



**THAMES VALLEY REGIONAL SOIL & CROP
 IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

Oxford

Middlesex

Elgin

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OMAFRA Field Crop Specialists~ Your Crop

Info Source

- ~ More than Scouting from the Windshield
- ~ More from the Land, Rather than More Land!
- ~ Breaking thru Soybean Yield Plateau
- ~ Fertilizing Pastures
- ~ Expensive Fertilizer and Cost of Making Hay
- ~ N Rates Compared by Corn Producers in 2007
- ~ Transition to Growing Organically
- ~ ON Organic
- ~ Diagnostic Days – Are you Prepared??

LOCAL/PROVINCIAL CONTACT INFO *back pages*

COMING EVENTS

June

23 Oxford Summer meeting see page 3
24-26 *World Wind Energy Conference* "Community Power", Kingston, www.wvec2008.com

July

9 and 10 *14th Annual Southwest Crop Diagnostic Days*, Ridgeway, Ontario (519-674-1690)
www.diagnosticdays.ca

August

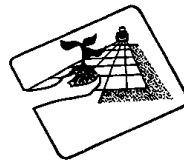
14 *Oxford SCIA bus trip* – see page 4
18-21 *Innovative Farmers Assoc. of Ont. Bus Trip 2008*, www.ifao.com
20,21 *Hastings County Plowing Match & Farm Show* at Lysle View Farms Contact: 613-395-5177
www.hastingsfarmshow.ca
26 *York SCIA Manure Demo* 10am at John Phillips on 11th Concession just W of Schomberg south of Hwy#9. Peter Doris OMAFRA NM Specialist will lead evaluation of several manure spreaders

September

9,10,11 *Outdoor Farm Show Woodstock*
<http://www.outdoorfarmshow.com>
16-20 *International Plowing Match*, Teeswater (Bruce County) www.ipm2008.ca

Brought to you in part by

OMAFRA Resource Staff – Woodstock
 Your local Soil & Crop Association
 OMAFRA Field Staff



Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association

OXFORD SCIA SUMMER MEETING

JUNE 23, 7:30 P.M.

Cleithaven Farms Ltd, the Fried Family
#927367 1 mile east of Washington on County Rd 8

Joel Bagg, OMAFRA Forage Specialist Wide Swath Hay and other hot topics

Christine Brown - OMAFRA Nutrient Management Specialist Manure application on forages

Peter Johnson - OMAFRA Cereal Specialist Wheat issues in 2008

New Members welcome ~ Refreshments provided courtesy Norwell Dairy Systems ~ Bring a friend!!

OXSCIA Message from the President

I started planting corn in April wearing a snowmobile suit, and was finishing up some wet spots 3 weeks later in the same uniform. However as I write this there are 3 days of 30 degree temps in the forecast and most crops I have seen look as though they have emerged unscathed with good stands. Relatively higher prices are still with us and hopefully we can all benefit with reasonable yields this summer and fall. On that note wheat harvest is less than 2 months away. If you have any side by side in field comparisons please send your results to Cathy so we can all benefit from the data gained. Arnold Haskett and his committee have another great night planned for June 23 and hopefully we'll see many of you there. Later this summer we'll be taking a day trip courtesy of Al Bruce and his committee please look for details in future mailings. Have a great hay and wheat harvest season, Kevin Rivers

Oxford Jr Farmers is always looking for new members....

Oxford County Junior Farmers is a group of individuals ages 15-30 from the Oxford County area. The biggest misconception about Junior farmers is that you*do not*have to be a farmer to join. We are a non-profit organization that fundraises money for other local organizations and community groups.

We have monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at the OMAFRA building just north of Woodstock off Highway 59. The meetings begin at 8:30 p.m. Oxford County Junior Farmers is one of 36 clubs that coexist with the help of a Provincial Club. Each club is self-directed (no parental or advisory group); programs are self-developed and operated. Clubs operate with the Mission Statement: "*To Build Future Rural Leaders Through Self Help and Community Betterment*".

