



THAMES VALLEY REGIONAL SOIL & CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Oxford

Middlesex

Elgin

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COMING EVENTS....

NOVEMBER

5-14 Royal Winter Fair, Toronto, www.royalfair.org
30 Forage Focus 2010 Shakespeare. Keynote speaker Tom Kilcer

DECEMBER

1 Forage Focus 2010 Winchester. Key note speaker Tom Kilcer

JANUARY 2011

5-6 The 18th Annual Southwest Agricultural Conference, Ridgetown <http://www.southwestagconference.ca/>
11 Oxford SCIA Annual Meeting
13 Elgin SCIA Annual Meeting
12 -15 Innovative Farmers Association of Ontario Winter Bus Tour
National No Till Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio www.ifao.com
22 FarmSmart University of Guelph. www.uoguelph.ca/farmsmart

FEBRUARY 2011

8-9 OSCIA Annual Meeting, Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and C, Niagara Falls www.ontariosoilcrop.org
23-24 Innovative Farmers Assoc of Ontario Conference, Lamplighter Inn, London www.ifao.com or 519-986-3560

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OMAFRA Resource Staff –
Woodstock & London Resource Centers
Your local Soil & Crop Associations
OMAFRA Field Staff
Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association



OSCIA and OMAFRA partnering up every year at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show to bring our members plenty to see and do as well as the opportunity to speak one on one with local and provincial OSCIA staff and OMAFRA Field and Hort Crop Specialists

From our Provincial Director

Hi Everyone

I hope this finds everyone well. The year is starting to wind down and fall harvest is starting. The forage crops were very good and the corn looks awesome. Every year is different and that is what makes farming so interesting. I hope everyone with plots remembers to harvest them and forward on the data. There are lots of interesting plots out there, thanks to your efforts. I look forward to seeing the results.

I would like to congratulate Oxford, Elgin and Middlesex for their excellent summer activities. I attended several and really enjoyed them.

There will be a new round of applications out for the Biomass project soon so anyone interested should watch the OSCIA website for details. Most of you will have heard that the roll out date for the Canada-Ontario Farm Stewardship Program for 2011 has been postponed from Sept 15 to Nov. 15. Please don't be discouraged and be ready to apply in Nov. Watch for details to follow. There is still money available for 2010 in the Species at Risk Program and also the Growing Your Farm Profits Program.

I hope everyone has a bountiful and safe harvest. ~ Gord Green

Canada-Ontario Farm Stewardship Program

Program Year 3 (2011) Applications will be available beginning November 15, 2010. Local Program Representatives will be holding drop in sessions that day in order for producers to pick up and complete applications (details below). Please note livestock farmers will now be required to have a Premises ID Number in order to apply for funding. Contact OnTrace at www.ontraceagrifood.com or 1-888-388-7223. A Peer Reviewed 3rd Edition EFP and current Farm Business Registration Number (FBRN) are also required.

Local November 15 Drop In Sessions:

Elgin/Middlesex

Komoka Community Center 10 am - 9 pm

Margaret May 519-287-5334

mmay@ontariosoilcrop.org

Oxford

Woodstock OMAFRA Office 9 am -4 pm

Cathy Dibble 519-463-9737

cdibble@ontariosoilcrop.org

Growing Your Farm Profits

Planning for Business Success

Workshops Now Available

Start the business planning process by attending this two-day interactive workshop. You will:

- Assess business management practices
- Determine priorities and key goals
- Develop realistic action plans
- Learn about cost-share funding opportunities

COUNTY/DISTRICT - Oxford

TOWN - Woodstock

Day 1 - Wednesday, November 10, 2010

Day 2 - Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Pre-registration required.

OSCIA Program Representative

Cathy Dibble 519-463-9737

Email: cathy.dibble@ontariosoilcrop.org

COUNTY/DISTRICT - Middlesex

TOWN - TBA

Day 1 - Thursday, December 2, 2010

Day 2 - Thursday, December 7, 2010

COUNTY/DISTRICT - Elgin

TOWN - St. Thomas

Day 1 - Monday, December 6, 2010

Day 2 - Monday, December 13, 2010

Pre-registration required.

OSCIA Program Representative

Margaret May 519-287-5334

Email: margaret.may@ontariosoilcrop.org

Call today to register!



Canada

Growing Forward



Ontario

www.ontariosoilcrop.org

Growing Forward, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.

