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This update is designed to provide you with concise, up to date agricultural business information with links to where you can find the details.

Ontario's Occupational Health and Safety Act

Starting **June 30, 2006**, Ontario's **Occupational Health and Safety Act** will apply, with some limitations and conditions, to all farming operations that have paid workers under the Act.

Farming operations had previously been exempt from the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. Employers, supervisors and workers on farming operations should be aware that new duties and responsibilities will come into effect **June 30, 2006**.

Information on the Act can be found on the Ministry of Labour website at:

Farming Operations index page:

<http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/farming/index.html>

Guide to the Occupational Health and Safety Act for Farming Operations:

http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/farming/ohsa_0.html

New Publications



NEW – OMAFRA FACTS 2006 CD Order Number AF137, \$5.00

Get the OMAFRA Facts CD! An extensive resource with over 300 technical Factsheets and more at your fingertips. You can access OMAFRA with this new searchable CD on: Agricultural Engineering, Business Management and Economics, Crops, Effective Organizations, Food Industry Competitiveness, Livestock, Market Development and Nutrient Management. To obtain copies call **1-888-466-2372** or e-mail products@omafra.gov.on.ca

Other Internet Resources

Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) - information is available on the OMAFRA website in the Farm Labour section at

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/farmlabour.html>

Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies fair dates <http://www.ontariofairs.com/>

OMAFRA Virtual Beef online. In the May issue articles included: Marketing Replacement Heifers - Questions to Consider, Preventing Mouldy Hay Using Propionic Acid, Making Feeder Cattle Purchasing Decisions and more.

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/beef/news/vbn0506.htm>

Getting Ready for Regulated Ethanol in Gasoline

For more information about the regulation, best practices for storing/handling ethanol-blended gasoline, and other issues relevant to the regulation of ethanol in gasoline, go to

www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/ethanol/index.htm

For more information about the compatibility of ethanol with fibre-reinforced plastic tanks and existing owner/operator obligations under the *Liquid Fuels Handling Code*, refer to the information provided by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority at

<http://www.tssa.org/regulated/fuels/default.asp>

Net Metering in Ontario – Power Your Electricity Needs and Manage Your Energy Costs – brochure. Electricity consumers in Ontario who produce some of their own power many now take advantage of 'net metering'. The Ministry of Energy has produced a brochure to assist consumers who are interested in learning more about net metering. Access the brochure PDF at

<http://www.energy.gov.on.ca/index.cfm?fuseaction=english.renewable>

Thanks for reading the OMAFRA Business Update. If you have any questions or comments about this email update contact the editor, Rob Gamble at

rob.gamble@omafra.gov.on.ca.

Looking for more information? Visit the OMAFRA website at <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca> *or the Business Development site*

at <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/agbusdev.html>