

JUNE
2010

Commission Report

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Monthly Newsletter

GREENHOUSE LEVIES – INSTALLMENT #1 PAYABLE JULY 2010

2010 GREENHOUSE LEVIES

The BC Vegetable Marketing Commission (Commission) has begun the process of invoicing greenhouse vegetable agencies and producers not marketing through an agency regarding payment of the 2010 Administration and Research & Industry Development (R&ID) Levies. Levies are to be paid in three installments due in July, August and October.

The Administration Levy is retained by the Commission while the R&ID Levy amount is made available to the BC Greenhouse Growers Association for conducting activities that are consistent with stipulated levy uses set out in the Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act.

As announced in an earlier newsletter the annual Administration Levy rate is 7¢/m² for producers with more than 5,000 m² of production area and for those with less than 5,000 m² it is 5¢/m². For the two classifications the annual R&ID Levy rates are 15¢ and 11¢/m² respectively.

Earlier in the month greenhouse vegetable Designated Agencies received information from the Commission regarding Installment 1. Producers marketing through an agency should expect to see the withholding information displayed in their producer settlement statements. Producers not marketing through an agency should expect to receive levy information by the regular post.

POLICY REGARDING THE PROVISION OF NOTICE TO TRANSFER FROM ONE GREENHOUSE DESIGNATED AGENCY TO ANOTHER

DEADLINE FOR NOTIFYING COMMISSION

BC Vegetable
Marketing Commission
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Surrey, BC V3S 0R7
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Part VI – Transfer of Producers Between

Agencies - of the General Order provides for Producers to transfer from one agency to another and for the VMC to make a determination binding upon the Producer and an Agency or Agencies in the event that an Agency wishes to discontinue receiving Regulated Product from a Producer. The Commission policy governing a greenhouse vegetable producer transferring from one agency to another is summarized below. The full policy text is available by visiting the VMC web site [www.bceveg.com].

The Commission policy for Producers having the interest to transfer from their current greenhouse vegetable Designated Agency of record to another provides for the following:

- Advance notice must be received by the Commission prior to **July 31**;
- The advance notice to be provided to the Commission is to be made in writing using the appropriate form - *Application for Producer Transfer Between Agencies*;
- The VMC will not disturb grower marketing agreements;
- If approved, the transfer of agency will be effective at the start of the next crop year.

Growers are advised that the current Commission policy regarding the duration of Grower Marketing Agreements that came into effect March 25, 2010 stipulates that on maturation of a prevailing GMA a successor one cannot be longer than 3 years in duration.

 AMENDING ORDER
 NO. 25

AMENDING ORDER NO. 25 APPROVED JUNE 17, 2010

During the June 17 regular Commission meeting Amending Order No. 25 was approved. From time to time the Commission approves Amending Orders that amend the General Order. To view amending orders visit the VMC web site [www.bcveg.com]. Navigate to the "Orders and Decisions" button and click on Amending Orders.

With the approval of Amending Order No. 25 a number of housekeeping changes were accomplished. The purpose of the housekeeping revisions is to bring clarity to the General Order.

The changes made are:

- Removal of residual references to field crops, namely lettuce and celery, that were not removed when Amending Order Number 24 was approved;
- Removal of references to lettuce and celery in Schedule 1 of the General Order;
- Removal of the obsolete term "Immediate Family Member";
- Clarification of a General Order provision ensuring that the Commission is not party to "commercial contracts" entered into by an agency.;
- Replacement of geographic coordinates with the term "Regulated Area";
- Because the General Order was silent, provisions were added pertaining to the transfer of Production Allocation thus making governance parallel to what is in place for the transfer of Delivery Allocation.

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE TRIBUNAL EXPIRY REVIEW

Over the past 7 months VMC staff has been preparing for the CITT expiry review of its earlier Order imposing anti-dumping duties on US potatoes entering British Columbia over the past 4½ years. If not continued by CITT Order, the anti-dumping duties will end September 2010.

The Vancouver law firm of Farris & Co. was engaged by the VMC to steward the formal aspects of the expiry review process.

Without anti-dumping duties in place on below-cost U.S.-grown imports, made possible pursuant to the Special Import Measures Act (SIMA,) the BC potato sector is exposed to very low priced potatoes that depress the floor price even further, thereby creating an unprofitable market for BC potato growers.

A CITT hearing will be held in Vancouver on July 27, 28 and 29. For further information contact the VMC.

 CITT EXPIRY REVIEW
 HEARING


***Happy 143rd Birthday
Canada!***

***and to all our growers, colleagues
and friends have a safe and happy
Canada Day celebration!***