



First Project Funded!

The ACIDF board is pleased to announce the awarding of the fund's first grant. At the November board meeting three projects were approved for funding. The first project to cut through the "red tape" and complete the grant contract focuses on special crop market development work.

The project titled "*Development of a Compositional Data Base for Alberta Pulse Crops*" (2002C003N) is under the joint leadership of Connie Phillips, manager of CAIT in Edmonton, and Dr. Stan Blade, well-known director of CDC North. Pulse Canada and the Alberta Pulse Network contributed to the development of the project concept.. The industry's rapid growth throughout Canada has met strong world-wide competition. Australia, for example, has developed and published an excellent summary of chemical and nutritional values as well as representative pictures of Australian pulses. This type of information captures the consumer's eye.

Connie Phillips describes her project as a preliminary study to establish compositional information for a Canadian database for western Canadian pulse crops. The pulse trade can use this information

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Pulse Database Project *(continued)*

when establishing contract specifications. Animal and human nutritionists will benefit when working with pulses in their dietary specifications. A Canadian database could serve as the basis for nutritional labeling of food products.

This project can be thought of as a platform for future work. The database will provide benchmarks of interest to researchers attempting to improve the quality of pulse crops. Identifying the components of highest value will focus future research work in the nutraceutical, functional food, animal feed and agri-industrial uses markets.

Phillips sees three clear objectives to this project:

- Development of a compositional database for Northern Alberta pulse crops
- Development of a marketing tool for Northern Alberta pulses
- Development of the protocol to develop a Canadian compositional database.

Initial work will concentrate on 80 different pea genotypes provided by the CDC- North breeding program. The compositional factors to be evaluated include: fat, protein, soluble and insoluble dietary fibre, carbohydrate, starch ratios and phytoestrogen content.



Connie Phillips at AAFRD's Food Processing Centre in Leduc



Phillips analyzes pea samples.

The project team has the knowledge to work in both the field and the laboratory. Co-applicants include Dr Yumiko Hoyano, Dr Kevin Swallow and Jackie Tieulie. The project will include participants from AAFRD's CAIT, CDC-North, Food Safety Division, and Food Processing Development Centre. The team will network with researchers in other provinces including Manitoba and Ontario.

The pulse database project is expected to take nearly one year and will receive a grant of \$7,770 from ACIDF. The remainder of the \$13,850 total cost will be funded through CDC-North (AAFRD) and Zone 3 Pulse Growers Association.

More information on the project can be obtained from Connie Phillips via e-mail at connie.phillips@gov.ab.ca.

Did you know ...?

Non-science applications (market development, investment attraction and extension projects) require a *FULL application* and a *detailed budget*.

Updated applications are on the website at

<http://www.acidf.ca/library.htm>



Burn-Down Rate Modified

The term “burn-down rate” is commonly used in financial circles to illustrate how quickly funds are removed from an investment or commitment. ACIDF has used a system of targets, rather than a precise quota amount for each year’s grants. The less demanding guideline allows the company to be more flexible and to react to the quality of the projects under review.

The original burn-down rate was set early in the company’s development. Delays in the transfer of funds, and significant changes in the Canadian economy and investment environment are reason enough to update the ACIDF disbursement policy.

Two basic changes have been made:

- The burn-down rate has been modified as shown in the table below.
- A guideline was established that 75% of each year’s funds be ear-marked for science/research projects, and 25% reserved for non-science projects.

The rates specified here are for funds committed rather than funds disbursed. For example, if the board approved a project for \$100,000 to be disbursed over 3 years, the entire \$100,000 would be considered part of this year’s commitment, even though the money would be distributed over four payments (3 annual payments plus a final payment on completion).

Table 1: Burn-Down Rate Targets (Business Plan 2.4)

Year	Former Target	New Target
2001/2	\$2,100,000	\$3,500,000
2002/3	\$3,000,000	\$3,500,000
2003/4	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
2004/5	\$2,000,000	Remainder adjusted for operating requirements
2005/6	\$1,000,000	
2006/7	Remainder	

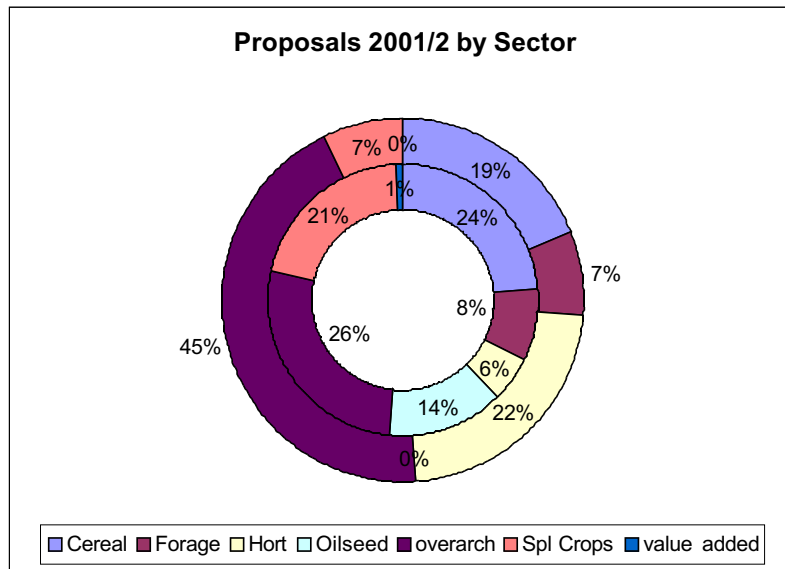
Approved Projects (Sept to Nov 2001)

2002C001N	Crop Development Opportunity Initiative	C. Foster (chair)
2002C003N	Development of a Compositional Data Base for Alberta Pulse Crops	C. Phillips (CAIT)
2002C004N	Woody Ornamental Catalogue	LANTA
2002C085N	Applied Forage Research Compilation	Alberta Forage Council
2002C099N	Growing Pulses: A Field School for East Central Alberta	CARA
2002C102N	Alfafla Seed & Leafcutter Bee Production & Marketing Manual	Irrigated Alfalfa Seed Producers Assoc.
2002C105N	Barley Sample Identification Program for the Japanese Shochu Market	D. Driedger (CDC-South)

Grant Commitment Performance

The two charts below give early indication of the performance of company. This performance is affected by the economic climate, the season and the quality of projects offered.

The ring chart compares projects by industry sectors. The outer ring has proportions of projects submitted to the company. The inner ring represents committed funds to accepted projects as of December 1st 2001 and do not include pending science/research projects. *Please note these divisions are shown for information purposes and are not an integral part of the organization's goals.*



The bar chart shows the demand situation for the company. The bar marked “original” represents the \$11.4 million grant to the ACIDF. The “committed” bar is the grant funds ear-marked as of December 1st. The final bar, “pending”, is the total of grant requests before the ACIDF on Dec. 1st. This includes the crop-related joint science/research applications that were requested in 2001/2.

