

OMAFRA Agricultural Business Update

Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs



ISSUE # 48 – September 29, 2008

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

Farm Tax and Business Seminars – early bird deadline **October 20th** For Professional Advisors

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) is pleased to present the **2008 Farm Tax and Business Seminar** for professional advisors.

This year the topics include:

Minding Your P's and Q's: Tips, Traps & Transfer Techniques for:

- Qualified Farm Property and the Capital Gains Exemption
- Quote Taxation Issues
- Principal Residences and Houses on the Farm

Legal - Remedies for Financially Distressed Farm Businesses

Farm Tax Update

Business Risk Management Programs Update (AgriInvest, AgriStability and Others)

You can register either by mail, fax or by phone as outlined in the brochure. The registration fee is \$150 per person on or before October 20, 2008 and \$180 per person after October 20, 2008.

To register for the Farm Tax and Business Seminar call OMAFRA's Agricultural Information Contact Centre at **1-877-424-1300**. For a registration form go to the [OMAFRA website](#)

Attend the Seminar by Webcast

In addition to being offered in 11 locations across Ontario, this year's seminar will be available at your computer screen by webcast - for those who want to take in the seminar without the travel. The seminar will be webcast on Wednesday October 29th from the Ingersoll location. The cost is \$150 (early registration) and includes the proceedings.

Dates and Locations

Date	Location	Directions
Tuesday, Oct 28	Guelph Holiday Inn 601 Scottsdale Drive	Holiday Inn, Guelph
Wednesday, Oct 29	Ingersoll Elmhurst Inn 415 Harris Street	Elmhurst Inn, Ingersoll
Thursday, Oct 30	Hanover Royal Canadian Legion Br. 130 493 8th Avenue	Royal Canadian Legion Br. 130, Hanover

Tuesday, Nov 4	Alliston Nottawasaga Inn 5 km East on Hwy. 89	Nottawasaga Inn, Alliston
Tuesday, Nov 4	Kemptville W.B.George Centre Kemptville College, University of Guelph	W.B. George Centre, Kemptville
Wednesday, Nov 5	Belleville Ramada Inn 11 Baybridge Road	Ramda Inn, Belleville
Wednesday, Nov 5	Stratford Army Navy Air Force Veterans Hall 151 Lorne Avenue East	Army Navy Air Force Veterans Hall, Stratford
Thursday, Nov 6	London Hellenic Community Centre 133 Southdale Road West	Hellenic Community Centre, London
Thursday, Nov6	Peterborough (New Location) Best Western Otonabee Inn 84 Lansdowne Street East	Best Western Otonabee Inn, Peterborough
Wednesday, Nov 12	Hamilton Michelangelos 1555 Upper Ottawa Street	Michelangelos, Hamilton
Thursday, Nov 13	Chatham Country View Golf Club, Oungah 12 km North on Hwy. 40	Country View Golf Club, Oungah

Agricultural Taxation Information

[Details About The Proposed Exemption For Certain Transfers Of Farmed Land From A Family Farm Corporation To Individual Family Members](#) - On March 25, 2008, proposed amendments to the *Land Transfer Tax Act* were announced in the 2008 Ontario Budget. It is proposed that an exemption from the tax would be available on certain transfers of farmed land from a family farm corporation to individual family members. This notice provides general information on the proposed exemption. [For more details](#)

New Publications, Conferences & Courses

[Programs and Services for Ontario Farmers](#) this 20-page factsheet provides summary and contact information for 64 programs and services available to Ontario farmers that are funded by the Ontario and/or Canadian governments. Available on the OMAFRA [website](#).



OMAFRA InfoSheet: Impact of Fuel Price Increases on Field Operations

Fuel price increases are having a big impact on the costs of operating farm machinery. This has farmers and custom operators alike asking what this additional fuel cost is for different field operations.

Per acre fuel cost estimates at different price levels for selected field operations are posted in a new OMAFRA [InfoSheet Impact of Fuel Price Increases on Field Operations Cost](#)

[Swine Budgets](#)

Looking for swine budgets or other financial information on the Ontario pork industry? Visit the [Swine Business and Marketing](#) page of the OMAFRA website.

