



HEADLINES

Canadian Cherry Exporters Gain Access to Chinese Market

Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council Meeting in Washington

Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council - Crop Protection

CFIA Modernization Forum Held in Ottawa Represents an Opportunity

Growing Forward 2 Paves Way for New Industry-led Agricultural Risk Management Initiatives

PMRA and PMC Achieve Results for Canadian Producers at 45th CCPR Meeting

FCC Launches New FM PRO Mobile Application

Regular Features

- Commodity Corner
- Crop Protection
- Trade
- Food Safety
- Regulatory Updates
- Links of the Month

Mark Your Calendar

Canadian Cherry Exporters Ready for Chinese Market Premiere

A recent trade mission to Beijing and Hong Kong by Minister Ritz and government officials has resulted in market expansion for Canadian agriculture, including horticulture. China, which is already a \$5 billion market for Canadian food exports, agreed in principle to new phytosanitary rules that could translate into more "stable and predictable market access for Canadian wheat, barley and soybeans into China," according to the Minister during a news conference from China.



While the Chinese agreed in principle to approve import of more genetically modified crops and to work toward international standards for accepting low-level presence of unintended GM presence in imports and other items, the most immediate benefit is greater access for British Columbia cherries. An agreement for 2014 is also underway for fresh blueberries from British Columbia, which were also granted greater access.

Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council Meeting in Washington

The June 20 Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council meeting in Washington, DC provided an update on a vision for the path forward as well as updates on the 29 Action Items. Of particular interest to the CHC are: Financial Protection for Produce Sellers and Crop Protection. Highlights from the presentations include:

Financial Protection for Produce Sellers

The update was jointly presented by **Tina Namiesniowski**, Assistant Deputy Minister, Market and Industry Services Branch (AAFC) and **Charles Parrott**, Deputy Administrator, U.S. Agricultural Marketing Service (USDA):

Progress update

- The Government of Canada (GoC) announced its decision on April 2, 2013, to consider a single licensing approach that would help to ensure payment to fresh produce sellers currently operating in Canada.
- GoC analysis indicates that a single licensing approach within Canada will improve risk mitigation measures for producers.
- The GoC also announced that it recognizes the potential to go beyond a single licensing approach and is undertaking further analysis on other possible risk mitigation measures for the fresh produce sector.
- Ultimate objective remains to develop a made-in-Canada solution that ensures Canadian approach to financial risk mitigation provides comparable outcomes to what is offered in the U.S.
- Two facilitated "brainstorming" sessions (May and June 2013) were held with key Canadian industry and Canadian Government officials to explore possible risk mitigation measures that could complement the single licensing system.
- On June 4th, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) began consultations on the Regulatory Framework regarding its Safe Food for Canadians Act.
- Both Canada and U.S. are collaborating on developing a new timeline/critical path.

Next steps

- July - August, 2013: AAFC and CFIA will lead consultations with stakeholders on proposed elements of a single licensing approach.
- July - September, 2013: AAFC will deepen analysis of possible complementary measures/program enhancements with input from GoC partners and stakeholders as required.
- Options to be informed by 3 key financial protection studies and GoC analysis.

- October 2013: AAFC will finalize analysis of possible complementary measures/program enhancements, focusing on the establishment of comparable outcomes, with input from GoC partners and stakeholders as required.
- October 2013: Stakeholder engagement to discuss a) outcomes of licensing consultations, and b) input received on possible complementary risk mitigation measures beyond licensing.
- November-December 2013: AAFC will finalize recommendations to GoC on an approach to ensure comparable outcomes for fresh produce sellers operating in Canada relative to what's offered in the US.
- November 2013-March 2014 Canada-US bilateral / internal discussions on path forward

Following the meeting CHC President, Keith Kuhl, noted that "The timelines presented are critical in that the window of opportunity for further meaningful industry input appears to be until October 31. At this time development of recommendations moves to an internal Government of Canada mechanism followed by a bilateral Canada-US dialogue. The reference to brainstorming sessions and "complementary measures" has moved to a focus on insurance-based schemes as a means to resolve the issue. This is a grave concern and while we will continue to fully participate in the process, an additional cost solution is not comparable to the no cost option Canadians enjoy in the US through the provisions of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act."

Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council - Crop Protection

The overarching **objective** is to build on an already established pesticide joint review program of new chemical activities, further align crop protection products (pesticides) expanded use reviews and establishment of maximum pesticide residue limits (MRLs) and tolerances in both countries. The key **deliverables** are to: agree on use of specific science approaches; align specific registration processes and develop of shared registration application forms, templates, and electronic tools

Dr. Richard Aucoin, Executive Director, Pest Management Regulatory Agency and Dr. Steven Bradbury, Director, Office of Pesticide Programs (US EPA) supported by Marion Law (PMRA Chief Registrar) and Lois Rossi (US EPA Direction, Registration Division) presented the update.



Action Item 1: Encourage Joint Submission of Use Expansions and Fully Aligned Labels

Successfully completed use expansion registration for minor use crops

- Resulted in harmonized Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs), eliminating potential trade barriers
- Issues identified were resolved; PMRA and EPA agreed to use same principles in ongoing joint review projects

Action Item 2: Develop Joint Guidelines for Residue Field Trials

EPA and PMRA agreed on the joint use of residue trials for use expansions where possible

- Anticipate developing joint principles for a field trial guideline
- Agreed on the use of the proportionality concept in certain cases
- Continue to develop harmonized crop groupings, resulting in the need for less residue data to support a greater number of crops

Action Item 3: Address Obstacles to Joint Registration

Completed analysis of regulatory timelines for pesticide actions

- Identified many areas of existing timeline harmonization
- PMRA and EPA are working to manage differences in timelines with the joint review projects

Agreed to the content of the joint draft Confidential Statement of Product Specifications (CSPS) form:

- Conducting pilot to populate new form using existing data
- PMRA and EPA have begun discussions on the development of an electronic tool and shared portal

Currently mapping registration processes to further harmonize approaches and timelines.

- Anticipate harmonizing business rules that are required for a joint IT strategy;
- PMRA and EPA discussing opportunities for collaboration including submission formats and forms on all registration actions

Action Item 4: Align Data Collection Processes and Procedures for Residue Trials

Initiated pilot project on development and use of harmonized report templates

- Gap Analysis Complete, movement towards harmonization
- Study Protocol - Differences identified and adjustments being made to study protocol
- Raw Data Field Notebook – implementing harmonization where possible for 2014 field season
- Analytical Summary Report - IR-4 and PMC using same template; and
- Final Report - Joint PMC and IR-4 pilot projects completed using OECD template, to be submitted to EPA/PMRA later this year

Currently dovetailing research (18 joint projects in 2013)

- Outreach to Canada/US registrants, state and provincial representatives to identify potential joint projects
- Joint PMC/IR-4/registrant meetings taking place May-July, 2013 for 2014 planning
- IR-4/PMC Meeting in September to identify possible joint research projects for coming year and also meet with PMRA/EPA to determine joint review/work share plan for the coming year
- IR-4/PMC committed to an increased emphasis on joint projects, possible movement towards a joint priority setting

process with stakeholders

Process for the next three months for ongoing alignment work

- Continue to work on tasks identified in the work plan and included input from stakeholder meeting
- Regular consultation opportunities to seek input on specific tasks: e.g., Confidential Statement of Product Specifications form
- Continue and expand the opportunities for joint Government (EPA / PMRA) and Industry (Canada & US) work planning meetings
- Explore undertaking additional pilots (combining use expansions and MRL / tolerance establishment)
- Explore expanding scope to consider a US / Canada Information Technology Strategy

The CHC's Crop Protection Advisory Committee will be reviewing details of the report and following up with the PMRA on specific issues as well as others not in the work plan, such as common label, harmonization of occupational matters and others.

