

2024 Québec Farmer Panel on Transitioning Away From Neonic Treated Seeds

Attention Farmers!

Join University of Vermont Extension and the Vermont Bee Lab for a discussion with Québec farmers to learn about their experiences transitioning away from neonicotinoid ("neonic") treated seeds. In 2019, Québec limited neonic pesticide use to protect pollinators and our environment. Similar to the New York bill that was signed into law this past December, these restrictions applied to neonic coatings on corn and soybean seeds, two of the largest uses of neonics in the province.

In this panel discussion with four Québec farmers, we will learn how they navigated this transition and the challenges they faced. The panel includes the following farmers:

- Jocelyn Michon from La Présentation
- Renaud Peloquin from Sainte-Victoire-de-Sorel
- Stephane Pitre from Saint-Louis-de-Gonzague
- Francis Quintal from Saint-Ignace-de-Stanbridge

WHEN: Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (Eastern Time)

WHERE: Virtually using Zoom, must register to receive the link

[Register here](#) or online at <https://bit.ly/3vz3UbM>

One Certified Crop Adviser IPM CEU credit and one PAT credit available.

**FREE
EVENT**

Pre-registration is **required**. [Register here](#) or online at <https://bit.ly/3vz3UbM> and you will be emailed the event link. Or contact Susan Brouillette at susan.brouillette@uvm.edu or **802-524-6501** or **802-656-7611**.



VERMONT
BEE LAB

To request a disability related accommodation to participate in this program, please contact Susan Brouillette at the information above or 1-800-639-2130 so we may assist you.



Northwest Crops and Soils Team | 278 South Main St, Suite 2 | St. Albans, VT 05478

802-524-6501 or 1-800-639-2130 | susan.brouillette@uvm.edu

www.uvm.edu/nwcrops

NORTHWEST CROPS & SOILS PROGRAM



THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
EXTENSION

CULTIVATING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Additional funding provided by USDA RMA under award number RM18RMETS524C022. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. University of Vermont Extension, Burlington, Vermont. University of Vermont Extension, and U.S. Department of Agriculture, cooperating, offer education and employment to everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status. Any reference to commercial products, trade names, or brand names is for information only, and no endorsement or approval is intended.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES

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Farmer Panelist Speaker Bio's

JOCELYN MICHON, LA PRÉSENTATION, QC

Well-known in Québec, and Canada, Jocelyn's name is tied with the introduction and spread of no-till ever since he adopted the technique in 1994. To many, Jocelyn might be the best example of innovation at work in agriculture. He quickly embraced the preliminary results of a pioneering research project on neonics 15 years ago (Dr Geneviève Labrie's) and let go insecticide use altogether ever since. Much of his land is clay or heavy clay soil; 600 acres of a diversified rotation: corn, soybeans, green beans and peas (for a local processor), winter rye. He is an inductee to the Soil Conservation Council of Canada Hall of Fame.



RENAUD PÉLOQUIN, SAINTE-VICTOIRE-DE-SOREL, QC

In addition to looking after over 1300 acres of cash crops (corn, soybeans, winter wheat and winter rye) Renaud also runs a grain-fed veal operation. A well known and outspoken advocate of biodiversity as a whole, he left aside over a number of years an area of prime land that now adds up to the equivalent of 16 acres (5,5 miles of 25-foot-wide riparian buffer strips) to help filter out any fertilizer and pesticide residues. They use insecticide-free seed for 5 years now, with no regrets.



STÉPHANE PITRE, SAINT-LOUIS-DE-GONZAGUE, QC

Forerunners of soil and water conservation, Stéphane and his brother Daniel manage a 120-head dairy farm. They grow hay, corn, soybeans and wheat on 345 acres, on mostly clayey soils. Under reduced till, as they quit plowing 18 years ago and no insecticide since 2015. Stéphane is an active member of the local Club-Conseil en agroenvironnement du Suroît (similar to Soil and Crop Improvement Association) since 1998.



FRANCIS QUINTAL, SAINT-IGNACE-DE-STANBRIDGE, QC

Francis took over the family farm 10 years ago. They milk 85 cows, grow corn and soybeans on 185 acres; other crops include winter wheat, winter rye and hay for a total of 300 acres on all kinds of soils. They are fully satisfied with the improvements brought about by no-till in 2000. They dropped the use of insecticides for the sake of the bees and pollinators' well-being in 2013 and never looked back.



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