[OMAFRA Factsheet - Options for Farmers Dealing with Financial Difficulties, Order Number 08-033](#)

Even the best-managed business can experience financial difficulties when market prices decline, part of the farm business fails to generate the expected profits, or financing arrangements are inadequate. This Factsheet is aimed at helping farm business owners make decisions about the future direction of their business. It outlines some options farm businesses experiencing financial difficulties can choose as well as what farm business advisory services are available. [Read more](#)

[2008 Outlook Conference – Thursday November 13, 2008](#)

Gain insight and new perspectives on the latest innovations in Ontario's agri-food sector by attending this international forum on innovation in agriculture, food and beyond. This year, our prestigious biennial conference will take place at the historic Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Canada. To register or for conference details [visit the website](#). For the early bird conference rate you must register on or before September 30, 2008.

Looking for other OMAFRA E-mail newsletters? We offer:

- Livestock
 - o [Horse News and Views](#)
 - o [Pork News and Views](#)
- Business
 - o [OMAFRA Agricultural Business Update](#)
- Crops
 - o [Crop-Pest Ontario](#)
 - o [Crop Talk](#)
 - o [Field Crops](#)
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 - o [Hort Matters](#)
 - o [OMAFRA Radio Reports](#)
 - o [Ontario Berry Grower](#)
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- General
 - o [OMAFRA Products and Resources Update](#)

[The Business of Farming \(Ever Green\)](#)

Monday, November 24, 2008 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Ontario Bar Association is holding a one day seminar focused on farming. Agriculture continues as a large economic driver in Ontario, and the business of agriculture is a complicated mixture of legal issues and traps for the unwary.

This program will use a case study and focus on a family dairy business in crisis and the issues this raises for lawyers trying to provide advice for these problems, with insight from speakers with expertise in the field. The program is also available via webcast.

Topics include:

- “Buying the Farm” Anatomy of the Transaction
- Public Control of Farm Land
- Family Farm Succession Planning and Exit Strategies
- Succession Planning for the Successor
- Estates with Farm Assets: Administration Issues & Estate Litigation Issues
- Agricultural Financing Issues
- Legal Liabilities and Farming
- Government Intervention, Production and Marketing of Agricultural Goods
- Supplying products for the Locavores (Local Eating)
- OMAFRA Programs and Services
- An Overview of “Growing Forward” the New Five-Year Multilateral Agricultural Policy

For more information visit the [website](#)

[Premier's Innovation Awards Program Invites New Applications](#)

Innovators in the province's agriculture and food industry are encouraged to apply for awards under the Premier's Agri-Food Innovation Excellence Award program, now accepting applications until December 1, 2008. The \$2.5-million, five-year program (currently in its third year) was established to recognize innovators who contribute to the success of Ontario's agri-food sector.

The awards program includes the Premier's Award (up to \$100,000), the Minister's Award (up to \$50,000) and up to 55 regional awards of \$5,000 each.

Program applications must be received by December 1, 2008, and will be reviewed by two independent panels made up of representatives from across Ontario's agri-food industry. Additional information and application forms are available on the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs [website](#).

Calendar

October 28, 2008 - [Organic Agriculture Symposium: Fundamentals for Professionals](#), 1 Stone Rd Conference Centre, Guelph. This symposium hosted by the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada (OACC) Cost is \$30. To register visit the [website](#).

October 31 – November 2, 2008 - [North American Beef Congress](#), Western Fair, London. Watch for [details](#) on the 2008 show.

November 7 – 16, 2008 - [Royal Agricultural Winter Fair](#). Visit [website](#) for further information.

November 9 – 13, 2008 - Ontario Farm Fresh Marketing Association fall study tour contact: Cathy Bartolic (Executive Administrator) E-mail: info@ontariofarmfresh.com

November 21 – 23, 2008 - [Great Lakes Community Shared Agriculture Conference](#) – Orillia, Ontario

November 29, 2008 - [Northern Ontario Agr-food Education Marketing Inc. Workshop](#) – Sudbury

January 22 – 25, 2009 - [Annual Organic Conference – U of G](#) (workshops, training, seminars)

January 28-30, 2009 - [Canadian Farm Business Management Council's - Managing Excellence and Agriculture Conference](#), Niagara Falls

Thanks for reading the OMAFRA Business Update.

Questions or Comments: contact the editor, Rob Gamble at rob.gamble@ontario.ca.

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