

E-NEWS

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THIS ISSUE

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Certified Organic Associations of BC



British
Columbia
Certified
Organic

AGROCLIMATE IMPACT REPORTER SURVEY

The final Agroclimate Impact Reporter survey of the year is now open! Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is collecting information from producers across the country regarding how weather is affecting their farm operations. The information from these surveys helps ground-truth data and monitor areas of concern across the country. This was an unusual year of extremes for much of British Columbia. AAFC wants to hear about the impact these climate conditions had on agricultural operations, and what conditions are like going into winter. This is a critical period for data collection, as your details will help decision-makers better understand end-of-year conditions across the country, helping inform policies and programs such as the Canadian Drought Monitor and Livestock Tax Deferral.

The survey is only open until October 31 so act fast! To access the current survey, visit: ow.ly/7a8M30momFk

COG: JOIN NATIONAL, SUPPORT LOCAL

Canadian Organic Growers (COG) allows members and supporters to direct a portion of their membership fee to COABC! If you haven't already, please

join COG and support COABC: cog.ca/home/support-our-work/become-a-member/

LIVESTOCK TAX DEFERRAL

The Livestock Tax Deferral provision allows farmers who sell part of their breeding herd due to drought or flooding in prescribed drought or flood regions to defer a portion of sale proceeds to the following year. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has released a list of regions that qualify for deferral. To see if your area is eligible, visit: agr.gc.ca/eng/programs-and-services/drought-watch/livestock-tax-deferral-provision/?id=1463574780220

FARM ADAPTATION INNOVATOR PROGRAM

The Farm Adaptation Innovator Program (FAIP) seeks to build adaptive capacity and encourage the adoption of effective farm practices to help mitigate impacts related to climate change.

Funding is open to producers, and project types supported through the program include applied research, pilots, demonstrations, and adoption facilitation. Projects may be local, regional or provincial in scope. The resulting knowledge, practice, technology or approach must be

applicable at a farm-level scale by an individual farm operator.

The second round of applications runs from November 1 to November 30, 2018. For more information, visit: bcagclimateaction.ca/farm-level/faip-2018-2023/

BC LAND MATCHING PROGRAM

The B.C. Land Matching Program (BCLMP) provides land matching and business support services to new farmers looking for land to farm as well as landowners interested in finding someone to farm their land. Offered since 2016 in Metro Vancouver, the program is now available in four regions: Vancouver Island, Metro Vancouver, Okanagan, and Columbia Basin. For more information, reach out to land@youngagrarians.org and visit youngagrarians.org/land

ORGANIC PRICE LIST

The Organic Price List for fruits and vegetables is updated weekly on the COABC website. The Organic Price List is an important market pricing reference to help growers sell without overcharging and losing sales, or worse, undercharging and eroding the market price for other growers. certifiedorganic.bc.ca/services/organicpricelist.php



OFC ORGANIC FEDERATION OF CANADA

FBC FÉDÉRATION BIOLOGIQUE DU CANADA

EVENTS

STANDARDS INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

NEW PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: OCTOBER 2 - NOVEMBER 2, 2018

The 30-day comment period for the Standards Interpretation Committee (SIC) Q&As will end on November 2. Please see below for the list of questions raised by organic stakeholders, the link to the proposed answers, and instructions on how to submit comments.

Questions raised by organic stakeholders, regarding the National Standards for Organic Agriculture:

- In order for organic laying hens to be sold at the end of their laying life for organic meat or organic processing, are they required to meet the requirements in 6.13.1 h) that barn raised meat chickens have daily outdoor access by 25 days of age?
- Can beeswax be certified as organic?
- What forms of L-Lysine are permitted?

The proposed responses are posted on the OFC website, and are subject to a 30 day comment period.

All comments regarding these answers should be sent to OPR.RPB@inspection.gc.ca by November 2nd, 2018.

