

# 2023 Year in REVIEW



Western Applied Research Corporation

April 2024

## WARC Team

2023 was an exciting year at WARC! We began 2023 with Stacy Hawkins and Herb Schell welcoming back Kayla Slind, Lead Research Associate, from her second maternity leave. As the year continued our team expanded, and in May we embraced the arrival of our new Research Agronomist, Koralie Mack and our three amazing summer students, Paige Shultz (Yr. 2), Devyn McLean (Yr. 1) and Hannah Kopp (Yr. 1). As a team, the WARC crew successfully managed 39 trials consisting of 1,564 plots funded by 20 collaborators. With smooth sailing through the growing season and results being submitted by early January we happily reunited with two more familiar faces. The turning of the year 2024 also brought back Alex Waldner, Research Associate, from her Master's studies and Jessica Enns, Research Manager, from her second maternity leave.

With the 2024 growing season is fast approaching, we are excited to hit the ground running. We are planning to take on 54 small plot trials and expand our program into on farm research. Kayla Slind has done a wonderful job organizing 47 on farm trials to take place in this area. We would like to extend a warm thank you to all the producers that have volunteered their time for research on their farms. In May 2024, WARC will be welcoming back two of our previous summer students, Paige Shultz



WARC Summer Staff (L-R): Stacy Hawkins, Hannah Kopp, Paige Shultz, Koralie Mack, Devyn McLean, Herb Schell and Kayla Slind.

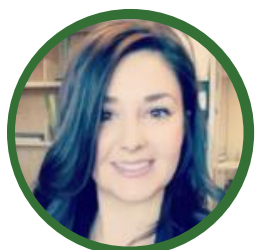
and Devyn McLean, and introducing two new faces, Gracen Rewerts and Brooklyn Salewski. We could not be more excited to see what 2024 has in store for WARC.

*-WARC Staff*

## Our Board

Mike Palmier (Chair)	Plenty, SK
Eric Charabin (Vice-Chair)	North Battleford, SK
Rob Jones (Retired)	Speers, SK
Jayden Nachtegaele	North Battleford, SK
Micheal Hicks	Glaslyn, SK
Jennifer Mundt	Biggar, SK
Justin Askildt	Wilkie, SK
Katie Donahue	Biggar, SK
Mike Bender	Warman, SK
Andrew Herle	Wilkie, SK
Andria Roelens	Battleford, SK
Jason Veikle (NEW)	Cut Knife, SK

## Our Staff



**Jessica Enns**

Research Manager



**Stacy Hawkins**

Business Operations Manager



**Kayla Slind**

Lead Research Associate



**Alex Waldner**

Research Associate



**Koralie Mack**

Research Agronomist



**Herb Schell**

Seasonal Technician



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WARC SK

www.warc.ca



## 2023 Events

### Field Day

We had a great time at our 2023 Field Day last July. For 2023, we chose to incorporate a half-day format, where we showcased three trials, each from the AAFC Staff and WARC Staff. We ended up having lots of time to review and spotlight extra trials as time and interest arose. Herb Schell received his 10-year acknowledgement of service with WARC at lunch, a great way to commemorate all of the hard work, effort and time he puts into this team. We have planned our 2024 Field Day for **July 10, 2024**.

### Invitational Events

WARC has also been invited to present at events in our area, and we would like to acknowledge the organizations that allowed us to fulfill our mandate and continue to transfer knowledge to producers, Nutrien Kochia Conference (Unity, SK and Saskatoon, SK), TopNotch Farming (SaskCanola; St. Walberg, SK and Unity, SK), Home Grown Research: Fertilizer Management Webinar (AgriARM and Sask Ministry) and Home Grown Research: Cereal Update (AgriARM and Sask Ministry).

## 2023 Research Highlights

As mentioned above we had a very strong 2023 growing season as we successfully managed 39 trials consisting of 1,564 plots funded by 20 collaborators. Here is a list of the projects we ran in 2023. If any of these topics interest you please check them out on our website, [www.warc.ca](http://www.warc.ca) or get ahold of us using the email [contact@warc.ca](mailto:contact@warc.ca).

