Farmer-led Research Year-in-Review 2018

The Ecological Farmers Association of Ontario’s Farmer-led Research Program supports farmers to answer their most challenging on-farm questions.

In 2018, 20 farmers conducted 14 research projects - the results of which help them to build resilient ecological farms.

You can read full summaries of the projects on the Research Posters posted around the conference. These summaries will be available in January 2019 at efao.ca/research-library.

**Brent Preston and Gillian Flies**, The New Farm - West  
*Does tarping between succession plantings reduce the amount of tillage and labour required for organic salad production?*

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**Val Steinmann and Brent Klassen**, Heartwood Farm and Cidery - Central  
*Does biochar improve tree growth in a newly established apple orchard?*

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**Angie Koch**, Fertile Ground Farm - West  
*Does a spader to reduce discing help improve soil structure?  Results next year*

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**Felicia Syer Nicol**, Sycamore Farm - West  
*Is Fusarium infection in garlic reduced with a copper spray or biostimulant?*

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**Joseph Imre and Jazmin Bansagi**, Seven Fields Farm & Orchard - East  
*Do organic sprays differ in their efficacy against disease in black walnut? Results next year*

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**Jessica Gale**, Sweet Gale Gardens - West  
*Ecology in action for Dahlia production: Can a trap crop lure cucumber beetles and their predators?*

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**Tony McQuail**, Meeting Place Organic Farm - West  
*Does ultra high density grazing as part of adaptive multi-paddock grazing have merit in Ontario?*
Farmer-led Research Year-in-Review 2018 continued

Peggy Baillie, Three Forks Farm - North
Is lettuce seed production in northern Ontario improved using a hoop house?

Annie Richard and Kathy Rotherme, Kitchen Table Seed House - East
Greta Kryger, Greta’s Organic Gardens - East
Rebecca Ivanoff, Unaffiliated - Central
Is it possible to breed an early, blocky pepper with good flavour that is adapted to organic systems in southern Ontario?

Duane Falk, Mimosa Breeding and Research - Central
Is it possible to breed a delicious winter hardy garden pea for most of Ontario and eastern Canada?

Jessica Gale, Sweet Gale Gardens - West
With Jen Feddema, Joanne Feddes, Janis Harris, and Sas Long
What is the best variety of Sweet Pea to grow in southern Ontario?

Pat Kozowyk, Baba Link Farm - West
Ivan Chan, Eden in Season - West
Arthur Churchyard, Eramosa Currants - West
Does comfrey promote growth and fruit production of saskatoon berry and black currant?

Eric Barnhorst, Eva Mae Farm - East
Does planting timing of green mulches affect yield of garlic and labour?

Ken Laing, Orchard Hill Farm - West  Results next year
Do winter-killed cover crops provide cover in fall and winter with suitable field conditions to no-till plant spring cereals?

To join the Farmer-led Research Program, please visit efao.ca/farmer-led-research, talk to an EFAO staff member or email Sarah Hargreaves, sarah@efao.ca.