



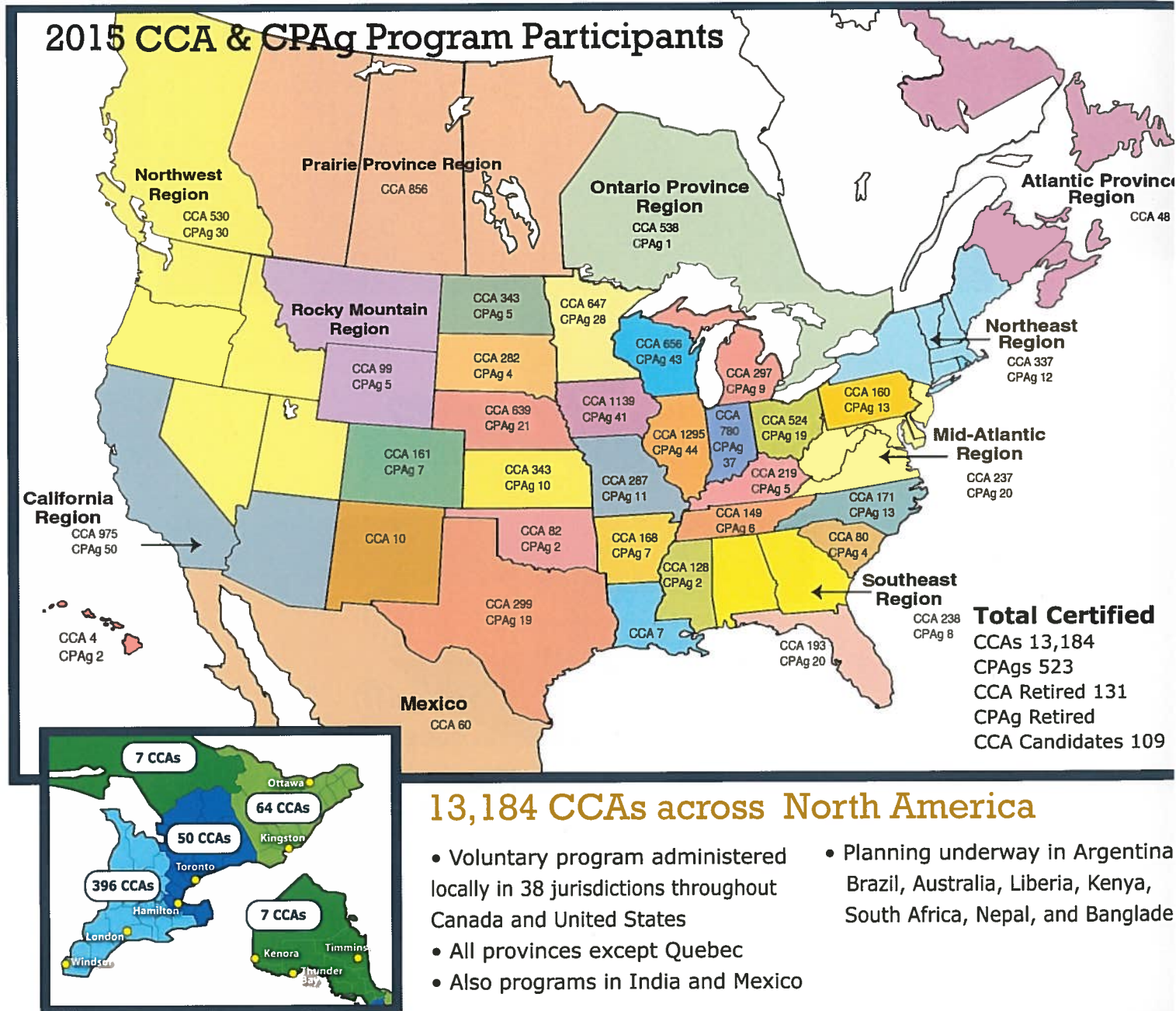
CERTIFIED
CROP ADVISER

THAT'S SOUND ADVICE

Who are Certified Crop Advisors?

Several hundred men and women across Ontario serve farmers as crop advisors, providing information and expertise on crop production, crop protection and natural resource management. This group of commercial, public and independent advisors plays an important role in modern agriculture. Crop advisors provide advice and counsel producers in their decision making process.

This responsibility requires a good understanding of science, food safety, technology, economics and environment. Crop advisors combine knowledge in these disciplines with their local experience to render sound recommendations.



