



## Headlines

-  **Seasonal Worker Program changes monitored**
-  **Bill C-18 passes Second Reading**
-  **PMRA proposes phase-out of Metiram**
-  **CHC joins Biosecurity Advisory Committee**

## Regular Features

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## Mark Your Calendar!



### Seasonal worker program changes closely monitored

Though the media has been paying considerable attention to the issue of foreign workers in Canada and program amendments have been announced, horticulture has experienced little-to-no impact. The industry is grateful that the Minister has recognized the important role the Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) program plays in addressing and managing labour pool gaps in the horticultural industry, and has exempted agriculture from the changes being implemented to the TFW program.

However, at the same time, reductions in staffing at visa processing offices due to budget reductions has made it very difficult to access workers in a timely fashion under the TFW program. In Quebec, this has resulted in delayed arrivals for hundreds of workers just as the workload is ramping up in crops like strawberries, as harvest commenced.

A resolution passed at the 2014 CHC Annual General Meeting sought to remove the 48 month restriction, which has now been amended to 24 months. This will place greater strain on the sector and the CHC will continue to work with officials to raise awareness of the implications and continue to seek relief in this regard.

### Bill C-18 passes Second Reading: Mandates greater access to new crop varieties



The *Agricultural Growth Act* (Bill C-18) has passed Second Reading in the House of Commons. The Act touches on greater access to new crop varieties through *Plant Breeders' Rights*, financial programs and trade opportunities. It will expand the use of new approaches that are focused on preventing plant and animal disease and on making agricultural products safe for humans and the environment. The Act will modernize nine statutes that regulate Canada's agriculture sector to bring them in line with the latest farming technologies and international practices. The Act is expected to go before Standing Committee in the fall.

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### PMRA proposes phase-out of Metiram

*Please note that the Canadian Horticultural Council has requested a time extension to respond to this re-evaluation decision and will update members accordingly as information is received. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns regarding this proposed decision please do not hesitate to contact Andre Bourbonniere at 613-226-4880 ext.209 or at [abourbonniere@hortcouncil.ca](mailto:abourbonniere@hortcouncil.ca)*

After a re-evaluation of the fungicide Metiram, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), is proposing phase-out of Metiram uses in Canada. An evaluation of available scientific information found that under the current conditions of use, the human health and environmental risks estimated for Metiram do not meet current standards. At this time, these assessments support a phase-out of Metiram and all associated uses - in other words, on apple, asparagus, celery, root and tuber vegetables (such as carrot, sugar beet and potato), grapes and tomato. Additional risk-reduction measures are proposed during the phase-out of Metiram.

*Proposed Re-evaluation Decision PRVD2014-03, Metiram* is a consultation document that summarizes the science evaluation for Metiram and presents the reasons for the proposed re-evaluation decision. The information in *Proposed Re-evaluation Decision PRVD2014-03, Metiram* is presented in two parts. The Overview describes the regulatory process and key points of the evaluation, while the Science Evaluation provides detailed technical information on the human health, environmental and value assessment of metiram. The summary document can be found at the following address: <http://tiny.cc/metiram>

*Continued on next page*

Government of Canada Active Consultations of Interest to CHC			
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## Government of Canada active consultations: July, 2014

Please download the latest update to the document *Government of Canada Active Consultations of Interest to CHC Members* from the following address: <http://tinyurl.com/activeconsultations>

## GENERAL NEWS

### CFIA amends seeds regulations for oilseeds, soybean and forage species

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has amended the Seeds Regulations to move oilseed, soybean and forage species from Part I to Part III of Schedule III of the Regulations. These regulatory changes are now published in Canada Gazette, Part II. For more information on the amendments, please refer to the following website: <http://tiny.cc/seedregs>

### Organizational changes in the Destination Inspection Service

Scott Rattray has been named the new Director of Destination Inspection Service (DIS) and Shelley Ippolito has taken on the role of Executive Director, National Inspection and Investigation Services, in which DIS is contained. The DIS Headquarters Office in Ottawa has also moved to a new address, and certain phone numbers have changed. For additional details, please see the full change of address notice at the following web address: <http://goo.gl/h6ERWY>

