

March 2007

NORTHWEST LINK

Thunder Bay * Rainy River * Kenora Districts

Northwestern Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Associations

This newsletter is published monthly except for the months of April and December. Articles should be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month. Material in this newsletter is based upon factual information believed to be accurate. Action taken as a result of this information is solely the responsibility of the user. We reserve the right to edit articles.

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Agri-Opportunities

On January 23, the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Chuck Strahl announced the creation of the Agri-Opportunities program, which will provide funding to projects that promote the commercialization of new agri-based products, processes and services. With a total funding envelope of \$134 million, the five-year program is open to Canadian businesses and co-operatives, non-profit organizations and academics.
(http://agr.gc.ca/index_e.php?s1=prog&s2&s2=ao p&page=intro)

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Crop Podcasts now available

OMAFRA's Crop Technology Branch is making Crop Podcasts available on their website. There is no charge to access this service.

Podcasts are audio reports made available for download on the Internet that you can listen to on your computer, or transfer to your MP3 player to listen to it on the go. You can download free 'podcatching' software (like iTunes or Juice) that enables you to subscribe and receive new reports each time they are posted – and they're available for you to listen to at your convenience. To access the podcasts, visit www.ontario.ca/crops and click on the "OMAFRA Podcasts" link.

The Cropline Podcast

Our popular Cropline telephone update for Field Crop producers is now available on the website. This report features crop management tips, herbicide recommendations and pest alerts produced twice a week in season. Clients listening to the Cropline report can submit questions and have them answered on a later edition of the report. This report is available in both standard and enhanced formats. Enhanced podcasts are more interactive, with photos and web links but this feature is only available through iTunes.

OMAFRA Sound Advice

Listen to the latest crop production news and information direct from OMAFRA crop specialists on "Sound Advice" - *Audio Crop Updates*. These reports cover a wide range of topics related to crop production in Ontario. Recently, we have featured reports on pesticides, weed management, crop nutrition and coming events. Commonly, these reports are broadcast by radio stations in Agricultural areas.

Nursery and Landscape Report

Check out the Nursery-Landscape Report for timely recommendations on Integrated Pest Management of pests, diseases and weeds for outdoor ornamentals (trees, shrubs and perennials). This is an excellent Ontario resource for nursery growers, landscape professionals, arborists and gardeners. This report also contains updates on issues, meetings and other opportunities that relate to the production and maintenance of outdoor ornamentals. These reports will resume for the 2007 season in April

Fourth Young Leaders in Rural Canada Awards

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

THE AWARDS

The Rural Secretariat is seeking nominations of young rural Canadians (18 to 29 years old), who have demonstrated in 2005 and/or 2006 outstanding achievements and contributions to rural, remote and northern Canada for the fourth Young Leaders in Rural Canada Awards (YLRCA). A commemorative Award will be presented in each of the following categories: INNOVATION, LEADERSHIP and PARTNERSHIP.

These annual awards were announced at the 2003 National Rural Youth Conference held in May 2003 in Orillia/Ramara, Ontario. For information on past recipients, visit the [rural Web site](http://www.rural.gc.ca/dialogue/youth/index_e.phtml) at: http://www.rural.gc.ca/dialogue/youth/index_e.phtml.

Deadline: To be considered, submissions must be received/post-marked **no later than Monday, April 16, 2007**

Renew Now!

This is the last issue of Northwest Link for this financial year. If you are an individual subscriber, please send \$5 to Linda Turk, RR#1 Kakabeka, ON, P0T 1W0 or to Rudy Buitenhuis, Suite B012, 435 James Street South, Thunder Bay, P7E 6S7

Wanted: Bright Ideas

Do you have a bright idea about how to bridge the urban-rural gap and increase awareness of agriculture? The *Farmers Feed Cities!* campaign - an agricultural awareness campaign led by Ontario grain & oilseed farmers - wants to hear from you!

