

# THE GROAT

Manitoba Buckwheat Growers Association Inc.

March 2022

## MANITOBA BUCKWHEAT GROWERS ASSOCIATION INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Thursday March 3, 2022

See [Buckwheat.mb.ca](http://Buckwheat.mb.ca) for the AGM reports  
Program agenda included the following;

- Reports
- Website
- Director elections
- Presentations

### 2021 production highlights

The growing season of 2021 will go down in history as a warm and dry summer. In 2021, Manitoba buckwheat harvested acreage reported to 3800 acres based on Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) data. MASC typically captures 85 to 90 % of the acres seeded to crops in Manitoba so actual acreage should therefore be somewhat higher than the reported acres. This compares to reported harvested acres of 5,834 in 2020 or a decrease of almost 34 %. The number of growers reporting decreased from 40 to 26 in those years. As a result the number of acres harvested per producer increased from 133 acres to 146 acres.

As seen in the graph below, the number of reported acres harvested in Manitoba has been relatively steady to declining over the last five years.

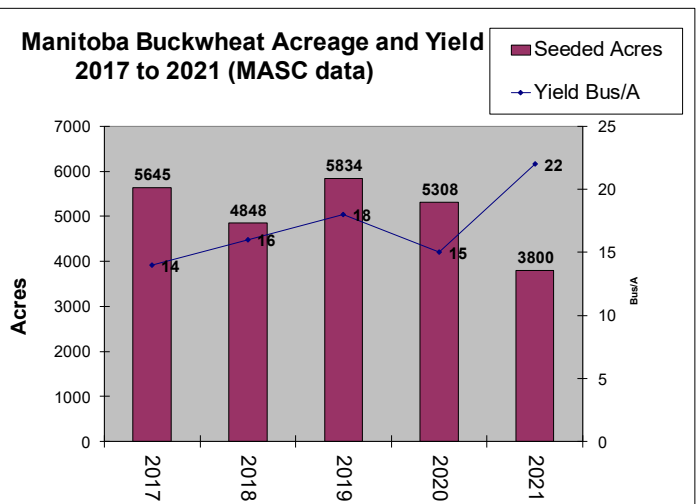
Main risks involved in growing buckwheat remain production related; lack of weed control options, lower profitability compared to other crops and lack of pricing for export contracts.

In 2021 growing conditions were generally warmer and dryer than normal across Manitoba. This follows two years of below normal in-season precipitation except for the fall of 2019 when higher than normal precipitation helped to recharge sub soil moisture for the 2020 growing season.

Much of the buckwheat acres are now concentrated in North Western region of Manitoba. Precipitation was below normal but later August rains helped the crop with seed filling resulting in above average normal seed yields. Average reported yield of 22 bus/a for 2021 is above the long term average yield of 17 bus/a in Manitoba.

Sources of information for variety performance include the Manitoba Crop Variety Evaluation Team (MCVET) small plot replicated and randomized trials published in **Seed Manitoba** annually. As well, the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (**MASC**) database uses growers' actual yield results reported annually by variety and acres. The limitation for the **MASC** database is the small amount of acres for buckwheat to provide good comparable variety performance.

[https://www.masc.mb.ca/masc.nsf/mppp\\_browser\\_variety.html](https://www.masc.mb.ca/masc.nsf/mppp_browser_variety.html)



## Nutrient Uptake in Buckwheat, 2021 field study

A field study to better understand the nutrient uptake of buckwheat was undertaken based on protocol developed for sequential sampling of crops. Nutrient analysis of samples collected combined with the biomass harvested of plant components from first leaves until full maturity was used to develop nutrient uptake curves. Three randomized and replicated plots were grown at the Carberry Crop Diversification Center. Harvested samples were oven dried to measure weight and analyzed for nutrient content.

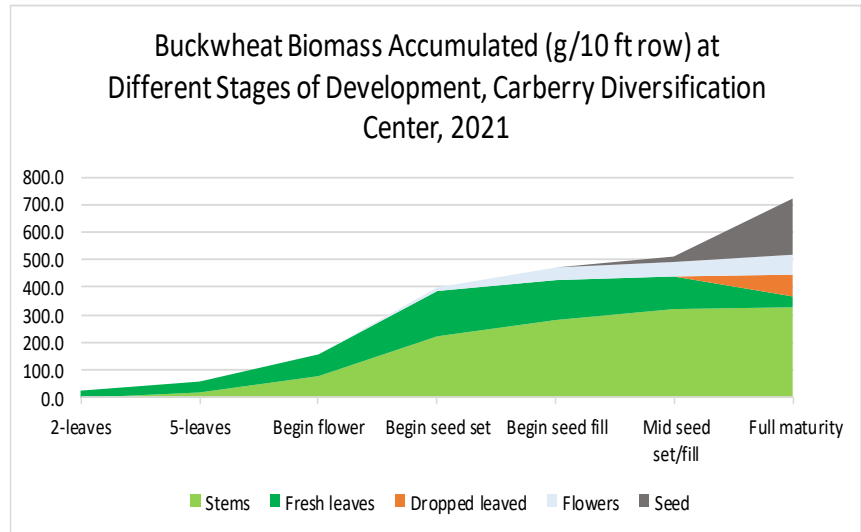
Nutrient uptake was determined by combining the biomass of each plant components and nutrient levels. Plant growth was uniform from planting in early June to full maturity late September. Plant biomass increased rapidly until flowering then slowed but continued until full maturity.

Nutrient uptake curves were derived from the data collected for macro and micro nutrients.

This study is unique and has potential for use in numerous agronomic applications like when to cut for maximum leaf material and measuring nutrient use efficiency.

A full report with pictures and data analysis is available from the Manitoba Diversification Centers website.

<https://mbdiversificationcentres.ca/>



## Ag Days

2022 was to be the 45th edition of the largest Western Canadian indoor farm show at the Keystone Center in Brandon. Unfortunately, for the second year in a row, due to the covid-19 pandemic, it was not to be. The Association has been a regular exhibitor at Ag Days for many years in an effort to promote buckwheat production and consumption by offering cookies or small groat samples with recipes on how to use buckwheat.

### Now you can visit us anytime!

With the launch of a website in January 2021, the Association directors have decided to discontinue being an exhibitor at Ag Days. A live website puts the Association within reach anytime to anyone looking for information on growing and consuming buckwheat.

Visit us at [mbbuckwheat.ca](http://mbbuckwheat.ca)

## Contact Information

**Manitoba Buckwheat Growers Association Inc, 536 Stephen St, Morden, Manitoba R6M 1T7**

**Visit us at [buckwheat.mb.ca](http://buckwheat.mb.ca)**

### MANITOBA BUCKWHEAT GROWERS INC. 2021 EXECUTIVE

Marc Durand, President	Notre-Dame	248-2268	Cam Stockford, Vice-Pres.	Altamont	744-2207
Dan DeRuyck, director	Treherne	526-2066	David Huyber, Director	Langruth	445-2285
Syd Puchailo, Director	Grandview	546-2074	Albert Dohan, Director	Ethelbert	742-3746
Les McEwan, Director	Altamont	744-2344	Ben Fyk, Director	Garland	742-3533
Lee Anne Murphy	Winnipeg				