

September 23-26, 2007, Calgary, Alberta, Canada • Issue 5 • August 2007

# ABIC 2007 PROGRAM

HARNESSING SCIENCE FOR THE EVOLVING CONSUMER: THE FIT OF AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

## Dear Friend of Agricultural Biotechnology

ABIC Calgary 2007 is quickly approaching and we're looking forward to seeing everyone in Calgary.

The program committee has brought together an amazing group of speakers, presenting from all corners of the world such as Canada, U.S., Australia, Sweden, Germany, Belgium, Kenya, India and others. For Canadians, ABIC 2007 will be a unique opportunity to sit down and interact with leaders in agricultural biotechnology from all over the globe. We now have registrants from around the world, including Russia, Thailand, Taiwan, Korea, South Africa, Columbia, Sweden, Australia, New Zealand, U.S. and many others.

The delegates are a unique mix of people and include leading scientists, senior executives from many organizations, company representatives from some of the very largest in the world to some very unique, interesting startup and new biotech companies. This unique blend of people, knowledge, expertise, background and interests offers a great networking opportunity rarely offered in one location.

The AgBio Exhibition is nearly sold out, with both public and private sector exhibits from countries such as Thailand, Taiwan, Australia, Germany, New Zealand, U.S., Canada to name a few. This will be an excellent trade show that includes research institutions, both public and private, as well as private commercial companies.

In addition to an outstanding conference, Calgary is a great location to visit this time

of year. The weather will be wonderful, the mountains will be in all their glory and the city very welcoming. Come and enjoy the hospitality of ABIC Calgary 2007. We look forward to seeing everyone in Calgary for an excellent conference.

Yours sincerely,

**Rick Smith and Art Froehlich**  
*Co-chairs*

### ABIC 2007 OPENING AND CLOSING PLENARY PRESENTATIONS

**Mr. John Oliver**  
*President*  
*Maple Leaf Bio Concepts*  
*Oshawa, Ontario, Canada*

#### Tomorrow's Solutions Today and The Future of Agricultural Biotechnology

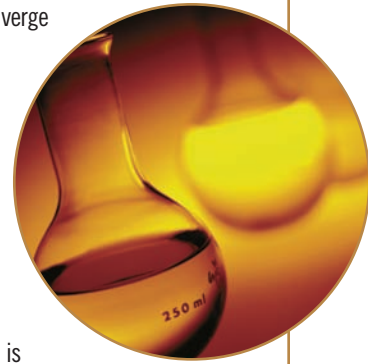
Agriculture stands at a critical junction today. Historically a provider of new materials to the food feed and fibre industries, it now has the opportunity to be the foundation of the new bio-economy. Agriculture can become a critical solution provider to society – what societal needs and what solutions will be explored.

In these two key conference presentations, John Oliver, President of Maple Leaf Bio Concepts, will provide an overview of the key societal issues he sees facing the world today - climate change and global warming, energy, fresh water and the health crisis. "The health crisis for example, is polarized, with over 2 billion people in the world underfed and undernourished, and hundreds of

millions at or on the verge of starvation; while 2 billion people are overfed, over-nourished and on the verge of obesity; both poles facing significant health care issues and costs. The world is facing a generation of 2 to 17 year-olds, the first generation to die ahead of their parents."

Oliver will talk about the impacts of those issues and the leadership role agriculture can play in building solutions. "There are three key things that will determine the outcomes," he says. "Science and technology have the best chances of having an impact. But this has to be combined with developing a belief that we can do something and the will to implement solutions." Although agriculture doesn't like to be at the forefront of leadership, the world will be calling on this industry to lead the development of tomorrow's solutions.

Oliver believes that ABIC will help build awareness of the issues and where the best chances of impact can happen. The conference will help people understand the key global issues, and the leadership role agriculture is poised to play in providing solutions to these pressing world issues. ABIC is a world meeting place of agriculture biotechnology international leaders.



All of the ABIC Speaker Profiles and Presentation Overviews are now available on the ABIC website. Go to: <http://www.abic.ca/abic2007/html/program.html>

# The Agricultural Biotechnology Industry

ABIC 2007 welcomes the global agricultural biotechnology industry to Calgary. In Canada and around the world, this industry ranges from very large international companies to some very unique, interesting new and emerging startups. These companies, together with other national and international industry leaders, are introducing many new and innovative ideas and products to the world.

