

ISSUE # 113 – August 2015

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

Growing Forward 2 – Producers and Processors

The next intake period is August 10 - August 27, 2015.

[More>>](#)

Introducing OMAFRA's Regional Economic Development Branch (REDB) Social Media Accounts

We are always trying to find new ways to connect with clients. We heard our clients follow blogs and are on Twitter, that's why we set up our social media accounts.

We'll publish a series of blogs monthly. Our areas of focus are Agriculture Development and Economic Development. Read something you like? Give us your feedback. Got a question about something you read? Let us know. We'll do our best to keep you informed with current, relevant information that can help you, identify opportunities, build capacity, and implement initiatives.

Our resources, programs and services can help get you pointed in the right direction so you can get down to working on your initiatives sooner. Read more ... <http://onregionalecdev.com/about/>

REDB Blog ... <http://onregionalecdev.com/>

REDB Twitter ... <https://twitter.com/ONRegionalEcDev>

Human Resources

Agriwebinar®

Visit the Upcoming Webinars section on Agriwebinar.com to stay tuned on Agriwebinars coming to a computer or mobile phone near you this fall!

Newly Available in the Archives

Miss out on an Agriwebinar® presentation? No worries – you can view the recordings on Agriwebinar.com!

Check out the [Past Webinars](#) section for more Agriwebinar® archives!

Bob Ross Scholarship Applications Open Until September 15th

The second annual Robert (Bob) L. Ross scholarship program is open for applications until September 15, 2015. The scholarship is offered by Agri-Food Management Excellence (AME) in collaboration with Farm Management Canada, Family Farms Group and the Ross Family.

The successful recipient will receive free tuition to the CTEAM (Canadian Total Excellence in Agricultural Management) program (valued at \$7500) as well as up to \$4000 towards travel expenses. New this year, the recipient will also receive an extra \$2500 towards an additional farm team member's tuition to CTEAM or other AME educational seminars, thanks to support from Family Farms Group.

[More>>](#)

Advanced Farm Management Program

The Advanced Farm Management (AFMP) program is designed for Ontario farm business owners and managers who want to elevate their management skills.

AFMP provides a unique combination of advanced farm business management training and a practical approach that can be immediately applied to your farm. It gives Ontario farm business owners and managers the knowledge and insights to improve the performance and sustainability of their farm business.

Registration and information here: www.advancedfarmmanagement.ca

Ag Lean

AGLEAN is a customized program for farmers and on-farm processors for identifying and eliminating root causes of loss and waste that often get overlooked. It looks at ways to improve efficiencies in time and cost of production that can ultimately increase profits (eg: harvest efficiency, feeding processes, barn set-up and flow, suitability of equipment for farm size, equipment downtime, etc.).

More information and Registration here: www.takeanewapproach.ca/aglean

Production Management

GLASI Priority Subwatershed Project

www.ontariosoilcrop.org/docs/glasi_priority_subwatershed_project_rfp.pdf

A new Request for Proposals under the Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative (GLASI).

The purpose of this RFP is to solicit submissions to administer and assess the effectiveness of soil health and water quality improvement projects through edge-of-field analysis on agricultural landscapes.

This RFP is intended for interested parties located within the GLASI Target Area(Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair watersheds and the Lake Huron southeast shores watershed) who are connected with agriculture and stewardship. Project submissions can include activities extending up to winter 2018.

The successful Applicants' teams will demonstrate expertise in the delivery of stewardship programs to agricultural producers, in achieving a high level of producer engagement in such programs and in measuring and interpreting the effectiveness of agricultural stewardship.

RFP Submissions will be accepted until noon August 28, 2015.

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 Educational Workshops

Register on-line for Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) and Growing Your Farm Profits (GYFP) workshops by clicking on the link below to find dates and locations that suit you.

[More>>](#)

Food Safety Webinars

Looking to keep up to date on the latest food safety practices and help strengthen your Growing Forward 2 application? OSCIA is once again offering food safety webinars covering 6 different topics, taken from the comfort of your home or business - all you need is an Internet and phone connection. The workshops are open to all farmers, but have a primary focus on the horticulture industry. Contact foodsafety@ontariosoilcrop.org for details.

Register at: http://registration.wildapricot.org/food_safety

Traceability Workshops

This free one-day workshop focuses on how you can gain a competitive advantage and improve your bottom line with your

traceability system. Real life examples and business profiles focused on traceability best practices will be examined throughout the workshop.

At the end of the Maximizing your Traceability Investment Workshop you will be able to:

- Discover how to make your traceability investment work to your advantage
- Evaluate how you currently collect and manage Traceability information in your business
- Identify methods for improving your traceability system to gain added value through reduced costs, improved profit margins and increased market potential

Register for these workshops at <http://registration.wildapricot.org/>

Biosecurity Workshops Announced for 2015

In this free, one-day commodity-specific workshop, an experienced veterinarian or crop specialist will show you the benefits of having an on-farm biosecurity program, and identify key practices, which will help you in increasing the biosecurity on your farm. Having a biosecurity program in place helps to protect the investment of your farm business.

The workshop is open to new and established producers. Farm families and management teams are encouraged to attend the workshop together. You will not be asked to share personal or financial details of your operation and there is no charge to attend.

