

August
2010

Commission Report

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Monthly Newsletter

CITT POTATO
ANTI-DUMPING
EXPIRY REVIEW

POTATO ANTI-DUMPING

Along with Commission staff, agency managers and select potato growers over the past nine months along with the Commission's trade counsel, Farris, Vaughan, Wills & Murphy of Vancouver, participated in the work of preparing for the Canadian International Trade Tribunal (CITT) Expiry Review Hearing that occurred in Vancouver on July 27, 28, 29.

The CITT decision, which is to be issued September 10, 2010, will provide for one of three possible outcomes. These are: extend the existing order for 5 years without amendment; extend the existing order for 5 years with amendment; or terminate the existing order.

During the CITT's Expiry Review process the VMC requested that 60, 70, 80 and 90 count russet potatoes be re-instated as subject goods. In the course of the previous Expiry Review the mentioned potato sizes were removed from the order and were no longer considered subject goods. One month prior to the July 2010 hearing the VMC was informed by the CITT that the re-institution of the above described count size russets was rejected. The CITT indicated that a separate trade action was required for initiating such a change.

The Commission extends its appreciation to the growers, agency representatives and industry stakeholders for attending the CITT Hearing. The show of support by producers and other sector stakeholders made by attending the public hearing demonstrated the significance this matter has for the BC potato sector and BC agriculture.

VMC POLICIES APPLICABLE TO STORAGE CROP PRODUCERS

There are a number of General Order provisions pertaining to the transfer of Delivery Allocation. In addition to what is set out in the General Order a policy has been established that provides more information on the topic. The policy is available for review by visiting the VMC web site [www.bcveg.com]. Navigate to Policies and Decisions and select the policy from those listed.

Delivery Allocation transfer requests are to be set out on a specific application form and are administered by the Commission once a year. This occurs in March.

Another policy that also has a time deadline associated with it is agency transfer. If a storage crop producer has the interest to transfer agency, application for doing so must be received by the Commission by October 31. A number of other conditions apply.

STORAGE CROP
POLICIES AVAILABLE
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2010 STORAGE CROP PLANTED AREA SURVEY

2010 STORAGE CROPS PLANTED AREA SURVEY

The 2010 annual planted area survey for BC storage crop vegetables is complete. The survey was conducted in late June and concluded in early July. Compared to other years a number of producers reported later this year due to the backward spring weather that hampered planting.

Total 2010 BC potato planted area (excluding seed potatoes) is 4,640 acres. This is a 5 % increase over last year, and, except for russets, year-over-year acreage increases occurred for all other potato types. Respectively, for red and yellow potatoes there were 11 % and 14 % year-over-year increases in planted area.

The next largest storage crop planted area is carrots with a total of 470 acres planted in 2010. Last year the planted area was 445 acres resulting in a year-over-year increase of 5 %.

Green and red cabbage planted area together totals 266 acres, while the combined planted area for parsnips, rutabagas, turnips and onions totals 342 acres.

The planted area information is key for each storage crop agency to allow for planning and the carrying out of marketing throughout the storage season.

The Commission extends its appreciation to storage crop producers for preparing and submitting their planted area information this year. The survey will be conducted at the same time next year.

2010 COMMISSION LEVIES PAYABLE BY GREENHOUSE VEGETABLE PRODUCERS

By now the second installment of 2010 Commission levies payable by greenhouse vegetable producers shipping through an agency have been collected for remittance to the Commission by August 31.

Producers not shipping through an agency remit levies to the Commission directly.

Collection of the third and final levy installment from producers shipping through an agency will likely occur during the late September to mid-October period.

Agencies are to remit the third installment to the Commission by October 29.

2010 GREENHOUSE PRODUCER LEVIES

For Potato Industry
news go to:

United Potato
Growers of Canada

Website:
unitedpotatocanada.com

OR . . .

United Potato
Growers of America

Website:
unitedpotatousa.com

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR POTATO FARMERS

For finding current information about the Canadian and USA potato sectors producers should visit the United Potato Growers of Canada website [www.unitedpotatocanada.com] and that of the United Potato Growers of America [www.unitedpotatousa.com]. Recent newsletters are available.