Recent Trends In Canada's Grains Industry & Grains Innovation Roundtable

Dennis Stephens Canada Grains Council Australian Grains Industry Conference 2009 Melbourne, Australia 29th July 2009



Canada's Agriculture Industry

Influenced by:

- Geography
- Climate
- Population
- Government
- Innovation

Canada's Geography

- 10 million km²
- 25% forested
- 7% farmland
- Common border with USA

80% of Canada's Farmland

Prairie Region

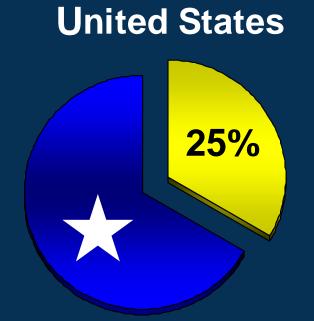
Vast Distances to Market Costs vary by commodity e.g. 2007-08 export basis: - \$54/tonne canola - \$85 /tonne yellow peas

1700 km

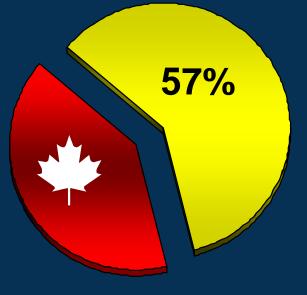
3500 km

Canada's Cold Climate = Short Growing Season On Farm Storage

Small Population = Exports Grain Exports as % of Production







304 Million

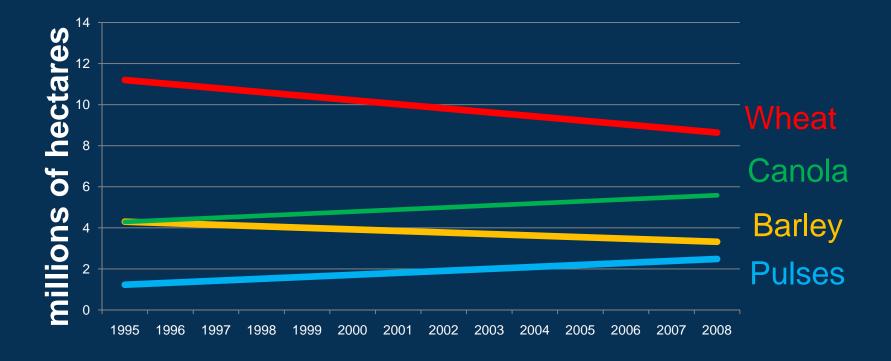
33 Million

- POPULATION -

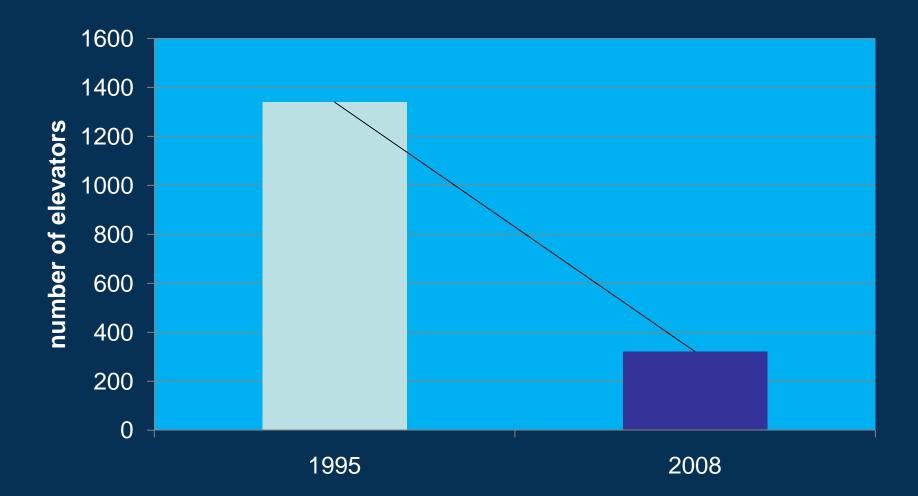
Recent Trends: 1995 - 2009

- 1995: Government Policy Removal of Crow Rate Rail Subsidy Fundamentally Changed Economics Within Western Grain Industry
- 1995: Innovation GMO canola commercialized; in some years canola now most valuable Canadian crop