Complete details on RCC activities may be found at <http://www.actionplan.gc.ca/en/content/regulatory-cooperation-council>

CFIA Modernization Forum Held in Ottawa Represents an Opportunity

On November 22, 102 the *Safe Food for Canadians Act* received Royal Assent, creating an opportunity for broad changes and improvements for food safety in Canada. Bringing in a new Act requires the development of new food regulations. In order to demonstrate the Government's commitment to improving food safety and consumer protection in Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency invited industry representatives from Canada and the United States, as well as members from federal and provincial governments, academia and consumer groups to a Food Safety Regulatory Forum on Tuesday, June 4, 2013 in Ottawa.

The forum was designed to discuss a wide range of issue including a single and consistent approach to food safety, the new regulatory framework, and regulations as they apply to imported food products, improvements in food labelling, compliance promotion strategies and outcomes based approaches to regulation. The CFIA Modernization Forum represented the start of consultations and the consultations on the proposed and upcoming regulations and frameworks will be ongoing until October, with a cost benefit analysis by May of 2014.

During the session it appeared as though there was a general comfort level from industry, although a few wide ranging concerns were put forward by industry representative including the need for consistency, the need for guidance documents and details to be released as soon as possible, to manage perceptions from the public regarding the preservation of Canada's robust food safety system and the critical acceptance of the future regulations by our international trading partners.

The Forum focused on outcomes based approaches and what that means for the regulatory system, including allowing industry to be more adaptive, innovative and to drive down costs as well as creating a more positive relationship between the regulator and the regulated. The importance of labelling regulations as they relate to food safety and non-food safety issues, the importance of developing more efficient and effective information management and technology process and systems, as well as the critical engagement of Health Canada on issues which relate to their jurisdiction. To improve compliance with the new regulations under development, it was noted that the CFIA wishes to move towards using more "carrots and less sticks", and involving industry as much as possible in the development of compliance measures which require mutual understanding, transparency and harmonization with provincial and other national governments.

Moving forward CFIA collaboration with industry and academia will be critical in order to develop an innovative system which is properly designed, developed and implemented. The CFIA committed to striving to consolidate its outreach with industry and announced the creation of an email notification system as it relates to modernization initiatives.

The eventual implementation of the newly developed regulations will be incremental and CFIA reiterated that moving forward under this modernization initiative that industry and government share a role in protecting Canadians and ensuring that we continue to produce safe, top quality food.

Growing Forward 2 Paves Way for New Industry-led Agricultural Risk Management Initiatives

Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Pierre Lemieux, on behalf of Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz, today announced up to \$15 million for the launch of a new *Growing Forward 2* program to encourage the development and adoption of new private sector or producer-funded agricultural risk management tools.

The announcement was made at the second annual International Agricultural Risk, Finance and Insurance Conference. The AgriRisk Initiatives program will facilitate industry-led research and development, as well as implementation and administration of new insurance-based tools for use in the agriculture, agri-food and agri-products sector.

AgriRisk Initiatives (ARI) projects are intended to foster greater collaboration and partnership between agricultural stakeholder groups and the private sector, and to increase participation of the private sector financial services industry in providing risk management tools to the agricultural sector.

Applications for ARI research and development (R&D) project funding are now being accepted. Through ARI, the federal government will allocate up to \$3 million per year over five years to fund R&D projects on potential new, industry-led risk management products and services. Approved R&D projects can be eligible for up to \$500,000 in support per year. Typical activities eligible for funding include: research and development costs, data collection and analysis, legal and actuarial costs, and consultations. For more information on [AgriRisk Initiatives](#) and to apply online, visit www.agr.gc.ca/agririsk.

Additional ARI support to help build private sector administrative capacity to deliver new agricultural risk management tools will be announced in the summer. *Growing Forward 2* is a renewed commitment by the federal, provincial and territorial governments to ensure productivity and profitability for Canada's agricultural sector. With a focus on innovation, competitiveness, and market development, *Growing Forward 2* programs will help the industry seize future opportunities and realize its full potential as a major driver of the Canadian economy. For more information on the national *Growing Forward 2* initiatives, visit www.agr.gc.ca/GrowingForward2.

