

## TALES OF ALES Titles and Synopses Index FINAL (Word File name July 27 2023)

### TALES of ALES: Titles and Synopses Index August 2023

Professor related TALES from the history of the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science (AFNS) in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES), at the University of Alberta

Celebrating the Past, and Changing the Future

Stories about some University of Alberta ALES Professors and their activities from the past

#### ABOUT 'TALES OF ALES'

TALES OF ALES is a series of stories written in retirement by Keith Briggs in 2021 – 2023 (and with occasional additional authors as noted). The intention of the stories is to place into the University of Alberta archival record some notable agricultural science events and activities about staff, students and Alumni, academic and research related stories not previously elaborated that may be of interest to the university, scientific and public communities.

#### COPYRIGHT, ACCESS, USE AND PUBLICATION OF 'TALES OF ALES':

These stories are original, and copyright belongs to the author(s). Changes to the text of the posted script(s) may not be made without prior permission of the author(s). However, content may normally be quoted, printed and shared without prior permission. Individual Stories from TALES of ALES may be freely posted on any non-restricted website, subject to prior notification to the author(s), and to any restrictions of the intended publication URL site and organization. The stories may also be distributed without restriction for educational purposes and for personal use. (Effective date: May 1. 2023. 'ALES' is the acronym for the Faculty of 'Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences')

#### TITLE AND SYNOPSIS INDEX TO 'TALES OF ALES'

##### TALE #1 Title:

TALES of ALES #1: The 'Who's Who' compendium of plant science Professors and others in the history of the University of Alberta Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, (AFNS/ALES), including appointment timelines and professorial research interests (1908 – 2023)

Author: Keith G. Briggs, Emeritus Professor, Faculty of ALES (2023)

##### Synopsis:

This is not actually a TALE at all but is a compendium with timelines that lists information about all those who were the past Professors and other researchers in the plant sciences in the Department of AFNS from 1908 up to 2023. It also includes some extra information about a few of them, timelines of significant events in the history of AFNS, and a listing of Department Heads and Chairs of the plant sciences through the years

##### To View or Download this TALE:

Click on the following DOI (Digital Object Identifier) and then scroll down to select View or Download  
<https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-d436-js13>

**TALE #2 Title:**

TALES OF ALES #2: Tributes: Local, national and international recognition for Dean Ian Morrison, Dean Robert Newton (later President of the University of Alberta), Professor Mary Spencer, and Professor Chuji Hiruki, four influential past plant scientist members of the Faculty of ALES

Author: Keith G. Briggs, Emeritus Professor, Faculty of ALES (2023)

**Synopsis:**

TALE #2 brings forward to the attention of staff and students in the Faculty of ALES and to the public the significant academic and public service contributions of four remarkable plant scientists who were past Faculty members, Dean Ian Morrison, Dean Robert Newton (later University of Alberta President), Professor Mary Spencer, and Professor Chuji Hiruki. Although stories about each have certainly been told in the past this author retells them here with more detailed reference to how their important legacy has been ensured in the future, through their major influences in academia, in the University education of students, and through scientific discovery

**To View or Download this TALE:**

Click on the following DOI (Digital Object Identifier) and then scroll down to select View or Download  
<https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-th53-bx44>

**TALE #3 Title:**

TALE OF ALES #3: 'How to Landscape a Campus 101' and how it was done at the University of Alberta: A real-time Lesson from Hugh Knowles, Professor of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

Author: Keith G. Briggs, Emeritus Professor, Faculty of ALES (2023)

**Synopsis:**

This TALE #3 features many historical and recent photos of the campus, especially of the many trees for which it is famous, many of which were introduced in earlier years by Professor of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture Hugh Knowles. Part 1 provides a brief overview of the historical development of the campus and its main buildings. Part 2 is all about Hugh Knowles and his influence on the North Campus landscape. Part 3 features a number of the many species of trees located on campus. This includes the favorite trees of Hugh Knowles himself and of the author, plus the Canadian National tree (sugar maple) and the Provincial tree (lodgepole pine)

**To View or Download this TALE:**

Click on the following DOI (Digital Object Identifier) and then scroll down to select View or Download  
<https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-jyfx-1144>

**TALE #4 Title:**

TALES OF ALES #4: 'Fertile Ground: ALES pioneering journey alongside plant genetics' - an update: About plant varieties bred and released by the University of Alberta between 1915 and 2022

Author: Keith G. Briggs, Emeritus Professor, Faculty of ALES (2023)

**Synopsis:**

TALE #4 describes varieties released and general aspects of variety breeding work in the Faculty of ALES from 1915 to 2022, with information about those varieties and who bred them. Part 1 is an out-of-print reprint of a Faculty article written on this subject in 2016. Parts 2, 3 and 4 provide many updates, and describe some details about individual varieties released. Appendix 1 provides details about the wheat breeding program for tolerance to acid soil conducted by Briggs. Appendix 2 provides details about Alumni who studied plant breeding in Briggs' graduate student program and information about their career achievements, many of them teaching crops and crop breeding in academia, or who became practicing plant breeders in various Canadian and international locations

**To View or Download this TALE:**

Click on the following DOI (Digital Object Identifier) and then scroll down to select View or Download <https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-febf-ab17>

**TALE #5: Title**

Tale #5: Crop homesteading and farming in Alberta: The vital role of the University of Alberta since 1915, helping the public decide which agricultural, horticultural and amenity plants they should grow, then and now

Author: Keith G. Briggs, Emeritus Professor, Faculty of ALES (2023)

