



June 2006
 Vol 6 No 2
 Publication #40044132

THAMES VALLEY REGIONAL SOIL & CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Oxford

Middlesex

Elgin

CONTENTS	Page
THAMES VALLEY UPDATE.....	3
CATHY'S COMMENTS.....	16
OXFORD NEWS.....	4
ELGIN NEWS.....	5
MIDDLESEX NEWS.....	5
OMAFRA LOCAL NEWS.....	5
ONTARIO SOIL & CROP NEWS.....	6
CROP TALK:.....	9.
~ Will Fusarium be a Problem in 2006 Spring Wheat?	
~ Does Manure Have a Place in the Sulphur Debate?	
~ Yellow Soybeans - Is It Mn Deficiency???	
~ Harvesting the Cereal Nurse Crop as Silage	
~ Weather Weenies We Are!	
~ Pasture Growth and Quality	
~ Wide Swath Haylage	
~ Can Foliar Fungicides Bump Edible Bean Yields& Quality?	
~ Planning a Crop Rotation	
~ Diagnostic Days Are Waiting For You!	
LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL CONTACT INFORMATION	16

JUNE

21 & 22 Ontario Pork Congress 2006 - Stratford
Fairgrounds. For info see www.porkcongress.on.ca

JULY

4 Oxford Summer Meeting ~ Embro see page 3 for
details

5&6 Southwest Crop Diagnostic Day, Ridgetown Call:
OMAFRA Agricultural Info Contact Centre 1-877-424-
1300 or Ridgetown Resource Centre 519-674-1698.

20 Ontario Forage Expo see page 2

AUGUST

9 Oxford summer bus trip ~ see page 3 for the initial
plans

21-24 Innovative Farmers Bus Trip to Niagara, ON &
New York. Pickup-ups in London, Woodstock, and
Milton. Members \$350, Non-members \$400 (dbl
occupancy). ifao.com or Jim & Lorraine House 519-
769-2443.

SEPTEMBER

12-14 Canada's Outdoor Farm Show Woodstock
<http://www.outdoorfarmshow.com> see page for info on
free admission and brunch at the show

19-23 International Plowing Match & Rural Expo,
Peterborough County <http://www.plowingmatch.org>
or <http://www.peterboroughipm.ca>

Brought to you in part by



In cooperation with:
 Terratec Environmental
 Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association
 Ridgetown College
 OMAFRA Resource Centre - Woodstock
 Your local Soil & Crop Association
 OMAFRA Field Staff

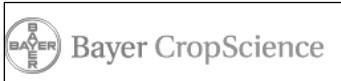


Many upcoming events are being planned for the busy summer season...

Heartland and Golden Horseshoe Soil & Crop are organizing a bus trip to Hamilton with stops at JRI, Bunge and Biox. These trips will tie in with provincial bio-diesel projects, including the Thames Valley tests established at Larry & Mark McGill's farm. Please contact Cathy at 519-463-6374 if you are interested in attending. More details and date will be set shortly. Please call early, as we need to arrange for our own bus.

Biodiesel Test Project ~ Thames Valley Region

The McGill farm (Middlesex County) is the site of one of 7 provincial on-farm trials for biodiesel. This project is being established through OSCIA, Natural Resources Canada and UPI Fuels to test biodiesel fuel on-farm in tractors for one year. Larry and Mark have offered to try the 5% blend in their daily operations to evaluate performance of the fuel and equipment. The tractor will be put on a dynamometer to assess horsepower with both diesel and biodiesel. Engine oil analyses will be performed. The McGill's will track fuel usage and performance with the biodiesel throughout the cropping season.



The farm of Malcolm Murray will be the site for the Bayer chemical field trial and demonstration (see page 6 for details). The Murray's will also be hosting the Middlesex summer tour.

