

August 26, 2021

Bayer selects 100 youth leaders from around the world to help “Feed a Hungry Planet” at the company’s 5th biennial Youth Ag Summit

/ The 100 delegates, representing 44 countries, will meet this November for a virtual global forum / Delegates will also work with the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and Babel on a 10-week Youth Ag Summit (YAS) University program following the forum with mentoring provided by industry leaders, farmers, and YAS alumni / Canadian delegates show promising solutions toward sustainable food packaging and agricultural practices

Calgary, August 26, 2021 – 100 delegates from more than 44 different countries will make up Bayer’s [2021 Youth Ag Summit](#) cohort this November. The global forum and biennially organized conference selected young leaders between the ages of 18 and 25 with a passion for sustainable global agriculture for the opportunity to learn and collaborate with others on solutions to issues challenging food security. This year’s delegates come from more than 2,000 applicants representing nearly 100 countries.

Among this year’s delegation are two Canadians, [Emily Robb](#) from Brandon, MB and [Amanda Hardman](#) from Stony Plain, Alta., who are bringing their scientific-driven solutions to the table. Both have achieved accolades at the Canada-Wide Science Fair for their research and are active members of 4-H Canada—a foremost youth leadership development organization.



Emily Robb, 2021 Youth Ag Summit delegate from Brandon, Manitoba

“Attending the Youth Ag Summit will allow me to gain scientific insight that looks further into regenerative agricultural practices and sustainability,” said Emily. Her current research is based around her interest in managed ecosystems and ecological practice application for sustainable agricultural production — [primarily economic nutrient optimization in hydroponic arugula production](#). “I want to be an agricultural change-maker and will be applying my passion, throughout my first year of studies and beyond, at the University of Manitoba, while pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Agroecology degree.”

To be selected for the Summit, this year’s delegates presented project ideas and examples of previous advocacy work based on the event’s overall theme “Feeding a Hungry Planet”.

Amanda's project idea for the Youth Ag Summit is focused on [biodegradable food packaging](#) to replace plastic clamshell packaging—her prototypes are created using nano-crystals derived from wood and wheat byproduct (pulp). "I understand the gap between urban consumers and our agricultural producers and am passionate about using my experiences and platforms to help tie these communities together," said Amanda. "Apart from my packaging initiative, I'm passionate about sharing the great stories coming out of Canadian agriculture." Amanda is entering her second year at the University of Alberta in Sustainable Agriculture.

"The Youth Ag Summit is a unique initiative where young leaders take their breakthrough concepts to the next level," said Al Driver, Country Division Head of Bayer's Crop Science Division in Canada. "We need their ideas, passion and voices to develop sustainable agriculture solutions around the world."



*Amanda Hardman,
2021 Youth Ag
Summit delegate
from Stony Plain,
Alta.*

This year's 5th biennial Youth Ag Summit will be the company's first virtual YAS event and its first with a virtual idea incubator called YAS University. Within the YAS University program, delegates will continue to develop their business and communications skills, receive coaching from mentors, and complete weekly assignments that help them hone their own project concepts for 10 weeks following the Summit, beginning in January 2022. At the end of YAS University, the delegates will have the opportunity to pitch their project ideas to a panel of experts to compete for prizes. Bayer's partnerships for this year's forum with the [UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network \(SDSN\)](#) and the tech company [Babele](#) make the unique experience of YAS University possible.

For more on the Youth Ag Summit 2021 and see a full list of selected delegates, please visit www.youthagsummit.com and follow [#AgvocatesWithoutBorders](#) on Twitter and Youth Ag Summit ([@youthagsummit](#)) on the [YAS Instagram channel](#).

About the Youth Ag Summit

The Youth Ag Summit movement is a community of global young leaders championing sustainable agriculture and food security and working to bridge the understanding gap between those who produce our food and those who consume it. Every two years, 100 delegates are chosen to take part in the Summit. Previous editions have been hosted in Canada, Australia, Belgium and Brazil. Due to COVID restrictions, this year's summit is the first completely virtual event.

About the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) was set up in 2012 under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General. SDSN mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development, including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement. For more information, visit www.unsdsn.org.

About Bayer

Bayer is a global enterprise with core competencies in the life science fields of health care and nutrition. Its products and services are designed to help people and planet thrive by supporting efforts to master the major challenges presented by a growing and aging global population. Bayer is committed to drive sustainable development and generate a positive impact with its businesses. At the same time, the Group aims to increase its earning power and create value through innovation and growth. The Bayer brand stands for trust, reliability and quality throughout the world. In fiscal 2020, the Group employed around 100,000 people and had sales of 41.4 billion euros. R&D expenses before special items amounted to 4.9 billion euros. For more information, go to www.bayer.ca.