PMRA and PMC Achieve Results for Canadian Producers at 45th CCPR Meeting

On Tuesday June 11th, CHC representatives met with the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) to receive a debrief on Canada's involvement in the 45th CCPR Meeting, highlighting such areas as the next steps of the Pilot Project to accept global registration data during the creation of Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs), and the outcome of discussions related to the proposal for evaluation of new options for supporting the timely advancement of CODEX MRLs for new compounds.

In regards to the Establishment of CODEX Schedule and Priority Lists, PMRA is requesting that all stakeholders continue to be involved in the nomination process. The debrief involved a good discussion regarding the issues, challenges and potential options and opportunities for Canada to further maximize results from the CODEX process. Industry stakeholders as well as government representatives generally agreed that Canada should take a two-streamed approach, by maximizing Canada's nominations and involvement with the existing process and alternatively to continue to maintain dialogue on ways to introduce additional changes to the CODEX process and to explore the potential to resolve trade-related issues by collaborating more closely with trading partners.

While PMRA and PMC both played a critical role in terms of supporting Canada's nominations for the 45th CCPR meeting, they encourage all stakeholders to play a greater role in the nomination process so that Canada can maximize results from the CODEX process. As a first step in garnering the needed engagement grower organizations will review the list of CODEX MRLs in the process of being promulgated and the current list of priorities, and prepare a list of pesticide and crop combinations for which they are seeking CODEX MRLs. Registrants will then use this list to determine which grower priorities can be supported. Once this consolidated list is generated, PMRA will be in a better position to discuss Canadian nominations with the US EPA prior to forwarding the list to the CCPR Secretariat for consideration and approval.

The PMRA's Dr. Peter Chan and PMC's Dr. Manjeet Sethi deserve special recognition for their tireless efforts towards getting Canadian Horticultural industry's priorities included in the work plan coming out of the 45th CCPR meeting. The path forward is well established and the CHC and the Crop Protection Advisory Committee will be engaged throughout.

For more information on the debrief, next steps or to receive the current work plan, please contact CHC Commodity Coordinator Craig Anderson: canderson@hortcouncil.ca

FCC launches new FM PRO Mobile application

Canadian producers can now hold their fields in the palm of their hands as Farm Credit Canada (FCC) introduces the new [FM PRO Mobile](#) application.

[FM PRO Mobile](#) enables farm producers and agronomists to enter all of their field records on the spot, mark out target areas, track soil testing and geo-reference photos and then safely transmit the data to a home computer. The app will be used in conjunction with the most recent versions of [Field Manager PRO](#) and [Field Manager PRO 360](#) – the mobile application is compatible with iPhones and iPad devices and can be downloaded from the App Store. Compatibility with Android devices will be coming shortly on Google's Play Store. "Smartphones are a growing necessity for farmers' day-to-day work," says Glen Kroeker, Director, FCC Management Software. "[FM PRO Mobile](#) shows FCC's commitment to offer Canadian producers services adapted to the ever-evolving needs of the industry. This is FCC's very first application for smartphones and tablets, so we are really excited about this enhanced tool."

[FM PRO Mobile](#) offers farmers field and crop record keeping while providing full Geographic Information System (GIS) functionality and mobility. Fields can then be tracked easily with current imagery for visual reference, as well as an overlay of roads and directions based on real time and location data.

"Producers will see that information can be easily uploaded and shared with partners and staff, and entered conveniently. There's no need to wait for the end of the day to do so," adds Kroeker. "It's one more way FCC is advancing the business of agriculture."

The [FM PRO Mobile](#) application is one way FCC supports the development of a sustainable, competitive and innovative Canadian agriculture industry.

COMMODITY CORNER

Blueberry Working Group Meets to Discuss National Research Strategy

The CHC's Blueberry Working Group met on June 19th to discuss the potential for the completion of a National Research Strategy for Canada's Blueberry sector. The working group is looking to demonstrate the importance of research in mitigating producer risk as it relates to pest pressures and other threats, and investigating ways to leverage available scientific expertise in order to advance the continued growth, innovation, competitiveness and sustainability of Canada's most valuable fruit. New pest threats such as Spotted Wing Drosophila mean that the Canadian blueberry sector must be on the forefront in monitoring and controlling this pest in order to avoid potential trade disruptions.

