

Atlantic Agronomy and Extension Conference

Day 2 – July 16, 2026

Day 2 shifts focus toward building skills, experiences in extension and strategic approaches needed to enhance extension effectiveness and better support farmer decision-making. Keynotes and panel discussions throughout the day will explore broader themes, including the role of AI, data, technology and innovation in extension, as well as the importance of measuring impact and learning from initiatives like Living Labs. Importantly, the conference will also highlight human-centered advising, reinforcing that successful BMP adoption depends not only on technical solutions but on understanding farmer motivations, risk perceptions and operational realities.

Day 2	Session	Speaker	Title
8:00 – 8:30	Registration and Coffee		
8:30 – 9:10	Concurrent Session 1A	Margaret Graves, Independent Consultant with a background in agriculture research, policy, farming and food systems	How does research drive changes on the farm? Experiences from the Organic Science Clusters
8:30 – 9:10	Concurrent Session 2A	Caitlin Congdon, Field Crop Specialist Perennia Food and Agriculture	Extension in Cover Cropping
9:15 – 9:55	Concurrent Session 1B	Kirsten Workman, Nutrient Management and Environmental Sustainability Specialist Cornell University	Nitrogen Management in Dairy
9:15 – 9:55	Concurrent Session 2B	TBA	
10:00 – 10:40	Concurrent Session 1C	Katie Trottier, Ruminant Livestock Specialist Perennia Food and Agriculture	Extension in Rotational Grazing: Early Career Reflections
10:00 – 10:40	Concurrent Session 2C	Ryan Barrett, Research and Agronomy Specialist Prince Edward Island Potato Board	Spreading the Word, Not Just the Fertilizer: Extension of Nitrogen Management BMPs
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee and snack break		
11:00 – 12:00	Keynote Presentation	Rob Newcombe, Founder and CEO AI-First Consulting	Technology and AI
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch		
1:00 – 2:00	Panel	Living Labs Panel	Measuring Impact of Living Labs
2:00 – 2:50	General Presentation	Ken Coles, Executive Director Farming Smarter	Extension as the Foundation of Innovation
2:55 – 3:55	Keynote Presentation	Brook McWherther, Founder Tributary Consulting	Beyond the Technical Plan: Supporting Climate Practice Adoption Through Human-Centered Advising
3:50 – 4:30	Keynote and Closing Remarks	Lynne Godlien, CEO Perennia Food and Agriculture	