Campaign organizers have launched a "Bright Ideas" contest - an initiative designed to harness the collective creativity of campaign supporters from every corner of the province, in three areas - on campuses, public visibility, and action strategies.

"This contest is a great way to get our volunteers, industry stakeholders and the public engaged in the campaign," says Leo Guilbeault, Chair of Ontario Grains & Oilseeds. "It brings new partners, new ideas and new energy as we ramp up our efforts at this critical time."

With 1,250 farmers leaving family farms every year because they're unable to cope with falling world prices for the food they grow, the contest is looking for ideas to increase website traffic, gain exposure for the campaign's trademark yellow signs, t-shirts, and flags, and encourage people to think about how to help build a better connection with farm families.

Running until the end of March, top contest entries in each category will be judged by a panel of industry representatives and experts in the communications field. Contest winners will receive a *Farmers Feed Cities!* merchandise package and cash award.

"It's been two years since we started the 'Farmers Feed Cities!' campaign, and we've had so many people express a willingness to get involved," says Guilbeault. "We're looking forward to seeing their bright ideas and continuing to help farmers make a meaningful connection to their non-farming neighbours."

Coordinated by Ontario Grains & Oilseeds, the primary goal of *Farmers Feed Cities!* is to raise awareness about the importance of farm families to

the way we all eat, breathe, and live. Since the campaign was launched two years ago organizers have seen rural and urban families taking the time to learn more about agriculture, grains & oilseeds and the challenges facing farm families.

For more information, or to complete a "Bright Ideas" contest form, please visit www.farmersfeedcities.com

"BRIGHT IDEAS" CONTEST CATEGORIES

- **Campus strategy** – increase awareness & participation on college/university campuses
- **Visibility strategy** – *Farmers Feed Cities!* logo seen by more people in more places (bonus points for urban audiences)
- **Take Action strategy** – ideas that give supporters a fun, simple and meaningful way to show their support

Canadian food security issues in modern times

By Graham Saunders

Canada has one of the most efficient and safe agricultural systems in the world. In spite of productivity and inspection practices, there are more food banks being established and more food-related problems like obesity and diabetes.

Dr. Mustafa Koc, an expert on food issues who teaches at Ryerson University, gave a stimulating talk at Lakehead University on February 1st. He compared food security and society realities of the Great Depression in the 1930s with current times.

Great economic hardship resulted in soup kitchens and desperately poor farmers.

Yes, it was a decade of hardship for many. People, churches and other organizations responded to a temporary, albeit extended crisis. Food "security" had an obvious meaning; many people literally did not know where their meal would come from.

These troubled times were followed by several decades of increased yields from cropland, more export of Canadian produce to other countries and, at government levels, stated policies that reducing hunger everywhere is a moral issue. Projections were made that the number of hungry people in the world (estimated at 400 million in the early 1970s) could be reduced. Some even talk about eliminating hunger, essentially ensuring food security for all.

Increasing corporate ownership of food production in almost all countries and migration of farm families to cities were parallel processes. Farms generally become larger and small family farms became less economically viable.

Modern technology is expensive and requires investment and borrowing. Farmers in Canada tend to have less freedom in decision making. They have to fit their planning to agricultural policies made in distant places. In the developing world, it is more extreme. Debtor nations have to follow direction from the World Bank and other financial organizations.

Mustafa continued with an overview about recent departures from the goal of all people routinely having physical and economic access to food. The first food bank was established in Edmonton, Canada in 1981. Since this novelty, with more retreat by governments from basic food security, non-governmental food banks have been established in almost all communities in Canada. More than 750,000 Canadians now depend on food banks.

He pointed out that the meaning of food security has shifted in recent years. Fears of sabotage and terrorism, i.e. adding toxins to food, has shifted concerns from hunger to safety.

Local food production and distribution

This is not a magic solution, as Dr. Koc illustrated, but proximity does reduce opportunity for tampering with food and has obvious benefits of recirculating money within a community.

The future is likely to return people and communities to original meanings of food security.

