2019 Western Canadian Wheat Grain Farming in Canada

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What I Will Talk About

- Show you my farm
- How I choose the crops I grow
- The strong sustainability outcomes my farm delivers
  - Clean air
  - Clean water
  - Clean land
- What I am doing to deliver high quality safe wheat to you
  - Pesticide management
  - Harvest and storage practices
  - Limiting mycotoxins
  - Keep it Clean program
Wheat Grown in Canada

Canada
Spring wheat area, 2011

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture by census division, 2011.
My Farm

www.CanadianWheat.ca
My Farm
My Farm
My Farm
How I make my Cropping Decisions
Factors that Influence Crop Selection

1. Profitability

- All Canadian farms are independent businesses.
- Governments in Canada have no involvement in directing farmers cropping decisions.
- Profitability of the farm in both the short-term and long-term drive cropping decisions.
Factors that Influence Crop Selection

2. Soil and Plant Health

- Long term profitability depends upon maintaining healthy soil, water and plants.
- Rotating crops grown in any one field is the key tool I use to limit plant disease pressures, improve soil conditions and deliver on my land stewardship priorities.
Factors that Influence Crop Selection

3. Specific Variety Choices

- Price potential is a key driver along with yield potential.
- Disease and insect resistance along with other agronomic traits such as strong straw are important.
- Based on potential premium for quality, factors like protein content also come into play.
Proud to be a Sustainable Producer
A Sustainable Future

- Modern farming practices such as:
  - Reduced tillage (less intensity and less summerfallow)
  - Use of cover crops that add organic matter to the soil
  - Improved crop residue management
  - Crop rotations including forages and cereals

- Have resulted in:
  - Less soil erosion
  - Improved soil organic carbon levels
  - Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
  - Less energy used in crop production/tonne
Soil Organic Carbon Change per Hectare of Agricultural Land, Prairies
Soil Organic Carbon Change

Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Reducing Soil Erosion

Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Delivering Quality Best Management Practices Minimizing Residues and Mycotoxins
Quality Control in the Growing Season

Reducing Plant Competition

- Pesticide applications allow plants to use soil nutrients and moisture most efficiently to maximize quality and yield.
- Following science based pesticide labels minimizes potential for residues.
Quality Control in the Growing Season

Monitoring Plant Disease and Insect Pressure
- Protects the wheat crop from yield and quality loss.

Crop Rotation
- Reduces pesticide use through sustainable crop diversification.
- In combination with proper use of crop inputs allows the minimum and most efficient use of nutrients.
Quality Control at Harvest

- Improves quality.
- Reduces work time, field passes, emissions and harvest costs.

Timing

- Kernel moisture content.

Nutrient Return

- Straw choppers and spreaders allow faster plant nutrient return to the soil for future crop uptake.
Quality Control in Storage

On-farm Storage Capacity
- Ability to store the entire years harvest and in many cases more.

Aeration
- Maintains quality by cooling grain and lowering kernel moisture content.

Good Storage Practices
- Minimizes opportunities for mycotoxins and pests.
Quality Control in Storage
Quality Control in Storage
Keep it Clean
Cereals Program
Keep it Clean
Cereals Program

- Managed by Cereals Canada.
- Tied directly to science based analysis of market risks potential of residues and mycotoxins.
- Communications aimed at producers with a focus on:
  - Potential market concerns arising from asynchronous approvals.
  - Addressing increased public scrutiny of crop input products.
  - Best production practices to limit Deoxynivalenol (DON) and other field crop diseases.
  - Best storage practices to limit Ochratoxin A (OTA) and other potential storage problems.
What You Say Matters

- Customer Feedback is Important.
- Canadian regulations have been changed as a result of your input.
- Cereals Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada leading research priority setting work.
  - Linking customer demands – today and into the future – is a key component of the work.
  - Consistently Deliver on Customers’ Quality Needs one of the top five research priorities for Canada.
  - Continuous improvement in Food Safety one of the top five research priorities for Canada.
CanadianWheat.ca