

October 2007

NORTHWEST LINK

Thunder Bay * Rainy River * Kenora Districts

Northwestern Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Associations

PREMIER'S AWARD FOR AGRI-FOOD INNOVATION EXCELLENCE

The Premiers Award for Agri-Food Innovation and Excellence is returning for 2007.

The 2006 selection process identified 3 Northwestern Ontario regional winners including Pine River Ranch and Rainy River Elk Company from Rainy River District and Thunder Oak Cheese from Thunder Bay District.

Who will be a 2007 winner?

In order to win you must be nominated (complete an application).

Examples of innovation include, but are not limited to, the following: improved farm practices (e.g. technology, business practices, processes, etc.) response to consumer demands (e.g. value added, marketing, strategic alliances, etc). environmental stewardship health and safety on the farm energy innovations education and marketing of agriculture to society.

Winning innovations will be determined by uniqueness and originality, development, adoption and/or commercialization, impact or benefits, broader use, and on-farm use.

Details of the process, as well as applications and guidelines, are available at:

www.ontario.ca/agrifoodinnovation

1-877-424-1300

To be considered for the Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence, applications must be submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural affairs. Deadline 5 p.m. on October 31, 2007.

Think your neighbour is doing something innovative? Nominate them for the Premiers Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence.

Advance Notice

Grower Pesticide Safety Courses

Spring is Grower Pesticide Certificate renewal time! Renewal notices are sent directly to those whose certificates are expiring but each year there are also new participants or those with lapsed certificates who wish to become certified.

In order to plan for the coming education season if you or a member of your farm operation will be seeking to renew a lapsed certificate or a new certificate please contact the Ontario Pesticide Education Program to alert them to potential demand.

1-800-652-8573

www.ridgetownc.uoguelph.ca/o pep

Courses will be scheduled for Northwestern Ontario during the winter months of 2008, based on demand.

The certification fee is \$85, payable to University of Guelph. All GPSC exams are open-book.

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.

WellWise

Well Wise is conducting a Needs Assessment in partnership with the Ministry of Environment. The purpose is to determine the most effective ways to reach a broad audience of private well owners and to determine the information and resources well owners need to improve the management of private wells in Ontario.

Greater participation will help us support the development of appropriate education and outreach activities related to stewardship of private wells in Ontario, which is the primary purpose of this needs assessment.

The survey can now be accessed online at www.wellwise.ca by clicking on the survey option in the main menu toolbar. We hope that you will be able to complete the survey at your earliest convenience. You can also contact Well Wise at 905-983-9911 if you prefer a paper version or want to complete the survey over the phone.

After the study is finished, the findings will be communicated back to you and posted on the Well Wise website so you can learn about the results. We expect the results will be compiled by spring 2008.

Lindsay Conboy, Communication Officer

*Well Wise Centre, 905-983-9911
5331 Main St. Unit 2, P.O box 219
Orono, ON L0B 1M0*

Send your articles to: Linda Turk
R. R. #1 Kakabeka Falls, Ontario P0T 1W0
807-577-4787 (voice), 807-577-4459 (fax)
Email: lindat@tbaytel.net



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Trenton, ON K8V 5P7

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Home/Fax: 613-475-2346
email: bbilker@reach.net

Soil Conservation News

Proving the economic value of soil conservation to producers is key to protecting Canada's soil resources, say leaders on the front lines of promoting safe soil practices. The challenge is coming up with the numbers to prove that value.

One way to do this is to emphasize the economic benefits of safe soil practices such as zero-till. "This is already being done on a small scale," says McKell. "Producers such as Jocelyn Michon from Quebec have provided leadership by studying the value of soil conservation on their own farms, while scientists such as Carlyle Ross are calling for more research in this area and better tools to communicate the results to farmers.

Michon, a producer from Sainte-Hyacinthe, Quebec, has worked tirelessly to attach specific numbers to his soil conservation practices by analyzing efficiencies on his own farm. What he found was substantial. Michon estimates that using zero-tillage practices saves him, on an annual basis, approximately \$25,000 in machinery costs, \$8,000 in machinery maintenance, \$15,000 in fuel, and, thanks to the build-up of nutrients in his soil, as much as \$15,000 in fertilizer.

But even if organized scientific research were to discover similar numbers, effectively getting the message out to producers in an era of shrinking on-farm resources would still be a challenge, says Ross, a researcher with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) in Edmonton, Alberta. Using demonstration sites to promote economic value may be one way to help fill this void, he says.