Ontario Forage Expo 2006

"Ontario Forage Expo" is co-sponsored by Ontario Forage Council & Georgian Central Regional Soil & Crop Improvement Association. It will be held on Thursday, July 20th, 2006 at the farm of Mel & Wilma Brouwer and Family at Marsville in Dufferin County. This event will attract "in field" demonstrations from the major forage equipment companies and will also host a number of forage and related trade show exhibitors. Plans are also under way to have a number of key note speakers to address the audience on various topics. *The related trade show exhibitors and key note speakers will be accommodated indoors.* Dufferin County 4-H has been invited to organize a BBQ on site. Everyone is invited to attend and bring your friends and neighbours. **This promises to be a Great Day - with No Admission Charge to the farm community.** For further information, visit the OFC web site at www.ontarioforagecouncil.com or phone the OFC office at 1-877-892-8663

Where you
Finish has everything
to do with
where you **Start**

ASCEND ALFALFA

Top yielding Alfalfa 2 years running!

111% Yield Index in 2004 and 124% Yield Index in 2005

in the Official Ontario Forage Trials.



For more information, see your local Hyland Dealer today!

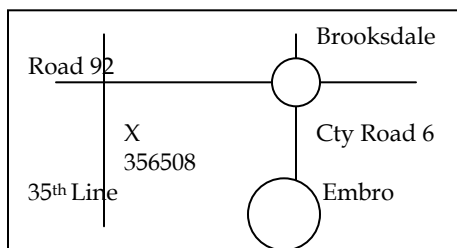
OXFORD SOIL & CROP ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING

~ Greenholm Farms Ltd ~ Gord Green & Family ~
 356508, 35th Line, Embro (at the new barn)
 Tuesday, July 4 @ 7:30 p.m.

Speakers include:

ANNE VERHALLEN, OMAFRA SOIL QUALITY SPECIALIST,
 CHRIS BROWN, OMAFRA NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT LEAD,
 OTHER SPEAKER NOT YET CONFIRMED

Gord's farm is the site of one of the 'manure on forage' plots established throughout the county to evaluate application methods of liquid manure on hay stands.



Refreshments provided. Memberships available: bring a friend! First time members get one year free!

Rainfall and Heat Units (recorded in mm)

NAME		RR	ADDRESS	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	May-Sept Total'06	To May 2005
David	Arthur	4	St Mary's	80	106						106	51
George	Beard	1	Brownsville	58	67						67	26
Jeff	Dibble	2	Drumbo		102						102	46
Gord	Haley	1	Otterville		97						97	47
John	Landsell	2	Thamesford		103						103	73
RM	Matheson	3	Embro		116						116	58
Bill	Orth	2	Burgessville		83						83	48
Roger	Orth	1	Burgessville								0	63
Barry	Smith		Burgessville								0	46
Henry	Van Dorp	1	Woodstock		88						88	66
Ross	Wilson	1	Salford	33	93						93	59
HEAT UNITS												
Dibble					483						483	294
Haley					418						418	288
Matheson					395						395	258

Upcoming EFP Workshops: (pre-registration required) **Day 1**

Woodstock OMAFRA office
 Simcoe OMAFRA office

July 11
 July 13~ 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call Chris 442-6710

Day 2

July 18 ~ 9:45 a.m to 3:00 p.m. Call Cathy 463-9737
 July 18 ~ 5:00 p.m. to ?

Oxford Soil and Crop Bus Trip Plans are underway for this years' **Bus Trip**. The date is **Wednesday, August 9th**. We will be spending the day in the Huron County District. We have confirmed a stop at the farm of Don Nott near Clinton and will be closing the day with a play at the Huron County PlayHouse in Grand Bend. Further information will be forthcoming as plans are confirmed. For your reservation on this trip please call Albert and Christine Renkema @ 519-475-4391 or email at alstein@execulink.com

Upcoming EFP Workshops ~ Pre-registration required!
Elgin/Middlesex *Margaret May, 519-287-5334*

\$25 gets your lunch both days!!

Komoka

Day 1 June 19 10 am to 3 pm

Day 2 June 26 10 am to 3 pm

MIDDLESEX NEWS Web: www.home.golden.net/~mscia

Sec Marian Desjardine 873-4077

Upcoming EFP Workshops ~ Pre-registration required!
Elgin/Middlesex *Margaret May, 519-287-5334*

\$25 gets your lunch both days!!

