

Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers

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NEWSLETTER

Nº 8 - 2004

August 19, 2004



Congratulations are extended to Strub Brothers Limited on the occasion of their 75th anniversary. Strub Brothers, located in Brantford, Ontario, is the largest, family-owned, pickle producer in Canada. Strubs began selling pickles in 1929, when Michael Strub, a butcher by trade, traded a barrel of his wife Sophia's homemade pickles with the local green grocer in exchange for groceries. Today Strub Brothers makes more than 200 retail and foodservice products for distribution across Canada, the U.S., Australia and Israel.

"People are fascinated to find out that there really is a Strub family and it is a Canadian family-owned business" explains Arnie Strub, Vice-President, Marketing at Strubs. "Although the facilities are now larger and more modern, we still make pickles in barrels using my great-grandmother's recipes."

Arnie, along with his brothers Marty, Vice-President, Production and Andy, Vice-President, Sales, represent the fourth generation and are the great-grandchildren of founder Sophie and Michael. Father, Leo Strub is the company President and provides a vital link between the old and the new, proudly carrying on the heritage of his grandparents.

Further information on Strubs can be found on their website at www.strubpickles.com.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATION

District	No. of Growers		Representation*	
	2003	2004p	2003	2004p
1 (Essex, Kent)	355	351	18	18
2 (Bruce, Huron, Lambton, Middlesex, Oxford, Perth, Hastings, Northumberland, Prince Edward and the Regional Municipality of Durham)	248	223	13	12
3 (Brant, Elgin and the Regional Municipalities of Haldimand-Norfolk and Niagara)	<u>250</u>	<u>229</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>
TOTALS	853	803	44	42

* Based on 1 representative for every 20 growers or fraction thereof.

\$2,000 BURSARIES AVAILABLE:

ONTARIO PROCESSING VEGETABLE INDUSTRY SCHOLARSHIP

The Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers (OPVG) and the Ontario Food Processors Association (OFPA) are continuing with a bursary fund to support and encourage individuals pursuing a career in any aspect of the processing vegetable industry. These organizations are working together to ensure that there are new individuals who will have the interest, skills and abilities to further develop and grow this sector of Ontario's agri-food economy.

Ontario's processing vegetable industry is competitive and vibrant. There are a variety of options for those seeking career opportunities; everything from on-farm production to sales and marketing to managing a processing facility.

Through generous sponsor donations the industry was successful in raising just over \$13,000 at this year's silent auction. This allows the OPVG and the OFPA to offer up to six-\$2,000 bursaries to students this fall. Applicants must be registered as a full-time student at an Ontario college or university entering the second, third or fourth year of study.

For further information regarding the bursaries, please contact:

John Mumford, Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers, 519-681-1875 or
Trish Wales, Ontario Food Processors Association, 519-826-3590

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The Bursary Application Form is available on the OPVG Website (www.opvg.org) or on request from either the OPVG or OFPA offices. Applications are to be submitted no later than September 30th, 2004 and will be received by regular mail at 435 Consortium Court, London, ON N6E 2S8, by e-mail at opvg@opvg.org or fax (519) 685-5719.

COUNTRY PRIDE GREENSHIPPERS LICENCE

On June 30th, the OPVG issued a licence to Country Pride Fruit and Vegetable Co. Ltd. as a greenshipper of cucumbers. The company information is outlined below:

Country Pride Fruit and Vegetable Co. Ltd.
 605 Concession Road #3
 Wilsonville, ON N0E 1Z0
 Phone: (519) 443-4191 Fax: (519) 443-5051
 Contact: Mr. Larry Sitko

J.M. SMUCKER ACQUISITION OF INTERNATIONAL MULTIFOODS

On June 18th, the J.M. Smucker Company announced the completion of the acquisition of International Multifoods Corporation. With the acquisition of Multifoods, Smuckers expanded portfolio of brands in Canada adds the number 1 brands of Robin Hood flour and baking mixes and Bick's pickles and condiments.

ONTARIO CONTRACT CROP INTENTIONS

Ten year crop information data reported by Ontario processors for cauliflower, peppers, cucumbers, carrots, pumpkin and squash are outlined below:

