

Ag Matters

September 18, 2025



Canola and Pulses - The Dynamic Duo



In the world of sports, legendary duos like Wayne Gretzky and Mark Messier, or Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen, have demonstrated that great partnerships can lead to unprecedented success.

Just like Wayne Gretzky and Mark Messier worked together to bring home championships, pulses and canola form an unbeatable team in farming.

But instead of scoring goals or basketball points, they're revolutionizing sustainable farming and lucrative crop production.

Meet canola and pulses —the Gretzky and Messier of the agricultural world.





The Unsung Hero

While canola often grabs the headlines for its economic impact and versatility, its success is closely tied to the less heralded, yet equally important role of pulse crops like peas. Just as Scottie Pippen laid the groundwork for Michael Jordan's soaring dunks, peas (and other pulses) help create the perfect conditions for canola to thrive.

They reduce input costs, boost yields, and drive the success of Saskatchewan's agriculture. They also break disease cycles and improve soil health, making the field a perfect setup for canola's success. This partnership helps reduce the need for synthetic fertilizers, benefiting both farmers and the environment.

So, while canola may take the spotlight, it's clear that peas (and all pulses) are the all-star teammate behind the scenes, helping the agricultural MVP deliver every season.

But just as a team can't excel if they're in the penalty box, farmers can't maximize this dynamic duo's potential if export barriers like tariffs stand in the way.

Canola and peas need international markets, and when tariffs disrupt trade, the entire system suffers. Without access to global markets, farmers face uncertainty, their ability to succeed is compromised - and it feels like team agriculture is working short-handed due to a major tariff penalty.



Resolving tariffs is critical. It ensures farmers can do what they do best—grow the world's food sustainably and competitively.

Peas and canola, the dynamic duo of Saskatchewan's agriculture, need a level playing field to keep scoring big for farmers, communities, and the economy.

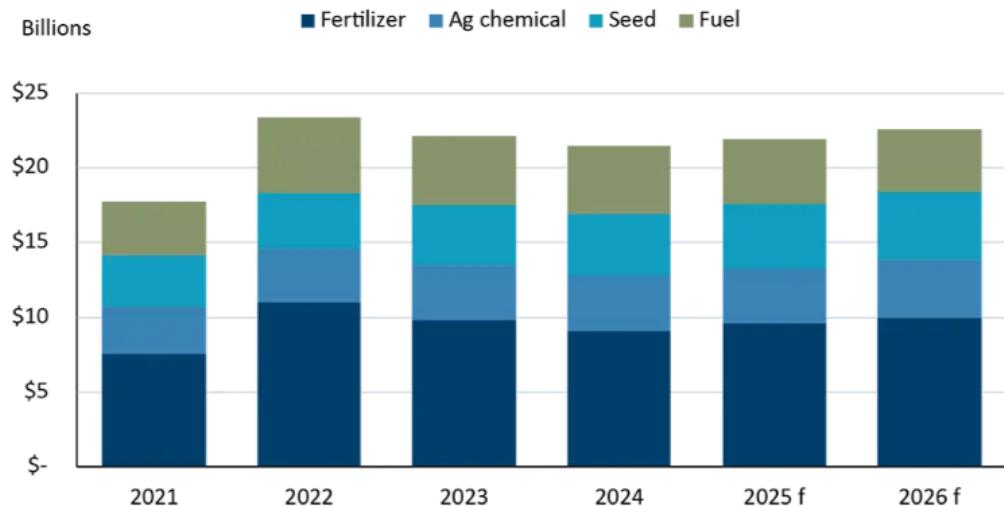
Rising Input Costs in 2026?

As harvest season progresses, it's important for farmers to keep an eye on the horizon. Input costs remain stubbornly high and show signs of climbing again. Unlike the previous year, where strong

commodity prices balanced rising expenses, 2026 is shaping up with an inverse trend: lower crop prices could squeeze margins and impact productivity.

Recently, Farm Credit Canada published its Preliminary Outlook for 2026 and it's worth a read.

Figure 1: Canadian crop input expenditures expected to remain elevated in 2026



Sources: Statistics Canada and FCC Economics

Read FCC's Report

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Shout Out to Harvest 2025



Harvesting canary seed at sunset near Rose Valley, Sask.

Photo Courtesy of Rick Sunderland

CALL FOR PROPOSALS - Enhancing Farmland Ownership Policy in Saskatchewan

APAS is reaching out to researchers and consultants for a critical analysis on farmland ownership policy in Saskatchewan. This initiative aims to bolster public trust in the regulations safeguarding farmland for the benefit of producers and their communities.

This initiative seeks to identify and recommend policy improvements that address farmland ownership concerns but also bolster the success of Saskatchewan farmers and their local communities.

Project Goals and Objectives

The purpose of this project is multifaceted, focusing on:

1. Developing practical enhancements to laws and regulations that safeguard farmland ownership, ensuring they support the needs of our local farmers and rural communities.
2. Investigating the forces that shape local land markets and formulating policies to enhance transparency in land ownership. This includes ensuring fair competition and mitigating undue influences from external investors, such as corporate entities and foreign buyers.
3. Learning from global best practices on regulating foreign land ownership, the project aims to restore and enhance trust in the rules that govern farmland purchases.
4. Making information on land titles, prices, and market trends more understandable and readily available to local farmers and the community, thus enabling better decision-making.
5. Conducting risk analyses to determine the sustainability and competitiveness of family farms in the face of current investment patterns.
6. Delivering clear, evidence-based recommendations to improve transparency, boost regulatory oversight, and maintain equitable and sustainable farmland ownership in Saskatchewan.

By enhancing Saskatchewan's policy framework and increasing market transparency, APAS aims to ensure that Saskatchewan remains an agriculture leader.

Proposals are welcomed from those who are passionate about propelling Saskatchewan's rural economy toward a prosperous future.

[For More Information - policy@apas.ca](mailto:policy@apas.ca)

APAS in the News

[Harvest and Tariffs - Saskatoon Star Phoenix - September 16](#)

[China Tariffs - CBC News September 15](#)

[NEXAT - CTV Saskatoon - September 12](#)

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