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email greg.buzza@au.nuseed.com

#### **Education**

Massey University, New Zealand

Graduated B.Agr.Sc. in 1970, specializing in Plant Breeding, Genetics and Agronomy

#### 1970-1980

# Victorian Department of Agriculture, State Research Farm Werribee, Victoria, Australia

Oilseeds Plant Breeder

## Responsible for:

- Setting up and developing the first canola breeding program in Australia
- Taking over and managing the existing linseed program
- Background research and breeding of safflower and other oilseed crops

#### Achievements

- Developed Australia's first canola variety Marnoo, released 1980
- Developed base germplasm for most Australian varieties
- Handed over the canola breeding program to Dr. Phil Salisbury, who released a number of varieties based on germplasm already in the pipeline
- Canola varieties released by New South Wales Dept. of Agriculture in the 1980's bred entirely from material released to him from my previous breeding program eg. Yickadee, Oscar, Eureka. Most, if not all Australian cultivars owe their base germplasm from my work in the 1970s, which incorporated canola quality genes into Japanese germplasm and adapting this to the Australian environment.
- Developed a superior linseed line, Croxton as a replacement for Glenelg.
- Developed early photoperiod insensitive safflower line by mutation breeding

## 1980-1997 Pacific Seeds, Toowoomba, Australia

Senior Hybrid Canola Breeder

International Canola Breeding Coordinator for the various owners of Pacific Seeds

1972-1989 Pacific Seeds owned by Continental Grain

1989-1992 Pacific Seeds owned by ICI Seeds

1992-1996 Pacific Seeds owned by Zeneca Seeds

1996-2006 Pacific Seeds owned by Advanta Seeds

## Responsible for:

- Assessing and developing pollination control systems to enable the development of hybrid canola
- Breeding hybrid canola
- Coordination of canola breeding activities for the global company
  - o Canada from 1985 to 1997
  - o Europe and India from 1989 to 1997
- Testing and evaluation of canola products in other countries notably Argentina, Brazil, South Africa, Mexico, Iran and India.

#### Achievements

- Developed a hybridization system based on the 'polima' system from China
- Developed world's first hybrid canola Hyola 40 released in Australia in 1988 and registered and released in Canada in 1989
- Bred Hyola 401 (registered in 1991) the benchmark for hybrid canola in Canada for the 90s. Hyola 401 continues to be the most important *B.napus* product in India and Iran.
- In conjunction with Canadian breeders, helped to develop a number of canola hybrids including Hyola 357RR, which is a Round-up Ready product that dominated North Dakota in the late nineties.
- Bred Hyola 42 in Australia and other products for Pacific Seeds
- Trained and later handed over breeding program to Andrew Easton. For a number of years after the handover, most of the products released by Pacific Seeds were considered as jointly bred.
- Pioneered hybrid *B.juncea* program which led to the development of hybrid breeding program in India that I supervised.

# 1997 – 2004 Advanta Seeds, Winnipeg, Canada

Canola Research Manager International Canola Breeding Coordinator for Advanta

## Responsible for:

- Leading the Canadian Canola Team to develop products for North American markets (approx. 20 full time employees)
- Coordinating spring canola breeding activities for Advanta Seeds including Pacific Seeds, Australia
- Overseeing and directing *B.juncea* research in India
- Coordinating molecular marker development work between Advanta, Belgium and Advanta Canada

## Achievements

- Led the development of canola OP and hybrid products for Canada and US markets conventional, Round-up Ready and Clearfield technologies
- Implemented the development of the molecular markers for 'IMI tolerance', restoration gene, blackleg resistance, linolenic acid and cytoplasm testing and incorporated the use for these markers in the breeding programs
- worked with the Advanta India team to ensure successful production and launch of Hyola 401
- worked with Pacific Seeds breeding team in the development of superior, new products (Surpass suite of varieties).

