



# ONTARIO SOYBEAN GROWERS

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## Soybean Report

October 2007

### MESSAGE FROM OSG GENERAL MANAGER

#### Open Letter to Ontario Soybean Growers;



Dale Petrie,  
OSG General Manager

It is with pleasure that I write this letter as the new General Manager for the Ontario Soybean Growers. I look forward to working with all Soybean Growers, Board Members, Industry, Government and staff in this very dynamic and important crop sector.

I was born and raised on a dairy / cash crop farm in the heart of Glengarry county in the very eastern corner of the province but have resided in Chatham-Kent for the last 25 years. My brother and father continue to grow corn and soybeans and represent the 4th the 5th generation of Petrie's on the family farm. My background has been primarily in the seed industry and I have had the privilege of visiting many farm operations from one end of the province to the other. I look forward to renewing these friendships and acquaintances at the upcoming regional meetings in early 2008.

In the few short weeks that I have been with OSG, I have been very impressed with the talented, dedicated and hard working members of the OSG Board of Directors and the staff. They are all truly focussed on ensuring we continue to look for exciting opportunities such as new export food grade markets, biodiesel, and other new industrial uses for Ontario soybeans.

I look forward to joining OSG's efforts directed at both levels of government to address much-needed support mechanisms for producers, and to grow the soybean value chain – with special emphasis on flowing benefits back to producers.

As you are aware there are a number of changes afoot with respect to the grain grower organizations in the province and I assure you I will do my utmost to ensure decisions that are made, are in the best interest of growers and for the overall good of the agricultural industry.

I look forward to working for this organization and representing the growers that make up the Ontario Soybean Growers.

Dale Petrie  
OSG General Manager

### FARMERS FEED CITIES! REACHES FOR THE SKIES

Farm families hoping to make a stronger connection with non-farmers are taking their quest to the skies this September, with a yellow hot air balloon reminding everyone that Farmers Feed Cities!

The balloon is part of the Harvest balloon tour, a unique partnership between agricultural awareness campaign Farmers Feed Cities! and agricultural business Hyland Seeds.

"We were thrilled to be approached by Hyland to participate in this project," says Leo Guilbeault, Chair of Ontario Grains & Oilseeds. "It means a lot to farmers to have the support of agriculture

businesses behind us when we take our message to the urban public."

Farmers Feed Cities! aims to emphasize the positive economic, environmental, recreational and health benefits farm families have on all Ontarians. "At Hyland we wanted to give back to agriculture and help promote the hardworking farm families who grow food in Ontario, and the Farmers Feed Cities! campaign was a perfect fit," says John Cowan, General Manager of Hyland Seeds.

The Harvest balloon tour officially launched Sept 12 in Woodstock at the Canadian Outdoor Farm Show. The balloon will be travelling across the province while farmers harvest their crops in the coming weeks. The goal is to have as much airtime over cities as possible.

Visit [www.harvestballoon.com](http://www.harvestballoon.com) for more details about the Harvest Balloon's tour locations.

### AGRICORP IS MAILING RMP APPLICATIONS

Applications for the Ontario Risk Management Program (RMP) for grain and oilseed producers are now available. During the week of September 24, 2007, Agricornp mailed more than 20,000 personalized applications and handbooks to grain and oilseed producers already on file. Any producers who don't receive a personalized application by October 15, 2007 are asked to call Agricornp at 1-888-247-4999 to request one.

Applying is easy. Producers only need to review the information provided on the application, change or add information as necessary, and sign the form before submitting. The sooner producers submit their complete applications, the sooner Agricornp can begin issuing payments, targeted for December.

Agricornp continues to collaborate with industry and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs in delivering RMP. "This is a tremendous step forward," said Leo Guilbeault, Chair of the Ontario Grains and Oilseeds Safety Net Committee. "I am delighted by how closely Agricornp is working with us to get applications in the mail within a month of the announcement. RMP will help us find some stability in the next few years."

Announced by the Ontario government on August 22, 2007, the Risk Management Program will help grain and oilseed producers offset losses from low commodity prices. It was designed in consultation with Ontario Grain and Oilseed Safety Net Committee and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

#### To participate in the Risk Management Program, you must:

- Participate in both the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS) program and Production Insurance (PI) for all three years of the pilot program. The requirement to participate in PI will be waived for the 2007 crop year because the enrolment deadlines have already passed. The PI requirement will also be waived for any year in which no PI plan exists for a grain and oilseed crop grown on your farm.
- Grow at least one of the grain and oilseed crops
- Enrol all of your grain and oilseed crops for all three crop years in RMP. RMP premiums will be waived in 2007.
- Submit your application to Agricornp by November 15, 2007 or earlier.

For more information about RMP, please call Agricornp toll-free at 1-888-247-4999, Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., or visit [www.agricorp.com](http://www.agricorp.com)



