

An Index score was used in order to analyze the top advancements in agriculture over the past 50 years. In order to obtain these results, participants were asked to rank their top five choices out of an 18 item list. Each ranking was given an allocation of points to aggregate the Vision members' preferred items.

- Rank 1 = 5 points
- Rank 2 = 4 points
- Rank 3 = 3 points
- Rank 4 = 2 points
- Rank 5 = 1 point
- Not Ranked = 0 points

The total scores for each item were summed, and the item with the highest score received the first place ranking, etc. The following analysis was conducted with the use of the ranking point allocation. The advantage of this method is that it captures all of the scores for each item listed.

| Top advancements in agriculture  | Index |
|--|-------|
| Direct seeding systems which allow seeding with minimal soil disturbance.  | 1446  |
| Internet and email for information gathering and fast communication.   | 1215  |
| The development of new crop protection products for controlling weeds, insects and disease in crops.                   | 1096  |
| The supply management system for Canadian dairy, poultry and egg producers   | 878   |
| The development of GM crops (soybeans, canola, corn) allowing for better weed and insect control.                      | 875   |
| GPS, crop mapping and auto steer technology made possible by satellite signals.  | 817   |
| Improved animal health through new vaccines and antibiotics.   | 675   |
| Focus on food safety, including traceability   | 657   |
| Advances in electronics such as everything from robotic milkers to variable rate seeders and climate controlled barns. | 646   |
| The trend to greater awareness and consumption of local food.  | 633   |
| The development of the Canadian canola crop from its predecessor (rapeseed).   | 567   |
| The development of pulse crop varieties for Canada – field peas, lentils, chickpeas and beans.                         | 439   |
| Agricultural trade liberalization  | 393   |

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| New systems for the better utilization of livestock manure – soil injection, composting, bio-gas production. | <b>353</b> |
| Advances in grazing systems that allow more livestock production from the same land base.                    | <b>342</b> |
| The adoption of organic farming systems to meet market demand.   | <b>335</b> |
| Ethanol production which has opened a new market for corn in Central Canada and wheat in Western Canada.     | <b>324</b> |
| New (exotic) beef cattle breeds  | <b>203</b> |

= Top 6 advancements featured in the November/December edition of the [\*AgriSuccess Journal\*](#)