

LOOKING BACK ON ANOTHER YEAR

And looking ahead to another successful one

Erwin Hanley | *Chair*



SaskFlax



This year will go down again as a challenging one. On our farm we went until late July without any substantial rain. In farming it never ceases to amaze me how each year seems to be different. The predictability of Mother Nature is always a topic of discussion – she overrides the best made plans that go into the prospects of producing a bountiful crop each year. I am thankful that we had a crop and the decision making for next year has already begun.

A full year has gone by since our organization went through the transition to a new Executive Director. We welcomed Wayne Thompson into the role in August 2014 and he has certainly fit in well, showing great enthusiasm for our organization.

Back in January, I had indicated that our Board was continuing to focus on identifying and supporting research that in the long term will provide flax producers with new knowledge and tools for flax production. This continues to be a focus for us. We realized and identified that there is a need to

quantify what a strong and prolific flax breeding program would look like going forward. We are currently engaged with the Crop Development Centre at the University of Saskatchewan along with our industry partners, the Flax Council of Canada and Manitoba Flax Growers Association, to help create a path forward. This comes from the announcements some time ago surrounding the closing of both the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada office at Morden, Manitoba, and Crop Production Services flax breeding programs. This initiative will take time to evolve. It is a tough task when there is one flaxseed breeding program to move forward with. Patience and open dialogue will be key to plan for success.

Going forward your Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission (SaskFlax) Board of Directors will continue to support directed flax research that will provide knowledge for the academic community, support field research through funding agreements and pass along the resulting knowledge to help producers build long term success in

your operations. The levy dollars we collect from you, the producer, are leveraged to access other research dollars whether through provincial or federal government programs and the Western Grains Research Foundation. The Flax Council of Canada along with Manitoba Flax Growers Association are also jointly working with our support on some of the same research initiatives mentioned above outside the borders of Saskatchewan.

Please take the time to read this newsletter. Hopefully it can provide you with insight about where we are going as an organization. If you have any questions or comments please contact Wayne Thompson or any Director of the Board. We would be more than willing to talk about flax.

Thanks for your continued support and please join us at the Annual General Meeting on January 11 in Saskatoon and CropSphere 2016 on January 12 and 13 at TCU Place, during Crop Week in Saskatoon.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SASKFLAX ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SaskFlax will be holding its annual general meeting (AGM) on Monday, January 11, in conjunction with CropSphere 2016. All registered flax producers are encouraged to attend, to learn about the important work SaskFlax is doing and to have your say in the future direction of the industry.

Details:

Monday, January 11, 2016

Gallery B, TCU Place

35 22nd Street East, Saskatoon

3:00-3:30PM Registration

3:30-4:30PM Meeting

Please note: if you are attending the SaskFlax AGM and are NOT registered for CropSphere, please stop at the Conference Registration Desk on your way in to pick up your AGM ONLY attendance pass.

CROPSPHERE 2016

The annual CropSphere conference will once again be hosted by SaskFlax, in partnership with SaskBarley, Saskatchewan Pulse Growers, Sask Wheat, SaskCanola and SaskOats. CropSphere 2016 will take place January 12 & 13 at TCU Place in downtown Saskatoon, with several host group AGMs taking place Monday, January 11.

This year's program aims to once again provide Saskatchewan producers with top-notch agronomic information and a competitive edge. Sessions will address some of the hottest ag topics today including economic outlook, the latest in research and innovation, on-farm practices to improve your bottom line, succession planning, and much more.

Registration is available online, or by phone, fax or email, until January 4, 2016, at a rate of \$200. Register now at www.cropsphere.com. Registration is also available at the door, the day of, at a rate of \$250.