For the full story, "The search for soil conservation economics," visit the SCCC Web site at www.soilcc.ca. SCCC is the face and voice of soil conservation in Canada. A national, non-governmental, independent organization, it was formed in 1987 to provide a non-partisan public forum at the national level for soil conservation.

Using a grassroots approach combined with the scientific, technical and practical experience of its members, it works with government and private industry, individuals and non-government organizations to address soil degradation and facilitate exchange of information across Canada.



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In the Stratton area, call Bob Leblanc, 807 487-2671

Five delegates to attend Circumpolar Agricultural Conference

Northern Ontario Agri-Food Education & Marketing Inc. announces its five delegates who will attend the Circumpolar Agriculture Association conference in Happy Valley – Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador on September 30 – October 3, 2007.

Linda Armstrong (District of Rainy River), **Birgit Martin** (District of Manitoulin), **Christina Mol** (District of Thunder Bay), **Janet Parsons** (District of Nipissing) and **Robert Wall** (District of Kenora) were recently selected to attend and represent the Northern Ontario agriculture community at this four day conference.

Applications were received from across Northern Ontario.

Partial funding for the project was received from the Agriculture Adaptation Council and Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada through CanAdvance. This project is developed in partnership with the Northern Ontario Federations of Agriculture.

Delegates will be available as guest speakers for events across the north. Contact NOAFE to make arrangements.

Factsheets

07-043: Managing Commodity Price Risk Using Hedging and Options, Agdex 840

07-047: Harvesting Corn Silage at the Right Moisture, Agdex 120/50; NEW.

07-025: Chronic Wasting Disease Update, Agdex 400/663

Managing Canadian Geese

Environment Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service manages wildlife matters that are the responsibility of the federal government, including the protection and management of migratory birds.

We are aware that Canada Geese populations in some agricultural areas have become a cause for concern among farmers. Furthermore, fall migration has already begun and the hunting season has opened, so the issue is also very timely. Our brochure, titled "Canada Geese and Farms: Seasonal techniques to deter geese" contains information on the annual cycle of the species, protection under the law, deterrent techniques, hunting and firearms discharge details and additional contact information.

The brochure is available from your OFA representative or:

Canadian Wildlife Service - Ontario
4905 Dufferin Street
Toronto, ON M3H 5T4
Tel: 416.739.5954



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Deadline Fast Approaching

Are you one of the 17,600 producers who completed an Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) and had it deemed appropriate from 1993 to 2004? If so, we urge you to act now to take advantage of project cost-share opportunities.

EFPs that were deemed appropriate through peer review during this period may satisfy the eligibility requirements under the current federal environmental cost-share programs. Projects initiated in 2004 and 2005 may be eligible. Older EFP action plans will only be honoured until MARCH 31, 2006. After that, all applications to the cost-share programs will require a Third Edition EFP deemed appropriate.

Call your local OSCIA Program Representative or the OSCIA at 1-800-265-9751 for more information.

Peter Brunner
EFP Program representative
Dryden/Thunder Bay
1 807 938 6417 p/f
kenora@ontariosoilcrop.org

Upcoming events in Rainy River

October 1, 2007
4-H Leaders Meeting
7:30 p.m. - Barwick Hall

October 2, 2007
Quality Starts Here Workshop
4:00p.m. till 6:00p.m.
Devlin Hall

Cost \$50 - Call Kim Jo 482-2863 to register
***following the Workshop is a free Roast Beef Supper and a OCA 10 Year Vision Meeting - please let Kim Jo know if you can make it!!!

October 2, 2007
RRFA - Director's Meeting
7:30 p.m. - Emo

October 6, 2007

Cattle Sale
Stratton Sales Barn
Cattle Receiving - Thursday and Friday
Sale begins at 9:30 a.m.
Call Clayton Teeple for more inf - 487-1465

October 10, 2007

Semen Order
Call Kim Jo 482-2863

October 17, 2007

Rainy River Cattlemen's Director's Meeting
7:30 p.m.

Dr. Stacey Angus in the area -

October 18, 19 & 20th -

Call 204-326-3955 to book an appointment!

October 27, 2007

Cattle Sale
Stratton Sales Barn
Cattle Receiving - Thursday and Friday
Sale begins at 9:30 a.m.
Call Clayton Teeple 487-1465 for more info!

EARS Report

Hello! Today it is a beautiful morning (September 15). I might be asking too much but I wish it would stay like this for another month or even two! According to my four weather sites that I check frequently, we could get some rain as early as tonight. I realize that we need it, but man is it nice to work and get some jobs done at this time of the year.

