



For Immediate Release

**Water Adaptation Management and Quality Initiative (WAMQI)
28 Applied Research Projects funded under WAMQI**

April 8, 2014 (Guelph) – A total of 28 projects have been selected by a review committee from 43 eligible applications for funding of approximately \$1.5 million from the Water Adaptation Management and Quality Initiative (WAMQI) over the coming year.

Funding is provided through Growing Forward 2 (GF2), a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. The program is administered by Farm & Food Care Ontario.

This applied research and demonstration program will encourage demonstration and pilot projects that showcase innovative technologies and solutions for agricultural water conservation and efficiency. The initiative will also support projects that demonstrate efficient use of nutrients and nutrient management related to water quality. Projects have been chosen that support farm water quality and water quantity objectives and that will benefit Ontario agricultural producers and organizations.

Bruce Kelly, Environmental Program Lead at Farm & Food Care Ontario said that he was pleased with the scope and diversity of the applications submitted this year. Said Kelly, “WAMQI builds on the successful Water Resource Adaptation and Management Initiative last year and will further our efforts to improve agricultural water use efficiency and better our understanding of managing agricultural nutrients.”

Successful WAMQI applicants and projects approved for funding include:

Applicant	Project Title
University of Guelph	Improving irrigation scheduling and nitrogen management in sweet potato production
ENPAR Technologies Inc.	Process water recycle and reuse circuit for the Ontario greenhouse industry using ENPAR's ESD capacitive deionization technology

University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus	Cornell soil health assessment as a possible soil quality standard for Ontario
University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus	Legume cover crops – Minimizing Nitrogen loss in the fall and supplying N in the next season
University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus	Nitrogen use efficiency in two Ontario legume crops
University of Guelph, Simcoe Research Station	Subsurface drip irrigation to enhance water use efficiency and reduce impact of applied nutrients on water quality in corn production in southern Ontario
The Soil Resource Group	Evaluation of denitrification bioreactors and constructed wetlands under Ontario conditions (continuation of 2013 WRAMI project)
PhytoServ	Outdoor container nursery production water use efficiency and Best Practices benchmarking study (continuation of 2013 WRAMI project)
Livestock Research Innovation Corporation	Dairy Water Use Efficiency (WUE) demonstration videos
Middlesex Soil and Crop Improvement Association	Evaluating Green Seeker and the Kentucky Algorithm for predicting nitrogen requirements in wheat
Flowers Canada	Optimizing Molybdenum levels in sub-irrigation floriculture systems
Flowers Canada	Assessment and management of horticultural storm water discharges
Ontario Potato Board	Variable rate irrigation on potatoes
Algonquin College of Applied Arts and Technology	Visualizing and quantifying sources of nutrients in the agriculturally-dependent Muskrat River watershed
Ontario Pork	Establishing cover crops in growing corn and small grain crops
University of Windsor	Advanced oxidation processes for treatment of organics in recirculated greenhouse nutrient feed water

Brant County Federation of Agriculture	Whitemans Creek water conservation and drought contingency planning
Ontario Tender Fruit Producers' Marketing Board (Apples, Grapes)	Improvement of irrigation efficiency in orchards and vineyards in Ontario
Ontario Rural Wastewater Centre	Demonstration and evaluation of pond/wetland/vegetated filter systems to treat beef manure pile and outdoor confinement area runoff
Ontario Potato Board	New technology water management for Ontario potato production
Nursery Sod Growers Association of Ontario	Advancing sustainable water management for Ontario sod production
University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus	Use of ground covers and remote soil moisture monitoring equipment to maximize water use efficiency in peach orchards (continuation of 2013 WRAMI project)
University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus	Use of ground covers and irrigation to manage soil moisture in Ontario apple orchards, specifically targeting Bitterpit in Honeycrisp apples
University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus	Evaluation of land application of greenhouse wastewater in field vegetable production
FieldTRAKS Solutions Inc.	A mobile mapping technology application for smart soil sampling (triple-S) on Ontario farmland
Aquanty Inc.	A modeling-based protocol for minimizing non-growing season nutrient losses from fall liquid manure applications through the use of controlled tile drainage.
Phytoserv	Improving uniformity of overhead irrigation systems to reduce water use and maximize the retention of nutrients in container grown nursery crops
The Soil Resource Group	Field and edge of field water quality runoff monitoring of BMPs including cover crop, vegetated buffer and reduced tillage

About Farm & Food Care: Farm & Food Care Ontario represents thousands of farmers and related businesses with a mandate to provide credible information on food and farming in Ontario.

For further information on the program or for more information on any project contact: Bruce Kelly, Environmental Program Lead, Farm & Food Care Ontario, 519-837-1326, extension 292; bruce@farmfoodcare.org