For more information about the Organic Federation of Canada visit: organicfederation.ca

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

When: Nov 14, 2018 | 9am-12pm
Where: Okanagan Falls Biodiversity Ranch, 3831 Mclean Creek Rd, OK Falls, BC

Learn wildlife management - farmers will tour a working ranch and observe actual projects undertaken to protect species-at-risk. To register, email: ecostudies@osca.org

EVERY CHEF NEEDS A FARMER

When: Nov 13, 2018 | 9am-3pm
Where: Sheraton Wall Centre, 1088 Burrard St., Vancouver, BC

Connecting BC farmers, chefs, and members of the food and beverage industry to create more opportunities to bring BC food to plates around the province: gov.bc.ca/gov/content/every-chef-needs-a-farmer

SPEAK UP! TRAINING PRODUCER WORKSHOP

When: Nov 21-22, 2018 | 9:30am-2:30pm
Where: Kamloops (Nov 21) & Kelowna (Nov 22)

The Speak Up! Training workshop teaches participants how to tell their stories in an easy-to-understand and compelling manner and explains

how to have a positive, meaningful conversation about food and farming, providing pointers on handling difficult subjects: ow.ly/Jivc30modby

CRFAIR GOOD FOOD SUMMIT

When: Nov 22-23, 2018
Where: Various Locations within the Capital Region

The Good Food Summit emphasizes cross sector collaboration, networking, skill building, and highlights the Good Food work happening in the Capital Region, drawing educators, farmers, students, health care professionals, politicians, funders, and more: crfair.ca/goodfoodsummit/

YOUNG AGRARIANS LAND LINKS

METRO VAN LAND LINK

When: Nov 17, 2018 | 1-6pm
Where: George Preston Recreation Centre, 20699 42 Ave, Langley, BC

COBBLE HILL LAND LINK

When: Nov 24, 2018 | 1-6pm
Where: Cobble Hill Farmers Institute Hall, 3550 Watson Ave, Cobble Hill, BC

Join Young Agrarians to network, talk land leasing, and hear from an expert panel: youngagrarians.org/land





REMINDERS

BCCO LOGO

COR operators are fortunate to be able to use the Canada Organic label AND the BC Checkmark side by side.

The logo of the BC Certified Organic program is a key tool to identify certified organic products in BC. It is important that the symbol is used correctly; here is a quick reminder, especially for websites and the exclusion zone (white space.)



The Program Symbol is enclosed by a black border. The border ensures that the appropriate white space or exclusion zone is provided around the composite mark. The Program Symbol must be enclosed by the border if the Symbol is applied against colored or complex backgrounds. However, if the background is white or off-white, it may be desirable to omit the border while ensuring the appropriate exclusion zone.

COMPLAINTS SUBMISSION FORM

BC Certified Organic Checkmark complaint information can be found at: certifiedorganic.bc.ca/standards/complaints.php.

For complaints against an interprovincial traded product see the COR complaint form at inspection.gc.ca/food/organic-products/file-a-complaint/eng/1518546270126/1518546271092

PLANNING A MOVE?

If you change your address or contact information, send it to your CB office as soon as possible so that you don't miss out on receiving the BC Organic Grower and other materials.

ORGANIC PRICE LIST

View the Organic Price List, updated weekly, here: certifiedorganic.bc.ca/services/organicpricelist.php

COABC YOUTUBE VIDEOS

COABC has some awesome videos up on our YouTube channel. Watch, share, and spread a little organic inspiration! As we eagerly await spring, our current favourite is all about seeds: "Watching seeds sprout is pure magic," says Arzeena Hamir, one of the growers who shared their love of seeds with us for this video. Check out *Seeds of Knowledge* and other videos featuring BC Organic farmers here: youtube.com/watch?v=DUCBF_L0Bg



-  /CertifiedOrganicAssociationsBC
-  @coabccanada
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NEWSLETTER LINKS

BC Agriculture Council:
COABC is a member under the
Community Agriculture seat
www.bcac.bc.ca

OFC info-bio:
www.organicfederation.ca/newsletter

BCSPCA:
www.sPCA.bc.ca

CYBER HELP

Cyberhelp for Farmers is currently being redeveloped.

