

IMPROVE LIFE.

Ontario's Agricultural Research Stations



A vital bridge for agri-food innovation

Innovation fuels economic development, job creation, and trade across the agri-food sector. A world-class network of field stations, managed by the University of Guelph, powers this innovation in the Province of Ontario.

Cutting-edge research is field-tested at a highly developed network of research stations committed to the competitiveness and prosperity of the province's \$37-billion-plus agri-food sector.

These research stations, owned by the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario and administered by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, are operated and managed by the University of Guelph through the OMAFRA-U of G Agreement.

In total, there are almost two dozen facilities within the research stations, each supporting a different globally competitive platform. Several

of the stations have the capacity for integrated agronomy and livestock trials, to enable multi-disciplinary research.

Extensive new infrastructure is either complete or underway in this network. These include a \$15-million investment in the beef research facility and a \$25-million investment in the dairy research facility, both part of the Elora Research Station. The poultry facility in the Arkell Research Station has also undergone renovations to improve animal welfare by incorporating non-caged and enriched caging systems.

The real-world field tests conducted at these research stations promote agri-food discoveries, validate laboratory findings, stimulate further research and provide valuable information for Ontario's agri-food sector.

research



Alma Aquaculture Research Station

With 10 buildings and training programs from high-school to graduate levels, Alma has supported more than 200 projects on aquatic livestock, water delivery systems, genetics, animal welfare and nutrition.

PHOTO: ALMA AQUACULTURE RESEARCH STATION

Cedar Springs Research Station

At the Cedar Springs station, research focuses on fruit crop trials, including apples, grapes and berry varieties. This 12-hectare horticultural crop station has led the field in studies of apple performance under stress. This research station is affiliated with Ridgetown Campus.

Emo Agriculture Research Station

Emo's clay loam soil is used for developing field crops suited for cultivation in northern Ontario. Research projects focus on cultivar evaluation, renewable fuel, fibre crops, crop nutrition and new species evaluation.

Guelph Research Station

Focusing on environmental sustainability, this 120-hectare station focuses on turfgrass, pesticide impact, non-chemical pest control, planting methods and field management programs.

Huron Research Station

This field crop station has 50 hectares of cultivated land for research in weed management trials, and agronomic studies of dry bean and soybean. This research station is affiliated with Ridgetown Campus.

Muck Crops Research Station

Located in the Bradford/Holland marsh, this station has four hectares of muck soil plots on site containing 60–70 per cent organic matter, and two hectares of mineral soil nearby. Research involves developing new varieties and pest management techniques for onions, carrots, lettuce, celery and Asian vegetables.

New Liskeard Research Station

This 295-hectare, multi-unit station focuses on northern agronomy and horticulture, beef research, and includes a clean-plant propagation facility supporting the production of potato and other horticultural crops. A new field crop research service building is to be constructed on site.



Elora Research Station

This multi-purpose station contains state-of-the-art beef and dairy facilities, as well as 130 hectares of tile drained land for field crop research. Novel precision agriculture tools improve and better utilize housing, grazing, robotic milking systems and automated feeding.

PHOTO: BEEF FARMERS OF ONTARIO

Ponsonby Research Station

This bio-secure facility contains a flock of specific pathogen-free sheep that provide unique research opportunities. Other livestock on site include swine, beef and dairy cows and research ranging from genetics to environment. Ponsonby provides temporary housing for animals from other research locations when needed.

Ridgetown Campus

Research here is conducted on campus and at the associated Cedar Springs and Huron Research facilities, on 240 hectares of land in total. Research focuses on crop production, pest management, production, business and economics.



Arkell Research Station

The Arkell station features three research units dedicated to equine, poultry and swine studies. Each unit focuses on research about housing, reproduction, genetics and behaviour. PHOTO: MIDO MELEBARI

Vineland Research and Innovation Centre

At Vineland, research is dedicated to horticultural science and innovation. With a total of 90 hectares, this world-class facility contributes to advancements in applied genomics, consumer insights and production systems.

Winchester Agriculture Research Station

The Winchester station supports research that benefits eastern Ontario. Projects investigate soil and water quality, climate change, nutrient availability and weed management. This station is located on clay loam soil. A new field crop research service building is under construction at the site.

Woodstock Research Station

With 150 hectares of land, the Woodstock station focuses on plant breeding in corn, soybean, white bean and cereal crops. Research includes plant breeding, biotechnology, plant physiology, weed control and land management.



Simcoe Research Station

The Simcoe Research Station consists of nearly 90 hectares of land for research into fruits, vegetables and alternative crops — such as quinoa, hops and hazelnut — that thrive in the unique, highly productive sandy soils north of Lake Erie.

PHOTO: MIDO MELEBARI

Ontario's agricultural research stations

Research stations and the infrastructure that supports them are vital for a wide range of innovative studies, and offer a platform for extension and teaching demonstrations. These research facilities, owned by the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario and administered by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, are operated and managed by the University of Guelph through the OMAFRA-U of G Agreement.

Research Stations

1	Alma	
2	Arkeil	
3	Bradford	
4	Cedar Springs	
5	Elora	
6	Emo	
7	Guelph Research Station	
8	Huron	
9	New Liskeard	
10	Ponsonby	
11	Ridgetown	
12	Simcoe	
13	Vineland*	
14	Winchester	
15	Woodstock	



Research Station Focus

	aquaculture		horticulture crops
	beef		vegetables
	biomass crops		poultry
	dairy		sheep
	equine		swine
	field crops		turfgrass
	general animal facility		

* The Vineland Station is operated by Vineland Research & Innovation Centre with support from the OMAFRA-U of G Agreement.