

ISSUE # 134 – June 2017

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

This Issue:

- [Business Strategy / Business Planning](#)
- [Human Resources](#)
- [Marketing](#)
- [Production Management](#)
- [Risk Management](#)
- [Conferences, Workshops and Seminars](#)

Business Strategy / Business Planning

The Business of Agriculture

Based on the data from the 2016 Census of Agriculture, this infographic gives an overview of gross farm receipts, operating expenses, and farm capital in Canada.

[More>>](#)

2016 Census - Agriculture

The OMAFRA statistics site is now fully updated to reflect the 2016 Ag Census release. This includes the widely used [County Agriculture Profiles](#)

[More>>](#)

Human Resources

[Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017](#)

Proposed Changes to Ontario's Employment and Labour Laws

The Ontario government has announced its intention to introduce proposed legislation, Bill 148, the Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017. The legislative proposals include broad ranging amendments to Ontario's Employment Standards Act and Labour Relations Act.

[More on proposed changes>>](#)

The Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs intends to hold public hearings:

[Bill 148 Consultation sessions schedule>>](#)

July 10-14: Thunder Bay, North Bay, Ottawa, Kingston and Windsor-Essex
July 17-21: London, Kitchener-Waterloo, Niagara, Hamilton and Toronto

Those who wish to comment on the Bill may also send a written submission to the Clerk of the Committee at the address below by 5:30 p.m. on Friday, July 21, 2017.

Eric Rennie, Clerk
Room 1405, Whitney Block
Queen's Park, Toronto, ON M7A 1A2

Marketing

Growing Foods From Around the World in Ontario Soil

The *Bring Home the World* campaign was launched June 5 at a consultation with stakeholders in Toronto. The campaign will engage Ontarians to identify ways to make locally-grown and processed world foods available in Ontario and to help create opportunities to increase the diversity of local food across the province.

Everyone is welcome to participate and share their input by:

- completing a world foods survey at Ontario.ca/worldfoods
- reading the [Bring Home the World discussion paper](#) and submitting comments through email

A video about world foods is available at
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8XWMiOT8nvY&feature=youtu.be>.

[More>>](#)

Production Management

Renting Your Land Sustainably

New OMAFRA Factsheet

This factsheet outlines advantages to landowners of encouraging the production of forages, grazing livestock on their land, signing long-term (10 years or longer) written leases that include specific land-management clauses, with farmers committed to producing forages and grazing livestock on rented land.

[More>>](#)

Risk Management

Farmers encouraged to report online after delayed planting

After a wetter-than-normal planting season, producers may have a shorter window to report their planted acres. As a result, Agricorp's call centre is anticipating an influx of phone calls towards the end of June.

Save time, report acres online

Grain and oilseed producers can avoid the call wait times by reporting their Production Insurance acres online – anywhere, anytime – right up to midnight on June 30. It's quick, it's easy to do, and it's available 24/7.

[More>>](#)

Do you have a water contingency plan?

In 2016, many areas of the province saw very warm and dry conditions, creating challenges for horticulture and field crop producers. Many wells were still dry leading into the winter. In other years, like the start of the 2017 growing season, the province experienced periods of excessive rain, leading to saturated soils and flooding.

No one can control the weather, but we can plan for it.

[More>>](#)

Wrapping up 2016 RMP

The 2016 Risk Management Program (RMP) is wrapping up as final 2016 payments are made for all three plans.

[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 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>>](#)

21st International Farm Management Congress

July 2nd to 7th 2017
Edinburgh, Scotland

Join 50+ member countries in Edinburgh to explore the UK's agricultural industry like never before. The Congress includes plenary sessions, paper and poster session and of course, farm visits! Join the Congress pre- and post-tours to spend a little extra time touring the UK's rich

agricultural landscape and history.

IMPORTANT DATES:

June 25 – July 1 Pre-Congress Tour: Windsor to Edinburgh

July 2 – July 7 IFMA21 Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland

July 8 – July 14 Post-Congress Tour: Highlands & Islands of Scotland

For more information, visit www.IFMA21.org

2017 AgEx Conference

AgEx Conference will be held in Ottawa!

Farming For Our Future: Canada's 150th

November 21-23, 2017!

For a limited time, BUY ONE GET ONE 50% OFF!

Bring a friend, colleague, or client at half the price!

Select an "Early Bird - BOGO" Ticket to buy two registrations (one at 50% off).

This offer is available as an early bird incentive, so don't delay!

In addition to expert plenary speakers, AgEx offers a number of unique, interactive features:

- The Great Debate
- Bridging the Gap: Young Farmers' Bear Pit & Young at Heart Forum
- Discussion Panel: Farmers vs Industry vs Government
- National Farm Business Management Roundtable
- Farm Management Initiatives Showcase
- Concurrent Workshops

More information: <http://www.fmc-gac.com/content/agricultural-excellence-conference>

Thanks for reading the Ag Business Update.

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

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