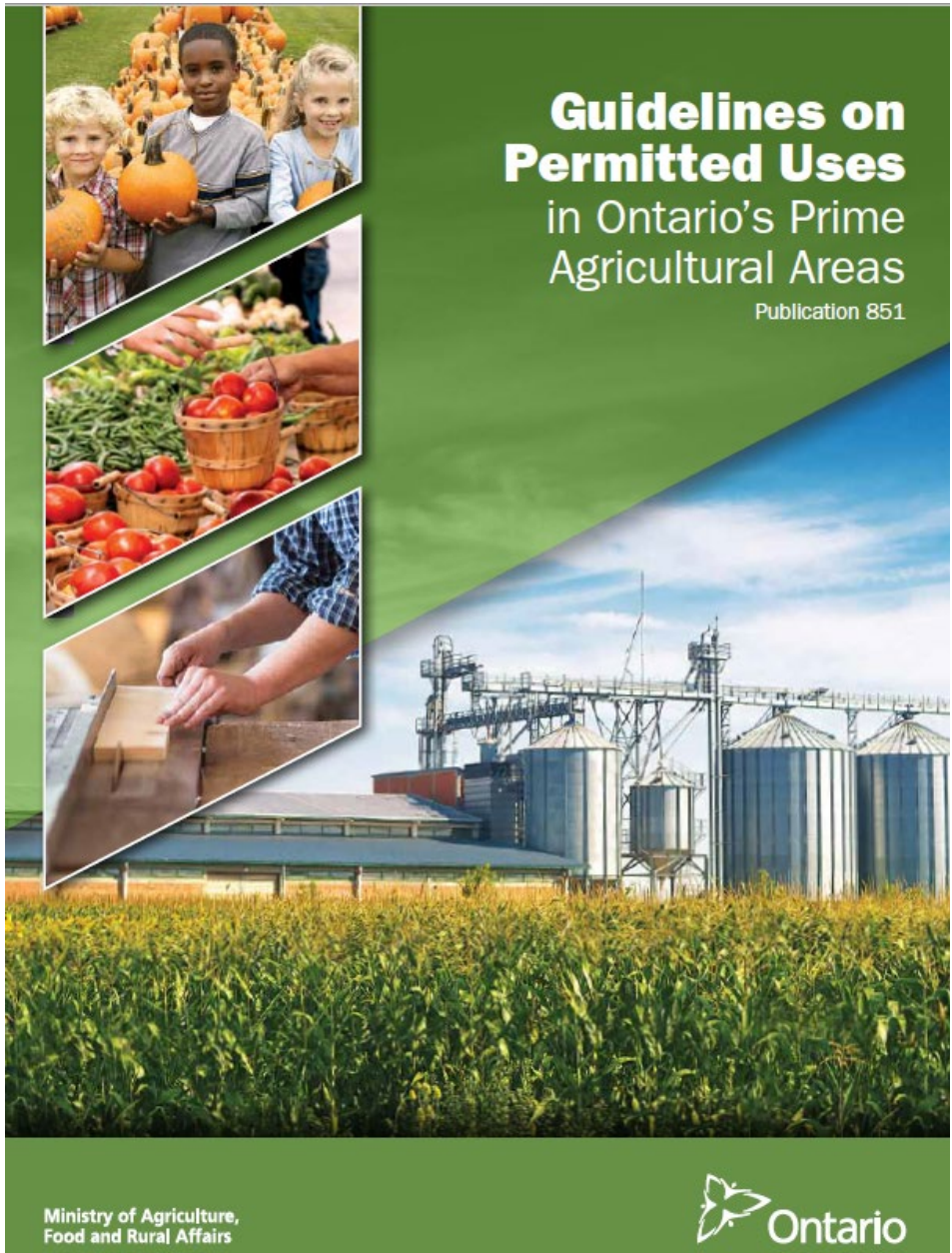




On-Farm Diversification

Best Practices Overview



Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario's Prime Agricultural Areas

Publication 851

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs



Guidelines on Permitted Uses as a Tool to Achieve Farmland Protection, Farm Diversification and Economic Benefits:

Assessing effectiveness and identifying best practices



UNIVERSITY of GUELPH

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Defining OFDUs

1. Located on a farm
2. Secondary to the principal agricultural use of the property
3. Limited in area
4. Includes (but is not limited to) home occupations, home industries, agri-tourism, and value-added uses
5. Is compatible with, and does not hinder, surrounding agricultural operations





Economic Benefits

- Increased farm resiliency
- High-value job creation
- Supports the family farm
- Strengthens rural economies
- Tourism spin-offs
- Education and cultural exchange





Growing Agri-Food Durham Plan



- Identifies OFDUs as an emerging trend and economic opportunity for Durham Region
- Goal 3: Enable and encourage agriculture related, on-farm diversified uses and agri-tourism uses
 - Policy support
 - Sharing resources
 - Education for businesses



Best Practices

- Implement the Guidelines into local-level approaches, including definitions in the zoning by-law, size and scale criteria, and as-of-right land use permissions.
- Hold pre-consultation meetings with farmers
- Scale back fees where possible





Five Tests of an OFDU

This tool can assist municipalities in:

- Determining the relative merits and impacts of different policy choices
- Ensure OFDUs are screened for their compatibility
- Identify potential on- and off-site impacts
- Meet the criteria of provincial policy



Thank you

Questions?

InvestDurham.ca **in**  

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact
Economic Development & Tourism at 1-800-372-1102, ext. 2619.