



Robert Semeniuk, APG Chair

CHAIR'S REPORT

LEARN ABOUT APG'S WORK IN AREAS THAT AFFECT YOU THROUGH APP, CROP WALKS & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

I hope that seeding is well underway or finished as this issue lands in your mailbox. When I wrote this report, seeding had begun in parts of southern Alberta and most of the rest of us were waiting for the surprise late blast of winter to pass.

Unfortunately, weather is only one of the variables that we must navigate as farmers. Alberta Pulse Growers is working on research to help mitigate some of the issues pulse farmers face, such as *Aphanomyces* root rot, which was first noticed by pea growers over a decade ago. The work on root rot has proven to be a marathon, not a sprint. While a silver bullet has yet to appear, much headway has been made in understanding the pathogen and its symptoms. We continue to lean into the search for tools and strategies for control. We are thankful for the many scientists who have teamed up to work towards a positive outcome. For more information on the work being done in this space, check out the 2022 edition of APG's *Pulse Crop News 2022 Research Report, Science to Grow*.

You can be the first to learn about new tools and techniques in the fight against pulse diseases and other areas by downloading the APG app. There are some exciting new features underway that will

help farmers with productivity, so stay tuned for those. You can also take the opportunity to ask a question through the Ask an Expert feature during the growing season or throughout the year or check out previously answered questions on topics like residue, estimating yield, and the relationship between nodulation and nitrogen.

The app and other electronic communication tools are great for quick reference, but as we have seen in the last two years, there's no replacement for meeting in person and seeing things for yourself. APG has planned several plot tours and events this summer. Check out the Zone Updates in this issue and watch the Events section of the APG app and website for dates.

APG Directors and Zone Advisors got together in March for the first time in two years. Before COVID the meeting took place annually. This was a day and a half of long-overdue networking and speakers addressing important topics such as market outlooks, carbon, agricultural wetlands, research and extension. If you would like to participate in future events like this as well as contribute to decisions that help pulse farmers, contact APG about becoming an Advisor in your zone.

Meanwhile, we are hearing about several pulse processing facilities that are in various stages of coming to Alberta, which is all great news for us as farmers. Interest from near and far in these sustainable crops that we grow can only mean good things for our bottom line and the environment. This serves as a reminder that pulses are going to be a huge part of our story as farmers for years to come, especially with the federal government's commitment to net zero emissions. APG continues to participate on behalf of farmers in developing what the road map is going to look like as we go down this path. If you missed it, read more in the Winter edition of *Pulse Crop News*.

