

SUMMER FARM DAY & TOUR

Aug. 14-15, 2026
Huron County, Ontario

Full Program Booklet

Turning Research into Results: Evidence from the Fields

Photo: Huronview Demo Farm



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FARM DAY AGENDA

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 2026

Time	Activity
8:45 am	Registration, Visit Exhibitor Booths, & Coffee
9:10 am	Welcome & Opening Remarks: John Poel , First Vice President, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association Horst Bohner , Soybean Specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agri-Business
9:30 am	ON-SITE TOUR: Rick Kootstra – Kootstra Farms Ltd. a local poultry/grain producer and Farm Manager of Huronview Demo Farm Mari Veliz – Healthy Watersheds Manager, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Jake Munroe – Soil Management Specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agri-Business Alan Wilits – President, Heartland Soil and Crop Improvement Association Tanya Franklin – Founding Agronomist, Upside Robotics SPECIFIC STOPS INCLUDE: 1. Innovative Tile Drainage Systems – Control gates, Contour System and Sub-Irrigation 2. Real-time Collection of Water Flow and Water Quality 3. Sub Surface Irrigation System 4. Cover Crop Intergration after Grain Corn and Soybean 5. Upside Robotics Demonstration using Maize Runner
11:45 am	LUNCH BREAK & EXHIBITOR BOOTH VISITS Message from Lunch Sponsor: EcoTea BBQ Lunch Provided by Pineridge BBQ Co.
12:30 pm	SESSION 1: "Putting Your Soil Biology to Work for You" Shawn Brenneman and Jake Gregory, CanGrow Crop Solutions
1:00 pm	SESSION 2: "Water Quality Outcomes of Agricultural BMPs: Insights from OSCIA Research" Kokulan Vivekananthan, Water Quality Specialist, OSCIA
1:30 pm	SESSION 3: "Living Lab – Ontario: An Innovative On-Farm Research Program Supporting Best Management Practice Adoption and Producer Involvement" Samantha Earl-Goulet, Agricultural Climate Modeling Specialist, OSCIA
2:00 pm	BREAK & EXHIBITOR BOOTH VISITS
2:30 pm	SESSION 4: "Making Better Agronomic Decisions with Public Elevation and Satellite Data" John Sulik, Associate Professor, University of Guelph
3:00 pm	SESSION 5: Drone Spray Canada Demo
3:30 pm	Thank you and Closing Remarks

* **SESSION 5: Drone Spray Canada Demo is an OSCIA-recognized Knowledge Sharing Event (KSE) for farmers with On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF) projects in the Cover Cropping Category.**

* Times and agenda are subject to change.

OSCIA 2026 Summer Meeting Day at Huronview Demo Farm

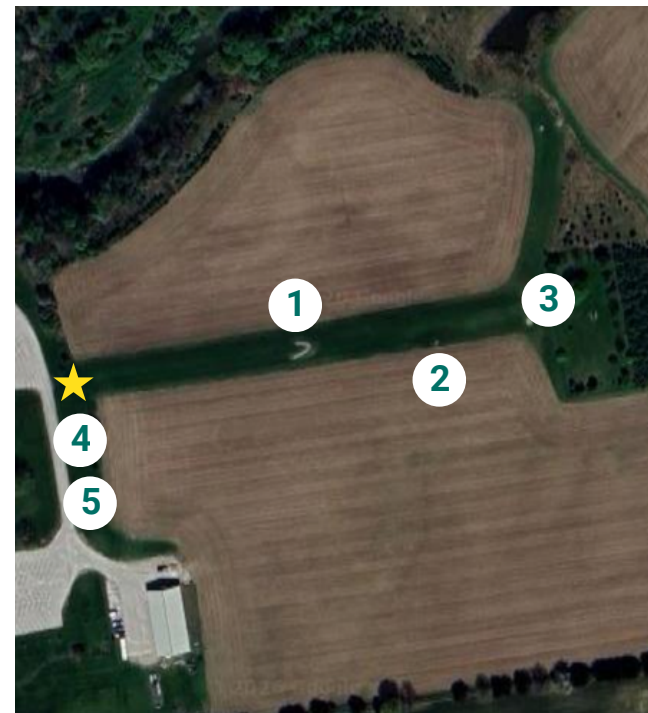
77722 London Rd, Clinton, ON



SITE MAP



TOUR STOPS



NEED ASSISTANCE?

OSCIA staff will be available throughout the event to provide directions, answer questions, and offer support as needed.
If you require assistance, please contact **Julie Powers** at **519-841-0680**.