WESTERN CANADIAN CROP PRODUCTION SHOW
JANUARY 11 - 14, 2016
PRAIRIELAND PARK
 SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN

presented by
 Farm Credit Canada
 Canada

WESTERN CANADA'S PREMIER GRAIN INDUSTRY EVENT

- Over 240,000 square feet of trade show
- Precision Agriculture Seminar - January 13th
- Bayer CropScience Information Theatre - 2 presentations daily
- Held in conjunction with Crop Production Week and CropSphere

WWW.CROPPRODUCTIONONLINE.COM

CropSphere
 Ideas, Innovation, and Knowledge

**IDEAS, INNOVATION,
 AND KNOWLEDGE**

Save the Date – January 12 & 13

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
CROPSPHERE.COM

Facebook.com/CropSphere
 @CropSphere

REGULATION CHANGES YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

How recent changes to the SaskFlax regulations will affect producers

The regulations that the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission (SaskFlax) adheres to, the Flax Development Plan Regulations, were recently updated and two changes were made that will affect producers.

LEVY REFUNDS

The first was for the refund of levies. Previously there were two refund request periods in each crop year. In order to create processing efficiency and to be in line with other Saskatchewan crop commissions the period has been changed to include the full crop year, from

August 1 to July 31 of the following year. The request for a levy refund must be submitted to the SaskFlax office before or on August 31 of that year. As in previous years, the refund request form is available by contacting the SaskFlax office.

DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

The second change relates to Director elections. The Director elections will now be held every second year (the next election will take place fall 2016). Each election will be for three positions on the Board. The Director terms have also been changed to four year terms and Directors

may serve for three consecutive terms. After that they are required to leave the Board for two years, after which they may run again provided they are a registered flax producer at the time of elections.

Both of these changes were made effective February 26, 2015.

The Flax Development Plan Regulations are available at www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Regulations/Regulations/A15-21R20.pdf.

MEET OUR BOARD AND STAFF!

Get in touch with us anytime with your feedback

BOARD



Erwin Hanley | Chair
306.586.4509
ehanley@sasktel.net



Shane Stokke | Vice Chair
306.946.4044
ssc@yourlink.ca



Jordon Hillier
306.726.4342
jihillier@sasktel.net



Nancy Johns
306.946.3135
ngray@sasktel.net

STAFF



David Sefton
306.696.2975
sefton.farm@sasktel.net



Greg Sundquist
306.946.4155
gjsundquist@yourlink.ca



Wayne Thompson
Executive Director
306.664.1901
wayne@saskflax.com

FLAX COUNCIL OF CANADA APPOINTS NEW EXTENSION AGRONOMIST

New hire brings a wealth of experience and education to the position



The Flax Council of Canada (FCC) has strengthened its resources in flax production by hiring a new team member.

In her new position as Extension Agronomist, Rachel Evans's focus will be improving the yield and yield stability of

flax production through sound agronomic practices and integrated ecological solutions.

Rachel brings both academic and profession to her new role. Her strong communications skills and diverse technical background uniquely position her to work with numerous stakeholder groups to enhance partnerships, advance flax agronomy projects and strengthen the flax industry overall.

Rachel has a Master's degree in Plant Science from the University of Manitoba. Her research focused on reduced tillage management of cereal cover crops in organic dry bean production. Prior to these studies, Rachel completed a Bachelor's of Science degree in Agriculture with a major in Agroecology and a minor in Soil

Science. For the last year and half, Rachel has worked as a project manager for Native Plant Solutions, a fee-for-service division of Ducks Unlimited Canada, which constructs and installs a variety of native tall grass prairie/wetland projects throughout Canada.

During her time as a student, Rachel spent her summers working with Agriculture and Agri-food Canada. In 2013, Rachel received a Canadian International Development Agency Internship position, to investigate food security issues as they relate to maternal and child health in rural Kenya.

The FCC is excited to have Rachel as part of the team and is confident that Rachel will assist in growing the sector and bringing new opportunities to all stakeholders.

SASKATCHEWAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HIRES NEW PROVINCIAL SPECIALIST, OILSEED CROPS

New hire brings strong education, experience and passion for the industry



In January of this year, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture welcomed a new Provincial Specialist, Oilseed Crops, Barbara Ziesman.