## CROP AND PLANT PROTECTION

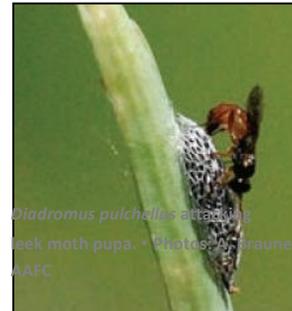
### An integrated approach to managing the leek moth pest

The leek moth, *Acrolepiopsis assectella*, is an invasive alien species from Europe that causes damage to onions, leeks and garlic. Larvae cause damage when they penetrate the young leaves and flowers of the crop in order to feed. This feeding weakens and withers the plant reducing the value of the crop, and in some cases renders it unmarketable. First detected in Eastern Ontario in 1993 and Quebec in 2001, leek moth has rapidly expanded its range and, as of 2013, was detected as far as Southwestern Ontario, Prince Edward Island and New



York State. The Pesticide Risk Reduction Program of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) Pest Management Centre has, over the past ten years, supported several projects towards the development of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy to address this emerging pest issue. Project work included field and laboratory investigations of leek moth's biology; biological control studies using the introduced parasitoid *Diadromus pulchellus*; and the evaluation of other reduced risk tools such as biopesticides and row covers. A farmer participatory research approach was

undertaken, actively engaging local growers, allowed research and development activities to occur in parallel with technology transfer. You can download the PDF factsheet from <http://tiny.cc/leekmoth>.



*Diadromus pulchellus* attacking leek moth pupa. Photo: A. Brauner, AAFC

### Updated crop protection information from the Pest Management Centre

The Pest Management Centre (PMC) at Agriculture and Agri-Food (AAFC) Canada has new crop protection information available on its website at <http://tiny.cc/pestmanagement>, or follow the direct links to resources below:

- Updated Crop Profile for Rutabaga in Canada, 2012: <http://tiny.cc/rutabaga>
- Updated Crop Profile for Asparagus in Canada, 2012: <http://tiny.cc/asparagus>
- Updated summary of the Apple Scab Strategy: <http://tiny.cc/applescab>
- Updated Summary of the White Mold Strategy: <http://tiny.cc/whitemold>
- A Systems Approach for Sustainable Grasshopper Management factsheet: <http://tiny.cc/grasshopper>
- *PMC Newsletter*, Spring 2014: <http://tiny.cc/pmcnewsspring>
- Minor Use Pesticide Program, 2014 Crop/Pest Problems: <http://tiny.cc/pestproblems>
- Status Report for Biopesticide Projects and Submissions: <http://tiny.cc/biopesticides>

The following four projects relevant to horticulture have been completed and summaries of the results are now available on the PMC website, Pesticide Risk Reduction Implementation Projects section:

- Management of the European Apple Sawfly: <http://tiny.cc/sawfly>
- Reduced use of herbicides in carrot crops: <http://tiny.cc/carrotherbicide>
- Evaluation of SorbiShield90 for thrip management in greenhouse cucumbers: <http://tiny.cc/thrip>
- Evaluation of Naturalis-L for management of tarnished plant bug in strawberries: <http://tiny.cc/tarnishedbug>

## CFIA requests comments from stakeholders on grapevine pest RMDs

The CFIA is circulating two Risk Management Documents (RMDs) related to grapevine pests. The first RMD is for Grapevine Virus A (GVA) and Grapevine Virus B (GVB) and the second is for Grapevine Red Blotch Associated Virus (GRBaV). Both RMDs examine the distribution of these diseases in Canada and present regulatory recommendations for these diseases. GVA, GVB and GRBaV have worldwide distribution and are transmitted primarily through propagation and grafting.

The CFIA is requesting written feedback to the two RMDs by August 12, 2014 (60 days) by email at [horticulture@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:horticulture@inspection.gc.ca) or by fax at (613) 773-7163. Questions should be addressed to [horticulture@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:horticulture@inspection.gc.ca).

