

Report prepared for Peace River Agricultural Development Fund

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Organization(s): B.C. Grain Producers Association
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The objectives of the Research Committee are:

- Members to attend the Prairie Registration Recommending Committee for Grain (PRRCG) meeting in order to have input into grain research and varieties grown in the grain industry of Western Canada
- Members have input in the directing of funds from the Western Grain Research Foundation administration of Wheat & Barley check off to pertinent grain research.
- Direct local grain research into varieties and new crop developments specific to the area.

Committee's activities and accomplishments:

The committee includes BCGPA directors, local producers and government representation. This allows for a broad spectrum of input and experience in the crops and research conducted through the research farms.

Research committee consists of:

- Martin Moore, chair & budget subcommittee
- Maurice Fines, PRRCG wheat representative
- Gordon Hill, PRRCG barley and oats representative
- Bruce Baxter, PRRCG pulse representative, personnel subcommittee
- Garnet Berge, equipment and warehouse issues contact, budget subcommittee
- Irmie Critcher, budget and personnel subcommittees
- Garry Smolik, producer advisor & WGRF director
- Sylvan Raaen, producer advisor
- Wade Cusack, producer advisor
- Barry Critcher, producer advisor
- Clair Langlois, research manager
- Melanie Pederson, secretary & research assistant

- Kerry Clark, BCMAFF
- Harvey Glasier, BCMAFF
- James Griffith, administrative coordinator

Local Research

- Meetings and conference calls to assist with management of research & variety trials operation
- Research Consultations with various companies, breeders & research stations to set up contract work.
- Involvement of committee members in which varieties to test and new crop developments
- Consulting with industry on new potential research opportunities

Prairie Registration Recommending Committee

Maurice Fines, Bruce Baxter and Claire Langlois attended the Prairie Registration Recommending Committee for Grain (PRRCG) in Banff in February. The topics covered were:

- **INTRODUCTION**
- Building Canada's new strategy
- **VARIETY REGISTRATION IN THE BIG PICTURE**
- The road to variety registration
 - *The key steps and the role of PRRCG.*
- Time for a new game plan
 - *Public variety development needs serious change.*
- Case study: Iowa's soybean success
 - *Producer check-off support provides a critical anchor.*
- Global perspective on research funding
 - *Canada finds itself in a vulnerable position.*
- Economist's reality check
 - *A powerful economic asset needs new ideas.*
- Fuelling innovation: A keynote panel discussion
 - *How can Canada build a research strategy to remain competitive in agriculture?*
- **CROP-BY-CROP HIGHLIGHTS**
 - *Key action and lists of new crop lines recommended for registration.*
- Prairie Recommending Committee for Wheat, Rye and Triticale
- Prairie Recommending Committee for Oat and Barley
- Prairie Recommending Committee Pulse & Special Crops

- Prairie Recommending Committee for Oilseeds
- **BACKGROUND**
- Profile of new Prairie Grain Development Committee
 - *Overview of structure and mandate.*

Western Grain Research Foundation

Producer advisor, Garry Smolick is an elected representative on the Western Grain Research Foundation. The WGRF is an 18-member group of various associations to administer funds for research into wheat & barley. The board members decide on the use of the check off dollars to best benefit the Western Canadian Wheat and Barley growers.

Tasks in progress:

- Gathering information on new varieties and new breeding programs
- Contributing to recommendations for registration of grain, oilseed and pulse varieties across Canada.
- Assisting research manager in decision making processes in regards to operating of research testing
- Assessing various equipment needs and ensuring the required qualified personnel are retained.

Extension and demonstration:

- Field Crop Variety Performance 2005 books compiled and distributed.
- Early release of canola data through e-mails and preliminary reports to interested farmers and industry personnel
- Web posting of Research & Variety Trials data
- Display booth at Annual General meeting of BC Grain Producers
- Advertising through signage on plots and invite to self guided tours
- Field day with producers touring both Fort St. John and Dawson Creek Sites

Web Resources

www.bcgrain.com - BCGPA page with links to the variety trials book

www.westerngrains.com - WGRF homepage has information on projects and links to PRRCG report

Finances:

	Budget:	Actual:
Income	\$14,000	12,642.80
Expenses	\$14,000	12,642.80

Variances from original work plan, schedule or budget: 3 members of the research committee were able to attend the PRRCG annual meeting versus the 4 members that were budgeted. Claire Langlois was able to attend in the place of Gordon Hill and Martin Moore.

Summary comments, conclusions:

The ability to be involved in the decision making process of the PRRCG and the WGRF is invaluable to the long-term prosperity of the British Columbia grain producer. The ability to test the varieties at a local provincial level ensures the viability of new varieties to the British Columbia grain industry. The research committee allows us to meet these goals through the involvement with the PRRCG and the WGRF. Additionally the local research and testing of these varieties allows us to screen the varieties that are truly a benefit to the British Columbia grain producer.

Attachments:

Finances - detailed financial research project and "in kind" summary attached
2006 PRRCG Report
Pulse PRRCG member report
BCGPA 2005 Field Crop Variety performance
Investors Report WGRF
BCPGA Members Update Fall/Winter