



## PRESS RELEASE

### ONTARIO HAZELNUT ASSOCIATION 6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HAZELNUT SYMPOSIUM: The Hazelnuts Are Coming, The Hazelnuts Are Coming!

Simcoe, ON, March 1, 2015 – The Ontario Hazelnut Association will be hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Ontario Hazelnut Symposium with the theme “The Hazelnuts Are Coming, The Hazelnuts Are Coming!”. This symposium is designed to provide information to current and prospective growers on the opportunity that exists for hazelnuts in Ontario. The symposium will be held March 24, 2015 at the Best Western Inn and Convention Centre in Brantford. This symposium will feature an introduction to hazelnuts and provide growers the key information required to begin a hazelnut plantation.

People interested in hazelnuts will also be given the opportunity to use the new economic analysis model developed in conjunction with Mori Essex Nurseries and the University of Guelph. This model allows growers to put in all of their information, from size of operation, costs, expected returns and much more. By using conservative estimates of yield and price, growers can see a realistic expectation of what kind of return to expect from growing hazelnuts.

Information will also be provided on the latest cultivars that have been tested in Ontario, and provide credible information on how to choose pollinating varieties, those varieties that are Eastern Filbert Blight tolerant, and are cold tolerant along with mapping Ontario for hazelnut production. Further information will be provided on what the market wants in terms of flavour preference, local market development and end users requirements.

Interested people are encouraged to visit the Ontario Hazelnut Association website to find out more information on the symposium. Registration information for the symposium can be found at <https://eventbrite.ca/event/14781849911>

#### About The Ontario Hazelnut Association

The Ontario Hazelnut Association, established in 2013, is encouraging planting of hazelnuts in Ontario to serve new markets. This new crop for Ontario has enormous potential, with interested growers, strong suppliers and engaged buyers. The Ontario Hazelnut Association will continue to develop new markets for Ontario hazelnuts and their products through agronomic knowledge, cultivar development, economic analysis and public advocacy. For more information about the Ontario Hazelnut Association, see [www.ontariohazelnuts.com](http://www.ontariohazelnuts.com).

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