Kerry and I brought in our Flax on Friday a.m. We darn near froze, but it is in and hanging. It was a real struggle to get much work done last week outside as it was just drizzling enough to keep us inside. Being inside wasn't the end of the world; we have lots of seed to clean! The biggest struggle last week was getting me use to the "new, fancy" computer program. Slowly, I am getting better. I have heard that the older you get, the more you struggle with change? Of course, I cannot give you all my data yet but I can tell you that 606 was the top wheat variety at 2939 kg/ha, P9741A41-4-6-7 was the top oat variety at 4670 kg/ha and C481-027 was the top barley variety at 4457 kg/ha. (I should add, Chapais was the third top variety at 4213 kg/ha.)

My boss, John Rowsell, paid a visit to me at the end of August: the Research Technician at New Liskeard, John Kobler, as well as our Director, Mike Goss, joined him. Unfortunately, because of it being the end of the season, there were not a lot of crops to inspect,

but it was nice they came and saw what was going on. We toured all our tree sites, and scratched our heads on what we can do next with these areas.

Weather Update:

CHU (until the end of August) = 2588

Rain (until today – September 17) = 424.25 mm or 16.97 in

Last year: CHU (until the end of August) = 2628

Rain (until September 17, 2006) = 244.44 mm or 9.78 in

I wish you a great fall. Please stop in anytime for an update.

Kim Jo

EARS

kbliss@uoguelph.ca

Risk Management

A practical workshop for nonprofit organizations

October 11 in Thunder Bay

It will be practical, interactive, even fun. The backbone of this three-hour session is a resource binder that all participants receive.

What will be covered?

- Risk management for the real world including practical action lists we are calling Nonprofit SmartTips®
- Opening the doors to the insurance world: the coverages that are out there (CGL, D&O, and beyond); how to ensure that you get the most out of your relationship with an insurance professional
- How to get the support you need: learn about our plans for a support network of nonprofit “designated risk contacts”

Who should attend?

Staff, volunteers, and board members of small and medium-sized nonprofit organizations

To register or find out more, visit

www.imaginecanada.ca.

Click on “Learn” then “Risk Management.”

For Sale:

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1 888 500 3159

Moving?

Please let us know your new address before you move so you will not miss a single issue of Northwest Link.

Organic Farming-Tarlok Sahota's Questions; Hugh Martin's Answers

A couple of months ago I had some questions on organic farming. And I thought that Hugh Martin, OMAFRA's Organic Crop Production Program Lead, would be the best person to answer those questions. I am reproducing below a dialogue between Hugh and me for information of our growers.

Q1. How much acreage have we got in Ontario/and Canada under organic farming and what is the trend in the recent past? Is the acreage increasing or decreasing? At what rate?

A1. We have about 500-600 certified organic farms in Ontario. In 2005 the acreage was about 85,000 acres. Both the number of farms and number of acres is growing but at a slower rate than the increase in retail sales. The numbers can be found at the following links:

- <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/organic/orglinks.htm#stats>
- http://www.agr.gc.ca/misb/hort/org-bio/pdf/certifiedorganicproduction05_e.pdf
- <http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/95-629-XIE/2007000/landuse.htm#certorg>
- http://www.organicagcentre.ca/MarketInfo/mkt_welcome.asp
- http://www.organicagcentre.ca/Docs/RetailSalesOrganic_Canada2006.pdf

Q2. How much organic food do we import into Ontario/and Canada? What is the dollar value?

A2. We sell about \$1Billion per year of organic food in Canada (retail value). The percentage imported varies in each study but 50-90% of processed food and fresh fruit and vegetables are imported. Eighty percent is a commonly used number but a recent A.C. Nielsen study suggested it may be somewhat lower.

Q3. What are the main constraints in Organic Farming? Weeds? Fertility? Any other?

A3. This depends on the product.

- In fruits – insect pests/diseases, and tree management including the orchard floor
- In vegetables – weeds, insect pests/diseases, marketing, and labour
- Grains – weeds and nitrogen – both are manageable but takes extra time for mechanical weed control, which is a constraint on some farms
- Livestock – feed costs, some health issues but it is manageable, and marketing challenges with some products

Q4. Are the economic returns attractive enough from organic farming?

A4. It depends on the commodity and on how good the management is. In general returns are better than for conventional, but challenges are greater. There is no recipe. A higher level of knowledge and management is required. Information is sometimes harder to get and research information is not always available.

