



Ontario Tender Fruit Producers' Marketing Board

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Items in this newsletter:

- Expression of Opinion – Fresh Nectarines
- Agricorp Update December 2009

Expression of Opinion – Fresh Nectarines

Fresh nectarine producers and shippers have requested that fresh nectarines be included in the Tender Fruit Plan and become part of the mandate of the Ontario Tender Fruit Producers' Marketing Board.

The Ontario Farm Products Marketing Commission is conducting an Expression of Opinion Vote to determine whether growers wish to have fresh nectarines added to the Tender Fruit – Plan. Ballots and other information have been mailed to nectarine producers during the last week of November. The ballots are to be returned to the Commission and post-marked no later than December 11, 2009.

If you are a fresh nectarine producer and have not received a ballot, please contact Laurinda Lang at the Farm Products Marketing Commission at 1-888-466-2372 Ext. 63242.

The Board encourages all nectarine producers to express their opinion on this important issue. Before doing so, I urge you to review the information package included in the mailing provided by the Commission. It notes a few important items:

1. The vote only affects nectarines sold on the fresh market.
2. Nectarines sold by a producer directly to consumers i.e. fruit markets, roadside stands and farmers markets, would be exempted from the Board's regulations and from having to pay fees on those sales.

Yours truly

Adrian Huisman
Manager

Enclosure



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Agricorp Update (November 24, 2009)

Renewing Production Insurance (PI) for tree fruit and grapes

It's renewal time again for your tree fruit and grapes. You should have received your renewal package outlining your coverage options and deposit amount based on your 2009 PI contract. Be sure to review your responsibilities and coverage shown on your Renewal Notice. You will be automatically renewed at last year's coverage, unless you contact us by **December 20, 2009** to cancel or change your coverage.

Changes to your 2010 Contract of Insurance

- 80% PI coverage has now been added for sweet cherries
- Insured perils for grapes now include all lady beetles
- A requirement has been added to provide Agricorp with receipts for any costs you incurred to remove and replant any trees or vines to be eligible for a claim. For more details, please refer to the Claim Payments section of the Apple Tree and Grape Vine Riders Production Insurance Document included in your renewal package or on agricorp.com

Paying your premium

Your non-refundable premium deposit is due **December 20, 2009**. The balance of your premium is due **May 1, 2010**.

You can pay your premium using one of the following methods:

- Internet or telephone banking
- Mail your cheque, payable to Agricorp Insurance Fund, to:
Agricorp, Box 3660, Station Central, Guelph, Ontario, N1H 8M4

Members of the Norfolk Fruit Growers Association (NFGA)

If you are a member of the NFGA, you can have them pay your premium on your behalf. To complete this payment option, please take your renewal notice to the NFGA and they will work with you to complete the Assignment of Indemnity for Apples and/or Pears form. The NFGA must submit your assignment of indemnity and premium to Agricorp by **December 20, 2009**.

Not currently enrolled in PI?

1. If this is your first time applying, contact Agricorp at **1-888-247-4999** by **December 20, 2009**.
2. An Agricorp representative will visit you to review your coverage and claim price options and help you complete your application.
3. For each fruit crop you are insuring, you must insure 100 percent of your acres. All of your peaches and nectarines must be insured under one contract.
4. Follow good farm management practices and report crop damage immediately.
5. Meet all deadlines in the 2010 Production Insurance Deadlines for Tender Fruit table.

For more information on how to be eligible for 2010 PI coverage for your tender fruit, please refer to the Plan Overview for Tree Fruit and Grape Production on www.agricorp.com.

2010 Production Insurance Deadlines for Tender Fruit	
Action Required	Deadline
Last day to cancel your 2010 insurance contract	December 20, 2009
Apply for coverage or change your coverage selection	
Pay your premium deposit (non-refundable)	
Declare assignment of indemnity	
Pay balance of your premium	May 1, 2010

2010 tender fruit coverage and claim prices

For peaches, nectarines and pears, you may choose between multi-peril coverage and single-peril coverage for hail only. Single-peril coverage offers an affordable premium rate for protection from yield losses due to hail damage only.

Agricorp offers separate claim prices for fresh and processing crops for peaches and sweet cherries. You may insure your fresh crops at the lower processing claim price; however, you may not insure your processing crops at the higher fresh claim price. Pears have two claim options.

