

# National Consultation Leads to Agrivita Research to Practice Plan for Canada

Asselin et al. (2009)

<https://doi.org/10.1080/10599240902779477>

## For which topic were research priorities identified?

agricultural health and safety

## In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

North America - Canada

## Why was it conducted at all?

The agriculture and agri-food industry is a key driver of the Canadian economy. The industry is the largest manufacturing sector in seven provinces, providing one in seven jobs across the country. Agricultural production is associated with significant safety and health risks to the producer, family members, workers, and surrounding communities as a result of airborne contamination, food and water quality issues, and workplace injuries. In 2006 there was a total of 13,801 farm injuries. It has been identified that a gap exists between knowledge creation through research on the one hand, and its integration into practices and program delivery on the other hand. In order to identify the dimensions of this gap and identify approaches to address it, a "National Stakeholder Consultation on Health and Safety Research and its Effective Translation to the Agricultural Sector" was undertaken in 2007. The purpose of the consultation was to evaluate needs, gaps, and approaches for applied research and knowledge translation in agricultural health and safety in Canada and thereby to develop a concept for a Canadian approach that will bridge the gap.

## What was the objective?

to consult agricultural stakeholders across Canada in order to identify the health and safety priorities in research and knowledge translation, and then to propose an approach to bridge the gap

## What was the outcome?

a list of 5 research topics

## How long did the research prioritization take?

April 2007 - August 2007

## Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

focus group; survey

## How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: focus groups: 15 focus groups, 2-3 hours long, participants were asked to discuss priorities and gaps in agricultural health and safety research, as well as priorities and to discuss a process for knowledge translation. Step 2: survey: participants were asked to submit the most important health and safety problem that they saw in agriculture both at the present time (current) and in the future, participants were then asked to rate concerns about health and safety issues, priorities and gaps in health and safety research and priorities for knowledge translation

## Which stakeholders took part?

Farmers, producers and other agricultural organizations, entities delivering health and safety information at the farm level, agricultural suppliers and processors, researchers engaged in the agricultural health and safety field, and policymakers with responsibilities that impact on the direction, scope and funding of research. Focus groups: over 150 participants. Survey: 289 participants.

## How were stakeholders recruited?

Focus groups: Organizations and individuals consulted were selected through the CCHSA National Program and its well-established partnerships and collaboration contact. Survey: survey was mailed and distributed at various events such as focus group meetings, the Farm Progress Show (Regina, SK), and the 2007 National Institute for Farm Safety Conference (Penticton, BC) where farmers, agribusiness, academics, researchers, and other agricultural stakeholders from across Canada were reached.

## Were stakeholders actively involved or did they just participate?

Stakeholders were mere participants of the research prioritization process; they were not actively involved in the process.