The issue of how much difference there is between conventional and organic yield is always controversial. There is some good work in Iowa/Minnesota that suggests corn and soybean yields can be fairly similar and Rodale also has similar work. The rotations are such that you do not produce corn and soybean each year. The real answer is that it is variable and it depends on many factors.

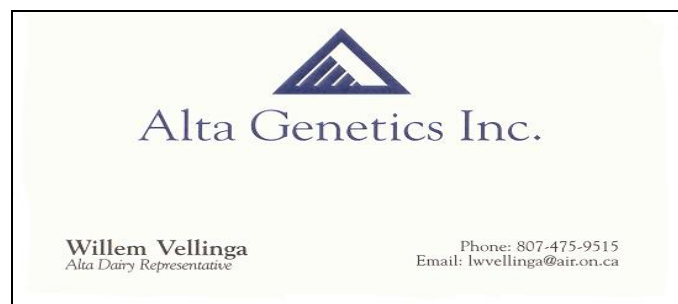
Q5. What could be the best strategy to improve production and increase returns from organic farming?

A5. I think we need more research but sometimes you have to be innovative in finding the funding. All research that is appropriate for organic agriculture has some application in conventional farming. Organic research also gives a new perspective for doing conventional research. There are fewer sources of partnership funding in organic farming. The needs depend on the commodity. Here is the link for national research priorities:

http://www.organiccentre.ca/ResearchDatabase/res_priorities07.asp

Readers may note that the global market for organic products rose from 23 Billion USD in 2002 to 40 Billion USD in 2006. Ontario/and Canada are the net importers of organic food. Organic crop production has not been keeping pace with the demand for organic food. With some enlightened Thunder Bay groups, such as Food Security Research Network and Food Action Network, promoting locally produced food and consumers' likely willingness to pay more for the locally produced food, especially for the organically produced food, Thunder Bay growers have an opportunity to strengthen their organic food production operations/or venture into such operations. Another favourable factor for organic food production, in our area, is that we do not have any serious challenge of insect pests or diseases in any of the crops. I am sure Hugh Martin will be willing to provide technical information to the interested growers. Hugh can be contacted at 519-826-4587 or at hugh.martin@ontario.ca.

Dr. Tarlok Singh Sahota, TBARS Thunder Bay



Thunder Bay

Federation of Agriculture

Peggy Brekveld,
Website and Display Committee

Part of the mandate of the TBFA is to promote agriculture too both rural and urban citizens, and to educate the general public about our local agricultural industry. With this in mind, the Thunder Bay Federation of Agriculture is currently busy with a proposal for the Agricultural Adaption Council's CanAdvance Program.

The goals of this proposal are two-fold; to promote our local agricultural businesses and produce, and to encourage students to become involved in, or employed in the agricultural sector.

We aim to do this through two strategies. The first is designing and setting up a webpage, including links to local primary producers and industry partners, links to job opportunities, special events calendar and more. Second, we plan to invest in two display units, one promoting local agriculture and producers. This could be used at the fairs, trade show, and other opportunities. The other display unit would promote job opportunities in the agricultural sector. This would be used at career fair. Included in these units would be promotional materials regarding these topics (and noting our new website!), and tables, skirting, etc. Both of these initiatives easily fall under TBFA's mandate of education and promotion regarding the local agricultural community.

In order to fulfill the requirements of the Agricultural Adaption Council, there needs to be support, both financial and in kind, from the community. We are happy to report that many have already taken the opportunity to financially back this initiative.

If you would like to also support this project, you can send a cheque to Thunder Bay Federation of Agriculture, C/O Brenda Burke, R.R.#1 Kakabeka Falls, Ontario POT 1W0.

If you have suggestions, or questions about this project, you can talk to me, Peggy Brekveld, or come on out to the TBFA's annual meeting, where there will be a report regarding the project proposal and progress. This is a great opportunity to show the community and beyond that we are an active part of the economy, community and society. Let's show that being a farmer is something to be proud of!



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The Environmental Stewardship Award

The Ontario Cattleman's Association and the Royal Bank of Canada are seeking nominations for the environmental stewardship award, which recognizes the outstanding environmental stewardship of an Ontario cattleman. Special consideration is given to producers who have taken innovative approaches to environmentally sustainable cattle production. Any producer, association, and conservation and environmental group may nominate a beef producer in their area who meets the criteria for the competition.

