Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada (OACC) 2005 Annual Report

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Contact Information	
Financial Statement	2
Farmer and Industry Collaborators	
Research and Extension Collaborators	4
Expert Committee on Organic Agriculture	5
Education	
Website Report	7
Newspaper Articles	8
Farm Visits and Tours	9
Field Days	10
Seminars, Meetings and Conferences	10
Peer-reviewed Publications and Theses	
Committees and Professional Activities	12
OACC Advisory Board	13
Core OACC Staff	14
Graduate Students	
Seasonal Staff	14
OACC Sponsors and Partners	15

Introduction

The Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada (OACC) continues to conduct research and engage in education at the university level, to support farmers, students and consumers with credible information about organic agriculture and food. Many of you are partners in this process and we appreciate your collaboration. The process of learning how to improve organic agriculture is an exciting adventure. The implementation of this learning is even more crucial and in many cases it is our partners who take these crucial steps. Thank-you!

Sponsors of OACC, featured on our back cover and on page 15 are crucial to our work and we very much appreciate their support.

OACC is guided by our vision and mission statements. Our vision is to strengthen the science and practice of organic agriculture in Canada. Our mission is to conduct, coordinate and disseminate producer-oriented research and education, contributing to sustainable communities. We welcome your ideas about how we can meet our vision and mission more effectively.

In 2005, we developed a new image and logo. Many contributed to this effort and in particular, Andy Hammermeister deserves congratulations for our new look.

The OACC website, www.oacc.info, continues to grow as the dynamic archive for information related to organic research and education in Canada and you are encouraged to explore it. Each month an e-zine is sent to Friends of OACC. It highlights the most recent up-dates on the OACC website. If you wish to subscribe regularly, please contact oacc@nsac.ca and will be pleased to add your name, or that of a friend or colleague, to our mailing list.

Contact Information

Head Office

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Tel: (902) 893 - 7256 Fax: (902) 896 - 7095 E-mail: <u>oacc@nsac.ca</u>

Website: www.oacc.info

Prairie Office

Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada c/o Department of Plant Sciences University of Saskatchewan 51 Campus Drive Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A8 Tel: (306) 966 - 4975

Fax: (306) 966 - 5015 E-mail: <u>organic@usask.ca</u>

Financial Statement (\$)

April 2004 - March 2005

Expenses

Research Coordination	162,500
Research Costs and Analysis	54,984
Market Research and Dissemination	11,000
Information Dissemination	79,960
Translation	20,532
Travel	12,332
Financial Management	8,500

Total Expenses 349,808

Revenue

Alberta Dept. of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	50,000
Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF)	72,308
Canadian Adaptation and Rural Development (Prairies)	52,500
Canadian Wheat Board	15,000
NB Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture	50,000
NS Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	50,000
PEI Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture	50,000
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food	10,000

Total Revenue	349,808
I Otal Neveriae	377,000

Notes

- i) Specific research contracts held in whole or in part by OACC staff, are not included in this statement. Other research and travel costs are included in those contracts.
- ii) In-kind contributions (not shown here) are significant, especially those of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

Farmer and Industry Collaborators

OACC is fortunate to work with many dedicated organic farmers and researchers from all parts of Canada. Every effort has been made to acknowledge all of our collaborating partners in this report. If we have missed anyone in this listing, please accept our apologies and let us know so this may be corrected next year.

Andreas, Lawrence - ON Archibald Farms - NS Biemond, Peter - ON Boyle, Terrance - NS Bromm, Norman - SK Bunnett, David and Murray - NB Buoyink, Theo - ON Caissie, Gerry - NB Collinge, Nelson - SK Chrapko, Victor - AB Cook, Dave - SK Cowan, Cal - SK Curtis, Tom - MB de Groot, Martine - ON Dollar, Fred - PE Ecceles, Larry - ON English, Laura - NB Finnie, John - MB Fleischhaker, Stu - NB Funk, Dayton - SK Gillis, Cary - PE Guilford, Robert - MB Hartman, Steve and Marg - ON Hovdebo, Wayne and Chris - SK Hunter, Frazer - NS Johnson, Dale - SK Jopp, Frank - NB Kernohan, Andrew - NS Kroeker Farms, MB Krol, Michael and Heidi - ON Kungl, Norbert - NS Loiselle, Marc - SK Loo, Raymond - PE Martin, Bill - NB Martin, Luke - ON Martin, Matthew - ON McCuaig, Kirby - SK McQuail, Tony and Fran - ON Meinert, Martin - SK Mentink, Herman - NS Nernburg, Alex and Elinor - ON Osthaus, Odillia - ON Pfenning, Wolfgang - ON Pronk, Martin and Corrie - ON