Mustafa reviewed the trends in fuel prices. These will almost certainly rise in the near future. Food from distant sources will become more expensive and, potentially, unavailable. It is prudent to shift to local sources for some of our food essentials.

The Food Security Research and Service Exchange Network arranged for Mustafa Koc to speak at this public talk on the evening of February 1st at Lakehead University.

A similar talk took place the next day at the Kakabeka Legion Hall. It was mainly attended by rural people, many part of local food production in the Thunder Bay area.

Dr. Koc's talks were well attended and provided opportunities for people passionate about enhancing local food systems in Northwestern Ontario with perspectives and suggestions.

Growing the Margins Energy Conference

London ON, April 11-14, 2007

Energy Conservation and Generation for Farms and Food Processors

Register online: www.gtmconf.ca

OMAFRA is the lead sponsor of the conference, with support from a variety of other agencies.

April 11: two tour options

April 12 & 13: main conference program - see the preliminary program online at www.gtmconf.ca

April 14: biomass combustion workshop

Content areas:

Anaerobic digesters (biogas), biomass combustion, energy efficiency (food processors, crop and livestock farms, greenhouses), ethanol production and implications, biodiesel production (on-farm and large scale), wind, solar, energy from food-based

inputs, provincial programs (Standard Offer Program, grid connections, conservation targets), energy crops, international experience, trade show, etc...

The Preliminary Program for *Growing the Margins: Energy Conservation and Generation for Farms and Food Processors* is now available at http://www.gtmconf.ca/program_highlights.htm.

We think that you'll want to check out this program - - and that you won't want to miss what will certainly be an exciting and informative Conference and Exhibition.

The *Growing the Margins Energy Conference and Exhibition* (April 11-14, 2007, London Convention Centre, London, Ontario Canada) has been designed with the interests of livestock and field & horticulture crop farmers, greenhouse operators, food and beverage processors, technology and service providers, governments at all levels, utilities, researchers, and financial institutions in mind. GTM will be of particular interest to those who are attracted by the social, economic and environmental benefits of on-farm energy conservation and generation and how these benefits can be realized.

Please also visit the web site (www.gtmconf.ca) for details on how to register and take advantage of early bird rates, how to exhibit your technology, service or program, and on opportunities to sponsor the *Growing the Margins Energy Conference and Exhibition*.

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TBARS Research 2006 Presentation –
Summary and Conclusions

-Dr. Tarlok Singh Sahota

This note highlights main findings from the research done at Thunder Bay Agricultural Research Station (TBARS), Thunder Bay, primarily during 2006 and in some cases during previous years as well.

- Include Cyane, but not Conlon, to barley varieties for diversification within barley
- In average grain yields during 2001-2006, AC Klinck maintained its edge over Chapais; and Chapais over Brucefield. Brucefield could be dropped out
- AC Rigodon and QO.685.48 (oats) have shown yield stability (past four years)
- Sable and Quantum have the potential to replace Superb in spring wheat
- In Malting barley, Legacy out yielded New Dale; application of 70 kg N/Ha, not 35 kg N/Ha, increased grain yield over no N
- If both grain and straw are required, wheat followed by oats should be preferable over barley
- For maximizing grain protein content in spring cereals, both manure and fertilizers should be applied without deducting nutrients contribution by manure. This trend has been consistent for the past two years
- Spring cereals didn't respond to Zn and Mn application probably because of low yield (dry August)
- Forage/silage yields per hectare were in the order of corn > oats > barley
- Delay in winter wheat and barley seeding from August 15 to September 5 increased grain yield and protein content; soft red wheat had over 2 tonne/ha higher grain yield than hard red winter wheat
- Hard red winter wheat had 2% point higher grain protein than the soft red winter wheat
- Winter cereal yields were almost double than that of spring cereals
- CDC Falcon (HRW) gave the highest grain yield (6 t/ha) followed closely by AC Sampson and CDC Raptor

