

OMAFRA Ag Business Update

ISSUE # 79 – April 2012

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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Announcements

Provincial Premises Registry Launch

Effective April 1st, 2012 Premises Identification Numbers can be obtained from the Provincial Premises Registry (PPR), now operated by approved service provider Angus GeoSolutions Inc. (AGSI). The PPR is a Ministry initiative and the only official provincial registry for obtaining Ontario Premises Identification Numbers for agri-food businesses. Premises Identification Numbers issued before April 1, 2012 remain valid; the information is already in the PPR.

Obtaining Premises Identification Numbers for agri-food businesses is an important step towards traceability in Ontario.

[More>>](#)

Agricorp

Rates available for RMP: Grains and Oilseeds

Premium rates, support levels and other program details are now available for 2012 [RMP: Grains and Oilseeds](#). Rates are now posted on www.agricorp.com, along with the application for new participants and the 2012 Handbook – RMP: Grains and Oilseeds. Producers who participated in 2011 will receive renewal packages starting the week of March 12.

Canadian Nuffield Farming Scholarship Trust

The Canadian Nuffield Farming Scholarship Trust is accepting applications for their 2013 program. Applications are due by **April 30, 2012** and forms can be downloaded from the Nuffield Canada website at <http://www.nuffield.ca>.

Three scholarships of \$15,000 each are available for 2013.

Publications and Online Resources

New/Updated OMAFRA Publications

- [Options For Farmers Dealing With Financial Difficulties 12-03W - PDF Version \(411 kb\)](#) (web only factsheet)

[VIDEO: Agriculture is Life](#)

By FCC Learning

Canadian producers are part of something special. Our Agriculture is Life video portrays a day in the life of those who proudly make agriculture a part of their lives.

[watch the video >>](#)

Taxation

AgriStability Industry Advisory

Significant Commodity Code Changes for 2011

The Administration has made significant changes to the commodity code lists included in the 2011 forms and guide packages. These changes are part of an ongoing effort to simplify reporting requirements for producers and to remove duplicate or redundant codes.

Commodity codes are used when completing the AgriStability and AgriInvest application forms to identify sales and purchases of specific commodities.

To avoid unnecessary delays in processing your application, be sure to insert the correct commodity codes when completing your clients' applications.

The revised commodity code list is included in the 2011 forms and guide packages, and is attached for reference. It can be found online on the Forms page of the program websites:

[AgriStability: Commodity List](#)

[AgriInvest: Commodity List](#)

For more information, contact Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada toll free at 1-866-367-8506.

Canada Revenue Agency - Recently added forms and publications

- [T1274 Statement B - Harmonized AgriStability and AgriInvest Programs Information and Statement of Farming Activities for Additional Farming Operations](#)

Human Resources

Ministry of Labour Podcasts

Employment Standards

Learn about your employment standards rights and responsibilities – including hours of work, minimum wage and termination pay – in the ministry's biweekly podcast.

Health and Safety

Listen to the ministry's biweekly podcast to learn about your workplace health and safety rights and duties in Ontario.

[More>>](#)

Statistics and Market Information

Report Confirms Agriculture's Contribution to Jobs and the Economy

The agriculture and agri-food sector is becoming increasingly modern, innovative, and competitive, and it is becoming a more significant part of Canada's economy. As illustrated in *An Overview of the Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food System*, an economic report released today by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Canada's agriculture industry is turning the corner from facing unprecedented challenges to meeting exciting opportunities.

The annual overview report provides basic information about the agriculture and agri-food sector, tracks how the sector has been performing over time, and reflects the challenges and changes that have occurred in recent years. It reviews in detail all segments of the sector, covering not only primary agriculture and input suppliers, but also food and beverage processing, food distribution, consumer trends, and government investment. This year's report also included a special feature on employment trends in Canada's agriculture and agri-food system.