The winner chosen by a selection committee will be announced at the annual meeting of the Ontario Cattlemen's Association to be held in February 2008, and will go on to represent Ontario at the national level of the competition. The Ontario winner also receives \$500.00 to be put towards a farm gate sign or a painting of their choice.

A great way to promote agriculture and demonstrate our concern for the environment. Deadline for nominations is November 30, 2007. For more information contact your Ontario Cattlemen's Advisory Councilor or:

Lianne Y Appleby
Communications Manager Ontario Cattlemen's
Association. Tel: 519-824-0334 Ext 230
Fax: 519-824-9101

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The Ontario Pasture Award


The Ontario Cattlemen’s Association is pleased to partner with Maple Seed and the Ontario Forage Council in sponsoring the “Maple Seed Pasture Award 2007” This is an excellent opportunity to recognize individual producers who are doing an outstanding job of pasture management strategies that maximize production per acre.

Maple Seed contributes a cash award of \$750 to the winner, \$250 to cover their accommodation, plus a 25kg bag of their choice of a Maple Seed forage mix. There will also be two honorary prize winners, each winning \$250 and a 25kg bag of forage mix. The winners will be announced at the OCA annual meeting which will take place in February 2008.

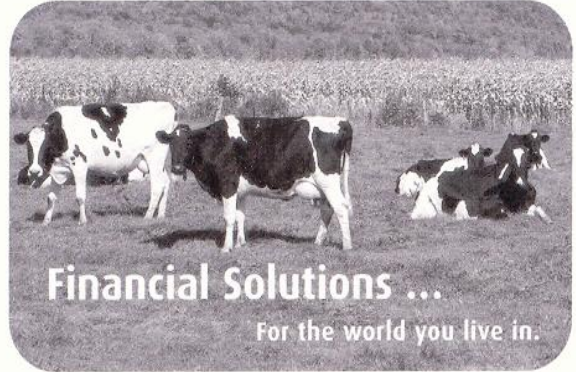
To submit a nomination for this award contact your OCA advisory councilor for an application form. Pictures and diagrams are great. Deadline for nominations is November 17, 2007

OCA Advisory Councilors

Kim Jo Bliss	Rainy River	807-482-2863
Gerald McCrae	Kenora	807-937-6110
Bruce Forrest	Thunder Bay	807-473-9609

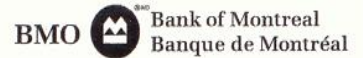


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Thunder Bay District Soil & Crop Improvement Association

Thank you to Wilma and Jim Mol for hosting the morning session of the fall crop tour and doing lunch. Thank you to Wilma for explaining the procedure and tests conducted on the two soil fertility trials, The micro nutrients and different sources of nitrogen fertilizer. Wilma will have a complete report after harvest and all soil, tissue and feed analyses are done. Thank you to Fred Breukelman, Fritz Jaspers, John Veurink, Allan and Henry Mol for allowing us to tramp through their soybean fields. Thank you also to all who attended and participated. P.S. The weed that no one could identify at Fred Breukelman’s is common ragweed.

Ambrosia Artemisiifolia L.

It has a very wide distribution, but is much more common in southern Ontario than in northern areas. It flowers in the early fall and the pollen of this plant is one of the worst causes of Hay Fever at this season of year. Every effort should be made to eradicate it. Identification and Information taken from publication 505 Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food – Ontario Weeds

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2007 Ontario Forage Masters Competition

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Arie Grootenboer

Second Prize: \$150.00 Certificate toward purchase
of Pickseed seed and Pickseed gloves
Jim Burke

Third Prize: \$50.00 Certificate toward purchase of
Pickseed seed and Pickseed hat
John Grootenboer

As 2007 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Ontario
Forage Masters Program, The Ontario Soil and
Crop Improvement Association is pleased to
announce a final provincial competition this fall to
select an overall Ontario winner. The 2007 Ontario
Forage Master will represent Ontario at the Forage
Spokesperson Competition held as part of the
American Forage and Grasslands council
conference in January 2008 in Louisville, Kentucky.

As the first place winner in Thunder Bay, Arie is
eligible to submit a word essay/ report or MS
PowerPoint presentation to OSCIA. Up to six of the
submission will be selected to participate in a
speaking competition to be held at the Royal
Agricultural Winter Fair on November 7, 2007

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Update Update Update

US border is scheduled to open for animals over 30
months of age if born after March 1, 1999 and also to
breeding stock.

To enter the United States they must be age verified with
Canadian Cattle Identification Agency. They must have
an RFID Tag.