Tomlin, Kim - SK Van Nieuwenhuyzen, Rit - PE Willhelm, Ross and Anne - ON Willick, Robert - SK Willner, Wayne - SK Wilson, Gerry - MB Zettel, Ted and Christine - ON Agricultural Mineral Prospectors, ON Alberta Organic Producers Association Atlantic Country Composting, NS Bartmanovich, Doug - SECAN, MB Casky, Trent - Proven Seed, MB

Willmott, Edward - Premium Crops Ltd., UK Envirem Technologies Inc., NB

Frick, Arlan - Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation, SK

Morrison, George, UK Going Organic Network, AB

Ecological Farmers of Ontario

Grant, Todd - Speerville Flour Mill, NB Greer, Ken - Western Ag Innovations, SK Harmony Organic Dairy Products, ON

Ives, Brian, NS Jolly Farmer, NB

Laird, Elmer - Back to the Farm Research Foundation, SK

McMahon, Beth - Atlantic Canada Organic Regional Network

Munroe, Glenn - New Ground, NS Nordal, Greg - Seed grower, MB Nova - Agri Associates, NS

OntarBio Organic Farmers Co-operative Inc., ON

Organic Connections Inc., SK

Organic Crop Improvement Association (OCIA)

Research and Education Organic Learning Centre, SK Organic Matters on the Prairies Organic Prairie Research Coalition

Organic Producers Association of Manitoba

Potash Corporation, NS

Pulsifer, Orville - Pulsifer Associates, NS

Saskatchewan Organic Directorate Saskatchewan Organic Livestock

Saskatchewan Organic Producers Association Selig, Howard - Valley Flax Flour Ltd., NS Tholen, Dietmar - Good Earth Resources Group

Ltd., NS

Youngdahl, Donna - Canadian Wheat Board, MB

Pulsifer, Orville - NS

Slater, Stewart - ON

Snider, Steve - AB

Stafford, Rob - SK

Scott, Alex - MB

Robinson, Robert and Laura - PE

Research and Extension Collaborators

- Astatkie, Tess Nova Scotia Agricultural College
- Bader, Leroy Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
- Benoit, Diane Lyse *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*
- Berthélémé, Claude *NB Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture*
- Blackshaw, Robert Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Boecker, Andreas *University of Guelph* Boiteau, Gilles- *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*
- Bradley, Tanner Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
- Brandt, Stewart Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Brault, Danielle *Ministère de l'agriculture, des pêcheries et de l'alimentation du Québec*
- Burton, David- *Nova Scotia Agricultural College* Clapperton, Jill - *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*
- Clark, Ann University of Guelph
- Cunningham, Rosalie Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
- de Passillé, Anne Marie *University of British Columbia*
- Dening, Bert Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
- Dixon, Peggy Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Duguid, Scott Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Embree, Charlie Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Entz, Martin University of Manitoba
- Farkas, Gary University of Saskatchewan
- Fredeen, Alan Nova Scotia Agricultural College
- Froese, Jane University of Manitoba
- Georgallas, Alex Nova Scotia Agricultural College
- Giacomazzi, Terri British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
- Graham, Lori-Jo Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
- Grant, Cynthia Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Grant, Heather Anne AgraPoint, NS
- Hanlon-Smith, Claire Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
- Hardy, Paul Department of Agriculture, Australia
- Henning, John McGill University Henson, Spencer - University of Guelph

