

Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers

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NEWSLETTER

Nº 2 - 2004

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CUCUMBERS

Agreement has been reached in first round cucumber negotiations with Strub Brothers Ltd., and Bick's, Division of Multifoods Inc. The minimum price per ton (f.o.b. factory receiving station) increased by 2¼%. Seed cost increased from \$1.66 to \$2.09 per thousand.

<u>Grade Sizes</u>		2003			2004		
		Bick's	Strub		Bick's	Strub	
			OPT. A	OPT. B		OPT. A	OPT. B
Up to 1 1/16"	Nº 1	\$768.12	\$768.12	\$628.71	\$785.40	\$785.04	\$642.86
1 1/16" to 1½"	Nº 2	\$275.32	\$275.32	\$332.84	\$281.51	\$281.51	\$340.33
1½" to 2"	Nº 3	\$189.41	\$189.41	\$178.75	\$193.67	\$193.67	\$182.77
2" to 2½"	Nº 4	\$55.06	\$55.06	\$55.00	\$56.30	\$56.30	\$56.24

PEAS

Agreement has been reached on the 2004 green pea crop for processing. Prices across the entire tenderometer scale dropped by 2.5%. The mini pea premium increased from 9.5% to 11%.

A number of other agreement details were dealt with as follows:

- Clause 2.(d) Grower shall compensate processor for cost of seed utilized to plant crop where an insured peril results in a by-pass or zero production, irrespective of whether grower has crop insurance.
- Clause 6. Processor notification of harvest shall occur no more than 36 hours and no less than 12 hours prior to harvest.
- Clause 8.(b) Grower to submit records of crop protection products applied within 40 days of seeding.
- Clause 11.(b) Processor must notify grower 12 hours prior to any crop protection product application.

A number of changes were made to clarify the role and responsibilities of Crop Insurance. There will be further details in an upcoming letter to growers of these crops.

2004 CROP INSURANCE

<u>CROP</u>	<u>2003 PREMIUM</u>	<u>COVERAGE LEVEL</u>	<u>2004 PREMIUM</u>
Tomatoes	\$63.00	90%	\$56.04
Green Peas	\$18.71	80%	\$17.12
Sweet Corn	\$12.42/\$15.12	80%/85%	\$12.84/\$15.76
Sweet Corn (Organic)	\$13.52/\$16.47	80%/85%	\$14.00/\$17.16
Green & Wax Beans	\$20.00	80%	\$21.52
Lima Beans	\$33.75	80%	\$28.20

Note that 2004 premiums reflect the 60:40 government /producer cost share of the APF. We will advise of rate changes to the remainder of the crops as they become available.

FIRST AID REQUIREMENTS

Regulation 1101 of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board requires that employers of 1-5 employees per shift must have a first aid station in the charge of a worker who is the holder of a valid St. John Ambulance Emergency First Aid Certificate or its equivalent.

District 1 has organized a 1 day first aid course for March 8th in Chatham. Cost of the course is \$50.00. For employers of 6 or more employees, a 2 day course is required and March 9th has been set aside for this purpose. Cost of the two day course is \$70.00. The certificate obtained is valid for 3 years. **To register, please call Francis Dobbelaar at (519) 627-2575.**

SPRAYER CALIBRATION WORKSHOPS

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food is conducting a workshop Thursday, March 11th, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 130 Erie Street, Leamington, ON. The workshop discusses issues around pesticide residues and provides hands on training with sprayer calibration. Registration is free and lunch will be provided. For more information about the workshop, please contact Sandra Jones at 1-888-466-2372 (ext. 63289). **To register please contact the Agricultural Information Centre 1-877-424-1300.**

28th ANNUAL PROCESSING TOMATO DAY Thursday, March 4, 2004 Country View Golf Course, Hwy. 40, Chatham

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| 8:50 a.m. | Registration (\$25.00/person – includes lunch)
Agribusiness Displays
** Coffee and Doughnuts - Compliments of Southwest Ag Partners |
| 9:15 a.m. | Opening Remarks
John Faubert, OPVG |
| 9:20 a.m. | Nutrient Management Update
Janice LeBoeuf, OMAF |
| 9:35 a.m. | Tomato Weed Control Update
Darren Robinson, Ridgetown College, University of Guelph |
| 10:05 a.m. | Fertilizing Tomatoes
Greg Patterson, A&L Labs |
| 10:45 a.m. | The Latest on Tomato Nitrogen Fertility: A Research Update
John Warner, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada |
| 11:25 a.m. | OWN Update
Ian Nichols, Ontario Weather Network |
| 11:45 a.m. | LUNCH
Agribusiness Displays
** Tomato Juice donated by H.J. Heinz Co.
** Juice Boxes donated by Kraft Canada Inc. |
| 1:15 p.m. | Tomato Bacterial Disease Panel (Moderator: Chris Thomas)
Ron Pitblado, Ridgetown College, University of Guelph
Jean Laprise, Ontario Tomato Seedling Growers' Marketing Board
Karl Evans, Kraft Canada Inc.
Marc Sabourin, Pest Diagnostic Clinic, University of Guelph |
| 2:15 p.m. | Tomato Breeding Update
Steve Loewen, Ridgetown College, University of Guelph |
| 2:30 p.m. | CAIS Update (Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization Program)
Stephen Duff, OMAF |

-- CCA credits have been applied for --

New 2004 OMAF Vegetable Production Recommendations (Pub. 363 - \$15) and 2004 OMAF Guide to Weed Control (Pub. 75 - \$10) will be available for purchase. Purchase both and get the special "Production Bundle" deal – only \$20 – save \$5! (plus 7% GST)