Market Access Program will reimburse producers three
dollars per calf born and age verified since Jan 1, 2006,
Dairy and Beef heifers, bulls and steers if the following
criteria are met: Calves Age Verified

Vet approved vaccination program
Have or will attend a 2 hour Quality
starts here verified beef production
workshop which will be held

Oct 2, 2007. 4-6pm Rainy River District in
accompaniment with the Ontario beef 10 year vision
evening. Contact Kim Jo Bliss 807-482-2863

Oct 3, 2007. 7-9pm Kenora District, Dryden AG office
Contact Gerald MacCrae 807-937-6110

Oct 4, 2007. 8-10pm. Thunder Bay District, Rosslyn Community Centre. Contact Bruce Forrest 807-473-9609

See September issue of Northwest Link for other benefits involved with QSH workshop program, or contact your OCA advisory councilor.

Application deadline for Market Access Program is November 2, 2007

The Canadian Meat Processing companies can not get enough age verified slaughter cattle to fill the market in Japan.

The focuses of these programs are from the Ontario Government.

If we do not use them as producers Beef and Dairy are sending the following messages to the Government:

- A) We do not need the money
- B) We do not wish to co-operate in developing new markets for our beef and are satisfied with the prices we receive for our calves, cows and bulls

The feed lot operations are paying more Age Verified properly vaccinated pre conditions calves because they know they will not get discounted because of SRM removal for calves over 30 months of age when finished and sent to the packing plant.

Please think this over and act now!



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email: cornell@nwonet.net
Fax 807-486-1095

Recent Gencor Cow Prices

Week ending September 01, 2007
Average Hot Weight 650.78 lbs
Average Price 72.30¢/lb
Average Settlement \$470.54

Week ending September 08, 2007
Average Hot Weight 640.02 lbs
Average Price 69.60¢/lb
Average Settlement \$445.35

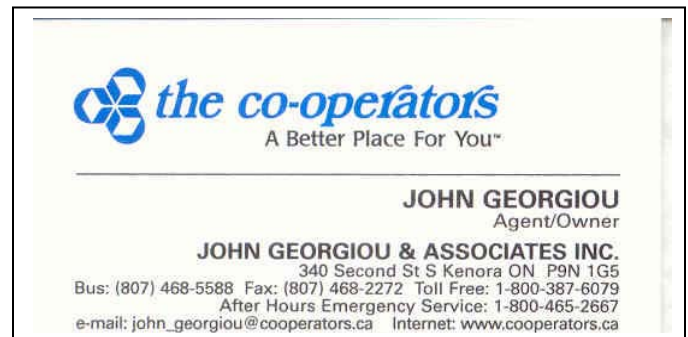
Week ending September 15, 2007
Average Hot Weight 648.73 lbs
Average Price 67.90¢/lb
Average Settlement \$440.70

Week ending September 22, 2007
Average Hot Weight 627.75 lbs
Average Price 66.40¢/lb
Average Settlement \$416.62

Grid range for cows has been 34.6¢ to 77.8¢ per pound

The most recent grid range for bulls has been 71.0¢ to 78.0¢ per pound.

The range for steers and heiferettes has been 68.6¢ to 80.9¢ per pound.





Agricultural Protection Plan

Causeway General Insurance is dedicated to providing dependable Property and Casualty coverage for Farm, Home, Automobile and Commercial risks. Our experienced staff treat every application or claim with the personal attention you expect and deserve.

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807 345-0949
Contact: Wendy Cooke

Pam@causewayinsurance.com
Wendy@causewayinsurance.com

Trees Ontario Foundation: (TOF)

This is a non-profit corporation established to promote and support tree planting initiatives in Ontario through partnering with tree planting agencies (www.treesontario.on.ca). **For more information, contact: Michael Scott, Trees Ontario Foundation, (416) 506-1694 miscott@treesontario.on.ca, or Don Huff, (416) 972-7401.**



Ontario Cattlemen's Association

Committed to Cattlemen

October 2, 2007	4-6 pm	Devlin Hall Fort Frances Rainey River County & area	Contact: Ron Wooddisse 519-831-9429
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Start Your Succession Plan Early

Julie Poirier Mensinga, Agricultural Business Management Specialist

“Start early” This is the lesson learned at the 2007 International Farm Succession Conference August 6 to 8.

Succession planning is a process occurring over time during which a family plans for the transfer of knowledge, skills, labour, management, control and ownership of the farm business between the founder generation and the successor generation. The preliminary step to succession planning is to open the lines of communication between the two generations. For more information visit:

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/succession.html> and <http://www.farmcentre.com/EventsAnnouncements/Events/FarmSuccession/2007>.

