

Farms of the Future.

At the heart of McCain's business is farming. But against a backdrop of an ever-growing population, climate change, soil degradation, biodiversity loss and food waste, the future of the global food system is at risk. Reimagining a more sustainable way to grow a potato is a key element on our journey to more planet-friendly food. FARM OF THE FUTURE AFRICA Lichtenburg, South Africa

FARM OF THE FUTURE AFRICA

Our second Farm of the Future Africa, located in Lichtenburg is fully operational with its first seeds planted in November 2022. Learnings from this farm will apply to inform farming across our Southern operations. This is what we are doing with our Farms of the Future project. It is where we are gaining a better understanding of regenerative agricultural practices and their impact, costs and benefits, and where we are working with our farm partners to reimagine the way we grow a potato that is better for both their farm and the planet. By 2025, McCain will have three Farms of the Future operating in different growing regions around the world.

FARM OF THE FUTURE CANADA New

Brunswick

WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED - YEAR ONE AT FARM OF THE FUTURE CANADA

Our guiding principle of Regenerative agriculture is to Ensure Farm Resiliency. Each of the steps we have taken support that objective, and early evidence has shown implementing practices of regenerative agriculture can improve yields while ensuring more biodiversity, better soil health and requiring fewer inputs.

- Enhance Crop and Ecosystem Biodiversity by planting three varieties of potatoes (Russet Burbank, Caribou Russet and Innovator) and 28 species of cover crop
- Armour Soils with Plants by covering soil with green vegetation for 181 days which will help to prevent soil erosion and increase organic matter over time
- **Minimize Soil Disturbance** through controlled-traffic farming on potato fields, fall bedding to reduce tillage, maintain soil structure and keep carbon in the soil, and dammer-diker to prevent soil erosion and retain water
- Reduce Agro-Chemical Impacts which McCain achieved by reducing fertilizer application by nearly 17% compared to a typical McCain grower's farm in the area, helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 2% compared to grower historical average, while maintaining yields
- Integrate Organic and Livestock Elements by ensuring 28 acres of cattle pasture on the Farm of the Future Canada and developing a rotational grazing schedule with livestock from neighbouring farms

As we progress forward, we'll continue to focus on reducing our agrochemical impact, establishing a baseline for soil organic matter increase, and mapping soil health from a physical, chemical and biological perspective. We also plan to test precision agriculture and decision support systems.

Working in partnership:

- We have collaborated with several institutes and partners including Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Dalhousie University, Cornell University and the University of Guelph, as well as receiving funding under the Canada/New Brunswick Canadian Agricultural Partnership Program
- We also formed an External Advisory Board composed of agronomy practitioners, scientific experts and farmers to review and challenge progress and share technical support