- Application of entire N (110 kg/ha) to winter wheat produced higher grain yield than its split application between fall and spring
- ESN i.e. polymer coated urea applied in the fall gave as much winter wheat grain yield as urea applied in spring, but fell short of yield from fall applied urea
- OAC Prudence equaled 24-51R and out yielded Gaillard in soybean grain yield
- Soybean populations ranging from 120,000 to 360,000 or 150,000 to 300,000 seeds/acre didn't significantly affect yields though 200,000-250,000 seeds/acre seemed to be the ideal
- Fall harrowing followed by spring harrowing and cultivation gave almost as much soybean yield as conventional tillage (fall plowing, summer harrowing and cultivation) and resulted in 34% saving in fuel consumption
- Urea was as good a source of N as ammonium nitrate in corn, but not for canola (at rates > 100 kg N/ha) and alfalfa for which ammonium sulphate was the best source of N
- Treatment of urea with Agrotain (urease inhibitor) didn't improve its efficacy in corn or canola
- August 25 – September 5 appeared to be the best time for seeding winter canola; Kronos gave ~500 kg/ha higher seed yield than Californium
- Grasses growth was too poor to take a second cut in 2006. Yield differences between varieties of the same species were not significant
- In tall fescue 2005 & 2006 yield, Courtenay had an edge over Excella and in meadow fescue Merifest surpassed Mimer and Epic
- Orchard grass: Kay had the lead over Okay and Benchmark in 3 year total yields
- Timothy: Itasca and Richmond seemed to be better than Climax in 3 years total yields. And NS04-T01 and Itasca out yielded Climax in two years total yields
- Reed canary grass: Platoon was marginally better than PR04-01 (2005 & 2006)

- Anaerobically digested liquid dairy manure equaled un digested manure and NPK fertilizers in corn silage yield, when N was uniformly adjusted at 150 kg/ha
- In OFCC alfalfa variety trials, yield differences amongst varieties were non significant. Outstanding varieties, in 2-3 years total yields, were Pioneer 5312, Oneida VR and Magnum IV
- In another set of 10 alfalfa variety comparisons, 8925MF, NK711MF and OAC Superior topped in 2 years total yield index (2065 MF taken as 100)
- In WFT, Rangelander and Rambler alfalfa had an edge over Forecast1001
- Application of ammonium sulphate to alfalfa improved the protein content by 3% points in the first cut and 2% point in the second cut as compared to ammonium nitrate and urea. This trend was consistent over the past two years
- Increasing levels of N, from 15 to 30 kg/ha, and B from 1.125 to 2.25 kg/ha improved the protein content in alfalfa (N both cuts; B first cut). However, alfalfa yield exhibited a diminishing trend (only) with increasing rates of B application
- 70 kg K₂O/ha and 20 kg S/ha appeared to be optimum for established alfalfa stands in soils of medium fertility
- Wood ash maintained its superiority over lime in improving organic matter, available P, K and micronutrients in soil, alfalfa yields and protein content even after two years of application
- Manure, but not wood ash, lost its favourable effect on alfalfa yield two years after its application. Manure improved availability of K and Mg more than wood ash, where as reverse was true for available Ca, Mn, Zn and to some extent B
- Combined application of N, P and K or N, P, K and Mn had an edge over N alone or N + P in alfalfa yield (could be because of role of K in stress resistance). K/and K + Mn improved alfalfa protein content, over N/N + P, only in the second cut. Favourable effect

of N/or N + P on protein content was pronounced in the first cut

- Application of N, P, K, & Mn improved organic matter and availability of nutrients (both macro and micro except Mg) in the soil
- Study on maximum yield and persistence in alfalfa revealed that application of S and micronutrients was required for yield maximization in alfalfa
- Seeding alfalfa in 30cm rows gave higher yield than its seeding in 15cm rows
- Forest tree research indicated that (i) white spruce had better survival and growth than Norway spruce/or red pine, (ii) European larch couldn't survive and (iii) wood ash/and slow release fertilizer suppressed survival and growth of spruces

THUNDER BAY SPRING FARM CONFERENCE

Thunder Bay Soil & Crop Improvement Association hosts its Annual Spring Farm Conference on Wednesday and Thursday, April 4 and 5, at the Kakabeka Legion. Come visit our exhibitors and hear a great line-up of speakers. Hope to see you there.

