

March
2011

Commission Report

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Monthly Newsletter

COMMISSIONERS BEGIN TWO YEAR TERM

COMMISSION MEMBERS BEGIN TWO YEAR TERM

Commission members Peter Guichon, Hugh Reynolds and John Newell begin serving a two year term of office effective April 1, 2011. This results from the 2011 Commission election concluded in mid-February. The table below displays the names of Commission members and when their two year term begins and ends.

| Member | District | Commodity | Term Commences | Term Ends |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| John Newell | District. I & II | Greenhouse Cucumbers | April 1, 2011 | March 31, 2013 |
| Vacant | District III | Greenhouse Crops | April 1, 2011 | March 31, 2013 |
| Peter Guichon | District I | Storage Crops (2) | April 1, 2011 | March 31, 2013 |
| Hugh Reynolds | District I | Processing Crops | April 1, 2011 | March 31, 2013 |
| John Walsh | District II & III | Storage Crops | April 1, 2010 | March 31, 2012 |
| Holley Swenson | District I | Storage Crops (1) | April 1, 2010 | March 31, 2012 |
| Casey Houweling | District I & II | Greenhouse Tomatoes | April 1, 2010 | March 31, 2012 |
| Armand Vander Meulen | District I & II | Greenhouse Peppers | April 1, 2010 | March 31, 2012 |

The next Commission election will be conducted during the late January and February 2012 period.

CANADAGAP ON-FARM FOOD SAFETY

By way of emails originating from CanadaGAP administration notice was sent to producers informing that Version 5.1 of the 2011 Audit Checklist is available on the CanadaGAP website. If you did not receive the email you may obtain the 2011 Audit Checklist by visiting the CanadaGAP website [www.canadagap.ca].

CANADAGAP
ON-FARM
FOOD SAFETY

BEET DELIVERY ALLOCATION

During its March 17 regular meeting the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission approved a request put before it by beet growers to establish two beet Delivery Allocation divisions; namely, red and specialty beets.

With demand increasing over the past few years for golden and candy cane beets, termed specialty beets, growers have responded by producing them and Designated Agencies have been maintaining monthly shipment records.

After consultation with growers and Designated Agencies and only if a grower had a history of producing specialty beets the Commission adjusted their beet Delivery Allocation.

By establishing two Delivery Allocation divisions for beets, namely red and specialty beets, growers will market their 2011-2012 crop through the respective agencies in accordance with Commission assigned monthly beet Delivery Allocation.

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Marketing Commission

**STORAGE CROP NEW
ENTRANT PROGRAM**

STORAGE CROP NEW ENTRANT PROGRAM

A Storage Crop New Entrant Program was established by the Commission about 8 months ago and during its March 17 regular meeting the Commission approved an application for the production for marketing of regulated vegetables for the 2011-2012 crop year. The applicant will farm in the Fraser Valley.

The intent of the Commission Storage Crop New Entrant policy, which is reflected in the program, is to encourage orderly entry into the regulated vegetable marketing system by prospective producers who are able to demonstrate to the Commission they are able to establish a sustainable farm business producing one or more regulated vegetables. Key to the program is the applicant obtaining support of a Designated Agency that is prepared to market the volume of regulated vegetables to be produced by the new entrant. As well, a sound business and marketing plan is required as is being knowledgeable of on-farm food safety.

JACK BATES – PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURAL COUNCIL

**JACK BATES,
CHC PRESIDENT**

Jack Bates, who farms with family members in Delta and produces potatoes, is the 2011 President of the Canadian Horticultural Council (CHC).

In addition to growing potatoes, blueberries is the other horticultural crop grown by Tecarte Farms.

With experience growing and marketing the mentioned horticultural crops Jack is well informed on a broad range of production and regulatory matters and is able to well represent the interests of Canada's horticultural producers over the next year.

2011 BUSH BEANS FOR PROCESSING CONTRACT SETTLED

**2011 BUSH BEANS
CONTRACT SETTLED**

On March 18 the 2011 Bush Beans for Processing contract was settled and on March 25 it was ratified by the Commission. Processors are now in a position to put bush bean contracts before growers.

Compared to last year 2011 prices for bush beans are not much different. One notable change is the elimination of one category; namely, wax beans – guaranteed minimum price. There are now four categories rather than five one of which is Romano beans. Wax beans will be paid as Green & Wax beans whole, in the under 24/64" in diameter category; or the over 24/64" in diameter category.

Other contract changes were:

- 1.) Processors are to pay growers \$4.00 per acre per day for bush beans planted prior to May 21;
- 2.) The Crop By-Pass Payment Plan was amended whereby rot and disease conditions of the bean crop, which is typically attributable to weather conditions, no longer serves to exclude growers from being eligible for compensation from the plan, and an upper compensation threshold of \$1,170 per acre was established; and
- 3.) At the request of the Fraser Valley Processing Pea, Bush Bean and Corn Growers Association a 10-cent per ton fee was incorporated into the contract.

For Potato Industry
news go to:

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

Or

**United Potato
Growers of America
Website:**
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