

BC Fruit Growers' Association

Friday File

March 25, 2019



Deadline Alert #1

AgriStability - deadline for Interim (advance) payment is March 31

AgriStability can provide needed financial help to growers. Although the program sometimes does not work due to averaging of different crops returns and the structural adjustment of replant, growers are encouraged to apply to have certainty on whether the program will provide financial help. The program is 'individualized', so each grower is different - some will not trigger help and many others will (the BCFGA and other commodity associations continue to work to make the program more consistent in its approach).

The federal Minister of Agriculture this week announced that **growers can apply anytime to participate in 2018**, even though the application deadline is past. Growers who apply late will have any benefit reduced by 20%.

For growers who are enrolled in AgriStability, an advance or 'interim payment' application can be requested. The **deadline to apply for Interim Payment is March 31**.

Deadline Alert #2

Provincial Labour Law - Deadline for comment is March 31 !

The BC Agriculture Council has provided an excellent [outline of the proposed Employment Standards changes and possible responses by growers](#) and their associations.

We have **highlighted important items** for tree fruit growers. The government counts responses. Make your voice heard!

The email to respond to is ESAReview@gov.bc.ca Please copy info@bcfga.com if you respond to government.

BCFGA Board of Directors 2019

Name		Telephone
Bhupinder (Pinder) Dhaliwal - President	Oliver	Cell/text 250-490-7198
Peter Simonsen - VP	Naramata	Cell/text 250496-5156
Ravinder Bains	Keremeos	Cell 250-499-0512
Sukhdeep (Deep) Brar	Summerland	Cell/text 250-462-5687
Karm Gill	Kelowna	Cell 250-863-9737
Sukhdev Goraya	Kelowna	Cell/text 250- 859-1229
David Machial	Oliver	Cell/text 250-485-2636
David Dobernigg	Vernon	Cell/text 250-550-8999

Canadian Federation of Agriculture

Presentations

Curious about what gets discussed at the CFA Annual Meeting? [Here is a link to the presentations](#) made at the February 27-28, 2019 CFA Annual Meeting. Note that the documents are in both English and French versions.

Employee Management & Employee Retention Webinars

Hosted by the BC Cattlemen's Association's Public Affairs & Education Committee

BC Cattlemen's would like to welcome all commodities to join in on these webinars, with the [third webinar](#) discussing employee management on **March 26, 2019 at 9am PST.**

The [fourth webinar](#) will be discussing employee retention on **April 4, 2019 @ 11AM PST.** Sign up using the links above or by calling their office at 1-877-688-2333.

BC Tree Fruit Production Guide meetings

Topics include Insect and Disease updates

The annual Tree Fruit Production Guide updates were held in the Okanagan March 14 and 15, with Creston being held on April 10.

The sessions went over the crop protection product changes. Growers can go online to see the most current changes to the spray schedule, as follows:

www.bctfpg.com

Select "Change Log" near the upper right hand corner.

How easy is that? Don Magnusson also reviewed how to select a pest or product, and we will carry this information in an upcoming newsletter.

Other items referred to at the TFPG meetings:

- Check out the [Apple Clearwing Moth maps](#).
 - Note that if an orchard has pheromone (Isomate-P) placed, the traps will read no moths present, as trap shutdown occurs, giving a false negative. If you are in a treated area, best to assume you have ACM, seek visual confirmation (trunk survey) and spray accordingly.
 - Almost all areas have a medium to high level of infestation, spraying Rimon in Spring (before end of May) is a primary treatment.
- Check out the [Codling Moth maps](#).
- Fireblight tips were provided. - watch for a future update in the Friday File.

7pm-9pm

Wednesday, April 10th

Creston District Community Complex, Erickson Room

BCFGA Office 250-762-5226
Toll free -1-800-619-9022



- Brenda Jorde, Member Services and BC Tree Fruit Replant Program, local 1.
- Glen Lucas, General Manager, local 2.
- Sheila MacGregor, Accountant, local 3.
- Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program, local 4.

Note: BCFGGA has a very small office with limited staff. With many activities undertaken on behalf of our 487 members, Members should call to make an appointment to be sure of staff being present to meet with you (staff are often away on business related to the BCFGGA). You may call your local director so that the BCFGGA Board can remain informed on how to best represent the tree fruit growers of BC.