Farmers Work to Prevent Strawberry Virus Spread

Yahoo.com

Prince Edward Island strawberry growers have begun work to prevent further spread of a virus that has infected the fields of two P.E.I. strawberry farmers. The virus attacking Island strawberry crops is the same virus threatening Nova Scotia's \$17-million strawberry industry. The culprit responsible for the damage is an insect-borne plant illness.

The new virus — the result of two known viruses combining into a new form — are spread by the strawberry aphid. The strawberry aphid is a small, soft-bodied insect that siphons plant sap. The virus weakens plants to the point where the berries themselves are undesirably small, or the plant fails to produce berries altogether.

The Department of Agriculture will sample as many fields as they can to find out the extent of the virus. But it's an expensive process at \$300 per sample.

There is no cure, and that means plowing under crops or pulling out infected plants. With \$6,000 invested in every acre, it could be an expensive solution.

It's still not clear exactly how many fields are infected. The province hopes to have more answers later this month.

Wanted: Ontario farmers to grow hazelnuts

The Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Association (OFVGA) has created Erie Innovation and Commercialization, an initiative which is looking for farmers who are interested in being part of one of Ontario's newest crops, hazelnuts. Varieties have been identified that will grow well in Ontario's climate and the emerging sector is now seeking farmers who are willing to start planting some of these trees. It can take four years for hazelnut trees to start bearing fruit and seven years before they hit full production. By then, however, the potential net return is estimated at \$2,000 per acre. Brantford's Ferrero Inc., which manufactures Nutella and Ferrero Rocher chocolates, currently imports its hazelnut supply but is very interested in accessing a stable, locally grown source. As part of a major hazelnut research project currently underway to help establish the hazelnut industry in Ontario, researchers have been screening hazelnut varieties for resistance to eastern filbert blight and the ability to withstand Ontario's climate, as well as establishing methods for fast and reliable propagation of seedlings. The project, which involves OFVGA, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, University of Guelph, Ontario Centres of Excellence and industry partners, also includes gathering market intelligence, helping the industry get organized and planning for the infrastructure the industry will need as it grows. Funding for the hazelnut project is provided in part by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program. In Ontario, this program is delivered by the Agricultural Adaptation Council.

Erie Innovation and Commercialization is part of the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association, dedicated to pursuing a regional approach to agricultural diversification to ensure the continuing economic stability and sustainability of the sector. Visit www.erieinnovation.com

Spring frost damages fruit in Okanagan

Fresh Plaza

Spring frost damages have taken a bit of a toll on Okanagan orchards. BC Tree Fruits reporting lighter fruit crops compared to previous years. Orchards in Winfield, Oliver and Osoyoos took the frost damage hit. Crops affected include cherries, peaches, nectarines, plums and apricots. Meanwhile BC Tree Fruits is anticipating orchards in Kelowna, Summerland, Penticton, and Okanagan Falls will have all have plentiful high quality summer fruit crops.

Greenhouse Competition Slated for Leamington

The Packer

An annual greenhouse vegetable competition will feature more than 120 varieties of peppers, cucumbers and tomatoes. The seventh annual REACH (Relief Education and Child Sponsorship) Greenhouse Competition will be held June 14-16 at the Leamington Fair in Leamington, Ontario, according to a news release from REACH International, the event's host. REACH is an Ontario-based charity that works to build schools and clinics, drill water wells, and sponsor and care for impoverished children in Uganda. All proceeds from the competition go to REACH. Anyone attending the fair can attend the event, and samples of all entries are free. The competition is divided into three divisions: Hottest Tomato, Coolest Cucumber and Perfect Pepper.

CROP AND PLANT PROTECTION

Wintertime Honeybee Mortality Remains High

The Packer

Bee colonies transported to California for almond pollination had more mortality than those that didn't travel, according to a recent survey. Beekeepers report they lost nearly one-third of their colonies this winter, according to an annual survey conducted by the Apiary Inspectors of America and the Bee Informed Partnership. The losses of 31.1 percent were slightly more than the six-year average of 30.5 percent but significantly greater than the 22 percent figure beekeepers reported during the 2011-12 winter.

