



SAND PLAINS

Community Development Fund

PROJECT #9-P001

PROJECT NAME: Best Management Practises for Perennial Grass Production for Biomass in the Sand Plains Region

Eligible Business/Organization: University of Guelph / OMAFRA/
Ontario Forage Council

County: Entire Sand Plains region: Brant, Elgin, Middlesex, Norfolk, Oxford

Priority Categories: Agribusiness, Green Products, Renewable Energy

Contribution Amount: \$240,000

Board-Approved Date: December 16, 2009

Project Summary: Evaluation (at Simcoe Research Station) of four perennial grass species over a two-year period to determine optimal methods of crop establishment, weed management and enhanced yield and biomass properties for end use.

Regional Economic Impacts & Benefits:

- ♦ Best management practises of benefit to agricultural producers
- ♦ Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- ♦ Meeting emerging demands for alternative heat and power by several Ontario industries

Market Impact Assessment:

- ♦ Optimal production methods will create cost efficiencies for producers
- ♦ Significant potential for favourable environmental impact