

BC Fruit Growers' Association

Friday File

May 13 2019



Important Notice

BCFGA Telephone Survey

The BCFGa is working in partnership with Okanagan College to find out more about growers' use of technology. In basic terms, *how do you currently use computers and programs, and what do you see as your future use of technology?* The BCFGa encourages its members to participate in the survey.

To find out the answer to these questions, we have engaged students to help complete a telephone survey. We hope to contact one-in-three growers, and get responses from nearly 100% of those who we contact. *Your help is greatly appreciated.*

To express our appreciation, every grower who completes the survey will be entered into a draw for a \$100 growers supply credit. You will have a one-in-ten chance of getting a credit. In order to claim the credit, we will need to have your permission to add your name to the list of 'winners' that will be published in this newsletter.

The names of the students who may contact you are:

1. Arpan Sahsi
2. Deborah Eftretuei
3. Gurvir Khakh

If you have any issues or concerns with the survey , please contact me at 250-762-5226.

Important Notice

Apple Clearwing Moth

Spring sprays for ACM are getting close. The research indicates that for conventional growers, sprays go on in the spring from **150-200 Degree Days**.

Because of the increased numbers, the lead field consultant on the BCFGa Apple Clearwing Moth Project is recommending sprays for all conventional growers, recognizing that some may opt for summer or fall. A Spring spray targets the larvae that are currently in trees that will emerge as adults in late May/early June.

Protecting young trees is important and summer spraying is good for prevention. A Spring spray should be applied to young trees if there is a population of Apple Clearwing Moth present. Discuss your ACM spray plans with your hort advisor.

Rimon has a pre-harvest interval of 14 days. The application rate is 1.4 L of product in 1000L of water. You are not to apply more than 2000L of water per hectare. So for the sake of simplicity – 1.1 L of Rimon diluted in 800L of water per acre.

The BCFGA newsletter will in future update key degree days and spray times for Apple Clearwing Moth.

According to the DAS email the other day, all Grower Supply stations are currently not available online, therefore the model data currently displayed is based on predicted weather data only. Oliver central station has been destroyed as well.

ACM Degree Days for the Okanagan, May 6, 2019.

<u>118 - 130 DD</u>	<u>50 - 85 DD</u>	<u>50 - 70 DD</u>
Cawston 118.3	Penticton 84	Oyama 70.87
Keremeos 117.2	Summerland South 80.63	Winfield N 59.45
Osoyoos E 129.3	Summerland North 62.02	Winfield S 53.36
Osoyoos N 125.9	Trout Creek 69.02	Vernon BX 58
Oliver South 123.5	Kelowna	Vernon EC 65
	Glenmore 53.3	
	Kelowna East 72.9	
	Kelowna Benvoulin 65.6	
	Kelowna Belgo 72.2	
	Kelowna airport 63.9	
	Kelowna West 65.6	
	Ellison 50.71	

ACM maps with [trap results from 2018 are available on-line](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page to get your specific area map.

Note that Isomate-P pheromones are not being placed this year by the ACM program. For those who had pheromones placed by the program in 2018, the ACM trapping results show “false” zero results and we have ‘blanked out’ those results on the maps’. If you placed pheromones, but the results on the map are not ‘blanked out’, you should not rely on the trap counts (which should be zero). These ‘False Zero Results’ occur because the Isomate-P pheromone ‘blinds’ the ACM to the trap pheromone. If a trap shows zero ACM, it is best to assume this is a ‘false zero result’. Therefore, growers with zero ACM trap results should examine their trees for signs of ACM, and if present, treat with Rimon in the Spring or plan on a Fall treatment.

Financial Management and Mentorship - Webinars

Organized by the BC Cattlemen’s Association, Open to all agriculture

Here is an opportunity for some on-line training - webinars let you watch and listen to a live educational presentation on your computer (sometimes it also involves dialing in for sound).

The BC Cattlemen's Association's Public Affairs and Education Committee will be hosting a webinar series starting this month! Join in on these Coffee Shop Talks and learn about mental health, succession planning, employee management and retention, mentorship and financial management. These webinars were funded in part by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Government of BC through programs

delivered by Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC and the BC Cattlemen's Association.

BC Cattlemen's would like to welcome all commodities to join in on these webinars.

Mentorship Webinar

May 28, 2019 at 8pm PST.

[Click here](#) for sign in information.