You may choose between three claim price caps for sour cherries. In the spring, your premium is calculating using your chosen claim price cap. The final sour cherry claim price is calculated at harvest time, using the negotiated price of 92-score cherries less board fees and a non-incurred cost of one cent per pound, up to a maximum of your chosen claim price. Agricorp also uses the final claim price to recalculate your guaranteed value and premium; if the final claim price reduces your premium, the difference will be rebated to you. Your declared yields and any claims use the final claim price.

2010 Premium Rates for Tender Fruit (customer portion only)					
Tender Fruit	Customer Premium Rates by Coverage Level				Claim Price Options
	80%	75%	70%	65%	
Peaches and Nectarines	Multi-peril 4.81%	Multi-peril 4.23%	Multi-peril 3.70%	N/A	Fresh: \$0.45/lb Processing: \$0.22/lb Nectarines: \$0.47/lb
	Hail only 0.83%	Hail only 0.73%	Hail only 0.64%		
Pears	Multi-peril 8.27%	Multi-peril 7.36%	Multi-peril 6.54%	N/A	Option 1: \$0.39/lb Option 2: \$0.20/lb
	Hail only 0.50%	Hail only 0.44%	Hail only 0.39%		
Plums	10.07%	8.76%	7.25%	N/A	\$0.69/lb
Sour Cherries	6.24%	5.74%	5.30%	N/A	\$0.25/lb or \$0.30/lb or \$0.35/lb
Sweet Cherries	10.64%	9.89%	9.10%	8.51%	Fresh: \$0.59/lb Processing: \$0.37/lb

2010 fresh grape coverage and claim prices

2010 Premium Rates for Grapes (customer portion only)					
Labrusca	Customer Premium Rates by Coverage Level				Claim Price Options
	85%	80%	75%	70%	
Sovereign Coronation (class 11a)	4.51%	3.98%	3.54%	3.18%	\$1,067.04/tonne
Other Fresh Grapes (class 11)					\$916.90/tonne

Grape Vine Rider

To be eligible for the grape vine rider, you have insured your grapes for a minimum of two years. Your coverage is based on the number of healthy vines at least two years old in your inventory.

The following claim prices represent the cost of removal and replanting and are available with a deductible of 12.5 percent:

- Labrusca: \$13.07/vine

Agricorp will require copies of the receipts for work done to remove and replant any trees or vines. If a tenant is in a tree or vine claim, he/she will require written permission from the landlord to remove and replant any dead trees or vines. For more details, please refer to the Apple Tree and Grape Vine Riders Production Insurance Document.

2009 AgriStability fees due December 31

If you have not paid your 2009 AgriStability fee yet, you have until December 31. If we do not receive your fee by the deadline, you will not be eligible for a benefit.

AgriStability interim payments available

If you are in financial distress, you can receive half of your estimated AgriStability benefit on a priority basis before your year-end. You can get applications on our website or by contacting us.

New to AgriStability?

To sign up for 2010 AgriStability, send your completed 2010 New Participant Form to Agricorp by April 30, 2010. New Participant Forms are available on our website or by contacting Agricorp.

AgriStability Deadlines	
Action	Deadline
Last day to pay your 2009 fee with a late penalty	December 31, 2009
Last day to apply for a 2009 interim payment	
Last day to submit your 2010 New Participant Form	April 30, 2010
Last day to pay your 2010 fee without a late penalty	

Complete OVTP removals as soon as possible

Many producers have recently applied to the Orchards and Vineyards Transition Program (OVTP) as a result of unexpected market conditions and poor weather over the past year. If your OVTP application has been accepted, try to complete your tree and vine removal as soon as possible and no later than the deadline shown in your acceptance letter. The sooner you complete your removal, the sooner you can receive your funds.

Agricorp is currently calling producers to confirm their removal deadline and warn them if their application is close to expiring. If you are not planning to complete your removal by the deadline, you should inform Agricorp right away. To ensure that as many producers as possible get access to funding, funds from expired or withdrawn applications will go to other producers who do plan to remove their trees or vines before November 2010.

Interested growers should continue to submit applications this fall to stay in the queue for funding. If your application is accepted after November 30, 2009, you must complete your removal and contact Agricorp before November 30, 2010. Agricorp will then arrange to obtain your Statement of Final Removal before issuing your payment.

As of November 16, 2009, Agricorp has received more than 1,200 applications to the program and verified 10,177 acres for a total of almost \$16.5 million in funding.

Contact Us

Phone: 1-888-247-4999 (Mon to Fri, 7 to 5)
contact@agricorp.com
agricorp.com