- Hollinger, John Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
- Innes, Tracey Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Irving, Pamela Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
- Johnson, Dan *University of Lethbridge*Johnson, Eric *Agriculture and Agri-Food*Canada
- Johnson, Paul Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
- Knight, Diane *University of Saskatchewan* Lean, Garry - *Organic Inspector*
- Leifert, Carlo Centre for Organic Agriculture, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- Lowndes, Sandy Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
- Macey, Anne Canadian Organic Grower, Organic Inspector
- MacIvoy, Mike Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
- MacKinnon, Susan PEI Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Martin, Hugh Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food
- McIntyre, Brenda Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- McLean, Nancy Nova Scotia Agricultural College
- Monreal, Marcia Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Mooleki, Patrick Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
- Nass, Hans *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada* Neeser, Chris - *Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development*
- Patriquin, David *Dalhousie University* Percival, David - *Nova Scotia Agricultural College*
- Perrault, Don Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
- Peters, Doug Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Peters, Rick Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Phelps, Sherrilyn Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
- Pomboza, Ruth Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Prange, Robert Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Recksiedler, Blaine Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
- Risula, Dale Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Rushen, Jeff - University of British Columbia Sawyer, Erin - University of Saskatchewan Scoles, Graham - University of Saskatchewan Sharpe, Keri - Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

Shirtliffe, Steve - *University of Saskatchewan* Singh, Av - *AgraPoint, NS*

Smith, Susan - BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

Spaner, Dean - University of Alberta
Sturz, Tony - PEI Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Aquaculture
Sumner, Jennifer - University of Guelph
Van Acker, Rene - University of Manitoba
Van Straaten, Peter - University of Guelph

von Keyserlingk, Marina - *University of British Columbia*

Voroney, Paul - *University of Guelph* Waite, Leslie - *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*

Wally, Fran - University of Saskatchewan Warman, Phil - Nova Scotia Agricultural College Weseen, Simon - University of Saskatchewan Wright, Scott - Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Yiridoe, Emmanuel - Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Zafiriou, Margaret - *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*

Zebarth, Bernie - *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*

Expert Committee on Organic Agriculture

The Expert Committee on Organic Agriculture agreed to put forward one research priority each year, for each of 7 categories. The categories are 1) animals, 2) plants, 3) soils, 4) ecological systems, 5) health and food quality, 6) marketing and 7) policy. Although there was considerable discussion, the priorities for 2005 are listed as succinct statements with the intent of providing focus and emphasis so that Canadian researchers can respond to clear research needs.

Animals: Design animal production systems that are most conducive to normal animal behaviour and animal health, while enhancing food safety.

Plants: Conduct research focused on preventative pest management.

Soils: Assess short and long term soil fertility issues (for example the availability and/or buildup of organic matter, phosphorus, nitrate, zinc, copper, calcium and sulfur).

Ecological Systems: Determine how to optimize energy use on organic farms.

Health and Food Quality: Identify links between healthy soils and healthy food.

Marketing: Identify emerging consumer trends, serviced by imports, and the opportunities and barriers to investment and development in domestic production that could respond to emerging markets.

Policy: Assess the impact of new GMO crops (e.g. alfalfa) on organic systems, while considering regulatory and liability issues.

Education

OACC web-based courses are available to farmers, students, and others involved in organic agriculture. Participants can register for the courses regardless of their location and participate in the course material during the hours most suitable to them. Many students have found the interactive approach to be enjoyable and educational. It can be a valuable experience to interact with the instructor and with classmates with similar interests and questions while sitting comfortably at home.

The courses offered in 2005 are listed below, followed by the host institution.

- Composting and Compost Use (Nova Scotia Agricultural College)
- Organic Field Crop Management (NSAC)
- Organic Livestock Production (NSAC)
- Transition to Organic Farming (NSAC)
- Principles of Organic Horticulture (NSAC)
- Key Indicators of Sustainable Agriculture (University of British Columbia)
- Organic Crop Production on the Prairies (University of Manitoba)
- Organic Marketing (University of Guelph)
- Weed Control in Organic Agriculture (University of Saskatchewan)

Four web-based courses were offered in French, through Université Laval. These courses are roughly equivalent to the first four listings above, offered at NSAC.

- Compostage et utilisation du compost en agriculture biologique
- Production biologique des cultures en champ
- Productions animales biologiques
- Introduction à l'agriculture biologique

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) offers a "Certificate of Specialization in Organic Agriculture." Any student who has successfully completed four of the eligible organic agriculture credit courses (including at least two courses from NSAC), and who has an overall average of at least 60% in these courses can apply to receive a Certificate of Specialization in Organic Agriculture.

