

May
2010

Commission Report

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Monthly Newsletter

AMENDING ORDER
NO. 24
ESTABLISHES 2010
GREENHOUSE
VEGETABLE
PRODUCER LEVIES
AND DEREGULATES
FIELD CROPS

AMENDING ORDER #24 – CHANGES TO GREENHOUSE LEVIES AND DEREGULATION OF FIELD CROPS

For the purpose of amending certain parts of the General Order, during its regular meeting held April 29 the Commission approved Amending Order Number 24. The information set out below describes the changes made. By visiting the VMC web site [www.bcveg.com] and navigating to the *Orders-General and Amended* button the referenced amending order can be viewed. Also, by navigating to the last few pages of the General Order amended Schedules II and IV may be viewed.

2010 Greenhouse Vegetable Administration and Research & Industry Development Levy Rates

On finalizing its 2010 operating budget in February and following the late March Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the BC Greenhouse Growers Association (BCGGA) the 2010 greenhouse vegetable producer levies were established by the VMC effective April 29. Before the Commission establishes the Research & Industry Development Levy (R&ID) rate it receives advice from the BCGGA following completion of its AGM.

By way of approving Amending Order Number 24 Schedule IV – *BCVMC Levies and Charges* - of the General Order was amended and the below displayed levy rates are now in effect.

BC VEGETABLE MARKETING COMMISSION 2010 GREENHOUSE VEGETABLE SECTOR LEVIES

LEVY	2010	2009	Year Over Year Change
<u>Administration Levy</u>			
<u>Producers and Producer-Shippers:</u>			
• less than 5,000 m2	\$0.05	\$0.075	Decrease of 33 %
• more than 5,000 m2	\$0.07	\$0.095	Decrease of 26 %
<u>R&ID Levy</u>			
<u>Producers and Producer-Shippers:</u>			
• less than 5,000 m2	\$0.11	\$0.11	No change
• more than 5,000 m2	\$0.15	\$0.15	No change

Commission practice is for the collection and remittance of levies to occur in three installments - July, August and October. Producers not marketing through an Agency directly remit levy amounts to the Commission while on behalf of Producers marketing through them Agencies collect and remit levy amounts to the Commission.

For storage and processing vegetable crops 2010 levies are no different to what was in place for 2009.

De-Regulation of Field Crops

Consistent with changes associated with District Policy revisions taken about a year ago when districts were removed from the General Order for marketing purposes, lettuce and

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BC Vegetable
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**AMENDING ORDER
NO. 24 - (CONT'D)
DEREGULATION OF
FIELD CROPS**

De-Regulation of Field Crops . . . cont'd

celery crops, termed "field crops", were removed from Schedules II and IV of the General Order when Amending Order Number 24 was approved. By doing so field crops; namely, lettuce and celery, are now no longer considered to be regulated crops.

Prior to de-regulation field crops were determined to be regulated crops on Vancouver Island only. At this time and regardless of where produced in the Regulated Area, lettuce and celery producers are not obligated to pay producer levies on the volume of these crops marketed.

For the purpose of the General Order no longer referring to field crops, on approving Amending Order Number 24 a number of consequential amendments to the General Order took effect. As previously mentioned, the amendments can be viewed by visiting the Commission web site.

STORAGE CROP PLANTED AREA SURVEY

Each year the VMC conducts a planted area survey starting in the third week of June. Storage crop producers are to complete the survey form that will arrive by mail and return it to the VMC office.

The information about what producers planted is important for maintaining orderly marketing.

This is so because the aggregated provincial acreage information permits the storage crop agencies to have a sense of what the supply will be and then align their marketing plans with the projected supply.

The VMC hopes to have a complete planted area snapshot by mid-July.

**VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY ELECTED
FOR ONE YEAR TERM**

As provided for in the *Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act Regulation* for marketing boards and commissions with more than three members, each year they are to elect a Vice-Chair and a Secretary. During the regular VMC meeting held April 29 David Taylor, VMC Chair, conducted an election among VMC members for the mentioned positions.

Peter Guichon, a Delta storage crop producer, and Hugh Reynolds, a Delta processing vegetable and storage crop producer, were elected Vice-Chair and Secretary respectively.

PROCESSING VEGETABLE CONTRACTS

On April 22 the negotiation session for Strawberries for Processing was held in Abbotsford.

The session concluded with agreement between the processors and producers for the 2010 contract.

On April 29 the VMC ratified the 2010 Bush Beans and Strawberries for Processing contracts and on doing so all 2010 processing vegetable contracts have been ratified by the VMC. Contracts are in the hands of processors.

**2010 PLANTED
AREA SURVEY**

**VMC MEMBERS
ELECT VICE-CHAIR
AND SECRETARY**

**ALL PROCESSING
VEGETABLE CROP
CONTRACTS
NOW RATIFIED**