

Algoona Hops Production Opportunities

A small group of farmers in Algoona have approached RAIN for support investigating whether hops production could be viable in Algoona District.

RAIN surveyed breweries based in northern Ontario to determine if there would be a market for local hops, and if growers could supply the growing micro- and craft beer industry.

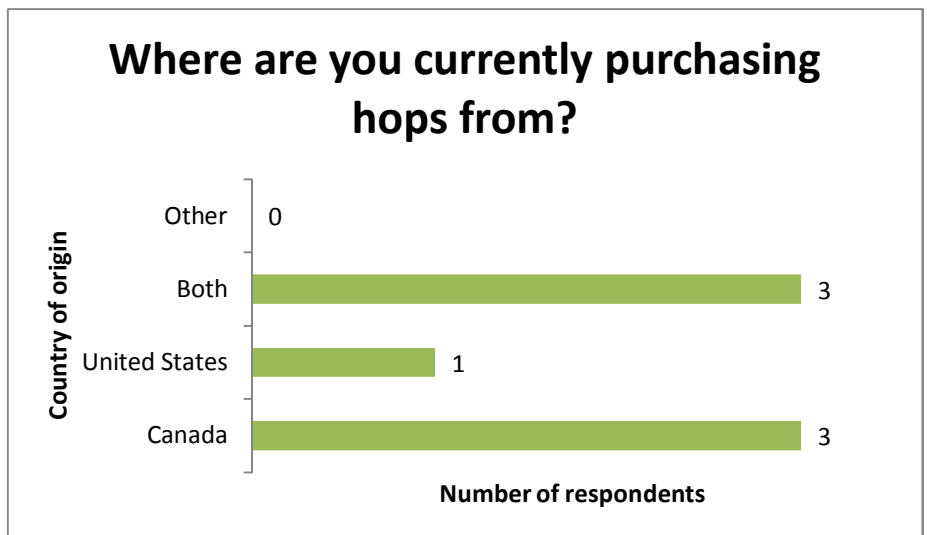
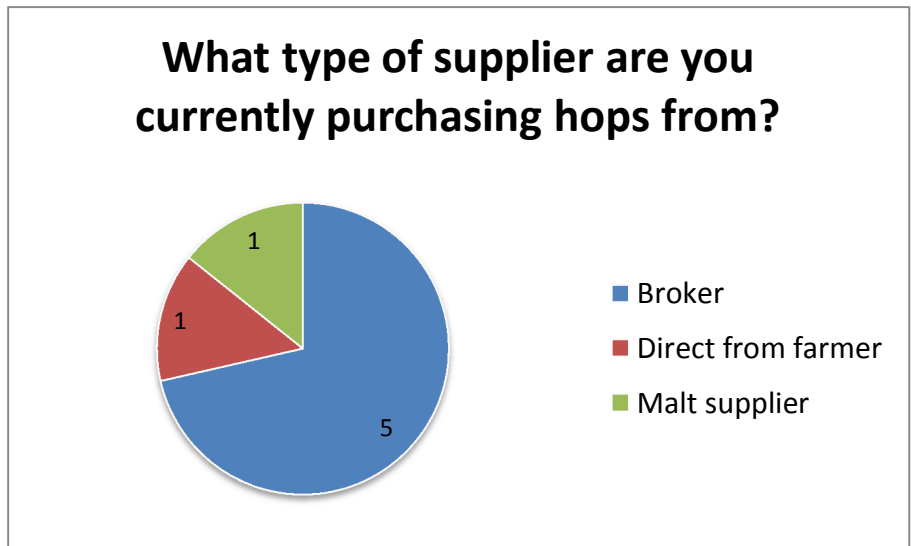
This note is a summary of the results from the survey.

For more information on this project, please contact:

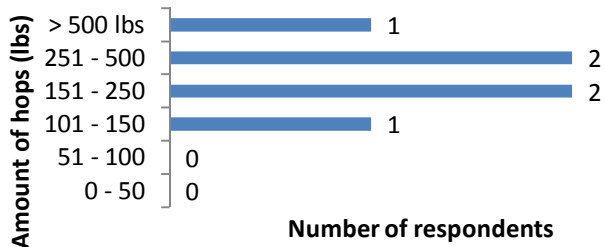
Christine O'Reilly
 Research Technician
 Email: coreilly@ssmic.com
 Phone: 705-942-7927 x3147



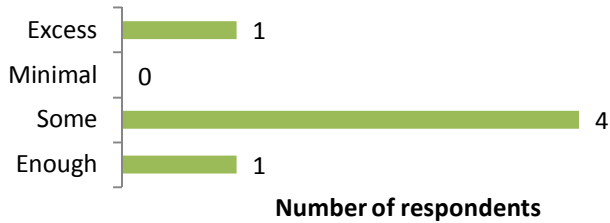
This survey was presented to craft and microbreweries in attendance at the Northern Ontario Microbrew Festival in Sudbury. Seven responses from six breweries were received. Where the two respondents from the same brewery agreed, the duplication has been deleted. However, where their responses differed both are included to reflect the full range of answers provided.



What quantity of hops do you require per year?



What is your storage capacity for hops in relation to your annual hops requirement?



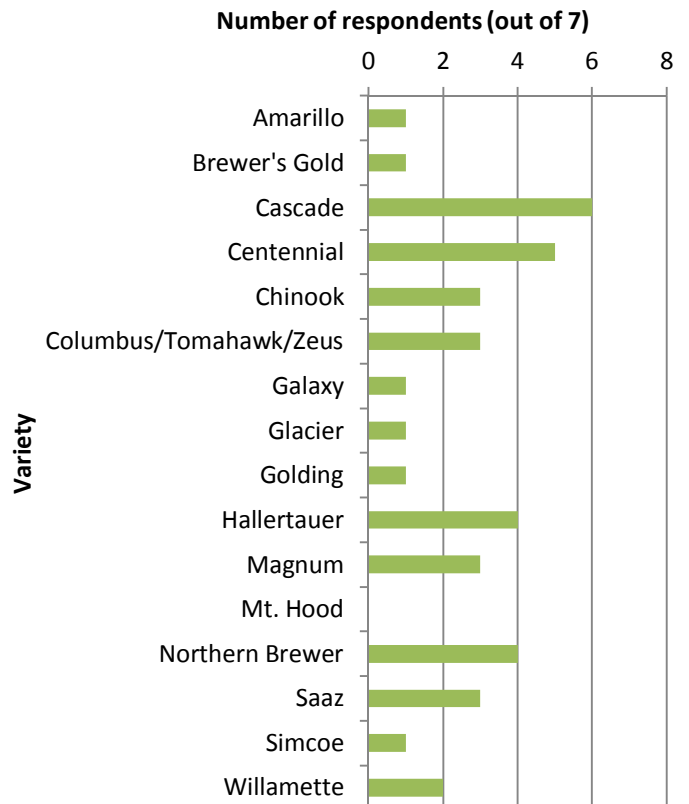
Would you be interested in purchasing hops grown in northern Ontario?



Would you be willing to purchase fresh cones, at least for the first few years, in order to support local hop growers?



Please indicate which varieties are of interest to your brewery



Additional comments on varieties indicated that some breweries would be interested in varieties not listed above if they were available locally. This creates some flexibility for growers and would allow breweries to capitalize on the local food movement.

Figure 1. Compilation of answers to question "How do you like your hops packaged? Please rank the following from most to least preferred."

Format	Preference Score
pelletized	1
dried-pressed cones (bales)	2
fresh whole cones	3
dried whole cones	4
dried-frozen whole cones	5

Overall the results indicate favourable market conditions for new hop yards in northern Ontario.