

# Manitoba Corn Growers Association, Inc

NEWSLETTER

June / July 2018

## In this Issue:

From the Office	1
Commodity Groups Renew Commit- ment to Explore Working Together	2
Manitoba Corn Committee Update	2
Report from MCGA's Field Agronomist	3
Crops-a-Palooza	4

**Note: The MCGA  
Office will be closed  
Monday, July 2**



**Manitoba Corn Growers  
Association**

**Box 188 38-4th Avenue NE  
Carman, Manitoba R0G 0J0**

**Phone: 204-745-6661  
Toll Free Ph: 1-877-598-5685  
Fax: 204-745-6122  
Toll Free Fax: 1-877-598-5686  
Web Site:**

[www.manitobacorn.ca](http://www.manitobacorn.ca)

[Follow us on Twitter](#)

## From the Office

There has been lots of activity in the MCGA office by both directors and staff as we continue moving forward on key initiatives.

***On May 1, the MCGA was one of five organizations who signed a second Memorandum of Understanding.*** More information is available on Page 2 on the plans going forward. The MCGA welcomes feedback throughout the process and we encourage input from our membership.

Therefore, please don't hesitate to contact any of the MCGA directors or myself.

***MCGA's Field Agronomist Morgan Cott released her first Field Production Report for the 2018 growing season in early May.***

It's not too late to sign up for her bi-weekly reports! Read more about her activities on page 3. Morgan has also been busy working with other commodity organizations to plan [Crops-a-Palooza](#) and [CropConnect 2019](#).

If you haven't heard, we were excited to announce that **RICK MERCER** will be the banquet speaker at [#CropConnect19](#)! So mark you calendars and save the dates of February 13 & 14, 2019!



*Picture taken by Morgan Cott, MCGA's Field Agronomist in May 2018*

***On the research front,*** Lori-Ann Kaminski, MCGA's Research Manager, has been busy securing and exploring research funding through Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) Cluster Program with our involvement in the Canadian Field Crop Research Alliance (CFCRA) and the recently announced Ag Action Manitoba Program for Industry Organizations. Look for updates on our website and in future newsletters.

### ***New Corn Production Manual Coming!***

Morgan Cott and Anne Kirk with Manitoba Agriculture have been leading revisions and updates to the Corn Production Manual. The manual was last revised in 2013.

*Continued on page 4.*

## **ADVANCE PAYMENTS PROGRAM (APP) UPDATE**

As seeding comes to an end, remember to call the Manitoba Corn Growers Association office for fast, friendly and personalized service for your cash advance needs on grains and oilseed crops. The APP forms are available online at [www.manitobacorn.ca](http://www.manitobacorn.ca).

Please don't hesitate to contact Tammy or Jackie at the MCGA Office at 204-745-6661 as they are willing to answer any questions you may have on the Advance Payments Program.

***A reminder that Seeded Acreage Reports and Final Pre-Production Worksheets must be completed and submitted to the office by July 31, 2018.***

## Commodity Groups Renew Commitment to Explore Working Together



Five grower organizations have signed a second Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), with a renewed and focused commitment to delivering more value to Manitoba farmers through working together. Manitoba Corn Growers Association (MCGA), Manitoba Pulse & Soybean Growers Association (MPSG), Manitoba Flax Growers Association (MFGA), National Sunflower Association of Canada (NSAC) and the Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association (MWBGA) signed the MOU Tuesday, May 1st.

It is the mandate of the steering committee to identify and explore opportunities that will benefit the various memberships, such as how working together could increase research and agronomy services for farmers, as well as enhance capacity to leverage grower investment dollars. The group is similarly committed to entertaining other collaborative options, including models that don't include legal amalgamation.

Manitoba farmers who grow the crops represented in this MOU are encouraged to get involved and have their voices heard by reaching out to one of the participating commodity groups or by contacting process facilitator Rob Hannam: [rob@mbcrops.ca](mailto:rob@mbcrops.ca). For additional information, visit [mbcrops.ca](http://mbcrops.ca).

## Manitoba Corn Committee (MCC) Update

*Submitted by Daryl Rex, Research Agronomist NSAC*

For 2018, over 15 companies have sponsored entries into the MCC grain and silage trials at 8 locations in Manitoba. There are 7 locations for grain corn with over 75 hybrids being tested. There is a lot of interest in the mid season zone, with over 60 hybrids being tested. In the short season zones, the trials reached their limits at 30 entries. The test locations are: long season – Carman & Morden; mid season – MacGregor & St. Pierre; short season – LaSalle, Warren & Melita. For the silage corn there are the 3 core sites: Elm Creek, St. Pierre and Arborg. In the long season zone, there is over 60 hybrids entered; and over 25 hybrids at the Arborg location.



It has been a dry one in southern Manitoba! I think the dust is still settling down in some areas as there has been some rain. By the time that you are reading this update, all the MCC trials will have been planted.

Below are some of the planting dates for the trials:

- ⇒ May 4 – LaSalle (grain corn)
- ⇒ May 9 – MacGregor (grain corn)
- ⇒ May 10 – Morden (grain corn); Elm Creek (silage corn)
- ⇒ May 11 – St. Pierre (grain & silage corn)
- ⇒ May 15 – Carman (grain corn)
- ⇒ May 16 – Melita (grain corn)

The Warren and Arborg locations are planned to be seeded the week of May 21.