**Synopsis:**

Part 1 of Tale #5 is an overview of some broad geopolitical and historical events affecting land allocation to immigrants in the early days of settlement in Alberta. It also describes some conditions and challenges that faced immigrants who wished to develop crop-based homesteads in these 'new Albertan lands' of the Western Canadian Prairies. In Part 2 the role of the University of Alberta is described, for meeting the crop and variety testing and evaluation needs of all Albertans throughout the Province, in the past and into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. In Part 3 the Extension programs and roles of the University of Alberta are described for (a) the Professors Briggs and Kondra's Regional grain crop Variety Testing Program started in the 1970's, for (b) the University of Alberta Horticulture extension work carried out over many years, and for (c) the continuing extension work of the University of Alberta Botanic Garden, educating the Alberta

public about plants and plant uses in which they have an interest, and about the Garden's many other public functions

To View or Download this TALE:

Click on the following DOI (Digital Object Identifier) and then scroll down to select View or Download  
<https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-x228-nn73>

**TALE #6 Title:**

TALES OF ALES #6 is all about the Faculty of ALES 'Best in North America' undergraduate Range Management Teams successes for 42 years at the North American Society for Range Management academic competitions: Who they were and how they did it!

Authors:	Dr. Irving, Barry D.	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Coach, UofA Range Team, retired)
	Davies, Mary Jane	(1 <sup>st</sup> Coach, UofA Range Team, retired)
	Briggs, Keith G.	(Emeritus Professor, first Chair of AFNS, retired, contact person)

(Co-authors and range team coaches Barry Irving and Mary Jane Davies wrote most of the text and last author Briggs assembled and edited the whole amazing story)

Synopsis:

TALES OF ALES #6 is a story about 42 years of continued, demonstrable academic excellence in undergraduate teaching and learning in range management at the University of Alberta. It features the Faculty of ALES undergraduate 'Range Teams' and their instructors, the 'winningest' teams in N. America from 1981 – 2022 in the 'Plant Identification' and 'Range Management Knowledge' competitions of the North American Society of Range Management (SRM), competing against up to 22 University teams from the best Range Management Departments in Canada, Mexico and the USA. It describes the beginnings of the 'Range Teams' in the early 1980's, initiated by and because of the visionary academic and instructional impact of Professor Art Bailey, who also started the University of Alberta range management program. Lisa Ratt is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Coach of the range team, continuing that role in 2023. The story documents the team members and their many podium successes in the SRM competitions. The names and photographs of all competitors are included in this 42 year long success story. Last author Briggs assembled the story and provides commentary about the stellar academic achievements of these students, and the recognition which they have brought to the Faculty of ALES and to the University of Alberta over very many years

To View or Download this TALE:

Click on the following DOI (Digital Object Identifier) and then scroll down to select View or Download  
<https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-8k28-8758>

**TALE #7 Title:**

Keith Briggs and Ron DePauw describe University of Manitoba research and related R&D that led to the new spring wheat variety Glenlea and to a new quality class of spring wheat for Western Canada, Canada Western Extra Strong (CWES) spring wheat with very high gluten strength

Authors: Briggs, Keith G. (Emeritus Professor, first Chair of AFNS, retired, contact person)  
DePauw, R. (Ron) M. (Senior wheat breeder, retired, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada)

**Synopsis:**

TALE OF ALES #7: Keith Briggs (with Ron DePauw as co-author) describes the mid 1960's spring wheat research and related R&D of his University of Manitoba PhD program that developed the 25% higher yielding spring wheat variety Glenlea. A new Canada Western Extra Strong (CWES) wheat market class was created to market this new Glenlea quality type which possessed increased flour gluten strength better suited for use as a blending wheat in many novel markets. Subsequent changes to the Western Canadian wheat breeding and variety selection methods are also described, that were supported by many of the research findings in this project where Glenlea was selected. Glenlea itself was produced commercially on from 0.25 to 0.65 million hectares per year for its remarkable 32 year production run, with an estimated farm gate value for the entire period of perhaps \$2 billion Canadian.

**To View or Download this TALE:**

Click on the following DOI (Digital Object Identifier) and then scroll down to select View or Download  
<https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-ym99-tr64>

**TALE #8 Title:**

About Professor Zenon Kondra's work developing the first Canola variety for Canada and his variety breeding successes from the career long University of Alberta canola breeding program that he started in Edmonton in 1969

**Synopsis:**

Section (A) of TALES OF ALES #8 describes production and variety changes over time as rapeseed production in Canada transitioned into canola production as soon as this new crop was developed. Section (B) describes how Dr. Zenon Kondra's breeding work created the very first Canola variety in Canada at the University of Manitoba, in plant breeder Professor Steffanson's program, and then reset the bar to increase the yield potential in this new crop with its newly defined grain quality requirements. Kondra then focused on breeding adapted canola varieties for the Parkland zone of the western Canadian Prairies, with its short growing season but high yield potential. It also describes Kondra's continued successful breeding work at the University of Alberta, the ever -continuing funding challenges that beset the program on a yearly basis, and the foundational germplasm and facility improvements left as a legacy for the breeders who followed, Professors Stringam and Rahman. Kondra's variety Alto was one of the parents in the cross that Stringam (Kondra's academic replacement after his retirement) used to breed the variety Quantum, the variety that "saved the entire W. Canadian canola industry from production devastation from the new but debilitating disease called blackleg". A summary listing of all the varieties subsequently released by the University of Alberta up to 2022 is also included.

**To View or Download this TALE:**

Click on the following DOI (Digital Object Identifier) and then scroll down to select View or Download  
<https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-wdmz-zp32>