

Agriculture Opportunity Fund

Promoting the long term sustainability of Alberta's agriculture industry and our rural communities.

2015-16 Year in Review

The Agriculture Opportunity Fund (AOF) provided \$1.95 million in funding to 13 partner organizations to deliver agriculture extension and research programs. These partners have reported the estimated economic impact of this investment at \$250 million. Some of the impacts and partner activities as reported are summarized below.

KNOWLEDGE EXTENSION AND INFORMATION SHARING

- **10,052** producers attended **224** extension events
- **1016** producers attended **seven** conferences
- **941** one-on-one consultations
- **64** newsletter issues published
- Agriculture production information extended to over **50, 910** producers farming over **42,042,122** acres
- One peer-reviewed scientific paper published and **four** more submitted
- **120,079** web hits on partner websites
- **36** AOF partner board members participated in board governance training
- **1077** producers attended **35** field schools
- **142** workshops delivered
- **50** media interviews

REGIONAL APPLIED RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION

- **203** applied research projects
- **128** demonstrations of new technologies
- **Nine** partner organizations collected data in **183** sites for the Provincial Pest Monitoring Program
- **13** of 24 Regional Variety Testing sites in Alberta were delivered by AOF partners with final data provided for the 2015 Alberta Seed Guide

INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT, COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY PROGRAMS

- **119** Agriculture and Forestry staff and **332** other specialists collaborated with nine Applied Research Associations, four Forage Associations and the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta
- partnered with **54** rural counties and municipal districts to deliver agriculture production extension

Agriculture Opportunity Fund 2015-15 Year in Review

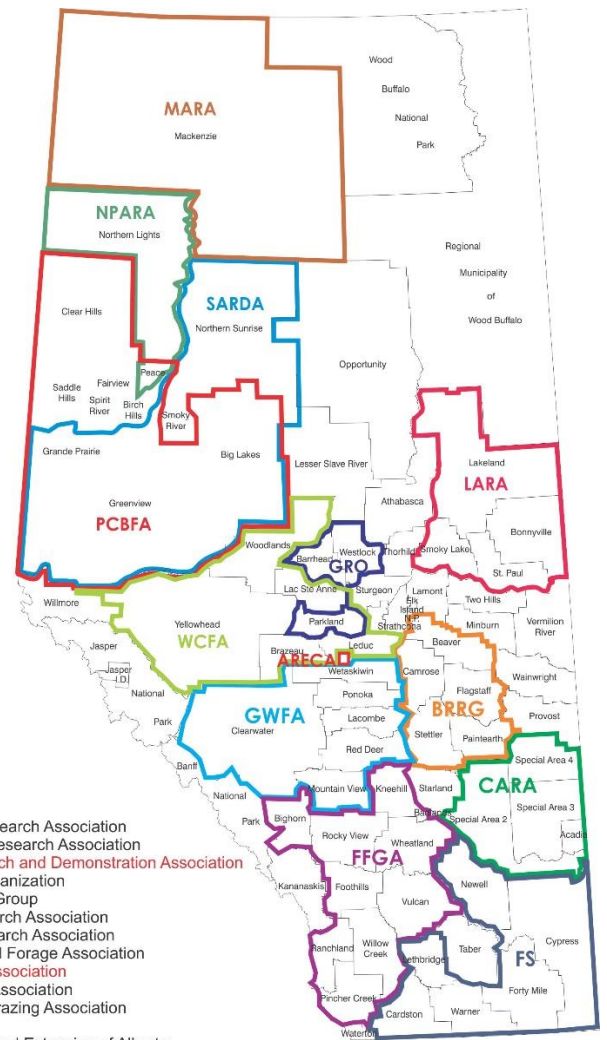
AGRICULTURE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

- **Eight** partners worked with **25** rural counties and municipal districts to deliver environmental extension programs
- **58** Growing Forward 2 supported workshops
- **24** Environmental Farm Plan workshops
- **37** Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Program projects

AGRICULTURE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

- Delivered **12** 4-H educational events
- Organized **six** agricultural tradeshow or fairs
- Employed **67** staff employed
- Received **21** staff speaking requests

AOF Partnership Map



MARA - Mackenzie Applied Research Association
 NPARA - North Peace Applied Research Association
 SARDA - Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association
 GRO - Gateway Research Organization
 BRRG - Battle River Research Group
 CARA - Chinook Applied Research Association
 LARA - Lakeland Applied Research Association
 PCBFA - Peace County Beef and Forage Association
 WCFA - West Central Forage Association
 GWFA - Gray Wooded Forage Association
 FGFA - Foothills Forage and Grazing Association
 FS - Farming Smarter
 ARECA - Agricultural Research and Extension of Alberta