For further information contact the secretary treasurer, Bruce Forrest at Tel. 807 473 9609 or Fax 807 577 0184

WOOD ASH

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Email: kbliss@uoguelph.ca

Thunder Bay Agricultural Research Association
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Email: tbars1@tbaytel.net

Dr. Tarlok Singh Sahota
Telephone: 807-475-1373 Fax: 807-475-1313
Email: tarloksahota@tbaytel.net

Stratton Meeting

Crop Insurance Information Meeting
Forage Program
Stratton Municipal Office (upstairs)
7pm, April 2

CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP PLOWING MATCH September 2007 SLATE RIVER VALLEY

The Slate River Plowmen's Association will be hosting the 55th Annual Canadian Plowing Championship in conjunction with the 75th Annual Slate River Valley Plowing Match. The match will take place the week following Labour Day and finish on the Saturday, September 8, 2007 at the Match site on Hwy 130.

The match has secured additional land for the match from the neighbouring farms of Egbert Breukelman and John Hanna.

We are currently applying for some funding to assist in the delivery of this event which is only the beginning of the process.

There will be an opportunity for our community, businesses and entrepreneurs to showcase what we have to offer to the participants and visitors from across Canada.

To make the most of this opportunity that is available for our community and Northwestern Ontario, numerous volunteers will be required. If you have any suggestions for making this a successful event or if you have an interest in volunteering to assist in this successful event please contact one of the following:

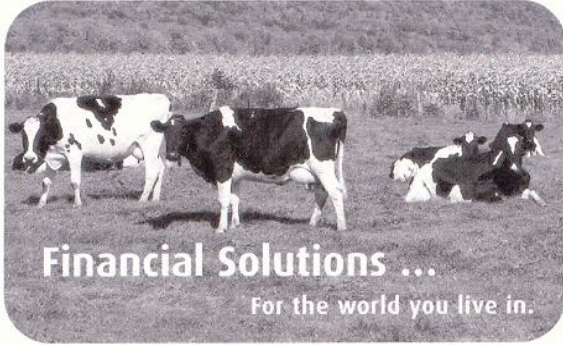
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Notices From Agricultural Adaptation Council

“The Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC) has issued a request for proposals (RFP) that supports the criteria under the new Biofuels Opportunities for Producers Initiative (BOPI) Worth \$10 million, the BOPI is funded nationally through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and delivered regionally through the industry councils. In Ontario, the AC, located in Guelph, will administer Ontario’s share of the initiative - \$1.3 million. The RFP is designed to fund projects that improve the agricultural producers’ ability to participate in

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and take advantage of opportunities created by biofuels production. Individual project funding will be capped at \$300,000. At least 25 percent of the project's cost must be provided by the industry applicant."

SpecialtyFarms.ca

Organic groups form umbrella council

Players in the organic industry in Ontario have formed an organization to provide a one-stop shop to speak to both industry and government. OntarBio Oganix Farmers Co-op Inc, has taken the lead in the formation of the council, with Terry Aclerman, the general manager of Organic Meadow Inc. chairing the board of directors.

'The purpose of the council is to facilitate the growth of organics in Ontario,' said Ackerman, noting that it now generates \$600 to \$800 million a year in the province.

The Agricultural Adaptation Council has approved a grant of \$300,000 to fund the council over the next three years. It's expected to name an executive director shortly."

Here's a new way to support local livestock farmers

"When 90 per cent of the respondents of a poll said they'd make it a point to buy Ontario-branded , producers listened. Now they've joined forces for a three year , \$4.3 million program called Homegrown Ontario, a new marketing initiative to promote Ontario pork, lamb and veal.

