

# Ag Business Update

## ISSUE # 92 – May 2013

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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### Business Strategy/Business Planning

#### Feeding nine billion in 2050 – Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

FAO and Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) conference to address research priorities for ensuring food and nutrition security for the world's poorest

During the next 40 years the world's population is projected to reach more than nine billion people. Demand for food is expected to increase by 60 percent under business-as-usual assumptions. Competition for land, water, and food could lead to greater poverty and hunger if not properly addressed now, with potentially severe environmental impacts.

The [Food Security Futures conference](#) will bring together senior researchers from the CGIAR and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as well as representatives from the private sector, civil society and other research organizations to examine the contribution that public research must make to food security and nutrition, natural resource management, and climate change in order to meet the challenges of the coming years. The conference is organized by FAO and the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions and Markets (PIM), led by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), a member of the CGIAR Consortium.

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## Financial Management

### Advance Payments Programs

#### Advance Payments Program - (Ontario Greenhouse Products)

The Advance Payments Program for Greenhouse growers was designed to help growers with their production period and give easier access to credit through cash advances for crops they are planting during the program year.

#### Advance Payments Program (Ontario Crops - Pre-Harvest)

The Advance Payments Program was designed to give producers easier access to credit through cash advances for crops they are planting.

#### Advance Payments Program (Ontario Crop Inputs)

The Advance Payments Program was designed to give producers easier access to credit through cash advances for crops they are planting.

[More>>](#)

## Human Resources

### 2013 Ontario Institute of Agrologists Awards Presented

Approximately 90 members of the Ontario Institute of Agrologists and guests recently attended the OIA's Annual Professional Development Conference and 54th AGM. The theme of the Conference, **"Agrology: The Agricultural and Environmental Profession"** recognized that healthy food comes from a sustainable source.

Recognized for their dedication of service to professional practice and their outstanding sense of community, Tom Prout, P.Ag., and Barry Fraser, P.Ag., were both presented with Distinguished Agrologist awards. Joseph Rider and Ernie Hardeman, M.P.P. Oxford, were both recognized for their leadership and countless contributions to agriculture in Ontario with Honourary Professional Agrologist titles. Rob Saik, P.Ag., represented the Agri-Trend Group of Companies as he accepted the OIA Corporate Award of Excellence.

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### Farm Fire Safety

Between 2007 and 2011, barn fires across Ontario accounted for over \$175 million in property loss. The Ontario Fire Marshall would like to remind the fire service of the farm fire safety tips and resources it has developed in recent years, and urge fire departments to use these resources to help prevent fires on farm properties in your communities.

[More>>](#)

### Ministry of Labour Consultation – Integrated Occupational Health and Safety Strategy

The Ministry of Labour has released a consultation paper regarding the development of Ontario's first province-wide occupational health and safety strategy. The paper is meant to generate discussion and collect feedback and ideas on how to move forward on the development of a strategy that will establish a clear vision, goals and priorities that will guide the health and safety system partners in their work in

the years ahead.

The Ministry is seeking your input. You may provide feedback on some or all questions in the consultation paper. Additional comments can be sent to [Preventionconsultation@ontario.ca](mailto:Preventionconsultation@ontario.ca).  
[More>>](#)

## Marketing

### The Functional Foods and Natural Health Products Survey, 2011

Data from the 2011 Survey of Functional Food and Natural Health Products are now available.

The objectives of the survey are to produce statistical information on the functional food and natural health product sector and a profile of firms engaged in functional food and/or natural health product related activities in Canada.

[More>>](#)

## Production Management

### Sheep Nutrition Training Course Offered ON LINE

A new online course, "Improve Your Sheep Nutrition Management Skills", has been developed by Dr. Paul Luimes, researcher at the University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus. This general-interest course was developed with support from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Ministry of Rural Affairs (OMAF and MRA), and the Agricultural Management Institute (AMI).

[More>>](#)

## Risk Management

### Agricorp

#### Working with industry to improve forage coverage

The forage rainfall plan is being reviewed to explore ways to provide better coverage for producers. Agricorp is working with industry and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) to review the Production Insurance forage rainfall plan to identify possible improvements.

#### Producer feedback is welcome

Forage producers who would like to provide input can [complete an online survey](#) or give feedback directly to one of the farm organizations that participate on the advisory committee. Agricorp is committed to working collaboratively with producers, farm organizations and government partners to ensure ongoing improvements to the products and services available to Ontario producers.

[More>>](#)

## Conferences, Workshops and Seminars

### [OMAFRA Dateline:](#)

OMAFRA Dateline is an online resource for use by interested individuals and organizations across Ontario. Events may be hosted by OMAFRA or other groups. The events posted on this site are aimed at sharing information of interest to agriculture and regional economic development clients. Please check the calendar regularly for upcoming events, workshops, conferences and meetings.

## Growing Forward 2 (GF2) Information Sessions

OMAF and MRA are pleased to announce that the Growing Forward 2 (GF2) Information Sessions dates and locations have been confirmed. The information provided will speak to the program structure, focus areas of the program, how to apply, intake dates and much more. These sessions are free and will be available in both French and English (depending on location).

Please go to <http://registration.wildapricot.org/> to sign up.

## Canadian Association of Farm Advisors (CAFA) Current and Connected Conference

Thursday, June 6, Quality Inn, Woodstock: For farm advisors and consultants. Featuring:

- *Robert Fuller, Brimage Law Group – Key legal issues surrounding farm succession will be explained*
- *Jaye Atkins, Agricultural Credit Corporation – Advanced Payments programs for Ontario farmers*
- *Gayl Creutzberg, [Gumbootgourmet.com](http://Gumbootgourmet.com) – Ag3.0: New choices for agriculture*
- *Jenny Butcher, Organic Meadow – How traditional dairy compares to organic*
- *Steve Boles, Kuzuka Ltd.: Supply chain initiatives for sustainability and the impact on Ontario farms*
- *George Sinker, George Sinker Law Office – Executor liability & changes to the Estates Administration Tax Act*
- *Matt & Kate Korpan, Great Lakes Lavender – How they did it!*

For more information please go [www.cafanet.com/conferences.aspx](http://www.cafanet.com/conferences.aspx)

## Save the date for the National Farm Business Management Innovation Roundtable!

**June 12-13, 2013 | Ottawa, Ontario**

Farm Management Canada (FMC) is holding a **National Farm Business Management Innovation Roundtable** in conjunction with their Annual General Meeting (AGM) **June 12-13, 2013 in Ottawa, Ontario.**

The Innovation Roundtable is the only meeting place for a **national conversation on farm business management** between farmers, government, industry, academia, associations and organizations and all industry stakeholders working together to **build a sustainable and competitive agriculture industry** in Canada through innovative business thinking.

See more at: <http://www.fmc-gac.com/content/save-date-national-farm-business-management-innovation-roundtable#sthash.QaALE6pF.dpuf>

## Transforming agriculture – between policy, science and the consumer

### [IFMA 19 Congress](#)

21-26 July 2013

Warsaw, Poland

Your 2013 International Farm Management Congress is based in historic Poland.

The Congress will be of interest to a wide audience from both the agricultural production sector, farmers and farm managers, as well as scientists, policy makers, representatives of companies supplying agriculture with the means of production, processing and marketing firms, and organizations related to the agribusiness sector and involved in rural development.

[More>>](#)

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Thanks for reading the [Ag Business Update](#).

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

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