Barb grew up near Edmonton where she later attended the University of Alberta. She has completed two Bachelor of Science degrees, the first in Biology and the second in Crop Science, and is currently wrapping up her PhD in Plant Pathology under the co-supervision of Dr. Stephen Strelkov and Dr. Kelly Turkington.

Barb has a passion for oilseed production, agronomy and pest management and looks forward to sharing this through her position with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. She can be reached at barbara.ziesman@gov.sk.ca.

AN EYE-OPENING TRIP THROUGH ASIA

Tour through China and Japan informs Canadian flax industry's knowledge of markets



A flax crusher at the Tianjin Hongyan Plant Oil Co. Ltd.

In August, a team of Canadian flax industry members participated in an eight-day tour of Asia which helped enhance the industry's knowledge of new and emerging markets and extend international relationships.

The team included Wayne Thompson, Executive Director of the Saskatchewan

Flax Development Commission (SaskFlax), Don Kerr, President of the Flax Council of Canada (FCC), Brian Johnson, FCC Chair, and Kelley Fitzpatrick, consultant to the FCC for nutrition and technical information.

The group was able to attend the China Pea & Linseed Conference in Tianjin, where they

learned about the state of flax production and market outlook for China, as well as import opportunities. Each member of the group presented on various aspects of the Canadian flax industry, and Don was able to address Chinese concerns about Canadian flax production in his production presentation, outlining how the majority of flax acres in Western Canada were not in the drought affected areas.

The group was also able to participate in various site tours in and around Tianjin of a variety of agriculture processing facilities, including a port warehouse owned by Yantai Xinzhong Trading Co. Ltd., a flax processing warehouse operated by Tianjin Hongyan Plant Oil Co. Ltd., and the Alliance Grain Traders bean processing facility in Tianjin.

The group also attended various meetings with local flax buyers and brokers, including Tianjin State Farms Agribusiness Group and registered SaskFlax buyer Export Trading Group. It also met with Kategreen, a small broker that imports peas and has imported flax.

After China, the team stopped in Tokyo, Japan, where it met with Canadian Embassy officials to discuss issues such as cyanogenic glycosides and genetically modified flax concerns in Japan. The officials were well versed in the issues but unfortunately offered no new information on when these might be resolved. The group was also able to tour the city to see various displays of flax products being promoted as health products.



Flax cleaning equipment at the Yantai Xinzhong Trading Co. Ltd. port warehouse.



Flax storage at the Kategreen facility. Employees wait to make a sale.



Flax oil on the grocery store shelf in Tokyo.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT

Please help SaskFlax by taking this quick survey

The Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission (SaskFlax) would like to have your input into what issues are most important to you as a producer. The survey can be either filled out and returned to the SaskFlax office by fax, email or mail (see instructions below) or filled out online (to fill out an online version please visit www.saskflax.com).

1. WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT FLAX BREEDING OBJECTIVES?

Please assign each objective a ranking between 1 to 7, 1 being least important and 7 being most important.

CATEGORY	RANKING <i>(from 1 to 7)</i>
Yield	
Straw management <i>(able to chop and spread)</i>	
Determinant growth <i>(stops flowering)</i>	
Oil content	
Disease resistance	
Lodging	
Consistent seed color	

Other (please specify)

2. WHAT AGRONOMIC ISSUES ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU AS A FLAX PRODUCER?

Please assign each issue a ranking between 1 to 5, 1 being least important and 5 being most important.

ISSUE	RANKING <i>(from 1 to 5)</i>
Fertilizer recommendations	
Disease control solutions	
Seeding rates	
Seeding dates	
Storage	

Other (please specify)

3. FLAX STRAW IS A DIFFICULT MANAGEMENT ISSUE AT THIS TIME. WHAT SOLUTION WOULD YOU MOST PREFER FOR THIS ISSUE?

Please assign each solution a ranking between 1 to 4, 1 being least preferred and 4 being most preferred.

