



**The Private Sector Invests in Plant Breeding, Research and Variety Development  
CSTA Investment Survey Results**

In 2012, private companies invested \$101.3 million in plant breeding, research and variety development in Canada. That is almost 5% of their combined domestic sales, and it represents an increase of more than 78% from 2007. The forecast is that investment will increase by almost another million dollars by 2017.

These numbers come from a Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA) survey of its member companies. CSTA conducts a survey of this type every five years to help us and our value chain partners to understand the role of CSTA's private company members in Canada's innovation agenda. The most recent survey was conducted in 2013 to gather information on investment in 2012. CSTA members were also asked to provide projections for investment in 2017. The results of the survey have recently been finalized.

The survey shows that private sector investment continues to focus primarily in three crops: canola, corn and soybeans. In 2012 89% of private sector investment was in those three crops.

In 2012, 8 % of private sector investment was in cereal plant breeding, research and variety development. That is an increase from 2007 when 6% of private sector investment was in cereals.

Companies are projecting that while investment will continue to focus mostly in canola, corn and soybeans (75% of total investments); cereal plant breeding, research and variety development will have a growing share of their total investments. They forecast that more than 13% of their combined investments will be in cereal plant breeding, research and variety development in 2017.

Private sector investment is very much dependent on the ability of companies to receive a return on their investments. That ability is very much dependent on the regulatory and policy environments in which companies operate.

**CSTA member Investment by Crop Kind (\$CDN)**

	<b>1987</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2007 Percentages</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2012 Percentages</b>	<b>2017 (projected)</b>	<b>2017 Percentages</b>
Canola	7,100,000	30,500,000	41,900,000	74	64,800,000	64	56,540,000	56
Corn	2,800,000	7,900,000	4,800,000	8	16,540,000	16	20,150,000	20
Soybeans	700,000	2,600,000	3,900,000	7	9,570,000	9	9,520,000	9
Other Oilseeds					1,250,000	1	900,000	1
Cereals	1,500,000	2,300,000	3,300,000	6	8,378,000	8	13,511,000	13
<i>Wheat</i>					<i>6,160,000</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>12,120,000</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Barley</i>					<i>1,680,000</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>721,000</i>	<i>0.7</i>
<i>Other Cereals</i>					<i>538,000</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>670,000</i>	<i>0.7</i>
Forages	300,000	800,000	500,000	1	180,000	0.2	401,000	0.4
Pulse Crops					235,000	0.2	150,000	0.1
Special Crops	100,000	400,000	1,000,000	2	1,850	0	9,250	0.01
Vegetables	100,000	0	0		0	0	0	0
Other	1,600,000	800,000	1,600,000	3	360,000	0.4	370,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,200,000</b>	<b>45,300,000</b>	<b>57,000,000</b>		<b>101,314,850</b>		<b>101,551,250</b>	

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