One big focus of our group is community betterment. On Earth Day our club helps cleanup Roth Park in Woodstock. All clubs collectively select a Provincial Charity for the year. Clubs also focus on a local level by trying to improve community development and educate their communities about agriculture awareness.

Our fundraising activities include the tractor pull in Embro on the civic holiday weekend in August. We also run a food booth at the Embro fair in September. We have various social events such as bowling, games night, car rally, sporting events, and dances.

For more information, check out our website at <http://www.jfao.on.ca/>

OXFORD FARM SAFETY FAMILY DAY Saturday, June 21st, 2008 - Burgessville Fire Hall

Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. - Program begins at 10:00 a.m.

Farm safety stations (tentative) include - CN Rail Safety, ATV's, Fire Extinguishers, Riding Lawnmowers, Chemicals, Firehouse Refreshments will be provided. For more information, please contact Norma Howe at 519-475-4065, John Van Ginkel at 519-423-9595 or Geoff Innes at ginnes@xplornet.com

OXFORD SCIA Annual Bus Trip!! Scheduled day trip for August 14th to the Shelburne Area. Tentative arrangements include a potato farm, potato processing facility, wind farm and possible theatre/ dinner theatre. More details will be available in the July Oxford newsletter.

OXFORD 4-H EXCHANGE REUNION

Were you on a 4-H Exchange in Oxford County in the past? We are looking for you! The Oxford 4-H Association is having a 4-H Exchange Reunion on Sunday, July 6th at the Embro West Zorra Community Centre at 1:00 pm with all the 4-H Exchanges that have occurred in the past.

Oxford 4-H has had the privilege of having 4-H members and volunteers participate in reciprocal exchanges to Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nova Scotia & Wisconsin, just to name a few. Throughout the years, some of the members & volunteers have kept in touch with their exchange partners and with others on their own exchange. There have even been marriages with those that went on exchanges.

With the 4-H exchange, it gives members and volunteers the opportunity to see living situations in another part of Canada & USA, create new friendships with people of different backgrounds and gain leadership experience. We are busy trying to locate 4-H members & volunteers to be sure they are included in the Oxford 4-H Exchange Reunion. If you or someone you know has been on an exchange, please contact us at oxford4-h@xplornet.com or 519-462-2341.

OXFORD COUNTY FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Awards of Excellence 2008 - Nominations Open!

The Oxford County Federation of Agriculture recognizes excellence in farm operations and agribusiness through its Agricultural Awards of Excellence. To accomplish this we need you to nominate outstanding Oxford County individuals, organizations, farm operations and agribusiness for our awards program this year.

The nomination form can be found in this newsletter and on our website at www.ofa.on.ca/oxford.

Submit the nomination form by August 1, 2008 to Agricultural Awards of Excellence 2009, c/o 276 Whiting St., Ingersoll ON N5C 3B8 Telephone: (519) 485-2442, Fax: (519) 485-0776, e-mail: j.k.nussey@sympatico.ca.

Submissions are not limited. Candidates may nominate themselves. Individuals and organizations may also make nominations. An impartial panel of judges will select finalists. These finalists will be contacted for more information which will be used both in promotion of the awards program and in final judging decisions. Final winners will be announced when the awards are presented in April 2009.

OXFORD RAINFALL & HEAT UNITS recorded in mm

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RR ADDRESS</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>May-Oct Total'08</u>	<u>To Sept 2007</u>
David	Arthur	4 St Mary's	55	77						77	63
George	Beard	1 Brownsville								0	30
Jeff	Dibble	2 Drumbo		74						74	86
Gord	Haley	1 Otterville		97						97	25
P	Johnson	Ingersoll		94						94	
John	Landsell	2 Thamesford								0	61
RM	Matheson	3 Embro		91						91	89
Bill	Orth	2 Burgessville	41	103						103	45
Roger	Orth	1 Burgessville		83						83	35
Barry	Smith	Burgessville		100						100	34
Henry	Van Dorp	1 Woodstock	32	107						107	67
Ross	Wilson	1 Salford								0	54
HEAT UNITS											
	Dibble			234						234	393
	Haley			243						243	378
	Matheson			279						279	352