## Report from MCGA's Field Agronomist

Emergence has been very uneven this spring as a result of soil conditions (both moisture and temperature fluctuations). This makes scouting for pests tricky at this time of year because the easiest way to spot, let's say, a cutworm issue is to find areas with either clipped plants or none at all. When I find a bare patch in the field, I start digging to look for the culprit, be it an insect, germination issue, fertilizer toxicity, or something else. As a result of the uneven emergence, we could be scratching around for missing plants all day long. My advice in this situation, is to trust your instinct and also keep a close eye out for clipped plants and leaf feeding. If the tissue has a fresh injury, start digging for cutworms. If the damage isn't fresh and lesions are starting to turn brown or hard, keep looking close by to see if that cutworm may be further down the seed row. Cutworm identification and threshold details are available at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/insects/cutworms-field-crops.html>. For corn, John Gavloski, Entomologist with Manitoba Agriculture, states that the economic threshold for insecticide applications is "when 3-6% of plants are cut and small larvae, less than 1 inch, are present".



Herbicide applications are either already occurring, or are right around the corner. Every year, without fail, we question staging if we are including a tankmix partner to a glyphosate application. There are three common staging methods for corn and they all yield different results, so it is extremely important to know what method is being used with that tankmix partner. Chemical companies can use different methods for staging, so please **check labels and don't be afraid to ask** your chem rep for that information! See my Field Production Report from May 28th for more details on staging at <http://manitobacorn.ca/2018-field-production-report/>.

I mentioned the Field Production Report a couple of times here, and I am still looking for grain corn and sunflower fields across the province to include in my bi-weekly surveillance survey. Please sign your fields up on our [website](#) if you're interested in having another set of eyes on your crop. Also, if you want to receive the bi-weekly production report, you can sign up for that on [manitobacorn.ca](http://manitobacorn.ca). I keep it short and sweet with timely information and references corn producers will be interested in.

Enjoy [#spray18](#) and contact your commodity specialist if there is anything we can help you with!

[www.manitobacorn.ca](http://www.manitobacorn.ca)

[www.canadasunflower.com](http://www.canadasunflower.com)

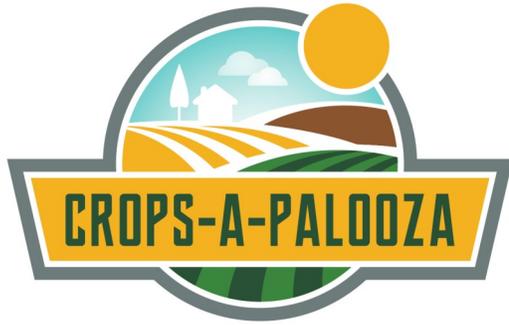
**Morgan Cott**

Field Agronomist, MCGA, (204) 750-2489



[morgan@manitobacorn.ca](mailto:morgan@manitobacorn.ca)

**Summer field tours are being planned to showcase some of the great MCGA-funded projects. Visit [www.manitobacorn.ca](http://www.manitobacorn.ca) and follow us on Twitter ([@MbCornGrowers](#)) for updates of tour dates and locations!**



~July 25th at AAFC Portage~

A collaborative event between Manitoba Producer Groups, AAFC and Canola Council of Canada.

Register at [CROPS-A-PALOOZA 2018](#)

CROPS-A-PALOOZA is a one day, hands on, free, in-field learning interactive event that brings together the best research and agronomy extension professionals and farmers to learn how to grow the best crops.

*Here is a sample of the 16 stations that attendees will be able to explore:*

- **Crop Rotation: Managing Crop Diseases and Saving You Money** - Holly Derksen (Manitoba Agriculture), Dan Orchard & Clint Jurke (Canola Council of Canada)
- **Rotational Aspects for Weed Management** - Ian Epp (Canola Council of Canada) and Rob Gulden (University of Manitoba)
- **Pollinators, Predators and Prey** - John Gavloski (Manitoba Agriculture), Meagan Vankosky (AAFC Saskatoon) and Jordan Bannerman (University of Manitoba)
- **Power of Nitrogen** - John Heard (Manitoba Agriculture), Amy Mangin, Megan Bourns and Kristen MacMillan (University of Manitoba) and Ray Dowbenko (Nutrien)
- **Soils: Tillage Erosion** - Curtis Cavers (AAFC Portage) and Marla Riekman (Manitoba Agriculture)
- **Precision Ag Seeding** - Autumn Barnes (Canola Council of Canada) and Lorne Grieger (PAMI)

Participants will be given a site map and encouraged to explore the stations at their own pace. Music, games, and delicious lunch options give this event a fun carnival atmosphere. Please be sure to wear *appropriate footwear based on the weather and cash to enjoy a variety of lunch food vendors.*

---

### **From the Office.....continued**

Recent research in corn production in Manitoba has yielded results on important agronomic issues including crop rotation, residue management/strip tillage, phosphorus fertilization, corn row spacing, improvements to the corn heat unit systems, Goss's Wilt management, fertilizer use patterns, and nitrogen fertilizer management strategies for modern corn hybrids in Manitoba.

Updating of resources has been identified by MCGA directors as critical in order to ensure the results of this significant funding provided to MCGA are delivered to our membership to use in their operations. It is anticipated printed copies will be available August 2018, and it will also be available on our website. We are exploring other resource material, such as a pocket guide and fact sheets, all aimed to provide current agronomic best management practices specific to crop rotations, soil types, and the environmental conditions of Manitoba to enhance the success of both current and new corn growers.

On behalf of the MCGA board of directors and staff, wishing our membership a safe and prosperous 2018 growing season.

Until next time,

***Pam de Rocquigny***