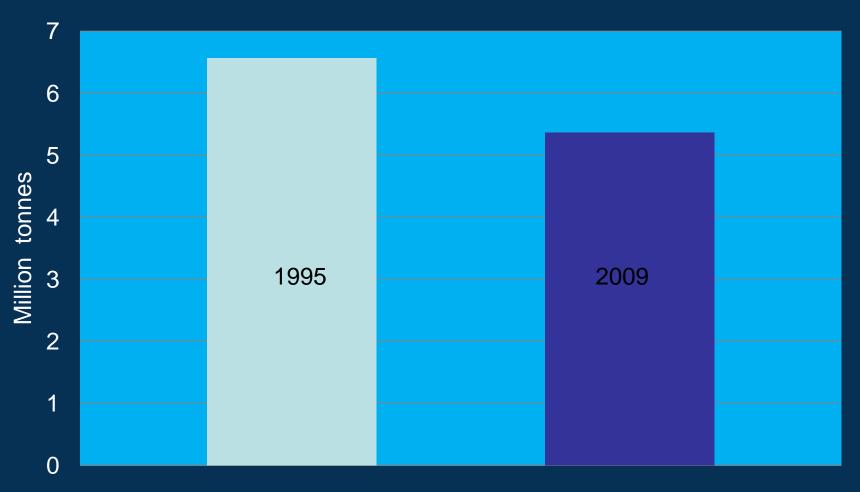
Crop Choices



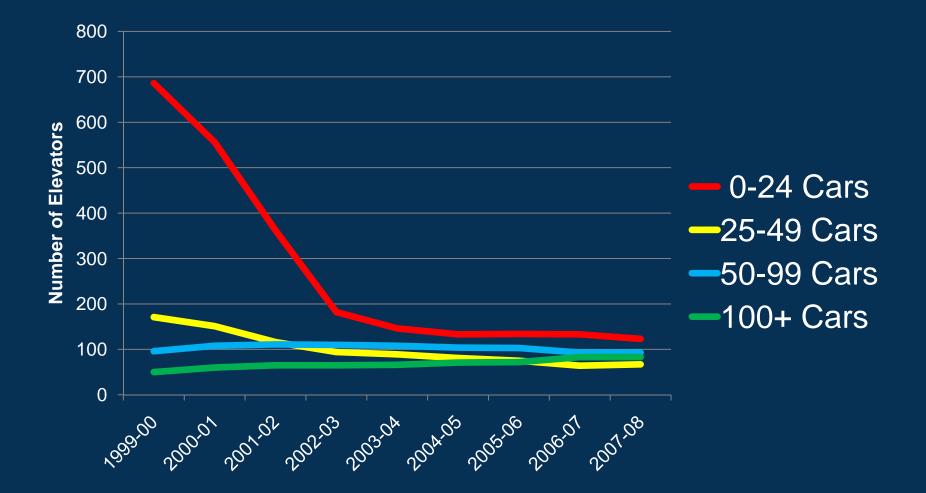
Decline In Primary Elevators



Primary Elevator Storage Capacity



Primary Elevator Loading Capacity



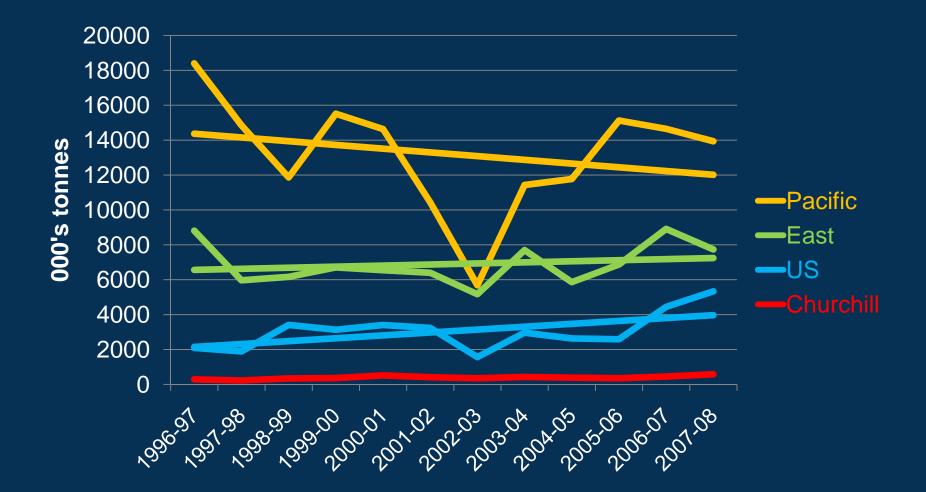


Primary elevator:

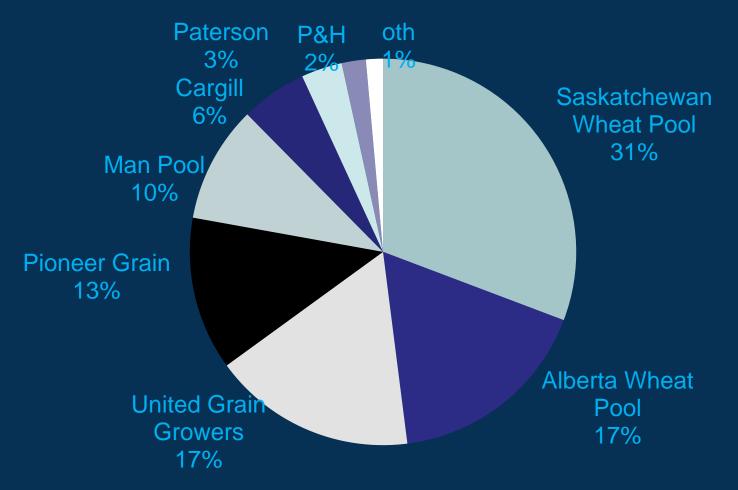
High Throughput

Average 6 x storage

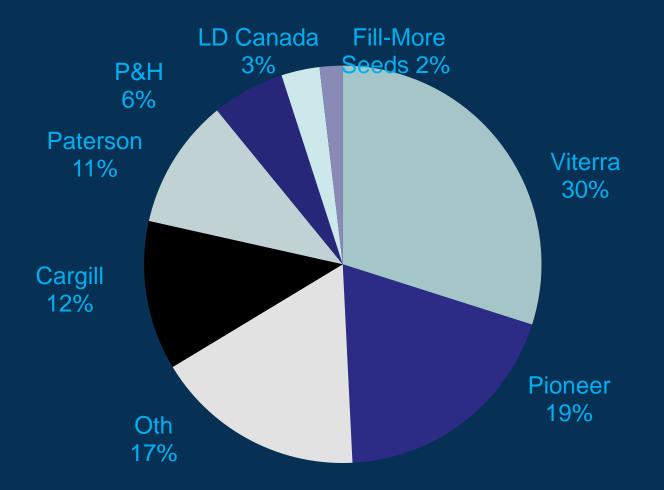
Grain Movement



Structural Change : 1995 4 Major Farmer Companies



Structural Change: 2009 0 Major Farmer Companies



Domestic Use of Grains and Oilseeds Increasing

- Feed on farms 8 million tonnes
- Feed mills 8 million tonnes
- Oil processing plants 4 million tonnes
- Domestic flour mills 2.5 million tonnes
- Maltsters 0.7 million tonnes
- Brewers and distillers 0.3 million tonnes

Canola Council Projections

Element Production Yield Oil content Classic to designer Export seed Crush Biodiesel (domestic) Biodiesel (export oil) Food

2006 9.1 mt 30.5 bu/a 42.5% 90/10 5.2 mt 3.7 mt 0.05 mt 0.25 mt 3.4 mt

2015 15 mt 40.5 bu/a 45% 75/25 7.5 mt 7.5 mt 2 mt0.50 mt 5 mt

Why Emphasis on Grains Innovation?

- Canada's geography and climate place restrictions on country's grains and oilseeds industry
- Canada not likely to become lowest cost producer: one crop/short growing season/high transportation costs
- Commercialization of innovation critical to industry's growth: GMO canola in1995 – in some years now exceeds wheat value

Grains Innovation Report

- Developed by Canada Grains Council
 - 40+ member value chain Management Committee
 - Committee achieved consensus on 26 recommendations designed to improve Canada's capacity to commercialize innovation
 - Published June 2008
 - Posted on Canada Grains Council's web page: www.canadagrainscouncil.ca

Grains Innovation Roundtable

- Special partnership between Canada Grains Council and Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada
 - AAFC provides logistic support
 - CGC directs policy evolution
- Purpose: To facilitate implementation of 26 recommendations in Innovation Report
- Specific time frame: February 2009 June 2010

Composition/operations

- Roundtable: 60 members from grains, oilseeds, pulses value chain and federal / provincial governments - meets 4 times
- Steering Committee: 30 members cross section of Roundtable: conference call every two months
- Working Groups: 5 Working Groups -12-30+ members: conference call/meet as required

Working Groups

- Crop Regulations
- Primary & Further Processing Regulations
- Trade Policy
- Crop Research
- Communications

Roundtable Summary

- Grains Innovation Roundtable exciting new industry/government partnership:
 - Key Canada Grains Council representing value chain responsible for substance
 - All Working Groups have met twice: Each Working Group has created sub groups to examine specific issues
 - Excellent participation; high energy
 - Long way to go, but initial signs encouraging

Conclusions

- Canada's grain industry has undergone significant change in recent years
- Industry poised for significant domestic growth: e.g. 2.5 million tonnes of canola crush capacity to be added this year
- Future emphasis will focus on quality
- Emphasizes importance of rapid commercialization of new innovation and work of the Grains Innovation Roundtable

Thank you

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