

Learning Discussion Collaboration

12th
Annual

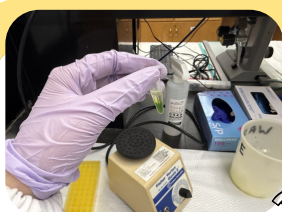
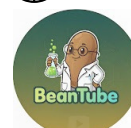
2026 Dry Bean Breeding and Computational Biology Open House!

August 17, 2026 • Elora Research Station, Elora, ON • 1:00 PM

UofG

Department of
Plant Agriculture
Ontario Agricultural College

Dry Bean Breeding
& Computational Biology



Graduate Student Spotlights



Field Tours • Drone and AI
Technology



Disease and Quality Research

What to Expect

Lunch and
Welcome



Breeding and
All-Stars Trials



Anthrachnose Trial



Closing Remarks
and Demos



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Information?
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uogbeans.com



Featured Speakers and Guests

Dr. John Cranfield • Dean, Ontario Agricultural College, UofG

John Fluttert • Canola and Edible Bean Specialist, OMAFA

Mike Donnelly-Vanderloo • Representative, Ontario Bean Growers

Steve Dinka • Technology Transfer Manager, Germplasm, RIO

Emily Boylan • Research Analyst, Research Accountability, ARIO



We Are Proud of Our Supporters:



ARIO



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Help us plan by sending an **RSVP** to
drybeans@uoguelph.ca by **Aug 11th**



Website



YouTube



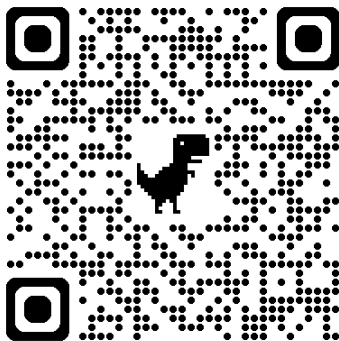
Dry Bean Breeding & Computational Biology Open House

Department of Plant Agriculture,
University of Guelph

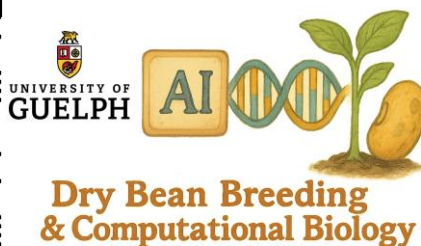
August 17, 2026 | Elora Research Station

Event Overview

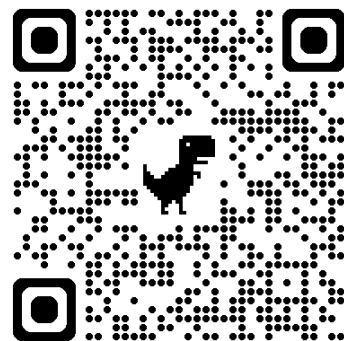
Join us for an afternoon of field tours, research updates, student presentations, and special remarks highlighting innovation in dry bean breeding, disease resistance, and artificial intelligence in agriculture. This year's Open House will feature a special announcement on the first AI-designed dry bean crosses, showcasing how advanced computational tools are being integrated into plant breeding to support growers, improve efficiency, and strengthen the future of agriculture in Ontario and beyond.



UogBeans.com



**Dry Bean Breeding
& Computational Biology**



[BeanTube Channel](#)



1:00 PM - 1:50 PM | Arrival, Lunch & Networking

- Guest arrival
- Lunch served at the research station
- Informal networking with researchers, collaborators, partners, and guests

1:50 PM - 2:00 PM | Welcome & Opening Remarks

- Welcome to the Open House
- Overview of the afternoon program
- Acknowledgement of guests, speakers, collaborators, and supporters

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM | Field Stop 1: Main Breeding Field

Location: Registration and Performance Trials

Program Highlights (Dr. Mohsen Yoosefzadeh Najafabadi):

