


RESEARCH SUMMARY

	Project Title: Manitoba Corn Initiative- Corn End Uses	
	Date: Feb 28, 2015	
	Project Start Date: Apr 1/14	Project End Date: Mar 31/18
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OBJECTIVE:

1. Establish current potential end uses of Corn in North America.

Research associates (supervised by Brewin) at the University of Manitoba will review public sources for current end uses in North America and identify the size and location of the demand for each use relative to Manitoba's Corn Growers. This Objective has been the focus of the work so far and results have been presented at a CAES policy Conference. The bulk of funds spent this year were on student research on this section.

2. Review current breeding targets.

The research associates will meet with current corn breeders to see what kind of criteria they are targeting in corn bred for northern regions (This may require travel to Ontario and the US).

3. Synthesis end uses, breeding targets and supply and demand trends.

The research associates will review public sources for reported trends in corn and coarse grain consumption and identify any opportunities or threats to the demand for Corn grown in Manitoba. This will be presented to the Manitoba Corn Growers Association in a final report and perhaps at a relevant conference if travels funds are not exhausted in part 2. Budgets of the needs for livestock, ethanol and other needs in Manitoba have been started.

SUMMARY:

Various breeding programs are looking at improving yield and reducing disease losses for corn planted in Manitoba. In 2002, Darryl Kraft and James Rude showed that Manitoba was in a feed deficit and that further demand would likely lead to corn imports. Corn imports from the US into Manitoba are now a regular occurrence, so it is expected that most yield gains in Corn grown in Manitoba would be used for livestock feed. However, as new corn varieties move further north, Manitoba's feed deficit may be turned into a surplus and Manitoba's corn producers should be considering a range of possible end uses. This project will attempt to analyse current corn end uses in North America, look for trends in demand and supply in these markets and project likely markets for Manitoba's long run corn supply.

BENEFITS TO CORN GROWERS:

By looking at the forecasts for corn use in Manitoba and breeding focuses, corn growers can be better prepared in terms of rotation agronomy and varietal development for future markets.

COMMUNICATION:

An interim report of demand trends was shared with the MCGA. These trends were also presented at the Annual CAES policy conference in Ottawa.



This project was funded in part by the Canada and Manitoba governments through Growing Forward 2, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.