

Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers

435 Consortium Court, London, Ontario N6E 2S8 Tel.: (519) 681-1875 Fax: (519) 685-5719
Web Site: www.ovgmb.org E-mail: ovgmb@ovgmb.org

NEWSLETTER

N^o 4 - 2001

April 9, 2001

ONTARIO TOMATO RESEARCH INSTITUTE - 2001 EXECUTIVE

At its first meeting for 2001, the Ontario Tomato Research Institute (OTRI) elected Jim Whitson, a tomato grower from the Dresden area as Chairman. Jim Dick of Nabisco Ltd. was elected Vice-Chairman.

The board would like to express its appreciation to outgoing Chairman, Dale Smith of the H.J. Heinz Company, for his efforts on behalf of the Institute over the past two years.

The OTRI then heard research proposals submitted for funding. The following projects were approved.

RESEARCH PROJECT	RESEARCHER	FUNDING
Germplasm Enhancement and Cultivar Evaluation. (On-going)	V. Poysa/ S. Loewen	\$ 30,119.00
Nitrogen and Plant Spacing Management for Enhancing Earliness and Concentrating Fruit Maturity of Processing Tomatoes.	J. Warner	\$ 10,000.00
The Development of Pest Management Strategies for Insects and Plant Diseases in Processing Tomatoes - 2001.	R.E. Pitblado	\$ 12,000.00
Weed Control and Crop Tolerance Evaluations in Processing Tomatoes.	P.H. Sikkema/ A.S. Hamill	\$ 18,000.00
Control of Bacterial Diseases of Tomato Seed and Plug Plants Through the Development of Improved Diagnostic Tools	D. Cuppels	\$ 8,855.00
Separation of Lycopene from Tomato Skin by Supercritical CO2 Fluid Extraction Technology - Scale up Extraction Process into Industrial Application	J. Shi	\$ 5,000.00
Development of Transgenic Tomato with Resistance to Invertebrate Pests	B. Shelp	\$ 10,000.00
Manipulating Ethylene Levels in Tomatoes to Increase Their Disease Resistance, Firmness and Field Storage	K. Pauls/ T. Zhou	\$ 10,000.00
Development of Molecular Markers to Facilitate Development of Disease Resistant Processing Tomatoes for Ontario	V. Poysa/ C. He	\$ 7,500.00
	TOTAL	\$ 111,474.00

Note that the long-term breeding program entitled "Germplasm Enhancement and Cultivar Evaluation" is now entering the fourth year of a five-year agreement. This project, involving Ridgetown College and the Greenhouse and Processing Crops Research Centre in Harrow, is jointly funded by the Ontario

Tomato Research Institute and the Agricultural Adaptation Council which matches dollar for dollar the Ontario Tomato Research Institute funding with monies made available for research through the federal CanAdapt program.

The Ontario Tomato Research Institute looks forward to the results of these projects and the implications on the processing tomato industry.

.....Over

Bacterial Disease Control Strategies

TOMATOES & PEPPERS

by Dr. Ron Pitblado, Ridgetown College, University of Guelph

GREENHOUSE

1. Only use effectively treated seed (Acid or Chlorine). Verify that the seeds have been treated before using.
2. Plant genetic resistant cultivars where available.
3. Don't mix pepper and tomato transplants within a greenhouse complex. Operations with multiple greenhouses should organize their plantings so that the tomato and pepper plants are separated to avoid cross infection.
4. Maintain good sanitation practices, ie., weed control, reduce human traffic within greenhouses. Use disposable plastic gloves if plants are being handled.
5. Address watering habits within a greenhouse. Attempt to reduce the number of hours leaves are wet through timing of watering, RH control, ventilation/heating.
6. Apply protective copper sprays in the seedling stage - every 3-5 days. Begin the spray program 2 ½ weeks after seeding. Include mancozeb for improved control.
7. Avoid watering in the greenhouse just prior to shipping, first allow the foliage to dry before handling.
8. Do not wet the foliage in the shipping bins or trailers. Watering will increase the relative humidity creating ideal conditions for disease infection while excessive watering will redistribute bacteria carried by water dripping from the trays above.

