

Developing National Metrics and Benchmarks

National Index on AgriFood Performance September 16th, 2020 The CRSC was formed in 2013 to facilitate cross-commodity collaboration on sustainable agriculture issues facing grains sector participants

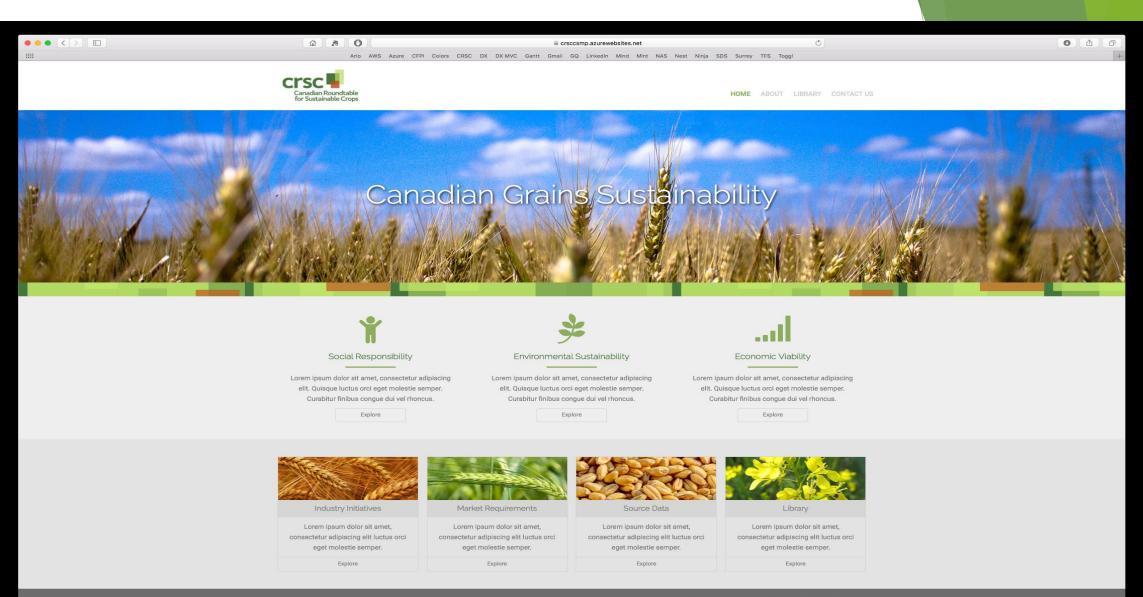
The Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Crops (CRSC)

- ► Members include input suppliers, growers, commodity organizations, grain companies, food processors/food service and sustainability organizations
- ► Activities include dialogue and outreach, sustainability measurement research and analysis and communicating measurement results
- Scope includes annual field crops (grains, oilseeds, pulses)

Market requirements drive CRSC metrics

- Canadian grains industry is export-oriented 2017 exports exceeded \$32 billion, about 50% of all Canadian agriculture and food exports and over 50% of Cdn. production of grains/75% of grain and products
- Canadian buyers' market requirements are congruent with international buyers
- With very few exceptions, the grains industry is bulkhandling based, with any one shipment sourced from many, unidentifiable producers (>120k producers)
- Markets are looking for sustainable production, but individual farm certification is not yet a requirement except for limited markets and crops
- Canada has a good story to tell on grains sustainability, but difficult to find easily accessible, coherent, consistent information

Approach: identify/develop fact-based information on Canadian grain production sustainability performance that responds to market requirements, for use by marketers



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Selection of Metrics Platform Contents

Metrics are on production only

Based on international grain sustainability protocols used in international markets

All five are individual farm, practice-based.

- Sustainability Agriculture Initiative (SAI)
 platform farm sustainability assessment
 (FSA)
- Unilever Sustainable Agriculture Code
- International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC)
- Roundtable for Sustainable Soy
- ► FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines

12 Sustainability Reports

GHG Emissions and Air Quality

Soil Quality and Productivity

Nutrient Management Land Use and Biodiversity

Pest and Agrochemical Management

Water Quality and Quantity

Waste and Pollution

Financial Viability

Community Relations

Labour Relations

Working Conditions

Work Safety and Security



Three types of data used

- 1. The legal and program infrastructure in which the industry operates
- 2. Aggregate outcomes of the activities of the industry
- 3. Aggregated practices of producers

Public data - AAFC, Statistics Canada, provincial and federal regulations

CRSC data - CRSC Survey of Grain Producers (2017), CRSC Carbon LCL analysis (2016/17)

Industry data - Fertilizer Use surveys, Field to Market Sustainability Reports, other

Data time frame - most recent available data (2011 to 2017); time series where available; updated periodically

Geographic area - provincial and sub-provincial in larger provinces

Crops - wheat, canola, durum, barley, corn, peas, lentils, oats, soybeans, flax





Metrics selection

Metrics Development Considerations



Methodology



Source

Metrics Selection

- ► **Fit to purpose:** why? who? what matters?
- Known to audience: if not known, then intuitive
- Feasible: can be measured
- Scope: what part of the supply chain; what products
- Geography: Canada; sub-national; production areas



Methodology

- Standard: Is there existing international standard for the metric
- Relevance to Canada: selection of appropriate options within a methodology; alternatives
- ► Alternative: neutral/credible source; acceptable to audience
- ► Time frame: reference period; static or change over time
- Absolute or relative



Source

- ► International: variations in methodology; complex agendas
- ► Governments: most credible source; un-published data often the most valuable; timeliness
- Academics institutions: credible but narrow; cost
- Industry: credibility cautions; expensive but flexible in content and timing





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