

INNOVATIVE FARMERS

ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO



Conference 2012

Tuesday and Wednesday
February 28 – 29, 2012
Best Western Lamplighter Inn, London, ON

**thought provoking.....
....strong focus on soil health....
A conference set up that allows you to meet with
Ontario's most innovative and progressive
farmers and learn from the experts**

Revolutionary Perennial Crop Research – Is Evergreen A Better Answer?
Jerry Glover, agricultural ecosystem researcher

How Healthy Soils Produce Healthy Plants
Gary Zimmer, Biological agriculture author/educator

Establishing and Maintaining Waterways/ Residue Management
Marian Calmer, Calmer Corn Heads

Keys to Becoming a 100% Continuous No-Tiller
Grant Troop, from the Pennsylvania “Park the Plow” program

AGRITECHNICA Insights – Puts Louisville Show To Shame!
Manfred Neunaber, editor German Profi Magazine

Conservation Tillage – Cure All or Problem for Phosphorous Loss?
Don Flaten, Crop Nutrition and Nutrient Management Specialist, University of Manitoba

Business Strategies – A Look at Successes, Failures and How Your Farm Stacks Up
Wayne Skrypnik, helping farm families and businesses adapt and succeed

An Hour of Innovation – Six Innovators Share Their Stories

Nitrogen Management Panel....Round Table Discussion Groups

Banquet followed by singer/songwriter Fred Eaglesmith

Canada



Ontario

Growing Forward



Day 1 – Tuesday, February 28, 2012

8:00 am Registration opens



9:00 am **Welcome and Conference Start – Archie Wilson, Conference Moderator**

9:10 am **Revolutionary Perennial Crop Research – Is Evergreen the Answer?
Dr. Jerry Glover, a researcher who could change the world.**

Today's global food crisis, worsened by climate change, increased food demand and widespread soil degradation, demands transformative solutions. For ten thousand years human civilizations have relied on annual crops. Soils erode, water and air darken and wildlife disappears. A growing band of scientists who are developing perennial grain crops that function more like natural plant communities envisions productive farms with clear air where rains soak in and soils thicken.



10:30 am **Establishing and Maintaining Waterways / Residue Management
Marion Calmer, CEO of Calmer Corn Heads, researcher**

Marion will explain why waterways should be your first concern. He'll discuss why they fail in no-till and conventional, how to reshape them, seed bed preparation at 90 degrees to water flow, waterway mixtures, and how to avoid damage after establishment. He'll also discuss how to manage heavy residue from continuous corn, narrow corn rows and today's tough BT corn stalks.

11:30 am **An Hour of Innovation – Part 1 of 2**

Jake Kraayenbrink – Automatic tire inflation system,
Warren Schneckenburger – 24 ft row planter,
Homer Vanderzag – No Till Potatoes

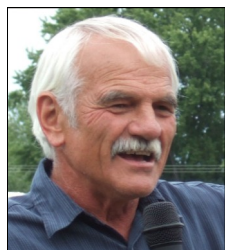


Noon Lunch

1:00 pm **Keys to Becoming a 100% Continuous No Tiller**

Grant Troop, from the Pennsylvania “Park the Plow” program

Troop will review the keys to successful high yield no-till including the crucial first step of developing soil structure with good soil aggregation and adequate pore space so plants can grow vigorously, why he thinks two zone placement starter fertilizer is important, no-till planter setups, fertility practises and cover crops.



2:00 pm **An Hour of Innovation – Part 2 of 2**

Ryan Marshall – Air carts and planters
Mike Ondrejuka – New dryer and grain handling technology
Ian MacDonald – Smart Phone applications

3:00 pm **How Healthy Soils Produce Healthy Plants for Healthy Humans**

Gary Zimmer, Biological Agriculture author and educator

The Zimmer organic farming operation uses the ideas Gary has gleaned over a lifetime spent studying agriculture based on the principles of mineralized balanced agriculture and soil as the source of nutrients. Gary operates the Bio-Ag Learning centre, where biological farming practices are field tested and an annual field day draws large crowds of ag professionals. He is the author of two books on biological farming and is heavily in demand as a speaker across the globe.



