

# THE SOILED PROFILE



## NEWSLETTER DEPARTMENT OF SOIL SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA “bringing you the latest dirt”



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

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Past issues of the Soiled Profile are now on our  
webpage: [umanitoba.ca/afs/soil science/](http://umanitoba.ca/afs/soil%20science/)

**26 August 2016**

### Upcoming:

Monday, Sep 5 – Labour Day Holiday. University closed.

Tuesday, Sep 6, 8:30 a.m. – Technician’s meeting in Room 375.

Saturday, Sep 10 – Winnipeg Blue Bomber Game at Investors’ Group Field. **Parking restrictions will be in effect for W lot starting at 1:30 p.m.**

Monday, Sep 12, 9:30 a.m. – The technician’s meeting in Room 375 will move to the fall and winter time of 9:30.

### Department Staff Away:

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Bo Pan               | Aug 15-26     |
| Brian Amiro          | Aug 31-Sep 2  |
| Paul Bullock         | Sep 1-2       |
| Annemieke Farenhorst | Aug 8-26      |
| Mario Tenuta         | Aug 23-26     |
| Francis Zvomuya      | Aug 22-26     |
| Lynda Closson        | Aug 30-31 (?) |

### News:

*The Passing of Albert Oliver Ridley (1932-2016) - Geza Racz and Don Flaten*

Al Ridley, retired professor in the Dept. of Soil Science, passed away on Sunday, August 14, 2016. Al’s academic and professional life was largely invested in the University of Manitoba. He completed his B.Sc. in Agriculture at the U of M in 1954 and his M.Sc. in Soil Science at the U of M in 1958. From 1954 until 1958, while working on his M.Sc., Al also worked as a field technician for the Dept. of Soil Science. Then, from 1958 until his retirement in 1995, he worked as a lecturer and then professor in the department.

Professor Ridley's main focus was teaching and applied research in soil fertility and fertilizer management, along with soil management and conservation. During his lengthy career with the U of M, Al taught hundreds of Aggies, mainly Ag Diploma students, but he also supervised graduate students from Manitoba and around the world. Al also conducted practical field research on the efficiency of different times, forms and methods of fertilizer application; the effects of tillage, green manures, livestock manures, crop rotations and commercial fertilizers on soil fertility and quality; as well as the development of soil productivity rating systems for Manitoba Crop Insurance. In particular, his work on time of application of nitrogen fertilizer for cereal production has been of great importance to Manitoba agriculture.

International agriculture was another dimension of Al's career. He worked on several agronomy projects at the Queensland Wheat Research Institute in Toowoomba, Australia (1988) and for the Canadian International Development Agency at Kenya's National Plant Breeding Station in Njoro (1974-1975 and 1980-1982).

Wherever Al worked, his most important contribution was to help farmers manage their nutrients and soil in an efficient and sustainable way. This legacy of his teaching, research and extension accomplishments benefitted many farmers and their farms during his lifetime and will continue to do so for many years to come.

#### *Prof BBQ and Ultimate Frisbee*

There was a beautiful day and an excellent turnout for the 2016 Prof BBQ and Ultimate Frisbee game on August 19. Zoom-Zoom Amiro sported clear evidence of a hard-fought match for several days! Fortunately, no one kept an official score, which was probably a good thing considering the carnage wrought by the grad student "ringers". This year, everyone was a winner!



## Opportunities:

### **Karl C. Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship.**

The Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation's Karl C. Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship is open for applications. Application guidelines and application form are available here:

<http://www.aicfoundation.ca/ivarson-agricultural-scholarship>.

Deadline: **August 31, 2016.**

### **Conference Sponsorship Program**

On behalf of Dr. Digvir Jayas, Vice-President (Research and International), please be advised that the Call for Applications, updated FACULTY and STUDENT Application Forms, and the CSP Guidelines have been uploaded to the Research website for the **October 17, 2016 deadline** of the Conference Sponsorship Program and Student Travel Support to Competitions.

All can be found at: [http://umanitoba.ca/research/ors/funding\\_opportunities.html](http://umanitoba.ca/research/ors/funding_opportunities.html).

## Events:

### **Agricultural Bioscience International Conference, September 18-21, 2016, Fargo, ND**

There is a special deal for students to encourage participation in the poster competition.

Details at: <http://abic2016.com/students/>.