NEW FUNDING PROGRAM FOR SPECIES AT RISK ON FARMS

The Species at Risk Farm Incentive Program (SARFIP) provides 50% cost share funding for environmental projects that help protect species at-risk and essential habitats located on-farm. SARFIP funding is administered by OSCIA and is made available by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources through the Species at Risk Stewardship Program and the Government of Canada through the Habitat Stewardship Program.

Portions of 5 specific Best Management Practices categories are eligible for funding under this new initiative:

- Upland and Riparian Area Habitat Management - Cat 10 - 1001 to 1009
- Erosion Control Structures (Riparian) - Cat 11 - 1101
- Improved Pest Management - Cat 16 - 1606
- Shelterbelt and Native Vegetation Establishment - Cat 19 - 1901, 1902
- Resource Planning - Cat 24 - 2403 to 2405, 2408

To be eligible, farmers must:

- have a valid Farm Business Registration Number (OFA, CFFO, NFU number)
- have a completed and reviewed EFP 3rd edition since 2005
- complete the eligible project **between April 1, 2010 and the end of 2010.**

If you have any farm projects potentially eligible for this funding opportunity, please contact your local EFP Program Representative as soon as possible. Funding is limited, and is available on a first-come basis as applications are received.

More information at:

<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/stdprodconsume/groups/lr/@mnr/@species/documents/document/260037.pdf> Or

contact your local OSCIA Environmental Farm Plan Program Representative.

Thames Valley Grazing & Pasture Demo at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show Grazing Demo Site

Thanks to everyone who helped out in order to get this project up and running: Brussels Agri-Services, Gallagher Fencing, the Outdoor Farm Show, Kane Veterinary Supplies, Lely, OMAFRA and Grobrook Farms.



Nick Groot of Grobrook Farms on what works on their farm. Grobrook Farms own the cattle that were used in the grazing demos throughout the show, and use the robotic grazing at home.

Checking out the robotic rotational grazing system
On display during the show.



Oxford Rainfall (mm) and Heat Units

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RR</u>	<u>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</u> <u>Total'10</u>	<u>To July</u> <u>2009</u>
David Arthur	4	St Mary's	70	84	145	178	27			434	364
Jeff Dibble	2	Drumbo		86	174	192	49			501	347
Mark Erb	1	Tavistock		75	100	127	74			376	N/A
Gord Haley	1	Oterville		109	93	107	44			353	410
P Johnson		Ingersoll	58	108	81	139	65			393	364
John Landsell	2	Thamesford	61	127	124	288				539	399
RM Matheson	3	Embro		92	139	178	40			449	376
Caroline Orth	1	Burgessville		96	157	141	79			472	584
Henry Van Dorp	1	Woodstock	75	77	123	206	77			483	392
Ross Wilson	1	Salford	70	92	133	52	85			362	375

HEAT UNITS

Dibble	478	678	855	843	2854	2279
Erb	532	669	897	873	2971	N/A
Haley	243	739	871	856	2709	2358
Matheson	431	642	783	770	2626	2153

Forage Masters Competition

Congratulations to the Oxford winners this year: 1st Veldale Farms, 2nd B&J Droogers, 3rd Clarence Markus. See OSCIA News for details on sponsors and the provincial competition at the Royal Winter Fair. The provincial winner may then travel to Indiana to enter the American Forage Spokesperson Competition. Thanks to our judges for their time involved in assessing the forages.

Oxford Fall Meeting

Thanks to everyone who came out to our fall meeting at the Outdoor Farm Show site before opening day of the show. OMAFRA's Tracey Baute and Peter Johnson had excellent, interesting presentations. Thanks to Agrospray for generously sponsoring our refreshments for the evening, and to the Outdoor Farm Show for letting us use their site each year for this event.

Summer Bus Trip to Leamington & Ridgetown.

Thanks to Arnold & Nancy Haskett and the tour committee for an excellent two day tour in August. 37 members/spouses enjoyed a fast paced, very full trip with lots of great stops, food and fun. Special thanks to OMAFRA's Jim Founk, Ridgetown, for providing many ideas for our stops. Thanks to OSCIA for providing an Education Grant to help cover some of the costs of the trip.

Oxford SCIA Bursary

Congratulations to this year's winners: Peter Spruit of St Mary's High School and Virginia Dibble of Huron Park Secondary School.

OXFORD JR FARMERS NEWS

The Oxford Jr Farmers meets at 8:30 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the Woodstock OMAFRA Office. Social to follow at Kelsey's. New members are always welcome.

