

# Canadian Corn Producers

For Immediate Release  
Friday, June 8, 2007

## Canadian Corn Producers Encouraged by Canada's Request for WTO Panel

Guelph, ON. Canadian Corn Producers (CCP) are encouraged by today's announcement that Canada has formally requested a dispute resolution panel in its WTO consultations with the US regarding trade-distorting US farm subsidies. Many of the subsidies in Canada's WTO complaint are the same subsidies that CCP challenged last year in its domestic trade remedy complaint to the Canadian International Trade Tribunal (CITT).

"We are pleased that Canada is using its international trade rights at the WTO to discipline massive and WTO-illegal US farm subsidies. This will help protect Canadian corn farmers from the adverse effects caused by these subsidies. Canada's panel request is the culmination of over two years of CCP working with the Federal Government to use its existing legal rights at the WTO to challenge US farm subsidies," said Ryan Brown, spokesperson for CCP.

"Real action by the Federal Government to protect Canadian corn farmers from trade-distorting US farm subsidies is important because both the CITT in May 2006 and the Federal Court of Appeal earlier this week have rejected CCP's request for a domestic trade remedy," added Benoit Legault another CCP spokesperson.

CCP supports Canada's request for a WTO panel and will do what it can to help Canada win the case. Canada's WTO trade action has also been supported by 32 other countries. As Canada's WTO trade action could potentially level the playing field between US corn farmers and Canadian corn farmers without compromising the interests of Canadian corn users, CCP hopes that Canadian corn users will support this timely and important Government trade initiative.

*Canadian Corn Producers (CCP) are a coalition of Canada's main corn producer associations – namely, the Ontario Corn Producers' Association (OCPA), the Fédération des producteurs de cultures commerciales du Québec (FPCCQ), and the Manitoba Corn Growers' Association (MCGA). Together they represent over 26,000 corn farmers who last crop year produced 364 million bushels of grain corn (valued at roughly \$CAN 1.4 billion).*

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