

Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers

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NEWSLETTER

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CONFERENCE AUCTION RAISES OVER \$9,200 FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

We are extremely pleased to announce that the auction held at this year's Processing Vegetable Industry Conference raised just over \$9,200 for the Processing Vegetable Industry Scholarship Fund. Our thanks to all of the sponsors of this event.

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The funds will be utilized to provide scholarships to students in selected academic programs that hopefully will lead to employment in the Ontario food industry. The Conference Committee is in the process of developing a protocol for scholarship awards. Once again, thank you to all those who made this initial event a tremendous success. We look forward to even bigger and better things for the 2002 Conference.

CAULIFLOWER

Agreement was reached on tied cauliflower with Cobi Foods Inc., Omstead Foods Ltd. and Strathroy Foods Ltd. prior to the arbitration deadline. The price for the 2001 crop year is as follows:

		<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Tied - Price per ton	Grade No. 1	\$408.50	\$403.00
	Grade No. 2	\$194.70	\$194.70

.....Over

GREEN PEA ARBITRATION

The arbitration hearing for green peas was held Monday, April 9th. **The decision of the Arbitrator, Mr. Frank Haudy, was an award in favour of the processors.** This will result in a price decrease of 4% on all tenderometer categories for 2001.

SWEET CORN ARBITRATION

The arbitration hearing for sweet corn was held Thursday, April 19th. **The decision of the Arbitrator, Ms. Genevieve Chornenki, was an award in favour of the processors.** This will result in a price decrease of \$1 per ton to \$70.

Clause 22: Agreement was reached on clause 22 (now clause 21) during the course of the arbitration proceedings. As discussed in the February 27th Newsletter, one of the components of the grower final offer was a provision to address the situation where planting occurs after the crop insurance deadline. The grower offer contemplated the processor guaranteeing to the grower a minimum total compensation equal to 80% of a grower's average farm yield. However, the grower offer allowed the processor to deduct from this the extent of the USAB received by the grower, as well as, obviously, any production actually harvested.

The processors agreed to accept the grower position on this point. As a result, where planting occurs after the crop insurance deadline, the processor will guarantee to the grower a minimum total compensation equal to 80% of the growers average farm yield, less credit for the USAB received and payment for actual production. Where the USAB plus actual production exceeds this minimum threshold, the grower will simply be paid as per the usual procedure.

An example: Assume grower average farm yield is 6 tons per acre.

Assume final blend price of \$70 per ton.

Average farm yield = $6 \times 70 = 420$

80% average farm yield = 336

USAB = $1/3$ average farm yield = 138.60

If actual production is 2 tons per acre: $336 - 186.60 - 2(70) = 57.4$

Therefore, processor liability under clause 21, in addition to payment for sweet corn of 2 tons per acre, is \$57.40 per acre.

If actual production is 4 tons per acre.

$336 - 138.60 - 4(70) = -82.6$

Therefore, no additional liability, processor pays for sweet corn production of 4 tons per acre.

J. KRUSHELNISKI APPOINTED PRESIDENT & CEO OF HEINZ CANADA

The H.J. Heinz Company has announced that Mr. Jim Krushelniski has been named President & CEO of Heinz Canada effective May 1, 2001. A native of Southwestern Ontario, Jim is a 29-year Heinz veteran who began his career with the company as a Research Scientist at Heinz Canada after completing a B.Sc. in Agriculture from the University of Guelph.

Jim progressed through a number of company positions in the agriculture research, purchasing, logistics and operations areas. He was named General Manager - Leamington Factory Operations in 1987, General Manager - Manufacturing for Canada in 1993 and Vice President - Operations for Heinz North America in 1993. Jim was named to his most recent position of Executive Vice President - Operations for Heinz North America in 1996. We wish Jim every success in his new position.

2001 LICENCE FEES

The licence fees for 2001 are calculated at 9/10ths of 1% f.o.b. factory.