The Specialized Business Planning Services provide funding to off-set the cost of hiring a consultant to assist eligible producer with succession planning. Eligible producers can receive up to 50% refund, to a maximum of \$8,000. For more information visit:

http://www.agr.gc.ca/ren/index_e.cfm?s1=cfbas-sceac&s2=sbps-sspe&page=intro

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USEFUL CONTACT INFO

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CROP RESEARCH STATIONS

Emo Agricultural Research Station:
807-482-2354 (telephone & fax)
Email: kbliss@uoguelph.ca

Thunder Bay Agricultural Research Association
807-475-8404 (telephone & fax)
Email: tbars1@tbaytel.net

Visit OMAFRA on the internet at
www.ontario.ca/omafra

Here you will find information on Ontario's agri-food industry and rural communities and the services and programs OMAFRA provides.

Thunder Bay Federation of Agriculture Annual Fall Meeting

7:30 p.m., Thursday, October 18
Murillo Community Centre
\$15 advance, \$17 at the door
Tickets available from any director

OSCIA News

Boundary Realignment Receives OSCIA Directors' Support

- Frank Hoftyzer, President OSCIA

At a recent OSCIA Board of Directors meeting, recommendations were put forth to realign the provincial Director boundaries with the existing regional association boundaries. In the past, there has been considerable overlap, duplication and confusion between the boundaries for provincial Directors and the regional associations.

The new scenario will improve the communication abilities considerably – from the local associations, through to their regional association and their provincial Director who sits on the provincial board.

The realignment will result in eleven provincial board members who will work closely with their Regional Communications Coordinator. The local associations will benefit greatly from this streamlined approach. One of the strengths of OSCIA is its grassroots connection and the provincial Directors wish to put in place a more effective infrastructure to better service and strengthen the local associations.

At the February 2008 OSCIA Annual Meeting, delegates will be asked to support the constitutional changes necessary to implement this new infrastructure. The realignment would come into effect by the February 2009 annual meeting.

As part of the process change, provincial Directors will be elected by their regions to come into effect for the 2009 annual meeting. It will be business as usual for delegates to elect their provincial Directors for the 2008 annual meeting. The proposed Director regions are as follows:

Northwest Link October 2007

Region	Associations	Current Directors	ASSUMED Feb '08 – Feb '09	Feb '09 onward	RCC
St. Clair	Lambton, Kent, Essex	Williams, Denotter	Williams, Denotter	One Elected by Region	K. Gladstone
Thames Valley	Middlesex, Elgin, Oxford	Williams, Lee	Williams (Lee – Pres '08)	One Elected by Region	C. Dibble
Heartland	Huron, Perth, Waterloo, Wellington	McKinlay, to be named	New to be named	One Elected by Region	R. Knight
Georgian Central	Bruce, Grey, Dufferin, Simcoe N & S	McKinlay, Pridham	McKinlay, Pridham	One Elected by Region	R. Robertson
Golden Horseshoe	Niagara N & S, Haldimand, Wentworth, Halton, Peel, Brant, Norfolk	Davis, Brooks, Hill	Davis, Brooks, Hill (Hill – Pres '10)	One Elected by Region	J. Shepherd
East Central	York, Durham, Peterborough, Victoria, Haliburton	Kinghorn, Brooks, Hoftzyer	Brooks	One Elected by Region	N. Moore
Quinte	Pr Edward, L & A, Hastings, Northumberland	Kaiser, Hoftzyer	Kaiser	One Elected by Region	N. Moore
Eastern Valley	Prescott, Russell, Glengarry, Stormont, Dundas	Haerle, Kruszel	Haerle, Kruszel	One Elected by Region	T. Myers
Ottawa Rideau	Grenville, Leeds, Lanark, Renfrew, Carleton, Frontenac	Kruszel, Kaiser, Cotnam	Kruszel, Kaiser, Cotnam	One Elected by Region	S. Munro
NE Ontario	Parry Sound, Muskoka, Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin, Sudbury, Temiskaming, Nipissing	Parsons, Cochrane, Muggler	Parsons, Cochrane, Muggler (Cochrane – Pres '09)	One Elected by Region	G. Gambles
NW Ontario	Rainy River, Thunder Bay, Kenora	Mol	Mol	One Elected by Region	L. Turk

Ontario Cattlemen's Association --- Sale Data Audit
Sale date: 08 September, 2007
Stratton