For more information or to register for a course please visit the OACC website in English: http://oacc.info/Courses/courses_web.html

In French: http://oacc.info/Courses/courses_web_f.html

Website Report

Over the course of the last year, the website has seen a steady increase in demand for its pages, suggesting a strong and growing interest in organic agricultural research and education resources.

Highlights and new features added to the website in the last year include:

- New image and logo incorporated into entire website, and new portal page
- Organic Friends **E-Zine** marked its first anniversary of publication in November 2005
- **Google** search tool for faster and easier searching within the website.
- Consumer section developed with collaboration from USDA's AgNic program.
- Farm Animal Welfare research section added under Livestock Research.
- "New on Our Site" feature for users to catch up on recently added content on the site
- Social Science Research section adds another research dimension to organic agriculture
- Consumer Research section adds yet another component
- 1st International Organic Apple and Pear Symposium website served the symposium
- Pages were added for Award-winners, Classified Ads and Links to Producer Organizations

Table 1. Summary of OACC Website Statistics for March 1'05-March 1'06

Summary	March 1'05-March 1'06	Previous Year	Change
		(Mar 1'04-Mar 1'05)	
Total Hits all files	3,676,707	2,833,319	+ 30%
Total Hits for Pages	734,194	319,174	+ 130%
Hits for pages per day	2,005	872	
Hits for pages in busiest month	87,957 in January '06	33,914 in June '04	
# Computers Logged On	67,814	49,472	+ 37%
5 Top Domains visiting the website	March 1'05-March 1'06	Previous Year	
dial-up	65.1 % *	34.5%	
.ca	11.8 %	25.4%	
.net	9.7 %	18.3%	
.com	7.6 %	12.0%	
.fr	1.3 %	2.6%	
5 Top Directories	March 1'05-March 1'06	Previous Year	
1	Root (index, links, etc)	Root	
2	Virtual Farm Tour	Research Database	
3	Research Database	Virtual Farm Tour	
4	Documents (pdf)	News Articles	
5	News Articles	Courses	
5 Top Files Requested, after	March 1'05-March 1'06	Previous Year	
homepage			
1	Virtual Farm Tour	Job Opportunities	
2	Non-Gov't Links	Market Information	
3	Job Opportunities	Non-gov't Links	
4	Canadian Standards	Virtual Farm Tour	
5	Market Information	Web Courses	

^{*} An indication that more rural Canadians and conventional farmers are using our website.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Morrigan, M.Sc., Website Co-ordinator imorrigan@nsac.ca

Newspaper Articles

Every month, organic research and innovation in Canada is highlighted in a newspaper article appearing in publications for both Eastern and Western Canada. These articles are posted at the OACC website one month after publication. To read more, click on News Articles at www.oacc.info

Making the most of manure and compost (D. Jans, December 2005)

Know Your Boundaries (D. Jans, November 2005)

Can Organic Feed the World? (B. Frick, November 2005)

Understanding Your Soil Test Report (D. Jans, October 2005)

Supplementing Soil Fertility (D. Jans, September 2005)

Organic Matters Conference Grounded in Soil Biology (B. Frick, September 2005)

Organic Farmers and Rural Development (J. Sumner, August 2005)

Organic Producers Achieve the Impossible - Again! (B. Frick, August 2005)

The Future of Agriculture: Regional Branding and Niche Marketing (A. Hammermeister, July 2005)

Weeding for Value in the Garden (B. Frick, July 2005)

Nutrient Supply From Organic Soil Amendments: Implications for Fertility Management (A. Hammermeister, June 2005)

Do Mixed Variety Crops Have To Be A "Dog's Breakfast"? (B. Frick, June 2005)

Nutrient Management for Organic Dairying (M. Arcand, C. Roberts and D. Lynch, May 2005)

Small Farmers' Struggle Recognized (J. Bromm, May 2005)

Getting to the Roots of Agriculture (A. Hammermeister, April 2005)

The Joy of Dandelions (B. Frick, April 2005)

Organic Producers Welcome New Bull Selection Index (F. Anderson, Ontario Farmer, March 2005)

Weeds for Livestock Feed (B. Frick, March 2005)

Mobile Abattoirs: Benefits and Challenges (J. Morrigan, February 2005)

Will Mobile Abattoirs Help Small-Scale Livestock Farmers? (J. Morrigan, January 2005)

