

EFAO PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

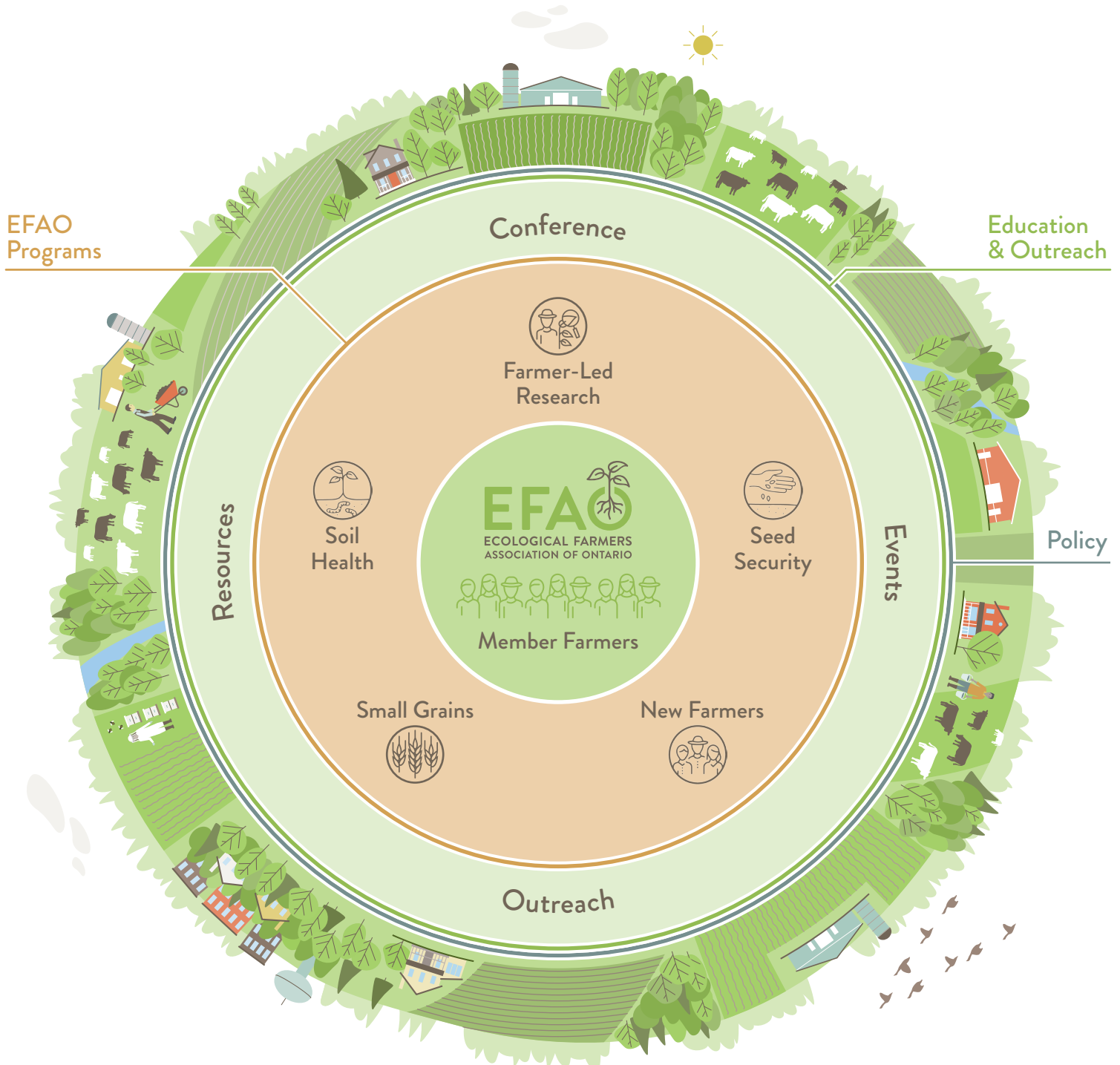
2020-2025

Vision

We envision an Ontario where thriving ecological farms are the foundation of our food system, and where agriculture protects our resources, increases biodiversity, mitigates climate change, and cultivates resilient, diverse, equitable communities.

Mission

EFAO supports farmers to build resilient ecological farms and grow a strong knowledge sharing community.



Programs

All programs include a strong farmer-to-farmer knowledge sharing component.



Farmer-Led Research: This program helps farmers answer their most challenging questions by providing technical and financial support for on-farm research.



New Farmers: This program offers training, mentorship and start-up grants to new and aspiring ecological farmers.



Seed Security: The Bauta Family Initiative on Canadian Seed Security (BFICSS) is a national program advancing on-farm seed production work through education and on-farm research. EFAO is proud to host the BFICSS in Ontario.



Small Grains: This program supports farmers to diversify their crop rotation with a small grain and legume cover crop, by providing per acre payments combined with educational and peer support.



Soil Health: This program helps farmers improve their soil health management by providing comprehensive soil testing combined with educational and peer support.

Education & Outreach

These farmer-to-farmer knowledge sharing and community building opportunities are woven into all of the above programs.

Events: These include field days, workshops, meet-ups and webinars.

Resources: These include a quarterly print publication, farmer-to-farmer Advisory Service, and online Community Forum.

Annual Conference: This annual event draws farmers and supporters across the food system for four days of intensive learning, networking and celebration.

Outreach: EFAO promotes ecological agriculture across Ontario through the website, email lists, traditional and social media, staff outreach, attending trade shows, and supporting experienced member-farmers as educators and advocates.

Policy

EFAO is a founding member of Farmers for Climate Solutions (FCS), a national campaign to promote climate-friendly agricultural policies at both the federal and provincial levels.