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Topic &amp; No. of Trials</i>	<i>Crop</i>	<i>Topic &amp; No. of Trials</i>	
<b>Cereals</b>	Land Roller Management in Barley (1)	<b>Pulses</b>	Lentil Response to residual N & inoculant (1)	
	4R Management in Oats (1)		Lentil Fertility (1)	
	Fungicides in Wheat (1)		Fenugreek Seed Treatment (1)	
	Barley Max (1)		Biological Enhancements (1)	
	Wheat Stem Sawfly Damage (1)		Novel Pulse Crops (1)	
	Seeding Rates in Wheat (1)		Fungicide on Faba Beans (1)	
	Wheat PGR by Variety (1)		Pea Root Rot (3)	
	Nitrogen Fixing Bacteria in Wheat (1)		Private (2)	
	Barley N, PGR & Fungicide (1)		<b>Oil Seeds</b>	Cadmium in Flax (1)
	EEF Fertilizers in Wheat (2)			Hemp Seeding Dates (1)
	Striped Rust in Cereals (1)	Nitrogen Fixing Bacteria (1)		
	Yellow Flashing Effect in Wheat (1)	Private (4)	<b>Other (fallow)</b>	Private (1)
	Private (6)			
<b>Forage</b>	Saline Tolerant Forage Mix (1)			

### Crop Opportunity

The 2024 Crop Opp was a huge success. This year we moved venues to the Western Development Museum and hired Encore, an audio-visual service provider to assist in the hybrid delivery of the event. We had the privilege of hosting engaging presenters such as Dr. Steve Shirliffe, Dr. Michelle Hubbard, Dr. Brian Beres, Dr. Shaun Sharpe, Quinton Cubbon and Grain Commission employees such as, Carmen Prang, Mike Brown, Kaeley Kindrachuk and Mitchell Japp. Crop Opp 2025 is planned for **March 6, 2025**.

### SaskWheat Coffee Talk

This year WARC was asked to co-host the SaskWheat Coffee Talk in Wilkie alongside Nutrien and Syngenta. Although the event landed during the coldest week of the year, we were fortunate for a strong turnout and a great event.



Trailer ride out to the plots at the 2023 Scott Field Day.



## What's NEW in 2024

As we impatiently await the beginning of the 2024 growing season, we would like to highlight some of the exciting things to watch for in the coming year.

### UpComing EVENTS

#### Field Days

Check out the calendar below for WARC & AgriARM Field Days:

July 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 	11 	12	13
14	15	16 	17	18 	19	20
21	22	23 	24 	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### WARC Acreage and Funding

Throughout the last few years, WARC has been rapidly expanding. As some may know, in 2022 WARC purchased our first quarter of land. Since then, the land has been farmed in preparation for small-plot work commencing in 2025.

At the turn of 2023, WARC also decided to purchase an acreage located in the Town of Scott for increased storage capacity and convenient access to our new WARC land. Throughout the summer we had the 10-acre parcel cleaned up and the buildings restored for equipment storage. As we continue expansion in 2024, we will be erecting a multi-purpose agricultural facility commencing at ground thaw.



Storage shed on new WARC acreage before clean up and restoration (L) and after (R).

#### Summer Student Field Day

- June 5, 2024, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Scott Experimental Farm
- An event to increase interest in agriculture for local high school students

#### Crop Diagnostic School

- July 24-25, 2024
- Melfort, SK; Northeast Agriculture Research Foundation

#### Crop Opportunity

- March 6, 2025
- North Battleford, SK

WARC's expansion and ongoing growth would not have been possible without the generous funding provided by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Sask Wheat, Sask Pulse, Sask Canola and Sask Barley. The funds provided by the Ministry were used to update our soil sampler and purchase a truck. While the Sask Wheat funding was used to purchase numerous capital items to assist in our research program and expand our trial base. As we move into 2024, the infrastructure funding provided by Sask Pulse, Sask Canola and Sask Barley will aid in the construction of a new building at the acreage.



**2023 Sponsors**

**PLATINUM**



**GOLD**



**Silver**



**BRONZE**



**2023 Product and In-Kind Donations**



**2023 Event Sponsors**

**2023 Field Day**

Innovation Federal Credit Union, Equinom, Discovery Seed Labs, Gowan, Bourgault, Max Ag Consulting Ltd. and Soileos

**Lunch:** SeCan, Agriculture and Agrifood Canada and WARC

**Refreshment & Snack Sponsor:** SaskOat Development Commission

**2024 Crop Opportunity**

AGT Foods, Bourgault, Gowan, Max Ag Consulting Ltd., Parish & Heimbecker, Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists, Co-op and Richie Bros. Auctioneers

**Lunch:** Redhead Equipment and WARC

**Refreshment & Snack Sponsor:** SaskOat Development Commission and Innovation Federal Credit Union