SOLUTION	RANKING <i>(from 1 to 4)</i>
Burning	
Baling	
Retting over winter and spring removal for fiber processing	
Straw residue from the combine that could be left on the field	

Other (please specify)

THANK YOU! YOUR INPUT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

MAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

Please fill out the form above, tear it out, and mail it back to the SaskFlax office:
Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission
A5A – 116 – 103rd Street East,
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan,
Canada, S7N 1Y7

FAX INSTRUCTIONS:

Please fill out the form above, tear it out, and fax it to 306-664-4404.

EMAIL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please fill out the form above, scan it, and email it to saskflax@saskflax.com.

SASKFLAX REGISTERED BUYER LIST

The following companies are registered to collect the flax check-off and have agreed to have their company names included in this list.

1309497 Alberta Ltd.

OA W.A. Grain & Pulse Solutions
P.O. Box 6345
Innisfail, AB T4G 1T1
T: 306.582.2774
F: 403.227.2766
larry.bevill@wagrain.ca

ADM – Benson Quinn

A Division of ADM Agri-Industries Co.
900 - 167 Lombard Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0V3
T: 204.982.8126
Orion.roy-wright@adm.com

Archer Daniels Midland Agri-Industries

P.O. Box 820
Watson, SK S0K 4V0
T: 306.287.3100
F: 306.287.3521
admwatson@adm.com

Agricom International Inc.

213 – 828 Harbourside Drive
North Vancouver, BC V7P 3R9
T: 604.983.6922
F: 604.983.6923
info@agricom.com

AgriTel Grain Ltd.

P.O. Box 808
Beausejour, MB R0E 0C0
T: 204.268.1415
F: 204.268.3805
maudet@agritelgrain.com

Alliance Pulse Processors Inc.

6200 E Primrose Green Drive
Regina, SK S4V 3L7
T: 306.525.4490
F: 306.525.4463
buying@agtfoods.com

Bioriginal Food & Science Corp

102 Melville Street
Saskatoon, SK S7J 0R1
T: 306.975.9295
F: 306.242.3829
clynn@bioriginal.com

Broadgrain Commodities Inc.

900 – 18 King Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 1C4
T: 416.504.0070
F: 416.504.0080
brad.grabhan@broadgrain.com

C.B. Constantini Ltd.

730 – 1508 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC V6J 1W8
T: 604.669.1212
F: 604.689.4145
doug.atkinson@cbconstantini.com

Canadian Exotic Grains Ltd.

P.O. Box 444
Eston, SK S0L 1A0
T: 306.962.4751
F: 306.962.3251
info@canadianexoticgrains.com

CanMar Grain Products Ltd.

2480 Sandra Schmirler Way
Regina, SK S4W 1B7
T: 306.721.1375
F: 306.721.1378
cecil@canmargrain.com

Delmar Commodities Ltd.

P.O. Box 1055
Winkler, MB R6W 4B1
T: 204.331.3696
F: 204.331.3704
info@delmarcommodities.com

Diefenbaker Seed Processors Ltd.

P.O. Box 69
Elbow, SK S0H 1J0
T: 306.644.4704
F: 306.644.4706
melody@dspdirect.ca

ETG Commodities Inc.

6220 Shawson Drive
Mississauga, ON L5T 1J8
T: 416.900.4148
F: 416.900.4149
victor.swierad@etgworld.com

E X L Milling

P.O. Box 627
Lloydminster, SK S9V 0Y7
T: 306.825.2212
F: 306.825.2215
exlmill@ruralsurf.net

Export Packers Company Ltd.

107 Walker Drive
Brampton, ON L6T 5K5
T: 905.792.9700 Ext 4240
F: 905.792.7421
craig_murray@exportpackers.com

Farmer Direct Cooperative Ltd.

