

October  
2010

# Commission Report

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Monthly Newsletter

Crop Losses Temper  
CITT Victory

CITT Decision  
Continues Potato  
Anti-Dumping for  
Another 5 Years

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## VEGETABLE CROP AND FINANCIAL LOSSES

The jubilation in the potato sector stemming from a Canadian International Trade Tribunal decision continuing anti-dumping duties for certain whole potatoes for another 5 years has been overtaken by the weather caused disaster facing potato and generally all vegetable producers in the area stretching along a path from Delta-Richmond to Chilliwack. Record rainfall amounts in the last days of August and for much of September has destroyed crops altogether or made harvesting near impossible.

For addressing the crop and financial loss situation the Commission and a number of farm leaders have engaged the BC Ministry of Agriculture & Lands for assessing the situation. Crop insurance, **AgriInvest** and **AgriStability** programs are the income stabilization front line while **AgriRecovery** is the third leg of the Federal-Provincial business risk management suite of programs. **AgriRecovery** only becomes available by the Provincial Government seeking assistance from the Federal Government. As **AgriRecovery** is a cost shared program provincial government funds must become available and, if provided, there must be agreement as to the use of funds.

## CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE TRIBUNAL DECISION

A Canadian International Trade Tribunal (CITT) hearing was held in Vancouver during the last week of July. The hearing was in regard to an Expiry Review, which follows an earlier CITT decision to impose anti-dumping duties pursuant to the Special Import Measures Act. The Expiry Review was for the purpose of determining whether or not the anti-dumping duties are to continue or expire.

On September 10 the CITT announced its decision regarding the expiry review pertaining to certain whole potatoes entering British Columbia from the United States. The decision is to continue anti-dumping duties for another 5 years. Certain whole potatoes are best described as packaged russet and white potatoes and count sizes of these potato

types that are not within the 40-80 count range.

During the lengthy process of submitting information to the CITT the Commission sought the re-instatement of 40-80 count russet and white potatoes as "subject goods." The outcome of this request was the CITT determining in June that it did not have the authority for doing so despite the fact that in an earlier decision it determined that the described potatoes were no longer to be considered "subject goods."

Along with the CITT decision the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) September 2009 revision of normal values provides for a meaningful level of price stability for BC potatoes.

BC Vegetable  
Marketing Commission

**GREENHOUSE  
PRODUCER LICENCE  
RENEWAL**

## GREENHOUSE VEGETABLE PRODUCER LICENSING

Greenhouse Vegetable Producer Licences are issued annually and expire November 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Administration for licence renewal for the 2010-2011 licensing period is underway. Producers should expect licence renewal information to arrive by regular mail.

The renewal form is to be completed and returned to the Commission office accompanied by the requisite annual licence fee. 12 % HST applies.

Producers are asked to attend to the licensing renewal so that licenses continue from one year to the next without interruption. For this to occur the completed licence renewal form and payment should arrive at the Commission office by October 30<sup>th</sup>.

If there are questions please contact Sharon Danyluk, Licensing Officer – (604) 542-9734, extension 22.

**GREENHOUSE  
GROWERS  
ASSOCIATION OFFICE  
RELOCATING TO  
COMMISSION OFFICE**

## GREENHOUSE GROWERS ASSOCIATION OFFICE TO RELOCATE TO COMMISSION OFFICE LOCATION

Planned for occurring by the end of October the BC Greenhouse Growers Association will be joining the Commission office.

The two organizations will be under one roof, but will operate separately.

The outcome of the office space sharing will be a reduction of overhead costs for both organizations and by doing so containment of levy rates established by the Commission is an expected outcome.

Relying on activity based accounting the Administration levy collected from greenhouse growers was decreased last year and with the expected overhead cost reduction there is potential for this to occur in 2011.

There are a number of details to be finalized, including changes to contact information. Information of that nature will be directed to growers in due course by the Association.

**For Potato Industry  
news go to:**

**United Potato  
Growers of Canada  
Website:  
unitedpotatocanada.com**

**OR . . .**

**United Potato  
Growers of America  
Website:  
unitedpotatousa.com**

***Best Wishes from the  
Commission Members  
and Staff  
for a safe and happy  
Thanksgiving Holiday  
weekend!***