Financial Management Webinar

June 4, 2019 at 9am PST.

[Click here](#) for sign in information.

Or sign up by calling the BC Cattlemen's Association office at **1-877-688-2333**.

2019 AgriStability Extension to July 2 2019

Enrolment deadline has been extended!

- Enrolment deadline has changed from April 30, 2019 to July 2, 2019
- Enrollment fees can be paid without penalty until July 2, 2019; no matter if you are new, already participating, or have previously opted out
- If you chose to opt out for the 2019 program year, you have up to July 2, 2019 to sign back up

Contact them if you have any questions about AgriStability or wish to enrol:

Toll Free:	1-877-343-2767
Fax:	1-877-605-8467
Address:	AgriStability Administration 200 1500 Hardy Street Kelowna BC V1Y 8H2
Email:	AgriStability@gov.bc.ca
Website:	www.gov.bc.ca/AgriStability

SAWP

Question of the Week

What are the deductions / premiums on wages for SAWP?

The Health Insurance/Welfare deduction

- *The 2019 Health Insurance / Welfare Deduction*
 - *For Mexico SAWP, the amount of the health insurance premium is deducted from the workers pay and the grower takes those deductions and pay the health insurance premium (Cowan Insurance). The deduction is **\$0.90 per day** for 2019. The amount is paid to the insurer (Cowan) by the grower.*
 - *For Caribbean SAWP, the deduction includes health insurance and other welfare premiums, and the grower takes those deductions and pays the Liaison Service of the worker's home country. The*

deduction is **\$5.45 per working day** for 2019 since the Caribbean Liaison Service pays the premium, the grower forwards the whole deduction to the Caribbean Liaison Service (not to the insurer).

- The Health Insurance / Welfare deduction is made every day (i.e. work days and days off).

The Housing Deduction

- The 2019 housing deduction (BC) is
 - For Mexico SAWP, **\$5.36 per working day**, not to exceed \$826 for the season.
 - For Caribbean SAWP, **\$6.20 per working day**, not to exceed \$826 for the season.

A working day

- For Mexico SAWP, a working day is 4 hours or more. If less than 4 hours is worked in a day, the Housing deduction is not made.
- For Caribbean SAWP, working day is not defined in the contract, but we advise growers to use 4 hours as the minimum for a working day deduction to keep consistent with the Mexico SAWP program.

SAWP

Tips of the Week

Reminders:

1. Keep a [copy of the contract](#), signed by both worker and employer, in the employee file.
2. Take the worker to register for Social Insurance Number within 3 days of the start of work.
3. For payroll, in both Mexico and Caribbean SAWP contracts, a bonus for experienced workers is required. Workers with 5 or more consecutive years of employment on the farm will receive a “recognition payment” of \$4 per week to a maximum of \$128 for the year.

Labour Orientation and Safety Training Program

Worker training, orientation, finding workers, and helping communicate with workers
Ron Forrest is working at BCFGA again this summer. He is now available to book training and orientation sessions. Ron will also be helping out with communications when difficulties arise in relations with workers.

Ron Forrest 778-363-3620 or rforrest@bcfga.com

Survey- Agriculture Asset Map Needs for the Thompson-Okanagan Region

Survey closes May 31, 2019.

The BCFGA is passing along this notice of a grower survey by Okanagan College, (though the BCFGA is not directly endorsing or asking growers to complete the survey). The college is doing this work for economic development and city/regional planners to better understand agriculture. The college is developing “an asset map tool” for the

Thompson-Okanagan region (including Thompson-Nicola, Shuswap, Okanagan, and Similkameen). Okanagan College invites you to take approximately 5 minutes of your time to complete the survey. To ensure confidentiality, your responses will be anonymized and combined with those of other respondents before being released. The data generated will be analyzed in an aggregated manner. If you wish to participate in this survey, use the following website link.

<https://survey.okanagan.bc.ca/757611>

For any questions related to this survey please contact Dennis Silvestrone, Okanagan College's Director of Continuing Studies and Corporate Training at DSilvestrone@okanagan.bc.ca.

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

<p>BCFGA Office ☎250-762-5226</p> <p>Toll free ☎1-800-619-9022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 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.
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Note: BCFGAs 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 BCFGAs). You may call your local director so that the BCFGAs Board can remain informed on how to best represent the tree fruit growers of BC.