The Ultimate Canola Challenge (UCC) is a program to challenge growers to obtain higher yields and profitability. UCC has simple protocols available to help implement an on-farm trial. Protocols cover on-farm trial fundamentals like leaving a check strip, treatment replication, trial randomization and a sample trial layout. Along with the protocols, a data collection sheet is available for download to keep records of trial information.

The approach of UCC is to test whether various canola products, such as micro-nutrients and macro-nutrients, could increase yields and profitability when used in conjunction with the CCC recommended best management practices for canola. These were tested in small plots at multiple research locations across the prairies for two years. In 2015, the UCC evolved into a vehicle to encourage canola growers to evaluate new products and practices by conducting their own field scale trials.

No significant or statistical yield difference between untreated checks and boron treatments in small or large plot trials

Three years of small plot boron trials do not show any consistent benefits to yield or quality when applying boron in canola

One year of field-scale trials overall showed no significant yield difference when applying boron at various soil pH and organic matter levels

Economics were not run on any sites since there was no statistical differences between the check and the treatment

There was a statistically significant response to adding extra Nitrogen overall

Some sites showed a non-significant yield difference due to trial variability

Making decisions off one site or one year will not give a good idea of product performance over a range of conditions and environments

The variability inherent in field-scale trials means that making decisions from one site or one year may compromise estimations of product performance over a range of conditions and environments

Thanks to Kristen Phillips, Tone Ag, PAMI and all UCC participants for participating in the Ultimate Canola Challenge!