The survey from October 2012 through April 2013 was conducted by University of Maryland research scientist Dennis vanEngelsdorp in collaboration with Jeff Pettis, research leader with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service's Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville, Md., and others. More than 6,000 U.S. beekeepers responded to the survey and represented about 600,000 colonies, or about 22 percent of the country's estimated 2.62 million colonies. One difference this winter was more colonies dwindled away rather than dying suddenly from colony collapse disorder, according to the survey. In addition, beekeepers who hauled colonies to California for almond pollination reported higher losses than those

who didn't haul bees to California. About 70 percent of responding beekeepers reported losses greater than 14 percent, the threshold below which beekeepers say allows them to remain economically viable.

Webinar Focuses on Glyphosate Drift and its Symptoms on Spuds

The Packer

Glyphosate herbicide can be a useful tool for potato growers for preplant control of weeds and volunteer grains. But potatoes can fall victim to the broad-spectrum herbicide through drift, tank contamination or misapplication. Focus on Potato has launched an educational webinar, Effect of Glyphosate on Potatoes to help growers learn about how the herbicide may contact potatoes, the symptoms and management strategies. The 24-minute is led by Andrew Robinson, an assistant professor and Extension potato agronomist at North Dakota State University and the University of Minnesota. It can be accessed through Aug. 31. Focus on Potato is hosted by the non-profit Plant Management Network, a collaborative effort among the American Phytopathological Society, the American Society of Agronomy and the Crop Science Society of America. <http://www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/edcenter/seminars/potato/Glyphosate/>

Minor Use Pesticides Program Project Statuses Available

MUPP Project statuses are available from the Pest Management Centre's Minor Use Pesticide Program, by Crop and the Submissions and Registrations ending June 17, 2013. The Registrations are from December 18, 2012 to June 16, 2013.

To subscribe to email notifications regarding MUPP follow this link: <http://www4.agr.gc.ca/AAFC-AAC/display-afficher.do?id=1176731412324&lang=eng> or contact CHC Commodity Coordinator Craig Anderson at canderson@hortcouncil.ca

TRADE

Canada's Produce Place Website Continues to Grow: <http://www.canadasproduceplace.ca/en/>

The pilot produce trading website continues to generate new and returning visits with 54.4% of visitors being new to the site, and grow the number of listed commodities available, with the addition of lettuce and celery from Quebec. Canada's Produce Place is always looking for new commodities to add and any commodity producers interested in participating in the pilot project should contact CHC Commodity Coordinator Craig Anderson: canderson@hortcouncil.ca

FOOD SAFETY

Testing of Fresh Vegetables for Pesticide Residues Determines No Health Risk to Consumers

As part of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's (CFIA) routine testing of various food products, a study released today found that all samples of domestic fresh vegetables analyzed for over 430 different pesticide residues were safe for consumption.

The CFIA tested a total of 1,024 samples of fresh vegetables sold within the province in which they were grown. These included 130 corn, 165 tomato, 259 potato, 213 leafy green, and 257 carrot samples.

The 2010-2011 study found that 100 percent of corn, 99.4 percent of tomatoes, 99.2 percent of potatoes, 97.7 percent of leafy greens and 97.7 percent of carrots tested met Health Canada's standards for pesticide residues. The overall compliance rate was 98.6 percent. This result is similar to the high compliance rate for pesticide residues in fresh fruits and vegetables, whether imported or domestic, tested in the 2009-2010 National Chemical Residue Monitoring Program.

Samples with levels in excess of established and general maximum residue limits were assessed by Health Canada and none were expected to pose a health concern to consumers. Therefore, no recalls were required.

When elevated levels of pesticide residues are detected, Health Canada may conduct an assessment to determine if the specific level poses a health risk, based on the contaminant level, the expected frequency of exposure and the contribution to overall diet. These factors help determine whether further action is needed, up to and including product seizure and/or recall. If a human health risk is found, a public recall notice is issued.

