

Mustard 21 Project Update

By Tom Burwell
and Pete Desai

Mustard 21 Canada Inc. (M21), a non-profit organization, succeeded in securing funds during 2007-2009 under the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Agriculture Policy Framework Brokerage program to develop a strategic plan for Canadian mustard. The two key opportunities identified, besides the traditional condiment market, were the use 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.

The Agriculture Council of Saskatchewan (ACS) has supported M21 in the development of products from mustard oil for the value added biodiesel additive and biolubricant niche markets. ACS support has allowed M21 to pursue mustard oil advantages for these two markets. This research is conducted by Dr. Martin Reaney (bio-lubricant) and by Dr. Ajay Dalai (biodiesel additive). They are looking at the advantages of mustard oil, specifically erucic acid, which may give better chemical properties to the commercial end products. M21 is working with industry partners to help them develop their own proprietary products for their clients.

M21 very much appreciates ACS support to develop end use high value products that will give options for the use of mustard oil; thereby adding to the emerging value added domestic industry in the Prairies.

M21 has developed a proposal for 2009 - 2013 to seek funds from the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Growing Forward program. Canadian Mustard Association, SMDC and industry partners are

Watch for the latest information on the M21 activities in future newsletters. M21 always looks forward to your suggestions and inputs for improvement of the mustard industry.

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supporting this Growing Forward proposal to implement a long-term breeding program that will address the important aspects of mustard production and new options for total mustard utilization. The intention is to make mustard industry more competitive in Canada through:

- i) increased yield
- ii) improved varieties through better germplasm development
- iii) new mustards
- iv) use as antimicrobial agent in foods

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