## ABIC FOUNDATION

[www.abic.ca](http://www.abic.ca)

The Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference (ABIC) Foundation was set up as a not-for-profit corporation, based in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 1998. The impetus for forming the Foundation followed the success of the first two conferences held in 1996 and again in 1998 in Saskatoon.

This organization was established to oversee the ABIC Concept, and, to secure the continued success of the ABIC series. Directors of the ABIC Foundation were drawn from several countries. The Foundation's goal is to ensure ongoing opportunities for continuous learning and networking within the agbiotech community through the Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference.

The Foundation performs advisory, promotional and supportive functions for the conferences. As the Foundation shapes the ABIC concept, it strives to position the Conference at the forefront of agbiotech innovation. Through its various activities, the Foundation raises ABIC's international profile while fostering the ABIC standard of quality. The current Chair of the Board of Directors is Dr. Ashley O'Sullivan, President and CEO of Ag-West Bio in Saskatoon.

## AG-WEST BIO

[www.agwest.sk.ca](http://www.agwest.sk.ca)

Ag-West Bio (AWB) is a membership-based organization at the forefront of Saskatchewan's bio-economy. Their role is as a catalyst for partnerships and industry growth through investments, aiding strategic alliances, providing regulatory support and communications. Ag-West Bio membership has grown to include over 100 corporations, associations and individuals representing natural health products and functional foods, bioproducts and bioprocesses, and agricultural biotechnology sectors.

AWB works with stakeholders to identify a core set of strategic bio-economic opportunities to capture maximum value for Saskatchewan businesses and people.

The mandate of AWB is based upon Saskatchewan's comparative agro-ecological advantages, its life science industry base and its unique science and innovation infrastructure. The goal is develop an economically viable bio-sciences cluster in Saskatchewan in a way that will translate into significant economic benefits and spin-offs to the Saskatchewan and Canadian economy.

The original mandate for AWB's investment strategy has been expanded to include pre-commercialization firms, uniquely positioning AWB as one of the very few sources of investment capital in the high risk, early stages of business development. This investment market is needed in Saskatoon, and will help AWB to expedite the commercialization of value-added products by linking knowledge and investment with science and enterprise in the development of products that satisfy market needs.

## CANADIAN TRITICALE BIOREFINERY INITIATIVE

Imagine a small crop becoming a pillar of the new agricultural economy. Imagine harvesting this crop to make materials and resources the modern world can't do without. Imagine everyone along the value chain working together to make it happen in an economically and environmentally sustainable way.

That crop is triticale, and its growth from small fry to star performer will be a story to watch in Canadian agriculture over the next five to 10 years.

The Canadian Triticale Biorefinery Initiative began in 2004. Over the last 12 months, this Alberta-led initiative has grown to include industry and research partners from leading institutions across Canada. This initiative is expected to transform Canadian triticale from a marginal, feed-focused crop into a major and very competitive bio-industrial platform

for Canada. How? By supplying bio-refineries and manufacturing plants with triticale's unique carbohydrate-based polymers, simple sugar syrup and proteins.

"With some initial interest from an industry stakeholder, we began taking a serious look at triticale as a bio-industrial platform and its ability to produce specific sugars in a sustainable and very competitive way," explains Connie Phillips, Initiative Chair. "This first step convinced us to take a closer look at the full potential of triticale and its value within a biorefining context."

The Initiative is based on a value chain from plant biomass and seeds to biopolymers, simple sugars, ethanol and feed fractions. Triticale, a Canadian crop, produces more biomass than wheat, requires less input, costs less to grow and has a smaller environmental footprint than either wheat or corn.

"Our initial economic assessment shows that triticale comes out ahead of wheat and corn in terms of cost of production, yield and biomass volumes, stability of supply across environments, and compares very favorably to wheat in a fermentation regime," says Phillips. Six concurrent streams of work are underway, including near-term and mid-term market opportunities for materials, fuels and chemicals, production and agronomics of existing commercial varieties and the development of enabling technologies producing designer triticale. Researchers at Agriculture and AgriFood Canada's (AAFC) Lethbridge Research Station are leading the enabling biotechnology work.

"As a result of these initial efforts and the promise shown by triticale, our Initiative has grown from four initial players to 12 participating organizations from right across Canada, several international partners, and the formation of a full Research Innovation Network," explains Phillips, who co-chairs the Network with Dr. François Eudes, AAFC Lethbridge. "We're excited about the development of this





dedicated crop platform, the first one for cereals.”

For more information about the project, stop by the ABIC Ag Bio Exhibition area at the conference and meet the team.