The report is produced by AAFC's Research and Analysis Directorate. A more detailed abstract can be found online at [Overview of Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food System 2012](#).

Conferences, Workshops and Seminars

Want to make a difference?

Farm Management Canada is seeking Nominees for its Board of Directors

Help Farm Management Canada play a leading role in building a competitive, innovative and sustainable agriculture industry in Canada through sound business management activities at the farm level. Stay connected to farm business management initiatives across Canada, and access the best resources available from Canada and around the world.

All eligible candidates will be invited to make a presentation at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) June 12 & 13, 2012 in Aylmer, Québec (just across the Ottawa river). Candidates are not required to be present at the AGM to stand for election.

Nominations will close at 17:00 hrs. Eastern Time, **Friday April 13, 2012**.

For more information call 1-888-232-3262 or email admin@fmc-gac.com

Wilson Loree Award 2012

Do you know someone who's made a difference in the field of farm business management?

Farm Management Canada is seeking to honour individuals or groups who have made an extraordinary contribution to developing and promoting new and positive change in agricultural business management practices and expertise in Canada.

The Wilson Loree Award is now in its tenth year. FMC is looking for individuals or groups that:

- have made significant contributions in the area of business management regionally or nationally
- have demonstrated innovation in areas such as turning research into practical management tools, adapting best practices from other sectors to agriculture; and finding new ways to deliver training, information and resources to farm managers
- have served as a role model and a mentor to colleagues, partners and clients, inspiring them to achieve their full potential
- have demonstrated the abilities to network and develop partnerships to include others in furthering the shared goals and vision of the agriculture industry

Any individual or group with an interest in the advancement of business management skills in Canadian agriculture can be a nominator. We invite you to nominate one or more persons whom you feel should be recognized, no later than **May 25th, 2012**.

The winner will be revealed at this year's Annual General Meeting on June 12th in Aylmer, Quebec.

Wilson Loree retired as Branch Head of Agriculture Business Management after 27 years with Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development.

A past director of the Farm Management Canada, he has been cited as "an individual who exemplifies innovation, wisdom, and a constant focus on the farm manager and the farm family."

Find more information at www.fmc-gac.com or contact Nancy Pirie at Telephone: 1-888-232-3262 ext. 32 E-mail: Nancy.Pirie@fmc-gac.com

CAFA's 8th Annual Ontario Conference, Current & Connected

On June 7th if you are a farm advisor, consultant or have a stake in the business of farming you want to be attending an event at the Quality Inn & Suites in Woodstock.

Hosted by the Canadian Association of Farm Advisors (CAFA) Inc. June 7 is CAFA's 8th Annual Ontario Conference. Titled "Current & Connected" it is one of the most informative events and possibly one of the best networking opportunities for farm advisors and consultants in the province. The one day conference capitalizes on providing timely information that professionals need to know and an atmosphere conducive to building business – it is no surprise that registrants return year after year.

The presentations this year include:

- Market volatility – friend or foe?
- Agricultural land values
- A global economic outlook and the implications for agriculture
- The new faces of farming
- A look at three outstanding farm businesses and their owners

More information can be found on the CAFA website, www.cafanet.com including a registration form or by contacting CAFA at info@cafanet.com.

Plan to attend Farm Management Canada's Annual General Meeting & 20th Anniversary celebration!

June 12th & 13th 2012

*Château Cartier | Aylmer, Québec
(just across the Ottawa river!)*

The Annual General Meeting will be accompanied by the official launch of our new name, celebrating 20 years of business management and shaping the future together. Come to share, learn and connect.

Important Dates:

- April 13th – Board Nominations due
- May 4th – Member Resolutions due
- May 14th – Voting Packages sent to members
- June 6th – Voting Ballots due
- June 12th, 13th – Annual General Meeting

For details:

Call 1-88-232-3262

Email Admin@fmc-gac.com

Visit FMC-GAC.com

“Become involved, become a member. Thank you for your ongoing support and guidance.”

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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