Download *Response to the Detection of Grapevine Virus A and Grapevine Virus B* PDF:

English: <http://goo.gl/sA5cvY>

French: <http://goo.gl/TMhsgX>

Download *Grapevine Red Blotch associated Virus RMD* PDF:

English: <http://goo.gl/4jDBxT>

French: <http://goo.gl/pWlpSe>

## Deregulation of *Gymnosporangium fuscum*, the cause of Pear Trellis Rust

In the spring of 2012, a three month consultation was held on a proposal to deregulate *Gymnosporangium fuscum*, the cause of Pear Trellis Rust. As follow-up to this consultation, and based on feedback received through the consultative process, the CFIA is now moving forward with the deregulation of this pest. Before CFIA is able to finalize this decision to deregulate, and to respect our international obligations for transparency, the international community must now be notified of this change via the World Trade Organization (WTO). A notice has been published giving 30 days for Canada's trading partners to comment on the proposed change. Please contact the CFIA's horticulture section, [horticulture@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:horticulture@inspection.gc.ca) with questions or comments. The notice is available at: <http://goo.gl/Qa13tr>



Pear leaf with *Gymnosporangium fuscum* infestation • Photo: Fritz Geller-Grimm, Wikipedia, CCSA.

## PMRA's ongoing re-evaluation of Captan

Although no date has been specified for the release of a proposed decision for the PMRA re-evaluation of Captan fungicide, the Canadian Horticultural Council (CHC) is taking proactive measures to initiate information collection relative to the critical use of captan in the horticultural sector. As with the proposed re-evaluations of Linuron and Mancozeb, the CHC will coordinate the collection and collation of product use information from member organizations, industry experts, and other key stakeholders to assist PMRA in refining its risk assessment of Captan.

Beginning in June 2014, the CHC initiated outreach to members to solicit the information for berries, tree and tender fruit, grapes, field vegetables, greenhouse vegetables, potatoes and seed treatment. A series of online surveys were developed and were distributed in mid-June. Based on the information collected a follow-up outreach may be subsequently required.

For further information, please contact André Bourbonniere at (613) 226-4880 ext.209 or [abourbonniere@hortcouncil.ca](mailto:abourbonniere@hortcouncil.ca).

## BIOSECURITY

### CHC joins CFIA biosecurity advisory committee for greenhouses, nurseries and floriculture

The Canadian Horticultural Council (CHC) is partnering with the CFIA in the development of the next series of biosecurity standards within the agricultural field. The Greenhouse, Nursery and Floriculture Biosecurity Advisory Committee (GNFBAC) has been established with representatives from across Canada and with expertise within each of the sub-groups and will be working on this initiative over the course of the next two years. Iris Bitterlich, member of the CHC Greenhouse Committee, has also joined the group and will be playing a leading role as the initial Advisory Committee chair.

Similar to the work that was accomplished with the potato sector, the GNFBAC will guide the development of a voluntary National Farm-Level Biosecurity Standard and specific Producer Guides for each of the Greenhouse, Nursery and Floriculture sectors of the industry. Committee members will participate in drafting the standard by representing the broad interests of their organization, identify biosecurity risks and challenges faced by the industry, advise on biosecurity programming and best practices, and communicate with their organizations to share knowledge and obtain feedback to ensure the standard is science based, practical and addresses the risks and challenges faced by the industry.

For more information on this initiative please do not hesitate to contact Iris Bitterlich at (604) 531-5262 / [iris@bcgreenhouse.ca](mailto:iris@bcgreenhouse.ca) or Andre Bourbonniere at (613) 226-4880 ext.209 or [abourbonniere@hortcouncil.ca](mailto:abourbonniere@hortcouncil.ca).

## TRADE

### CHC, CFIA and U.S. greenhouse farmers discuss formal definition of “greenhouse”

The CHC and representatives from its Greenhouse Committee, as well as representatives from Certified Greenhouse Farmers (CGF) of Fresno, California, met with the CFIA in Ottawa on June 16, 2014 to discuss industry’s adopted definition of Greenhouse both here in Canada as well as in the USA. During this meeting we provided a thorough explanation of the definition of “Greenhouse” as it was adopted during the 2014 CHC Annual General Meeting. The definition was presented as having been thoroughly reviewed and adapted to represent the current state of this industry’s operating practices and representing an important step in ensuring that Canadian and US vegetable products originating from greenhouses are, in fact, appropriately recognized as such.

