

AUGUST

2015

# Commission Report

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Monthly Newsletter

## Message from the General Manager

Over the past decade of my career within the food industry I have had the pleasure of working with many people in the agricultural community in BC, Canada and the world. Now, with the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission (Commission), I am privileged to be assisting the Commission in representing the interests of our local BC Vegetable Growers and preparing our industry for a sustainable future. With just over two months in my role, I know there are many challenges that need to be addressed. However, I also see tremendous opportunities for us to work together to move this industry forward. I welcome you to please give me a call or drop by the office to introduce yourself and share your thoughts and vision for vegetable production in BC.



2015  
BC Potato Variety  
Trial Field Day

Thursday  
August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015

4:30-8:30 pm

Across from  
Brent Kelly Farms  
4000 block of 96th Street,  
Delta, B.C.

### Potato Anti-Dumping Expiry Review No. RR-2014-004

The public hearing into the continuation or resumption of dumping of potatoes by the USA into BC was held from July 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> in Vancouver. The CITT will issue the order on Sep. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The commission would like to thank all growers who participated in the review and attended the hearing. A special thank you is extended to Murray Driediger for leading the team and the excellent job done by legal counsel in representing our grower interests.

### 2015 Storage Crop Planted Acreage Survey

Planted acreage of regulated storage crops is up 8% compared to 2014. The increase was attributed to the 500 acres of additional Potato plantings with most of the growth in Russets, Kennebec and Yellow Flesh Potatoes. Acreage planted in other storage crops is down 70 acres due to a drop in Carrot and Cabbage plantings.

If you would like further information on the trends please contact your Agency or the VMC office.

## Future of Regulated Marketing on Vancouver Island Supervisory Review

Given the challenges facing the Island's regulated vegetable sector, the Commission recognized that it must take strategic action to find a way forward for the benefit of the industry. This led the Commission to request that BCFIRB initiate a supervisory review to help determine if a regulated system best serves the Vancouver Island region.

The BCVMC will be sending out a bulletin this month containing details on the process and how to participate. A discussion paper has been completed that provides background information and questions for your consideration. It will be distributed to all Vancouver Island producers and agencies, and made available to stakeholders on our website.

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## Important Dates

### AGENCY TRANSFERS

**Greenhouse Vegetable Producers** that are interested in changing Agencies for the 2016 Crop Year must submit an application to the Commission by Sep. 15, 2015.

**Storage Crop Producers** have until Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to file an Agency Transfer application.

Please call the BCVMC office or refer to our website if you require clarification on Policy or procedure.

### 2016 CROP MIX

The annual process for **Greenhouse Vegetable Producers** to submit Crop Mix changes for the 2016 Crop Year will begin in September, 2015. Producers marketing through an Agency need Agency approval for a crop mix change request. Non-Agency Producers can send their change request directly to the commission.

We will be sending out an e-mail in September to start the process. Crop mix will be finalized Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

## Producer License & Expiry Schedule

CROPS	EXPIRY DATE	RENEWAL
Greenhouse	November 1, 2015	October, 2015
Storage	May 14, 2016	April, 2016
Processing	May 14, 2016	April, 2016

### LINKS

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

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

### 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



**AgriStability**  
BC Ministry of Agriculture

### Attention Producers Important deadline reminder

During the summer months you are busy looking after your crops and farm products. But while you are busy on the farm there are some important deadlines the AgriStability administration would like to remind you about.

#### **Those who are enrolled in the 2014 program year please note:**

- The deadline to submit the 2014 AgriStability / AgriInvest Harmonized form (without penalty) is Sep. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
- Producers can still submit their 2014 AgriStability / AgriInvest Harmonized forms (with penalty) until Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015.
- The penalty for late filing is \$500.00 per month; the maximum penalty is \$1500.00.
- Producers who miss the Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 deadline will not be eligible for the 2014 program year.

AGRISTABILITY REGIONAL OFFICES  
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