

**Evolving with your Soil Sample Results**

In the evolving landscape of agriculture, finding effective ways to enhance productivity and sustainability is key. One promising tool is Soil Optix, a soil sensor technology designed to help farmers better understand their land. Soil Optix provides detailed insights into soil texture, nutrient levels, and available water by combining sensor data with soil samples. This technology generates comprehensive soil maps that highlight variations within fields, allowing farmers to make more informed decisions tailored to the specific needs of their land. At Holmes Agro, we're here to support you in exploring innovative solutions like Soil Optix. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about how this technology could fit into your farming practices, feel free to reach out to your Holmes Agro agronomist.

Watch It Grow – Fall Update

Soybean harvest is nearing completion, winter wheat is in the ground, and corn harvest is underway! With the excellent growing season we had, many are seeing record yields—and in some cases, this means greater nutrient removal than originally planned. Now is the time to top up those nutrients and set your crops up for a strong start next spring.

Fall applications of phosphorus, potassium, and magnesium allow these nutrients to integrate into the soil over winter, promoting early root development, improving drought tolerance, and supporting plant health. Applying fertilizer in the fall also helps spread the workload, easing pressure during the busy planting season.

This fall's drier soils offer ideal field conditions, minimizing compaction and helping nutrients bind effectively. This reduces nutrient loss and ensures they are available when crops need them most. Another way to take advantage of the favourable weather is to continue soil sampling—whether bulk, zone, grid, or Soil Optix. Soil test results provide the solid foundation for precise nutrient placement. Grid and Soil Optix sampling also make it easier to leverage Variable Rate Technology (VRT) in the fall, ensuring your inputs are used efficiently across your fields.

Plan ahead to optimize nutrient availability and reduce spring stress—we look forward to working with you to develop a fall fertilizer strategy that meets your field's specific needs.

Early Seed Orders – Promotion Coming Soon

As 2025 crop planning conversations continue and seed booklets land on kitchen tables this month, we will once again be running our early order seed promotion for fall 2024. Keep an eye out and talk to your agronomist for more details!

Dairy & Beef Producer Meeting – November 28th

Save the date for the 2024 Dairy & Beef Producer Meeting on Thursday, November 28th from 9:45am-1:30 pm (lunch included) at the Shelburne Ag Society Hall, Shelburne, ON. Come out for a great meal and discussions! Topics include An Alternate Feed Source - Sugar Beets, 2024 Observations of Corn Silage and Forage Crops, Enogen - High Energy Feed, and more!

Please RSVP by November 21st to the Orangeville office at 519-941-0450 or using the QR code.

**Fall Tillage Talk and Residues**

How do we manage residue without destroying soil structure and soil health, but at the same time allowing for a proper seedbed which allows the subsequent crop to establish with the best chance of success? If continuous no till was an option for everyone then equipment and fuel companies would be severely affected, not to mention the savings on labour. If you are no-tilling after corn, then the stalk chopper heads should be put away to not leave a blanket of residue on the ground which tends to keep the soils cooler and wetter next spring. Vertical till units are great for doing minimum tillage if conditions are dry, and you aren't dealing with compaction issues in your subsoil. There is no perfect answer to the question of tillage and residue management but often the correct response is the hybrid response that encompasses equal parts of conventional tillage, min tillage, and no till. This approach along with cover crops and adequate fertility is often the correct approach. With any tillage strategy consider the economic, environmental, and ecological impacts of your decision and put your best foot forward.

Real agriculture's 'Tillage talks' has some more great information on various tillage options.
<https://www.realagriculture.com/category/machinery/tillage/>

Clean Farms 2024 is CLOSED

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Clean Farms program over the past year. We have wrapped up empty jug collection for the 2024 year and will start up again in May of 2025!

2025 Seed Showcase – Key Varieties to Consider

Corn

Pride		
A5175G2	2475	A new variety. Excellent emergence and vigor. Good stress tolerance and great feed value.
A5292G8	2600	Strong emergence and vigor. Below ground protection for corn-on-corn acres.
A5775G2	2650	A new variety. Good yield performance under stress. Good soil type diversity performance.
A5959G2	2725	Versatile racehorse type hybrid with consistent performance and large cobs.

NK		
NK8005V	2400	Consistent potential across a wide range of yield environments.
NK8558AA	2625	A new variety. Outstanding yield potential and versatility on a wide range of soil types.
NK9175DV	2750	Exceptional disease & drought tolerance. Below ground & WBC protection. Dual purpose.

IP Soybeans

Silverline		
S01-D5	2525	A new variety. Similar but with an added agronomic package; SCN and PRR 3A Genstack.
S03-W4	2600	Consistent performer across soil types with a dependable yield.
S04-K9	2625	Similar to the W4s but with value-added agronomics such as SCN and root rot protection.

Xtend Soybeans

Pride		
PS0098XR	2500	Very good stress tolerance with strong yield potential
PS0521XRN	2675	Strong disease package and spring vigor. Well adapted to all tillage scenarios.
PS0944 XRN	2775	Exceptional yield across all soil types and row widths. Above average standability.

NK		
S007-A2XS	2425	Outstanding yield potential, strong performance in all row widths and soil types.
S02-M4XF	2550	Well suited for highly productive acres. Above average white mold tolerance.
S04-J6X	2625	Great emergence, solid stress tolerance while maintaining a top end yield potential.

Enlist (E3) Soybeans

Brevant		
B036CE	2600	Excellent standability with value-added SCN package.
B054EE	2650	Strong emergence, really good standability and white mold tolerance.
B074HE	2700	Mid-full season option with Enlist. Good white mold tolerance.
Pride		
PS0423	2625	A new variety, with an excellent defensive package. Strong yield potential and emergence.
NK		
S03-V5E3	2600	Well suited for highly productive acres. Broadly adapted across soil types.
S09-H7E3	2775	Excellent standability with high-end yield potential. Above average root rot tolerance.

Talk to your Holmes Agro representative about which variety and trait package will fit your agronomic needs in 2025!

Upcoming Dates

November 25-26th – Ontario Young Farmers Forum
November 25-26th – Women's Grain Symposium
November 28th – Holmes Agro Livestock Meeting Shelburne, ON
January 7-8th – Southwest Agricultural Conference
January 8-14th – Grey Bruce Farmers Week

***** **Please email emma@holmesagro.com to sign up for our e-newsletter** *****

Jeff Travis Bill Greg Taylor Scott John Lydia Dennis Brooklyn Claire