

OMAFRA Ag Business Update

ISSUE # 65 – November 2010

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

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Program Announcements



Rates for 2010 Risk Management Program (RMP) Pilot Extension Now Available

October 25, 2010

Premium rates and support levels for the 2010 RMP pilot extension for grain and oilseed producers are now available on agricorp.com and in the RMP program handbook being mailed this week to all eligible producers. Producers who participated in the 2008 or 2009 pilot or started farming after January 1, 2008 are eligible for the extension.

RMP which was introduced as a pilot for 2007, 2008 and 2009, helps Ontario grain and oilseed producers offset losses caused by low commodity prices. The government of Ontario extended the program for the 2010 crop year while the national review of business risk management programs is underway.

During the week of October 25, Agricorp is mailing applications and renewals with the program handbook to eligible producers. 2009 participants will receive a renewal notice. 2008 participants will receive an application.

Farmers who started farming after January 1, 2008 are also eligible to participate and may call Agricorp for an application. All eligible producers interested in participating need to make coverage changes or return applications to Agricorp by November 25.

While the purpose and design of the program remain the same, a few changes were introduced for the extension. The 2010 RMP pilot extension offers three coverage levels instead of four and has slightly later enrolment deadlines.



Government of Canada Investing in the Future of Farm Business Management



The [Canadian Farm Business Management Council \(CFBMC\)](#) is pleased that Minister Ritz, on behalf of the Government of Canada, has approved a \$4.5 million investment to provide leading edge resources enabling Canadian farmers to make sound management decisions. This three-year Growing Forward investment confirms the Government's commitment to and recognition of the value of farm business management - Efforts to improve business management practices are critical for the ongoing sustainability and profitability of the agricultural sector.

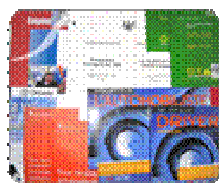
For more information, and to read the full announcement, [click here](#).

Minister Blackburn Invites Young Farmers to the National Future Farmers Network

Ottawa, Ontario, October 18, 2010 - Minister of Veterans Affairs and Minister of State (Agriculture) Jean-Pierre Blackburn, announced today the dates of the National Future Farmers Network, which will be convened in Ottawa on November 15 and 16, 2010. This national network, which will be a first for young farmers, will bring together some 45 participants who will be joined by observers from agricultural organizations, as well as federal and provincial governments.

To read the full announcement [click here](#).

For more information on young farmers and the National Future Farmers Network, please visit www.agr.gc.ca/youngfarmers



Publications

Programs and Services for Ontario Farmers, Order No. 10-061, Agdex 871 now available [online](#), [\(PDF\)](#)

Guide to Custom Farmwork and Short-Term Equipment Rental, Order No. 10-049, Agdex 825 now available [online](#), [\(PDF\)](#)

Factsheet update includes the results of the Survey of Ontario Custom Farmwork Rates Charged in 2009.

All Ontario publications can be ordered through ServiceOntario

Online at www.publications.serviceontario.ca

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Statistics and Market Information

[Farm Credit Canada](#) has released its Farmland Value Report, concluding that the average value of Canadian farmland increased three per cent during the first six months of 2010.

That follows increases of 3.6 and 2.9 per cent in the previous two reporting periods.

At 4.3 per cent, Ontario experienced the largest provincial increase in farmland values during the first half of 2010.

[Full details are available online.](#)

Invitations for Award Nominees

Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence

Innovators in the province's agriculture and food industry are encouraged to apply for a Premier's Agri-Food Innovation Excellence Award.

[Applications](#) will be accepted until **November 15, 2010**. The awards program includes the Premier's Award, the Minister's Award and up to 55 regional awards.

WHO CAN APPLY?

A farmer, primary producer, groups of farmers, combination of agri-food businesses, or agri-food related organizations are all eligible for recognition under this initiative. A farmer must be one of the applicants in any group (i.e., eligible to obtain an Ontario Farm Business Registration number).

The innovation must have been developed and have been in use on an Ontario farm, or be in the planning stages of development with a plan towards implementation. The innovation must also have the potential for use on a broader basis and demonstrate a positive effect on the agricultural industry.