Farm Visits and Tours

The following list identifies farms that were visited by OACC staff during the 2005 growing season:

Agriculture and Agri-Food Lacombe Research Station, Neil Harker, George Clayton, Kelly Turkington - Lacombe, AB Agriculture and Agri-Food Lethbridge Research Station, Jill Clapperton, Bob Blackshaw - Lethbridge, AB Agriculture and Agri-Food Scott Research Farm, Eric Johnson, Stewart Brandt, Sherrilyn Phelps - Scott, SK Band K Ranch, Bernice Kadatz and Karen Blumhagen - Tofield, AB Back to the Farm Research Foundation, Elmer Laird - Davidson, SK Bromm's Organic Family Farm, Norman Bromm - Tisdale, SK Busy Bea's Market Garden - Lethbridge, AB Cook, Dave – Hazeldel, SK Curtis, Tom - Brandon, MB Falls Brook Center - Knowlesville, NB Ferme Jacmi, Jacques Tibeau - St. Anselme, QC Ferme Biologique Familiale Loiselle, Marc Loiselle – Vonda, SK Forsyth Ranch - Tompkins, SK Golden Bay Dairy, Eric and Sharon Ter Beek - Southhampton, PEI Grange-sur-Seine Farm, Gerry Dube -LaBroquerie, MB Holdanca Farm, John Duynisfeld - Wallace, NS Hoover, Bob - Atwood, ON Hovdebo Farms, Wayne and Chris Hovdebo, Birch Hills, SK Kentdale Farms, Fred Dollar - Winslow, PE Kroeker Farms - MB

Little Red Hen Mills, Steve Snider - New Norway, AB MacLauchlan, John and Shauna - Mount Stewart, PE Nature's Acres Organic Farm, Kirby McCuaig - Eastend, SK Orchard Palace, Victor and Liz Chrapko -Two Hills, AB Poplar Bluff Farm, Rosemary Wotske -Calgary, AB Prairie Gold Organics, Nelson Collinge -Eston, SK Sea Spray Farms, Reg Phelan - Morrel, PE Springwillow Farms, Raymond Loo -Kensington, PE Stafford Organics, Rob Stafford - Gronlid, SK Stillridge Ranch, Keith, Bev, Will, Lisa and Marie Everts - Pincher Creek, AB Sunworks Farm, Ron and Sheila Hamilton Camrose, AB Sweet Clover Farm, Gary Clausheide -Valleyfield, PE Taylor Organic Farms, Arnold Taylor -Kenaston, SK Tomilin Farm, Kim Tomilin – Gronlid, SK University of Alberta Organic Breeding Plots, Dean Spaner - Edmonton, AB University of Manitoba Glenlea Research Station and Carman Research Station, Certified Organic Field Lab, Martin Entz -Winnipea, MB Willick Farms, Bob Willick, - Blaine Lake, SK Wilson, Gerry - Brandon, MB Wind Horse Farm - Bridgewater, NS

Field Days

Throughout the year a variety of organic field days are held across Canada. The following list indicates field days attended, presented or organized by OACC staff members.

- Alberta Organic Producers Association OCIA AB#1 Field Day: Two Hills, AB
- Bruno Cherry Festival: Bruno SK
- OCIA SK#5 Organic Field Day: Kenaston, Davidson, SK
- Tour of green manure trial, Eastend, SK
- OCIA SK#8 Organic Field Day: Tompkins, SK
- Scott Experimental Farm Field Day: Scott, SK
- Saskatchewan Organic Producers Association Field Day: Tisdale, SK
- OCIA SK#2 Organic Field Day: Maymont, SK
- OCIA SK#1 Organic Field Day: Torquay, SK
- Organic Food Council of Manitoba Field Day: La Broquerie, MB

Seminars, Meetings and Conferences

The following list outlines the events that were attended, presented and/or organized by different of OACC staff members.