# 2004-2006 Monsanto Canada, Winnipeg, Canada

Canola Breeding Lead

## Responsible for

- Leading the integration of the former Advanta breeding group with the former Monsanto breeding group
- Leading the Monsanto canola breeding team for Canada/US to develop new OP and hybrid products for North America
- Working with the Monsanto research team in developing new transgenic products and new pollination control systems

#### Achievements

- Lead the team in the development of new OP and hybrid products Round-up and IMI herbicide tolerance
- Integrated two former teams, including restructuring to eliminate OP breeding program
- Involved in planning with the research teams in St.Louis and Calgene in the development of Round-up Ready 2 canola and other research activities in pollination control
- Successfully implemented safety protocols after integration into the new Monsanto breeding structure

## 2006 – 2010 Nuseed (Nufarm) Laverton North, Victoria, Australia

Research Manager, Nuseed.

## Responsible for:

- Leading the Canola Breeding Team
- Leading Sunflower and Sorghum Breeding team after the purchase of Lefroy Seeds in Toowoomba.
- Due Diligence on proposed purchases of seed companies.

#### Achievements

- Coordinated the integration of several canola breeding groups which had recently been purchased by Nuseed
- Restructured the canola breeding team
- Responsible for the GM canola breeding activities leading up to the deregulation of the Roundup Ready event.
- Introduced hybrid canola breeding into Nuseed
- Introduced quality control measures for GM canola
- Part of the team for due diligence on purchases of Lefroy Seeds, Toowoomba and Richardson Seeds, Texas, USA.
- Changes to Sunflower and Sorghum breeding processes in Toowoomba.

# 2010 - present Nuseed (Nufarm) Laverton North, Victoria, Australia

Consultant - working part time from home Responsible for:

- Assessing new projects particularly relevant to canola
- Member of the Technical Committee for the joint CSIRO-Nufarm project to develop Omega 3 canola.
- Assessing the canola breeding program and making recommendations for changes.

# **Relevant Memberships**

## ARAB Australian Research Assembly on Brassicas

ARAB meets every 2 years and brings together canola researchers in Australia

- Co-founder of ARAB with Dr. Noel Thurling, University of West Australia in 1977
- Attended every ARAB meeting except 2003
- Organized two ARAB meetings Horsham, 1979 & Toowoomba, 1989

# GCIRC Groupe Consultatif International Recherche sur la Colza

This body organizes the International Rapeseed Congress every 4 years.

- Attended all conferences since 1978
- Chaired two workshops on hybrid development at these meetings
- Member since 1991 (membership is restricted to 8 people per country
  I was the first member for Australia)
- Member of the scientific committee for the conference in Wuhan, China March 2007

#### **International**

1978 Soviet Union

 Member of a two-person delegation to the Soviet Union on a scientific exchange on oilseed breeding under the Australian Dept. of Foreign Affairs

1984 China

- Member of five-person Mitsubishi team, studying and assessing the development of canola in China

1986-1991 China, ACIAR (Australian Center for International Agricultural Research)

- Project leader for ACIAR aid project with China, designed to help introduce canola quality rapeseed breeding for China
- Leader for two, 3-year projects
- These projects often quoted by ACIAR as one of their success stories
- Developed canola based germplasm used today by Chinese breeding programs
- Developed and implemented screening methods for canola quality suitable for China

## OTHER INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Iran breeding and production

Brazil and Paraguay, Mexico field trials

Japan visited research institutes and seed companies

Korea Ministry of Agriculture, Hybrid Breeding

Chile many visits during contra season

Europe (Germany, France, UK, Belgium, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Denmark, Czech Republic and Poland)

visited many canola seed companies and canola research institutions

## **PUBLICATIONS**

1976 Australian Field Crops Chapter on Canola

1995 Brassica oilseeds: Production and utilization Cambridge University Press

Chapter on Plant Breeding

Other Papers at conferences and scientific publications.

# And LEISURE

Spends as much time as he can on bird watching;