

Mustard 21 Canada Inc. 2010 Update

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Mustard 21 Canada Inc.

Mustard 21 Canada Inc. (M21) is a not-for profit incorporated organization as of May 2009. M21 is an initiative of Saskatchewan Mustard Development Commission (SMDC) and Canadian Mustard Association (CMA). A preceding initiative was known simply as Mustard 21.

Mustard 21 was very successful during 2007 - 2009 in securing funds under the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Agriculture Policy Framework program to develop a strategic plan for Canadian mustard. Two key strategic opportunities, besides the traditional condiment market, were identified. Both the utility of mustard meal as a biopesticide in high value niche markets such as golf course turf and the use of mustard oil as a feedstock for industrial products such as biodiesel additive show considerable potential.

In 2008 -2009 Agricultural Council of Saskatchewan (ACS) supported the development of high value products from mustard oil for the biodiesel additive and biolubricant niche markets. The support from ACS allowed Mustard 21 to pursue mustard oil advantages for these two markets. This research work is done at University of Saskatchewan by Dr. Martin Reaney on biolubricant and by Dr. Ajay Dalai on biodiesel additive. They are looking at the advantages of mustard oil composition, containing erucic acid, which may give better chemical properties to the commercial end products.

We are working with industry partners to help them develop their own proprietary products for clients. We very much appreciate the support from ACS to develop high value products that will give options for the use of mustard oil to create a new value added domestic industry in the prairies.

SMDC and CMA had challenged M21 in 2009 to develop a long-term action plan to implement the strategic plan developed in 2008. M21 worked to develop a proposal to secure funds from the AAFC Growing Forward program. CMA, SMDC and industry partners support the Growing Forward project "Innovate Mustards" to implement a long-term program that addresses critical aspects of mustard production and new options for total mustard utilization.

The M21 "Innovate Mustards" project application under the Developing Innovative Agri-Products program (DIAP) is for the period 2009 to 2013. The financial resource for "Innovate Mustards" will help establish a long-term program to focus resources and address important aspects that will enhance all sectors of the mustard industry. "Innovate Mustards" will focus on four areas:

- i) Increase mustard yield through germplasm development to keep mustard attractive vs. other major crops;
- ii) Improve varieties that will help producers continue to grow mustard as part of their crop rotation;
- iii) Develop a new dedicated industrial oilseed mustard crop that will open new markets for non traditional mustard uses;
- iv) Develop/expand the use of mustard meal as an antimicrobial agent in foods.

Watch for updates and information on the M21 "Innovate Mustards" project activities in SMDC newsletters. M21 always looks forward to your suggestions for improvement of the mustard industry.

