to view your products, pamphlets, etc., as well as an opportunity for you to discuss your business with those present.

Sponsorship will go towards costs associated with speaker expenses, coffee breaks, meals & Bus for the farm tour. We are looking for any door prize donations that you would like to donate.

Recognition of all sponsors will be given, and receipts will be issued after the event.

The Directors and members of the BC Grain Producers Association thank you for making this a successful event. Hope to see you there!

2nd year of Peace Region living Lab Project

The Peace Region Living Lab project is a region-wide collaboration led by the Peace Region Forage Seed Association (PRFSA). Seven other producer groups and an Indigenous Partner have joined the PRSFA to bring together a project that will serve agricultural producers and land stewards of the region. Enhancing agroecosystem services in the Peace River Region is the focus of the Peace Region Living Lab (PRL), with the goal of adoption of practices that improve productivity, profitability and environmental resiliency. This Living Lab is unique in that it will encompass the Peace Region in both Alberta and British Columbia. Partner groups on from the BC Peace include the BC Grain Producers Association, the Peace River Forage Association of BC, the Peace Region Forage Seed Association, Fourth Sister Farm, and the Peace Region Food Action Hub & Agricultural Extension Institute. The PRL will look at agricultural operations as whole systems, considering land management, economic analysis and the social aspect of implementing innovative practices.

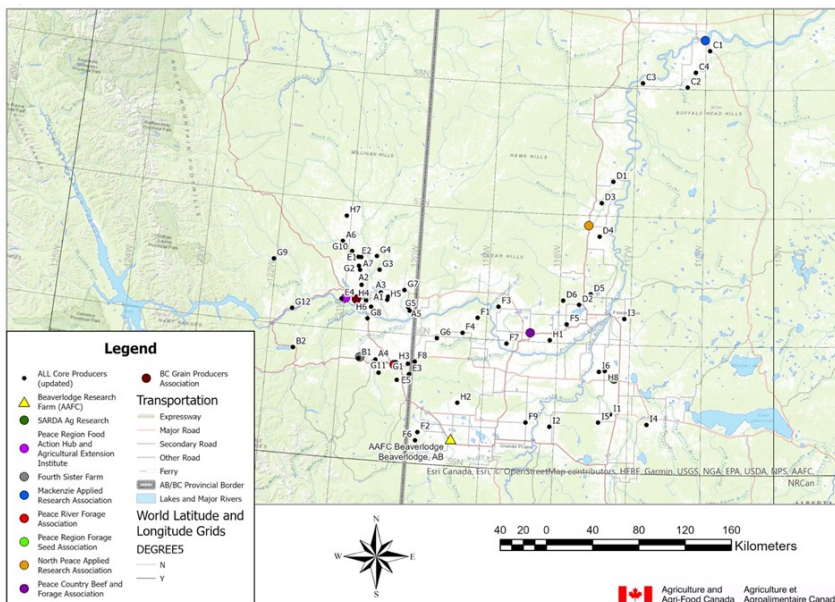
Funding for this project in part has been provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Agricultural Climate Solutions (ACS) – Living Labs program. A program objective is to find farm-level climate solutions that will contribute to reducing GHG emissions, mitigating effects of climate change, and supporting environmental benefits while increasing sectoral resilience. The vision for the Peace Region Living Lab aligns with the top priorities of the ACS program which include carbon sequestration, GHG emissions reduction and other environmental benefits such as improved soil health, biodiversity, water quality.

The Peace Region of British Columbia and Alberta encompasses an expansive and diverse northern agriculture and agro-forestry environment. Ranging from between 50° and 60° N latitude, the opportunities to demonstrate beneficial management practices (BMPs) in support of regenerative agriculture are bountiful. At least 13 different BMPs are implemented on 57 producer sites and 4 small plot research sites. Examples of BMPs that will be analyzed on producer's operations include cover cropping, inter- and companion cropping, regenerative grazing practices, green manure plow down, biological amendments, forage rejuvenation, grazing management and livestock integration with annual cropping and vegetable systems. The identification and documentation of BMPs that can build resiliency into farm and ranch operations gives producers practical management tools needed to

manage the many risks, particularly due to climate change, that are associated with agriculture and land stewardship.

Knowledge exchange and extension are a cornerstone of the project and the program will encompass a range of activities including peer-to-peer learning, co-development of BMPs, and various learning materials such as a video series and podcast. Specific activities designed to support Indigenous land stewards and youth in agriculture are also part of the project.

Many of the PRL partners have a strong history of working collaboratively with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, particularly the Beaverlodge Research Station. The PRL feels the information gained from this project is critical to the agriculture industry not only in the Peace River Region but across western Canada. For more information and to get notified about field days and farm tours, sign up for our newsletter at <https://peacelivinglab.ca>.

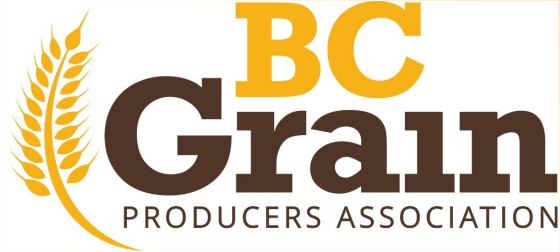
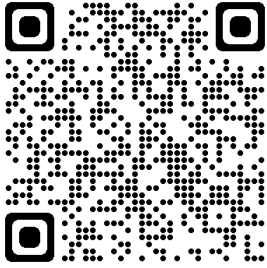


An overview of the producer sites and partner group locations across the Peace Region of Alberta and British Columbia.



Producers, partner groups and science team members officially kick-off the Peace Region Living Lab (PRL) in August 2022.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BC GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION PLEASE E-MAIL: *HELLO@BCGRAIN.COM* OR CALL 250-785-5774



WWW.BCGRAIN.COM

SCAN QR Code to Visit our Website



Spring Newsletter

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