TOUR LEGEND

1. Innovative Tile Drainage Systems
 2. Real-time Collection of Water Flow + Quality
 3. Sub Surface Irrigation System
 4. Cover Crop Intergration after Grain Corn and Soybean
 5. Upside Robotics Demonstration using Maize Runner
- ★ Closing: Drone Spray Canada Demo

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BUS TOUR AGENDA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH, 2026

Time	Activity
8:00 am	Registration & Bus Boarding at Oakwood Resort, Grand Bend
8:30 am	Bus Departure
9:00 am	ARRIVE AT ONTARIO CROPS RESEARCH CENTRE - HURON Exploring leading edge research in crop production, pest management, and agronomy SITE TOUR Ted Vanhie, Technical Foreman, Ontario Crops Research Centre – Huron SPECIFIC STOPS INCLUDE: Dry Bean Agronomy Research, Phosphorus Trials Dry Bean Agronomy Research, Nitrogen Trials Weed Science Trials Efficacy and Tolerance Trials
11:00 am	Bayer Crop Science Presentation on Preceon® Smart Corn Jessica Wettlaufer, Customer Solutions Lead
11:30 am	Board Bus
11:45 am	Lunch at Morrison Dam Conservation Area Alan Willits, President, Heartland Soil and Crop Improvement Association: Presentation on Miyawaki Forestry Carbon sequestration, native species and ultra-dense, random planting to create self-sustaining, biodiverse mini-forests
12:10 pm	Networking Time – Board bus and depart @12:30 pm
12:45 pm	Huron Cover Crops Owner & Operator Stefan Zehetner Visit a 100-acre field of spring cereals and buckwheat, highlighting diverse barley and oat varieties for cover crops, forage, processing, and seed production
2:00 pm	Hensall Co-Op Tour and Presentation Chris Vanloo, Hensall Location Manager Mark Soudant, Operations Manager: Guided tour of the processing facility highlighting food-grade soybean and dry bean operations. Wade Bickell, Origination Manager Paul Cornwell, Seed & Research Manager: Tour of variety plots featuring innovative food-grade soybean and dry bean.
3:30 pm	Thank you and Closing Remarks End of Tour – Bus Drop off at Oakwood Resort, Grand Bend

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SESSION DESCRIPTIONS & SPEAKER BIOS

FARM DAY

SESSION 1: *"Putting Your Soil Biology to Work for You"*
Shawn Brenneman and Jake Gregory
CanGrow Crop Solutions

The "WEOK" concept; what drives the process forward, and how some N applications can drive it backwards.

SESSION 2: *"Water Quality Outcomes of Agricultural BMPs: Insights from OSCIA Research"*
Kokulan Vivekananthan
Water Quality Specialist, OSCIA

Agricultural best management practices (BMPs) improve soil health, but their impacts on water quality are less understood. This presentation highlights key findings and case studies from OSCIA's ONFARM and LEEAAP projects, exploring how practices like cover cropping and no-tillage can reduce runoff and phosphorus losses—and how management decisions influence these outcomes.

SESSION 3: *"Living Lab – Ontario: An Innovative On-Farm Research Program Supporting Best Management Practice Adoption and Producer Involvement"*
Samantha Earl-Goulet
Agricultural Climate Modeling Specialist, OSCIA

With a doctorate specializing in agricultural greenhouse gas emissions, Samantha brings expertise in climate-focused agricultural research. She works to develop practical, user-centered approaches that support on-farm innovation. Her presentation will highlight how Living Lab – Ontario is advancing best management practice adoption through collaborative research.

SESSION 4: *"Making Better Agronomic Decisions with Public Elevation and Satellite Data"*
John Sulik
Associate Professor of Precision Agriculture, UoG

With more than 15 years of experience in academia, industry, and government, his work helps growers and researchers make informed, data-driven decisions. His research focuses on evaluating crop inputs, detecting disease early, and using sensors and imagery to monitor crop performance. John is passionate about developing practical tools that enable farmers, agronomists, and researchers to conduct and interpret their own trials.

SESSION 5: Drone Spray Canada Demo

Experience a live drone spraying demonstration showcasing the latest advancements in precision agriculture and aerial application technology.

BUS TOUR

ONTARIO CROPS RESEARCH CENTRE - HURON
Ted Vanhie, Site Tour Guide

Ted became the Technical Foreman of the Ontario Crops Research Centre – Huron in April 2025. Previously, he was a research technician in the dry bean agronomy program under Prof. Chris Gillard. He earned his Master of Science from the University of Guelph in 2020, researching integrated weed management strategies for Canada fleabane with Drs. François Tardif and Clarence Swanton. With experience spanning research, his family's dairy farm, and BASF's Lethbridge and London research stations, Ted brings a diverse agricultural background. He is passionate about supporting Ontario agriculture through practical, solutions-based research that helps farmers address on-farm challenges.



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Bus Tour