### IFASA

[www.ifasa.ca](http://www.ifasa.ca)

The Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences, Alberta (IFASA) assists the province's agricultural industry to become globally competitive, sustainable and profitable by bringing government, and education partners together. IFASA provides support to build alliances and capacity, bring new products to market, attract investment, and manage and deliver research and education programs.

IFASA is an alliance of four key members, Alberta Agriculture & Food, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, University of Alberta and the Alberta Research Council. IFASA has several strategic program areas, including: sustainable production, industrial biorefining and bioproducts and food for health. There are a wide range of projects under these strategic programs, for example livestock genomics, bioactive oils from canola and flax, functional foods, bioplastics and new feedstocks dedicated to industrial biorefining.

The goal for IFASA is to be recognized internationally as a model of an effective partnership between research and industry for applying first class science and technology for the growth of the agricultural economy.

### STIRLING PRODUCTS LIMITED

[www.stirlingproducts.net](http://www.stirlingproducts.net)

Stirling Products Limited (Stirling) is an animal healthcare company focused on the development and commercialisation of metabolic modifiers for a range of indications in international animal healthcare markets. Stirling is a public Australian company (ASX:STI) headquartered in Perth, Australia.

Stirling's lead pharmaceutical compound, R-salbutamol (also known as R-albuterol) is a highly purified version of salbutamol, a well-established drug that has been used in the treatment of

human asthma for more than 25 years. Stirling's three technology platforms for R-salbutamol are:

1. Growth agents in livestock
2. Treatment for obesity in companion animals (dogs and cats)
3. Treatment of respiratory disorders in horses (primarily heaves).

Stirling's product portfolio is branching into non-medicated animal supplements with the intended purchase of ProVale™. “Stirling will become recognised as a major international player in safe and effective metabolic modification for healthy living”.

### AgBio Exhibition – Nearly Sold Out

Booth space at the AgBio Exhibition nearly sold out. There are a few spaces left, so book now if you want to be part of this comprehensive trade show and exhibition showcasing the latest developments, products and technology available from around the globe. All refreshment breaks and the majority of social functions will be held in or near the Exhibition hall. Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your new ideas, technology and products. Book your space on-line today at: <http://www.abic.ca/abic2007/html/exhibitors.html>

### First Annual ABIC Invitational Golf Tournament – Don't Forget to Register!

#### Saturday September 22, 2007 at the Silvertip Golf Resort

Join conference delegates for the first annual ABIC Invitational Golf Tournament at Silvertip Golf Resort, located in Canmore, Alberta, one hour west of Calgary in the beautiful mountain wilderness. Bus transportation will be provided from (and back to) each of the ABIC host hotels at 9:30 am for a tee off time of 11:00am. You will be golfing 18 holes, modified shotgun. It is estimated that the trip will be an all day trip and will include time for you to relax. For more information on Silvertip, visit [www.silvertipresort.com](http://www.silvertipresort.com)

Register at: <http://www.abic.ca/abic2007/html/registration.html>

### Last chance to Book Hotel Rooms at Conference Rates!

Conference organizers have been able to extend the deadline for booking rooms at some of the conference host hotels. Make sure you book your hotel rooms immediately as rates will increase dramatically in the next few days, and availability has already become limited.

A block of rooms are being held for the conference at three downtown hotels:

- Calgary Marriott - connected to the Telus Convention Centre
- Palliser – connected to the Telus Convention Centre
- Delta Bow Valley - a 5 minute walk

BOOK NOW to make sure you get the conference rate and preferred locations at: [www.abic.ca/abic2007/html/accommodation.html](http://www.abic.ca/abic2007/html/accommodation.html)

### ABIC 2007 Optional Tours

A reminder, there are several optional day tours available, separate from the ABIC 2007 program. All arrangements and payment for these tours must be made on your own, and can be booked directly through one of the three ABIC 2007 Conference hotels. For full details about each tour, go to: <http://www.abic.ca/abic2007/html/tours.html>

Contact for booking:

The Fairmont Palliser  
403.260.1259  
Scott Patterson  
Paul Bellsows  
Greg Connon

Delta Bow Valley  
403.205.5414  
Tyler Tinordi  
Warren Downs

Marriott Hotel & Resorts  
403.266.7331 (ask for concierge)  
Ashley  
Cindy  
Kathryn



# ABIC Calgary 2007 Sponsors

ABIC CALGARY 2007 THANKS THE MANY COMPANIES WHO HAVE SPONSORED THIS IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL EVENT TO DATE.