For more information, contact
Brad Ward @ 519-462-1537
or email bward_17@hotmail.com



Strathmere Lodge Walking Path Official Opening

Strathmere Lodge Farm is owned by Middlesex County. Because of the frequent episodes of blowing sand beside residences, Middlesex County and Middlesex Soil & Crop entered into an agreement to manage the land around the Lodge. MSCIA has operated the land for the past 25 years conducting research and innovative, production practices on this farm.

As a thank you for supporting agriculture in the county, MSCIA wanted to return something to the County. The walking path at the Lodge was designed with many flowers and grasses. The official dedication was held July 16, 2010.

The signs below show the relationship between the County and MSCIA and the list of contributors.



MSCIA committee responsible for making this project happen.
From left: Alan Wood, President Todd Charlton, Nick Stokman, Steve Fonger and Larry McGill.

MIDDLESEX RAINFALL SUMMARY 2010

NAME	ADDRESS	TOTAL	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG
N. Stokman	R. 7, Strathroy	418.0	69.6	127.6	119.4	101.4	
H. Aukema	R. 6, Strathroy	380.0	70.0	118.5	90.0	86.0	15.5
Jeramel Farms	R. 1, Lucan	181.0	0.0	80.0	101.0		
L. Whiting	R. 5, Mt. Brydges	343.0	100.0	59.0	77.0	82.0	25.0
J. Robinson	R. 5, Mt. Brydges	464.4	86.2	148.1	92.1	89.0	49.0
G. Richards	6879 Longwoods Rd.	417.0	89.0	87.0	85.0	99.0	57.0
G Cornelis	R. 1, Ailsa Craig	389.4	0.0	116.9	116.0	153.5	3.0
E. Fox	R. 5, Parkhill	363.0	54.0	101.0	52.0	156.0	0
W. Mollard	R. 4, Parkhill	343.7	57.0	93.4	76.7	110.8	5.8
M. Robb	R. 1, Ilderton	385.0	33.0	132.0	93.0	117.0	10.0
R. Heard	Fanshawe Rd., London	494.5	68.5	139.0	99.0	171.0	17.0
G. Duynisveld	R. 3, Ilderton	573.0	75.0	91.0	154.0	225.0	28.0
R. Desjardine	R. 8, Parkhill	418.0	68.0	92.0	93.0	156.0	9.0
D. Denys	R. 8, Parkhill	425.5	69.0	112.0	84.0	147.5	13.0
F. Vanneste	R. 2, Lucan	389.5	54.5	102.5	89.0	139.5	4.0
H. MacKellar	R. 2, Glencoe	309.0	77.0	68.0	73.0	65.0	26.0
C. McVicar	R. 1, Newbury	385.0	66.0	94.5	87.5	108.0	29.0
B. Grieve	R. 2, Dorchester	430.5	94.5	94.0	98.5	73.0	70.5
A. Brown	R. 2, Belmont	429.0	96.0	86.0	92.0	72.0	83.0
A. White	R22, London	432.0	99.0	134.0	66.0	82.0	51.0
D. Murray	4598 Murray Rd, London	341.0	79.0	114.0	83.0	65.0	
R. Willemse	R. 4, Parkhill	408.5	60.3	103.0	94.3	138.5	12.4
Average Rainfall 2010		395.8	66.6	104.3	91.6	110.8	

MIDDLESEX CROP HEAT UNIT STATIONS 2010

	TOTAL	MAY		JUNE	JULY	AUG
		Before May 10	After May 10			
N. Stokman	1976.0	128.0	406.0	724.0	846.0	
H. Aukema	2975.0	123.0	391.0	886.0	847.0	851.0
J. Robinson	2821.0	141.0	395.0	736.0	854.0	836.0
G Cornelis	2855.0	129.0	408.0	738.0	862.0	847.0
E. Fox	2827.0	136.0	374.0	746.0	862.0	845.0
R. Heard	2767.0	120.0	404.0	701.0	838.0	824.0
G. Duynisveld	2835.0	131.0	402.0	734.0	854.0	845.0
R. Desjardine	2690.0	117.0	365.0	641.0	870.0	814.0
D. Denys	2735.0	117.0	384.0	695.0	838.0	818.0
F. Vanneste	2773.0	104.0	358.0	710.0	860.0	845.0
H. Dodge	2847.0	111.0	397.0	734.0	869.0	847.0
H. MacKellar	2741.0	144.0	378.0	752.0	762.0	849.0
C. McVicar	2601.0	149.0	352.0	673.0	800.0	776.0
A. Brown	2774.0	132.0	386.0	736.0	830.0	822.0
B. Grieve	2792.0	131.0	397.0	706.0	845.0	844.0
R. Willemse	2959.0	149.0	418.0	767.0	888.0	886.0
AVERAGE	2748.0	127.5	388.4	729.9	845.3	



Elgin News

Elgin SCIA will be applying for an OSCIA Major Grant to assess various vertical tillage methods. Both fall and spring methods will be included. If you are interested in participating, contact Margaret for the protocols.