CHC’s desire is to see the definition adopted as widely as possible and the opportunity to review the differences between actual greenhouse facilities and those that are being “improperly” marketed as greenhouse was seen as an excellent opportunity to advance the greenhouse industry’s position in regards to proper labelling. Understanding this distinction is important to protecting domestic



Greenhouse pepper production • Photo: CHC archives

production from erosion of market (and price) arising out of mislabeling

and ensuring consumers are aware that when they purchase a product labelled as “greenhouse grown” that it is in fact within the parameters of the operational practices as defined within our definition.

For further information on this meeting or for more detailed information concerning the CHC’s adopted definition of “Greenhouse”, please contact Linda Delli Santi, CHC-Greenhouse Committee chair at (604) 531-5262 [linda@bcgreenhouse.ca](mailto:linda@bcgreenhouse.ca) or Andre Bourbonniere at (613) 226-4880 ext.209 [abourbonniere@hortcouncil.ca](mailto:abourbonniere@hortcouncil.ca)



Greenhouse pepper production • Photo: CHC archives

## PHOTO CONTEST

### Enter the CHC Horticulture Photo Contest for a chance to win a free 2015 AGM registration!



We need your help! The CHC is looking to substantially enhance our inventory of photos highlighting every facet of Canada's horticulture industry, including all commodities and all seasons. Photos including people are of particular interest. Those submitting photos on or before November 30, 2014 will be eligible to win a complimentary 2015 AGM registration. The winning photo will be revealed during the 2015 AGM and the submitter will be awarded an iPad. Photos should be in high resolution format and will be used in CHC publications and on the website, citing source. Please send questions and entries to [communications@hortcouncil.ca](mailto:communications@hortcouncil.ca). If your photo is too large to email, please contact us for upload information.

## LINK OF THE MONTH

The **Agriculture More Than Ever** website has just gone through a significant update and overhaul. The site is full of resources and ideas, including a revamped partner resources section that has articles, videos, presentations, merchandise, ads, promotional pieces and more to help grow the cause and spread positive messages about agriculture.

English: [www.AgMoreThanEver.ca](http://www.AgMoreThanEver.ca)

French: [www.AgPlusQueJamais.ca](http://www.AgPlusQueJamais.ca)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### 2014

<b>JULY</b>	<b>21-22</b>	Canadian Horticultural Council Mid-Summer Apple Meeting, Penticton, BC. Info: <a href="mailto:aargentino@hortcouncil.ca">aargentino@hortcouncil.ca</a>
	<b>23-24</b>	Canadian Horticultural Council Board of Directors Summer Meeting and Tour, Winnipeg, Portage-la-Prairie, Winkler, MB
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>20-24</b>	North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Annual Meeting, Huatulco, Oaxaca, Mexico. Info: <a href="http://www.nappo.org">www.nappo.org</a> .
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>17-19</b>	Fall Harvest 2014 – Meetings on the Hill, Ottawa, ON. Info: <a href="mailto:communications@hortcouncil.ca">communications@hortcouncil.ca</a>
<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>2-4</b>	Conference Cultiver le Canada 2014, Ottawa, ON. Info: <a href="http://www.croplife.ca/fr/">www.croplife.ca/fr/</a>
	<b>5</b>	CanadaGAP Annual General Meeting, Canadian Federation of Agriculture Boardroom, 21 Florence Street, Ottawa, ON. Info: <a href="http://www.canadagap.ca">www.canadagap.ca</a>

### 2015

<b>MARCH</b>	<b>10-12</b>	The 93 <sup>rd</sup> Canadian Horticultural Council Annual General Meeting, Fairmont Le Château Frontenac, Quebec City. Info: <a href="mailto:vinokuroff@hortcouncil.ca">vinokuroff@hortcouncil.ca</a>
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***To list your event in HortShorts, please submit details to [question@hortcouncil.ca](mailto:question@hortcouncil.ca)***