Homegrown Ontario is receiving close to #3.5 million from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's CanAdvance program, administered by the Guelph-based Agricultural Adaptation Council. It's the largest grant ever awarded under the program"

Factsheets

Nursery & Landscape Plant Production and IPM, Publication 383; the new price is \$20.00. [Agdex for on-line catalogue is 270

06-101: HORSE SAFETY— SADDLING, BRIDLING & RIDING WESTERN, Agdex 462.

Ontario to host National Agriculture Awareness Conference

MILTON, ON. - From May 22-25, 2007, educators, agricultural leaders and advisors, Ag in the Classroom (AITC) administrators, industry and government representatives will gather at the London Convention Centre as Ontario hosts the 2007 National Agriculture Awareness Conference (NAAC), *Celebrating Achievements...Cultivating Opportunities*. This progressive conference is a forum to share information, experiences and insights on agricultural education, awareness, communications & public relations in the agri-food industry across Canada and around the world.

The conference brings together people who share a common interest in agriculture awareness to exchange ideas, improve the efficiency of existing programs, develop partnerships for the delivery of new programs, and showcase regional achievements.

This year's conference has been organized by a panel of agricultural communicators drawn from Ontario industry groups, agri-business and academia. The program will feature workshops and presentations on topics such as building awareness, promoting agriculture in schools, effective crisis management, and Canadian attitudes about food and farming.

"We're very proud that Ontario is hosting the 2007 conference," said Jan Robertson, Chair of the Conference Committee. "The program will showcase Ontario agriculture and feature workshops and presentations designed to inform, inspire and challenge individuals and groups working to build agricultural awareness across Canada."

Keynote speaker for the conference will be Michele Payn-Knoper, founder of Cause Matters Corp, an Indiana-based company focused on agricultural advocacy, grassroots marketing, fundraising and sales training. Payn-Knoper, who holds degrees in Agricultural Communications and Animal Science from Michigan State University, will lead conference participants in a celebration of the

people, the promise and the passion in today's agri-food business.

As well as workshops and presentations, the conference will include a choice of agricultural tours that will highlight Ontario's agricultural diversity.

Program details and on-line registration are available on the conference website: www.naac-cnsa.ca.

The 2007 NAAC Conference is made possible through the generous support of sponsors such as Syngenta, Monsanto, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Chicken Farmers of Canada and the Canadian Canola Growers, organizations committed to building awareness and understanding for the agriculture and food industry.

Recent Winnipeg Cattle Prices

Prices on feeders have increased in the last month. Volume has been increasing every week. Here are the price ranges for steers at Winnipeg Livestock Sales to February 23.

Over 1000 lbs.	\$	80.00 –	92.00
900 – 1000 lbs.	\$	80.00 –	98.50
800 – 900 lbs.	\$	85.00 –	105.25
700 – 800 lbs.	\$	90.00 –	109.00
600 – 700 lbs.	\$	95.00 –	121.00
500 – 600 lbs.	\$	100.00 –	126.00
400 – 500 lbs.	\$	100.00 –	131.00
under 400 lbs.	\$	100.00 –	135.00

Slaughter steer and heifer prices were steady to slightly higher in the past month. Here are the price ranges to February 23.

Choice Strs. & Hfrs.	\$	81.75 –	85.25
Select Strs. & Hfrs.	\$	N/A	
Cows Dry Fed	\$	25.00 –	37.50
Good Fleshed	\$	22.00 –	30.50
Lean	\$	10.00 –	28.50
Shells	\$	N/A	
Good Bulls	\$	25.00 –	36.75

100 bred cows were sold on February 13. Prices were \$450 to \$700.

FEBRUARY HORSE NEWS & VIEWS

February Horse News and Views is now available on our web site at:

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/horses/news.html>. It highlights research topics, extension resources, reminders of common poisonings, disease or production concerns and coming events.

Equine information sheets can be found under the horse section at

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/index.html>.