- Agricultural Institute of Canada Annual Conference: *Identifying Strategies to Support Sustainable Agriculture in Canada* Québec City, QC
- Alberta Organic Producers Association OCIA#1 Namao, AB
- Atlantic Canada Organic Regional Network Organic Conference Fredericton, NB
- Bruno Organic Update Bruno, SK
- Canadian Agri-Food Research Council (CARC) Canada Committee on Crops NS
- Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual Conference Halifax, NS
- Field Gate Organic Barn Meeting Atwood, ON
- First Annual Congress of the Quality Low Input Food Project: *Organic Farming, Food Quality and Health* University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.
- Guelph Organic Conference (24th Annual) Guelph, ON
- Hemp Research Workshop Saskatoon, SK
- Livestock Environmental Initiative Symposium Mississauga, ON
- Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board Truro, NS
- OCIA Research and Education AGM San Jose, Costa Rica
- OCIA Research and Education Board meeting Lincoln, Nebraska
- Organic Crop Improvement Association Chapter 8 Ernfold, SK
- Organic Matters on the Prairies Brandon, MB
- Organic Research Workshop Kenaston, SK
- PEI ADAPT Council, Annual General Meeting and Conference Charlottetown, PE
- Saskatchewan Organic Livestock founding meeting Craik, SK
- Saskatchewan Organic Producers Association Yorkton, SK
- 6th International Sheep Veterinary Congress Hersonissos, Greece
- University of Manitoba, Seminar: *Phosphorous Deficiencies on Canadian Organic Farms* Winnipeg, MB

Peer-reviewed Publications and Theses

- Astatkie, T., Joseph, A.A., and Martin, R.C. 2006. *A two-level unreplicated factorial design to determine the effect of organic and inorganic fertilizers on dry mater yield of permanent pasture.* Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems [In Press].
- Beavers, R.L. 2005. *Wheat-weed interactions at variable seeding rates in organic farming systems.* M.Sc. Thesis, Nova Scotia Agricultural College/Dalhousie University.
- Frick, B. 2005. *Weed Control in Organic Systems*. pages 3-22 in J.A. Ivany, ed. Topics in Canadian Weed Science. Vol. 2. Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Québec: Canadian Weed Science Society Societe Canadienne de Malherbologie.
- Hammermeister, A.M., Astatkie, T., Jelizkova, E.A., Warman, P.R. and Martin, R.C.. 2006. *Nutrient supply rates from organic amendments applied to unvegetated soil, lettuce and orchard grass.*Canadian Journal of Soil Science 86: 21-33.
- Lawley, Y. 2004. Determining optimum plant population densities for three annual green manure crops under weedy and weed free conditions. M.Sc. Thesis, University of Saskatchewan.
- Lynch, D.H., Cohen, R., Fredeen, A., Patterson, G. and Martin, R.C. 2005. *Management of Canadian Prairie Region Grazed Grasslands: Soil C Sequestration, Livestock Productivity and Profitability*. Canadian Journal of Soil Science 85: 183-192.
- Lynch, D.H., Voroney, R.P., and Warman, P.R. 2006. *Use of* ¹³C and ¹⁵N natural abundance techniques to characterize carbon and nitrogen dynamics in composting and in compost-amended soils. Soil Biology and Biochemistry 38: 103-114.
- Lynch, D.H., Voroney, R.P., and Warman, P.R. 2005. *Soil physical properties and organic matter fractions under forages receiving composts, manure or fertilizer.* Compost Science and Utilization 13: 252-261.
- Martin, R.C., Astatkie, T., Cooper, J.M., and Fredeen, A.H. 2005. *A comparison of methods used to determine biomass on naturalized swards.* Journal of Agronomy and Crop Science. 191: 152-160.
- Martin, R.C. Lynch, D.H., and Frick, B. 2005. *Phosphorous Status on Canadian Organic Farms*. Submitted to Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture. May, 2005.
- Moreau, T., Warman, P.R., and Hoyle, J. 2004. *An evaluation of companion planting and botanical extracts as alternative pest controls for the Colorado Potato Beetle.* Biological Agriculture and Horticulture [In Press].
- Nelson, A.G. 2005. Soil Erosion Risk and Mitigation through Crop Rotation on Organic and Conventional Cropping Systems. M.Sc. Thesis, University of Manitoba.
- Sturz, A.V., Lynch, D.H., Martin, R.C., and Driscoll, A.M. 2006. *Influence of compost tea, powdered kelp and Manzate 75 on the community composition and antibiosis against Phytophthora infestans of bacteria in the potato phylloplane*. Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology [In Press].
- Wiens, M.J., Entz, M.H., Martin, R.C., and Hammermeister, A.M. 2006. *Agronomic benefits of alfalfa mulch applied to organically managed spring wheat.* Canadian Journal of Plant Science 86: 121-131.
- Yiridoe, E.K., Bonti-Ankomah, S., and Martin, R.C. 2005. *Comparison of Consumer Perceptions and Preference Toward Organic versus Conventionally Produced Foods: A Review and Update of the Literature*. Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems 20: 193-205.