Congratulations Elgin County & St Thomas for an excellent job hosting the IPM in 2010. Margaret & Cathy took the opportunity to ride the Hydro One Boom Truck, here is an aerial view of the show.



Local OMAFRA News

Courtesy of: Kim DeKlein, OMAFRA Regional Information Coordinator,
Woodstock Resource Centre 537-8078 kim.deklein@ontario.ca
And Valerie Clark, OMAFRA Regional Information Coordinator,
London Resource Centre, 873-4070 valerie.clark@ontario.ca

Oct 13 – Women in Agri-Business Symposium, 8:30 am Springfield Golf and Country Club, Guelph. Call 519-821-4655.

Oct 20-23– International Maple Syrup Institute and the North American Maple Syrup Council Annual Meeting, “Sugaring 2010: Progress and Potential”, Arden Park Hotel, Stratford. For complete meeting details, visit <http://www.northamericanmaple.org/index.php/annual-meeting>

Oct 29 – 30 Producer Education Day – “Business Management for the Sheep Producers”, Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency (OSMA) AGM & Economic Workshop Holiday Inn, Guelph. The AGM is where the Agency presents an overview of all business and financial information that has taken place over the past year For more information please contact the OSMA office 519-836-0043 or email admin@ontariosheep.org or visit www.ontariosheep.org

Nov 6 & 7 – Agr. & Rural Energy Expo – REACH Clinton, www.reachhuron.ca

Nov 5 – 14, 2010 – Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Exhibition Place, Toronto. <http://www.royalfair.org/>

Nov 11 – 12, 2010 – 39th Annual Poultry Innovations Conference: Mythbusting Management and Medication, Sheraton on the Falls Hotel, Niagara Falls, ON. For details and registration: <http://www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca/>

Dec 8 - Healthy Calf Conference, Stratford. www.calfcare.ca or contact Kendra Keels at 519-824-2942

Jan 5 – 10 - 45th Annual Grey Bruce Farmers Week, Elmwood Community Centre, Elmwood Ontario, January 5 -10. January 5 Beef Day; January 6 Dairy Day; January 7 Goat Day; January 8 Sheep Day and Eco Afternoon; January 9 Horse Day (Adult and Youth); January 10 Crops Day. www.greyagservices.ca or call 519-986-3756.

Jan 5 & 6 - 18th Annual Southwest Agricultural Conference. Watch for details <http://www.southwestagconference.ca/>

Jan 12 – 15 - Innovative Farmers’ Association Winter Bus Tour. Details at <http://www.ifao.com/IFAO-Events.html>

CAREER FOCUS PROGRAM – INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE

The Career Focus Program provides employers with up to \$20,000 in matching funds to create internship opportunities for recent graduates from agriculture-related programs. For employers, the program offers an economical way to attract new talent and helps provide new graduates with a valuable first job that will help pave the way to a career in the ever-changing agriculture and agri-food industry.

Eligible employers:

Must offer projects that will give graduates meaningful agriculture career-related work experiences in Canada and skills acquisition through mentoring and coaching

Could include organizations such as farm businesses, industry, not-for-profit organizations, provincial and municipal governments, associations, boards, councils, colleges and universities

Eligible employees:

Must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant

Must be 30 years old or younger

Must have graduated from a university, college, CEGEP or provincial institution within the last three years, specializing in biology, agriculture, veterinary sciences or applied technology.

Currently the delivery for Career Focus for the Ontario Region is being handled out of Winnipeg by Jürgen Kohler. His direct phone number is 204-983-0575 and his email address is Jurgen.Kohler@agr.gc.ca. For more program details and a project proposal form visit the Career Focus website at: www.agr.gc.ca/careerfocus

ONTARIO HAY LISTING SERVICE

The Ontario Hay Listing Service was created by the Ontario Forage Council to provide livestock producers with information on forage availability. Our mission is to provide an easy and effective process of bringing hay producers and buyers together. This service is offered FREE OF CHARGE. This hay listing is a self service tool that enables buyers and sellers of hay and straw, in Canada and the U.S. to announce and search available or needed hay lots.

To enter buyer or seller postings, registration is required. This has been done to make the site more secure and to protect our users. Registration provides buyers and sellers with a user ID that allows them to easily create and then revise the postings as time goes on.