No details at time of printing

MIDDLESEX RAINFALL SUMMARY 2008

NAME	ADDRESS	TOTAL	APR	MAY
N. Stokman	R. 7, Strathroy	116.2	34.4	81.8
L. Whiting	R. 5, Mt. Brydges	109.0	26.0	83.0
J. Robinson	R. 5, Mt. Brydges	116.3	31.1	85.2
G. Richards	6879 Longwoods Rd.	27.0	27.0	
G Cornelis	R. 1, Ailsa Craig	22.5	22.5	
E. Fox	R. 5, Parkhill	124.0	14.0	110.0
W. Mollard	R. 4, Parkhill	125.3	26.9	98.4
M. Robb	R. 1, Ilderton	94.0	21.0	73.0
R. Heard	Fanshawe Rd., London	129.0	37.5	91.5
G. Duynisveld	R. 1, Ilderton	135.5	33.0	102.5
D. Denys	R. 8, Parkhill	18.0	18.0	
F. Vanneste	R. 2, Lucan	40.0	40.0	
H. MacKellar	R. 2, Glencoe	80.0	25.0	55.0
C. McVicar	R. 1, Newbury	98.5	34.5	64.0
B. Grieve	R. 2, Dorchester	141.5	43.0	98.5
A. Brown	R. 2, Belmont	104.5	32.0	72.5
A. White	3739 Harry White Dr., London	118.0	41.0	77.0
D. Murray	4598 Murray Rd., London	110.0	35.0	75.0
S. Willemse	R. 4, Parkhill	82.1	20.1	62.0

SUMMARY OF MIDDLESEX CROP HEAT UNIT STATIONS 2008

	TOTAL	May *	
		Before May 10	After May 10
N. Stokman	220.0	112.0	220.0
J. Robinson	218.0	120.0	218.0
E. Fox	220.0	103.0	220.0
R. Heard	210.0	112.0	210.0
G. Duynisveld	273.0	125.0	273.0
H. MacKellar	218.0	120.0	218.0
C. McVicar	238.0	126.0	238.0
A. Brown	246.0	115.0	246.0
B. Grieve	243.0	112.0	243.0
S. Willemse	281.0	145.0	281.0

* Under the Heat Unit system we have used for the last 25 years, we would start accumulating heat units on May 11. In 1994, a newer system was developed that starts according to average daily temperatures (third day averaging >12.8 C). For comparison sake, we have used the old method to develop totals, starting on May 11 and continuing until first frost.

OTHER LOCAL NEWS

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

2008 CLEAN WATER PROGRAM London, Middlesex, Oxford, St. Marys, Perth Environmental Farm Grants - www.cleanwaterprogram.ca

Eligible Projects	Grant Rate	Maximum Grant
Milkhouse Washwater Disposal	50%	\$2,000
Clean Water Diversion	50%	\$3,000
Livestock Access Restriction to Watercourses	50%	\$5,000
Nutrient Management Plans	50%	\$500
Wellhead Protection	50%	\$500
Decommissioning Unused Wells	50%	\$500
Fertilizer, Chemical and Fuel Storage or Handling	50%	\$500
Septic Systems	50%	\$4,000
Erosion Control Structures	50%	\$3,000
Fragile Land Retirement	50%	\$2,000

Contact your local Municipality or Conservation Authority:

County of Middlesex:

Ausable Bayfield CA 519-235-2610

St. Clair Region CA 519-245-3710

Upper Thames River CA 519-451-2800 ext. 251

County of Oxford:

Grand River CA 519-621-2761

Long Point Region CA 519-428-4623

Upper Thames River CA 519-451-2800 ext. 251

County of Perth:

Ausable Bayfield CA 519-235-2610

Grand River CA 519-621-2761

Maitland Valley CA 519-335-3557

Upper Thames CA 519-451-2800 ext. 251

ENVIRONMENTAL COST-SHARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARMERS FOR 2008