## TOP LEVEL SPONSORS INCLUDE:

**Partner:** Alberta Agricultural Research Institute (AARI), BioAlberta

**Platinum:** Alberta Agriculture and Food (AAF), Alberta Crop Industry Development Fund (ACIDF), Country Guide, The Western Producer

**Gold:** AVAC Ltd., Dow AgroSciences

**Silver:** Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC), Bayer CropSciences Inc., Monsanto Canada Inc.

**Bronze:** Calgary Stampede, Business Development Bank, Genome Prairie, Pioneer Hi-Bred Limited

## EVENT SPECIFIC SPONSORS:

**Session Sponsors:** AdFarm, BioAlberta, Genome Alberta, Gowlings, Ontario Agri-Food Technologies, The Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences Alberta (IFASA), Saskatchewan Wheat Pool

**Welcome Reception:** Alberta Ingenuity Fund, Calgary Stampede

**Pre-Banquet Reception:** Calgary Stampede

**Banquet Sponsor:** Bayer CropSciences Inc.

**Afternoon Coffee Break Sponsor:** Genome British Columbia

**Water Station Sponsor:** Canadian Triticale

Biorefinery Initiative

**Student Poster Session:** Genome Canada

**Media Sponsor:** Country Guide, The Western Producer

**Registration Satchel Sponsor:** Alberta Agricultural Research Institute (AARI)

**Lanyard Sponsor:** ABIC Foundation

**Pocket Program Sponsor:** Ag-West Bio Inc.

**Stationery:** BIOTECCanada

## ENJOY YOUR VISIT TO CALGARY

Nearly 5 million visitors come to Calgary each year and find a wealth of cultural attractions, diverse restaurants and award-winning cuisine, specialty shops and trendy night spots. In Calgary and beyond you will find a wide range of cultural attractions, festivals, parks and pathways, live performances, spa experiences and sights to see. Calgary's wide, blue sky and moderate climate beckons year-round outdoor enthusiasts to golf or hike, fish or mountain bike, ski or dog-sled.

Calgary has a climate of four distinct seasons. The conference is being held in September, which can be particularly rewarding, with a combination of warm weather and some beautiful autumn foliage. At over 2400 hours on average of bright sunshine per year, Calgary weather, along with many other south Canadian prairie locations, makes us one of Canada's sunniest places.

Generally the weather is quite warm (14 degrees

Celsius) but we have been known for the brisk early mornings and evenings. Bring a warm jacket and clothing that can be layered. If you are planning on walks or hikes, bring sturdy shoes and a warm jacket. If you plan to visit the Rockies make sure your outer clothing is warm and wind/water repellent.

To find out more about what is going on in Calgary, shopping, restaurants, entertainment and other information, here are a few links to help you out.

<http://www.tourismcalgary.com>

<http://www.where.ca/calgary/>

<http://www.calgarylives.com>

## CURRENCY AND CREDIT CARDS

The currency used in Canada is the Canadian dollar. Canadian bills are accepted in denominations of \$100.00, \$50.00, \$20.00, \$10.00 and \$5.00. Coins are in denominations of \$2.00 (called a "toonie"), \$1.00 (called a "loonie"), \$0.25 (called a "quarter"), \$0.10 (called a "dime"), \$0.05 (called a "nickel"),

and \$0.01 (called a "penny"). Canadian dollar travellers cheques accepted as currency at most hotels, stores and restaurants. Most major credit cards are widely accepted across the country – principally Visa, Mastercard and American Express.

## TIPPING

Service charges usually are not included on bills in restaurants or bars in Canada. It is standard practice to tip service personnel 12% to 15% of the bill. Tips are generally given for good service by food and beverage servers in bars and restaurants, taxi drivers, tour guides and hotel bellman. Customary gratuity to tour guides and motorcoach drivers is \$1.00 to \$2.00 per person per day. This should be handled on a voluntary, individual basis.

## ELECTRICITY

Electricity is supplied at an alternating current of 110 volts. Plugs in Canada are either two flat, parallel prongs, or one cylindrical and two flat parallel prongs.

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR ABIC CALGARY 2007 STILL AVAILABLE

Join other leading companies in the agricultural biotechnology industry in sponsoring ABIC 2007. Gain international recognition and expand your marketing reach through the various conference sponsorship opportunities still available. Don't miss out on this excellent opportunity to be part of the of Ag Biotech network - contact conference organizers today or go to: <http://www.abic.ca/abic2007/html/sponsors.html>

### ABIC Calgary 2007

September 23 to 26, 2007

To register, or for more information, please contact:

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