To check out this resource, visit <http://www.ontariohaylistings.ca/>

CANADIAN YOUNG SPEAKERS FOR AGRICULTURE

“Do you like a challenge?”

“Would you like to share your enthusiasm for agriculture with an interested audience?”

“Does the opportunity to win a substantial cash prize appeal to you?”

“Are you 11 to 24 years old?”

If you answered ‘yes’ to any of these questions, you may be interested in participating in the **Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture** competition, held annually in November at the Royal Agriculture Winter Fair in Toronto, as part of Youth Weekend. It’s an opportunity to develop your public speaking skills and a forum to express community concerns. The competition originated in 1985 in honour of International Youth Year, and was originally sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Farm Credit Canada joined as a co-sponsor in 1987. There are cash prizes for the six finalists in both the Junior Competition (ages 11-15) and Senior Competition (ages 16-24). The Senior Champion will receive \$1000, while the Junior Champion is awarded \$500. For an application, rules and further details, visit <http://www.cysa-joca.ca/english/>

Topics for this year’s competition are:

Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame – profile someone and share their impact

Who will feed the world in 50 years?

What is the biggest challenge in agriculture today?

Exploring First Nationals agriculture in Canada

What are the biggest events in Canadian agricultural history

From the Outdoor Farm Show



Thames Valley RCC (me) and Bayer's Brian Woolley
In front of the VIP (OSCIA member only) brunch sign.
Courtesy Anne Howden-Thompson, Golden Horseshoe RCC



Nick Betts, OSCIA Guelph, our Biomass Guy and
his display in the OSCIA/OMAFRA tent



MM trying to put Kent EFP Rep Ron Faubert in his place.
Zorra Twp's Gord MacKay and Heartland RCC Jacquie
Bishop in the background



OMAFRA's Greg Stewart's compaction & tire pressure
manure tanker demo. Equipment is always a big draw
at our site



OMAFRA's Scott Banks(left) and the Biomass Crop demo



The mud after a rainy Thursday morning. It took a lot of
coffee to get through the cold damp day!

THAMES VALLEY REGIONAL SCIA

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REGIONAL COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

The Thames Valley Regional Soil & Crop Improvement Association newsletter is produced by Cathy Dibble, (519) 463-6374, 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

OXFORD WEBSITE: <http://oxfordscia.wordpress.com/>

THAMES VALLEY WEBSITE: <http://tvrscia.wordpress.com/>

CROPLINE: 1-888-449-0937

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/cropline/index.html>

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

OMAFRA TOOLS: Corn <http://gocorn.net/>

Herbicides <http://www.weedpro75.com/>

WOODSTOCK OMAFRA RESOURCE CENTRE: 519-537-6621

LONDON OMAFRA RESOURCE CENTRE 519-873-4086

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TOLL-FREE INFO LINE: 1-866-242-4460

THE FARM LINE Confidential support and referral services: 1-888-451-2903

LOCAL SOIL & CROP ASSOCIATION SECRETARY

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EFP/GYFP PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES

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Middlesex/Elgin ~ Margaret May 287-5334 elgin@ontariosoilcrop.org

CATHY'S COMMENTS

I hope most of you were able to get out to the Outdoor Farm Show with your free passes and brunch tickets, and apologies to the very few who did not receive their tickets either on time or not at all. Stuff happens sometimes. We did have an excellent turnout in both the Bayer CropScience Brunch tent, and the OSCIA/OMAFRA tent and demo plots. We were able to feed 372 on Tues, and 396 on Wed, but Thurs was a bit slower at 165 people. Thursday did turn out quite cold and muddy, however none of our group got stuck, as so many others did. The great coffee provided by OMAFRA helped make the day go a bit easier. It is great to see so many of our members show up at the tent to say hi and harass the OMAFRA crop guys! Thanks to all the OSCIA Guelph staff, RCCs and EFP/GYFP program reps who helped out at the show as well. We couldn't do it all without your help. Kudos to the OMAFRA Crop Tech team for the superb demos and displays as well.

Harvest is in full swing in many areas of the region now. As I was coming back from helping set up the OSCIA booth at the Plowing Match in St Thomas, there were several fields of soys being combined, and dust was flying. Don't forget to send in your yield data and plot results to the Cropline (number above). Good luck with your harvest this fall season. Plans are already underway for winter and annual meetings, so watch your mail for details. Don't forget to check the websites and Twitter. See you in November!....

Getting ready for the show.....

