



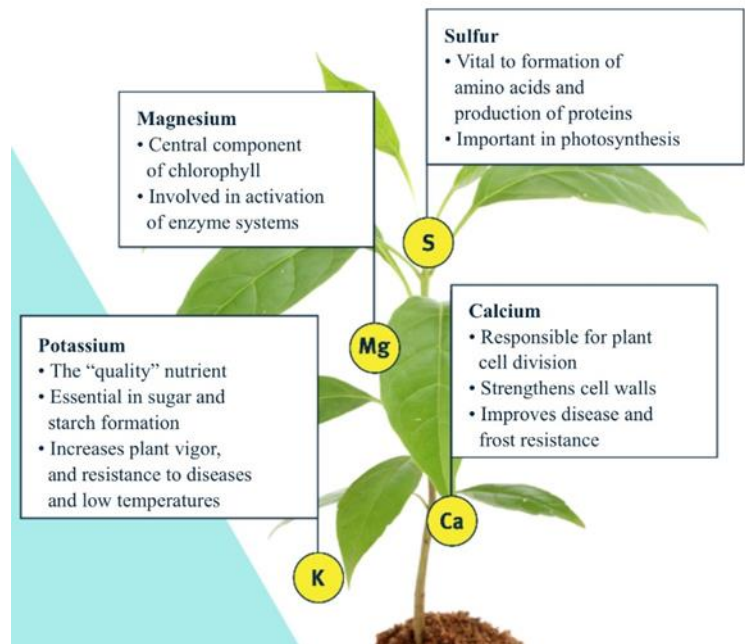
[Holmes Agro will be closed Monday February 17<sup>th</sup> for Family Day](#)

### Save The Date – Next Level Ag Discussion

Holmes Agro & Collwest Grain Ltd are excited to host the 2025 Next Level Ag Discussion at the St. Patrick's Hall in Stayner on February 27<sup>th</sup> from 10 am - 3 pm. The day will include a variety of agronomic & marketing topics. Stay tuned for the full schedule! Call the Stayner office at 705-428-4444 by February 20<sup>th</sup> to register or search this link <https://forms.gle/MMfcG5bDPcyF7RTq8>

### Introduction of Matrix for 2025

In an ongoing effort to investigate new and innovative products, we are pleased to introduce Matrix in 2025 on a limited basis and evaluate its efficacy as a source of nutrition compared to some current standards. Matrix is a branded product with the actual name being polysulfide, which is derived from polybasite, a naturally occurring mineral. This mineral contains the nutrients potassium, magnesium, calcium and sulfur. Existing in sulfate form all these nutrients are readily available and have a low salt index making this product safe for both bulk spreading and in row applications. Growers currently using K-Mag in conjunction with granular gypsum in blends will want to have a look at this product as an alternative. The product contains 13.3% K<sub>2</sub>O, 3.3% Mg, and 11.8% Ca along with 18.2% Sulfur. This product also has organic certification bringing a new tool to this group of growers as well. This will be an introduction year for Holmes Agro with this product and we are looking for growers willing to run side by side comparisons, helping us evaluate this product.



Please reach out to your agronomist if you are interested in trying something new!

### Employee Transition at Holmes Agro – Dennis Coffey

We would like to take the opportunity to share that Dennis Coffey, Sales Agronomist in Orangeville, will be transitioning out of his role with the company to pursue a new opportunity with his family's dairy, cash crop operation and seed business. Dennis has been a valued member of our team, and we are grateful for the exceptional service and dedication he has provided to our customers. To ensure a smooth transition for his clients, Dennis has been working closely with our team to prepare for the handover and introduce them to their new point of contact. Additionally, he has offered to return this summer 1-day per week to help support the development of our new agronomists who will be starting end of April and more information on these great new hires will be announced shortly.

We are confident that Dennis' careful planning and our continued commitment to excellence will provide a seamless experience for everyone involved, and we wish Dennis much success in his new venture.

Thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to Jeff at 519-940-1387

### We're Hiring

Holmes Agro is hiring seasonal AZ/DZ Driver-Operators for the growing season, running from April to September. Positions are available at our Stayner, Orangeville, and Redickville locations, with flexible hours based on customer needs. Overtime is expected in Spring, with occasional Saturday work in May and June. We're looking to add to our team of dedicated and reliable individuals who provide excellent customer service and represent Holmes Agro professionally. In this role, you'll not only drive but also serve as an ambassador for Holmes Agro, ensuring great service for our valued customers. The position offers flexibility, making it ideal for those combining it with other seasonal work.

