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## ISSUE # 61 – July 2010

This update is designed to provide you with concise, links to where you can find the details.



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## Online Resources and Publications

### Are You Planning to Construct or Renovate a Barn, Manure Storage or Shed On Your Farm?

Construct or Renovate Farm Structures Business Information Bundle (BIB), located at [www.ontario.ca/farmstructure](http://www.ontario.ca/farmstructure), is a quick and easy resource to use when considering the construction or renovation of barns, sheds and manure storages. The BIB will help producers:

- Understand their responsibilities
- Plan their building or renovation project
- Find municipal and provincial information in one spot.

[Introduction to Bioproducts](#) Order No. 10-013W (web only) [PDF](#)

[Developing an Agri-Tourism Operation in Ontario](#), Order No. 10-027, Agdex 842 [PDF](#)

[Farm Corporations](#), Order No.10-031, Agdex 812 [PDF](#)

All Ontario publications can be ordered through ServiceOntario

Online at [www.publications.serviceontario.ca](http://www.publications.serviceontario.ca)

Telephone the ServiceOntario Contact Centre

Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

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416-325-3408 (TTY)

1-800-668-9938 Toll-free across Canada

1-800-268-7095 TTY Toll-free across Ontario

In person at ServiceOntario Centres throughout the province.

### [Agricorp.com](http://Agricorp.com)

Agricorp.com has not just got a refresh – it's been completely overhauled. They have restructured, rewritten, and redesigned their website to make it easier for producers to find and use information about the programs they deliver.

They want your feedback so they can continue to improve their website. Please [complete the survey](#) and tell them what you think about the new [Agricorp.com](http://Agricorp.com).

### Thinking about renewable energy or farm energy projects and looking for a place to start, try these excellent online resources:

#### [Farm Energy Online](#)

The purpose of this website is to assist farmers and food processors with a path, information, tools and resources to assess the renewable energy opportunity in their business. They're striving to offer

value from project start to finish by providing information and discussion platforms like this web-site and our blog.

#### [Renewable-energy and Energy-efficient Technologies \(RET\) Screen International](#)

RETScreen International Clean Energy Decision Support Centre seeks to build the capacity of planners, decision-makers and industry to implement renewable energy, cogeneration and energy efficiency projects. This objective is achieved by: developing decision-making tools (i.e. RETScreen Software) that reduce the cost of pre-feasibility studies; disseminating knowledge to help people make better decisions; and by training people to better analyse the technical and financial viability of possible projects.

#### [Smart Energy Decision Assistance Centre](#)

The Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) provides advice and analyses to increase economic viability through the efficient use of energy resources. Determine the financial impact of your energy saving investment project with SEDAC's [Energy Project Economics Calculator](#).

## Statistics and Economic Research

#### [Canadian Farm Financial Database \(CFFD\)](#) Latest Release date: June 25, 2010



Canadian Farm Financial Database is an interactive, easy-to-use tool which provides the means to evaluate agriculture policies and programs as well as analyze the viability, stability and competitiveness of farm businesses. This product is a comprehensive and timely database of administrative and survey sources of agricultural statistics, containing thousands of cross-classified data series, spanning two decades. The database offers detailed operating revenues and expenses; sources and levels of farm and off-farm income for operators and farm families; assets, liabilities and capital investment for farms; and information on land use and livestock inventories by region, farm type and revenue class.

#### [Field Crop Reporting Series – 2010 Preliminary Estimates of Principal Field Crops Areas – Statistics Canada](#)

June seeded acreage estimates for Canada and by province.



#### [Fruit and Vegetable Production – Statistics Canada](#)

This semi-annual publication provides an overview of the Canadian fruit and vegetable production sector for 2009. Annual estimates of area, commercial production and value of major tree fruit, berries and grapes are available. Annual estimates of area, production and value of the major commercially grown vegetables are also published.



[Research report: Economics - Farm level and regional impacts of forage based manure management in Manitoba](#) (pdf).

Farm level economic impacts of applying hog manure to forage production are assessed.

The [National Centre for Livestock and the Environment](#) is a University of Manitoba based research community that engages in multidisciplinary research partnerships to further the long term economic and environmental sustainability of integrated livestock and crop production systems.



[Connecting Livestock Producers with Recent Economic Research \(CLPER\)](#) – Kansas State University

## Taxation

[Canada Revenue Agency](#)

GST/HST Info Sheet: [GI-076 Ontario and British Columbia: Transition to the Harmonized Sales Tax – Continuous Supplies and Budget Payment Arrangements](#)

GST/HST Info Sheet: [GI-077 Harmonized Sales Tax: Purchasers of New Housing in Ontario](#)

This info sheet explains [how the GST and the HST apply to returns and exchanges of goods](#) during a period that includes the July 1, 2010 implementation date of the HST in Ontario and British Columbia.

On June 10, 2010, the first [Ontario Sales Tax Transition Benefit \(OSTTB\)](#) payments were mailed to eligible Ontario residents whose 2009 income tax return was assessed by May 10, 2010. Other eligible taxpayers whose returns were assessed after May 10, 2010, can expect their first OSTTB payment within four to eight weeks after their return is assessed.

## Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence

Ontario's rural communities are growing innovative ideas that drive the local economy and advance Ontario's agri-food industry. These ideas were celebrated at ceremonies throughout Ontario honouring regional winners of the Premier's Awards for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence.

[Innovative Ideas Thrive In Southwestern Ontario](#) – June 15, 2010

[Innovative Ideas Thrive In Southern Ontario](#) - June 17, 2010

[Innovative Ideas Thrive In Emo and Kakabeka Falls](#) - June 24, 2010

## Conferences and Workshops



**Goats: Farming's New Frontier August 10 – 12, 2010 Stratford, Ontario**

Make plans to attend the International Goat Symposium being held at the Rotary Complex in Stratford, Ontario on August 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>.

The International Goat Symposium 2010 is the goat industry's must attend event. Check out the [exciting program](#) and line up of some of the world's foremost experts in goat production. You will not want to miss out.



The [2010 Ag HR Roundtable](#), being held August 2-4 in Minnetonka, MN, will explore recruitment and retention issues within the agriculture and food industries.

This 2-day conference is open to all human resource professionals, career services staff and relevant association representatives within the agriculture, food science, natural resources and biotechnology industries and is an excellent networking opportunity. Plan to attend this informative meeting addressing topics and areas of high interest that you'll find nowhere else.



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Thanks for reading the OMAFRA Business Update.

**Questions or Comments:** contact the editor, John Molenhuis at [john.molenhuis@ontario.ca](mailto:john.molenhuis@ontario.ca).

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