Komoka

Day 1 June 19 10 am to 3 pm

Day 2 June 26 10 am to 3 pm

OTHER LOCAL NEWS

Courtesy of: Kim DeKlein, OMAFRA Regional Information Coordinator, Woodstock Resource Centre Phone 537-8078 Fax 539-5351 kim.deklein@omafra.gov.on.ca

2006 MONSANTO CANADA OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Monsanto Canada is helping build careers in agricultural sciences and forestry. The Monsanto program is for Canadian high school students from agricultural or forestry family farms who have successfully enrolled at a Canadian educational institution (degree or diploma) in a first-year agricultural sciences or forestry program. If you have applied for entry into a college or university, but have not yet been accepted, you can still apply for a Monsanto Canada Opportunity Scholarship. Successful applicants will each be awarded a scholarship valued at \$1500, based on demonstrated academic standards and leadership in the community. Selection will be made by an independent panel. Applications are available by contacting Monsanto Canada, 1-800-667-4944 and must be post-marked no later than July 14, 2006.

WESTERN FAIR 4-H ACHIEVER 2006

In co-operation with 4-H southern county associations, application information available online at www.westernfair.com. Please complete application and forward to Western Fair Association, c/o Carol Filson, Agriculture, P.O Box 7550, London Ont. N5Y 5P8 by: July 28, 2006 or on the Website at www.westernfair.com.

Opportunities made available to the Achievers are:

- The Western Fair Annual Meeting & Pre-Fair Social held late August
- The Media Reception held just prior to opening day of the fair
- The Fair's "Opening Day" Ceremonies including the President's Reception
- Participated by handing out ribbons and awards at 4-H shows and the Youth Talent Search Competition
- A Kiwanis Club of Forest City London meeting in London as guest speaker

- A day with CNE Ambassador at Western Fair
- Speaking engagements eg. County's 4-H Directors' Meeting, and Awards Night
- Attend the District 13 meeting for the O.A.A.S. around November
- Possibly attend the O.A.A.S. Convention in Toronto in February
- Possibly compete in the CNE Ambassador of the Fairs Competition in August

As the selected 4-H Achiever, you will become a member of the Western Fair Association "Youth Membership" program.

Western Fair's website is www.westernfair.com or the email address is fair.info@westernfair.com or you may contact Carol Filson at cfilson@westernfair.com or (519) 438-7203 ext 532.

Biosolids Management Specialists

Over 28 years of experience in land applying biosolids in Ontario.

SAVE over \$100/acre in nutrient costs

Did you know?

The biosolids program is fully endorsed by the following Ontario Ministries:

- Environment (MOE)
- Agriculture and Food (OMAF)
- Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC)



Beneficial use of biosolids has been a successful practice in Ontario for over 34 years. We apply Best Management Practices by using the best available technology and state-of-the-art equipment.

Enrich your soil with:

Nitrogen
Phosphorus and
Organic Matter

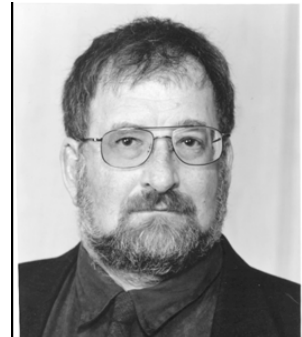
- Terratec uses state of the art land application equipment with high flotation tires to minimize soil compaction and prevent erosion.
- We have certified crop advisors and professional agrologists on staff to help you with nutrient management and to answer all of your agronomic questions.

For further information or to participate in Terratec's biosolids land application programs please contact **Ron Reinhold** at **519-894-0822** or **Mark Janiec** toll free at **1-888-TOP-CROP (867-2767)**:

ONTARIO SOIL & CROP NEWS

Message from the President *Keith Black*

The Environmental Farm Plan has had an extremely busy winter and spring with record numbers of workshops completed and plans reviewed. The signing of the Oak Ridges Moraine agreement will provide 1.4 million dollars to enhance selective Best Management Practices for producers within the moraine and will be administered by OSCIA. This may serve as a pilot for partnerships that could be formed with other funding organizations to keep administration costs down and provide extra environmental dollars to producers in other areas. Spring planting is now complete for most crops. The corn crop is off to an excellent start and although nipped with frost on the 23rd of May, it should do little harm. Soybeans should soon all be planted, followed by the edible beans. Haying is also under way. There have been a good number of plots planted and projects started with the focus on several areas - seeding rates, tillage, crop protection demonstrations, manure management, etc. These projects will provide numerous opportunities for summer twilight tours, forage days and meetings. The Biodiesel project is up and running in six regions with plans being finalized for field days to be held during the summer. I hope you will be able to attend one of these days. The Ontario Forage Masters program has had an excellent response with 204 entrants from 22 counties. We have excellent staff at head office and in the field delivering our programs. Our RCCs and OMAFRA staff are doing a great job of organizing and completing plots and projects. Membership is the heart of any organization and we are always delighted to see members take an active part in projects and demonstrations. Be sure to contact your local Soil and Crop Association to offer assistance, take part in a project or participate in planned events. Show your support to your local Soil and Crop, learn something new, have fun and enjoy the fellowship. I look forward to attending upcoming events throughout the summer and fall, and meeting with many of you.♦



**THAMES VALLEY REGIONAL
SOIL & CROP IMPROVEMENT**

PRESIDENT:

Jeff Dibble 463-6374
cdibble@odyssey.on.ca

SECRETARY

Cathy Dibble (see below)

DIRECTORS

OXFORD

Bernie Pynenburg 458-4081
bpynenburg@sympatico.ca
Albert Renkema 475-4391
alstein@execulink.com

MIDDLESEX

Frank Dietrich 227-4150
fdiet@quadro.net
Larry McGill 287-5292
larry.mcgill@sympatico.ca
Matthew Aerts 232-9502
aerts@execulink.com

ELGIN

John Miller 785-2033
kljmmiller@execulink.com
Jamie Littlejohn

Jim House (Elgin) 769-2443
dhfarms@sprint.ca

OMAF Soil & Crop Advisor

Peter Johnson 271-8180

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

The Thames Valley Regional Soil & Crop Improvement Association newsletter is produced by Cathy Dibble, (519) 463-9737, Fax (519) 463-6375, email cdibble@odyssey.on.ca Submissions and advertising welcome.

MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships are \$20.00/yr or 3 for \$50.00; contact your local county secretary/treasurer

Contact information...

ONTARIO SOIL & CROP 1-800-265-9751

OSCIA WEBSITE: www.ontariosoilcrop.org

CROPLINE: 1-888-449-0937

CROPPEST <http://www.omaf.on.ca/croppest>

FARM CENTRE <http://farmcentre.com/english>

LOCAL SOIL & CROP SEC/TREAS

Middlesex ~ Marian Desjardine 873-4077
Elgin ~ Margaret May 287-5334
Oxford ~ Cathy Dibble 463-6374

EFP PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES

Oxford ~ Cathy Dibble 463-9737
Middlesex/Elgin ~ Margaret May 287-5334

Cathy's comments....

June 9/06 Hello everyone! Wow, the last month has sure flown by quickly! A lot of crop went into the ground in a short period of time this spring in every corner of the county, and the weather has been just about right for getting things up and growing. (unless you were in the northern parts of the region, who received way more rain than they really needed this past week). Soybeans are really coming up quickly in our area, and corn is growing fast. I'm sure it will be well past knee high by July 1. We are working with OMAFRA's Greg Stewart here at our place; testing the corn nitrogen calculator with a recommended 70lbs of N on the entire field except for two strips at 120 lbs. We'll keep you posted on how it looks!

I can't get over how excited "town kids" get when they can come out to pick rocks! Lately, we've been getting a bunch of the kids' friends out to help pick rocks, which is a challenge in itself with our guys playing ball four nights a week, and all their friends have busy schedules as well. The high school kids have a deluge of projects to finish up before exams in only 10 days ~ hard to believe summer break is almost here.

All three member counties have EFP workshops planned for the summer. Call your local contact for more information. If you haven't yet completed a "Third Edition EFP" (anytime after 2004), then you will need to attend a workshop before submitting an application for cost-share funding.

Be sure to get out to one of the many summer events planned throughout the region...there is always something to learn and usually a few good laughs too!