**Hiring deadline: March 1st**

To apply, visit [www.holmesagro.com/careers/seasonaldriver](http://www.holmesagro.com/careers/seasonaldriver). To view all current job openings, go to [www.holmesagro.com/careers](http://www.holmesagro.com/careers).

## Seed Deliveries

The first day of spring is just over a month away! Our office team will be calling to schedule delivery times for your seed orders this month. Please let us know if you can take an early delivery.

## Grower Pesticide Renewal

We have dates set in the new year for the Grower Pesticide Safety Courses at our Orangeville and Stayner locations. Please have a look at your existing cards and make plans for renewal. The course will still be offered online with multiple dates currently listed and more dates to become available in the future based on demand. Bookings can be made online at [www.opec.ca](http://www.opec.ca) or by calling 1-800-652-8573. Payments must be made ahead of time as course instructors are no longer accepting payments at the courses. Books are available at our offices for pick up anytime. Please make sure you have this in place before the upcoming year!

**Refresh and Renew:** Friday February 21<sup>st</sup> – Holmes Agro, Orangeville  
Wednesday February 26<sup>th</sup> – St Patrick's Parish Hall, Stayner  
Friday March 21<sup>st</sup> – Holmes Agro, Orangeville  
Wednesday March 26<sup>th</sup> – St Patrick's Parish Hall, Stayner

## Prepare your Planter for the 2025 Planting Season

The importance of planting in ideal conditions, using the optimal seed variety, and treatment for your ground is emphasized in many agronomic conversations. Preparatory planter maintenance and tune up should not be overlooked during these conversations! Studies show that planter condition affects the quality of stand establishment, and superior stand establishment is critical to optimizing yield.

Tire Pressure - under-inflated tires require more revolutions per acre, resulting in higher seeding and fertilization rates. Overinflated tires can cause the opposite!

Make sure your planter is level to ensure consistent depth.

Parallel Linkage Arm Wear - check for bushings wear which can result in shallower seed planting depth.

Seed Drop Tubes - these tubes need to be clean with no rough edges which can impact seed drop accuracy.

Disk openers - look for signs of wear. As openers wear and become shorter, they can no longer create a consistent cut into the soil for seed placement and depth.

Depth Gauge Wheels - make sure that they turn freely and move up and down easily to prevent soil from flowing into the seed trench causing inconsistent planting depth.

Seed Drop - Calibrate your planter. Consider planting speed in correlation to seed drops, ensure all chains, and wear parts are within the manufacturer's specifications.

Stop and check your depth, seed drop, and row closure throughout the planting season! Make sure what is happening in the cab matches the field conditions.

## Third Party Loan Due Dates

All eligible crop input purchases between Sep 01 /23 and Aug 31 /24 have a repay date **by February 23, 2025** for Scotiabank Yield More financing. Farm Credit Canada (FCC) Crop Input financing is **due by March 15, 2025**. New feature - you can now pay directly through your FCC Online Services account: <https://onlineservices.fcc-fac.ca>. There is no penalty if you pay early, and funds become available once again.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact us at (519) 941-0450.

## Upcoming Dates

February 6<sup>th</sup> – Canola Growers AGM, Alliston

February 17<sup>th</sup> – Family Day, All Holmes Agro Locations  
CLOSED

February 21<sup>st</sup> – Grower Pesticide Course, Holmes Agro, Orangeville

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Grower Pesticide Course, Stayner

February 27<sup>th</sup> – Next Level Ag Grower Meeting, Stayner

February 28<sup>th</sup> – Dufferin Soil and Crop Improvement Meeting, Amaranth Township Hall, Amaranth

March 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> – London Farm Show, Western Fair District  
London, ON

March 21<sup>st</sup> – Grower Pesticide Course, Holmes Agro, Orangeville

March 26<sup>th</sup> – Grower Pesticide Course, Stayner

\*\*\*\*\* Please email [media@holmesagro.com](mailto:media@holmesagro.com) to sign up for our e-newsletter \*\*\*\*\*

Jeff Bill Dennis Taylor Greg Liz Scott Lydia Brooklyn Claire John