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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.

New Publications

Guide to Custom Farmwork and Short-Term Equipment Rental, Order No. 07- 019

The **2006 Custom Farm Rates** are now available online at <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/facts/07-019.htm> . This factsheet is also available from local OMAFRA offices or by phoning toll-free 1-888-466-2372 or (519) 826-3700

Creating and Implementing a Human Resource Management Plan, Order No. 07-005

Creating a human resource management plan does not have to be an onerous task, but it does take some time and thought. The effort put into the plan will pay dividends by resulting in finding the right people for the job. For producers planning on hiring, a human resource management plan is an essential tool in the decision-making process. Available at:

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/facts/07-005.htm>

Diagnosing and Managing Cash Flow Problems, Order No. 06-085

Almost all businesses experience financial pressure at some point in their existence. This Factsheet is designed to help you diagnose a cash flow shortage and take steps toward correcting it. Early diagnosis gives you more time to make decisions and more options concerning your farm business. Available at

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/facts/06-085.htm> or in pdf format at

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/facts/06-085.pdf>

2006 Farm Tax and Business Binders - Still Available!

If you would like a copy of the **2006 Farm Tax and Business Seminar** proceedings you can purchase a copy at half the usual price! The familiar green binder contains all the seminar papers, including topics on Corporate Re-organization, Family Law, CAIS and the OMAFRA Business Update. **The cost is \$30 per binder.** To order call the Brighton OMAFRA office at **613-475-1631**

Payroll Calculator

Do you do payroll for employees?

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has a Payroll Deductions Online Calculator that you can use free of charge. For more information, visit the CRA website at <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/eservices/tax/business/pdoc-e.html>

Land Transfer Tax Bulletin

This bulletin from the Ministry of Finance provides highlights of changes to the family farm land transfer tax exemption to include transfers of farmed land from personal representatives of an estate, and interim procedures for claiming the exemption.

It is available at: http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/english/tax/bulletins/lft/1_2007.html

Conferences, Workshops and Training

Canadian Association of Farm Advisors Conference:

Farmers managing businesses: Helping the farm connect with new management issues,

May 31, 2007 – Holiday Inn, Guelph. Conference topics include:

- How farm managers and their advisors can prepare for a new agri-food industry,
- How to move From Business Transaction To Lasting Value,
- Raising the Bar on Farm Safety
How to Use the Principles of Managing People to Implement Change and Increase Your Business Success:
- The Challenge Facing Local Food in Local Market
- Valuing farm generated Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S).

For further conference details and to register visit the CAFA website at: <http://www.cafanet.com>

Meetings

June 2, 2007 – Ontario Pork Weekend Warrior BBQ School - Ontario Pork Office in Guelph, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. If you want to learn more about BBQ'ing, don't miss this! Bring your equipment, including a fire extinguisher. Cost is \$30 per person. Ontario Pork supplies the pork. For further details contact Deb Campbell, 519-235-1609.

June 8 – 10, 2007 – Great Canadian Outdoor Expo, Canada's Outdoor Park, Woodstock. Full details available at <http://www.greatcanadianoutdoorexpo.com/enter.html>

June 15, 2007 – Ontario Pork Congress Gala Industry Merit Award Celebration Dinner and Dance - Arden Park Hotel, Stratford. Reception at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Entertainment provided by Jennifer Mitchell and Friends. Cost is \$50 per person. Contact Deb Campbell, 519-235-1609 for details and/or tickets.

June 21, 2007 – Ontario Pork Congress Weekend Warrior BBQ Competition, Stratford Fairgrounds Coliseum. There are two classes – one for "Pros" and one for "Amateurs". Three categories – ground pork, chops/steaks and ribs. Prize money for the winners! No entry fee. To register or for more details contact Deb Campbell, 519-235-1609.

August 6 – 8, 2007 – 2007 International Farm Succession Conference, Ottawa, Ontario. **Farm Succession – Where we've been, where we're going.** For conference details visit <http://farmcentre.com/english/ifsc/>

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.

If you have changed your email address please let us know by sending us your old address along with your new one.

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>