Fed Heifers, Medium Frame	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
Over 1000 lbs	2	82.50	84.00	83.25	84.00	1,047
901 - 1000 lbs	1	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	935
900 lbs and less	91	79.00	106.00	99.34	106.00	733
Cows	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
All Weights	66	18.75	39.25	28.65	45.00	1,376
Bulls	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
Over 1600 lbs	5	29.50	32.25	31.25	32.25	1,875
Under 1600 lbs	5	72.00	78.00	75.00	88.00	830

Northwest Link October 2007

Large & Medium Frame Stocker Steers	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
399 lbs and less	2	98.00	114.00	106.00	114.00	330
400 - 499 lbs	24	83.00	129.00	109.17	129.00	474
500 - 599 lbs	44	64.00	119.00	104.76	119.00	556
600 - 699 lbs	104	61.00	113.50	100.71	113.50	653
700 - 799 lbs	112	66.00	116.00	105.37	116.00	752
800 - 899 lbs	85	64.00	112.00	104.91	112.00	840
900 - 999 lbs	46	80.00	108.00	103.14	108.00	916
Over 1000 lbs	8	85.00	95.50	91.43	95.50	1,036
Lrg & Med Frame Stocker Heifers	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
300 - 399 lbs	5	111.00	111.00	111.00	111.00	385
400 - 499 lbs	11	57.50	104.00	93.22	104.00	452
500 - 599 lbs	35	75.00	106.00	93.48	106.00	544
600 - 699 lbs	57	79.00	101.00	96.35	101.00	664
700 - 799 lbs	76	80.00	102.00	98.99	102.00	751
800 - 899 lbs	49	90.00	101.00	98.17	101.00	859
Over 900 lbs	7	50.00	84.00	76.50	84.00	1,003
Stocker Steers: Large Frame	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
901 - 999 lbs	12	103.25	103.25	103.25	103.25	930
801 - 900 lbs	22	70.00	107.00	103.64	107.00	860
701 - 800 lbs	54	90.50	116.00	109.37	116.00	769
601 - 700 lbs	54	88.00	113.00	108.95	113.00	660
501 - 600 lbs	2	64.00	105.50	84.75	105.50	557
500 lbs and less	12	109.00	129.00	116.83	129.00	478
Stocker Steers: Medium Frame	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
Over 1000 lbs	8	85.00	95.50	91.43	95.50	1,036
901 - 999 lbs	31	80.00	105.75	103.17	105.75	913
801 - 900 lbs	63	88.00	112.00	106.48	112.00	837
701 - 800 lbs	44	70.00	112.00	100.20	112.00	748
601 - 700 lbs	36	78.00	113.50	100.25	113.50	643
501 - 600 lbs	41	85.00	119.00	106.73	119.00	555
500 lbs and less	13	83.00	119.00	101.61	119.00	449
Stocker Steers: Dairy & Dairy Cross	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
801 - 900 lbs	2	64.00	65.00	64.50	65.00	842
701 - 800 lbs	3	36.00	66.00	56.00	66.00	730
601 - 700 lbs	16	40.50	70.00	60.68	70.00	658
501 - 600 lbs	1	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	565
401 - 500 lbs	1	61.00	61.00	61.00	61.00	480
301 - 400 lbs	1	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	565
201 - 300 lbs	1	61.00	61.00	61.00	61.00	480
Stocker Heifers: Large Frame	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
Over 900 lbs	3	80.00	84.00	81.33	84.00	966
801 - 900 lbs	30	94.50	99.50	97.91	99.50	865
701 - 800 lbs	21	99.75	102.00	100.21	102.00	715
601 - 700 lbs	16	90.00	101.00	96.12	101.00	636
501 - 600 lbs	17	76.00	103.00	95.05	103.00	531
401 - 500 lbs	5	95.00	104.00	98.80	104.00	466
400 lbs and less	6	97.00	111.00	108.66	111.00	387
Stocker Heifers: Medium Frame	# Head	Low \$	High \$	Avg \$	Top \$	Avg Wt
Over 900 lbs	1	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	1,095
801 - 900 lbs	4	90.00	94.00	91.50	94.00	857
701 - 800 lbs	15	80.00	101.50	91.76	101.50	735
601 - 700 lbs	17	84.00	97.00	95.00	97.00	664
501 - 600 lbs	9	75.00	98.00	87.11	98.00	543
401 - 500 lbs	2	57.50	97.00	77.25	97.00	425

Updated 10 September, 2007

