

June
2014

Commission Report

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Monthly Newsletter

AMENDING ORDER NUMBER 42

On the completion of consultations with the designated agencies having regard to amending the defined term “agency” set out in the General Order there was agreement to submit a recommendation to the Commission for doing so. The purpose for amending the term was to bring clarity about marketing conducted by designated agencies.

During its June 25 regular meeting Commission members adopted the recommendation and also approved Amending Order Number 42, which is the device used to amend the General Order.

The amended agency definition is as follows:

“Agency” means a person designated by the Commission as an agency licensed for the marketing of regulated products with retailers; VMC licensed wholesalers and processors; other designated agencies; or all of them irrespective that the marketing is intra-provincial, inter-provincial or export trade in nature and is in accordance with the stipulations set out in Schedule I.

AMENDING ORDER 42

2014 STRAWBERRIES
FOR PROCESSING
CONTRACT RATIFIED

A newsletter for
May was not issued

GREENHOUSE
VEGETABLE PRODUCERS
ANNUAL LEVY

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2014 VEGETABLES FOR PROCESSING CONTRACTS RATIFIED

With the completion of 2014 negotiations for strawberries for processing occurring in late May and its recent ratification by the Commission, all 2014 vegetables for processing contracts have been ratified by the Commission.

Prior to the ratification of the strawberry contract the Cole Crop contracts and the Peas and Bush Bean contracts were earlier ratified by the Commission.

Pertaining to strawberries it is expected there will be three processors receiving strawberries for processing this season.

GREENHOUSE VEGETABLE PRODUCERS - ANNUAL LEVY

Commission annual greenhouse producer levies are collected from growers by their designated agency and on behalf of each grower the levy funds are remitted to the Commission.

The levy collection and remittance occurs in three installments with the first due July 31. Producers should expect Installment 1 levy collection to occur in mid-July.

Producers not shipping through a designated agency will receive an invoice and are to make remittance directly to the Commission.

PLANTED AREA
SURVEY**PLANTED AREA SURVEY – STORAGE CROPS**

Similar to what occurred last year the Commission will look to the BC Fresh agency for reporting the area planted to storage crops for those producers marketing through it. All other storage crop producers are to directly report planted area by returning to the Commission the completed planted area survey form.

Planted area survey forms have been mailed out to growers and they are asked to return their survey form as soon as they are able to do so once all storage crop planting is complete.

By contacting Sharon at the Commission office (telephone 604-542-9734, ext. 24) a survey form can be provided either by way of an email or facsimile.

ADVANCE PAYMENT FOR
CROPS PROGRAM**ADVANCE PAYMENT FOR CROPS PROGRAM****CASH ADVANCES FOR BC VEGETABLE GROWERS**

Up to \$400,000 available, with the first \$100,000 interest free and balance at Prime.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE NOW - Receive cash advances through Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) Advance Payments Program (APP). Through the APP growers can access advances based on 50% of expected market value of your vegetables with rates established by AAFC.

The program runs 18 months in total, starting in April of each year with final repayments due in September of the following year. All non-storable vegetables are repaid on a repayment schedule as established by the grower with final repayments due by December. Any vegetables that can be stored after this date are repaid based on when they are sold and due by September of the following year.

Please note – Production Insurance or Agristability required. The program is administered by Agricultural Credit Corporation. To access applications or for more information:

- Please visit: www.agcreditcorp.ca,
- Phone 1-888-278-8807, or
- Contact Sam Zahnd, Manager of Business Development at szahnd@agcreditcorp.ca

Tired of paperwork? Good news - applications can now be completed over the phone!

The Commission office will be closed on Tuesday, July 1st to give staff the opportunity to celebrate Canada Day with family and friends



Happy 147th Birthday Canada!

And to all our growers, colleagues and industry friends have a safe and happy Canada Day

LINKS

Newsletter Archives:
www.bcveg.com

Canadian
Horticulture Council:
www.hortcouncil.ca

LINKS

For potato industry
news go to:

United Potato


Growers of Canada:
unitedpotatocanada.com

OR

United Potato
Growers of America
unitedpotatousa.com

Commission Hotline
604-302-1046

The information below is circulated at the request of the Business Risk Management Branch of the BC Ministry of Agriculture.



AgriStability
BC Ministry of Agriculture

“What is AgriStability? How can it help you?”

The Business Risk Management Branch is an integral part of the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture. One of the risk management programs it offers is called Agri**Stability**. The program is funded by both the federal and provincial governments.

Agri**Stability** provides protection when farmers and ranchers suffer losses due to poor market conditions, low production, high input costs due to unforeseeable and uncontrollable events. It is a risk management program designed to keep you, the producer engaged in agriculture. By providing financial stability to a farm business the program provides improved confidence for producers to invest, innovate, adapt and capitalize on opportunities.

How does the program work?

Agri**Stability** makes a payment to the producer when the Program year margin declines more than 30% below the Reference Margin. What is a Reference Margin? A Reference Margin is calculated by taking your farming operations average margin of three of the past five years. The highest and lowest margins are not included in the calculation. A Program year margin is your farm’s allowable income, minus your allowable expenses in a year. Adjustments are made for changes in receivables, payables and inventory.

It is important for you, the producer to participate in the program because by doing so you are not only protecting your farm when you have large income declines, but also Agri**Stability** provides whole farm support. It is a program that not only helps you stay in business but the support allows you the financial stability to update your operation as required. The aim is to help BC’s agrifood industry be sustainable, competitive and adaptable to changing circumstances.

For more details please visit: www.agf.gov.bc.ca/agristability

Additional facts: You can participate if:

- You have been farming in BC and filed farm taxes.
- You have completed a production cycle.
- You have completed at least six consecutive months of farming activity.

AGRISTABILITY REGIONAL OFFICES

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Growing Forward 2 
A federal-provincial-territorial initiative

