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Improving canola agronomy with third-party and farmer-run research

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It is difficult often for canola growers to obtain credible data on agronomic input products in Canada. The Ultimate Canola Challenge (UCC) research program was created to produce high-quality, third-party, and farmer-run research on a number of canola input products and agronomic practices. Started in 2013, the first two years the UCC program tested multiple canola micronutrient inputs in small-plot trials. After two years of testing, no product significantly improved yield. In 2015, the UCC tested boron fertility applications on field-scale farmer-run trials and small-plot trials, and this too did not significantly improve yields. In 2016 and 2017, the UCC focussed on increasing nitrogen applications by 25% above the normal rates used by local farmers using field-scale farmer-run trials. It was found that in the majority of cases, increasing nitrogen significantly improved canola yield and profitability. In 2018, the UCC trials focussed on speed of seeding with field-scale farmer-run trials, and the results of these trials will be discussed. A generic UCC protocol was developed, released, and promoted to growers to be able to test any new products or practices on their farm to produce meaningful information. With data provided by the UCC trials, Canadian canola growers can make better decisions to improve their canola production and profitability.

PLENARY TALKS

ORALS

POSTERS

WORKSHOPS