

Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers

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NEWSLETTER

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NEGOTIATION UPDATE:

TOMATOES

Agreement was reached with H.J. Heinz Company of Canada, Sun-Brite Canning, and CanGro Foods on prices for whole peel and juice at a 3% increase. Unfortunately we were unable to reach agreement on prices for paste and the arbitration positions are as follows:

	<u>Processor</u>	<u>Growers</u>
CanGro	+ 5%	+ 11%
Sun-Brite	+ 5%	+ 11%
H.J. Heinz	+ 7%	+ 11%

PEPPERS

Agreement was reached with Omstead Foods Limited on bell peppers at an overall average increase of 0.75%. Prices are outlined as follows:

	<u>Price Per Ton</u>	
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Green Bell Type Peppers	\$289.50	\$292.00
Red Bell Type Peppers	\$393.00	\$395.00
Multicoloured Bell Type Peppers	\$253.00	\$254.00

Negotiations on banana peppers with Smucker Foods of Canada Co. resulted in arbitration. Final offers of both parties are outlined below:

		<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	
			<u>Final Offer Smuckers</u>	<u>Final Offer Growers</u>
Banana Type Peppers:	Hot	\$357.75/ton	\$354.75/ton	\$360.00/ton
	Sweet	\$357.75/ton	\$354.75/ton	\$360.00/ton

Plant prices for both companies were agreed to at last years prices.

CABBAGE

Agreement was reached with Strub Brothers Limited on cabbage at last years price of \$73.50 per ton delivered in bulk.

CARROTS

Agreement has been reached on carrots with Carriere Foods (Ontario) Inc., Campbell Company of Canada, and Omstead Foods Limited. Briefly, the price of slicers is unchanged from 2005. Grade standards for dicers were liberalized in exchange for a price decrease of 2.5%. Changes were also made to allow processors to contract the particular crowning option that best suits their requirements. One crowning option also includes a tolerance for out-of-spec loads.

Lastly, the price of storage increased by 3.5% in all time periods.

Complete details of the agreement reached have been set out in a separate mailing sent to carrot growers.

TOMATOES - CROP INSURANCE

The board has been advised by Agricorp that the processing technology adjustment factor for processing tomatoes is 1.0384 up from last years 1.034. All yields for the past 5 years will be increased by 3.84%.

FARM SAFETY ASSOCIATION

Recent grower resolutions have questioned the power of Minister of Transportation Officials and the rules and regulations governing the transportation of farm produce from field to factory.

A booklet entitled "The Safe Movement of Agricultural Equipment on the Roadway" is available for downloading from the Farm Safety Association's web site: www.farmsafety.ca under the subheading *products and services - other publications - manuals*. This publication is item #3 on the list.