

Report Prepared for Peace River Agricultural Development Fund

Title of Project: Crop Variety and Agronomic Research
Report Title: Annual Report
Report Covering Period: April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008
Organization(s): BC Grain Producers Association
Contact Person: Martin Moore, Committee Chair
Address: Box 161, Dawson Creek, BC, V1G 4H3
Telephone: 250-787-8784
Email: windyacres@awink.com

Objectives:

To work closely with a committee of local producers and industry representatives to improve upon and identify new research topics, techniques and varieties which will be beneficial to the Peace Region grain and oilseed industry. A member of this committee will be sent to National and Western Crop Research meetings to represent the BC Peace.

Accomplishments:

The committee is confident that the BC Grain Producers and its members are being well represented and that our voice is being heard at industry meetings through the active participation of our committee members at a variety of regional, western and national meetings.

This past year the committee has participated in:

Research meetings during the season and in November Clair and I attended reduced tillage linkages meetings in Leduc, AB.

During that same period we attended meetings in Lacombe with the Alberta Research Variety Trial (RVT) group, which included a meeting and update of the Prairie Variety Testing Program which will have funding for 2008.

In Januar Clair and I attended more reduced tillage meetings in Fairview, AB which featured Clinton Jerke, a senior seed researcher from Monsanto in Winnipeg.

In February, I travelled with Gordon Hill, Bruce Baxter and Clair to Winnipeg for Prairie Grain Development meetings. Many inroads were made at these meetings by the representatives for each crop i.e. Gordon on Barley and Bruce on Pulses. Martin returned to Winnipeg in early March to represent BCGPA as the new director for the Western Grains Research Foundation (replacing Garry Smolik).

Tasks in progress:

The committee continues to explore new varieties and research opportunities for our local trials; pursue partnerships with other entities across Canada and cooperate with other networks across Canada on monitoring of diseases, pests and weather.

Finances:	Budget	Actual
Income	\$17,750	\$17,750
Expenses	\$17,750	\$20,006.43

Variances from original work plan schedule or budget:

Summary comments, conclusions:

If we are not at these meetings our region does not get covered. Maurice Fines took years to advocate for short season wheat for our area, then we got AC Splendor, which did the trick. Now there is a new flush of breeding efforts by Dr. Gavin Humphreys and Stephen Fox to bring in even better wheat choices, all because of Maurice's legacy of pushing at meetings and paying attention to when we were being left out of the big picture. Now, as chair of the research committee I feel we must continue to bring the issues of the Peace Region to these discussions.

Currently the committee, via the research done here in the Peace, is taking similar stabs at a "Peace Pea" and "Peace Flax" and better malt barley choices. You need to keep in the know to have any influence in these areas. Networking at meetings is just part of doing business.

Attachments: Budget vs. Actual Financial statement attached
Meeting Summary for "in Kind" contribution