- Overview of the Dry Bean Breeding Program
- Current breeding priorities and progress
- Value and impact of the program for Ontario farmers and the bean sector

2:30 PM - 3:10 PM | Special Guest Remarks

Field Stop 1

Brief remarks from invited representatives and partners:

- **Dr. John Cranfield**
Dean, Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph
- **John Fluttert**
Canola and Edible Bean Specialist, OMAFA
- **Mike Donnelly-Vanderloo**
Representative, Ontario Bean Growers
- **Steve Dinka**
Regional Innovation Officer (RIO)
- **Emily Boylan**
Research Analyst, Research Accountability, Management and Administration Unit, ARIO

Estimated speaking time: approximately 5-10 minutes each

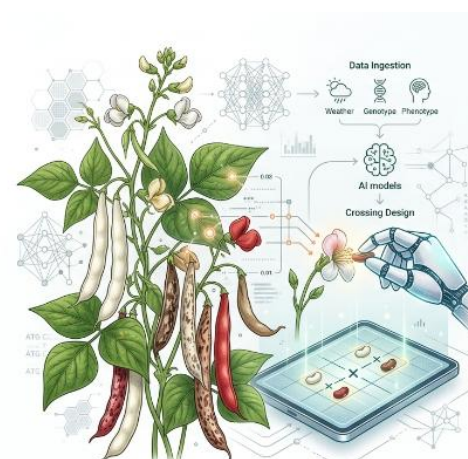
3:10 PM - 3:30 PM | Special Announcement

Announcement of the First AI-Designed Dry Bean Cross

A featured announcement highlighting the use of artificial intelligence throughout the breeding pipeline, from data preprocessing to the design of crossing blocks.

Focus:

- AI in plant breeding
- Innovation for growers and farmers
- The University of Guelph's leadership in next-generation agricultural research



3:30 PM - 3:40 PM | Field Stop 2: Anthracnose Research Field

Important Disease Precaution:

To help prevent disease spread, this will be a **no-entry stop**. Discussion will take place from the perimeter of the field.

Topics:

- Anthracnose research overview
- Disease screening and resistance breeding
- Research innovation in pathology and crop improvement

3:40 PM - 4:10 PM | Research Spotlights

- **Dr. Peter Pauls**

Professor Emeritus, Department of Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph

Short presentations from graduate students on current research projects:



- **Aashvi Patel**

Genomic Mapping for Enhanced Anthracnose Resistance

- **Philip Lorenc**

Phenomics Mapping for Enhanced Anthracnose Resistance

- **Leah Chin**

Sensory-AI Modelling of Bean Canning Quality

- **Katherine Chinchilla Hidalgo**

AI Phenotyping of SCN and BBS Responses in Adzuki Bean

Estimated speaking time: approximately 5-7 minutes each

4:10 PM - 4:15 PM | Closing Remarks & Optional Demonstrations

- Final thanks and acknowledgements
- Wrap-up of the day's program
- Optional short field demonstrations or informal discussion, if time permits

Weather Contingency Plan

In the event of inclement weather, all activities and presentations will take place **indoors in the shed at the Elora Research Station.**

Indoor Plan

- The full program will proceed in the **same order and approximate timing**
- All talks, presentations, and discussions will be held indoors
- If weather conditions improve later in the day, optional outdoor tours or demonstrations may follow the formal program

We Look Forward to Welcoming You

We look forward to welcoming researchers, growers, industry partners, government representatives, and guests to the Elora Research Station for an afternoon of learning, collaboration, and innovation in dry bean breeding.

