

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

# APG SOWS AND GLEANS KNOWLEDGE WHILE THE CROP IS IN THE FIELD



*Leanne Fischbuch, Executive Director*

Summer is finally here. Alberta Pulse Growers' staff are gearing up for another season of sharing information about how pulses are performing and what to watch for in the fields. APG staff will be present at crop walks and other local events, as well as at larger events like CanolaPALOOZA and the Lacombe Field Day. We are also available by email and phone if growers have specific questions about their pulse crops.

Plans are underway for the second year of the Plot to Field program. This project takes research questions from plot-size trials to full field-scale research. The protocols have been reviewed, and once again the project will repeat last year's seeding rate study. This year, APG is expanding the work to include a site location with the Manning Agricultural Research Association. In addition, there will be another question added to the seeding trial information in some sites assessing pea leaf weevil, a common field pea pest. APG is excited to have researchers approaching us to address some of their research at field scale, and the opportunity to have all the proven farmer collaborators and agronomists back for another year is going to make this project a success.

During the growing season, farmers are encouraged to visit

[www.keepingitclean.ca](http://www.keepingitclean.ca). This is the site that contains recommendations on crop protection products for canola, cereals, and pulses. On the pulse section of the site, farmers will be able to access the most recent information on crop protection products and learn what to watch for in terms of market access. APG encourages growers to visit the site regularly to remain updated on any changes to the recommendations. The current information is published on page 20, in this edition of *Pulse Crop News*.

In summer, APG reaches out to another important audience that is critical to our industry. This audience is our dealer network. Starting in late May through to July, APG contacts the dealer network and provides updates and license renewals. In Alberta, a dealer is considered a person purchasing or acquiring regulated product from a producer, and this includes but is not limited to elevator companies, grain companies, grain dealers, grain brokers, processors, feed manufacturers and livestock feeders or a person who acquires regulated product from the producer for sale on the producers' behalf (Alberta Pulse Growers Marketing Plan Regulation AR. 120/99). These individuals and/or organizations must carry an updated dealer license. Growers should ask their dealers if they are licensed.

In this year's dealer outreach, dealers will learn more about the recent changes to our service fees that will become effective on August 1. In the new crop year, dealers will be taking 0.75% of the cash sale on pulses delivered. Growers need to make sure that this change is reflected on their cash tickets.

While farmers are busy planting and we are reaching out to our various networks, India continues to be a focus for our industry. Through Pulse Canada there is work to address the unpredictable nature of the current trade with our largest pulse buyer. Recently, India instituted an import restriction that focused on peas, limiting the import to just 100,000 tonnes from April 1 to June 30, 2018. Earlier this winter, APG Zone 1 Director Rodney Volk joined Honourable Oneil Carlier in India to learn first-hand about the situation. We are pleased to share with you Rodney Volk's thoughts on the importance of Canadian pulses to the Indian marketplace (page 24).

The pulse industry continues to forge ahead on market development work. Grower organizations such as ours will work to collaborate, share and invest in research that is important for our sector in an effort to provide growers with the best information possible so that they can access greater profitability.