February's information sheet is '**Rapid and Unexpected Death in Horses: Part A - Toxins.**'

ADVANCED AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM – Class 12 Recruitment

Anyone considering an application for the Advanced Agricultural Leadership program remember the application deadline is: March 16th, 2007

FARMCHOICES WEBSITE FOR CAREER AND BUSINESS PLANNING

FarmChoices.ca, the website designed for Canadian farm families and workers is again accessible at www.farmchoices.ca. This interactive website allows users to assess their skills and explore career and business options for growth and change. Also available in CD-ROM and workbook formats, the resource allows users to develop a personal portfolio of skills, abilities and knowledge. Users identify gaps, explore options and develop plans for the future to improve their farm management practices or pursue off-farm opportunities.

Within five modules - Self-Assessment, Beginning Farmer, Learning Plan, Job Search and Business Plan – users can find numerous articles and case studies plus interactive forms to create professional reports and documents. Once completed this professional portfolio of support documents can be used in seeking educational credits, off-farm

employment or support in growing your farm business. All will help you get where you want to go.

FarmChoices.ca is a free service for Canadian farmers and farm workers. Check it out at www.farmchoices.ca. To order the CD-ROM or workbook, or for more information contact . The Centre for Rural Leadership, 519-826-4204.

CANADA'S NEW ORGANIC REGULATIONS AND REVISED STANDARDS

More and more of us are purchasing and eating organically grown food. We are soon to see something new in the organic world here in Canada - new 'Canada Organic' label.

In December 2006 the Canadian government published the Organic Products Regulation to regulate organic certification in Canada for organic products. Details on this new regulation are available on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) [Canadian Organic Office](#) website. The new regulation allows for a 2-year implementation period.

The regulations aim to protect consumers against deceptive and misleading labeling practices on organic products and set out requirements for organic products in inter-provincial and international trade. The 'Canadian Organic' logo will be permitted for use only on those food products certified as meeting the newly revised Canadian standard for organic production.

This federal regulatory program for organic products will build upon existing standards and certification systems and will contribute to the organic industry's capacity to respond to international and domestic market opportunities. It also will govern the use of the new Canada Organic logo.

So in the future, look for the logo Canada organic on the food label of organic foods, as well as the label of the certifying body, such as OCPP.

This new Canadian logo is rectangle logo with green hills and a red maple leaf with the words 'Canada Organic.' You'll see it in about a year as producers start to use it on their organic foods. Organic producers can't use the 'Canada Organic' logo until they are certified or recertified to this new CFIA system. There is a 2 years certification period.

This Canada organic logo is a voluntary logo. Organic producers here in Ontario will use it if they are exporting outside of Canada or Ontario. Many markets may require this federal certification. For example if Loblaw's is exporting these foods, then they will require this federal certification.

The Canada Organic logo is a sign of credibility. Many organic producers will want to use it as it is an indication that you and your organic product can be trusted. These regulations are providing a competitive advantage for the Canadian organic sector and protecting consumers. Also, the organic industry's capacity to respond to international and domestic market opportunities will be strengthened.

Phased in over the next two years, the Canada Organic logo will be permitted for use only on those food products certified as meeting the revised Canadian standard for organic production and that contain at least 95 percent organic ingredients. Following this phase-in period, it will be mandatory that all organic products be certified when traded across provincial or international boundaries (i.e. import/export, inter-provincial.) Canada now joins more than 40 other countries world-wide with organic regulations.

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PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE

SAFETY DAY™

Saturday, April 21, 2007 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

“THE DELL”

Murillo, Ontario

A fun-filled day of learning for children ages 6-14 years-old..

Topics for demonstrations and discussions include:

Electrical Safety

PTO Safety

Chemical Safety

ATV Safety

Machinery Safety

Fire Safety

This safety day includes lunch, a T-shirt, and take-home bag.

There will be demonstrations and fun activities.

Register at the Spring Farm Conference on April 4 & 5 at

Kakabeka Legion on Hwy 11-17.

Space limited, first come first served.

For Information contact Wilma Mol 807-473-5105