13,184 CCAs across North America

- Voluntary program administered locally in 38 jurisdictions throughout Canada and United States
- All provinces except Quebec
- Also programs in India and Mexico
- Planning underway in Argentina, Brazil, Australia, Liberia, Kenya, South Africa, Nepal, and Bangladesh

Categorizing Ontario CCAs by postal code:

- 396 in N postal area
- 1 in M postal area
- 64 in K postal area
- 49 in L postal area
- 7 in P postal area
- Quebec (8), Alberta (3), Saskatchewan (1), U.S. (2) not shown

Gaining certification is not easy!

On average, just 60% of those seeking CCA status and sitting for the exams actually achieve certification!

Exams cover:

- Nutrient management
- Soil and water management
- Integrated pest management
- Crop management

Experience Requirement

- 2 years crop advising with a minimum of a B.Sc. degree in Agronomy, or
- 3 years with a diploma, or 4 years post secondary school in-field experience
- All this must be documented with transcripts and references
- A signed Code of Ethics is also required.

Continuing Education

Every CCA must earn 40 hours of continuing education every two years once certified, in order to continue to maintain CCA certification plus pay an annual renewal fee.

4R NMP Specialty Certification

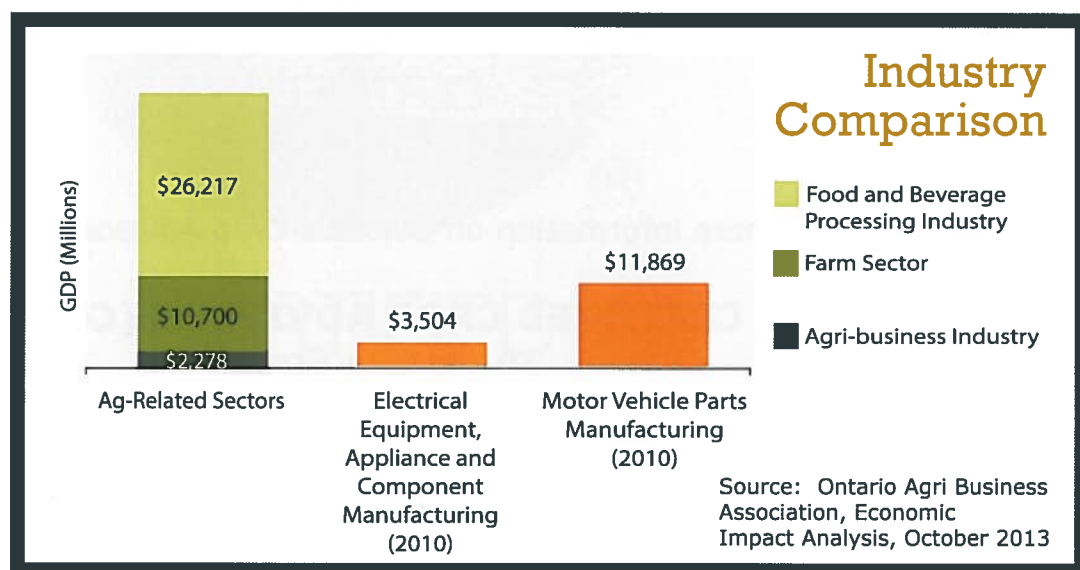
The 4R NMP Specialty is for CCAs who do nutrient management planning and focus their work in this area. It allows CCAs to prove their knowledge, advance their skills and draw awareness to their abilities in the particular field of agronomy. The 4R nutrient management philosophy focuses on applying the right source of nutrients at the right rate, at the right time, and using the right placement. The CCA 4R NMP Specialty will be launched in Ontario in August 2016. Plans are also underway to develop a CCA specialty in Sustainability.

CCAs in the Field

- Advising growers on soils, water stewardship, manure management, crop varieties, fertilizer requirements, crop budgeting, pest management, pollinator protection, and more.
- CCAs are helping to deliver the Great Lakes Agriculture Stewardship Program to Ontario farmers in conjunction with Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Agriculture and Food in Ontario

- Total Ontario Agri-food Gross Domestic Product (GDP) - \$34.2 B
- \$10.8 B in exports
- 750,413 jobs
- \$462 M in total taxation revenue from crop input suppliers, feed manufacturers and grain elevators alone



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What is CCA Certification?

The purpose of a certification program is to protect the public and the profession. The same is true of our CCA certification. It is a voluntary professional enhancement to a person's career credentials. Once certified we are telling our clients, employer and the public that we are serious about what we do as a professional. The American Society of Agronomy confers the certification to qualifying CCAs.

All successful certification programs have one common element and that is, to serve and protect the public interest. Many professions require a license to practice such as in medicine, engineering, and accounting. A license is basically a certification program offered by the legislating body. Certification programs offered by ASA are voluntary, but offer similar benefits to the public as licensing programs. Certification programs set standards for knowledge, skills, and conduct



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For more information on Certified Crop Advisors contact:

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