

Agriculture

Agriculture is very dependant on the climate. Climate variations and unseasonable weather often result in crop failure and major economic losses. The impact of climate change on the Canadian agriculture could be beneficial to some crops, while costly to others. In addition, the agricultural sector accounts for 10% to 13% of Canada's greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions. Sustainable agricultural practices will have to include ways to reduce agricultural GHG emissions. Fortunately, the agricultural sector has a strong history of adapting its practices to adjust to new technologies or meet new challenges.

The **New Brunswick Climate Change Hub** will help interested stakeholders in agriculture to discuss the issue of climate change in agriculture and how producers can reduce emissions or adapt to climate impacts. The Hub can develop awareness activities for producers and the general public in cooperation with various stakeholders.

By adopting measures to reduce their GHG emissions, producers can reduce their environmental impact and help sustain their industry. These measures can have positive impacts for soil and water conservation, as well as reduce or sequester some GHGs. Some of the key practices are:

- Manure management
- Fertilizer management
- Grazing management
- Land use conversion and enhancements
- Tree planting on agricultural lands (windbreaks, buffers, riparian zone)
- Soil conservation and soil erosion reduction
- Transportation and purchasing behaviours

Researchers in the Canadian agriculture sector have recently undertaken work to identify and demonstrate the Best Management Practices (BMP) that can be used efficiently to both reduce GHG emissions and ensure economic viability of farms. These researchers are connected with information and awareness organisations, which will disseminate the results of their work to producers across the country.

How the Agriculture Sector is doing it's bit...

The Eastern Canada Soil and Water Conservation Centre

The Eastern Canada Soil and Water Conservation Centre (ECSWCC) promotes sustainable agriculture through information and awareness. The activities of the ECSWCC are mainly in agro-environmental issues, including climate change.

The Centre is a partner in the Canadian Climate Change Agricultural Awareness Partnership Project. Its mandate is to stimulate the promotion of best management practices (BMP) that can reduce GHG emissions or sequester carbon and therefore help mitigate climate change.

The main activities of the ECSWCC include the production of fact sheets and other documents, organisation of workshops and conferences, as well as networking with producer groups, government institutions and research organisations.

For more information on this project, contact the Eastern Canada Soil and Water Conservation Centre at ccse-swcc@cuslm.ca or by phone at (506) 475-4040.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.nbhub.org

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