



# Issues and Priorities

**CFIA National Seed Team Meeting**

**May, 2007**

# It Starts with the Seed

## In 2002 the Seed Sector in Canada

- Employed over 13,000
- Contributed almost \$800 million to GDP
- Exported over \$188 million to 70 countries

# The Canadian Seed Trade Association

- **140 members ranging from:**
  - **companies that market garden seed and herbs to large western grain handlers**
  - **small family-run businesses to large multinational corporations**
- **Seeds from 50 principal crops:**
  - **grains and oilseeds, special crops, forage and turf grasses, flowers, vegetables, fruits**

# The Canadian Seed Trade Association

## Mission Statement:

Through the collective efforts of our membership, the CSTA is committed to fostering an environment conducive to researching, developing, distributing and trading seed and associated technologies; with the goal of bettering the choices and successes of our members and their customers

# The Canadian Seed Trade Association

## Key Goals:

1. **Fostering Innovation**
2. **Support for a Science Based Regulatory System**
3. **Increase the Use of Pedigreed Seed**
4. **Support the Understanding and Use of identity-Preserved Systems**
5. **Improve Market Access and Understanding for the International Trade of Seed.**



## Fostering Innovation

- **Improved regulatory environment**
  - **Variety registration**
  - **PNT policy and triggers**
  - **Intellectual Property Protection**
- **Funding Innovation**
  - **Investment climate**
  - **Certified seed tax incentive**
  - **Work with end users**



## Science Based Regulations

- “smart” regulations – focus on health and safety
- Harmonization of regulations and legislation affecting seed
- Variety registration – more flexible and timely

## Increase the Use of Pedigreed Seed

- Certified seed tax incentive
- Incentives through other programs (crop insurance)
- Communication with producers and end users



## Support Identity Preserved Systems

- Use of variety names
- Affidavit systems
- Promote the role of seed in IP

## Improve Market Access

- International Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary rules and actions
- Market acceptance principles and best practises
- Adventitious presence of GM material in food, feed and seed



# **CSTA Projects:**

## **Understanding the Value of the Seed Industry**

- **Contribution to Provincial and Canadian GDP**
- **Value of exports**
- **Contribution to Provincial and Canadian employment**
- **Investment in research and development**



# **CSTA Projects:**

## **Benchmarking the Canadian Seed Industry**

- **Where do we stand internationally**
- **Investment in plant breeding and research**
- **Value capture mechanisms**
- **Use of certified seed**
- **Private vs public research**
- **Regulatory environment and investment climate**
- **Programs and policies to foster innovation**



# **CSTA Projects:**

## **Market Information**

- **Market Choices – corn hybrids not accepted in the EU**
- **Corn Hybrid List – list of commercially available hybrids**
- **Certified seed sales data – aggregate information for members**
- **International HS Code Book – for exporters and importers**
- **Import/export data**



# CSTA Projects:

## Promote the Understanding of Intellectual Property Protection

- To “front line” in the seed industry
- Understand and explain IP and the shared responsibility of the technology owner and user

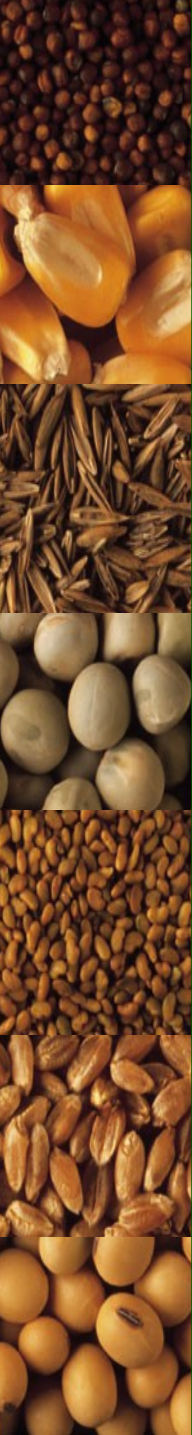


# **CSTA 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

**“Fostering Innovation”**

**July 15 – 17, 2007**

**Westin Hotel, Ottawa**



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