

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Canada

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## This Week in Canadian Agriculture - Issue 18

**Report Categories:**

Agriculture in the News

**Approved By:**

Robin Gray

**Prepared By:**

Darlene Dessureault

**Report Highlights:**

Canada Hosts 36<sup>th</sup> Cairns Group Ministerial \* Canadian Government Invests in Bio-based Jet Fuel  
Research \* Support for Barley and Wheat Research \* *tasteUS!* Culinary Celebration

This Week in Canadian Agriculture is a review of Canadian agricultural industry developments of interest to the U.S. agricultural community. The issues summarized in this report cover a wide range of subject matter obtained from Canadian press reports, government press releases, and host country agricultural officials and representatives.

*Disclaimer:* Any press article summaries in this report are included to bring U.S. readership closer to the pulse of Canadian developments in agriculture. In no way do the views and opinions of these sources reflect USDA's, the U.S. Embassy's, or any other U.S. Government agency's point of view or official policy.

### **Canada Hosts 36<sup>th</sup> Cairns Group Ministerial**

Canada hosted the 36<sup>th</sup> Cairns Group Ministerial Meeting in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on September 7-9, 2011. The Cairns Group is a coalition of 19 agricultural exporting countries with a commitment to reforming agricultural trade. For the first time, the discussion included how innovation and rules-based trade rooted in sound science can help open markets up and meet global food security objectives. In the official communiqué issued at the conclusion of the meeting, Cairns group members state their support for the Government of Canada's decision to reform its single desk marketing system for trade in wheat, durum, and barley. The Canadian government intends to introduce legislation in the fall Parliamentary session that will result in the removal of the Canadian Wheat Board's (CWB) control of Western Canada wheat and barley produced for export or domestic food use by August 1, 2012. A copy of the official communiqué released by the Ministers of the Cairns Group is available at the following URL address: [http://cairnsgroup.org/Pages/110909\\_communique.aspx](http://cairnsgroup.org/Pages/110909_communique.aspx)

### **Canadian Government Invests in Bio-based Jet Fuel Research**

The Canadian Government will be investing over \$150,000 in a feasibility study for the production of renewable, bio-based jet fuel. According to the news release issued by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the study will look at the economic feasibility of developing the industry in Saskatchewan using dedicated industrial oilseed crops such as *Camelina sativa* and *Brassica carinata*. The project is being led by Ag-West Bio Inc., a Saskatchewan based company that focuses on the commercialization of biological applications in agriculture, environment, industry, energy and bio-processing. The project will take into consideration feedstock production, processing requirements and potential commercial partners as well as logistics and infrastructure. The project is being funded under the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (CAAP). More information on the announcement can be found at the following URL address: [http://www.agr.gc.ca/cb/index\\_e.php?s1=n&s2=2011&page=n110922](http://www.agr.gc.ca/cb/index_e.php?s1=n&s2=2011&page=n110922)

### **Support for Barley and Wheat Research**

The Brewing and Malting Barley Research Institute, which represents brewing and malting companies from Canada and across North America, have announced research funding of \$92,000 for five projects for the coming year. This research boost is due to concerns that barley acreage has been consistently falling, making good quality malting and brewing barley harder to source. In wheat research news, Canada is one of 10 countries who will participate in a global research program to improve wheat. This research program, named the International Research Initiative for Wheat Improvement, was part of a number of measures adopted in June at a meeting of the agriculture ministers from the Group of 20

major economies.

**tasteUS! Culinary Celebration**

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, Ambassador David Jacobson hosted a celebration of U.S. agricultural products at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto. The menu featured food and beverage items from all across the United States including catfish, beef, almonds, kiwis, watermelon, oranges, peanuts, strawberries, wine and beer. The purpose was to expose Canadian media, foodservice, distribution and retail industries to the availability of U.S. agricultural products in Canada. Many guests also seized the opportunity to have their picture taken with the Ambassador and the Stanley Cup, which was on display during the event.

**Exchange Rate:** Noon rate, September 23, 2011 (Bank of Canada): U.S. Dollar = C\$1.0282

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