Committees and Professional Activities

Silvina Fernández:

• Member, Ontario Organic Research Advisory Committee

Brenda Frick:

- Secretary, Organic Crop Improvement Association Research and Education Board
- Ex officio member of Organic Prairie Research Coalition (to end March 06)
- Member, Saskatchewan Organic Directorate Research Committee
- Member, Development Committee for Organic Learning Centre
- · Advisor, Organic Connections Board

Andy Hammermeister:

- Member, Agricultural Institute of Canada 2005 Conference organizing committee
- Agricultural Institute of Canada Board of Directors

Derek Lynch:

- Approved as Canada Research Chair in Organic Agriculture, June 1st, 2005
- Voting member, Canadian General Standards Board Technical Committee on Organic Agriculture
- Member, Canadian Agri-Food Research Council Expert Committee on Organic Agriculture

Ralph C. Martin:

- Chair, Canadian Agri-Food Research Council Expert Committee on Organic Agriculture
- Chair, Organic Animal Welfare Task Force
- Chair, Steering Committee for OACC Prairie Coordinator
- Chair, OACC Market Research Group
- Facilitator, Organic Prairie Research Coalition
- Chair, NSAC Crops Committee
- Member, NSAC Instructional Development Committee
- Member, Atlantic Forage Task Group

OACC Advisory Board

OACC is an operating division of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) and is served by an Advisory Board representing stakeholder groups from across Canada. The Advisory Board represents stakeholder groups from across Canada. It is comprised of thirteen members appointed by the President of NSAC for staggered three year terms.

Volunteer board members deliberate and make recommendations about policy, strategic directions and sustaining OACC. The Board considers feedback from Advisory Forums held at organic conferences across Canada each year. Groups represented on the Board include organic farmers, transitional farmers, food distributors and retailers, university researchers, students, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and organic organizations. The board must include at least one member from Manitoba or Alberta, and each of British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Québec and the Atlantic Provinces.

2005 Advisory Board Members:

Danielle Brault, Ministère de l'agriculture, des pêcheries et de l'alimentation du Québec

Jeanne Cruikshank, Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors

lan Cushon, Moose Creek Organic Farm Inc., Saskatchewan

Dag Falck, Nature's Path Foods, Inc.

Mike Leclair, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Debbie Miller, Manager, Organic Crop Improvement Association Canada

Alison Nelson, Student, University of Alberta

Clark Phillips, Organic Farmer, New Brunswick

Keri Sharpe, Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

Ann Slater, Organic Farmer, Ecological Farmers Association of Ontario

Dr. Paul Voroney, University of Guelph

Dr. Emmanuel Yiridoe, Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Core OACC Staff

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Graduate Students

Melissa Arcand (M.Sc.) Roxanne Beavers (M.Sc.)

Nicole E. Burkhard (M.Sc.)

Amy Kaut (M.Sc.)

Don Kerr (M.Sc.)

Ann Kirk (M.Sc.)

Kui Liu (Ph.D.)

Heather Mason (Ph.D.)

Rebecca Nason (M.Sc.)

Alison Nelson (Ph.D.)

Jackie Pridham (M.Sc.)

Todd Reid (Ph.D.)

Andres Riofrio (M.Sc.)

Cory Roberts (M.Sc.)

Karl Slawinski (M.Sc.)

Solet Turmel (M.Sc.)

Kathy Welsh (M.Sc.)

Dr. Derek Lynch

Assistant Professor and Canada Research

Chair in Organic Agriculture

Tel: (902) 893-7621 Email: <u>dlynch@nsac.ca</u>

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Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is pleased to participate in the production of this OACC Annual Report for 2005. AAFC is committed to working with our industry partners to increase public awareness of the importance of the agriculture and agri-food industry to Canada. Opinions expressed in this document are those of OACC and not necessarily of AAFC.