Who is Ontario's Outstanding Young Farmer for 2011?

Here's your chance to recognize someone with the title of the 2011 Ontario Outstanding Young Farmer. This award will be presented at the Regional Conference to be held next March 10-12 in Ajax, Ontario.

The Outstanding Young Farmer program is seeking people who contribute to the community, who seek new opportunities, and who generally are assets to Ontario's agri-food industry.

Anyone can nominate a young farmer/farm couple/farm partnership for the award. The eligibility requirements are simply:

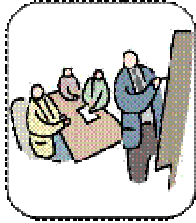
- Must be between the ages of 18 and 39
- Must operate a farm
- Must derive a minimum of 2/3 of their income from farming

Nominations are submitted by December 15, 2010.

[Learn more about how to participate or nominate a young farmer.](#)

PREMIER'S AWARD FOR
AGRI-FOOD INNOVATION EXCELLENCE





Conferences, Workshops and Seminars

[Scientific Research and Experimental Development \(SR&ED\) Tax Incentive Program – Information Seminars](#)

Free public information seminars provide a general overview of the program, explaining the program's eligibility criteria, what expenditures are eligible, and how to file a SR&ED claim. Industry-specific seminars explain the SR&ED program's eligibility criteria as they relate to a specific industry. These seminars are intended for those claimants who have some general knowledge about the SR&ED program and are suitable for technical staff.

Ontario Pork Industry Council presents:

[Options for Marketing Pigs in Ontario and The Future of Hog Processing Capacity](#)

Find out about:

- Examining New Hog Marketing Opportunities in Ontario
- What lies ahead for the Ontario Hog Processing Industry

Where: Arden Park Hotel, Stratford

When: November 23, 2010

Time: 6:30 PM to 10 PM

Cost: Ontario Pork Industry Council (OPIC) Members: \$15.00; Non-members: \$25.00

Pay at the door – no pre-registration required

(The \$25 fee will include 2011 OPIC membership for producers)

Innovative Farmers Association of Ontario presents:

[Marketing Workshop 2010](#)

Workshop includes:

- Market Outlook
- Marketing Strategies that Work
- Managing and Measuring Farm Business Financial Performance

Thursday, December 9, 2010 - 9 am to 3 pm

Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Centre, 601 Scottsdale Drive, Guelph

Cost: \$75 per person

Register at www.ifao.com or call 519-986-3560

The Canadian Farm Business Management Council presents:

[Agriwebinar™ - LEARNING WITHOUT LIMITS](#)

The Agriwebinar Season is Just Around the Corner

You asked, we listened, we're delivering!

Tune in Mondays at Noon EST to take part in this informative, innovative and inspiring series.

2010-2011 Agriwebinar™ Calendar



DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
Nov. 8	Michele Payn-Knoper USA	Championing Agriculture: Leveraging the Trust Invested in Farmers
Nov. 15	Al Scholz SK	A Well Fed World: the new math for agriculture
Nov. 22	David Kohl USA	Agricultural Outlook 2011 & Beyond
Nov. 29	Terry Betker MB	Farm Management Advisory Services - Making Informed Choices
Dec. 6	Jane Eckert USA	Marketing to Today's Consumer
Dec. 13	Brent Warner BC	Connecting with the Consumer – Creating an Experience
Jan. 17	Pierrette Desrosiers QC	Motivating your staff with emotional intelligence
Jan. 24	Andrew Campbell ON	Farming the Web – How to Use the Internet, Social Media, and Smartphones on Your Operation
Jan. 31	Dave Engdahl SK	The Importance of Financial Analysis and How to Use It
Feb. 7	Danny Klinefelter USA	10 Best Management Practices
Feb. 14	Elaine Froese MB	Doing the Tough Things Right
Feb. 28	Denis Larouche QC	Farm Management Groups: The Formula for Profitability

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Thanks for reading the OMAFRA Ag Business Update.

Questions or Comments: contact the editor, **John Molenhuis** at john.molenhuis@ontario.ca.

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