FIELD

9. Use a dip tank system to "wet up" the plug plants prior to transplanting. Try to keep the foliage as dry as possible.
10. Minimize the length of time between shipping and transplanting.
11. Practice a 2-3 year effective crop rotation.
12. Bury crop residue within the top 6" of soil for rapid decomposition of foliage.
13. Transplant into a well drained soil.
14. Maintain a balanced fertility program. Increase organic matter using soil amendments.
15. Record and separate seed lots into different fields.
16. Spray with a combination of copper plus mancozeb or Bravo when required. Early sprays have been found to be more effective than waiting until the disease is throughout the crop.
17. Wait until the foliage has dried before hoeing, cultivating or other field activities.

TOMATO ACREAGE MEASUREMENT - MAPS

All processing tomato growers are asked to have field maps available for submission at the time of contracting with processors. This effort will help to reduce overall costs associated with the Acreage Measurement Program. Processors will, in turn, forward your maps to AgriCorp. Please remember to provide a rough diagram of each field as well as approximate acreage, processor affiliation (including separate contracts in each field) and the 911 address.

ONTARIO PROCESSING VEGETABLE GROWERS

APPROVED RESEARCH PROPOSALS

The following research projects have been approved by the board for 2001.

RESEARCH PROJECT	RESEARCHER	FUNDING
Pepper Cultivar Evaluation	J. W. Zandstra	\$2,000.00
Processing Cucumber Variety Evaluation and Machine Harvest Studies	J. O'Sullivan/ J. W. Zandstra	\$7,000.00
Processing Cauliflower Cultivar Evaluations	A. W. McKeown	¹ \$3,500.00
Weed Control Evaluations in Processing Vegetable Crops	P. Sikkema	\$24,000.00
Weed Management Studies in Processing Vegetables	I. O'Sullivan	\$7,000.00
The Development of Pest Management Strategies for Insects and Diseases in Processing Vegetables 2001	R. E. Pitblado	\$7,000.00
Processing Vegetable Cultivar Evaluation	J. Warner	\$7,500.00
Snap Bean and Sweet Corn Cultivar Evaluations	J. Ballerstein	² \$3,750.00
The Effect of Irrigation and Fertilization Management on Water and Fertilizer Use Efficiencies and Yield and Quality of Processing Cucumbers, Tomatoes and Peppers Grown on Course Textured Soils	B. Ball-Coehlo	\$6,500.00
Cultivar Evaluations of Processing Sweet Corn and Peas	J.W. Zandstra	¹ \$7,000.00
TOTAL		\$75,250.00

¹ Matching funding provided by OFPA.

² \$2,500 U.S. allocated to this project.

NEGOTIATION UPDATE

CARROT MEDIATION: As a result of a mediation on Monday, March 26th, agreement has been reached on prices and terms and conditions of sale for the 2001 crop of carrots for processing.

Growers will recall that the grower negotiating committee opened negotiations by offering processors a choice: enhancement of the late delivery surcharge for deliveries after December 1st (to address risk) coupled with a 1% price increase **OR** a flat 4% across the board increase. The following settlement reached through mediation addresses the critical issue of late delivery risk:

- all prices increased by 1%;
- Late Delivery Surcharge:
 3. Except in the case of carrots delivered out of storage, for which storage charges shall apply, a late delivery surcharge shall apply to all carrots delivered as follows:

November 15 - 30 \$5.75 per ton
after November 30 \$15.45 per ton.

Our thanks to the negotiation alternates who helped to make this a successful negotiation.

BEETS: Agreement was reached with Nabisco & Bick's as follows:

Grade Sizes:	Nabisco		Grade Sizes:	Bick's	
	2001	2000		2001	2000
1 to 1 1/4"	\$216.00	\$211.70	1 to 1 5/8"	\$131.37	\$128.75
1 1/4" to 1 3/4"	\$145.00	\$142.20	1 5/8" to 2 1/2"	\$108.06	\$105.97
1 3/4" to 2 1/2"	\$100.50	\$98.60	2 1/2" to 3"	\$79.62	\$78.11
2 1/2" to 3 3/4"	\$43.00	\$41.90	3" to 3 3/4"	\$46.00	\$44.82
Over 3 3/4"	\$43.00	\$41.90	Over 3 3/4"	\$46.00	\$44.82

PUMPKIN: Agreement was reached with Harvest-Pac for the 2001 crop year:

	2001	2000
Price/Ton	\$90.67	\$85.87
Seed/Pound	\$45.00	\$35.00