1536 Victoria Avenue
Regina, SK S4P 0P5
T: 306.352.2444
F: 306.352.2443
jason@farmerdirect.coop, luke@farmerdirect.coop

Fill-More Seeds Inc.

P.O. Box 70
Fillmore, SK S0G 1N0
T: 306.722.3353
F: 306.722.3328
info@fillmoreseeds.com

Globeways Canada Inc.

110 – 2570 Matheson Boulevard East
Mississauga, ON L4W 5A8
T: 905.712.1010
F: 647.439.1335
tanvir@globeways.com

Grain Millers Canada Corp

Box 5040
Yorkton, SK S3N 3Z4
T: 306.933.4644
F: 306.786.6733
bryce.kuhl@grainmillers.com

Grain Millers, Inc.

301 - 10400 Vicking Drive
Eden Prairie, MN
55372 U.S.A.
T: 1.800.328.5188 Ext 297
lonnie.beltz@grainmillers.com

GrainEx International Ltd.

P.O. Box 7
Sedley, SK S0G 4K0
T: 306.885.2288
F: 306.885.2039
mccoupal@sasktel.net

Iltta Grain Inc.

8427 – 160 Street
Surrey, BC V4N 0V6
T: 604.597.5060
F: 604.597.4933
ilttagrain@ilttagrain.com

JGL Commodities

P.O. Box 40
Moose Jaw, SK S6H 4N7
T: 306.374.1517
F: 306.624.2375
info@jglgrain.com

Lansing Canada ULC

Ste 400 - 10975 Benson Drive
Overland Park, KS 66210 U.S.A.
T: 1.866.351.8875
F: 913.748.4366
tross@lansingcanada.ca

Legumex Walker Canada Inc.

140 – 1500 Quebec Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7K 1V7
T: 306.986.2200
F: 306.986.3321
jackie@legumexwalker.com

Maviga N.A. Inc.

209 – 845 Broad Street
Regina, SK S4R 8G9
T: 306.721.8900
F: 306.721.8988
mary@maviga.ca

Ming Hai Inc.

203 – 2750 Faithfull Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7K 6M6
T: 306.668.8887
F: 306.242.7450
shao@mingintl.com

Mobil Grain Ltd.

P.O. Box 3192
Regina, SK S4P 3G7
T: 877.487.8347 Ext 1
F: 877.329.5432
sales@mobilgrain.com

Natural Specialty Crops Co. ULC

Box 1927
Tisdale, SK S0E 1T0
T: 306.873.4006
F: 204.480.4533
shelly.nsc@gmail.com

North American Food Ingredients Inc.

10 – 555 Hervo Street
Winnipeg, MB R3T 3L6
T: 204.272.5508
F: 204.272.5510
tom.sawatzky@nafi.ca

North East Prairie Grain

P.O. Box 3031
Tisdale, SK S0E 1T0
T: 306.873.3551
F: 306.873.3558
neprairiegrain@gmail.com

Oleet Processing Ltd.

P.O. Box 26011
Regina, SK S4R 8R7
T: 306.543.4777
F: 306.545.0661
reception@otfarms.ca

Parrish & Heimbecker Ltd.

1400 – 201 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 3K6
T: 204.956.2030
F: 204.943.8233

Paterson Global Foods Inc.

22nd Floor 333 Main Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4E2
T: 204.956.2090
F: 204.947.2386
info@patersongrain.com

Petracek Commodities Ltd.

P.O. Box 410
Churchbridge, SK S0A 0M0
T: 306.745.3829
F: 306.745.3731
psf@sasktel.net

Prairie Flax Products Inc.

P.O. Box 1057
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 3C5
T: 204.252.2940
F: 204.252.2983
info@prairieflax.com

Prime Seeds International Inc.

201 – 50 Lonsdale Avenue
North Vancouver, BC V7M 2E6
T: 604.990.2500
F: 604.990.2520
ernesto@primeseeds.com

S.S. Johnson Seeds Ltd.