4:00 pm **Business Strategies—Successes, Failures & How your Farm Stacks Up
Wayne Skrypnik, Skrypnik Group Consulting**

Real life examples of business strategies that surround us – IBM, Tim Horton's, Walmart, Blockbuster. Why did they fail? Why are they excelling? Look at your farm business – is it positioned to execute a strategy that you have chosen or is it teetering in a risky “crisis” mode? Review strategies that farm families can use to increase prosperity and peace of mind. Break to follow before awards.



5:45 pm **BASF and IFAO Innovative Farmer of the Year Award**

6:00 pm **Banquet followed by entertainer/singer/songwriter Fred Eaglesmith**

8:30 pm **Host Bar and Networking in the Atrium**

Day 2 – Wednesday, February 29, 2012



8:00 am Innovative Farmers Association of Ontario Annual Meeting

9:00 am **AGRITECHNICA Insights – Puts Louisville to Shame!**
Manfred Neunaber, Chief Editor of Profi Magazine

Every other year Germany hosts AGRITECHNICA – the largest farm equipment show in the world. With over 400,00 visitors – this is where manufacturers converge to present their products. This is where innovations are launched, trends are set and visions are discussed. As chief editor of Profi magazine Manfred will review and highlight new agriculture technology and trends presented at the November 2011 show.



9:50 am **Conservation Tillage: Cure-All or Problem for Phosphorus Loss?**
Don Flaten, Crop Nutrition and Nutrient Management, U of Manitoba

We rarely evaluate the full scope of environmental and economic benefits of BMP's such as conservation tillage. Recent research in Manitoba shows that even though conservation tillage reduces losses of sediment and nitrogen losses to surface water, it increases losses of phosphorous in some situations and locations. Don will discuss the need to consider all the benefits, costs and risks in particular situations when evaluating the over-all environmental benefit of conservation tillage.



10:55 am **The Employee Deficit Dilemma – Recruiting and Retaining Employees**
Wes Thompson, President of Thompsons Ltd, Blenheim, Ontario

We will describe the current shortage of qualified ag employees. Then talk about the “whys” and what is being done about it. The expectations of candidates at different stages in their careers and how we can address those.



You pick 3 out of 6 from the following topics →

11:15 am **Roundtable 1**

Noon Lunch

1:00 pm **Roundtable 2**

1:45 pm **Roundtable 3**

Walk by Break



2:30 pm **Nitrogen Management Panel**

Four producers will tell us how they attempt to get various N products (manure, UAN, ESN or urea) applied at the right rate, time and place. This session will highlight practical considerations around costs, logistics, and profitability. Innovation abounds in this group so come hear what worked, what didn't, and what's next in their operations. After the presentations the audience will be invited to interact with the panelists in an open question and answer session.



3:30 pm **Conference Wrap Up – IFAO President and Conference Moderator**

CEUs Pending – CM – 5.0 / SWQ 2.0

Roundtable Discussions

An opportunity to learn in a more casual grouping with presenters. Ask questions, share your experiences. You choose 3 of these topics.

1. Marion Calmer – Grass Waterways/Residue Management
2. Gary Zimmer – Biological Health in Soils
3. Grant Troop – Continuous No Till Success
4. Manfred Neunaber – AGRITECHNICA
5. Ian MacDonald – Smartphone Applications
6. Wayne Skrypnik – Farm Business Strategies



Conference Prices

\$225 – Early Bird to Feb 3rd
\$275 from Feb 4th to 22nd
\$325 after Feb 22nd
HST is applicable

Conference registration includes all sessions, handouts, banquet, entertainment, lunches and breakfast.

Call 519-986-3560 for single day and banquet only options.

Register on-line at www.ifao.com

or phone 519-986-3560

Hotel Information

Best Western Lamplighter Inn
591 Wellington Road South
London, Ontario

Rooms are reserved at a special conference rate of \$119 (plus tax) until February 1st

To reserve a room call
1-888-232-6747 or
519-681-7151

The Innovative Farmers Association of Ontario is committed to soil health and bringing you information on innovative farming practices and technology used successfully around the world.

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