

FarmSmart Farming Systems Expo 2015

FARMSMART

The 2015 edition of the FarmSmart Farming Systems Expo attracted a near record crowd on a wonderful July Thursday and was another great success. The expo event is meant to provide a practical hands-on extension to the winter FarmSmart Agricultural Conference

The purpose of these diagnostic days is to highlight current issues in crop production. This is done through creating and exploring “field issues” which provided participants with skills and knowledge needed to identify and solve problems as they become evident, or better yet, identify and correct issues before they become problems.

New this year was a change up in the program format. There were 6 normal rotation sessions followed by a 2 hour session taken by wagon ride around to various research experiments being conducted by UG faculty and grad students. At the stops the lead researchers demonstrated the findings of their on going work.

The FarmSmart Expo is a one day event, with the first day inviting farmers and agribusiness to the Elora Research Station of the University of Guelph. The participants are organized into small groups who rotate through a number of sessions that challenge them in problem solving current and obscure agronomic events that have been experienced in the field. The sessions also highlight new technologies and techniques.

In a change up from years past, we integrated the youth program into the main day of the event, as opposed to a separate morning the following day. This allowed the kids to pick 4 sessions for the morning and then they went off to do a barn tour at the University of Guelph Elora Research Station Dairy and Beef Facilities for the afternoon.

Although our 2015 date has still to be set, keep current with FarmSmart related happenings at our new website at www.farmsmartconference.com

Event Contact

Ian McDonald, OMAFRA, ian.mcdonald@ontario.ca