The voluntary cost-share programs available are generally a continuation of programs offered through the Agricultural Policy Framework from April 2005 through March 2008. To provide some program stability and smooth transition while new initiatives are developed through Growing Forward [the new agricultural policy framework] the programs will be offered in 2008 only. **All approved projects must be completed and operational by December 15, 2008 to make a claim.**

Ontario producers with an Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Third Edition deemed appropriate through peer review may be eligible to apply for cost-share programs to implement environmental projects identified in their EFP action plans. Complete program details are available on-line at

http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/User/Docs/Programs/PEG_Final_2008.pdf or by contacting:

Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association - Guelph Office - 1-800-265-9751

Oxford County is planning two summer Environmental Farm Plan workshops:

- Tuesday, June 10th (Day 1) and Tuesday, June 17th (Day 2) - Woodstock

- August evening workshop (Day 1 and Day 2) - Date to be confirmed

Please contact Cathy Dibble (519) 463-9737 to register for a workshop.

Source Protection Program 2007-08 (SPP)

Environmental Cost Share Opportunities for Farming Landowners in Source Water Protection Zones

Program components include \$2 million education and outreach fund, and \$5 million in cost share funding for targeted early actions to address the potential risk of contamination to municipal drinking water supplies. Up to 100 per cent combined cost share is available to a farming landowner for selected environmental projects implemented on a parcel of agricultural land that is within or extends into the 100-meter radius of a municipal well; or, the 200-meter radius of a municipal surface water intake. For more information, contact your local EFP rep, or visit the website:

http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/cms/en/Programs/Source_Protection.aspx?menuid=76

2009 Agricultural Awards of Excellence Nomination Form

AGRIBUSINESS AWARD This award recognizes a company that is involved in producing and marketing a farm product. It includes businesses that buy from or sell to farmers in both domestic and foreign markets.

LARGE AGRIBUSINESS
more than 10 full-time employees

SMALL AGRIBUSINESS
up to 10 full-time employees

CONSERVATION AWARD This award recognizes an agribusiness, organization, or farm operation that demonstrates a commitment to the environment through conservation and/or beneficial management practices.

FAMILY FARM AWARD This award recognizes an OFA intergenerational family farm operation with a history of progressive achievements and community service.

FARM INNOVATION AWARD This award recognizes a farm operation or agribusiness that expands or develops new markets for a product or service; or applies a new concept to improve efficiency or reduce the cost of production including energy generation.

NICHE MARKET AWARD This award recognizes outstanding achievement in developing new markets for farm products through value-added production and/or target marketing.

PRESIDENT'S TECHNOLOGY AWARD This award recognizes an individual, business, farm operation or organization that shows initiative and leadership in developing and applying the advances of science and/or new technology in the agricultural sector.

YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE BURSARY This award recognizes an Oxford County youth to age 21 (as of Dec. 31, 2008) with strong ties to agriculture, and OFA, and who demonstrates leadership and involvement in the community.

*Return this form to OCFA Agricultural Awards of Excellence, 276 Whiting Street, Ingersoll, Ontario N5C 3B8
E-mail: i.k.nussey@sympatico.ca; Fax: (519)485-0776; Tel.: (519)485-2442*

*The Oxford County Federation of Agriculture recognizes excellence in farm operations and agribusiness through its Agricultural Awards of Excellence. Individuals and groups are encouraged to make nominations by checking the appropriate award category on the left, completing this nomination form and returning it to OCFA before **August 1, 2008**. Please attach any additional information or letters of support to this nomination form. All nominees must reside in Oxford County.*

Your Name: _____ Tel. No.: _____ E-mail: _____

I/we would like to nominate the following for the 2009 Agricultural Awards of Excellence:

Name: _____ Contact Person: _____

Address: _____ City/Town: _____

Postal Code: _____ Tel. No.: _____ E-mail: _____

Tell us about the individual/farm/business you are nominating for an award.

Why are you are nominating this individual/farm/business for this award?