COMMODITY	ADMIN.	ACREAGE MEASURE	GRADING	TOTAL	GST	DEDUCTION PER NET TON
TOMATOES	\$0.90	\$0.07	\$0.40	\$1.37	\$0.10	\$1.47
SWEET CORN	\$0.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.78	\$0.05	\$0.83
GREEN PEAS	\$3.04	\$0.00	\$0.15	\$3.19	\$0.22	\$3.41
CUCUMBERS	\$2.38	\$0.00	\$0.07	\$2.45	\$0.17	\$2.62
GREEN & WAX BEANS	\$1.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.99	\$0.14	\$2.13
CARROTS	\$0.72	\$0.00	\$0.12	\$0.84	\$0.06	\$0.90
PEPPERS	\$2.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.44	\$0.17	\$2.61
BEETS	\$0.83	\$0.00	\$1.29	\$2.12	\$0.15	\$2.27
LIMA BEANS	\$5.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.10	\$0.36	\$5.46
SQUASH	\$0.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.75	\$0.05	\$0.80
CABBAGE	\$0.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.60	\$0.04	\$0.64
CAULIFLOWER	\$2.72	\$0.00	\$0.97	\$3.69	\$0.26	\$3.95
PUMPKIN	\$0.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.73	\$0.05	\$0.78

2001 USDA CONTRACT INTENTIONS

CROP	AREA PLANTED - ACRES		2001 CONTRACT AS A % OF 2000
	2000	2001	
	CONTRACT	CONTRACT INTENTIONS	
Snap Beans	221,480	192,200	87%
Sweet Corn	475,900	421,180	89%
Cucumbers for Pickles	80,610	86,210	107%
Green Peas	294,940	218,600	74%
Tomatoes	305,300	263,800	86%

Source: Agricultural Statistics Board, NASS, USDA

SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM EYES LINK BETWEEN LYCOPENE AND OTHER TOMATO CAROTENOIDS AND VISION HEALTH

Tomato-based foods and tomatoes may reduce risk of damage to the lungs caused by ozone, according to new preliminary findings from research presented recently at an international scientific symposium "On the Role of Tomato Products in Carotenoids and Disease Prevention" in New York. The study and others presented at the symposium, sponsored by the American Health Foundation and the Campbell Soup Company, point to a variety of new potential benefits from consumption of tomato-based foods including possible protection against age-related macular degeneration, cataracts and other diseases of the eye.

TOMATO SEEDLING PLANT COUNT PROGRAM

It is important that all tomato growers verify the counts at the greenhouse before leaving the yard. This is the best place and time for a successful adjustment in the event of a discrepancy. The plant grower and tomato grower should attempt to resolve the dispute together. If there is no agreement, an AGRICORP counter may be called in to arbitrate.

Note the definition of non-usable plants:

- less than four inches tall (measured from top of tray to the plant canopy.)
- more than eight inches tall (measured from top of tray to the plant canopy.)
- less than 3/32 inch in diameter at the surface of the plug.
- plants that are not uniform within a two-inch range in a tray or not uniform within a two-inch range in a plant order.
- visibly diseased.

An "on-the-farm appeal" may also be requested provided less than 50% of the entire lot has been planted. This must be done by contacting the AGRICORP Leamington office at (519) 324-0870 or through the affiliated processor. A counter will be dispatched to the site.

IRRIGATION/FERTIGATION WORKSHOP

We are in the process of finalizing arrangements for an Irrigation/Fertigation Workshop arising out of the board tour of the Australian tomato industry. Lauren Thompson, an independent Agricultural Consultant based in Australia with *extensive field-based experience in crop production with particular emphasis on weather-based irrigation management* and an award-winning knowledge of techniques for improving awareness and adoption of technology, has agreed to conduct the Workshop. We have tentatively scheduled the Workshop for the afternoon of Friday, June 22nd. A detailed agenda and registration package will be forwarded to all processing vegetable growers shortly. Please mark your calendar.

BLenheim CHAMBER HONOURS OPGV DIRECTOR

John Lugtigheid, provincial board director since 1995, was selected as agriculturist of the year by the Blenheim and District Chamber of Commerce. John has owned and operated a diversified farming operation for more than thirty years. Besides serving on several farm organizations, John has also served as Vice-Chairman of the Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers and then as Chairman in 1999/2000 and currently serves on the Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers' Executive. Congratulations John, a well deserved honour!