Register for these workshops at <http://registration.wildapricot.org/>

Aquaponics hands-on workshop

August 17, 18, 19, 2015
New Whitby Farm

Learn How To:

- Sex Tilapia
- Collect and Rear Eggs
- Test Water Quality
- Plant Seedlings
- Prepare Harvest for Specific Markets

Register at www.noafisheries.ca/registration/

Speaker list: <http://www.noafisheries.ca/courses/speakers/>

Schedule: <http://www.noafisheries.ca/courses/schedule/>

Ontario Ornamental Container Trial and Workshop

Friday, August 21, 2015
Vineland Research and Innovation Centre
4890 Victoria Ave. N., Vineland Station, ON

- See container trials with over 200 unique vegetative & seed propagated cultivars represented
- Hear expert talks you can't hear anywhere else
- Q&A with greenhouse and industry specialists.

Grower Event 9 am - 12 pm, Public Open House 1-3 pm

Register before August 17th
Call 1-877-424-1300

[More>>](#)

ZoneSmart 2015

How To Make Management Zones. It's All About The Maps!

Date: **Thursday, Sept 10, 2015**

(Rain Date Friday, Sept 11, 2015, watch website and twitter for updates)

Host Farm : **Woodrill Farms, Guelph, ON**

Time: 9:00 am—5:00 pm

Field Location: 5006 Jones Baseline, Guelph, ON

[More>>](#)

Breakfast on the Farm

Celebrating Ontario food and farming with Breakfast on the Farm Come for some great food and the chance to have all your farm questions answered by Ontario's farmers.

September 20, 2015; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Hylander Farms - 7325 Manning Road, Tecumseh, ON

On September 20, 2015, Breakfast on the Farm will be hosted at Hylander Farms in Tecumseh. It will be the third Breakfast on the Farm since 2013, and so far, over 6000 people have been fed, entertained and engaged at the event.

Visit www.farmfoodcare.org to obtain your free tickets or to learn more about volunteering or sponsoring the event. The event is supported by many national, provincial and regional farm organizations and agri-businesses, as well as many dedicated community volunteers.

Cost: Free. Complimentary breakfast tickets must be reserved online at www.farmfoodcare.org

Advancing Women Leaders in Agriculture

Advancing Women is created for every woman who wants to achieve success in her career, family, community, financial independence and relationships in and outside the workplace.

Advancing Women Conference EAST:

October 5 & 6, 2015, Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Ontario

If you would like more information about the conference we invite you to visit our website at

www.advancingwomenconference.ca/

CAFA Farm Tax Update for Professionals

Guelph, ON

Thursday October 22, 2015

Agenda:

- Annual Compliance & Farm Tax Planning
- Divorce on the Farm
- An outline of the pros and cons of structuring a farm business as a corporation vs. a partnership from a legal and accounting point of view
- Inter-vivos Trusts for Farmers
- The Role of CAFA
- Farm Transfers- Gifts
- The Role of Gifting in Transition Planning: Your kids haven't paid for anything so far – why should they start now?
- Splitting up the Family Farm Corporation – Section 55 update
- Farms Transfers - Sale
- Estates

CAFA members \$300+HST

Non CAFA members \$400+HST

More information and to register contact CAFA at:

1-877-474-2871

info@cafanet.com

www.cafanet.com

5th Annual Eastern Ontario Local Food Conference

In partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Rural Affairs, the Cities of Quinte West and Belleville will host the fifth annual Eastern Ontario Local Food Conference. This year's theme is **Creativity+Collaboration=Action** and will be held at the Travelodge in Belleville on **November 4 and 5, 2015**.

Keep watching for details at eastontlocalfood.ca, follow us on twitter [@eolocalfood](https://twitter.com/eolocalfood) or join us on Facebook

at facebook.com/eastontlocalfood to keep up to date on initiatives leading up to the conference.

Agricultural Excellence Conference

Cultivating the Entrepreneurial Farmer

November 25-27 2015 in Regina, Saskatchewan

www.fmc-gac.com

The Agricultural Excellence Conference equips farmers and other industry stakeholders with the knowledge, skills and tools to seek out, assess and take advantage of opportunities to succeed within the changing global marketplace. Top notch speakers and interactive learning sessions will assist Canada's farmers in making informed decisions and taking calculated risks that both mitigate negative impacts while maximizing potential rewards.

Farmers are encouraged to look to their Provincial/Territorial Ministries of Agriculture for information on cost-share funding opportunities to attend the Conference.

For more information, visit FMC's website: <http://www.fmc-gac.com/content/agricultural-excellence-conference>.

Introduction to Risk Management using Futures and Options for Buyers & Sellers

JANUARY 19-21, 2016 IN GUELPH, ON

In today's increasingly competitive marketplace, downstream flexibility can be achieved in part by predicting and managing upstream risk. This comprehensive, three-day course focuses on practical application and is essential for any farmer or agri-business leader whose production (outputs) or raw materials (inputs) are commodity based.

In summary, you will learn:

- How to set up an account and trade Futures and Options
- Hedging for Futures & Options, using realistic examples
- How to understand the technical analysis and information inside charts to improve your timing
- Practice applying your knowledge to current market case assignments
- Learn everything you need to know to develop a strategy
- The course includes up-to-date analysis and practice so that you may apply your new knowledge to current markets

For more information, visit: www.agrifoodtraining.com

Thanks for reading the Ag Business Update.

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

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