We Are Proud of Our Supporters

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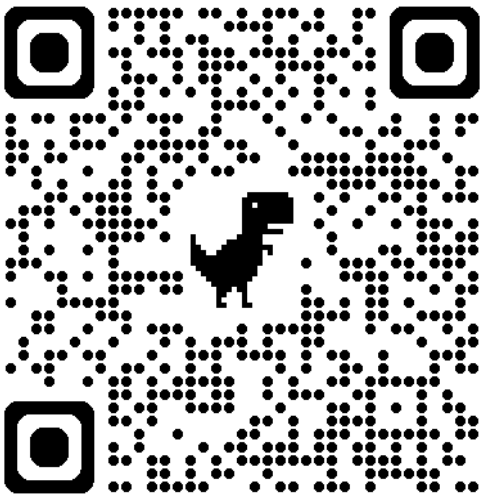
Ontario 

EST. 1925
SPRAGUE
CANNERY


Hensall
CO-OP



Visit **Youtube.com/@UofGBeanTube**
to learn more about the
Dry Bean Breeding & Computational Biology Program!

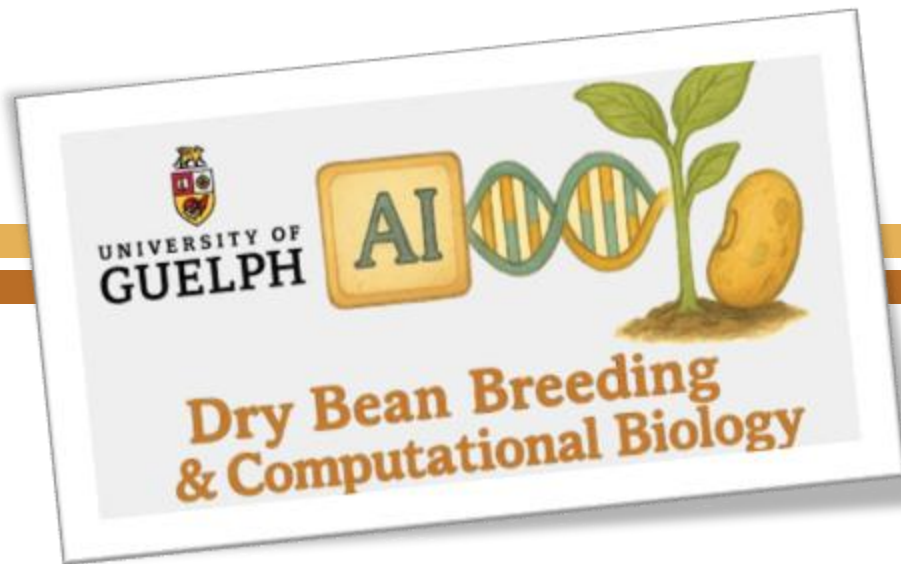


Get the details on all of
our lab's projects!

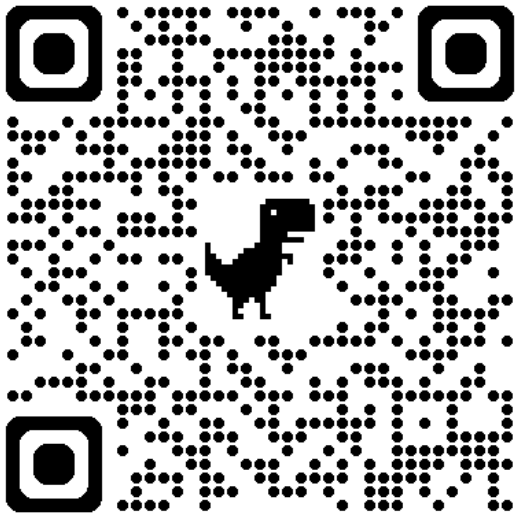
Learn about our mission
and why dry beans are the
BEST!

Watch fun Shorts with
quick facts and funny skits!

For more information, contact our Principal Investigator
Dr. Mohsen Yoosefzadeh Najafabadi
myoosefz@uoguelph.ca +1 (519) 824-4120 x 53388



Visit **UOGBeans.com**
to learn more about the
Dry Bean Breeding & Computational Biology Program!



Learn about the members
of the Bean Team!

Read about our research,
publications, and news!

Check out the Seed
Catalogue! And More!

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