

April  
2014

# Commission Report

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Monthly Newsletter

## 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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The Annual General Meeting of the Commission was held the evening of April 9 at the Delta Town & Country Inn.

The producers and guests in attendance heard a presentation summarizing the 2013 activities, including the amending orders approved; VMC hearing held; and FIRB appeals addressed.

Also, the audited financial statement for the period ending December 31, 2013 was presented and received.

## STORAGE CROP PRODUCER LICENSING

### STORAGE CROP PRODUCER LICENSING

Administration for the renewal of Annual Producer Licences for Storage and Processing Crop producers is soon to commence.

Annual Producer licences issued at this time last year expire May 15, 2014 and are subject for renewal.

Producers should expect to see annual licence renewal information arrive by way of the regular post. Accompanying the information will be a licence renewal form.

The completed, dated and signed form accompanied by the Class I annual producer licence fee of \$250 is to arrive at

the VMC office by no later than May 14.

When issued the annual producer licence will correspond to the May 15, 2014 – May 14, 2015 licensing period.

Producers growing both storage and processing crops require only one licence.

Any grower who does not receive licence renewal information via the post by April 25 should contact Sharon Danyluk at the VMC office (telephone: 604-542-9734, ext. 24).

## GENERAL ORDER AMENDED

### GENERAL ORDER AMENDED

During its April 9, 2014 regular meeting the Commission approved amending order number 41. To view the amending order click on this link - <http://www.bcveg.com/orders.asp> and click on view.

The amending order adds two definitions to Section 5 of Part I – *Introductory* – of the General Order. These are definitions are “earned” and “granted” delivery allocation. Having the definitions in the General Order will ensure future decisions regarding the transfer of delivery allocation take into consideration what is provided by way of the definitions.

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**CANADAGAP  
NEW CERTIFICATION  
OPTION AVAILABLE  
FOR REPACKERS AND  
WHOLESALEERS**

**CANADAGAP ANNOUNCES NEW CERTIFICATION OPTION FOR  
REPACKERS AND WHOLESALEERS**

March 21, 2014

CanadaGAP, a food safety certification program for fresh fruits and vegetables, is pleased to announce the availability of Option D, a new certification for companies that repack and wholesale fresh fruits and vegetables.

Option D entails an annual on-site audit by a CanadaGAP-licensed certification body. The requirements are based on the Repacking and Wholesale Food Safety Program developed by the Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA). The program was technically reviewed and deemed sound by federal and provincial governments. "This is an exciting development for the Canadian produce industry," commented Tom Bytynen, past chair of the CanadaGAP Board and CEO of Thomas Fresh Inc., a Calgary-based produce distribution and repacking company. "CanadaGAP certification for the repacking and wholesale segment of the supply chain has been long-awaited, and will improve consistency and harmonization of food safety practices across our sector."

Requirements for repacking and wholesale have been incorporated into the 2014 CanadaGAP manuals (Version 6.2). Users apply the requirements only from the sections of the manual that are relevant to them.

To be certified under Option D, repacking and wholesale operations must develop and maintain a site-specific HACCP Plan. A generic HACCP model is available from CanadaGAP as is guidance on creating a HACCP Plan. Visit the webpage at <http://www.canadagap.ca/becoming-certified/certification-options/certification-option-d/> for more information.

CanadaGAP-approved certification bodies will begin offering Option D audits effective April 1, 2014.

To enroll in Option D, download the CanadaGAP program enrolment form at: [www.canadagap.ca](http://www.canadagap.ca).

LINKS

Newsletter Archives:  
[www.bcveg.com](http://www.bcveg.com)

Canadian  
Horticulture Council:  
[www.hortcouncil.ca](http://www.hortcouncil.ca)

**CANADAGAP AUDIT  
CHECKLIST  
VERSION 6.3**

**CANADAGAP AUDIT CHECKLIST - RELEASE OF VERSION 6.3**

Now available on the CanadaGAP website is Version 6.3 of the CanadaGAP Audit Checklist for 2014. A revisions document showing the changes between Versions 6.2 and 6.3 is available for download at:

<http://www.canadagap.ca/tools/audit-checklist/>

Version 6.3 of the CanadaGAP Audit Checklist comes in effect April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Requirements for repacking and wholesaling operations have been integrated into this version of the checklist.

The CanadaGAP Self-Declaration and Self-Assessment checklist has also been updated for 2014. A copy of the updated version is available for download at:

<http://www.canadagap.ca/tools/audit-checklist>

LINKS

For potato industry  
news go to:  
United Potato  
Growers of Canada:  
[unitedpotatocanada.com](http://unitedpotatocanada.com)

OR

United Potato  
Growers of America  
[unitedpotatousa.com](http://unitedpotatousa.com)

Commission Hotline  
604-302-1046



## **ATTENTION NEW PRODUCERS**

### **New Participant Deadline Notification**

**The deadline for new participants is April 30, 2014.** Please contact the AgriStability Administration BEFORE the end of April 2014 for an enrolment package.

As a producer, why should I participate in AgriStability?

It is important to participate in AgriStability as the program protects producers against Declines in their net farming income due to:

- Market conditions
- Increased cost of production
- Production loss

AgriStability is a margin based program. It targets individual producers and corporations. It provides equitable, whole-farm support for most agriculture commodities.

How can I apply to participate in the program?

- If you have never participated in AgriStability or have opted out in recent years, you must request a New Participant Package. You can access a New Participant package by:
  - Calling toll free 1-877-343-2767
  - E-mail [AgriStability@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AgriStability@gov.bc.ca)
- Producers who participated in the 2012 or 2013 program will automatically receive a package from the AgriStability administration.

#### **AGRISTABILITY REGIONAL OFFICES** **[www.agf.eov.bc.ca/laeristabilitv](http://www.agf.eov.bc.ca/laeristabilitv)**

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Kelowna, BC  
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201 583 Fairview Rd  
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#### **LINKS**

Newsletter Archives:  
[www.bcveg.com](http://www.bcveg.com)

Canadian  
Horticulture Council:  
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