Canadians are reminded to wash raw vegetables with clean, running water before preparing and eating them.

New Estimates of FDA Timelines on FSMA

Since the publication of the two proposed FSMA rules (produce and preventive controls) by FDA in January there has been little or no information about the timetable that FDA is using for completing the rule making process. The FDA has been sued by the Center for Food Safety which alleged that the FDA had violated the deadlines set by Congress in the Food Safety Modernization Act for issuing proposed and final regulations. The presiding judge, in May 2013, ordered the two parties to submit a joint statement setting out, in detail, mutually agreed deadlines. The parties reached an impasse and, instead, submitted separate proposals. The information in this update is set out in FDA's submission.

These dates suggest that CFIA's proposed final publication date for the new regulations under the Safe Food for Canadians Act - December 2014 - will see Canada adopt new regulations at least six (6) months ahead of the best estimate for when the US will finalize its rules covering most of the same matters (e.g. preventive controls and produce safety).

For more information on the new FDA timelines please contact CHC Commodity Coordinator Craig Anderson: canderson@hortcouncil.ca

REGULATORY UPDATES

Single Window Initiative Trade Consultation Session

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), in conjunction with Health Canada, is hosting a Trade Consultation Session via WebEx with a focus on the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) program on July 4th, 2013 from 1-4 p.m. (EST).

The objectives of this webinar will be to provide participants with information on the Single Window Initiative (SWI) as it relates to PMRA and to provide a forum for discussion on the following aspects:

- Background on the SWI
- Integrated Import Declaration
- Business process changes for pest control products
- Data requirements for pest control products

Prospective participants are invited to register at SWI-IGU@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca by June 26, 2013. Detailed emails to follow, outlining WebEx coordinates, agenda items and ensuing meeting documentation. This webinar is being offered in English and provided free of charge to participants

LINKS OF THE MONTH

Update Greenhouse Crop Profile Available

Updated national profiles for four greenhouse vegetable crops are now available. They can be accessed from the [Government of Canada Publications](#) web site via the links below, or can be requested through the Pest Management Centre's [crop profile webpage](#) or the [Canadian Agriculture Library](#).

- [Cucumber](#)
- [Lettuce](#)
- [Pepper](#)
- [Tomato](#)

These Crop Profiles are among thirty [Crop Profiles](#) created and maintained by the [Pesticide Risk Reduction Program](#) that are accessible for download on the Government of Canada Publications web site. Links to the most up-to-date versions of all available Crop Profiles are provided in the attached reference document, for your convenience.

Email Notification Service for CFIA Modernization Initiative Updates

The CFIA has created an email notification service to streamline engagement moving forward. CFIA encourages all who are interested in receiving future updates about modernization initiatives to subscribe through the following link:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/util/listserv/listsube.shtml>.

FDA Issues Final Rule: Information Required in Prior Notice of Imported Food

FDA has issued a final rule that adopts the interim final rule issued May 5, 2011, "Information Required in Prior Notice of Imported Food." It requires that a person submitting prior notice of imported food must report the name of any country that has refused entry of that product. More on Imports under the FSMA.

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FSMA/ucm257980.htm?source=govdelivery>

FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Update: Meeting Transcripts Now Available

Transcripts from the FSMA Public Meeting concerning proposed rules for Preventive Controls in Human Food and Produce Safety Standards, held in Portland, OR, are now available. Visit the [FSMA meeting page](#) to view them and other meeting materials or contact CHC Commodity Coordinator Craig Anderson at canderson@hortcouncil.ca

Mark Your Calendar

JULY	22	CHC Apple Working Group Mid-Summer Meeting, St. Catharines, ON
	25-26	CHC Board of Directors Semi-Annual Meeting, Charlottetown, PEI
	28- August 1	Potato Association of America 97 th Annual Meeting, Québec City http://www.paa2013.com/
AUGUST	21	Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Summer Meeting & Tour, Bowmanville (Ontario) DHutton@ofvga.org

To list your event in HortShorts, please submit details to question@hortcouncil.ca