P.O. Box 3000
Arborg, MB R0C 0A0
T: 204.376.5228
F: 204.376.2201
Email: info@johnsonseeds.com

Seaboard Specialty Grains & Food

2595 Quance Street East
Regina, SK S4V 2Y8
T: 306.565.3911
F: 306.565.3912
steve_foster@seaboardcorp.com

Seed-Ex Inc.

P.O. Box 238
Letellier, MB R0G 1C0
T: 204.737.2000
F: 204.737.2102
roger@seed-ex.com

Smith Seeds

P.O. Box 40
Limerick, SK S0H 2P0
T: 306.263.4944
F: 306.263.4922
ron@smithseeds.ca

Stokke Seeds

P.O. Box 1315
Watrous, SK S0K 4T0
T: 306.946.4044
F: 306.946.4069
ssc@yourlink.ca

Sunrise Foods International

2162 Airport Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7L 6M6
T: 306.931.4576
F: 306.931.6770
info@sunrisefoods.ca

TA Foods Ltd.

120 Myrtle Avenue
Yorkton, SK S3N 1R1
T: 306.782.8804
F: 306.782.8801
tafoods@sasktel.net

T.W. Commodities

Box 655
Swift Current, SK S9H 3W4
T: 306.773.9748
lisa.watson@etgworld.com

Vandaele Seeds Ltd.

Box 144
Medora, MB R0M 1K0
T: 204.665.2384
F: 204.665.2116
cal@vandaeleseeds.com

Victoria Pulse Trading Corp

600 – 850 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1E1
T: 604.733.1094
F: 604.733.1097
tala@victoriapulse.ca

Viterra Inc.

2625 Victoria Avenue
Regina, SK S4T 7T9
T: 306.569.4487
F: 306.569.4888
Contact your local Viterra Facility

Western Commodities Inc.

P.O. Box 957
Tisdale, SK S0E 1T0
T: 306.873.4401
F: 306.873.4402
rob.wct@sasktel.net

Westland Agro Ltd.

P.O. Box 551
Gravelbourg, SK S0H 1X0
T: 306.648.3273
F: 306.648.3611
jrboire@yourlink.ca

Wilde Bros Ag Trading

P.O. Box 150
Raymond, AB T0K 2S0
T: 403.752.0115
F: 306.752.0191
Wbat.jl@gmail.com

X P T Grain Inc.

2152 Rose Street
Regina, SK S4P 2A4
T: 306.525.0205
F: 306.525.0208
irene@xptgrain.ca



SaskFlax

SaskFlax was established in 1996 and represents almost 6,000 registered flax producers in Saskatchewan. Directed by flax producers, SaskFlax operates via a mandatory but refundable producer levy on flaxseed and straw. These dollars are leveraged whenever possible to execute programs ultimately geared to increase net returns to its producers members and advance Saskatchewan's flax industry.

SASKATCHEWAN FLAX DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

A5A -116 -103rd Street East,
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1Y7

Phone: 1.306.664.1901
Fax: 1.306.664.4404
Email: saskflax@saskflax.com
Web: www.saskflax.com



FLAX COUNCIL OF CANADA

FLAX COUNCIL OF CANADA

465 -167 Lombard Avenue,
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0T6

Phone: 1.204.982.2115
Fax: 1.204.982.2128
Email: flax@flaxcouncil.ca
Web: www.flaxcouncil.ca



MANITOBA FLAX GROWERS ASSOCIATION

465-167 Lombard Avenue,
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0T6

Phone: 1.204.982.3990
Fax: 1.204.982.2128
Email: mfga@mymts.net
Web: www.mfga.ca

Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to;
CANADIAN FLAX INDUSTRY UPDATE
Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission
A5A – 116 – 103rd St. E. Saskatoon, SK S7N 1Y7
Ph: 1.306.664.1901 Fax: 1.306.664.4404
E: saskflax@saskflax.com www.saskflax.com